

TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

DAY LETTER

Otto Bremer
Miller Hospital
St. Paul, Minnesota

FROM

The White House
Washington

October 11, 1939

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 131254

4 Mw
AB B 417P

In the great sorrow which has come to you in the death of your devoted brother I offer an assurance of heartfelt sympathy to you and to all who mourn with you. He was an old and faithful friend whom I sincerely mourn and shall long remember.

PPF

6356

FR

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

P. P. F.

6356

December 7, 1939

Dear Otto:

I was sorry to learn, through a mutual acquaintance, that you still are confined to the hospital as a result of your recent fall. I want you to know that I join with your other friends in wishing you a speedy and complete recovery.

Very sincerely yours,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

✓

Mr. Otto Bremer, #
Miller Hospital,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

pls-rr

December 7, 1939

Dear Mr. Peterson:

The President has asked me to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of November twenty-third. He appreciates very much your thoughtfulness in writing him concerning Otto Bremer. He requested me, also, to thank you for your promise to keep him advised, from time to time, regarding Mr. Bremer's condition.

Very sincerely yours,

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

Mr. Edwin Peterson, x
1479 Van Buren Street,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

pls-rr

St. Paul Minnesota
1479 Van Buren str
November 23, 1939

1
Mr. Franklin Delmore Roosevelt,
President of the United States
White House,
Washington D.C.

*Will you see
if I can write
Bremer & thank
Peterson.*

My Dear President,

I do not know that you are aware of the fact, that
Mr. Otto Bremer sometime ago fell down and broke one hip and all the
bones in one his shoulders and he is at the Miller Hospital. It is
my understanding now on good authority from one of the doctors, that
they have fears, that he will not be able to walk again. It is my en-
tention to see him, as soon as possible.

Otto Bremer is about the last one, of the powerful
thinking Democrats, we have in this state, who spared neither efforts
or money, to make the ticket a winner and we surely would hate to lose
his efforts, but the only thing is to hope for the best. I will take the
liberty of watching his condition and writing you from time to time, as
doubt, you are vitually interested.

^{x12}
The Garner movement up here is being watched, and to
offset it, a Paul V McNutt Committee is being formed. It is clearly
understood if you are a candidate ^{x3780}, Mr McNutt will not be. In this city
we are not going to trust some of these ward healers from the country.
On this committee are Democrats, Farmer Laborites and Republicans, who
are in favor of you or McNutt. This committee is not interested in
factional issues, but are interested in some of your policies. There will
no Party lines in the next election.

Yours Very Sincerely

Edwin Peterson

x300 Minnesota "P"

St. Paul Minnesota
1479 Van Buren str.,
December 16, 1939.

11
P.P. 7.
6356

Hon. Franklin D Roosevelt,
President of the United States,

White House,

Washington D.C.

Re: Mr. Otto Bremer.

My Dear Mr. President,

The condition of Mr. Otto Bremer is about the same. There were rumors, who are close to his family, that his heart was not in such good condition, but his special nurse at the hospital informs me, that his heart is in good condition, but I personally believe, that there might be something to that in view of the fact, that it is impossible for him to get the normal exercise, his age and few visitors are allowed to see him.

His nurse also informs me, that the shoulder is being exercised as much as possible and there is very slow improvement in his hip. He does a little walking, with the needed help, as it is impossible for him to walk alone.

You will be receive reports from me, weekly or sooner, if his condition should get any worse, and I want to thank you for your kind letter of December 7th.

Yours Very Sincerely

Edwin Peterson

P.S. That blast by Jumping Jack Ickes against Mr. Paul V McNutt did no harm to him, but things like do not help the Democratic Party. Mr McNutt has a lot of friends in this state and they resent it. As it is we will have a hard time carrying this state, as Governor Stassen is building a powerful machine and we have so many mexican generals

Edwin Peterson

ent he-the lis-the the not
asses in W.ington can expect to become "war dogs" any day. DICK B. JOHNSTON.
St. Paul.

Praises Bremer

Sir:—Adolph Bremer, one of our greatest builders has left us. He came from Germany as an immigrant and he made good because he had the foresight, courage and, above all, faith in our City, our State and our Country.

He had courage and the people's interest at heart. When his business was in a serious condition in the early twenties, he did not hoist up a white flag, liquidate his assets and retire and leave this city like some of our business men have done in the past. He fought back, because his heart was with the people of this city and he was always thinking of their employment. He was always trying to do something good for humanity. If we only had some more Adolph Bremers!

Adolph Bremer was a good Christian and he raised his family to be Christians. No one knows all the good he has done, because good deeds usually do not get publicity.

His life should be an inspiration to our younger generation, if they will remember his four great virtues—honesty, sincerity, courage and faith.

May his memories always remain in our hearts and his soul rest in peace. EDWIN PETERSON.
St. Paul.

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Sir:— headlin that Fr mediat A fine living tion, th nations He nation tion in nations tions ward t govern ed on govern ers fro erned" in tha a squ the la In for e these Inde "T that ator tha

St. Paul Minnesota
1479 Van Buren str
December 28, 1939

P.P. 7
6356

Mr. Franklin D Roosevelt, President of the United States
White House
Washington D.C.

My Dear President,

Re: Mr. Otto Bremer

I have a report that I received this morning about Mr. Otto Bremer. He is in fine spirits, but both his left shoulder and hips bother him considerable. He can lift his left arm midway up to his shoulder and it pains him a little. He is doing a little walking with the aid of his special nurse. The latest report that I received that his heart, is in good shape, but I believe that the report, that his heart is a little weak, which I received last week, as it came from one the doctors, who is close to the family.

The report that I received today, was from the Traffic Manager of the Brewery, who I was associated with, when I lived in Chicago.

I have not yet called on him, as they are limiting the callers, as they do not want him to have too much excitement.

