

very happy. You also mentioned that you might visit Australia soon after the war if the end came within a reasonable time. I hope that Mrs. Baldwin and I will be here to greet you. There is a possibility I may have her come out later. Just now, it does not seem to be an appropriate time. I do miss her and my family immensely. I am in excellent health, and we have plenty of good food--beef, lamb and cereal products. Right now some of the finest fruits are in season, such as peaches, plums, nectarines, grapes, blackberries, raspberries, apples, and tropical fruits are to be had. As a matter of fact, we do not have to ration ourselves in diet as much as you do in the States. Rationing on gas is closer, but as my trips are official this does not worry me though I exercise due caution in the use of my car which bears the distinctive label "DC 13". Now what would you call that if you saw it in Lawrence? We do a little kidding, and I assure everyone that it doesn't mean "Drunk Colonel No. 13". It might mean "Distinguished Citizen No. 13". However, it is "Diplomatic Corps No. 13". The licensed cars bearing "DC" will be increasing, as the Russians are arriving to establish their Legation.

I was extremely glad that Mr. Flynn withdrew his name from the Senate. The criticism of his assignment as Ambassador was terrific here in the local press. The Johnson's have been perfect to me, and they want to stay. I hope the President sees fit to let them stay. They are loved by everybody.

I recently spent two weeks watching the Commonwealth Parliament in session. After this experience, I am afraid I will say many complimentary things of our own legislative assemblies. I have met practically every leader in Australia, both political and military. It is a big country, but the population for the most part is hemmed into limited areas.

If you really have the fever for Australia, I will send you some special literature to read.

I am always interested in your local news. I was very sorry to hear about Alfred Lawrence, and I hope he has come through his difficulties safely. Take care of yourself and your good wife, your children and grand-children. You can be very proud with what you have accomplished in life, and I am very proud to have you as a friend. There are many things I would like to tell, which I dare not even mention. Sometime we will "fry the fat" and discuss the matter through.

Hoping to hear from you again shortly,

Very sincerely yours, *Karl F. Baldwin*