

JAN 21 1974

Dear Jim,

1/17/74

I guess the authentic housewives do it the way poor substitutes do, figure their shopping to fit in between other chores. But they do it better. After a year I still can't be sure how long shopping will take me. So, what I generally do, is go to the store in the mornings, after taking Lil to work. With a visitor coming in the morning, I'm shopping this evening. And I've just realized that I've given myself 45 minutes more than I should need.

That gives me time for a shway mun note, in the spirit of it.

Some days ago I wrote you about our friends from a warmer clime and about the weather (almost 70° here yesterday and the pool refroze during the night and hasn't thawed today!) and forgot to mention the oddest part of their adventure.

It seems that the linguist early developed a major interest in them without seeing them but after seeing the dean once or twice. Probably at least twice. He felt they were worthy of suitable reward. From what later was estimated he was niggardly, suggesting he could find half of what the dean estimated.

But you know how some people feel about some colleges. He was not satisfied with the word of the dean. Nothing less than that of the prexy was his precondition.

I guess there is a special bond between those who were together baptized in spittle. He did have this much devotion and dedication.

This is not the version you'll get in mine but it is the real poop. Whole committees of people know it. Perhaps they are overwhelmed by emotion. How else account for their silence about so heroic a willingness to rush into the breach. And so early!

The Honorable Man understood well the ways of other men of honor.

Pearl White was right up to the blade in the sawmill when the episode was continued until the next week. But apparently prexy was a reluctant hero. Or others figured him that way.

Quite a thriller.

Lesar, I hope, is busy with proofs. I had a few suggestions in the legal section of the petition. He laughed when I made one in particular, which did not require detailed knowledge. It was polemical and the wrong emphasis. The Wader people had fixed on the same thing. So, he agreed to it.

These will be printed if you want a copy. Condensed, then abbreviated and (for Jim and me stylized to boot) but it will specify the minimum.

In what I will mail tonight, that reaching the limit of the stamp's carrying capacity, the first page of Howard's letter of the 11th is to tell you about the ambassador. More informative than Who's Who can be. And what one would expect.

I hope you persevere to the end of today's VIP. Maxine concludes with two choice items. The second interests me more than the one about my former employer. And more than the efforts of the real estatnik. (She preaches other than she practises. She rents a miserable shack to Lil's boss, who uses it three and a half months of the year. She has no other possibility with it but she knows he needs it. So, each year she delays renewing the lease. She thus has him barreled. Last year, Phase II, III, IV or ? notwithstanding, she escalated 100%. This year, after taking no calls for a long time, in the last minute she went to 500% of what it had been. He lost money because of it last year and this year he'll lose two and a half times more than that. But he has no choice and she knows it. It is like all those talkin' 'bout Heaven.)

Best,

