

Part - Part

DELEGATION FRANCAISE
AUX NATIONS UNIES

New York, le 20. juillet 1947.

Parodi
Franklin D. Roosevelt
I deeply appreciate the honor
my husband & I

Chère Madame,

Tous les Français ont applaudi à la décision par laquelle leur Gouvernement a entendu honorer la mémoire du Président Roosevelt en lui conférant la plus haute distinction militaire dont il puisse disposer.

Je ne veux pas tarder plus longtemps à vous exprimer mes respectueuses félicitations. Ce devoir m'est d'autant plus agréable à remplir que vous-même, dans les Conseils des Nations Unies, êtes un représentant particulièrement honoré de votre pays.

Veillez agréer, chère Madame, l'expression de mes très respectueux hommages.

Alexandre Parodi

Alexandre Parodi
Ambassadeur de France

Madame Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Apartment 15-A,
29, Washington Square,
New York 11, N.Y.

2002 Summit Street
Columbus, Ohio
February 20, 1947

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
Hyde Park, New York

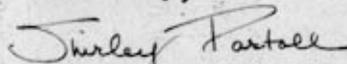
Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

It must make you very proud to know that after almost two years articles like the enclosed are still appearing daily in our newspapers, and that from all indications your late husband will never be forgotten by his people.

I was brought up in a family of ardent New Dealers and thus by nature I have always been an admirer of Mr. Roosevelt and you. While I was attending Simmons College in Boston I had the great pleasure of hearing you speak at one of our student assemblies a few years ago. Since that time I have taken an almost personal pride in your fine influence upon American youth and your good works. May they long continue!

If you have not already seen and read the enclosed article, I hope that it now gives you as much pleasure as it gave my husband and me.

Sincerely,



(Mrs.) Shirley Partoll

19, 1947

Jennings Perry Celestial Laughter

JACKSON, TENN.

So the Republicans are going to limit Franklin Delano Roosevelt to two terms! You can hear him chuckling among the immortals. The whole vast club is chuckling.

It is funny, if you back off far enough to watch it. The Senate Judiciary Committee solemnly proposing to legislate That Man out of the White House.

... The Senate Republican Policy Committee solemnly lining up behind the bill. . . . Senator Taft solemnly announcing that the bill will be brought up and pushed as soon as possible.

When you look at it from far enough you see that it is like the treed monkey venturing down at last to tie up the dead lion; or like the small boy angrily tearing up the puzzle he could not solve; or like the clumsy golf club breaking his sticks on his knee because he never could break 100 on the nine. It is an act of simple fury impelled by the pain of frustration.

The Republicans are great ones for economy; and I'm for economy, too. They still allow themselves the luxury of a good chaplain in both houses. I think they should afford themselves the services of a good psychiatrist as well. We taxpayers would overlook the item. If the Republicans are going to run the country for a while, they ought to understand about themselves. . . . At least about the sickness of their spleen.

They tell us lengthily they're not fighting Roosevelt, and in a way, of course, they're not. This is the best half-truth of all their argument. Their noble aim is just "to protect democracy," "to save the Republic." Their fight is really pitched, of course, against the thing they've always feared the most—the will of the people, the right of the people to choose.

If they cared a hoot about democracy, their committee wouldn't be obsessed with Presidential limitation bills. FDR was President four times hand-running by no



Perry

other special magic than popular election. If the GOP cares a hoot about popular election, let its bully-boys snap out of this fond and futile attempt to overtake a mocking wraith and put their energies (and majority) behind any one of the half-dozen suffrage bills now waiting patiently to free the political voice of millions of Americans whose vote has been taxed away. If they want to save the Republic, let them move swiftly to re-establish the republican form of government guaranteed by the Constitution "to every state of this union" . . . A pledge held in contempt in seven states since the beginning of the century.

Their fight on FDR is futile (and increasingly dreary) because he is beyond their hurt, because they could not in any case recapture from him the honors he received from the American people, and because it is inconceivable that the people in their right sense ever should ratify the proposed constitutional revision which would amount to a surrender of their right of choice. Why should any people tie its own hands? Why should any party in temporary power attempt to persuade the people to accept a political limitation conceived in fear and mistrust of the people?

The COP tried its best to sell this same bill of goods in every national election from 1926 on. Its trumpeted warnings filled the blue bowl of the sky . . . "Elect Roosevelt and all is finished with America."

It was not That Man who mocked them. It was the refusal of the people to be afraid of themselves, to abdicate their own presumption of native gumption, to forswear their preference, lest the very consistency of it prove, in some way, evil.

I trust the people to mock them again, if this amendment ever is submitted. They will reject it for that grisly part of it intended to lock the doors of the White House against a man beloved of the people, but no longer here. But they will reject it even more sternly because of its ugly and ill-disguised purpose to manacle the one sovereignty all democrats treasure and all tyrants detest.