

PPE 1763
SAXE, JOHN GODFREY

P. P. F.

1763

SAXE & SHEAFE
LAW OFFICES

July 27, 1933.

NEW YORK

2

Dear John:

To the President of the United States,
Washington. Many thanks for sending me the

clippings. I am glad you wrote to
the Paris Herald as you did. Someday
we shall change many of the very silly
provisions in our present income tax
law.

x137-A

xPP7156

I hope to see you one of these

days.

Always sincerely,

John G. Saxe, Esq., #
102 Maiden Lane,
New York City.

their economic consequences. I have nothing to say as to the unwisdom
of unequal revenues - swollen revenues from the tax in good times,
and lack of revenues from it in times of depression. My criticism goes
to the fact that the necessary effect of the tax is to greatly

CABLE ADDRESS, "SAXUM"

TELEPHONE JOHN 4-3688

SAXE & SHEAFE

LAW OFFICES

102 MAIDEN LANE

NEW YORK

JOHN GODFREY SAXE
CHARLES M. SHEAFE, JR.
ROGERS H. BACON
KENNETH M. EWEN
WILLIAM J. O'SHEA, JR.
JOHN H. JOHNSON
EDWARD D. BURNS
DAVID R. CROW

July 17, 1933

To the President of the United States,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President; dear Frank:

You may be interested in the two enclosed "Paris" clippings. There are a large group of fine Americans engaged in business in Paris, representing American connections, and I am inclined to think that my brief statement pleased them immensely.

If you have time in your busy life to read this letter and enclosures, you will note that that which I had to say about legislation was to criticize the inclusion in our Income Tax Act of a tax on capital gains. These provisions, as I pointed out, you inherited from prior Administrations. I regard them as our most serious threat against stability of recovery. The natural and inevitable consequences of this tax, as was demonstrated in 1928-9, are to pyramid profits until the structure is bound to collapse, and strew ruin in its fall. The English law contained no such provisions, and our draftsmen, in writing our Income Tax Act, apparently tacked on these provisions in ignorance, certainly without any vision as to their economic consequences. I have nothing to say as to the unwisdom of unequal revenues - swollen revenues from the tax in good times, and lack of revenues from it in times of depression. My criticism goes to the fact that the necessary effect of the tax is to greatly

reduce selling power because of human reluctance, on the part of those having large paper profits, to sell and to divide the cash proceeds with the Government. That, with the increase in buying power which accompanies any rising market, interrupts the normal upward market swing and transfers it into a vertical upward jerk or push, and, when, later on, the market, due to ordinary conditions, starts to drop, the drop cannot return to a normal swing downward but is bound to be a vertical downward jerk or push, as in 1929. I believe this tax, more than any other single factor, was responsible for the extremity of our depression and, unless repealed, stands ready, willing and able to do it all over again.

Under your wonderful leadership, we are enjoying a sure recovery. To make recovery safe against future disasters in the years to come, this active agency for a new depression should, I urge, be destroyed.

Your sincere friend,

John Forby Laxer

JGS/c

enc

May I have the clippings returned?

SAXE & SHEAFE
102 MAIDEN LANE, NEW YORK CITY

Clippings

For: The President
From: European Edition/New York Herald.
Date: July 1, 1933
Subject:

Business and Editorial Offices:
21 RUE DE BERRI. Tel.: Elysées 12-87, 12-88, 12-90, 26-65, 03-57.

PARIS,

Smith Attacks Recovery Act; Break With President Hinted

Latest 'Outlook' Editorial Critical of Administration
Measure, Opposing 'Placing of Paralyzing Hand of
Government on All Business Enterprise.'

(By Wireless to The Herald.)

NEW YORK, Friday.—First indication that former Governor Alfred E. Smith is out of step with the administration's recovery aims is contained in an editorial under his signature in the current issue of "The New Outlook," out today, in which he attacks the national recovery act under which President Roosevelt hopes to rehabilitate the nation's economic and industrial structure.

Admitting that he may be "old fashioned," Editor Smith says that he is unable to understand how the national recovery measure "can possibly work."

"I have never hesitated," he writes, "to recommend the extension of Government activities to meet the needs of a growing population in an age of industrial invention, but this plan is beyond anything my imagination can follow."

He maintains that the act has been labelled a temporary emergency mea-

sure to get it by the United States supreme court, adding:—

"If the terms are carried out literally, the tendency undoubtedly will be to cripple prices and encourage monopoly. To raise prices will require higher tariffs to maintain the new structure and in such a triumph of bureaucracy, the little man would be lost in the shuffle."

"On the other hand, the powers may not be actually used. It may be just another case of giving the Radicals a machine and letting the Conservatives run it. If this is so in the end it will not satisfy either group. Both groups are likely to feel that they have been handed a bologna."

"I am in favor of applying a curb to industry where it is necessary, but not of placing the heavy paralyzing hand of the Government on all business enterprises in the nation."

"I believe in good public administration, but I know its limitations. I am in favor of restoring conditions which make business leadership possible rather than looking to the Government to provide it."

x1925

SAXE & SHEAFE
102 MAIDEN LANE, NEW YORK CITY

Clippings

For: The President
From: European Edition/New York Herald
Date: July 2, 1933
Subject:

PARIS, SUNDAY, JULY 2, 1933

SMITH IS SOLIDLY BEHIND PRESIDENT, J. G. SAXE DECLARES

New York Lawyer Praises
Accomplishments of
Administration.

RAPS INCOME TAX LAW

Visitor Says Ex-Governor's Com-
ments Do Not Reflect Support
He Gives Leader.

"Al Smith's so-called attack on the President as reported in this morning's New York Herald and the hint of a break between them do not in any way represent Al Smith's attitude toward the President, which is that of 100 per cent. support," John Godfrey Saxe, New York lawyer and Democrat, who was in the New York State senate with Smith when Franklin Roosevelt was in the legislature, said yesterday at the Plaza-Athénée.

"I was always sorry," added Saxe, "that Al Smith accepted the honor of editing 'The New Outlook,' because he was bound to find himself in the position of criticizing his chief rival for the Democratic nomination. I am positive that the comment is editorial and does not reflect the wholesome support that I know he gives the President."

America Behind President.

The President, Saxe remarked, "is showing great leadership, and America is 100 per cent. behind him. There will be plenty of time to criticize several years from now, and the President has repeatedly stated himself that he will be the first to revise experimental legislation which proves itself to be unsatisfactory."

Saxe has been for most of the past 20 years chairman of the law committee of the New York Democratic state committee. He has been politically associated with Al Smith and just a year ago was fighting his cause at the Chicago convention. Accompanied by Mrs. Saxe he came to Paris for a brief rest trip and plans to sail for home this week.

He declined to discuss the volume of legislation recently adopted under the President's leadership. "The only vicious statute in America," he said, "was inherited by the present administration and has been part of the income tax since that law was adopted. I refer, of course, to the inclusion as income taxes of profits on gains on capital."

Sees New Stock Crash.

"The tax on capital gains is a popular tax because it is said to reach the rich. But its actual effect is to reduce selling tremendously on a rising market. I prophesy that if that tax is not repealed—as I believe it will be—in 1934, 1935 or 1936 we shall see another glutted market followed by another vertical crash."

Thousands, he said, with large profits "do not sell because of this tremendous tax they must pay the Government. The law therefore interrupts the natural swing of the stock-market pendulum by giving it a jerk upwards. Everybody buys; few sell."

P. P. F.

Hyde Park, N. Y.
September 8, 1934.

1763

Dear John:-

That beautiful old bowl has just arrived and I want to tell you immediately how much I appreciate it. It is a lovely thing. Thank you ever so much.

x PPF 9-B

Have a good rest. I know you need it and I hope I shall see you sometime after your return.

