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*forwarded*

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424 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK 17, N. Y.  
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GEORGE W. SUTTON, Jr., President  
HELEN A. BREE, Vice-President

*by*

July 31, 1947

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt  
29 Washington Square West  
New York 11, N.Y.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Thank you very much for your courteous reply of July 7 to my letter of July 3 concerning the vote of the exalted rulers of the Elk lodges in favor of a national lottery for charitable and other humanitarian purposes.

While I do not gamble personally and I agree with you that there is a strong feeling against gambling on the part of a large percentage of our population, I note that many states have legalized gambling through pari-mutuel machines by means of which the public spends hundreds of millions of dollars in gambling on horse races, dog races, and so forth.

So far as I can see the only benefit from this form of gambling is that it allows the Federal and State governments to collect large sums in taxes.

I am wondering if you would not agree that a national lottery would serve the same purpose in providing taxes at the same time raising a very substantial amount to alleviate human suffering.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

*George W. Sutton, Jr.*

GWS:B



Member of National Association of Public Relations Counsel, Inc

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July 3, 1947

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt  
Hyde Park, New York

FOR B. P. O. ELKS

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

In view of the increasing activity in Congress, in some state legislatures and even in the New York City Council about a proposed public lottery, the following may interest you. If so, please help yourself:

Exalted rulers of Elks lodges throughout the country, to the number of 1089, have voted 72 per cent in favor of a public lottery for reducing the national debt, lightening the tax burden, and for cancer, polio and other worthy purposes. This was in an opinion poll conducted by the Elks Magazine. There are 1450 Elk lodges with approximately one million members.

Sincerely yours,

*George W. Sutton, Jr.*

GWS:el

P.S. Neither my client, the Grand Lodge of Elks, nor my firm has any special interest in lotteries. This letter is sent to you solely for its possible news value on a topic of current interest.

*Show your letter to greater resolution of Exalted rulers of Elks lodges. I don't know how to get Congress to make legal lotteries because there are so many states so much feeling against gambling.*

