

Dear Jim,

4/28/80

Early this morning, before leaving for a dental appointment in Washington, I addressed an envelope and was about to write when I suddenly remembered some forgotten pressing work, which I then did get done. When I returned after midday and found your good letter of the 22d I was glad I'd not written earlier.

What I'd intended to report is that my neighbors are quite pleased with the results of your paper-into-logs memo. Russell finds it is also good for his arthritic hands. Paul reports that if the fire in the fireplace insert is low and you don't roll too thick a log, although normal size is greater than the diagonal, he can squeeze a less tightly and thinner roll in by pushing the hell out of the middle with the poker. The length is just right for Russell's free-standing stove.

The enclosure on the car-insurance situation is very helpful. I'd feared that. We'll take it to the Maios tomorrow night, when Danny is supposed to be there and can convey nuances that Lil might not. (She understands Mike much better than I.)

Although Second Son, Jackson, put it in different words his opinion Xmas time was that in a year of two Johnny would put his head together. I hope the girl is not also a Moonie, because if she remains with them it will deter Johnny's separation.

We appreciate your efforts with the police, as I'm sure the Maios will. They must have enormous problems with so many lost and mobile youth.

Lil's eye situation appears to be giving no trouble and perhaps is stable, if not entirely eliminated because it is an allergic reaction. Did I tell you that she washes it with baby shampoo as part of the treatment?

While the nights get pretty cold, not at all exceptionally cold for our winters, so this one continues gentle. Although what are usually the four roughest weeks lie immediately ahead I believe I now have enough wood at the house to carry us through without a fuel oil delivery, unless in my absences on cold days we use that much.

Snow hasn't been bad and I've had no trouble keeping the lane clear. Even the shovelling of the slush was not too much. If I can get to the snow before it is driven on or begins to thaw I can clear it all in not much over a half hour with the snow blower, so we are in better shape.

I've been busy with affidavits, got that over with and then felt that I could make a real dent in the accumulation, only to find that the DJ and FBI have given me another large chore. I dislike the waste of time but like the end product, as does our friend Dave. I'll be clobbering them again but I'm delaying that to the a.m., for a fresh start.

Dave phoned night before last. They are all okay.

Many thanks and out best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hazel".