Always sincerely,

John Godfrey Saxe, Esq., #
102 Maiden Lane,
New York, N. Y.

1934.



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JOHN GODFREY SAXE
102 MAIDEN LANE

September 3, 1934.



Dear Mr. President:

Tiffany & Company is to send you this week an old home baptismal bowl, in carved silver, early American, probably about 1750 or 1760, perhaps somewhat earlier. Its upright is the Eagle! Finding it, by chance, in an antique shop in Virginia, it immediately occurred to me that you were the one person who ought to possess it, and it has given me great pleasure to procure it for you, to have it restored by Tiffany, and to present it to you.

I am planning to complete my rest cure, following a hectic summer on the Charter Commission (now, unhappily, repealed) by two weeks at sea, sailing this Saturday and returning in time for the Democratic State Convention, in case I should decide to attend.

less

dj

JOHN GODFREY SAXE
102 MAIDEN LANE

September 27, 1934.

President:

Thank you for your note of the
baptismal bowl; I am glad you liked the
I hoped you would.

I keenly appreciate your courteous
tion that you hope to see me some
nd, of course, will be available
should send for me. I realize,
; how continually your time is
ed. Perhaps I could venture one
tion about a tax amendment which
be helpful.

Faithfully yours,

John. Saxe

President,
the House,
gton, D.C.

Please accept my salutations and
respects,

Faithfully, your friend,

John Godfrey Saxe.

JOHN GODFREY SAXE
102 MAIDEN LANE

September 27, 1934.

resident:

Thank you for your note of the
I am glad you liked the
small bowl; I hoped you would.

I really appreciate your courteous
that you hope to see me some
of course, will be available
and send for me. I realize,
now continually your time is
Perhaps I could venture one
about a tax amendment which
helpful.

Faithfully yours,

John Godfrey Saxe

gent,
house,
D.C.

JOHN GODFREY SAXE ✓
102 MAIDEN LANE

September 27, 1934.

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your note of the
8th inst. I am glad you liked the
Eagle baptismal bowl; I hoped you would.

I keenly appreciate your courteous
suggestion that you hope to see me some
time, and, of course, will be available
if you should send for me. I realize,
however, how continually your time is
occupied. Perhaps I could venture one
suggestion about a tax amendment which
might be helpful.

Faithfully yours,

John. Saxe

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

dj

P. P. H.

1763

May 24, 1935.

Dear John:

Bob Wagner told me the other day that your old friends were giving a dinner in your honor at the Manhattan Club Saturday evening, and would give you a beautiful painting. I did not learn of this in time to get a message to you, which Bob said they wanted to read at the dinner.

The last was an unusually busy weekend. I had the bonus message to write. This message was not delivered to the Congress until Wednesday, and the work on it -- putting on last minute touches, editing and revising -- completely monopolized my time. As a matter of fact, there has been no let-up in the volume or pressure of work as yet.

I was glad that our old friends paid you this honor and compliment. I am only sorry that it was not possible for me to be with you.

Very sincerely yours,

Honorable John Godfrey Saxe, #
525 Park Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

dj

May 24, 1935.

Dear John:

Bob Wagner told me the other day that your old friends were giving a dinner in your honor at the Manhattan Club Saturday evening, and would give you a beautiful painting. I did not learn of this in time to get a message to you, which Bob said they wanted to read at the dinner.

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I was glad that our old friends paid you this honor and compliment. I am only sorry that it was not possible for me to be with you.

Very sincerely yours,

Honorable John Godfrey Saxe,
525 Park Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

dj

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 17, 1935.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT.

Senator Wagner telephoned to ask that the President be advised that all the old friends of John Godfrey Saxe are giving a dinner in his honor at the Manhattan Club, New York, tomorrow evening, when they are presenting Mr. Saxe with a \$3,000 painting.

The Senator said he realized, of course, that the President could not be present, but he hoped that the President would send a message to Mr. Saxe tomorrow morning to be read at the dinner, expressing his regret that he could not attend and recalling the days of 1911 when they were all in the Legislature together.

R. F.

*Phone Wagner:
T R has written*

JGS/c

May 27, 1935

courteous and friendly

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s, I should like to go to of the New York State Bar es, but think I had better June 15th, when you are

orable responses which press. It was an epic - nt has ever written, and it.

our friend,

John Godfrey Saxe

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 24, 1935

Telephoned Senator Wagner's office,
advising President was unable to send a message
in time for the dinner tendered to John Godfrey
Saxe — but that he was sending him a letter today.
(By direction of STE)

P.L.S.

courteous and friendly

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my appreciation.

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our friend,

John Godfrey Saxe

JGS/c

JOHN GODFREY SAXE
102 MAIDEN LANE

May 27, 1935

To the President of the United States,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President; dear Frank:

Thank you very much for your courteous and friendly
letter of the 24th inst.

The Manhattan Club dinner, I think, was a great success,
and I was overjoyed at the evidences of friendship paid to me by so
many. Your letter adds to the warmth of my appreciation.

Mrs. Ellen Emmet Rand, who painted a fine portrait of
you, also painted the portrait of me, which the Committee of members,
Bob Wagner Chairman, presented to the Club on the occasion.

By the way, Mrs. Rand has promised to obtain for me a
photograph of her portrait of you, and when she does, I will take
the liberty of sending it to you, in the hope that you will inscribe
it for me. Did you note that the lighter prints were a better likeness
than the darker ones?

Some time when your rush abates, I should like to go to
Washington and talk to you about a matter of the New York State Bar
Association. I will take only a few minutes, but think I had better
postpone such a trip until after - say - June 15th, when you are
likely to be more free.

I was delighted to read the favorable responses which
your Bonus Message received in the public press. It was an epic -
one of the finest Messages which a President has ever written, and
I cannot congratulate you too warmly upon it.

Faithfully, your friend,

John Godfrey Saxe

JGS/c

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

6/7/35

MAC:

Write John Godfrey Saxe and tell
him I do hope to see him, but will have
to wait until after Congress goes home.

F.D.R.

Sincerely yours,

E. E. McIntyre,
Assistant Secretary
to the President.

John Godfrey Saxe, Esq.,
102 Madison Lane,
New York City.

their profits,
surtax scale),
not only by the

h the Government on an increasing
ing from sale pyramids the market
are to buy at the bottom, but by

Poughkeepsie, N. Y.,
June 10, 1935.

My dear Mr. Saxe:

The President has asked me to drop you a note in response to your letter of May 27th, conveying the message that he does hope to see you but because of the tremendous demands on his time just now, the visit will have to be deferred until after the adjournment of Congress.

Sincerely yours,

M. H. McIntyre,
Assistant Secretary
to the President.

John Godfrey Saxe, Esq.,
102 Maiden Lane,
New York City.

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surtax scale),
not only by th

h the Government on an increasing
ing from sale pyramids the market
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P. P. F.

1763

Warm Springs, Georgia
December 1, 1935

November 25, 1935.

Dear John:

Those are both extremely interesting letters of yours and I am particularly happy to see that your statistical work has been revived; keep it up.

In regard to the capital gains problem, the Treasury tax people are studying it at the present time. There is much to be said in favor of reduction or limitation and, at the same time, we must do everything possible to curb unreasonable speculation.

I hope to see you one of these days soon.

Always sincerely,

Honorable John Godfrey Saxe,
102 Maiden Lane,
New York, New York.

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their profits, by taxation, with the Government on an increasing surtax scale), and this refraining from sale pyramids the market not only by the abnormal pressure to buy at the bottom, but by

SAXE, GERDES, BACON & O'SHEA

JOHN GODFREY SAXE
JOHN GERDES
ROGERS H. BACON
WILLIAM J. O'SHEA, JR.
JOHN H. JOHNSON
EDWARD D. BURNS
HENRY J. KENNEDY
M. CHASE CLARK

LAW OFFICES
102 MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK

November 25, 1935.

