

April 11, 1957

Mr. V. Cook
Chesterton, Indiana

I have been very dilatory in answering your letter of February 23 and in thanking you for your generous remarks in reference to the article I wrote on the farm problem. I appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing.

Sincerely,

Henry Hazlitt

HH:mc

Messner Larson Mc... Haslitt
Mac M Myers de B Mc Cabe
van W Mueller Wash. Seaborn
Elliott J. Gray

Chesterton, Indiana, *JW*
February 23, 1956.

Newsweek,
152 West 42nd St.,
New York 36, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

When Mr. Henry Haslitt's article on the "Farm Problem" appeared in your October 24, 1955 issue, I expected your "Letters" column to be filled with complimentary ones regarding it. But, perhaps, most people are like I am, keep putting it off. Then another one of his fine articles appeared in the October 31, 1955 issue, and again I wanted to write but didn't.

Furthermore I expected to see and hear excerpts from these articles to be quoted far and wide, but nary a word did I hear or see.

What finally put an end to my procrastination is the fact that I realize more every day how little we as individuals, farmers and non-farmers alike, really know about the whole matter. Is it possible for you to give us an article or graph plainly showing what this is costing us, just what proportion of farmers are getting this help, and the varying amounts paid to them. e.g., how many getting over a million dollars, half a million, quarter million, \$100,000.00, and how many below \$25,000.00. In what proportion to the general population are these farmers? When this program first came into being, was it supposed to be permanent?

I used to work on my father's farm. I'm now 64 and it is hard for me to find employment in my line on account of that, so I must use up my few savings until Social Security time arrives, or accept relief. Why shouldn't the entire population have to do likewise?

A friend of mine has a relative with four sons who fifteen years ago were tenant farmers, wearing rags, household goods \$25.00, who as far back as five years, each and every one of them, had 160 acres of good farm land with \$30,000.00 homes, Cadilacs, and new farm equipment, and all paid for. How many of us who raised families and were hard hit by the depression years can say the same?

With best wishes for your continued success, also wish to tell you your magazine was recommended to me by a young man of 25 as the best all-around one to read,

Sincerely,

V. Cook.

P.S. If published, would you please sign only initials?