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Mr. Justice Willis Van Devanter
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Justice:

The announcement of your retirement from active duties on the Supreme Court Bench has given me mingled feelings of pleasure and regret – pleasure that you will be able to get away from all this dirty political strife and enjoy the remaining years of your life in the peace and quiet which you so richly deserve, and regret that your retirement means that the Court and the country will lose the services of one of its most able and clear-thinking jurists and be compelled to accept in his place a Robinson or a Cummins or a Landis. I have the feeling that you may have deliberately done this as a sacrifice to save the nation from the President's Court Reorganization Bill. If there was ever any doubt about the passage of this bill, I believe your retirement insures its defeat.

I wish that I might have a visit with you and talk over the whole deplorable situation which surrounds us. I had expected to be in Washington for the meetings of the American Law Institute, but serious sickness in the family of my partner and cousin Floyd Dix prevented my going. I have a place in the country myself on the old farm where my forebearers and I were born. We could have talked over the joys of country life.

With very warmest regards and best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

George C. Dix

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