Re: Amendment to Income Tax Law

Dear Mr. President; dear Frank:

At the risk of being taken for a man with a single idea, I take the great liberty of renewing my appeal to you for amendment of the Income Tax Law, so as to take profits on capital out of the definition of "gross income", and to tax them separately, at a flat rate of 5%, the taxpayer reporting them in a separate line on his annual return. I am convinced that you will never regret such an amendment because I am positive that it is the only guaranteed preventative against a renewal of 1928 during your second term. Many believe that you will be reelected without New York; you surely will be elected with New York. New York, as I have indicated in the accompanying letter, shows strong indications of going Democratic in 1936. Both your friends and all good citizens do not want to see even the possibility of a new collapse during your second term. I believe that the inclusion of capital gains in income, for purposes of income tax, is wrong from every angle. As prices of real estate and securities increase, it is human nature for investors to refrain from selling (and dividing their profits, by taxation, with the Government on an increasing surtax scale), and this refraining from sale pyramids the market not only by the abnormal pressure to buy at the bottom, but by

removing the normal selling pressure at the top. Once this pyramiding starts, there is no limit until it topples over and crashes. Americans are willing to bear their tax burdens. I am not concerned with high surtax rates of taxation on true income, although I have always thought that earned income should be taxed at lower rates than income on amassed securities. What I am concerned with is taxing capital gains, which are not true income, on the same basis as true income; because such tax is destructive of any sound and normal business structure. I regard a corrective amendment as absolutely necessary. In addition, my suggested amendment would be economically sound, as well as a preventative of a menace. It would restore the normal swing of the pendulum. Buyers could afford to sell. There would be a large increase in real estate and business transactions. The Government would receive greatly increased taxes. Instead of assessing theoretical taxes on profits which are never consummated, it would receive 5% on the profits of thousands of actual transactions.

I took the liberty, early this year, of printing my views for you, so that you could have the matter before you in easy form to read.

The Committee on Taxation of the New York State Bar Association is considering these questions and may propose a definite resolution at the Annual Meeting to be held in January. If it does so, and such a resolution is adopted, it will give me great pleasure, if I be permitted, to take it to Washington and to present it to you in person.

-3-

With warm personal regards, I am,

Faithfully and respectfully yours,

John F. Saxe

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President,
The Capitol,
Washington, D.C.

JGS/s

JOHN GODFREY SAXE
102 MAIDEN LANE

Dec 5
December 5, 1935.

Personal.

Dear Mr. President; dear Frank:

I am greatly pleased to receive your cordial letter, replying so promptly to mine.

I agree with you as to "unreasonable speculation"; perhaps your reference to it permits a further word.

In my previous letters I have dealt with the proposed amendment to the Income Tax Law having in mind two objectives, recovery, and the preservation of recovery and reform. To complete the picture, I suggest that the proposed amendment also fits in closely with your reforms. Your legislation had to do with supervision and regulation by human agencies. Reform, in order to carry you and the Country beyond the danger mark, should include, I think, in addition to constructive agencies, the elimination of any destructive agency. New human agencies can accomplish much; but they can scarcely eradicate the danger. In other words, they can cope with other human agencies; but, here, they are faced with an economic agency, continually working against them.

Incidentally, and of less importance, it frequently has been stated that history has shown that, following any depression, the Stock and Commodity Markets, with resulting speculation, are usually the first to recover, then business, and, last of all, real estate. The markets are rising, business is improving, but real estate, hereabouts at least, is still at a standstill. The proposed amendment

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would check a pyramiding Stock Market, act as a spur to business transactions, and bring about a revival of real estate. I am perfectly delighted that the Treasury tax people are studying the problem. The amendment itself, as a billdrafting problem, is very simple.

You are very good to take the time to read these letters of mine. I suppose most suggestions that come to you are tagged "Important". I realize that almost everything you have before you is important; much of it, very important. Perhaps this amendment is one which permits the superlative.

Referring to the last line of your letter, of course it would give me real pleasure to meet with you again at any time.

Faithfully yours,

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The President of the United States,
Warm Springs,
Georgia.

JGS/c

The following messages of sympathy in the death of Mr. Howe were personally acknowledged by the President- Filed April 29, 1936.

GUNTHER, Franklin Mott
Wash., D.C.

GREEN, Theodore Francis,
Governor of Rhode Island,
Providence, R.I.

HALL, Harry M.,
Waynesville, N.Car.

SHEARER, Jack,
West Newbury, Mass.

LEWISOHN, Mr. & Mrs. Sam A.,
New York, N.Y.

HARRISS, Robert M.,
New York, N.Y.

WOOLLEY, Robert W.,
Wash., D.C.

STUART, John
Santa Monica, Calif.

FRANKFURTER, Felix,
Cambridge, Mass.

DOOLEY, John H.,
Portland, Maine

HOYT, Morgan H.,
Beacon, N.Y.

MCDONALD, Dr. William
Marion, Mass.

DOYLE, Michael Francis,
Phila., Pa.

GERARD, James W.,
New York, N.Y.

HOUSE, Col. Edward M.,
New York, N.Y.

See 35

COUCH, Harvey C.,
Pine Bluff, Ark.

MALONE, Dudley Field,
New York, N.Y.

HINES, Brig.Gen. Frank T.,
Administrator of the Veterans'
Administration, Wash., D.C.

WALKER, Frank C.,
New York, N.Y.

LANSON, Mrs. Roberta Campbell, Pres.,
General Federation of Women's Clubs,
Wash., D.C.

COLLIER, Barron,
New York, N.Y.

SAXE, Hon. John Godfrey,
New York, N.Y.

BERTRON, S.R.,
New York, N.Y.

SOMERVILLE, H.P.,
Washington, D.C.

SEXTON, Robert H.,
New York, N.Y.

P.P.7.
1763

JOHN GODFREY SAXE
102 MAIDEN LANE

P.P.F.
1763

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THE WHITE HOUSE
NOV 17 1936

November 16, 1936

Dear Mr. President and dear Frank:

Even in your busy life, I think you will enjoy reading the enclosed characteristic opinion written by your old friend and appointee, Jack Fitzgerald, having to do with the principles as to the inspection of Grand Jury minutes in these days of "high-powered automobile movements", as distinguished from "the pace of the ox-cart days". He is one of our most able criminal judges. When his name was before you for appointment, I have a faint recollection that the Brooklyn Bar Association suggested that he might be too deaf; but he certainly can see clearly, and I guess he hears all he needs. An added point of interest in this opinion of his is that it is the Attorney General of the United States as to whom he permits right of inspection.

x41

I am off to Albany on December 14 to cast my vote in the Electoral College. It will be easy to do, although it seems a good deal like "repeating".

With renewed congratulations and regards, I am

Your sincere friend,

John. Saxe

To the President,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

November 19, 1936

Dear Mr. Saxe:

The President was delighted to receive your letter of November sixteenth and asked me to thank you very heartily for sending him the copy of Judge Fitzgerald's opinion. The President asked me to express to you his regret that in the pressure of his preparations to leave on the South American trip he was unable to reply in person. But he took the copy of Judge Fitzgerald's opinion with him and was sure he would enjoy reading it on his cruise.

Very sincerely yours,

STEPHEN EARLY
Assistant Secretary
to the President

Mr. John Godfrey Saxe,
102 Maiden Lane,
New York, N. Y.

wdh-mw

by calling together a notable
and later, by appointing Dewey

ess,
mocratic District Attorney.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 13, 1936.

