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OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73102

TELEPHONE 235-8567

WB
November 26, 1973

Honorable Dewey Bartlett
United States Senator
120 Old Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Bartlett:

I wrote you on November 8, 1973 regarding several unsatisfactory conditions in Washington, particularly the energy crises. I have not heard from you to date, although I read in the press that you, personally, have been making some progress in this regard.

I also listened to President Nixon last night. I hope you will believe me when I tell you that the taxpaying voters across the nation blame both the President and Congress for the condition the nation is in today and I, for one, would not want to be running for any public office on either the Democratic or Republican ticket next year.

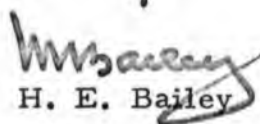
I notice also in the press that General Motors is closing several of its larger plants and laying off a lot of people. The stock market is more erratic than it has been in the past 40 years. It would appear to me that the Congress and the Administration could read this 'smoke signal'. Is Congress going to permit the environmentalists to have their way this winter and let everybody freeze?

As far as I am concerned they can close down all of the automobile plants across the nation. I am one of the unfortunate ones that has a new 1973 1/2 Ton Pickup Truck. I was promised 15 or 16 miles to the gallon and I get 6 miles to the gallon. This kind of national legislation may be important to Congress, but it is downright silly to the average person across the nation that the President is pleading with to save gasoline at the present time. This item is covered in my letter of November 8, thoroughly and I hope to get a satisfactory reply from you at your earliest convenience.

On another matter that is of considerable importance to the voter-taxpayer; it is my understanding that the new postal organization that Congress recently established is now getting ready to raise the price of a regular postage stamp to 10¢. This is five times higher than the cost of a postage stamp in the early 1930's and the service we get now is five times worse. Now that the Congress has and is in the process of spending \$6 million on the Watergate Investigation principally as a WPA project, it is reported that Congress has 400 plus people on this project, including between 60 and 80 mostly incompetent lawyers who could not make a living anywhere else; why don't you go ahead and spend a little more money and investigate the postal department? I don't know how any member of Congress could hold up their head, if they actually knew what was going on in the postal service at the present time; Oklahoma City, I assume, is a cross section of the operation nation-wide. This is something you really should get into before raising any more postage rates. Any small business can't afford 10¢ postage stamps, in order to pay the freight for franking privileges for all the bureaucracies in the Federal Government and the hatful of advertising we get every morning that is thrown in the wastebasket. I am including four exhibits, so marked, that I hope you will have time to read.

With kind personal regards, but from a very disturbed citizen-taxpayer because of the way Congress and the National Administration are running our business.

Sincerely yours,


H. E. Bailey

HEB/jw
Enclosures

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Washington Whispers®

[Items appearing on this page are being talked about in Washington or other news centers]

How U.S. Wheat Got to Egypt . . . More Lawyers at The White House . . . Next: GI's With Maid Service

A keen disappointment to oil-industry leaders is the lack of follow-through at the White House—so far—on President Nixon's call for a drive to make the U. S. independent of foreign oil. Said one: "Until the President personally shows a day-by-day interest in cranking up our efforts to produce more oil, and to set up an efficient machinery for allocating the oil we've got, nothing much will happen."

★ ★ ★

Among signs of improving U. S. relations with Egypt was the diversion of a cargo of American wheat, bound for Russia, to an Egyptian port. Russia requested the change and U. S. authorities quickly agreed to it as one way to dramatize the warm-up between Cairo and Washington.

★ ★ ★

A key White House official predicts that all wage-price ceilings will be removed well before the April 30 expiration date of the present controls law. His comment: "Controls haven't curbed inflation, they've served only to spoon-feed it into the economy."

★ ★ ★

One not-so-friendly message that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger delivered in Peking, according to American diplomats: The U. S. would not tolerate arms build-ups in North Vietnam by either the Chinese or the Russians, in violation of the peace agreement. The same message, the diplomats say, has been given to Moscow.

★ ★ ★

White House carpenters are remodeling areas of the Executive Office Building to make room for additional lawyers being recruited by President Nixon to do battle on Watergate and related problems. The legal teams are

being divided into task forces, with each one concentrating on a specific accusation against the President.

★ ★ ★

To spur its lagging drive for volunteers, the U. S. Army will open luxurious new barracks buildings next summer at Fort Carson, Colo.; Fort Sill, Okla., and Fort Hood, Tex. The barracks, costing 63 million dollars, will provide roomy quarters for male and female GI's under the same roof. Civilians will be hired for housekeeping chores—a plan which caused one officer to grumble: "I never would have thought I'd be commanding troops who had maid service."

★ ★ ★

Argentina's strong man Juan Perón is gearing up for a visit to the United Nations before year's end. It would be his first visit to U. S. soil. He's hopeful that Washington will invite him in for some official talks. Perón's new line: U. S. needs a friendly Argentina in Latin America, and Perón is willing to start doing business.

