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9/3/74

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Jack Marsh

Given to me in

Ohio -

From Senator Pickens.

Will you answer.

JMF.



9/74

November 14, 1969

The Honorable Richard M. Nixon  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I have your letter in regard to the population explosion. It is a serious problem and will become more so unless there is a restraint of some kind. It must be a voluntary one, of course. Education and constant awareness on the part of the public will, ultimately, I think, be the only solution. One of the great difficulties is that the problem is so much worse in the countries that cannot afford it and do not have the means of meeting it even that we do. Certainly the United Nations should give more attention to it than it has and maybe less on some other matters than it is meddling with at the present time. I hope it approaches this one with a broader vision than it has in some matters involving the countries where this problem is the worst.

I do have some definite thoughts about the rising cost of living. I want to commend you for your desperate effort in the face of some adverse sentiment in the Congress where some segments are throwing roadblocks in your very constructive program. There are many causes of the inflationary pressures of this day. There are many facets to this problem. One of the basic causes is coming from wage and labor rates outrunning productivity. Another is that savings are not furnishing adequate funds for capital needs. The present pressing problem is with the Government spending more than it collects. If the deficits are funded through our banking structure, the credit is multiplied many times over the actual debt. These, of course, have been pointed out many, many times in the Congress. The proper approach has not been offered to the solving of the problems. I agree with you that it certainly does no good to look for a scapegoat at this time, but we must meet the problem of the day, having failed to meet it in the past.

I am disturbed as I know you are about the tax bill in the House and not entirely satisfied with the amendments made in the Senate Committee. I have one constructive thought that I have often presented and I now find more sentiment for it than it has had in the past. The Labor Board has become a

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political institution incompetent to meet the basic problem underlying the wage relations. My only suggestion is that a Court be created made up of outstanding lawyers appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate for long tenure. There should be an appeal directly to the Supreme Court on problems of law. I get more discouraged about the action of labor as time goes on. It seems they are determined to get all they can today and let the future take care of itself. Of course, there is overcharging by some companies also. I also agree with you that betting on higher prices is not the way out. Such a Court should have original and complete jurisdiction in all matters involved in labor and company disputes. There is no difference in principle or any effect upon Government policy that can be distinguished from Public Utilities Commissions as well as many Federal Commissions that are affecting the character of service or fixing wages. Such a Court must be open to either side, of course, and the filing of a pleading before such Court would stay any change in employer-employee relations except that voluntarily entered into, which would then be subject to approval by such a Court. I do not look upon this as compulsive arbitration in any way, but a protection of the interest of the public by proper judicial procedures.

Just this past week, a client of ours had a strike and before notice of it, thousands rushed in and did approximately \$30,000 to \$40,000 damage to property. We easily got a restraining order and things are quiet now, but it has not been resolved. I mention this because of your statement that no laws and restrictions are required if we treat with respect the law of supply and demand. It is that lack of respect that is causing the present difficulties.

I certainly commend any action that can be taken to afford more manpower and more money for the construction of individual living units. The high rates on money loaned are drying up the amount of capital available for the building of the much-needed housing units throughout the country. I agree with your suggestions on federal spending, on a tax system and your position on a tax bill that would result in an irresponsible budget. A planned deficit cannot be acceptable. I am fearful of the one that is proposed. It is my feeling it will put us into a deficit federal budget position.

In regard to your third suggestion, to rely on the forces of reason and moderation in the present economy, so that governmental intervention will be lessened, is good because of the fact that heretofore government intervention has always been on the side of the inflationary pressures.

The creation of a Court, as I have suggested heretofore, would not mean governmental intervention but would be an action as before any other Court by one or the other of the parties to the controversy. I know that some of the measures taken will be temporarily unpopular, but if, in the end, they come out all right, temporary criticism is relatively unimportant.

The Honorable Richard M. Nixon

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I am only sorry that I am not in a position to help more than just presenting my views. You know that I do not consider that I have all the information necessary to come to a definitive conclusion. I say this by way of letting you know that because of your experience, your character and patriotism, your access to all facts pertinent to the questions of government, and your basic, fundamental preparation for the high responsibilities you now carry that I want to assure you that you have my complete support.

Very truly yours,

John W. Bricker

JWB/mw

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 3, 1974

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: JOHN O. MARSH  
FROM: JERRY H. JONES  
SUBJECT: Attached Letter

The attached letter was returned in the President's outbox on September 3 with the following notation addressed to you:

-- Given to me in Ohio.-- former Senator  
Bricker. Will you answer.

Please follow-up with the appropriate action.

Thank you.

cc: Al Haig