MEMO FOR S. T. E.

Thank him very much and
say I got it just as I was
going to the train and that I
have taken it with me on the
cruise.

F. D. R.

P. P. F.

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by calling together a notable
and later, by appointing Dewey

, which had amazing success,
mocratic District Attorney.

P. P. F.

1763

October 11, 1938.

Dear John:-

Those figures of yours are intensely interesting and I had not seen a comparison of this kind before. I hope and pray that they are a sure prognostication -- and personally I think things look all right.

The best line that can be circulated in up-State New York -- especially among Republican or Independent voters -- is "I propose to vote for Dewey -- to continue as District Attorney for the balance of his term".

I do hope to see you one of these days soon.

As ever yours,

John Godfrey Saxe, Esq.,
102 Maiden Lane,
New York, N. Y.

by calling together a notable Crime Conference, which had amazing success, and later, by appointing Dewey to succeed a Democratic District Attorney.

X PPF 869
X 111.3
X 300 M.Y. - 10.
X 91
X 88

P. P. F.

1763

October 11, 1938.

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I do hope to see you one of these days soon.

(Thomas G.)
x2

As ever yours,

John Godfrey Saxe, Esq., #
102 Maiden Lane,
New York, N. Y.

X PPF 669
x 1113
x 300 N.Y. - 10.
x 91
x 88

by calling together a notable Crime Conference, which had amazing success, and later, by appointing Dewey to succeed a Democratic District Attorney.

WHITE HOUSE
OCT 8 9 47 AM '38
RECEIVED

JOHN GODFREY SAXE
102 MAIDEN LANE

October 7, 1938

Dear Mr. President; dear Frank: [Personal]

I recall that you once wrote me that you were greatly interested in figures, and would like to have me send along any that I might have. I enclose a new Table. It deals with up-State pluralities, especially in off years. Until the last year or two, the Red Book did not carry these totals separately.

It is my opinion that Mr. Dewey cannot carry up-State by a plurality in an excess of 250,000 votes.

The vote in off years must be sharply distinguished from the vote in Presidential years. The record Republican plurality up-State in an off year was achieved ten years ago by Ogden Mills when he received a plurality of 238,360. It will be recalled that, in that year, Ogden started a "milk" issue, which excited the State, and that, according to our early polls, Smith was beaten for Governor and Wagner for Senator. Then, the milk issue blew up and Al and Bob were elected, but the milk issue was one in which the up-State districts were concerned and Ogden's up-State vote did not melt away the way his City vote did.

Mr. Dewey's only issue is law enforcement. The up-State voters, for many years, have not seemed particularly interested in the anti-Tammany issue or crime conditions in the Greater City. Insofar as crime may be an issue, it was Governor Lehman who took the initiative, first, by calling together a notable Crime Conference, which had amazing success, and later, by appointing Dewey to succeed a Democratic District Attorney.

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt -2-

Oct 7

I find some Republicans and Independents expressing the opinion either that Mr. Dewey should not have taken this nomination so shortly after he had undertaken his task as District Attorney, or that he came from another State, or is young and knows nothing of State-wide conditions, or even that, in his conduct of the Hines' case, he was responsible for the mistrial, and is not so able a prosecutor as he was reputed to be. Personally, I think Dewey is a great prosecutor, but it is the opinion of the voters generally that counts, and so far as I have seen to date, they do not appear to think he is infallible.

I met Al Ottinger on some law matter shortly after the 1928 election. He stated to me, somewhat boastfully, that he thought he could have won against you in a single combat, and added, with great significance, "But no one could beat Roosevelt, plus Smith, plus Wagner". A similar situation exists this year. Lehman, Tremaine, Wagner and Bennett are all great vote getters and Dewey is trying to beat ^{all of} them single-handed.

I hope that this letter finds you in the best of good health. I am on tip-toes myself. After four weeks of golf in August at Hot Springs, Virginia, I took a sea trip to France and back in September and was in Paris during the series of crises between September 11th and 21st. It was intensely interesting, and while I am an amateur in international affairs, I formed some pretty definite conclusions, which, up to date, appear to have been right.

Faithfully yours,

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

Thuf. Saxe

JGS/c enc

VOTE FOR GOVERNOR (Continued)

1922 to 1936.

SHOWING UP-STATE PLURALITIES, WHICH WERE NOT
PRINTED IN THE RED BOOK UNTIL THE LAST YEAR OR TWO.

1922

Candidate

Up-State

City

State

Lehman

1,138,017

Presidential Years

2,708,363

Black

1,372,017

874,057

2,432,391

1924.

Plur

Candidate

Up-State

City

State

Lehman

690,170

898,228

858,111

Black

Smith
T. Roosevelt, Jr.

1,100,577

936,941
417,975

1,627,111
1,518,552

Pluralities:

Smith

410,407

518,966

108,559

T. Roosevelt, Jr.

Mr. Roosevelt's up-State plurality over 410,000.

1928

Non-Presidential Years

1928

F.D. Roosevelt
Ottinger

994,976
1,375,917

1,135,217
728,712

2,130,193
2,104,629

Smith

841,074

756,886

1,497,257

Miller

724,011

874,073

1,404,725

Pluralities:

Plur

F.D. Roosevelt
Ottinger

380,941

406,505

25,564

Smith

479,810

479,810

479,810

Miller

479,810

479,810

479,810

Attorney General Ottinger's up-State plurality
over 380,000.

Governor Miller's up-State plurality under 100,000.

1932

1932

Smith

Lehman

1,128,354

858,810

1,531,165

2,659,519

Miller

Donovan

1,270,759

858,810

541,321

1,812,080

Pluralities:

Plur

Lehman

142,405

486,038

989,844

847,439

Miller

Donovan

142,405

486,038

989,844

847,439

Wild Bill's up-State plurality less than 150,000.

VOTE FOR GOVERNOR [Continued]

Presidential Year

1936

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Up-State</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>
Lehman	1,136,068	1,572,315	2,708,383
Bleakley	<u>1,576,017</u>	<u>874,087</u>	<u>2,450,104</u>

Pluralities:

Lehman		698,228	258,279
Bleakley	439,949		

Judge Bleakley's up-State plurality highest in a decade. He was an up-Stater himself; and over 250,000 up-State Republicans vote in a Presidential year who usually do not come out in an off year.

Non-Presidential Years

1922

Smith	641,374	756,283	1,397,657
Miller	<u>734,652</u>	<u>277,073</u>	<u>1,011,725</u>

Pluralities:

Smith		479,210	385,932
Miller	93,278		

Governor Miller's up-State plurality under 100,000.

1926

Smith	684,157	839,656	1,523,813
Mills	<u>922,517</u>	<u>353,620</u>	<u>1,276,137</u>

Pluralities:

Smith		486,036	247,676
Mills	238,360		

Ogden Mills achieved the record up-State plurality in an off-year. It was less than 250,000.

VOTE FOR GOVERNOR [Continued]

Non-Presidential Years

1930

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Up-State</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>
Roosevelt	843,527	926,815	1,770,342
Tuttle	<u>675,743</u>	<u>369,598</u>	<u>1,045,341</u>

Pluralities:

Roosevelt	167,784	557,217	725,001
Tuttle			

The President carried up-State by an all-time record plurality. Tuttle achieved pluralities in only 15 out of 57 up-State Counties!

1934

Lehman	991,214	1,210,515	2,201,729
Moses	<u>987,080</u>	<u>406,558</u>	<u>1,393,638</u>

Pluralities:

Lehman	4,134	803,957	808,091
--------	-------	---------	---------

Governor Lehman carried up-State.

Up-State is reported as "wild" over Dewey; but, quare: Where are the votes coming from in an off year?

