

Eloy, Arizona,  
September 14, 1941.

HON. CARL HAYDEN,  
United States Senator,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

As a voter and supporter of yours since the time I have been voting, I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my opinion of conditions in my community.

I am enclosing an advertisement from the Sunday edition of the Arizona Republic, wherein the Southern Pacific Co. is offering employment to 100 laborers. This has been running in the paper for two weeks besides the issue mentioned.

Practically every day some farmer tells me that he is having trouble getting men to do general farm work, and from my personal experience I know this to be true.

While all of this is going on, these laborers who are refusing to work, are being given relief and food stamps by our Government. I am sure the authorities know of this but nothing is done about. In fact, they say on the side that pressure is being placed on them when the relief rolls are cut, to actually increase their rolls.

I sincerely urge that you and the other members of Congress from Arizona give the relief situation your earnest consideration, as in my opinion it is becoming quite serious. I am just wondering what conditions will be when jobs are scarce, instead of being plentiful like they are now. When an organization like the Southern Pacific railroad has to advertise for several weeks to get common labor and relief is being given out as freely as it is, I think the situation is deplorable, and demands the attention of those who are responsible.

I know personally two strong, husky men who have been on the W. P. A. rolls for three years, and several local men have advised me that they have offered these men jobs and the men have turned the jobs down, saying they are working on the W. P. A.

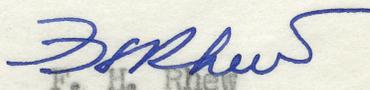
Farmers and small business men cannot give their employees as attractive working hours as the W. P. A. and still pay their taxes, wages and other expenses as long as W. P. A., relief and food stamps are being distributed as freely as they are now.

Why do we have W. P. A. now anyway? We were told that it was established to give employment to men who could not find jobs. I venture to say that 90% of those on the W. P. A. rolls could find work now if they tried. Also, why is their relief now? There certainly is no cause for unemployment here locally, as the farmers are looking for men to do their farm work every day and they cannot get all the labor their needs require.

One local farmer had 84 cotton pickers to move into his camp one week-end, and as they were without funds to buy food he gave them sufficient food, out of his own pocket, to last them until he could give them work so that they could buy their own food. When the food he gave them was gone, they turned down the jobs offered them, at a wage higher than the average in his vicinity, and moved into the Government Mobile camp and received \$9.00 in food stamps. Can a man trying to operate compete with such conditions as this?

I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter to Senator McFarland, Congressman Murdock and Governor Osborn, as I have given all of you my support when you were up for election, and I am merely expressing my opinion as a voter.

Very truly yours,

  
F. H. Rhee