Have no worry, that I will keep you duly, informed, if by any way, his condition is not so satisfactory, as it should be, you will be notified promptly

Yours Very Sincerely

Edwin Peterson

P.S. I am enclosing a copy of letter, that I wrote to the National Committee, which is self explanatory. It is about time, we go on the offensive, instead of having a primary campaign among ourselves. What are we waiting for?

St. Paul Minnesota
1479 Van Buren str
December 26, 1939.

Mr. Lawrence Wood Robert Jr. Secy.,
Democratic National Committee,
National Press Building
Washington D.C.

My Dear Mr. Robert Jr.,

I want to thank you, for your kind letter of November 6, 1939, in regards to my letter to the White House, regarding the Minnesota political situation.

I see by newspaper reports, that Secretary Ickes has made the statement, that Governor Stassen is a better man than Thomas Dewey. What is trying to do to re-elect a Republican Governor of Minnesota and carry Minnesota for the Republican Party in the National Election. If we expect to carry Minnesota, we have to either defeat Governor Stassen or give him a close race, or he will carry the party in with him, if it a landslide. This kind of remarks by an administration Official, will be a tendency to make the people believe that Stassen is most capable official, that ever lived and when he starts to attack our candidate in the National Election, will be to bad for us. Remember we have no Floyd B Olson with us, Adolph Bremer is dead and Otto Bremer is in the hospital and will there a long time and our leadership is shot to pieces and many good Democrats have left the party, thru factional fights and the leadership of Rev. Coughlin. You people in Washington must realize that Minnesota is not safe in the Democratic column. So Mr. Ickes wants a new Party. He is like a Jumping Jack. It not our party and President Roosevelt liberal enough. Remember the Democratic Party is larger than any man and the people, who have worked hard is not going to stand by and see it destroyed.

The Farmer Labor Party is thru, on account the scandal attach to it and Mr. Hjalmar Peterson is their strongest candidate, but the left wingers will not support him. I believe there is a breach between the left and right wingers cannot be healed and neither one of them alone is strong enough. I wrote Mr. James Farley before last fall election, that there was not a chance in the world, Governor Benson to be re-elected and that the only way that he was elected the first time, was on the Roosevelt Landslide. Just think of Benson carrying St. Paul and Minneapolis by 50,000 and then two years losing it about the same majority and then the Democrats pull a shameful vote. I know if I ran for office or I was in power, if any man could not carry his district on a liberal platform, in a liberal district, I would fire him.

Senator Shipsteadt will be taken care of and we dont care what party, he runs on. The President carried him into office and then his vote was the one that defeated the President on an issue. I would rather vote for a good Republican, who might vote for the administration on liberal policies than a jumping jack, who listens to all this propoganda.

Governor Stassen has not such a hot record, that people believe he has. His administration passed the worst Veterans preference, that any state ever passed, that lien on homes of people, who receive pensions, that 36% interest yearly on small loans and his cheap politics, with his Boy Scout organization and against a sales tax, when nearly every town and city is bankrupt. This sales tax will be an issue in the next campaign, as you cannot expect the

the Federal Government to assume all the Burden. Up here the politicians refuse to consider any source of new revenue, to take the burden off Real Estate and still they cry lower taxes, with your governmental expenses increasing.

That a sales tax advocated by the Democratic State Party will put the Republican Party on the defensive. We have to be on the offensive if we expect to carry this state this fall, as we might need it badly.

There is a threatened \$300,000 deficit in the state old age assistance appropriation is made up in some manner, before the end of the fiscal year, persons receiving these grants will be penalized three times the amount of the state shortage, as these funds are matched 50% by the government, one third by the state and one sixth by the local government. At least part of the deficit may be avoided, if the lien law, provisions of the old age pension, which becomes effective January 1st, reduces pensions, a great number of persons. Under the law a person accepting old age assistance, must give the state lien on any property he owns. The lien may be enforced under certain restrictions, after the death of the pensioner.

It is about time, something was done to stop some of these so called prominent Democratic Men and Women, from supporting Republican Organization men for local and state offices, that also, includes the Governors hip. They are building up the Democratic Party in the wrong way and you in Washington D.C. expect to carry Minnesota, with these tactics.

Rev Coughlin has quite an organization up here, which mostly composed of old time Democrats. At a Protest Embargo meeting, held at the Auditorium, this last fall, there was an attendance of 8,000 people who paid each an admission of 40 cents. Do you think, we could raise money in this way?

As for the Garner movement is concerned, there is not a chance for him in the world to be elected. You nominate him and you will have a Republican President. The north will not vote for a Southerner and I do believe the Democrats have ever nominate one since the civil war. I have heard that comment up here. You know that Al Smith did not carry the South and he has still some friends and how they will knife him.

Also there is some dissatisfaction on the law passed by Congress cutting down workers around 53 cents a hour on Federal Work. They blame on the south, as they claim the south got an increase on the theory that living conditions in the south are on the level with the north, but they claim, it is not true, outside a few industrial centers

You hear talk about balancing the budget at the expense of disabled Veterans. This would be political suicide and the veterans seems to be taking a more active part, individually in politics. In this next campaign party lines will be forgotten by them and many others.

I have written as I have seen things and I know you at Washington get all good reports, from persons seeking patronage, or unfamiliar with the real situation.

You have quite a file of letters received from me, as I have in past, both written Mr. Farley and Mr. Hurja and you will see that statement that I have made, has happened to become true.

Yours Very Sincerely

8. Muddling It

Minnesota Democrats

Thomas Gallagher, 1938 Democratic nominee for governor, has launched a movement for a coalition of the Democrats and Farmer Laborites in Minnesota to oppose the Republican party at the 1940 election. Mr. Gallagher would create what he terms the "Great Progressive Democratic Party" and on a state fusion ticket would have Democrats and Farmer Laborites equally represented.

