February 24, 1945

Mr. G. A. Perrine Grove, Oklahoma

Dear Al:

I am pleased to have your letter of the 19th instant and to get your reaction on the May labor conscription bill and my speech on the subject entitled, "Work or What". It is certainly pleasing to hear from fellows like you, who give serious consideration to the important issues of the day, and to have such suggestions as you think may be calculated to help me render the maximum service I so much desire to give my people.

With reference to the appointment of the Postmaster at Grove, I want to make my position absolutely clear to you. In the first place, this is not my patronage. It normally belongs to congressmen and the President belonging to the same party. In this instance, it is Democratic or New Deal patronage and you know I am without the pale. Hence the patronage will go to Senator Elmer Thomas, and I wont have a look-in. They wont even consult me about it, I am quite confident, and if they do they wont pay any attention to what I say or to my endorsement. In other words, there is nothing I can do for anybody on postmaster appointments, and whatever I might say or do for them might react against them; for it is definitely known here, at home or wherever there is any knowledge on the subject, that I am not in accord or sympathy with the New Deal or any part of its administration.

Of course, you are well aware of this; but perhaps you did not know just how they handle these postmaster appointments. I do not know where you got the idea that I was receiving applications for this appointment. I have received none and likely shall receive none. I did have a letter from a good citizen of yours who is a Democrat, but he I am convinced, is definitely not a New Dealer, and he wrote as if he might become an applicant. I explained to him just as I have to you, that I did not think it advisable for me to have anything to do with the situation if he became an applicant.

Grove, Oklahoma February 19, 1945

Hon. George B. Schwabe, M. C. Washington, D. C.

Dear George:

I wish to take this opportunity to express to you my appreciation for the various records you are sending me and to also compliment you on the stand you took on the "Work or What?" bill. I do not know what should be done, but I do feel that the present bill they have up is not the one to be passed.

George, I understand they are asking for applications on the Grove Post Office and we are wondering if there is any chance for us to get someone from our organization in. It is my understanding the deadline is March 8th. Therefore we will have to act quickly. I will appreciate your advising me if this is under your jurisdiction. If there is anything in turn that we here in Delaware County can do, please call on us.

With kindest regards to you and Mrs. Schwabe, I am

Very Eruly yours,

G. A. Perrine

GAP: chm