

The original documents are located in Box 119, folder “Lids for Canning Jars” of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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FOR: RON NESSEN
 FROM: BILL ROBERTS

7/23/75

*Bill*THE GREAT JAR LID SHORTAGE SCANDAL

Joe Dawson, Public Information Officer for Virginia Knauer's office says that Ralph Nader is going to blast Mrs. Knauer for aiding and abetting the shortage of canning jar lids, and is going to tell ~~some~~ a Congressional ~~investigating~~ committee that he will ask the people of the U.S. to write the President asking him to do something.

Dawson says he is telling anyone who asks that the President is aware of the problem, and understands the seriousness of the situation for gardeners, and is providing the following information:

Mrs. ~~Knauer~~ Knauer has ~~been~~ held repeated meetings --over the past year--with lid manufacturers and dealers in efforts to solve the problem. Dawson says the lid manufacturers are working 7 days a week in an effort to meet demand.

The Agriculture Department is surveying the states to try to get some ~~accurate information~~ accurate ~~information~~ information as to the demand. The F.T.C. is alerted to check possibilities of attempts at illegal actions to cause false shortages which might drive prices up.

California and West Virginia state authorities are investigating claims of retailers that they aren't getting the numbers of jar lids the lid manufacturers ~~claim~~ claim to have been sending them.

~~_____~~
 Dawson said he would handle all calls about the lid situation, and ~~what is being done about it, with the exception of calls as to what the President thinks of the idea of people writing him~~

~~_____~~
 He's going to refer those to us.

Dawson's number is 245-6975