Mr. Gallagher's plan is an effort to ride two horses in the same race, or more specifically to ride a donkey in the national race and in the state handicap to camouflage him to resemble a zebra. The trouble is that a zebra is not a donkey even though a near sighted Democrat might fail to see the stripes or other differences in the two beasts.

Political party following is a result of agreement in political ideas or the personal attraction of some great leader who dictates policies and creates ideals. While it is sometimes possible to merge the principles of two groups with a minimum of loss in total membership, insurmountable difficulties usually arise when the job of placing the generals and subalterns is undertaken.

The Democratic party in Minnesota has traded its state birthright for national support which it would have received anyhow. Mr. Gallagher's plan would partially revive state prestige by offering some plums to Farmer-Labor leaders but it still calls for the perpetuation of two political parties trying to split a single ticket. There are many who believe that if the Farmer-Labor leaders, after last year's defeat, were left to struggle for themselves the Democratic party would fall heir to the majority of followers. It might be that Minnesota Democrats are again trying to buy something that they can get for nothing.

Writings of the
condition of Otto
Bremer -

Sends copy of
letter to Nat'l. Comm.
and lining condition
of Minn. politics.

✓

P.P. 7.
6356

St. Paul Minnesota
1479 Van Buren Street
January 23, 1940.

7

Mr. Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States,
White House,
Washington D.C.

My Dear President,

Re: Mr. Otto Bremer, #

The condition of Mr. Otto Bremer, remains the same and he is getting along very slowly. His appetite seems to be good and his shoulder is healing up slowly, but he seems to have trouble in trying to walk.

In one of my letters I wrote you, that, I thought it would be a long time before he walked and also it might be a question if he ever walked again.

I am afraid we will have to be content, to wait for time but I will keep you duly informed on his condition.

His private nurse has informed me, that I might be able to see him, within two weeks, if I do not talk to much politics, when I get up there and I promised them I would not.

This is for your information

Yours Very Truly

Edwin Peterson

X

St. Paul Minnesota
1479 Van Buren str
January 23, 1940.

Mr. Lawrence Wood Robert Jr. Secretary
Democratic National Committee,
National Press Building,
Washington D.C.

My Dear Mr. Robert Jr.,

I want to thank you for your prompt letter of January 2nd, as I was very much pleased to receive it.

Here goes some more food for thought. I certainly believe that the Democratic Party is very much interested in carrying this state in the Presidential election of 1940.

First thing that we must do, is to elect Mr. John McDonough an attorney in this city, our mayor in this spring campaign. Mr. McDonough is a Democrat, having served in our state legislature, with a good record behind him and he is very liberal in his views.

Mr. McDonough was defeated two years ago for mayor by the present Mayor Mr. Fallon by a couple of hundred votes. Mr. Fallon represents the dye in wool conservative group and he is a member of the Republican Organization, while Mr. McDonough is a member of the Democratic Organization. Our City election is run on a non partisan basis, but the party lines is not forgotten by the Republican Party, but seems to be forgotten by the Democratic Organization, even some of its prominent members, go out openly and campaign for the Republican Organization. I say whether you are Republicans or Democrats, you should not jump over the traces, because it is a non partisan election. Mr. Fallon is a veteran as same as I am and he is the one that had Governor Stassen marche in the Legion parade in Chicago. It was cheap politics and as Governor Stassen is not a veteran, had no business in the parade. Of course, if it was a boy scout parade that is different.

Mr. McDonough has been indorsed by the Younger Democrats and last Saturday, he was indorsed by the Labor Progressives, a branch of the Farmer Laborites.

The Stassen Machine will be out to re-elect Fallon for Mayor, so they will not have so much trouble to carry Minnesota in the Fall. I do not see, why he should get all this publicity, that he does get. He has done nothing so wonderful up here, as people thinks he has. All he has done is to correct the abuses of the Farmer Labor Party and that party is dead, as far as Minnesota is concerned and the soon you realize at Washington, it will be better for the Democratic party up here.

Now something about the Stassen Machine, which also the Ryan Group. When Stassen became Governor, he appointed Mr. Christau, our former W.P.A. Administrator. Mr. Christau, took with him a Mr. O'Connor a Ryan Democratic and a Mr. Halvorsen a personal friend of Mayor Hague of Jersey City. Then another thing Mr. Charles Ward, a former personal friend of our Floyd B Olson and personal friend of the President supported Stassen. The Stassen Machine has to be stopped or try to be stopped.

In the last city election at Minneapolis, the Stassen

machine got behind Mayor Leach of Minneapolis and re-elected him. The Democratic Party was sleeping, to let this happen. The Stassen Machine is just like other machines and it will go to ruin like any other, when they get to ambitious, eager and drunk with power and do not know when to stop. Why some of our St. Paul are afraid to go over to Minneapolis in the evening, on account of its reputation and I presume you at Washington have read about the certain raid by the Sheriff of that County and not the City Police Department.

As far as I can see, that we have to put Governor Stassen on the Defensive. He is against absolutely a sales tax, when nearly all the towns and cities are bankrupt and if it was not for Federal Aid, God help them. I believe one of the platforms of the Democratic Party, should be a sales tax. It is a just tax and put the Stassen Machine on the defensive and I believe even the conservative newspapers would be with us. As far as Stassen record, there is not comparison to the record of Mr. Paul V McNutt, who was Governor of Indiana and they are all trying to copy his record and his achievements.

I am sending you a newspaper picture of Mrs F.C. Schaaf, 1668 Ashland avenue, St. Paul Minnesota. She is President of the Auxiliary of the Hibernians and Secretary of the Democratic Party Inc. I believe she is the outstanding Democratic Women of Minnesota. She is smart and does not over dress at any function, so create any jealousy and she is very diplomatic. I believe it would be a good idea, to write her and commend her of the good work, she has done for the Democratic Party. You know women like a little flattery once in a while and sometimes it will make them work harder. Yes I know Mrs Kessler very well, as she is a personal friend of mine.

There is no question in my mind, but that President Roosevelt will be a candidate for a third term. So mark my word, when the convention rolls around, this country will be midst of an emergency, which will force the President to run again.

Our City Election is held during the last part of April and we want some help up here to elect McDonough Mayor, as we want to carry this city and state in the fall, as maybe, we will need its vote.

see
I would like to Mr Paul V McNutt or Mr James Farley up here for a grand rally. These gentlemen could come up here on a government business trip and then we would pull off this rally. Mr McNutt is powerful strong up here especially with the veterans and he could make Stassens record look sick or for that matter, he could make any Republican Governor record look sick. Let them both come up here and maybe that would wake up the old donkey.

I have been approached to run for Congress against Melvin Maas, but I have told them, that it is a little to far off, as the first thing I am interested in electing Mr McDonough, as I am on his finance Committee, as we need money to run a campaign. I know I could beat the daylights out of Maas who is a personal friend of mine. I have been on W.P.A. on the Drafting and clerical end, but I do not belong to the Workers Alliance. I have certain reasons for that, in the first place my health has not been so good and my home is here and blood is thicker than water. I am also so busy in civic affairs and somebody has to watch these schizzlers, and I have a lot of fun doing it. Every once in a while I take a smash at them in our conservative papers in columns of 200 words or less.

The Federal Government has treated this splendid in the matter of Federal Funds and they no complaint to make whatever, even although it has a Republican Governor.

One bad feature of the law passed by Congress, cutting down the salaries of the clerical branch of the W.P.A. to \$68.00 per month for 130 hours, that some industries are basing their rate of wages on that scale. One thing which it has done to cut down the earning power, which effects the whole nation.

I beleive, that,

Wage rates and hours must be subject to regulation, throughout industry, by forces acting, not in the interest of employers but of labor.

At the same time, prices must be set in the interest of the consumers wage-earners, small salary earners and farmers.

By pushing low wages up and prices down in industry, where production has been restricted, larger volume of output may be attained and employment may be increased. This can be done, however only by a continual elimination of the margin concerns, by concentrating production among the more efficient.

Production must be planned. It must be planned, however not merely by restriction in industries, which are declining or have little possible growth, but expansion in other industries. Without expanded production in the aggregate, the goods necessary to support a higher standard of living, will not be made and millions will be without employment and wages to buy them.

Credit must be planned on the basis of the production planning. Short term credit must be related to the necessity of immediate production in specific industries and plants and long term credit must be related to the planned expansion of industry.

There must be a statistical information, revealing the true financial status of every individual concern and every industry.

There does not seem much change of increase of trade in Europe as long as we are a ~~Bahnan~~ not a Debtor nation, but a creditor nation.

The Republicans up here are already claiming an increase of business to their effects. This increase of business has been brought by the Embargo bill. If the war should end in Europe and nothing was bought and there would be unemployment, that would blame it on the Federal government.

Please see that we get some kind of help in this city campaign, as it so vital to the Democratic Party.

Yours Very Truly.

P.S. Please excuse mistakes, as this was wrote in a hurry

7
St. Paul Minnesota
1479 Van Buren street,
January 31, 1940.

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President of the United States,
White House,
Washington D.C.

My Dear Mr. President,

Re: Otto Bremer,

P.P. 7.
6356

I am sorry, that I have not written, you more promptly regarding Mr. Bremer, who is still in the Miller Hospital.

Now I have some encouraging news. I talked to Mr. Bremer over the telephone to-night and it was surely good to hear his voice again.

He stated that, he was walking on crutches and next week, he is going to try to walk, with a cane and he realizes, it is liable to take some time, so he is going to be might careful.

His parting words to me, over the telephone, was when election rolls along, I will be ready. That is a wonderful expression Mr. Bremer knows that he has been injured, but he also knows, that he is not going to stay injured. What a wonderful spirit? Nothing in the world can stop a man like that, from getting well.

We need men of Mr. Bremer's caliber to steady the liberal movement and we should all be happy over the improvement of his condition and all we can do hope for the best.

I will keep you duly informed.

Yours Very Sincerely

Edwin Peterson
X

St. Paul Minnesota
1479 Van Buren str
February 8, 1940.

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President of the United States,
White House,
Washington D.C.

My Dear Mr. President,

RE: Mr. Otto Bremer,

P.P. 7.
6356

On Tuesday, February 6th, I visited Mr. Otto Bremer at the Miller Hospital, where he is confined and I had a very friendly visit with him.

His mental attitude is splendid, and he is in very good spirits and has a world of confidence in himself, that he will walk soon. This is certainly a good omen, as when you drive FEAR away from you that is half of the battle.

Now I will tell something about the visit. I reached the hospital a little after 1 P.M. and I went to the floor, which he was confined on and I was told to wait in the reception room, as Mr. Bremer was eating his dinner and I waited about twenty minutes and then came Mr. Bremer strolling in, on crutches with a nurse. I had about a ten minute chat with him and he looked very happy and I told him that I would come up from time to time, as I might want some of his advice on this coming city campaign, to prepare, so we can carry this city, for the Democratic Party this fall.

I will keep you duly informed of developments

Yours Very Sincerely

Edwin Peterson

P.S. Conditions look favorably to elect Mr. John McDonough A Democrat Mayor of this city, this spring.

3

7

May 22, 1940

Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt
President of the United States
White House
Washington D. C.

My Dear Mr. President:

In regard to Mr. Otto Bremer

The reason that I have not written sooner is because I was so busy with this last election, and I have been confined in the veterans Hospital since April 12th. I expect to be here for some time.

Mr. Otto Bremer left the Miller Hospital last Tuesday, and he is at his home. He is taking it very easy, and he walks with the aid of an orderly.

I will keep you informed more regularly.

Sincerely yours,

Edwin Peterson
Edwin Peterson

P.S.

I am keeping the National Committee informed of conditions here.