P. P. F.

1763

October 27, 1938

Dear John:

Thank you very much for your grand letter of October twenty-fifth. I was much interested to have your personal opinion.

I shall be glad to have your suggestions on real estate conditions and while, as you say, these are exceedingly busy days, I should welcome any memorandum you might care to send me on this subject.

With all good wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

Honorable John Godfrey Saxe, ✕
102 Maiden Lane,
New York, N. Y.

RB/nma

x88

x300 New York "S"

x1113

x91

fair; but it was at fault there. I was amazed to find that there were 2,093,000 votes cast up-State and only 1,843,700 votes cast in New York City. If the same is true this year and even if Mr. Dewey should receive a smaller percentage up-State than Governor Lehman

*Mr. to prepare reply
Dear John*

JOHN GODFREY SAXE
102 MAIDEN LANE

ny. city

THE WHITE HOUSE
OCT 26 9 46 AM '38
RECEIVED

October 25, 1938.

*ack'd 10/27/38
mum*

Dear Mr. President; dear Frank:

1. Real estate conditions.

x63

Some time, when you are not engrossed in the affairs of your great office, I should like the privilege of presenting to you real estate conditions as I have found them to be during the last five or ten years, and to suggest a possible remedy. This suggestion of mine may be sound or fantastic. At any rate, there is plenty of time before the Congress meets to have it fully considered.

2. Political conditions.

I enclose clippings from the Daily Mirror and Daily News of today, showing their straw polls. This is only the second day of polling and cannot mean a great deal. As to their completed polls, I have been told that they have been pretty good in the past, except that they may have over-estimated Democratic pluralities in the Greater City. At any rate, at the moment, they indicate that Thomas E. Dewey, in this off year, will receive a plurality up-State greater than Bleakley did two years ago, in a Presidential year. Bleakley received a plurality of practically 440,000 votes.

In order to apply these straw vote percentages to the possible vote this year, I turned back four years to the year when Lehman defeated Moses up-State by about 4,000. My memory is usually pretty fair; but it was at fault there. I was amazed to find that there were 2,093,000 votes cast up-State and only 1,843,700 votes cast in New York City. If the same is true this year and even if Mr. Dewey should receive a smaller percentage up-State than Governor Lehman

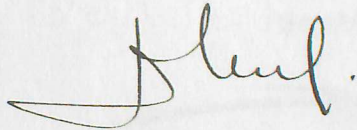
receives in New York City, Dewey still might be elected.

As I frequently have had occasion to say, you did more than any Democratic Governor to attract up-State voters. This was reflected in your vote against Tuttle, when you carried up-State by a plurality of 167,784 votes. What did that mean? As I read it, it meant that you had attracted tens of thousands of Republicans to vote the Democratic ticket. Furthermore, a change of votes of that character is seldom temporary, because the moment a party voter changes his party, he loses his party morale and is never the same party man again. I gave you in my earlier letter the figures in off years, which show that Dewey should not come down to the Bronx County line with more than 250,000 votes. Now, these later polls indicate that he may run closer to 500,000. I read, in last night's papers, the reports of some of the County Chairmen given at Jim Farley's Democratic breakfast yesterday morning. Most of them appeared to be figuring the vote in their Counties for this year in comparison with their vote for Bleakley in a presidential year, and stating that they expected to do about as well. None of them seem to realize that this was an off-year, that eight years ago you had carried up-State by a record plurality, and that four years ago Governor Lehman had carried it. What does all this mean? I suggest that if these polls and reports reflect the situation, it means that tens of thousands of Republicans who had become Democrats, are about to return to their own party, that the gains you had achieved have been lost.

I am not retracting my previous report as to what the Republican up-State plurality ought to be. I am giving you later information, which indicates merely that, as the campaign is now

going, it may be much larger than it ought to be.

Faithfully yours,



Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

JGS/c enc

file *PPX, 163*
JOHN GODFREY SAXE
102 MAIDEN LANE

November 5, 1938

Dear Mr. President; dear Frank:

[Personal]

Thanks a lot for your recent letter. I do not see how you get time to answer letters and to do so so promptly.

If the City News poll is fairly accurate (of course, it may be another Literary Digest of 1936; I have no basis for telling), Mr. Dewey is likely to receive a much greater plurality up-State than any Republican ever previously received up-State in an off year; and Governor Lehman can hardly afford to receive much less than 66% of the vote in New York City. One hears a good many reports about "soreness", said to arise from the Governor's insistence on a Lieutenant-Governor of his own choosing, or from the appearance of four of our State candidates at Mass Meetings of a third Party which is vigorously opposing our other two State candidates, who have large personal followings in the City and up-State. There also appear to be cross-currents, running for or against the Governor and Senator Wagner. I am Chairman of one of Bob's Campaign Committees and talked with him on Sunday night after he returned from Buffalo. He is confident of success both for the Governor and himself.

Irrespective of the general accuracy or inaccuracy of the Daily News poll, I differ from it in two respects:

1. The total registration up-State is 3,123,708. The Daily News figures the actual up-State vote for Governor at 2,582,369. I believe that that is too large. My own rough estimate, based on the

1934 vote, plus 94% of the increase in personal registration Districts since 1934, and also plus an arbitrary 100,000, to cover any increase in non-personal registration Districts since 1934, is 2,272,000. On that basis, Dewey, if he gets the Daily News' estimated plurality of 23.4% up-State, would carry up-State by over 500,000. It is interesting to note that between Sunday and Wednesday, Dewey's actual percentage in the poll has gone down slightly; but, nevertheless, the Daily News has changed from Lehman to Dewey, because it has just received the up-State registration figure, from which it estimates a vote of over 2,500,000 up-State.

2. I am informed that, in past years, the Daily News poll has estimated the total Democratic vote in the City for Governor at about 10% too high. The actual registration in the City is 2,434,000, which, less 6% (for those voting other tickets and stay-at-homes) would be about 2,288,000. Giving the Governor 64% (which is more than the Daily News poll), he would receive 1,464,000 votes, and deducting 10%, he would receive 1,317,800 votes. Dewey, with 36% (which is less than the Daily News poll) would receive 823,680 votes. This would give the Governor a plurality of 494,000 in the City.

Of course, these figures are built on the quick-sand of a straw poll with two corrections which are uncertain.

The morale of party machines has long since been broken down. "Straight" voting is becoming a lost art. New voters, women voters and old-time party men - Democrats and Republicans alike - now vote upstairs and downstairs on voting machines to their hearts' content.

Those who can figure which candidate for Governor will win, will also discover that, if the vote for Governor is close, their problem as to other candidates is only begun.

As to the suggestion which I had in mind for Government help to relieve appalling real estate conditions, I do not feel that I could do justice to it in a memorandum.

Best regards,

Cordially yours,

Frank. Sayer

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Hyde Park,
Dutchess County,
New York.

JGS/c

Clippings

From: Daily News (N.Y.)

Date: October 25, 1938

Neck-Neck Race In Governor Poll

By ROGER DAKIN.

Gov. Lehman and District Attorney Dewey are still running neck and neck in The News Gubernatorial Straw Poll. Lehman is leading, but by only 3.6 per cent. Their relative standing in the State as a whole, despite the addition of 2,737 straws, remains exactly the same as yesterday. Lehman has received 51.8 per cent. of the vote; Dewey, 48.2 per cent.

The additional straws, bringing the grand total collected thus far to 7,856, have changed the picture, however, in the city and upstate, considered separately.

Lehman Gains in City.

The first day's returns showed Lehman running slightly behind 1936 in the city. With the new straws from Brooklyn and the Bronx added to the city total, Lehman has pulled up and is now running 2.1 per cent. ahead of 1936 in the city as a whole, and ahead in every borough polled thus far except Manhattan, where his loss of 2.9 per cent. is more than made up in other sections.

