

Personal

JAMES M. THOMSON  
GAYLORD, CLARKE COUNTY  
VIRGINIA

June - 26 - 43.

Dear Anna Carter.

Star - Telegram -

Fort Worth - Texas.

Dear Anna:

My heart has gone out to you whenever I think of your anxiety about your boy. Yet the chances are he is much safer than if he were still in the fighting... and God willing the whole German mess may be cleaned up before the first of the year. It is remarkable that their morale can be as good as in 1918.

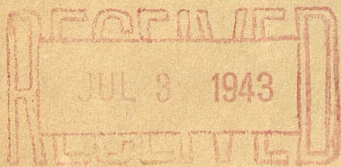
Every young man in my family is in or being inclined to go in. It seems that I am too old to be active.

The enclosed is for your personal consideration. I have known Byrd since he was a boy and favored him in Chicago when James became his landlord. Have favored Byrd for landlord ever since and think he has grown. He is my neighbor here in this county. I would like to see a southern man landlord in my time. Don't know of anyone who could enter the south as Byrd should be able to do.

If you are in Washington give me a ring soon as I have a number.

Sincerely,

James M. Thomson.





Dear Amon:

My heart has gone out to you whenever I think of your anxiety about your boy. Yet the chances are he is much safer than if he were still in the fighting, and God willing the whole German mess may be cleaned up before the first of the year. It's impossible that their morale can be as good as in 1918.

Every young man in my family is in or preparing to go in. It seems they figure me too old to be active.

The enclosed is for your personal consideration. I have known Byrd since he was a boy and favored him in Chicago when Garner became vice-president. Have favored Byrd for president ever since, and think he has . He is my neighbor here in this county. I would like to see a southern man president in my time. Don't know of anyone who could the south as Byrd should be able to do.

If you are in Washington, give me a ring, run up here if possible.

Sincerely,

James M. Thomson



JAMES M. THOMSON  
SUMMER RESIDENCE "BALCLUTHA"  
GAYLORD, CLARKE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Dear Sir:

As our national conventions meet within a year, I write to suggest for your consideration the idea of coalition support for a Presidential ticket headed by United States Senator Harry Flood Byrd of Virginia.

I write solely on my own responsibility because I believe a discussion of the qualifications of Byrd and men like him, who are not now candidates for presidential nominations and who might be embarrassed in the performance of their public duties by becoming active candidates, is in the country's highest interest.

In times of emergency a republic should exercise the right of drafting the best available man for its purposes. The nation did this when it drafted George Washington, a Virginian, as its first president. Jefferson, Madison and Monroe of Virginia inaugurated many of the traditional policies which have carried the nation through to stability and greatness.

You are doubtless familiar with the independent, unselfish and non-partisan service which Senator Byrd has rendered during his two terms in the U. S. Senate. There he has made good on his earlier record and has remained true to the best tradition of public service. This independent service began almost in his boyhood in the legislature of Virginia. As Virginia's Governor he displayed outstanding executive ability and a great talent for governmental reorganization and administration with the result that the Old Dominion is today a debt free model of state government.

In private life Byrd is a farmer, who, starting with modest financial beginnings, has become the largest individual apple grower in America. Byrd is a successful business man and, like his Virginia forbears in public life, is a man of great ability and common sense. These are the qualities which will be most needed in the post war era.

Men and women of like mind regarding the nation's future are now found in large numbers in both great political parties. To draft a man of Byrd's type will require organization of these like minded people of every section and all parties. Such a coalition could establish or acquire machinery for the election of an all American ticket. I shall be glad to get your views on this suggestion.

Sincerely yours,

James M. Thomson  
Gaylord, Clarke County, Virginia