

Blank: Blaq

JOHN A. BLATNIK
8TH DISTRICT MINNESOTA
448 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

Blatnik
MEMBER
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

May 23, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
c/o Mr. Jay Lurye
1021 East 6th Street
Duluth, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

May I extend a warm personal welcome to you on the occasion of your visit to Duluth. Your mission is close to my heart, since my successful campaign for Congress in the Eighth District last year was based on the Roosevelt Program and the United Nations.

You are in the heart of Minnesota's liberalism. In Duluth and in the surrounding Mesabe Iron Range are the people who consistently carried the state for your husband. Ours are people who, when given the facts, have fought for progress and reform. These are also the people who have been deprived of the facts on many occasions.

As is so often the case in other sections of the nation, the press in Minnesota is hostile to the desires of the people for progress. With few exceptions, our daily papers have failed to inform the people on either domestic or international affairs.

I hope you will not consider it presumption on my part to write you, but as the only Minnesota Democrat in Congress, I felt you might welcome a brief resume of the political situation in my state and district. You are undoubtedly aware of tensions and splits in the DFL Party. We believe that such differences will be and must be healed. We have faith that the DFL Party will win in 1948.

We are not the only ones who realize that we hold the key to victory in 1948; our opponents know that their only hope is to develop splits within the DFL ranks. They have been quick to utilize all means of defeating our hopes. Today I am the target. A vicious personal attack on me has been spearheaded by the newspapers. As was evident throughout the country, liberals were split on the wisdom of President Truman's program for Greece and Turkey. I voted and spoke in opposition to the plan on the grounds that the whole matter was in the province and jurisdiction of the United Nations. I criticized the wisdom of supporting an obnoxious status quo merely because it was anti-Communist.

Many thanks for your kind letter. I realize how significant your position is in my determination to get across my message.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt

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May 23, 1947

As was expected, the local press perverted my words and by lies and half-truths labeled me a "red", using the tactics so common today. It is regretted that this attack was taken up by the Catholic leaders of the district. Since I am myself a Catholic, I realize that a personal defense is almost impossible.

If, in your lecture, you find occasion to make a plea to all liberals for unity, and if you find it proper to denounce this indiscriminate "labeling", you will be doing a great service to our movement; and you will be contributing to the statewide victory of the DFL Party in 1948.

I know I speak for the vast majority of the citizens of Northern Minnesota when I welcome you to Duluth. I hope you enjoy your stay in our wonderful community.

With warmest personal regards,

Very sincerely yours,

John A. Blatnik
John A. Blatnik, M. C.

jab/br

P.S. It would be a privilege to have the opportunity of meeting you when you are again in Washington. I met your son Franklin, Jr. at a luncheon meeting here during the ADA meeting of several weeks ago, and I heard your speech later that afternoon.

jab



City of Minneapolis

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

May 26, 1947

HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
MAYOR

Blatnik

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Duluth, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I deeply regret that it will not be possible for me to be in Duluth during your visit to our State of Minnesota. I had hoped to have the privilege of hearing your address, but find myself so deeply involved in my campaign for re-election that it is imperative that I remain in Minneapolis.

I wish to extend to you a most cordial welcome, however, to this North Star State, and particularly the greetings of the people of Minneapolis. We are very proud of our record of support for your husband and our beloved late President when four times in a row we gave to him an overwhelming majority of our vote.

Your visit to Duluth brings you into the Eighth Congressional District. This District is represented in Congress by a young friend of mine and a strong supporter of the New Deal and the program of the United Nations. I refer to Congressman John A. Blatnik. We have so few liberal and progressive representatives in Congress these days, and it is particularly true in Minnesota, that I thought you might want to know that the Eighth Congressional District in Minnesota had done its duty for the progressive cause in the person of Mr. Blatnik.

I wish you well and trust that you will enjoy your visit to Minnesota. If it is at all possible for you to stop in Minneapolis, we would consider it a great honor.

Sincerely yours,

Hubert H. Humphrey
M A Y O R

HHH:LA

Dear Mr Mayor -

I was sorry not to see
you when I was in
Minns. of course I understood
you could not leave your
city during a campaign

Cong Blatnik wrote
me & I was sorry not to
see him -

With many thanks for
your words of welcome &
my best wishes for your
recovery -

Blaustein

HA BLAUSTEIN, M.D.
169 EAST 78th STREET
NEW YORK
REGR 1-7706

*You will be very
interested in
this. I got along very
well. I am sure you
will like it. Please
write me soon.*

Mar. 28, 1947

Dear Eleanor Roosevelt:

I am taking the liberty of sending you the enclosed article "Spices Then, Oil Now" written by my husband. I send it to you because you have been a wife, mother and a person with such good, sound judgment and understanding of your fellow man. Your great humanitarianism, proof of which, if necessary, the position you presently hold in U. N. group is another reason. You have also had your experience in and with the field of journalism. You have been a teacher. Therefore I should like your opinion as to whether more is to be gained by publishing "Spices then, Oil now" or if more is to be gained by not publishing it. I am moved by several motives. First, my husband is extremely ill.

NATHAN BLAUSTEIN, M.D.
169 EAST 78th STREET
NEW YORK

RENT 4-7700

and seeing something which he has so painstakingly written - printed in some magazine would give him a morale lift of which we are badly in need and a feeling of achievement. He is a brilliant surgeon with a touch of genius.

However on the other hand, I am held back by the thought that we have enough strife in the world now - why add to it. You see, unconsciously or perhaps consciously, I should say we are becoming world-minded and as Americans we have a great duty to perform. We must show the rest of the world, that we are above the almighty dollar, that we do have ideals and set a pattern which other nations respect and can follow.

Sincerely
(Mrs. N.) Ethel R. Blaustein

Interest memo
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success. Interested
the story

NATHAN BLAUSTEIN, M.D.
169 EAST 78th STREET
NEW YORK
REGENT 4-7700

Apr. 10, 1947

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Thank you for your interest and graciousness and most of all for taking the time to read Dr. Blaustein's manuscript, "Spices Yesterday, Oil Today." You may be interested in knowing that I sent it to Navine Joseph, who said that she didn't find it sufficiently "compelling". You can smile, I did, too.

I am relating the following incident to you - I think it will make you grin as well as know what that type of person is thinking. The incident took place at Schrafft's on East 79th St. The woman - a complete stranger to me - about 60 yrs old - very conservative - typically Republican - after being told by the boy at the counter who had also waited on me that I had made a similar criticism in ref-

erence to the public being offered so little
choice due to the ^{independence} attitude of the owners,
turned the conversation to the musical
debut of Margaret Truman to a criti-
cism of her taste in clothes - saying
that if she were her mother she would
spend some money on dressing her
properly and teaching her how to dress
- not a word about her voice - just
a comment on her charm! - she had
just returned from Times Hall
where a friend had made her
debut as a singer that evening.

Then without warning "Those Roose-
velts, how they betrayed us! That
Elliot going to Moscow! And what
he said - perfectly terrible! I just
couldn't help it. I had to say it. Don't
you admire the courage of the Roose-
velts and their independence? Another
must have courage in the face of so
much public criticism to allow her
children to lead their own lives in
spite of the rebounds which at times
can be irritating but when it comes
to the Dusmans, I prefer to trust

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169 EAST 76th STREET
NEW YORK

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Cleanor Roosevelt's experience and good judgment of which we have had beautiful proof rather than Elliott Roosevelt. It pains me to see Henry Wallace making mistakes, but the dreamer and idealist sometimes refuses to learn and is blind to everything except what he believes to be right and so must undergo experience to learn. I hope his idealism will not suffer too greatly but I am curious to see how his present action reacts upon our country. It may prove a boomerang and cause present opposing elements to come together.

Pardon my indulgence! I am now closing a stamped, addressed envelope. If you will be kind enough to return my husband's manuscript I am sincerely
Ethel R. Blaustein