

February 20, 1942

Dearest:

I am rich! Your letters, much more frequent than I had expected, make me very happy.

Your shirts have just come out at the Anacostia Naval Air-training Station. We are going to send Norman out there to get them (he being in uniform can get in, and we've had quite a bit of a time about them letting any one of us in.) We'll mail them to you not later than tomorrow.

Dear, may I have them discontinue your private telephone here in the office? It costs \$5.75 a month and is certainly not worth it to us now. Just let me know.

The social front is booming! Margaret Brown is in town and I am having a very rushed up small luncheon for her tomorrow at the Shoreham. I've asked Tharon Perkins (Mrs. Milo), Virginia Durr, Terrill Maverick (because Margaret always speaks of Maury very fondly), Mrs. Mitchell Palmer, and Mrs. Lanham (because she is a very good friend of Vola May's mother whom Margaret likes very much.) I also asked Mrs. Gingrich but she had another engagement and couldn't come. She said she was very glad to hear I was in town and wanted to see me some and would be calling me soon. Also I'm in the process of getting Jean Kintner and Elizabeth Rowe, but they don't know for yet. I'm very glad I'm getting to do this for Margaret as I always felt a little apologetic about not doing it last year, and I know she'll like meeting all these ladies, most of whom talk very well. I also asked Decca, because she has a glamorous background and Margaret will like that.

I wanted to ask Mrs. Forestall but didn't for two reasons. First, I remembered the incident of Evie and the Naval contracts. Second, this is in a public place and those Cabinet ladies and under-Cabinet ladies don't like to accept invitations to public cafes--unless it's a benefit or charity thing. (I remember Kitty May in an effort to find out whether Mrs. Ickes would object to coming to the Shoreham asked her secretary. The secretary said she didn't know whether she minded or not but she did happen to know that she never had done so.)

Of course, it will be different when I am back in my own apartment in April.

I had a grand time the other night at the Rowes! I had two dates and a corsage, which is pretty good, don't you think? The dates were Tom Clark and Mr. Howland. Jim was the last to arrive, as usual. The people were all some who were present at their election party--Mr. Ratz, the Pursers (or Pursells, perhaps), the Pitts, twelve in all. Jim said that Clyde Eastus of Ft. Worth was "trying to take Lyndon's job away from him." I asked what was that. And he said Mr. Eastus was going to run for the Senate against O'Daniel! At least he has courage! Jim was quite sweet and said for me to come to him when I need help. Elizabeth gave us some of her brandy after dinner and proudly told everybody the origin of it.

This little clipping is interesting to me in the light of that resume of Germany's labor problems which I read and briefed for you. I also saw a clipping that unemployment in the U. S. was down to 3,000,000---the lowest figure since 1930.

Mary is going to send you a list of names to send post-cards to. She is going to gather it from everybody in the office, from correspondence, and from our county favorable lists. (She is to be a clearing house for us, so that there won't be duplication, and so that the district will be rather well covered geographically.) She will send you enough to last you a week and will get them off on a certain day each week. Here is one right now: Ben Powell, Jr., just got promoted to Captain, and I know he would like to have a card from you congratulating him. His address is 111 S. Columbus, Arlington, Va. Or better still, Judge and Mrs. Powell, at 2208 Windsor Road, Austin, would love to hear from you about it--they think it's the smartest thing the Army has done to date.

We had a very good time last night with Malcolm and his wife. I'm quite fond of Malcolm. Nellie and I cooked a really good dinner and then we showed the movies and Malcolm told us some things to do in the office, which we started doing today. Have written Ray Lee about the poll tax lists several days ago, and ought to hear soon.

I was so amused about what you said of Tex and the naming of his children that I'm going to tell you something I didn't mean to! I asked Tex what they were going to name her. He said he thought Ann, but "not to tell Lyndon" because he didn't want to get teased in case they decided to change it to something else.

That had better be all for today.

All my love,