

Dear Al,

This will clean up various things I promised to do by the end of the week (see, I'm keeping my promise).

I had a note from Frances Borden. Had I know you weren't in the office I'd have written, but because I didn't know, I thought I'd take my chances and write I hope that is all okay now.

I made inquiry yesterday to see if CLICK had let the Dept. of Ag. know whether or not they were going to use the by-line piece the Secretary had authorized and which I gave them last December. If they are not going to use it (and it is a good one) maybe I will be able to get it for you. I don't know. I have a check on it and if they let me know I will write or call you immediately.

Your Victor Garden pamphlet is enclosed, also the issue of Consumer's Guide on the same subject, also enclosed. I think the pamphlet is more understandable. I'm returning herewith your Billings article and one from the Congressional Record I think might interest you.

There are here 5 issues of CG. Note that the marked one went to press before Pearl Harbor, and don't follow. If you use this material, the stuff on metals. This should have some stuff for you.

10 pictures on subjects in which you indicated an interest are enclosed. Be careful to not use the picture of the dollar bill without doing something to it. It's illegal. These pictures are all to be returned to Mary Taylor, whose address is Room 1768, South Bldg. Dept. Ag.

Mary Taylor also has some cartoon prepared for a book to be signed by Mrs. PDR that may be available to you at regular rates for cartoons. I asked her to have them submitted to you. If it can be done, you'll get them.

Those things you wanted that are not enclosed are being sent under separate cover. They couldn't be immediately obtained. They are pictures and recipes re leftover dishes, clothes. I am led to believe that the Depts information and pictures on these subjects are deficient and that there may be nothing on clothes. Also pictures re women in ag. defense and war work. You get a couple when Mellett's office called for you, but not much. This was because they were busy when the call was made and couldn't do much and because they have made available to the SEP, exclusive, their best pic on this subect. They will ask the SEP to make up its mind immediately and you'll get the leftovers. Also, as soon as they get a chance, they'll ransack their files and send what they think you might like, but this wont be at least for several days. When you get these pictures, unless another address is given, return them to Kate Smith, Photo Dept of Ag., Wash DC as soon as you can finish wit them. Of course, you keep what you use.

At the moment it is impossible for the consumers counsel of the Ag dept to do a piece for you. He has suggested a story, showing that suddenly Washington has been blown up into what you might call the Nation's biggest war industry, how this effects the health of the people here, their housing, the comparison between poor housing for many p eople

and some of the de luxe barns nearby where cows live in style. There is a milk problem here, because the local board of health and monopolistic dairy assn have kept any but local milk out of the district, and farmers, forced to expand their capacities to supply what is now needed, will be ruined after the war. I'm passing his suggestion along. He also suggested a transportation story, how we can help transportation and insure deliveries by more efficient organization. Unless we do, there will be a problem getting fresh food to city people.

Dear Al

This will clean up various things I promised to do by the end of the week (see, I'm keeping my promise).

Sat am. I had a note from Frances Borden. Had I know you weren't in the office I'd have written you. Just got your letter. Thanks for the check. Mr. will check and let you know. I have, so far as I know, been following the leads and info. of the DJ.

Re: McNutt. The fact that workers without permission is covered in the changes I will give you by the addition of a few words, making it read correctly. It now says is that there are priorities. If you read this section carefully you will also notice that you are covered even if they wipe out the priorities system on materials. In that event the sentence will be read with "set" as past tense. The other things was taken care of by the use of the word "has been" instead of "is". I don't think we should say that this practice actually brought about the strike, because there were other factors, although, unquestionably, it was a major reason. I think it best to merely imply it, as we now do. I really don't believe without the striking of workers much the same thing would have happened. With proper safeguards to guarantee the interests of the worker, such a business is really necessary to win the production war.

I think we are covered on the matter as far as this is possible to be covered on anything these days. Nothing can ruin it, even a draft of labor, because the language used is either general or carefully hedged. You'll notice this if you read this with this in mind. Don't worry. I've got stories to do every day, and I'm probably a bit busy on and off, but I'm thinking all the time of the by-line for the second issue. It's a problem, and if you get any ideas, no matter how wild they may seem to you, please drop me a note.

Some things you might want that are not enclosed are being sent under separate cover. They couldn't be immediately obtained. They are pictures and recipes and leftover dishes, etc. I am led to believe that the Dept information and pictures on these subjects are deficient and that there may be nothing on clothes. Also pictures on women in sg. defense and war work. You get a couple when Mellott's office called for you, but not much. This was because they were busy when the call was made and couldn't do much and because they have made available to the Post, exclusive, their best pic on this subject. They will ask the SGP to make up its mind immediately and you'll get the leftovers. Also, as soon as they get a chance, they'll ransack their files and send what they think you might like, but this won't be at least for several days. When you get these pictures, unless another address is given, return them to Kate Smith, Photo Dept of G. Wash DC as soon as you can finish with them. Of course, you keep what you use.

At the moment it is impossible for the consumers council of the AG Dept to do a piece for you. He has suggested a story, showing that suddenly Washington has been blown up into what you might call the "Nation's" biggest war industry, how this affects the health of the people here, their housing, the comparison between poor housing for many people of the people here, their housing, the comparison between poor housing for many people