St. Paul Minnesota.
February 27, 1940

Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President of the United States,
White House
Washington D.C.

My Dear Mr. President,

Re Mr. Otto Bremer,

The condition of Mr. Otto Bremer is very satisfactory and I believe, he is getting along fine. He is now walking with the aid of a cane and a crutch, whereas in my last letter, he was walking with the aid of two crutches.

His fighting spirit must be wonderful to improve so rapidly and he should surely be congratulated, as his good health means so much to us in this next city campaign and for the success of the Democratic Ticket in the fall.

I have an appointment to call on him at the hospital on next Saturday morning, 11 A.M. March 2nd and next week, I will give you more of a detailed report.

I will keep you duly informed of developments.

Yours Very Sincerely

Edwin Peterson
1479 Van Buren street

St. Paul Minnesota
February 27, 1940.

Mr. Lawrence Robert Jr. Secty,
Democratic National Committee
775 National Press Building,
Washington D.C.

My Dear Mr. Robert Jr.,

I want to thank you for your letter of the 23rd and I am sending you some more clippings and a news item, where the Minnesota Workers Alliance make a blistering attack on the Ramsey County Farmer Labor Group. For your information, very few of the clerical help on the W.P.A. belong to this Alliance, as it is controlled by a few communists. The others you see, is articles by me, trying to keep the city campaign as much as possible before the people. You know, there is only one newspaper here and that is republican controlled and they do not print much news about the coming election and you hardly know that there is an election.

Our Primary election is on March 12th and we have five candidates for Mayor, one of them a woman communists, but the two nominees will be the Present Mayor Fallon a Republican, a good friend of Governor Stassen and John McDonough a Democrat, endorsed also by the labor group up here.

This is about the quietest election, that I ever saw and it so hard to get any money for the primary campaign. Mr McDonough should at least make two radio talks before the primary campaign and I am trying my best to raise some money. It means a lot for us to get a large vote in the primary and you and Mr. Farley knows, what it means to Democratic ticket to have a Democratic Mayor in this city.

That was some nice publicity in the Merry Go Around that the whole nation was watching this election and we will nn try not to dissappoint the nation.

I beleive we will inject something national in the campaign. All you hear the Republicans talking economy, with cities bankrupt, depending on goverment aid and then look what the New York Republican legislature does in New York State. I have all the facts and we might shoot that. Why dont they do, what they preach.

I an going try to do what Mr. Farley would do in a campaign up here, as we both have the same horoscope. Of course I am born of Swedish parents, while Mr. Farley is Irish. Both Fallon and McDonough is Irish, so I will have to get as much of the Swedish vote for McDonough as possible. Another thing I beleive in, is try to give no quarter and keep your opponent as much as possible on the defensive as possible.

All we ask enough money to carry on, as we expect to have a volunteer committee after the primaries and want to open headquarters beside the ones opened by the labor group.

I will write you later

Yours Very Sincerely

1479 Van Buren str

11
St. Paul Minnesota,
1479 Van Buren street
March 14, 1940.

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President of the United States
White House,
Washington D.C.

My Dear Mr. President,

RE: Mr. Otto Bremer.

The condition of Mr. Otto Bremer seems to improve with age. Two weeks ago he was walking with a crutch and cane and today, he is walking only with a cane with the aid of an orderly, his hand resting on the shoulder of the orderly when he is walking.

This certainly good news and I believe his determination to get well is his best asset and he will not keep up.

He is keeping his pretty active, as he runs his business from his apartment in the hospital and I do not believe he has time to worry, if he has any worries, he certainly does not show it.

I will keep you fully advised of developments from time to time,

Yours Very Sincerely

Edwin Peterson

X
P.S. Encl osed find copy of letter to the National Committee,
regarding our city primary election, which is self explanatory

St. Paul Minnesota
1479 Van Buren str
March 13, 1940.

Mr. Lawrence Wood ~~Robert Jr.~~ Secy., + 300
Democratic National Committee,
National Press Building,
Washington D.C.

My Dear Mr. Robert Jr,

We had our primary election here yesterday, in a northwestern snowstorm, and as they say, it was typical Democratic weather and Mr. John J McDonough was nominated with Mayor William Fallon, who is a member of the Republican organization and parade leader for Governor Stassen.

Mr. McDonough vote was 31,499 and Fallon was 25,842 a majority for Mr. McDonough of 5,657. Of course you know that Mr. McDonough a Democrat was indorsed by Labor. Mr. McDonough ran way ahead of the rest labor ticket, because some of the Democrats, went out and pitched for him.

There was approximate 60,000 votes cast, out of a 130,000 and I expect that there will be cast from 50,000 to 60,000 more votes at the General election, April 30, 1940. A great majority of these votes will be cast from the conservative Republican Wards and we have a great battle ahead of us.

Our opponents will throw plenty of money against us, with the Stassen Machine and we have to have some financial aid to organize a Volunteer Committee to offset this.

Washington must realize, that is necessary for to elect Mr. McDonough, Mayor, if you intend to carry Minnesota in the fall. You know how Minnesota has been a pivot state, during the past and might be that again.

There has been Grand Jury investigations galore in Minneapolis and graft has been paid out and I understand some of the Federal Men are there. You know I notified you about those conditions in Minneapolis four or five months ago. My purpose for that, was to put Mayor Leach Administration in the hole. You know Mayor Leach is a personal friend of Governor Stassen and the Stassen organization campaigned for him in his last election. My political attitude is get your man in there, as everything is fair in Love, Politics and War, if you are a winner.

It is no use of getting over confident, because you get a good vote in the primaries, as we have a fight on our hands, as we have get a lot more votes. We are taking advantage, of all the breaks and we are trying not to make any mistakes. We are not missing anything, that we can help. We have to work hard and we have to outsmart them, to win this election and what a pretty fight this will be, if we have the same resources as they have.

I will keep you duly informed about developments but try please give us some help, as you cannot afford to throw us down.