Dewey has pulled ahead upstate.

however, and his gain there exactly balances Lehman's in the city. The first results showed Dewey running 3.1 per cent. better than William F. Bleakley, Republican candidate in 1936. The additional straws now show him running 5.6 per cent. better.

Upset in Rochester.

Dewey's greatest gain upstate and the most startling upset indicated by the poll to date were registered in Rochester, Monroe County.

Rochester went Democratic in 1936, giving Lehman 59.41 per cent. of the two-party vote against 40.59 per cent. for Bleakley.

The straw poll this year shows almost a complete reversal. Dewey

will get 53.35 per cent. of the vote, according to the straws, against 46.65 per cent. for Lehman. This loss of 12.76 per cent. by Lehman represents a swing of about 19,700 Rochester voters.

Caution Indicated.

The straws collected in Rochester and New York City thus far may be considered accurate so far as they go. The state-wide total, however, should still be accepted with caution. It indicates a trend, but not enough straws have been collected to give it precise predictive value. More than 34,500 straws are to come between now and Nov. 7, the day before Election Day, when the final prediction will be made.

Clippings

From: Daily Mirror (N.Y.)

Date: October 25, 1938

Governorship Poll

Lehman and Dewey Running Neck and Neck in Straw Vote

By GEORGE ADAMS

Second day's results in the Crossley-Mirror poll indicate that of the major party strength Gov. Herbert H. Lehman is supported by two-thirds of the vote in New York City and his Republican opponent, District Attorney Dewey, has two-thirds of the vote up-State.

Yesterday, on first reports, Lehman led by 10 to 3 in the city and Dewey by 5 to 3 up-State.

As additional tabulations in the impartial poll conducted by Crossley, Inc., for the Daily Mirror, keep pouring in, the statistical technicians of the famed research bureau foresee a very close vote on Election Day.

They are confident, even at this early stage, that the result will be within a narrower margin than that which separated the candidates in 1936, when Justice William F. Bleakley came within five percentage points of defeating Governor Lehman.

With a total of 4,675 interviews completed, Crossley, Inc., reports that Lehman has taken 66 per cent to Dewey's 31.4 per cent in the city, and Dewey 64 per cent to Lehman's 35.6 per cent up-State.

(Yesterday's figures—the first taken in the poll—reported 1,706 interviews in New York City with 1,020, or 59.8 per cent, for Lehman, and 296, or 17.4 per cent, for Dewey. The remainder, 390, were divided among "other candidates," "undecided," and "not voting.")

Upstate, 962 interviews gave 486, or 50.5 per cent, to Dewey, and 300, or 31.2 per cent, to Lehman. The remaining 176 were split among "undecided," "not voting," and "other candidates.")

Recount Possible

Of the remainder interviewed, 98 would not state their preference, 510 were unqualified to vote, 118 declared they will not vote and 691 were undecided.

Therefore, of the major party vote alone, Lehman thus far scores 67.8 per cent to Dewey's 32.2 per cent in the city and Dewey 64.2 per cent to Lehman's 35.8 per cent up-State. Each possesses a two-thirds advantage in his traditionally main-supporting area, the Republican candidate Upstate and the Democratic incumbent in New York City.

The contest now resolves itself, according to the estimate of Crossley, Inc., on the power of the two opposing organizations to mass their vote on Election Day. Should the Republican ticket come down to the city line with a plurality equivalent to that expected to be totalled by the Democratic ticket within New York City, the result will become so close as to possibly justify a recount.

The report of Crossley, Inc., published in its entirety on Page 4, points out, however, that all of the areas thus far heard from returned a higher vote for Lehman in 1936 than did the entire city or the entire Upstate. When additional tabulations are returned from the strictly rural areas, where Dewey's support is expected to be strongest, the results may diverge.

The additional figures on which today's percentages are based, for instance, include the 28th and 29th Congressional districts, in which are located the cities of Albany, Troy and Schenectady. Yesterday's tabulations from up-State included reports from Rochester and Buffalo. Lehman, in 1936, showed strongly in these major up-State cities, amassing a greater vote than did his Republican challenger in all but Buffalo, where he scored approximately a tie.

Returns in the metropolitan area have included the 24th and 25th Congressional districts, the upper portion of The Bronx and Westchester and Rockland counties, traditionally Republican, and the first Congressional District, Suffolk and Nassau Counties and a portion of Queens, likewise considered Republican.

Second Day's Report on

Crossley-Mirror Poll

Today's report is based upon 4,675 returns, of which 98 would not state how they intend to vote, 510 say they are not qualified for voting, 118 say they do not intend to vote and 691 say they have not made up their minds. The remainder divide as follows:

Intend to Vote for	New York City	Outside N. Y. C.
Dewey	31.4%	64.0
Lehman	66.0%	35.6
Other	2.6%	0.4
	100%	100%

The areas thus far heard from showed a higher vote for Lehman in 1936 than did the entire city or the entire up-State.

Election Result Probably Hinges Upon Getting Out the Vote!

Returns in the second installment of votes in the Crossley-Mirror Poll, together with a quick analysis of late ballots not received in time for tabulation in this issue indicate that the side that does the most to get the vote may be the final winner.

In the last off-year Gubernatorial election there were almost seven million persons of voting age, of which approximately 4,750,000 were registered to vote. Of these, only 3,937,000 actually took the trouble to vote, or 83% of the total. This percentage did not remain constant for all parts of the State. For example, of the voters who were registered in 1934 in the City of New York 93.2% actually went to the polls to vote, whereas in the remainder of the State only 75% of those registered actually voted.

It now appears fairly certain that when straw votes are in from all Congressional districts we shall find the situation within a few points of a tie. In 1936 Bleakley was within five percentage points of winning. It now appears reasonably certain that the winner on Election Day will have a much narrower margin than Lehman had in 1936.

If it should happen that the choice of the majority of voters in the State of New York turns out as now indicated, then that side which succeeds in getting the largest proportion of qualified voters to the polls may very probably be the winning side. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance to the candidates to get their supporters to go to the polls.

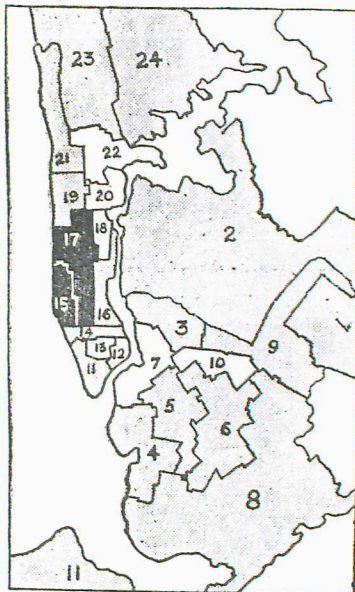
In these last few days of campaigning, Dewey and Lehman each find that a large percentage of those who are qualified to vote actually intend to vote, but even such intangible things as weather conditions can keep the people from the polls.

Coming into the home stretch each candidate finds an appreciable number of voters as yet undecided as to how they will vote on Election Day. With the results now so close, late decisions by the voters will prove of more than ordinary interest in the progress of these reports.

