

Emanuel Verschleiser's Letter to President Franklin Roosevelt, 1938

The Letter

“To Our Illustrious President:

Our Holy Books say: A poor man is like a dead man. You came and resurrected the poor man from the dead. You came and said: 'Wake up, forgotten man. I will give you new life. I will give you a new deal.' Like the prophet, Nathan, who said to King David: You have so many sheep and yet you want to take the last sheep of the poor man; so you said to the rich, to the Wall St. bankers: Leave the poor man his last sheep. Let him also live. All the rich men hate you for that. They know that you brought new hope to the poor plain man. They know that never again will the old times come back. May I end respectfully that your name, our illustrious President, will live forever.”