Yours Very Sincerely

X 300 - Minnesota
"P"

St. Paul Minnesota
July 1, 1940.

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President of the United States,
White House,
Washington D.C.

My Dear Mr. President,

Re Mr. Otto Bremer,

The conditions of Mr. Otto Bremer, remain the same and not much change. He stills goes to his bank, a couple of hours every day with the aid of an orderly. He also takes some short automobile trips so he can enjoy, the out-door air.

I am herewith enclosing a copy of letter, which I have written to Mr. L.W. Robert Jr, which is self explanatory, together with some clippings.

I beleive next sunday, should be set, aside, for special prayers in our churches, for the safety of our country and for the poor unfortunate, homeless people, that are in the world today, also Mr. President for your safety and health.

I will keep you, daly informed about the developments of Mr. Bremer condition.

Yours sincerely

Edwin Peterson

St. Paul Minnesota
1479 Van Buren street
July 1, 1940.

Mr. Lawrence Wood Robert Jr.,
Democratic National Committee,
Washington D.C.

My Dear Mr. Robert Jr.,

I want to thank you for your letter of June 27th
and I suppose this will be the last letter before the convention.

In reference to your statement, regarding a position
with the National Committee, it is immaterial, if it is with the National
Committee, or some set up, with this defense proposition. I know we have to
spend a lot of money before the election sets in. I told you before I did
not want any easy position, but who knows something good might turn up.

I am sending you some clippings, regarding our state
convention. I talked to Harry Weiss, Mayor McDonough, Frank Haas the Mayor's
secretary, John McGrath of the Younger Democrats, A.B.C. Doherty and Tom Wilson
of Minneapolis that we had to have harmony at the convention. Mayor McDonough
did a fine job, as he is both friendly to the Moonan and Gallagher Factions.
Now both factions will claim everything, as they both will try to control
the patronage. As an organization, they are very weak and I believe, they
were stronger, when the Wolf-Bremer organization, were in control. You cannot
build up an organization by fighting one another and the independent refuse
to get in this this, when this is going on. President Roosevelt is the
Democratic Party of Minnesota, although the Younger Democrats under the
leadership of John McGrath has a pretty good organization. Some time ago I
wrote you, about this set.

If we are going to make a trade with the Farmer -
Laborites, we do not have to come out in the open. It is about time we
use smart politics. We would lose more votes, than we could gain by it and
as it is, we are going going to have a tuff time, carrying this state and
do not let any one kid on that. Everyone is talking Wilkie.

Mr. A.B.C. Doherty the Vice Chairman of Ramsey County
cannot be elected Congressman from this district. I ran in 1936-1938 and
he was defeated. Gallagher cannot be elected Governor. The strongest man
up here to defeat Stassen is Hjalmar Peterson, who lost the Farmer Labor
primaries to Benson. He has the support of the right wing, who has now
control, but he cannot defeat Stassen. They lock the barn, after the horse
is stolen.

Imdo not beleive that with, Hull, Jackson or Brynes
on the ticket, would help it. The interest for Secretary Hull has died out
and Wilkie gave Mr. Jackson a lashing in that debate on the Tennessee Valley
which I think the Republicans, will publish their different speeches, which
was made over the radio. As far as Senator Bryes is concerned, he is the
one, that engineered that cut in W.P.A earning power, when he claimed that
living costs in the south was nearly the same as in the north. It is not
with a few industrial centers. excepted

There is another thorn in our side up here in reference
to W.P.A projects. They are now working 120 hours a month for 13 months, which
is a reduction of \$5.00 per month, if they do not work, 13 months

Wendell Wilkie first statement, declares his objectives are prosperity, build an adequate national defense and restore national defense. I think that will be the issues. He is a splendid talker and he is smart and we have to be careful, they we do not make any blunders, what I mean by certain persons making rash statements, that will not stand up and put us in the hole.

Already the Republican Veterans have started campaigning. Mr. Allan R Briggs, State Commander of the American Legion, a person friend of Stassen and belongs to the same post as I do has protested as follows, I quote

Proposals to crecruit a nationwide civilian army under the American Legion auspices, unarmed but otherwise completely milarized, would create a private force as bad as the Bund, which emanated from Baltimore Legion head quarters. End of part of quotation.

He is certainly in error, the Bund would be alright if it stood entirely for American Principals and would do nothing to undermine our government and our constitution.. At the American Legion Convention at St. Louis in 1935, they advocated, Citizens Military Training Camps for one month for 50,000 youths each year. I will attack him from these lines so we can hold, the veteran. As I state in my last letter, it is very necessary, that we have a well known veteran on the ticket with Mr. Roosevelt in order to get this large veteran vote, as you all know, that Wilkie is a veteran and many of his supporters are veterans. If the veterans were not in politics, before, they will surely be so in this election

I talked to the officers of the Republican Committee of Ramsey County and they no time for Stassen, but they are strongly for Wilkie. They supported McDonough for Mayor, because Fallon was a buddy of Stassen's. They ~~was~~ threw off the supporters of the Stassen faction off the committee and one them was a boy scout name Golling a Hebrew, who was with Stassen at their National Convention.

I understand that the Republicans, are out to get Elmer Ryan, congress man from Dakto County and they are liable to defeat him, because considerable of Republican votes and Democratic votes will go to the Republican, who is opposing him. You know the reasons why?

As far as this county is concerned, we should try to elected a congressman, who is strong enough to carry some votes for the ticket, instead of trying to get elected on the coat-tails of head of our ticket. The independent vote up here is the main factor.

I see that the Democratic National Committee has only about \$54,000 in their treasury and there is plenty money to be raised. We have so much trouble up here in raising funds, as I know, when I campaign, I have to raise a little money to carry on, I ususally tell them, what I am going to do and ask them, if they think it is alright, and in that way I can always get enough for the cost of tearing around to see my contact people. I have never bothered any campaign committee for anything, as I hate a schizzler. I got thru with this campaign in nice style, but most of work was done during the primaries as I ~~wne~~ went to the hospital on April 12th.

