Collect

WESTERN UNION

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to:

NOVEMBER 19, 1947

MR. ROBERT S. BINKERD, V.P.
PRENTICE-HALL, INC.
70 FIFTH AVE.
NEW YORK 11

RE YOUR LETTER NOVEMBER 13TH. NEVER HEARD OF CRABBE OR THE DOCUMENTS. NEITHER DID ELLIOTT.

MRS. F. D. ROOSEVELT.
Prentice-Hall, Inc.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

10 Fifth Avenue, New York 11

November 13, 1947

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am responsible for Prentice-Hall's WASHINGTON LETTER. Copy of the November 10 issue is enclosed.

Attached also please find proof of an article entitled Bad Lia-Mongers. This had been prepared for the issue of November 17. But when I saw the number of persons named -- like yourself -- about whom no pertinent information could be obtained at once, I decided that its publication in this form might be unfair. The mere failure to have a note about some of the persons named might give the impression that there was -- or might be -- some truth in the allegations so far as they were concerned.

So much of this article is clearly preposterous that I am going on the assumption that all of it was manufactured out of whole cloth. If this assumption be true, then any information indicating that you were not where you could have had any connection with the alleged matter on the date indicated, or that you do not know, or have never had a talk with, a person with whom you are alleged to have talked, would be most helpful.

Anything you wish to say will be welcome. It will help my purpose if I can hear from you by Monday, November 17. You may wire me collect. I shall be glad to send you a copy of the article as finally printed.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

ROBERT S. BINKERD,
Vice President

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
Hyde Park,
New York
Red Lie-Mongers: If you would like to see for yourself a sample of the fantastic falsehoods about the United States being spread today by European Communists, here's one—

"In the middle of June, in Hollywood, Gary Cooper, Tyrone Power, and Alan Ladd, well-known film stars, were imprisoned because they were marked as 'leftists' and denounced as 'un-American,' but before that happened something else was going on, about which the American newspaper agencies did not speak, and that is very characteristic of conditions today in the United States. The film actor, Buster Crabbe, lost his life in a mysterious way. The background of this tragic and mysterious death of Buster Crabbe was set forth by the New York paper Red Star. From the articles of Benny Sten- dahl we can see that Buster Crabbe was very popular in the United States. He organized a movement in the army to protest against the investigation of Un-American activities against Cooper, Chaplin, and other film stars. The beginning of Buster Crabbe's tragedy was when he found valuable documents through which documents he could give light and prove the criminal and aggressive plans of reactionary circles in America.

"On May 31, Buster Crabbe came to the apartment of the well-known actor, Spencer Tracy, and asked whether there was a long talk in the presence of Tyrone Power. The next day, Crabbe, with Power and Cooper, left for New York to see Henry Wallace. When he (Crabbe) came back home, someone called him on the phone and advised him to stop his activities, because it might cause 'unpleasant results.' But he (Crabbe) was not afraid. From New York he left by plane for Washington intending to see President Truman, and to show the results of his discovery. But Mr. Truman did not receive him. Then Crabbe, in accordance with Wallace, Elliott Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt, LaGuardia, and Stettinius, decided to publish the documents. Also prominent in this affair was Sumner Welles, well-known secretary for foreign affairs and propaganda of the Truman doctrine, and Senator Bilbo, with a bad reputation for racial theory, persecution of Negroes, and inspirator of the KKK. They openly advised Crabbe to stop his work.... But Mr. Crabbe did not stop. On June 7, on Broadway on the corner of 7th Avenue, Crabbe was felled with bullets from a machine gun from a closed car. This tragic death of Crabbe provoked terrific unrest in Hollywood. At the funeral of Buster Crabbe 150,000 were present, and the coffin was carried by Comrades Gary Cooper, Tyrone Power, George Brent, and Al St. John."—People's Letter, Zareh, Yugoslavia.

Henry Wallace!

1. Gary Cooper, Tyrone Power, and Alan Ladd were not imprisoned in Hollywood in the middle of June—nor at any other time.
2. Hollywood reports Buster Crabbe very much alive.
3. New York has no paper called Red Star.
4. Former Mayor Lebauer (died Sept. 20) was in a hospital in New York City much of the time between May 1 and July 14. For some weeks he nevertheless continued his radio talks, and on May 28 publicly criticized American citizens who attack U.S. foreign policies while abroad—obviously aimed at
debate and discussion. Congress will produce an own version of Spearey and on Fanie and a longer range Marshall plan.

If these measures are disposed of promptly, congressional leaders are due for some other measures. But they must be subject to quick action—special session sooner only legislative days, including Sundays and three major holidays. Some 55 senators of Congress personally looked at some report of U.S. foreign problems this summer. Never before was there such a search for first-hand information. No matter how much of it is embodied in committee reports, Congress will feel a strong urge to listen to personal impressions of its members. Filing legislation—like the Taft-Hartley Act—will be left pending.

Opening days will see another Resolution (R. Minn.) income tax deduction bill—this time with the necessary property principle added, creating marked increase in split family income.

[Further text not legible]
What's Happening in TAXATION and GOVERNMENT REGULATION

What's Happening in WASHINGTON

A Look at the World: Industrial output in Britain and the Scandinavian countries is slightly above prewar (1938); in Holland, Belgium and France, 10% to 20% below; in Italy 30% to 40% below; in Germany 50% below; in the United States about 85% above,* and going higher. October steel output was highest in peacetime history — about 7,500,000 tons, nearly three times the monthly output of Western Europe. The United States is today the main source of all those basic manufactures that the world lacks.

In food supply European recovery has been less successful than in industry. Europe's 1947-1948 wheat crop will be far below prewar (and about 296 million bushels below last year). U. S. wheat crop should be nearly 80% above prewar; food production generally at least 40%, above.** Yet despite this increase in the United States, total world food output for the crop year 1947-1948 will be only 93% of prewar — to feed a population 8% greater.

So — in food as in basic manufactures — the United States is the main reliance to make up the deficits of other countries. Hence, the inflationary impact of this world need on the U. S. economy, already straining to meet the biggest domestic demand in time of peace.

Beneath the Surface: Philip Murray and John L. Lewis still refuse to sign anti-communist affidavits. Hence, National Labor Relations Board last week refused three election petitions filed by unions under their leadership; opened the way to early court test of anti-communist provisions. Nevertheless, organized labor is largely, even if reluctantly, cleaning house under Taft-Hartley Act. Reward is access to NLRB. Its thirty-day extension of deadline for filing affidavits is aiding compliance. Even CIO locals are "removing by request" officers who fail or refuse to sign anti-communist affidavits. Latest examples are several locals of CIO Woodworkers. Utility Workers of America also removed a member of its executive board.

Special Session next Monday will flow into regular session lasting into next June — mark the start of the 1948 Presidential campaign. Political considerations will not be absent at either end of Pennsylvania Avenue. President Truman called the session; the Republican majority will call the tune. Republican leaders will let the President make the first moves on prices, controls, and allocations. Congress will produce its own version of temporary aid to Europe and a longer range Marshall plan.

If these matters are disposed of promptly, Congressional leaders see door open for some other measures. But they must be susceptible of quick action — special session covers only 45 legislative days, including Sundays and three major holidays. Some 233 members of Congress personally looked at some aspect of U. S. foreign problems this summer. Never before was there such a search for first-hand information. No matter how much of it is embodied in committee reports, Congress will feel a deep urge to listen to the personal impressions of its members. Existing legislation — like the Taft—Hartley Act — will be left severely alone.

