

Tully Archive: FDR Papers

Correspondence: Murray, Arthur, 1938

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library & Museum

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Series: Franklin D. Roosevelt Papers

Box 11; Folder = Correspondence: Murray, Arthur, 1938

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 12, 1938.

Dear Arthur:-

I have waited to write you until I could clear away my personal cobwebs by spending a week at sea on a cruiser. I am just back from a delightful, smooth, warm weather voyage all the way out to the easterly end of the Virgin Islands -- three afternoons of fairly good fishing -- much sunburn -- and the relatively simple diet of the Navy.

While I was away the Florida primary election seemed to prove that the voters' hearts (and heads!) seem still to be in the right place -- for the Administration's candidate won by a clear majority over the combined vote of four other candidates.

It is grand news that you and Faith ^{ditto} will get here ~~very shortly after September fifteenth.~~ According to my present plans, any time after that date will be perfect, as I expect to be between here and Hyde Park from then to early November. It will be a ~~perfect time~~ ^{good time} of the year for the maple ~~leaves begin to turn the end of September, though~~ ^{fairly cold} ~~the air is still soft.~~ We will have a picnic on the top of a very high hill in the eastern part of Dutchess County, and I will have the President's yacht on the river to take you for a day's sail on the upper Hudson. You must both of you bring your oldest clothes! In that connection I do not think you can equal the following: ^{a lovely}

In 1878 my Father had a tweed suit made in Edinburgh -- that was four years before I was born. He wore the suit constantly until his death

[Murray]

May 12, 1938.

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in 1900. I inherited it and wore it steadily until 1926, when I passed it on to my boy James. He still has it and wears it in the winter time when he is in the country. A good example of Scotch craftsmanship, aided and abetted by Dutch thrift!

Things international and things economic seem to have reverted completely to a time-serving status -- why in the name of common sense can't the poor old world come together and cast their thoughts at least twelve months ahead? In the old days we used to try at least to think a generation ahead. One of my cynical professor friends suggested that the world is becoming very Christian because it is following the precept "take no thought for the morrow". Isn't it amazing that in February there was no thought of the Eden episode and in early March no thought of the Austrian coup? As I think I have remarked to you before, I am most worried when all you people on the other side united in saying "there is no possibility of war" -- for the very good reason that every six months or so during the past five years that you have all united in gloomy predictions, things have miraculously smoothed themselves out.

Many thanks for sending me Rugeiman's letter. I hope he will come over here again one of these days to see some of the western and southern part of our country.

I hope Faith's eyes are really improving.

My best to you both,

As ever yours,

Colonel The Honorable Arthur Murray,
Carrington House,
Hertford Street,
London, W.1.,
England.