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W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

AUGUST 26, 1955

(Handwritten initials)
File
New Yorker

HONORABLE ROBERT F. WAGNER
 MAYOR, CITY OF NEW YORK
 CITY HALL, NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

I HAVE JUST READ THE RIDICULOUS TELEGRAM ALFRED E. PERLMAN, PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK CENTRAL RAILROAD, HAS SENT YOU AND HAS ALSO RELEASED TO THE PRESS. IT IS CLEAR AT ONCE THAT MR. PERLMAN HAS NOT BOTHERED TO ACQUAINT HIMSELF WITH THE FACTS. IT IS CERTAINLY OBVIOUS THAT HE HAS NOT READ MY LETTER TO THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND THAT HE IS TOTALLY UNAMILIAR WITH THE PURPOSE OF THE RESOLUTION WHICH THE BOARD APPROVED YESTERDAY. IF HIS TELEGRAM IS ANY SAMPLE AT ALL OF HIS APPROACH TO THE NEW YORK CENTRAL'S OWN PROBLEMS, THEN ALL I CAN SAY IS THAT THIS IS ONE HELUVA WAY TO RUN A RAILROAD.

THE SURVEY WHICH WILL BE MADE IN BROOKLYN WILL COVER A FIVE HUNDRED ACRE AREA EXTENDING OUT FROM THE VICINITY OF THE LONG ISLAND RAIL ROAD TERMINAL AND ITS RELATED FACILITIES. IT WILL DEAL PRIMARILY WITH ARTERIAL, TRAFFIC AND PARKING PROBLEMS AND WITH REDEVELOPMENT FOR HOUSING, INDUSTRY AND NEW RAILROAD FACILITIES, SO THAT THE NEW EQUIPMENT OF THE LONG ISLAND RAIL ROAD WHICH CANNOT COME INTO BROOKLYN NOW, BECAUSE OF ANCIENT TRACK AND STATION FACILITIES, WILL BE ABLE TO SERVE BROOKLYN AS WELL AS MANHATTAN. IF THE BROOKLYN NATIONAL LEAGUE BASEBALL CLUB, WHICH IS A FULL TAXPAYING ENTERPRISE, CAN FIND A SPOT FOR REDEVELOPMENT IN THIS FIVE HUNDRED ACRE AREA, SO MUCH THE BETTER. WE ARE ALWAYS GLAD TO KEEP A TAXPAYER IN BROOKLYN. IT IS NO SECRET, HOWEVER, THAT MR. PERLMAN AND HIS CHUM, BOBBY YOUNG, THE FINANCIAL IMPRESARIO, ARE TRYING TO COMPLETE PLANS FOR A REDEVELOPMENT AT GRAND CENTRAL STATION THAT WILL INCLUDE A SKYSCRAPER OFFICE BUILDING WHICH, THEY HOPE, WILL BE PARTIALLY EXEMPT FROM TAXATION. THIS IS JUST THE OPENING BLAST TO SOFTEN UP THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE TO GRANT TAX EXEMPTION TO HELP THE NEW YORK CENTRAL, NOW MAKING FAT PROFITS AT THE EXPENSE OF THE COMMUTERS COMING INTO NEW YORK CITY. I AM CONVINCED THAT OUR PLAN FOR THE BROOKLYN SURVEY IS SOUND. I'M NOT AT ALL SURE OF THE SOUNDNESS OF THE PLAN MR. YOUNG IS GOING TO TRY TO PEDDLE TO THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

JOHN CASHMORE

PRESIDENT, BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN.