

February 17, 1933.

Mr. Will Rogers,  
Beverly Hills, Calif.

Dear Will:

Your telegram of the 17th received and I am extremely sorry that you will be unable to go along on the newspaper dinner this year. I am writing Bill Thomson, Chairman of the Committee, as per the enclosed copy, suggesting that he secure someone else for toastmaster as I am afraid that without your assistance my part of the program as a come back, might be flat. You helped me put it over in good shape before, according to the version of our friends, and I presume the best thing is to let it rest and give some one else a shot.

Relative to the tip on the cabinet, frankly you know as much about this as I do. Meanwhile, Mrs. Carter and I are leaving here Sunday for New York and will be there a few days and return to Washington for the Inauguration. I will probably see Governor Roosevelt and Mr. Farley next Tuesday and if I can pick up anything which would be of benefit to you I will shoot you a wire or telephone you from New York.

I hope you are going to be at the Inauguration. Guy Waggoner is going up with us and we are all set for the big show. Pat Hurley has invited you and Mrs. Rogers, including Mrs. Carter and me to be his guests the day following the Inauguration. Pat has a beautiful country place at Leesburg, Va., and I think it will be a fine thing to go help wash him out on the Fourth and wash him down on the Fifth.

If you want a tip on something that is comical as well as serious, read the enclosed editorial on the R. F. C and Comptroller's Office crossing each other up. The R. F. C. is raising hell with the bankers for not loosening up business conditions instead of placing the money in cold storage. In the same breath the Comp-

teller's Office comes along raising hell with the bankers for not forcing collections, which is an asinine attitude.

You will also notice an editorial on the same page regarding the Race Track Bill which has caused an up roar in Austin. The Ministers Association is fighting the Race Track Bill which would legalize racing in the State so they could use pari-mutuel machines having it more in the nature of a local option bill leaving it to the County Commissioner in each County as to whether they would agree to permit racing. It is a stand off of the Prohibition question. The bootlegger gets the money now and the customer gets an inferior article at an excessive price and the Government loses the revenue. The racehorse situation now is the bucket shop makes the bet, gets the money and in many cases defrauds the bettor as well as deprives the State and Government out of their taxes.

Mr. Waggoner is one of our most substantial citizens and has given in the neighborhood of \$300,000.00 to charity, hospitals, churches, Community Chests, etc. and he never bets on a race. As a matter of fact he can hardly see them running, still he has invested several million dollars in a very fine place at Arlington Downs, near Fort Worth, and a good many of the Ministers who are now fighting him have been the greatest beneficiaries of his donations. So, if you want to do Mr. Waggoner a good turn and at the same time make a constructive statement, I would like to see you bring this matter up in one of your articles and state why it would be better to have racing properly regulated than to have it now on the present bucket shop plan. The time has arrived for the people to do their own thinking and to have the privilege of permitting the majority to rule instead of having some particular class to tell them what to do and what not to do. It is impossible to legislate people into Heaven, society or prosperity.

I hope Mrs. Rogers has recovered from her operation and that we will have the pleasure of seeing you both in Washington for the Inau-

guration.

With best wishes, I remain

Sincerely,

AGC:KD