

REPRESENTATIVE ALBERT GORE
WSM, February 29, 1948

Good Morning, Friends:

The principal topic of conversation in Washington during the past week has been politics -- mostly presidential politics. After the Republicans captured control of Congress in November 1946, the stock of the Democrats was pretty low. In fact, when Congress convened in January of last year, Democratic faces were very long and the gloom depressingly thick. But after a few Republican mistakes, the Democrats began to put up a fight and throughout the remainder of 1947 it seemed to me that the Democratic Party made steady gains in public opinion. Several of my Republican colleagues have privately concurred with me in this opinion. But all those gains have been washed out during the last thirty days by three things: One, the Palestine situation; Two, the Henry Wallace bolt of the Party, which was made more serious by the unfortunate Palestinian situation; and three, President Truman's Civil Rights Message and the consequent revolt or refusal of many Southern Democrats to stand for them. So, the chances of the Democrats electing a President in November now look slim, indeed, even though some one other than Mr. Truman is nominated, as some are now suggesting.

Of course, it is a long time until November and I remember that Cordell Hull once said to me that six months is a lifetime in politics. But I frankly doubt that there is anything the Democrats can now do to pull themselves out of the hole before November. Perhaps only the Republicans can save the Democrats from overwhelming defeat, and don't forget that that has happened before and could happen again. The Republicans have yet to enact their legislative program for the year and in doing so they may make their usual quota of mistakes. They have yet to hold their convention which could be a knock-down, drag-out affair.

I have been disconsolate about the whole situation, not only about the President's mistakes but about the near break-up of the Party to which I belong and which I think over the years has stood for principals in the interest of the American people. Many of you who are listening may feel differently. You have a right to believe as you do and I to believe as I do.

Well, when I am dispirited and disconsolate, I can find relaxation and some consolation in playing a few old time folk tunes on the fiddle. So a few nights ago I invited two of my friends to bring their guitar and accordian and come over for the evening. The neighbors thought it was awful and, of course, it was, but we enjoyed it. And since I am so blue and regretful about all these unfortunate developments, as I am sure many of you are, I have invited my friends in and we are just going to play a few tunes for you, refraining, of course, from the break-down tunes we would play if this were to be broadcast on Saturday night. So here goes and the first number is that good old Irish tune, "Flow Gently, Sweet Afton."

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WSM, FEBRUARY 29, 1948
Rep. Albert Gore

Good Morning, Friends:

First, I want to thank those of you who have written me such kind letters regarding last Sunday's program. I am glad you found it/worthwhile discussion.

The principal topic of conversation in Washington ~~this~~ week has been politics — ^{mostly} Presidential politics. After the Republicans captured control of Congress in ^{now} 1946, the ^{stock of the} Democrats' ~~stock~~ was pretty low. In fact, when Congress convened in

January of last year, Democratic faces were very long and the gloom depressingly

^{But} thick. After a few Republican mistakes, ~~however~~, the Democrats began to put up a

fight and throughout the remainder of 1947 it seemed to me that the Democratic

Party made steady gains in public opinion. ~~Even~~ ^{Several} ~~many~~ of my Republican colleagues

have privately concurred with me in this opinion. But all those gains have been

washed out ^{during the last thirty days} by three things: One, the Palestine situation ~~by which President Truman~~

~~has alienated a large amount of the Jewish vote in the pivotal states~~; Two, ~~the~~ the

Henry Wallace bolt of the Party, which was made more serious by the unfortunate

Palestine ^{ian} situation; and, ~~three~~, President Truman's Civil Rights Message and the

consequent ^{or refusal} ~~threatened~~ revolt of many southern democrats ^{to stand for them}. So, the chances of the

Democrats electing a President in November ^{now} look slim, indeed, ^{even though some} ~~now~~ ^{now} ~~one~~ ~~other than Mr. Truman~~ is nominated, as some are suggesting.

~~Many people~~ people are saying, in fact many Democratic members of

~~Congress~~ are saying, that Mr. Truman could not carry over a handful of states.

Of course, it is a long time until November and I remember that the Honorable

Cordell Hull once said to me that six months ^{is} a lifetime in politics. ^{But} I

frankly doubt, ~~however~~, that there is anything the Democrats can now do to pull

them ^{themselves} out of the hole before November. Perhaps only the Republicans can do ^{save the democrats from a humiliating} ~~so~~ ~~defeat~~ ^{before} and could happen again.

and that has happened. ^{before} The Republicans have yet to enact their legislative

program ~~now~~ for the year and in doing so they may make their usual quota of

mistakes. They have yet to hold their convention which could be a knock-down,
~~Maybe that is still before~~
drag-out affair. ~~So, though I am quite disconsolate this morning, I am still~~

able to

~~discussolate~~
I have been ~~right~~ blue about the whole situation, not only about the
~~mistakes~~
President's ~~proposals~~ but about the near break-up of the Party to which I belong

and which has been ~~so good to me~~ and which I think over the years has stood for
principals in the interest of the American people. Many of you who are listening

may feel differently, ~~but that's how I feel~~. You have a right to believe as you

~~Well, dispirited~~
do and I to believe as I do. When I am ~~blue~~ and disconsolate, I can find

relaxation and some consolation in playing a few old time/tunes on the fiddle. So

a few nights ago I invited two of my friends to bring their guitar and accordian

~~We passed down an Turkey in the summer~~
and come over for the evening. The neighbors thought it was awful and, of course,
~~but still we enjoyed it~~
it was, ~~but still we enjoyed it~~ + rightful
~~blue about all these unfortunate developments, my friends in and~~
~~my friends in and~~
But since I am so ~~dispirited~~ this morning, we are just going to play

~~refrain~~ ~~from~~
a few tunes for you, ~~emitting~~, of course, ~~the kind of~~ break-down tunes we would

play if this ~~WMA~~ were to be broadcast on Saturday night. So here goes and the
first number is that good old Irish

Lime - ~~Swing low~~
How Gently sweet after