

Dear Jim,

11/10/80

We're glad to hear that you are getting along fine. Thanks for taking the time to let us know why you are not feeling as good as usual.

Hope the virus wasn't a major interference with all you could do, see and learn on so wonderful a trip.

Not much new here. I go back to Georgetown day after tomorrow for the specialist to see how I'm getting along. I feel OK but I'm apprehensive over the failure of my walking capability to improve and from now knowing what, if anything, the wide assortments of discomforts, do or can mean. I recognize some from the first venous thrombosis, 10/75, but others are strange. And it is wearying not to be able to get more than an hour of uninterrupted sleep at night. (More often even less.) But I'm gratified that ad always, I get right back to sleep after moving around a bit.

The beautiful weather provides further exasperation because I can do nothing in it. I just tried walking to the end of the lane and back, to get the mail, and it was too much.

Thanks to friends, however, what must be done is getting done. The storm windows are in and when I'm cleared for more than light walking I'll be getting firewood on the porch and will be using the wood heater. I have a cord of wood outside each of two of the three doors to the house and as soon as the one from whom I'm getting it gets over trying to saw his left leg off (yesterday) I'll have more, at the house. My foresight in having this year's intended supply stacked in the woods and drying will provide next year's wood.

Boy am I grateful for Medicare/BlueCross-Shield! Today's mail held a government form saying that all but \$180 of a bill we'd not gotten from the hospital was paid. "il says Blue Cross-Shield will pick that up. Without whatever this represents and without the last two weeks of the hospital bill the load came to more than \$12,000! (Right now I'm ~~am~~ also glad I'm a veteran because there is a veteran's hospital about 25-30 miles west of here plus two in Washington for the time Medicare coverage may run out.)

It seems odd to be facing a possible winter water shortage but we do, there was that little rain this year. If the ground freezes before the early winter rains soak in there will be problems here abouts and probably many other places.

If I didn't tell you Dave's and DeLoyd's biblio. is out. The publisher's rep who was here impressed me favorably.

I've been enjoying light reading again for the first time in years and I have my friends going over their paperbacks for more. It started in the hospital and I'm continuing it most of the time when I rest, rather than working. I guess that this week I'll be getting back to working when I rest for I've a stack of new records on me to go over.

Thanks for taking the time. Hope you make steady progress back to where you were.

Our best,