

Dear Bill,

2/9/94

I was on next to the last page of reading and correcting what I laid aside when Posner raised his ugly head. Inside the JFK Assassination conspiracy, on page 130 of the ms and probably not yet half way through what I have written, when I was told by phone by a neighbor that his husband was on the way on his tractor to bring us out mail and the papers. That is how I got your 2/7. To which I respond before resuming that reading and correcting. Of which one of your enclosures reminded me of the preceding chapter, where I refer to Harlan County and the fixing of the jury in the federal case.

We are, more likely as a matter of caution than of literal fact just before 11 p.m., iced in. Earlier it was literally true. But by now I know the road has been cindered and salted, and we were able to come up to the house yesterday with the lane ~~iced~~ iced with frozen rain topped by sleet. But I'm taking no chances and will, from the forecast, not go for another blood test until Friday.

Our health, about which you asked, is as it was. All indications are that the job done on Lil's right eye was simply fantastic. And we were lucky with the forecast to get to John Hopkins and back yesterday without any real problems. A cousin drove us, earlier than the appointment required, on the hope that the staff of the chief of corneal surgery, who removed the cataract from my right eye, would pass me in ahead of the appointment because of the weather and the distance we had to travel. She did that and he said the second cataract should not now be removed, that if anything happens to the right eye they can remove it later, and he gave me two indications of adequate reasons; given my blood problem, for deciding to ~~not~~ have it done. The windshield was iced when the deicer from the washer did not reach it all the way into Baltimore, where it melted off. On the way back what iced was the ends of the wiper blades! But I was so relaxed I fell asleep, steadying my head on my cap, and slept soundly until we were inside Frederick! Fortunately, because the trip alone always tires me. I took a nap today but I'm still tired. But as I was ready to tell the physician if he said to have the second cataract removed, "How soon can you do it?" I am also content to take his advice.

I suspect we'll be housebound tomorrow also from the forecast. But not Friday. Lil sees the ophthalmologist again and we'll be there. I've already invited the couple of the tractor mail delivery to join us for lunch at the Hana restaurant. (She just had a Carpel's tunnel syndrome job done on a hand.) After her husband, Charlie, has assumed this role so important to us with this kind of weather we'd taken them there last week and for country people I was surprised at they way they relished that food. The first time Charlie did that ^(mail) I gave him one of those beautiful Indian River grapefruit and they really did enjoy the great difference. He's done it every day I could not get the mail myself and on occasion he's phoned and told me not to run the risk, that he'd bring it. Fine neighbor!

On what is being done to promote Selections, so little that yesterday I got a card from a San Francisco dealer telling me he had not been told about it and saying he would order some. I've not been given a copy of even any announcement. The local Walden did not know about it until I told them. I'll be there the 26 to sign copies and I'll give a copy to a local radio station early morning news and interview man so he can promote it. I suppose that most of those to whom I've sent copies will speak to their stores but I did not ask this of any of them. I sent copies to those who have helped me on the two new books. One of whom responded that he had just survived a heart attack, at 47. I'll not be surprised if they do not make anything on the King book because there is not that interest on that subject. My name and the "hitwash on the cover may keep them from losing money on the Selections volume. If it is displayed in the stores. And if the word gets around.

On what you should look at in my files. I suppose not the files as I received them, which are as I received them in no special order and voluminous. I think, absent some special interest, go through the "subject" file of duplicates made of some and filed by name and subject.

I do not know what Cooper believed but I think Russell believed the official line about Oswald's politics, etc. We never discussed it at any length but he did tell me, "I am satisfied they have not told us all they know about Oswald." Ambiguous but I believe he meant what I indicate above.

No check was enclosed and "il is treating your ^{orders} as though from a bookstore. I'll sign and send you the WW IIs.

I've never asked anyone to go over the Earl Warren papers for me because I believe that he said what he believed to the staff, that if he did not ~~take~~ take the job which really means do the job, 40,000,000 might be killed. So I do not believe he would have recorded anything that could be used against him later. Plus there is a limit to what I can do.

Thanks for the Lexis tip. And that fine line from Evers' son was not in the papers I see. Good for him!

Hope you enjoy Daytona and that the fishing at the Keys is good!

Our best to you both,

I drove on that Daytona beach in a Model A (1931) Ford in 1965. Quite an experience. Like it was machine smoothed!

I knew about coal company script but have no recollection of tokens. Interesting idea to do a book on them for history.