Will keep ypu, imformed of developments

P.S. Please excuse mistakes

Yours Sincerely

Gallagher Accused As Tool of Stassen

ASKS 3D TERM O. K.

DULUTH — (P) — Roosevelt for a third term was asked of the Democratic state convention by its chairman, Joseph N. Moonan, as it assembled shortly after noon today with forces divided.

By ALTON D. SMALLEY
Dispatch Staff Writer

DULUTH — Joseph Moonan of Waseca, chairman of Minnesota State Democratic committee, charged here today that Thomas Gallagher of Minneapolis is a tool in a movement by the Stassen organization to gain control of the state's Democratic party.

The assertion was described immediately as "asinine" by Gallagher, leader of a fight against the

existing state organization of Moonan.

The blasts by the opposing Democratic leaders came as delegates prepared for the opening at noon today of a state Democratic convention expected to be marked by several battles.

"For weeks there has been an attempt by the Stassen organization to bore into and take over the control of the Democratic party in Minnesota," Moonan said. "We have first-hand knowledge that Tom Gallagher and his workers have solicited the management of various candidates for president, but have on all hands met with a cold reception.

"This movement has been carried on by Tom Gallagher, George

(Please Turn to Page 3, Col. 6)

Calls Gallagher Stassen Tool

Continued From Page 1

Williamson, who in the past election was chairman of the all-party Stassen group, and various others.

"Through a united effort on the part of the Democrats in the recent St. Paul election, John J. McDonough was elected mayor. This has driven the Stassen forces, who desire now to control the Democratic party in Minnesota, to desperation, and they have been doing everything in their power to gain control of the party for the purpose of disrupting and disorganizing the party."

CHARGE ANSWERED

In answer to the charge, Gallagher said in part:

"The statement of Mr. Moonan that our efforts to organize the state for an instructed delegation for Roosevelt is an attempt by the Stassen organization to bore into the Democratic party in Minnesota is just about as asinine as some of the other propaganda that this group has sponsored, not only during this convention, but also during the 1938 election campaign.

"This year, Joseph Moonan and Paul Rasmussen, who is a candidate for the Farmer-Labor nomination for governor, have been working together in close harmony, indicating that Mr. Moonan plans another sell-out of the Democratic nominee for governor this year."

Moonan also attacked the pre-convention credentials committee, asserting that the committee "has in each instance refused to seat opposing delegations, but have suggested to them they would be seated if they would vote for the candidates of Mr. Moonan and Mr. Erickson."

MAYOR AS CHAIRMAN

Mayor McDonough of St. Paul was slated to be elected permanent convention chairman. McDonough is a supporter of the Moonan organization.

Moonan this morning was attempting to maintain his supporting delegation intact against the strenuous efforts of Gallagher to get control of delegates, grab the state Democratic machine.

There were two possibilities of rump meetings, one by one, the Dakota county group of Congressman Elmer Ryan of South St. Paul and the other by a disgruntled St. Louis county unit.

The Credentials committee, headed by John Regan of Mankato, refused to recognize the Ryan faction and authorized seating of the unit officers led by Fred Curtis. Committee members said the names of 68 St. Louis county delegates were sent in by an organization which split away at the county meeting. These names were not recognized as a whole, although some already were on an accredited list, committee members asserted.

State Democrats Indorse New Deal Foreign Policy

Delegates Instructed To Vote for F. R. If He Is Candidate

By ALTON D. SMALLEY
Pioneer Press Staff Writer

DULUTH—Democrats of Minnesota, in convention here Saturday, indorsed President Roosevelt's foreign policy without qualification and pledged themselves to vote for his nomination if he seeks reelection.

Traditionally belligerent, the Democrats ended their meeting without the walkouts that were expected to mar the session.

The meeting, attended by 1,700 delegates, was marked by:

Compromise proposals to block threatened walkouts by anti-state organization factions led by Thomas Gallagher of Minneapolis, regarded as a candidate for governor; Congressman Elmer Ryan of South St. Paul and P. A. Burke of Duluth.

MCDONOUGH IS CHAIRMAN

Masterful handling of the convention by Mayor McDonough of St. Paul, permanent convention chairman, who received a yelling, cheering ovation from delegates when he took charge of the meeting.

Naming of Gallagher as a delegate-at-large to the national convention in Chicago July 15.

Roaring out its approval of the "Draft Roosevelt" resolution with a tremendous "aye", the convention instructed its 22 delegates to the national meeting to vote for the President if his name is presented to the session.

"A HISTORIC CRISIS"

One resolution was devoted to accomplishments of the Roosevelt administration and another singled out the President's foreign policy for special commendation.

"The world today stands at a historic crisis in its existence," the resolution read, "the issue being

(Please Turn to Page 10, Col. 5)

Continued From Page 1

whether the system of democracy established by our forefathers is to survive, or whether a system of totalitarianism which, in the end, will be no different from the absolute monarchies established throughout history is to prevail, and believing that our world civilization cannot continue indefinitely half slave and half free;

"We do heartily, and without qualification or reservation, secret or express, indorse in its entirety the foreign policy of the administration of our present Democratic President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt."

The orderly end of the meeting was a welcome surprise to the delegates.

RIVALS BLAST EACH OTHER

No convention was more ripe for trouble. Joseph Moonan of Waseca, state chairman, and Gallagher only Saturday morning had blasted each other with public statement. Two units were claiming recognition from Dakota county, one led by Congressman Ryan; the other, by Fred Curtis. There was a hot contest for recognition among St. Louis county delegates. The credentials committee was working on contests in St. Louis and Wright counties.

The test of the Gallagher support came on a vote on a motion by Gallagher to have floor nominations for delegates-at-large to the national gathering. The Rules committee previously had held that nominations would be made by a committee. The convention voted down the move, although delegates gave Gallagher considerable support.

