

8/18/69

Dear Gary,

Last night I dropped everything and made a trip to Washington to meet Dick Gregory. Mutual friends had told him of me and my work and he knew me slightly from a phoned appearance we had made together on WBEW. He says he wants to and will help and he had tried already. I am to see the manager and sales staff of a large speakers' bureau, which is ready to offer me to the 10,000 organizations they serve. Naturally, I am ready! I'll know soon what the prospects are and I'll let you know.

This reminds me of slides, mine, yours and Bud's, for in some appearances some of these can be, as you know, quite valuable. I cannot at this minute locate those you were kind enough to give me. I just looked. Do not make me new copies, for they'll turn up. I may have given them to Bud for him to check against what he has. He'll know.

Have you a list of the slides you have? If you do, I'd appreciate a copy, from which I can tell you which I'd like copied. Ditto on Fred's or any others. And Fred reminds me: would you ask your photographer friend if he can print the overlaid O with rifle shots for me, overlaid only? I have the others, but it may be he'll think I should have them individually the same size. If you or he don't please ask him for these, too. Tell me what it costs and I'll credit your account.

Tired as I am, and apparently edgy (though I am not usually aware of it), and anxious as I am to clean up the corrections so I can go ahead with other writing. I am not anxious to be going off speaking. On the other hand, we urgently need what it would yield and it does provide the means of informing people, which is important.

I have begun to get whatever this thing is under control- I think. It has been 10 days since I took a tranquilizer. My ability to sleep longer fluctuates. Last night I got to bed three a.m., having arisen 4 or 4:30. I drove home in a very heavy storm, dangerous drive, fell asleep immediately although not sleepy while driving, got up at 8, decided to sleep longer, and took an hour's nap. This, I believe, is a good sign. I guess I've been averaging six hours. The pool is very good for this. I'm usually in it about three times, and I usually sun and listen to the news about 45 minutes, which is relaxing. I have not gotten any literature on the condition, tho. I asked the doctor for some last week and he sent the message through the nurse that he had discussed it with me, which he hadn't, and that he knew of no lit. I think it would be helpful to know more about the condition so I may better understand it.

On COUP add, I've gotten little done since last comment because of the necessary interruptions. Probably about a sixth read.

An unpleasant recollection when I called the travel agency to make arrangements for seeing the lecture bureau: the excursion rate he says he uses all the time is not applicable for less than 7 days, which is what I had told him and he hotly denied the time he embarrassed me do over the bill for my 12/68 N.O. trip, when he paid the air ticket only. I used another travel agent this time. I know they cannot both be wrong. I wonder why he went so far out of his way to rich-uncle humiliate me, for he had to know he was wrong, you cannot write an excursion ticket for less than a week. But it did not linger, which I take to be a good sign also.

Best,