

February 23, 1942

Dearest:

Your two letters which I received today were very rewarding and made me want to work much much harder than I have been. I'm seriously considering quitting school after this week. It takes a minimum of five hours a day--three in actual class work, half an hour to come and go, and an hour and a half to study. Sometimes I study as much as two hours a day. Five extra hours a day in the office would certainly mean a lot more done. Then I could go back to school in May, after things were not so perilous, for ~~one~~ additional month.

Dear, don't forget to let me know if I may cut off your private phone.

I have called Mr. Edwards and notified him about the apartment --that we wanted it on April 1. He was quite agreeable and said they had enjoyed it very much. He said they had found Otha Ree very satisfactory and wanted to know if I was quite sure I wanted her back, and I told him I was extremely sure. (I'm getting chills of apprehension that he might be offering her \$15 a week to go with them.) She (Otha Ree) has in a call for me here at the office.

I just talked to Frances Poage and the poor thing has just had an ulcer burned off her eye ball! They can have more physical bad luck! I remember to be thankful for feeling very spry and strong--and happy.

Bill Clark just called and asked me to dinner tomorrow night. I suppose I'll go. Tonight I'm going to eat out with Mary and then come back to the office, for I have at least a dozen letters I'd like to write.

We just had a very nice letter from Otis Dunagan, thanking us for getting his cousin, Hugh Dunagan, a job at Texarkana. By the way, dearest, Mr. Robuck, the personnel man there, seems extremely obliging about giving jobs to those you recommend, and though I know

it is because of the Browns, I wonder if it wouldn't be a nice thing to do to give him that Navy picture of you he has mentioned several times that he would like to have? I have three left. I'm going to send one to Mr. B. C. Butler of Yorktown tomorrow, since I haven't heard from you saying not to. Could I send one to Mr. Robuck too? (I would get Nellie to put on there in her best imitation-of-Lyndon-Johnson manner "To My Friend R. H. Robuck with the best wishes of Lyndon Johnson"--or some such message.)

The Travis County poll tax list will be available March 4, and Ray Lee writes that Steve Heffington has always sent it to you with his compliments, and likes doing it. So we wrote Mr. Heffington, thanked him for doing it in the past, and indicated how much more important it was this year than ever and how we hoped he could get one to us. We should hear from him tomorrow. And we ought to know about the other counties in the next three days. I hope we can start sending out the Agricultural Bulletin Lists by the first of next week.

Malcolm said we should read the papers for births, deaths, and weddings, and hospital lists, and write to those we know. I asked Mary to take that as her job each morning and I will write the letters myself. Malcolm said that when Paul Kilday wrote him after the death of his mother he was actually touched, though nobody knew better than him how completely professional it was. I believe I told you that I had written Jack Moore in Dad's store to order six of those silver cigarette lighters for wedding presents. Well, they are all six promised, even before I got them! I mean, there are six new-married couples already awaiting presents from us.

You have quite a hefty booklet here, entitled "U. S. Naval Ship-Building Program". It is full of charts and statistics, showing the number of vessels of all types a-building, performance of various ship yards, geographical distribution of work, etc.

Here comes the President--via radio. I must stop.

Goodbye and all my love,

always,