(Copyright, 1938, by Crossley, Inc., and N. Y. Mirror)

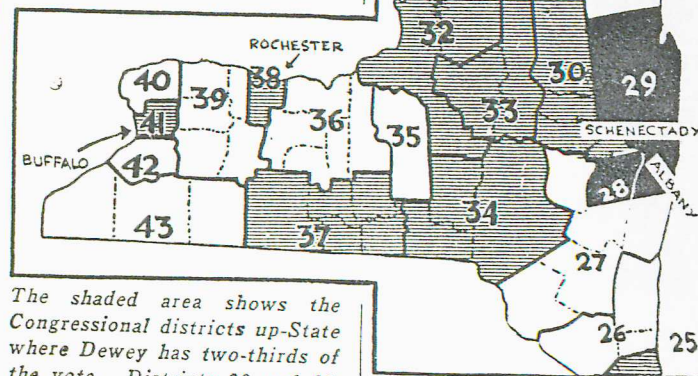
Within the city proper, straws have been taken in all but a few of the Congressional districts. Among those reporting was the 17th, or "Silk Stocking District," another Republican area. The effect of the vote in these districts has already been taken into consideration, but no conclusive opinion can be formed until more tabulations are made.

At this stage barely 10 per cent of the total of more than 40,000 to be interviewed has been heard from. And no one district has been completely canvassed.



(Mirror)

Shaded area shows two-thirds of the districts in New York City cornered by Lehman; 15 and 17 (black area), in the "Silk Stocking District," were included in poll yesterday.



The shaded area shows the Congressional districts up-State where Dewey has two-thirds of the vote. Districts 28 and 29, (black area) were counted in yesterday.

All to be questioned have been carefully selected by the Crossley method as to age, race, creed where predominant, sex and economic status. When all have been heard from Crossley will apply the scientific methods developed in years of research work to determine the probable winner.

In 1936, Crossley, Inc., conducted a nation-wide poll on the Presidential election, which results proved to be "better than 50 per cent accurate."

If you want to know who will be your next Governor follow the Crossley report daily in the Daily Mirror.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 21

1940

P.P.E.

1763

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROOSEVELT

Dear John:

It was grand to get that letter of yours of the thirteenth. Thank you ever so much for the nice things you say. I sincerely hope I may continue to merit the confidence and loyalty of my many friends during the next four years.

My very best wishes to you.

Always sincerely yours,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Honorable John G. Saxe, #
102 Maiden Lane,
New York, New York.

tn
is likely to be a fine
be needed that to
carry on, for so long a
of the firm maintenance of
could be more abundant
Again, I wish you success.

Sincere friend,

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

JGS/c

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 21, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR MAC

To prepare reply.

"Dear John".

F. D. R.

274 c
November 13, 1940.

ns upon your election and my
in your Administration.

s succeeded as Chairman
c State Committee by my
as I made this year seemed
therefore did not take the
ad occasionally done in
t the actual returns,
y, and you beat all Democratic
illkie, too, beat the
State vote, but he did not
e had a record-breaker as
g to note that your vote was
and Monroe went Democratic.
vote in those two Counties
onder if they are the same
er, that you were the first
ion to up-State.

the intentions of the
ar is likely to continue for
ill be needed that is
carry on, for so long a
nd the firm maintenance of
could be more abhorrent
Again, I wish you success.

sincere friend,

Alfred L. Sweeney

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

JGS/c

JOHN GODFREY SAXE
102 MAIDEN LANE

24 c
November 13, 1940.

Dear Mr. President; dear Frank:

I extend my hearty congratulations upon your election and my best wishes for thorough-going success in your Administration.

It is now seven years since I was succeeded as Chairman of the Law Committee of the Democratic State Committee by my partner, Mr. O'Shea. Such estimates as I made this year seemed to me to be largely guess-work, and I therefore did not take the liberty of sending them to you, as I had occasionally done in previous years. Looking backwards at the actual returns, New York City gave you a fine plurality, and you beat all Democratic records in your vote up-State. Mr. Willkie, too, beat the Republican up-State record in his up-State vote, but he did not equal Mr. Dewey's plurality, because he had a record-breaker as his opponent. It is also interesting to note that your vote was increased and his decreased when Erie and Monroe went Democratic. When you and I remember the Republican vote in those two Counties outside of Buffalo and Rochester, we wonder if they are the same territory. I have always said, however, that you were the first Democratic Governor to pay real attention to up-State.

You possess a broad insight into the intentions of the European leaders. I gather that the War is likely to continue for three or four years. Statesmanship will be needed that is characterized by infinite patience to carry on, for so long a period, active help to Great Britain and the firm maintenance of peace for the United States. Nothing could be more abhorrent than a permanent, Prussianized Europe. Again, I wish you success.

As ever,

Your sincere friend,

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

John Saxe

JGS/c

P. P. F.

1763

Personal

November 29, 1940.

Dear John:

Thanks for yours of November twenty-seventh which I am glad to have before leaving for a little holiday. The difficulty of the Walter-Logan Bill is that it has never been
x thought out or studied from the point of view of the different agencies. In regard to the latter, some procedures require review on the law and some procedures require none -- for the simple reason that such guaranteed review would be used for delay, as in the old days of our own New York codes.

x285
x41

x PP76906
Dean Acheson's committee has been hard at work and will be ready to report before the next session. This committee, I understand, finds so many terrible things in the present bill that it has no hesitation in recommending disapproval. As drawn today, the bill should be called "a bill for the relief of unemployment among lawyers!"

x264
x PP71055

As ever yours,

John Godfrey Saxe, Esq.,
102 Maiden Lane,
New York, N. Y.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

FDR/dj

As ever,

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington
D.C.
JGS/c

Your sincere friend,

John G. Saxe

JOHN GODFREY SAXE
102 MAIDEN LANE

November 27, 1940.

November 29, 1940.

Dear John:

Thanks for yours of November twenty-seventh which I am glad to have before leaving for a little holiday. The difficulty of the Walter-Logan Bill is that it has never been thought out or studied from the point of view of the different agencies. In regard to the latter, some procedures require review on the law and some procedures require none -- for the simple reason that such guaranteed review would be used for delay, as in the old days of our own New York codes.

Dean Acheson's committee has been hard at work and will be ready to report before the next session. This committee, I understand, finds so many terrible things in the present bill that it has no hesitation in recommending disapproval. As drawn today, the bill should be called "a bill for the relief of unemployment among lawyers!"

As ever yours,

John Godfrey Saxe, Esq., FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
102 Maiden Lane,
New York, N. Y.

As ever,

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington
D.C.
JGS/c

Your sincere friend,

John Godfrey Saxe

JOHN GODFREY SAXE
102 MAIDEN LANE

November 27, 1940.

Dear Mr. President; dear Frank:

Thank you very much indeed for your letter.
I am delighted to have it.

There is a good deal of talk to the effect that you will or may veto the Walker-Logan bill. I believe that I have never written you about a bill pending before you; but I would like to tender a suggestion as to that bill. My ideas are based on my experience; and so far as I know, no client is interested.

Aside from occasional ruthlessness on the part of some Bureaus - a consideration which I am not emphasizing - the situation is, essentially, a practical one. On theory, every ruling of a Board should be subject to at least one review by a duly constituted Court both on the law and the facts. On the other hand, in practice, unless many matters of detail are left with the Bureau, the Courts might become so congested that they could not function without creating as many new Courts as there are Bureaus. The practical question is just where the line should be drawn. To my knowledge, for ten years, everyone has been guessing, and no one knows. Practical questions can never be accurately determined in advance. In such a situation, I know it has been your experience that the only remedy is to have some enactment placed on the statute books, the workings of which can thereafter be carefully watched. If such a statute is found to interfere with the administration of the Bureaus or to impose too heavy a burden on the Courts, it would have to be restricted. If, on the other hand, it is found that, in general, it has worked well, you might wish to recommend that it be extended, to Bureaus not covered. If better machinery, from time to time, is devised by the Attorney General, the Bureaus or others, then, again, appropriate amendments can be made.

This gives a safe and sound method of dealing with a head-on conflict between two important considerations, and the Walker-Logan bill seems to be an excellent measure to serve as such a structure for trying the matter out.

