

● PSF FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

PSF
Subject File
Box 149

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*file
personal*

June 16, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

I am disturbed by the rumor that C. B. Baldwin is to be removed as head of Farm Security as a sort of price for a Congressional appropriation. I do not know who is behind this. Perhaps it is Ed O'neal and his crowd but I hope much that you do do nothing about this without talking to me first.

F. D. R.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
June 14, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR The President

FROM

Jonathan Daniels *Jonathan Daniels*

I am disturbed by the proposal that C. B. Baldwin be removed as head of the Farm Security Administration as a sort of price for a Congressional appropriation for the FSA. Baldwin undoubtedly has his faults but FSA under him has done more for the little farmer than any other agency in government. Also the facts show that these little farmers, with FSA help, have led all farmers in percentage increases in food production.

The move to get rid of Baldwin is an effort to remove a man who has become almost a symbol of the New Deal so far as it relates to agriculture. I am afraid that the substitution of any other man now would be a blow to the morale of many of those in the government who have been the most loyal and consistent supporters of the administration. I doubt that any appeasement of the reactionary farm bloc will work. If they "get" Baldwin first, they will get Farm Security by other means later.

At one time I thought it might be better to sacrifice Baldwin than lose FSA's appropriation. Now I am convinced that the sacrifice would involve both the man and the program. The vote for FSA in the Senate showed the development of a strong public support for FSA as administered. I believe that support can be counted on in the long run to support your efforts to help little men on the land and I am sure the Congressmen who would be "appeased" cannot be depended on to support those efforts under any "acceptable" administrator who might be named.

*FSA: Farm Security folder
12-43*

THIS IS THE
WASHINGTON
THE WHITE HOUSE

PSF: F. S. A. from

*file
press mail 2-43*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 25, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR: MISS GRACE TULLY.

Jim Barnes brought this over while you were up at Hyde Park.

It is ancient history now but I think the memorandum should be in the files for the record.

M. H. M.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 19, 1943.

M E M O R A N D U M

FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: JAMES M. BARNES
RE: FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

I have checked into this matter and it will probably come up Tuesday. At the present time everything looks all right even though it is going to be close.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 17, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR

JIM BARNES:

Will you be good enough to
handle this?

F.D.R.

W. L. Rorer and
Assistant Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

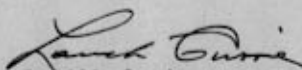
June 15, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Re: Conversation with Baldwin
of the Farm Security Administration.

It is believed that four out of the seven House conferees are opposed to the FSA, while two other members are under considerable obligation to Cannon. The result will probably be a stalemate. Tarver will then move to concur with the Senate. On a full vote the Administration will probably lose about twenty-five Democratic votes but would pick up about fifteen Republican votes. This result, however, will be dependent upon getting out all the city Democratic votes. It would help enormously if the President would intervene in two ways:

1. By talking to Cannon so that he will not work actively against the bill.
2. By asking Rayburn and McCormack to get out a full vote.


Lauchlin Currie

PSF: Farm Security Adm.
2-43

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 15, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HON. JONATHAN DANIELS
HON. JIM BARGES

What would you think of our putting Ralph McGill of the Atlanta Constitution into Farm Security in place of Baldwin? McGill knows a lot about the general subject and he is an awfully nice fellow and devoted to us.

If you think well of this suggestion, please speak to Marvin Jones.

F.D.R.

Mr. Jones

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Farm Security

In place of Baldwin —

Do not appoint Lassiter.

An Oklahoma man — Jim
Pattin says OK, also Fred Johnson.

McCall of the N. Constitution.

WASHINGTON
THE WHITE HOUSE

October 14, 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Grace:

I wonder if you would be good enough
to take the attached note into the President.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Andrew Tolson

Miss Grace Tully
The White House

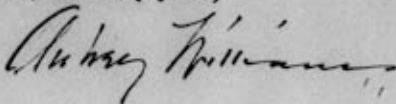
October 14, 1943

My dear Mr. President:

You will recall that I spoke to you about a chap named Scott for the Farm Security Administration.

Jim Patton has just called me and said that later information indicates that this person is not very good - that his appointment would be a great mistake. It seems that the person who talked to Jim was on the spot at the time and could not tell him the truth; he later called him and gave him the above information.

Very sincerely yours,



The President
The White House