Opening days will see another Knutson (R. Minn.) income tax reduction bill — this time with the community property principle added, enabling married couples to split family income

*Federal Reserve Board's index of physical production in September stood at 180% of 1935-1939.
**U. S. farm marketing index (volume) is currently running ahead of 1935-1947, when it averaged 141% of prewar (1935-1939).

for tax purposes. Leaders foresee quick passage; another Presidential veto; and not enough votes to override in the Senate. Republicans will claim another moral victory; try again next Spring. House Ways and Means Committee may also sponsor revision of estate and gift taxes with Treasury blessing; but any action will be at regular session. Excises will be left for another day. General overhaul of tax structure will go over to 1949.

Appropriations for occupation costs in Germany and Korea will be increased. Returning Congressmen are impressed with necessity of giving Army more money for these jobs. If time permits, Congress will take a look at veterans’ legislation. Allowance for students will be upped. Worsening of Russian relations may bring up universal military training. Issue will split both parties; passage is unlikely in either House.

Military Procurement: Without waiting for new legislation, Department of National Defense is moving to unify Army, Air Force and Navy procurement. Within a few months all these services will be using a single set of procedures. Procurement officers will have less authority to negotiate contracts. More purchases will go to the lowest bidder under formal advertised bidding. Notable exceptions will continue to be: (a) where supplies or services are urgently needed; (b) where standardization of technical equipment, or large initial investment, is necessary; (c) where supplies and services require secrecy. New regulations are patterned on HR 1366, now before the Senate. Passage is expected in early part of regular session.

Uncle Sam’s Grocery Business: In reporting total Federal purchase and distribution of food for September, 1947, Department of Agriculture gives first clear picture of where it goes. Here it is in millions of pounds:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U. S. Army</td>
<td>1144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(For its own forces at home and abroad; for civilian feeding in Japan, Trieste, Germany and Ryukyu; and for use in British-German zone.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash-paying foreign governments</td>
<td>875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Mostly dried eggs, milk, and grain.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U. S. foreign relief</td>
<td>650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(China, Poland, Austria, Trieste, Italy, Greece.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous official domestic users</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Veterans Administration; Prisons; Panama Canal; school lunch program.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resold to domestic individuals and corporations</td>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Largely resale of food acquired under price support program.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>3,073</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Administering Marshall Plan: If Marshall plan is to be carried out by governmental agencies, Washington foresees expansion of Federal personnel—in National Defense to handle overseas shipments; in Interior to allocate coal, gas, and oil; in Commerce to handle export controls; in Commodity Credit Corporation to make food purchases; in Treasury for all other buying. Government heads are combing war boards and OPA lists for persons with the know-how of controls and allocations. Commerce has already brought in three former OPA tops.

But Congress will likely upset these plans. Despite fact that it would give Congress less direct control over European aid, creation of a special corporation is favored by many members. Senate confirmation of appointees would give a direct say on who shall do the administering; after that the corporation could move faster than a new governmental agency.

Sugar supply for coming year is estimated at 95 lbs. per capita by Department of Agriculture; prewar average was about 100 lbs. . . . Latin America is only part of world where U.S. exporters still do a credit business, according to Department of Commerce. . . . Argentina will try marketing powdered meat in U.S. . . . 1947-1948 world cotton crop will exceed 16 million bales — 5 million more than previous crop year. . . . U.S. has one telephone for every 4 persons; Soviet Russia one for every 140. . . . Fewer U.S. workers voluntarily quit their jobs in October, 1947, than in any month during past six years.
March 21, 1947.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt,
Hyde Park, N.Y.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Kindly permit me to have forwarded to you, one of the first day issues, of the splendid new stamp, honoring Joseph Pulitzer, great publisher and humanitarian.

Mr. Pulitzer made his mark in the great Empire State, the state where the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, and yourself, have contributed so much of service to welfare. You have done much writing for newspapers, and I am sure you will appreciate this fine
commemorative cachet.

Our Postal Department is to be congratulated for publishing such a fine stamp, and all Americans can be proud of it.

Yours very truly,

Alex. C. Freytag
344 76 Street
Brooklyn 9, N.Y.