All of which is respectfully and tentatively suggested.

As ever,

Your sincere friend,

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington
D.C.
JGS/c

John G. Saxe

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3-40

The 25,000 plurality was correct that you had
no worried! Eddie Flynn and Louis Howe and I
continued to be worried about the
in the morning because
about missing districts from some of the
northern tier counties!

December 27, 1940.

Dear John:-

I, too, like to reminisce and, there-
fore, I was awfully glad to have yours of
December twentieth. Dear old Tom Grady! What
a really great orator he was -- greater I
have always thought than Bourke Cochran.

I am glad you mentioned the 1924
Conventions. After that one in Albany, and
about two weeks before Mr. Murphy died, he
came to 49 East 65th Street -- toward the
end of April, as I remember it -- and asked
me, because of my association with the
Federal end of things, to undertake to round
up delegates for Al. Louis Howe and I began
at once, though it was, of course, very late
in the year to start. I remember telling
C. F. (with his complete agreement) that
with hard work and good luck we might be able
to get 300 delegates in the National Con-
vention for Al, but that in all probability
we could not nominate him; that, however,
it would be a good thing to do and we might
be able to get him the nomination in 1928.
Actually, as I remember it, we got 350
votes for him in the Convention.

What an awful night that was in 1928!
You were not only absolutely correct about
the vote, but you were so confident that

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the Knickerbocker Hotel, and I offered you the Chairmanship of the
Democratic State Committee. Mr. Murphy had decided on McCoombs,
Tumulty had protested to Tom Smith, and McCoombs had "declined".
You decided to not accept. William Church Osborn was re-elected.

the 25,000 plurality was correct that you had no worries! Eddie Flynn and Louis Howe and I continued to be worried until three o'clock in the morning because we had misgivings about missing districts from some of the northern tier counties!

I hope to see you soon. My best wishes for the New Year.

Always sincerely,

John Godfrey Saxe, Esq.,
102 Maiden Lane,
New York, N. Y.

the Knickerbocker Hotel, and I offered you the Chairmanship of the Democratic State Committee. Mr. Murphy had decided on McCoombs, Tumulty had protested to Tom Smith, and McCoombs had "declined". You decided to not accept. William Church Osborn was re-elected.

JOHN GODFREY SAXE
102 MAIDEN LANE

December 20, 1940.

[Personal]

Dear Mr. President; dear Frank:

Thank you for your courteous letter of November 29, 1940. I appreciated your confidence, and, of course, respected it. I note that the bill is dead. While I strongly favor the enactment of an adequate measure, I finally came to a quite definite conclusion that you were right about this one.

I hope you had a fine rest on the Caribbean Sea. A trip of this kind must be wonderful for you, so as to give some opportunity for quiet and contemplation, without the continual interruptions in your active life in Washington.

Bob Wagner, Bob Jr. and I embarked on the S.S. America shortly after you sailed, and returned Thursday. I had occasion to think across the busy years. I wonder whether you remember that while you and I were insurgents, in one of your early speeches in March, 1911, answering some motion of Tom Grady, you said: "Tom Grady is the leader of an old guard; I am the leader of a new guard". Since 1932, I have often wondered if that was prophetic.

I did not set foot in Albany during the Sulzer regime, and my recollection is that, when I returned in December, 1913, as counsel to Governor Glynn, you had already left for Washington.

However, I remember that, in 1914, you and I took lunch at the Knickerbocker Hotel, and I offered you the Chairmanship of the Democratic State Committee. Mr. Murphy had decided on McCoombs, Tumulty had protested to Tom Smith, and McCoombs had "declined". You decided to not accept. William Church Osborn was re-elected.

Ten years later, in 1924, there was a Spring Convention in Albany and the night before the Convention a group gathered at the Executive Mansion, consisting of Governor Smith, Mr. Murphy, Norman E. Mack, John McCooley and Jack Fitzgerald. I was summoned there, told that an Al-for-President Resolution was to be presented at the Convention the next morning, that the conferees had not been able to hit upon the right man to present it, and that they wanted me to pick him. I went over the list, and suggested Mrs. Roosevelt. They all agreed, I had the honor of escorting her to the platform and she presented the Resolution. The filed records of that Convention should show that it was really she who started the ball rolling for Al for President.

In 1928, I re-assumed the Chairmanship of the State Law Committee for three months, in order to give such help as I might for you for Governor and for Al for President. Your vote for Governor on election night that year was unusual. I kept an open wire with Bill Bray at Utica. From the earliest returns, around 7:30 P.M., until the ballots were counted, your percentage vote, according to my figures, never varied and indicated steadily a plurality of 25,000 votes, plus. The actual figure was about 25,500. I went to bed at about 11:30 P.M., and you, or some one for you, called me several times during the night, and I invariably replied: "Don't worry; 25,000 votes, plus, and a guarantee goes with it". The uniform figures had made it quite positive

Since 1928, you have been amassing votes by the million. These recollections pertain to matters of no present consequence.

Yet, I think, they are interesting. Don't you?

With my you both all the compliments of the season
Faithfully yours,

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

Alfred J. Sweeney

JGS/c

P.P.E.

1763

JOHN GODFREY SAXE
102 MAIDEN LANE

January 6, 1941

December 31, 1940

Dear John:

Ever so many thanks for your letter of December thirtieth. I am delighted to know that the radio address so favorably impressed you and I appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing to me about it.

Always sincerely,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

John Godfrey Saxe, Esq., #
102 Maiden Lane,
New York, N. Y.

Mr. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

mb

xPP7200 Radio Address of 12/29/40 Pro "S"

JOHN GODFREY SAXE
102 MAIDEN LANE

New York, N.Y.

*gckd.
1-6-41
TB*

December 30, 1940.

Dear Mr. President; dear Frank:

It was most kind of you to take a few moments from your intensive life to write me the charming letter of the 27th inst., which I duly received on Saturday.

As a citizen, as well as an old friend, I heartily thank you and congratulate you on your glorious address of last night. In and of itself, it was a human document, bound to help the World situation in many ways. Appeasement is impossible. I hope and pray that the United States and Germany will never come to technical declarations of War. You made it perfectly clear to all our people that there is only one way to actual Peace.

I suggest that Hitler and Von Ribbentrop, listening in, did not enjoy what you had to say as much as some one hundred million Americans.

Faithfully yours,

John G. Saxe

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

JGS/c

x PP7200 Radio Address of 12/29/40 Pro "S"

1763

October 11, 1941

Dear John:

It was good of you to send me that word
of congratulations on the message. Many, many
thanks.

As always, I am delighted to have your
helpful comments and suggestions.

Very sincerely yours,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

John Godfrey Saxe, Esq., #
102 Maiden Lane,
New York, N. Y.

edb

x220-A

O'CONNOR, Hon. Basil
Treasurer, Georgia Warm Springs Foundation
January 22, 1937

Writes the President, suggesting that he write Mr. John Godfrey Saxe, President, New York State Bar Association, New York City, because the Association gave up the reservation it had for its annual dinner this year at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on January 30, so Birthday Ball could be held there for the cause of Infantile Paralysis. -- The President so wrote Mr. Saxe on January 23, adding that while he appreciates the personal favor to him (the President) which is involved in this action, he is much more pleased in the thought that it shows the interest of this great Association in the cause involved, which is much greater than any individual connected with it. Asks Mr. Saxe to convey to the Association at their dinner on the 29th his sincere gratitude for the kindness which they so evidenced.

SEE - PPF 4318

P. P. F.

1763

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SAXE, John G.
New York City
10-26-38

Sent the President a copy of the Daily Mirror's poll dealing
with Governor Lehman and with District Attorney Dewey.

SEE 857

PP7
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