

to the West and North-West during August and September. There is some risk in this travel, accidents, such as happened to Colonel Riggs, are potential at any time.

I recently spent ten days at the Federal Capital watching the final session of the Commonwealth Parliament. By comparison our Congress is an orderly and decorous body. The extremes here are too great and neither body will deal fairly with the other. The Australian voter is probably about one-third labor, one-third ultra-conservative and the poor middle third has to choose between the two. I hope whichever party wins the election in August will really run the Government, because it seems impossible for either party to operate a coalition Government. I know personally 63 out of 110 men who constituted the Cabinet, Commonwealth Senate and the House of Representatives. Some of them I know very well. In fact I shall be the guest of four or five of the best of these on my trip out, for which I am leaving in a couple of days or so.

I have found the Rotary Club a very fine means for contact in the various places I go. I have given several speeches lately on the "American Citizen" and was honored by being asked to speak to the Melbourne Club a couple of weeks ago. I have sent Karl Kloor some of the comments on the recent talk.

The Minister's new residence will probably be completed before the New Year and we are hoping to sing our Christmas Carols there next December. I am certainly fond of the Johnsons and they seem to reciprocate as well.

6/11/15 I see Mr. Wendell Wilkie is laying his plans to run for President again, and that some of the parties in some of the States are determined to nominate General MacArthur anyway. The newspapers here gave quite an account of the friction between union officials and the President and also the slap back Congress gave in regard to several mistakes which were vetoed. In fact it seems to be that the people here have lately tried to point out some of the weak spots in our country and thus trying to hide some of their own, and they do have plenty. The relationship between our peoples here remains very fine due largely, I think, to the appreciative character of the Australians and the fact that most of our boys are very considerate. I did read that more than 600 of our boys are married to Australian girls and that there were 5000 others who wanted to do so. Its probably a good thing that I am not young and single for there are some very attractive ladies here.

I am always happy to hear from you and I hope you will remember me most kindly to Gertrude. You will have to come and see us in our Californian home.

Very cordially yours,

Karl F. Baldwin