

February 16, 1943.

Hon. Mon C. Wallgren,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

COPY

Dear Senator Wallgren:

Your effort in my behalf as shown by your letter of February 1 is appreciated, although the letter from Chapman is a disappointment. It adds nothing to my own correspondence with the Office of the Secretary.

Despite that correspondence and the response to your inquiry, I remain unconvinced that Secretary Ickes has given my protest his personal attention. I have made rather serious charges against Dr. Dean. These were ignored. If they are false, would I be given an improved efficiency rating and even the inadequate increase in my salary? If they are well founded and brought fully to Mr. Ickes' attention, would he take no action in the matter?

It is quite possible that Dr. Dean has political influence and connections which neither you nor Secretary Ickes can afford to antagonize. If so, there is nothing we can do about it. But if I have correctly judged Mr. Ickes' temper, no political consideration would influence his reaction to such charges as I have made. He certainly lost no time in removing Dr. Finch after Rep. Charles Leavy brought a similar matter to his attention. In my opinion, Dr. Finch was a victim of Dean's machinations, and these have now reached a new height. According to reports that I believe, Dr. Sayers is another figurehead exercising less power and influence than his nominal assistant, Dean.

In my effort to acquaint Ickes with the situation, I have been given a run-a-round. Please take time to review the file I sent to you and see if it does not justify Mr. Ickes attention. If so, I urge you to talk to him about it face to face. I know you must be very busy and beset by many importunities that you cannot grant. I do not ask this as a personal favor. Unless you think you may be benefiting yourself, Mr. Ickes and the Bureau of Mines, just forget the matter and return the file enclosed with my letter of December 1.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) H. A. Doerner,
H. A. Doerner,
Engineer in Charge.