GALLAGHER NAMED

Then Gallagher was named as a delegate-at-large. The Dakota county mixup was settled by seating both faction.

The Credentials committee recognized the faction of Marco Verbon in St. Louis county and that of C. P. Maloney in Wright county.

This arrangement turned the trick and the walkouts did not materialize.

Delegates-at-large, besides Gallagher, are Moonan; J. P. Erickson of Duluth, National committeeman; Harry Weiss of St. Paul, state Democratic treasurer and chairman of the Ramsey county unit, Thomas Wilson of Minneapolis, Mrs. Ida McCabe Kayser of St. Peter, national committeewoman; Mrs. Louise Mayo Trendholm of Rochester, and Mrs. C. A. McGuigan of Marshall.

ALTERNATES

Alternates are Dr. O. M. Sanderon of Fulda, Mrs. M. J. Daly of Plaine, and Mrs. Ethel midt of Frazee. The delegate-at-large will elect a national committeewoman and committeeman. New officers of the state party will be named after the primaries in September.

W. H. Hargardine of St. Paul,

manager of the late Governor Hammond's last campaign, was chosen presidential elector.

Delegates to the national convention from Ramsey county are Frank Haas, Mayor McDonough's secretary; A. B. C. Doherty, Mrs. M. J. Reardon and J. B. McGrath. Alternates are Arthur J. McQuillan, first alternate; Mrs. H. B. Warren, J. L. Holman and Frank McGinn.

In a talk to the meeting, Erickson said the Republican party "simply chose from the administrative record of the Democratic party some of its major accomplishments, wrote these into their platform and will now go before the nation, asking for support on the strength of this borrowed platform".

Mayor McDonough rapped Wendell Willkie's opposition to the St. Lawrence waterway, saying that Willkie was a supporter of Roosevelt until administration statutes displeased the power industry.

Other resolutions adopted asked restriction of high grade ore mining, approval of State Constitutional Amendment No. 1, and in opposition to repeal or cancellation of any progressive social or labor laws.

Mayor McDonough read a telegram of greetings to delegates sent in McDonough's care by James F. Farley, national chairman.

Bulletin Board

TODAY IN ST. PAUL

Third Sunday program of Municipal Playground Artists at 3 P. M. at the Como Park pavilion. The entertainment is sponsored by the City Dairy and the city play ground department.

SPORTS

Baseball—St. Paul vs. Milwaukee in a doubleheader at 1:30 P. M. in Lexington park.

Tennis—Finals in the Minnesota State Open tournament at 1:30 P. M. at the St. Paul Tennis club, 1055 Osceola avenue.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

Circulation room—8:30 A. M. to 8 P. M. Mondays; 8:30 A. M. to 6:30 P. M. Tuesdays through Saturday.

Reference floor and periodical room—9 A. M. to 6 P. M. Mondays through Fridays; 9 A. M. to 6 P. M. Saturdays.

Teachers' rooms—9 A. M. to 5 P. M. Mondays through Saturdays.

Skinner room for young people—9 A. M. to 5 P. M. Mondays through Saturdays.

Children's room—9 A. M. to 5 P. M. Mondays through Saturdays.

Arlington, Hamline, Merriam, Riverview, and St. Anthony branch libraries—12:30 P. M. 8 P. M. Mondays

P. P. H.

6356

November 28, 1940

Dear Otto:

Thanks ever so much for your cordial
message of congratulations. I appreciate it
immensely.

Very sincerely yours,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Otto Bremer, Esq., #
American National Bank,
St. Paul,
Minnesota.

cd

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Form 16A

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DY STPAUL MINN 7 254P

THE PRESIDENT

CARE OF STEVE EARLY WHITE HOUSE WASHN DC

HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS VERY HAPPY THAT WE CARRIED MINNESOTA
FOR THE THIRD TIME

OTTO BREMER.

(18)

Dem Otto
American Natl. Bank

1940 NOV 7 PM 4 20

aid
11/28

January 6, 1942

PR 7.
6356

Respectfully referred to the
Director of the Bureau of the Budget
for attention and acknowledgment.

M. H. McINTYRE
Secretary to the President

hm

#

Telegram from Otto Bremer, St. Paul, Minn., 1/5/42, to the President, advising that St. Paul has submitted to the Decentralization Committee office building space from five thousand to two hundred fifty thousand foot areas; favorable housing accommodations are available in St. Paul. States it would be a special favor to him if St. Paul's buildings could be used by some of the Federal Depts.

Y
file
P. P. H.

6356

BREMER, Otto #

SEE 3828 for President's letter, Aug. 24, 1936, to Joseph Wolf, St. Paul, Minn., commenting on illness of Adolf Bremer, and asking Mr. Wolf to give him and -- his warm regards.

SEE 5429 for the President's telegram, Oct. 11, 1939, to --- extending condolence re the death of his brother, Adolph Bremer.

VMB -

BREMER, Otto

American National Bank,
St. Paul, Minn.,
Mar. 12, 1939

Writes James Roosevelt asking cooperation in seeing S.J. McGlogan, who is working in interest of members of Russian Railway Service Corps who, after World War, were denied their legal status in this country. -- Mr. Roosevelt wrote Mr. Bremer Mar. 31, that he has had an interview with Mr. McGlogan re this and is taking same up with Sec. of War and upon receipt of report from latter will advise further.

SEE - 3319 (Official File)

P. P. R.

63 56

BREMER, Hon. Otto
The American National Bank
St. Paul 1, Minn.
Nov. 9, 1944 - ack. 11/13/

P.P.F. 6356

Let. to Mr. Early congratulating the President on his re-election.
.....Mr. Early wrote "Otto" on above date expressing his delight to convey
his congratulations to the President.

SEE P.P.F. 200 Election Congratulations "B"

emc