MEMORANDUM

To: Senator Thomas C. Hennings, Jr.
(Atten: Mr. Yarborough)

From: Julius C. C. Edelstein

Subject: FEPC Legislation

January 30, 1951

Here is a copy, as requested, of Senator Lehman's communication to the President, urging an emergency FEPC. There are some parts in this telegram which you can lift almost bodily. However, there are some developments which are not reflected in this telegram:

(1) All defense contracts now carry a clause forbidding discrimination, but there is no machinery for enforcement and hence, little observance.

(2) The problem at issue is where is the source for which funds can be obtained to finance an enforcement commission? It is the general view that the President does not have the authority to finance these funds from his own Presidential Fund.

If you are going to send a letter to the President on this, I would suggest that you urge him to set up such a Commission to enforce non-discrimination in defense plants and pledge your support for obtaining what funds are necessary. This would bring you more or less up to date on this matter and give you a news lead.

Attachment