

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE

HOTEL BILTMORE
NEW YORK CITY

JAMES A. FARLEY
CHAIRMAN

July 22, 1940.

Mr. Amon G. Carter,
Ft. Worth Star-Telegram,
Ft. Worth, Texas.

Dear Amon:

I tried to talk with you over the telephone yesterday, as you know, before I left Chicago. It is too bad you were not on the scene; but, on second thought, maybe it is just as well. You would probably have raised hell around there and had a dozen fights.

I talked to Marshall over the telephone; he is in California. He ran completely out on the Democratic Party, so it looks as if the Party is in a bad way with George not active in its support. I hope that as soon as you are well, Amon, and are in New York, I will have a chance to visit with you and tell you some of the things that happened. It is just unbelievable!

It is my belief they never expected me to take the position I did, and I also feel they never thought I would step out of the Chairmanship. An effort is being made to persuade Frank Walker and Jimmie Byrnes to take it, and I think both of them will duck if they can - although Walker may take it if no one else will. I don't envy them; it is a tough job.

This morning I returned to New York. I will set up the organization, put the machinery in shape, and try to pass on to my successor everything in good order, so they couldn't say I didn't follow through according to rule, although others do not show the same assistance.

I imagine our friend Sam Rayburn is terribly disappointed. I talked to Garner several times during the Convention. As you know, Jack doesn't say very much, although I am sure he feels very bad about it all. I tried my best to sell the President the idea of running Jesse Jones. It might interest you to know that Mrs. Roosevelt was sympathetic too, but the President insisted on Wallace. I will not attempt to write you any more, but when you are up this way I will go over it all with you. As a matter of fact, I suppose you know more than I do, and by the time you receive this letter your Fort Worth friends will have told you all about it. Silliman was around, as fat as ever, and having a time between Farley, Jones, Rayburn and Garner.

I don't know if you knew how many votes Farley had in the Convention -- 72½ - not bad for a fellow who did not spend a cent in his own behalf or make any campaign. One consolation anyway will be that they will have to put in the history books the fact that I ran second to Roosevelt in the 1940 Democratic National Convention. Even that is not a bad accomplishment for a Farley!

Amon G. Carter

7/22/40

I do hope you are getting along all right and will soon be out entirely restored to good health.

I was sorry to learn from your secretary that young Amon was operated on for appendicitis. I do hope that he, too, is now getting along well.

Bess joins in sending very best wishes to you all.

Sincerely yours,



JAF:12

