

11/1/72

Dear ~~Bob~~ Mary,

In a sense, glad to get all the bad news in your 10/27 because we'd begun to worry about you from the silence. We were talking about it and you before today's mail.

I'm not surprised at Arch's not doing what he said he would, if I am disappointed. My experience with people of wealth is all of the same kind. It is only the people who work for what they have who really share. Others expect to get, not to give or to share.

I don't know where I'll get the money when I have to. In addition to the normal oppressive finances we've run into a few of the kind that happen but we never plan for. One is a bill for \$150 in plumbing repairs in today's mail. Another is the contractor-delayed repair of the lane so we can get in and out in bad weather. The county did it, said they'd undo, and in a year and a half haven't. Some of the possible family sources are out. My stepfather died after a lingering illness the cost of which my mother bore, not his wealthy sons. In fact, they even failed to help with his funeral expenses. Great to have such sons, huh? It cleaned my mother, who is now in the hospital herself not for the second cataract operation we have expected but for crippling and exceedingly painful arthritis and bursitis. The sister who is closest and upon whom if mom needs help in an emergency she'll have to depend is out for an added reason: she is just out of the hospital herself after removal of a tumor fortunately non-malignant.

All the news is great! Bud talked big about it when Jim mentioned it, but as you know, "Don't worry, Happy Harold is getting all he deserves". He is better at making extra work to be done without compensation when he hasn't paid for the initial work to which he has added nothing but trouble and waste. I'll not ask him in any event.

But, somehow, I know it will happen,

I've forgotten what I asked Hoch to send you. August seems so long ago!

Sauvage can be a fine French gentleman. I've also seen the other side a couple of times.

I haven't read OSS. From a review I think it could be a kind of defense of CIA. Maybe I'm wrong. It was kind of schizo, but under the circumstances it did at least as well as could be expected. Some of its failures were quite tragic.

Buck, too, is a tragedy, Mary. Perhaps you have thought of everything, but if he is a veteran, ask questions. I don't know if he is entitled to help under Social Security or any insurance, but don't overlook any possibilities, no matter how remote they may seem. He is sick, not bad, Mary.

In any event, the time has come when Mary has to be first with Mary.

I've been sent a small squib from the NYTimes saying that the separation with the Garrison s has finally come.

Public TV had a piece on New Orleans jazz the other night. Bill told me about it and I saw and enjoyed it. Quite a few sequences at Preservation Hall and a credit to Harry at the end, under his full name that is as imposing as his girth. I used to be hooked on that kind of music and still would be were it available. Don't even have a record player on which to hear my old 78s.

Nothing new. I've been wasting too much time to do what others are supposed to and almost all of that time they've been responsible for wasting to do anything constructive. Do I have to tell a housewife cleaning up is no fun?

Thanks for trying, anyway. And we still hope you can find a way of getting here.

Our best,

October 27, 1972

Dear Harold:

Well, I have finally gotten to Arch. Ann's mother was operated on about ten days ago and it was very serious. They have been just about staying at the hospital. Also, Ann's father, Dr. Giles, is at home with 24-hour registered nurses. He had a stroke in the early Spring this year. I talked to Arch last night for the first time in a good while. I had already talked to Sue (when I couldn't reach Arch). I'm not having much luck here in Dallas trying to raise the money to purchase the remaindered copies of Frameup. I certainly agree with you that it should be done.

In yesterday's mail there was a letter from Paul Hoch with a copy of a letter you sent him in August and requested him to forward on to me. He apologized for being so long in getting it to me. But, I gather he has been working very hard to get his doctorate and has now completed the work and at last had time to read the letter. I'll read it this weekend and send it back to you.

Buck is still in the hospital in Memphis. He's been there over two weeks. I don't think they are going to keep him much longer, according to the boys. When the bills that are sent out the first of the month are not paid (at least by me), I daresay they will release him immediately...

I had a couple of nice visits with Leo Sauvage last weekend. He was in Dallas for several days and while here did a little "investigating." He is very nice and I liked him.

Have you read OSS by Smith, published in 1972 by the University of California Press? It is rather hard to get around here and I borrowed a copy from one of our lawyers when I saw it on his desk. I haven't ordered it yet but intend to as soon as I get a little extra money... It is extremely interesting, particularly the references to the CIA in the early '50s on up through the mid '60s.

I was happy to hear from Paul Hoch that he intends to get back to investigating and writing. He has such a good mind and perhaps now it will be "free" to go into areas he is qualified to research without qualifying his research to please some professor...

I am at the office. It is almost 8:30 and I should get to work.

Much love to you and Lil,

Mary