

May 20, 1934.

Mr. Will Rogers,  
Beverly Hills, Calif.

Dear Will:

This is Sunday afternoon and I have been digging through my correspondence, in which I am almost as negligent as you are, and dug out the enclosed letter from Frank Hawks in which he is ambitious to enter the race from London to Australia for a \$50,000.00 prize.

If I did not have so many unpaid real estate notes, I would almost be willing to go out and borrow \$25,000.00 to back Frank in this project. I think he would have an excellent chance to win the \$50,000.00 prize and I am sure it is the ambition of his life to make an effort .

The thought has occurred to me that if you felt disposed to do so that you could raise this money quicker than anyone I know of. I will chip in my small mite and whether he won the race or not, I would still feel it a good investment. I am sure there is not a better pilot in the country than Frank Hawks. This you could probably testify to better than anyone I know of.

Incidentally, I have a vivid recollection of a trip in an open Lockheed with Frank from Fort Worth New York with one stop in Birmingham and tough stormy weather from here to Birmingham, during which time the motor went dead on us in the storm and the wind blew the canvass off of one wing. Frank kept his cheerful composure. It was raining so hard he could not wear his goggles, but he looked back ever once in a while and smiled to assure me he still felt all right. I feel sure if I had been with any other pilot, I would have insisted on landing when the storm first came up.

From reading your articles, I would gather that you have moved to San Francisco meanwhile I had a letter from your secretary stating that the other half dozen glasses had been received and indicating that you did not know anything about

the inventory of your shack.

We are now entering the preliminaries of a very hot political campaign in Texas in which we have some seven or eight candidates for Governor. We are backing our old West Texas candidate, Clint Small, who ran third four years ago with Ferguson and Sterling. He has a better chance this time and whether we are successful or not, we will at least be able to maintain our pride and self-respect by supporting the outstanding man in the race. It is just a question of whether the folks want ability or hot partisan speeches, long promises and disappointment in the end which usually prevails.

We are also vigorously supporting Tom Connally against Joe Bailey, Jr., who has no excuse for running against Connally other than an unconquerable ego that he should succeed Connally because Connally voted against the Repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment. Personally, Connally voted in the Senate to submit it to the voters of Texas and told me, at the time, he expected Repeal to carry by two to one. Mr. Bailey goes so far as to say he is not running altogether against Connally but running against "Amos Carter and Silliman Evans." Later on he amplified this statement by including John Garner and Jesse Jones. Naturally, I feel complimented to have someone running against me for the Senate and, at least, to be classed with John Garner.

Mr. Bailey voted to over-ride the President's veto on the Soldiers Bonus matter. In my estimation, it is like having a good family doctor serve you for about eighteen years and even though he might lose a patient or two in that time there would be no justification in throwing him out to substitute an interne in his place.

Incidentally, if the opportunity should present itself at any time and you could say a word in behalf of Connally, it will be greatly appreciated.

I hope you are having a nice trip. I am now concluding my Sunday afternoons work and going to the farm from which Mrs. Carter has just telephoned that she caught a  $3\frac{1}{2}$  pound bass. The chances are we will have some "slungullion" cold fried chicken, buttermilk and a highball for a

-3-

chaucer. I wish you and Mrs. Rogers were with  
us.

Give Fred Stone my best regards.

With best wishes, I remain

Sincerely,

AGC.KD