★ ★ ★

Just back from an investigating trip to Southeast Asia, a 52-member delegation representing relatives of U. S. servicemen still missing in Laos reported scant hope for any real accounting. The group's consensus: One or two Americans may be found alive, but not the hundreds, that some had hoped for.

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Senator J. W. Fulbright (Dem.), of Arkansas, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, may face a challenge in next year's primary election from an old foe, former Governor Sid McMath. Long a caustic critic of Senator Fulbright's foreign-policy positions, Mr. McMath is considering making the race.

The debt of the Democratic National Committee, once more than 9 million dollars, has been cut to 2 million. National Chairman Robert Strauss calls this "manageable," but concedes that the yield from the party's recent fund-raising telethon fell short of his expectations.

★ ★ ★

Says a leading Republican in Congress: "When Gerald Ford is confirmed as Vice President, he should take the oath immediately, in a quiet ceremony. There should be no public show, no inaugural celebration. There was an adverse reaction to the extravaganza at the White House, so soon after Agnew quit, when President Nixon announced his choice of Ford."

★ ★ ★

Arab wrath over American support of Israel in the latest Mideast war has at least one ironic aspect. A high-ranking Washington official notes that Arabs outnumber Israelis among foreign military officers enrolled in post-graduate schools maintained by the U. S. armed forces.

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With the fuel shortage certain to force a sharp decline in travel by auto, a crush of extra business is expected by Amtrak, the railroad passenger system. Amtrak is canvassing the continent for usable equipment. Some railway cars that were on their way to the scrap heap are to be rebuilt instead of being junked.

★ ★ ★

A question being asked around the country as the impact of the energy crisis hits home, says a well-known economist, is this: "If the experts know that gasoline will have to be rationed within three months, why isn't it being rationed right now?"

Silver Buying Urged

AKRON (KNS) — A group of Akron investors was told that their best bet was investing in silver coins because the dollar is going down the drain as the nation heads for a "crushing depression."

James L. Cawdrey, whose job is to make people aware of the value of investing in precious metals, thinks U.S. currency is steadily approaching the era of — "Chinese money."

It's the opinion of his organization that this country is heading for the same type of inflation that rocked Germany in the postwar 1920s, China in the 1940s and some South American nations today.

Cawdrey is marketing services director for the Pacific Coast Coin Exchange. The exchange is the world's largest broker in silver coins for investors.

He sees "runaway" inflation followed by a depression and cites a number of reasons for the problem. These include the rapidly increasing supply of money, the mounting national debt—now beyond \$460 billion — the balance of payments deficit and the public's lack of confidence in the economy.

Other factors cited were the increasing government involvement in the econo-

my and the growing shortages of goods.

As an example of how inflation is hurting wage earners, Cawdrey contended that if a worker received 35 to 40 per cent pay raise in the last three or four years, he is "barely breaking even" in what the dollar will buy.

A person who invested \$10,000 in a 6 per cent certificate of deposit for a year actually lost at least \$50 if he was in the 30 per cent income tax bracket, Cawdrey said.

It is his contention that the Federal Reserve Board is "the core of our problems and got us away from gold and into paper."

"We are now printing 12.5 million pieces of currency every day," Cawdrey said.

"The company making the paper for the currency is working three shifts a day, six days a week." Silver won't solve every problem, he said, but he sees it as the best hedge against inflation and specially when "paper collapses."

"In the last depression, the price of silver tripled," Cawdrey continued.

"Our clients posted a 112 per cent net profit in the year ending December 1972 and this year the net gain is around 120 per cent."

Some people think government services are cheap because they don't realize the full cost. By asking the government to do things for us, we're shopping at the highest priced store in the world. Inefficiency, red tape, lack of incentive, lack of competition, and bureaucracy puff up the cost of everything the government tries to do. And we pay for it—one way or another.

So who's going to pay the bill if federal, state, or local governments spend more money? Let's face it—you and I. And if we don't pay it in taxes, we'll all pay it in the form of inflation—higher prices which may shrink our paychecks worse than taxes.

People who think we can avoid this by putting higher taxes on businesses are kidding themselves. Business organizations have no bottomless barrel of money. The only place they can get the money to pay taxes is from their customers. Every increase in taxes means they have to charge higher prices. And who pays those prices? All of us.

WATERGATE

December 5, 1973

Mr. H. E. Bailey
Bailey Engineering Company
of Oklahoma, Inc.
2107-2112 First National Building
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102

Friend Harry:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter to Dewey Bartlett dated November 26.

Let me go a little further in regard to the next-to-the-last paragraph in your letter. The Congress saw fit to appropriate \$600,000 for the House Judiciary Committee to carry on the hearings on the impeachment resolutions that have been introduced in the House of Representatives, and then here the other day, they appropriated another million bucks. I don't need to tell you that I voted against it, but I just don't understand what is happening to those people or what they are thinking. If people would just get it into their heads that we have more important problems facing this country than Watergate and impeachment, this country would be a lot better off.

Sincerely,

Happy Camp
Member of Congress

HC/dlr