

May 5, 1943

Dearest:

I arrived at 4:40 this morning, went out to your mother's, slept until 8:30 and came back to work.

Here, in brief, is what has happened since I left:

1. A letter from Golfrey Connally tells me that he will not be able to take the job, though he is most interested and would like to very much. His doctor advises him to wait another six months or a year before undertaking any employment, however light. I phoned him and told him we were sorry and maybe we could work out something later.

2. Jesse had not mentioned to Mr. Escoe his change of status and Harfield's entry and that is the first thing on the schedule for tomorrow morning when Hesse steps off that plane.

3. The PD 200 forms came yesterday, Tuesday, from the Dallas office of WPB, but Jamie in collaboration with Mr. Escoe had already filled out some Saturday night and got them off to the San Antonio office of WPB, which is the first agency through which they must pass. Jamie says Mr. Scurry says he has requested permission from Washington to pass on this, though usually anything to do with communications must be passed on by the Washington office. From San Antonio they go to Dallas, where they will be passed on finally in case the permission has been granted or else go to Washington. Jamie says they should be enroute to Dallas now. When the approval comes, it will then take 10 days or two weeks to get some of the materials needed (the acoustical ones), Jamie says. He has asked the people who handle these to be ready to supply him in the shortest time possible in anticipation of a yes answer on the priorities.

4. Mr. Escoe had not yet got off the registered letter to Mims Radio but assures me he will today--and I shall see that he does. It is to see that they give us the itemization and purchase order, etc. for all the stuff we are alleged to owe them for. If they do not answer in ten days, Jesse has told him to mark it off the books. He says he has called Barron repeatedly but has never been able to get him since he promised to have the itemization ready for him on Tuesday of last week. I myself have heard him call twice. If Jesse says so, I shall start calling him myself.

5. Bob Farree has got his call to the army and is leaving Saturday. With Turner leaving today this puts us in an untenable position for announcers. I called Mrs. Beal and asked her if we could possibly get Jack Guinn for full or part time.

He works for her at Radio House, so I would have to get her okay. He has one of the best voices I ever heard--a perfectly thrilling voice and is well trained. She said she could spare him because the end of the term was approaching and they were discontinuing several of their shows, but his finals were impending so maybe he could not take anything on. Of course, I explained we wanted somebody to tide us over the next two or three weeks, as all permanent personnel would be selected after May 17. Naturally I expect Harfield to pass on and pick everybody from then on. Guinn goes into the Navy July 1, so he might fit in for a few weeks. We would have to pay him \$25 a week, at least. We paid Farree only \$20, but I don't think we can replace him for that, and Guinn would, in my estimation, be a damn fine improvement for the station if we can get him, though only for a few weeks. He is the one I came home raving about from that show the Legislature invited us to out at the Union Building--Blake Sparenberg, if you remember. I have in a call to Guinn now and should know tonight.

6. The check to NBC I got off today, registered. The Standard Library cabinets came this morning, so I was able to tell them in the letter that we were shipping back the Thesaurus May 10.

7. I shall make an appointment to see Mr. Stark tomorrow, if he will see me, in company with Mr. Escoe.

8. Louise is upset and disturbed about whether she will be able to handle both book-keeping, log, telephone, visitors, stenography, and all the various forms, so Mr. Escoe tells me. I knew she was and think myself it is fully one and a half jobs though I have not thought we needed a full time person in Miss Galloway's place. I hope it will work out, because I like Louise very much. I hoped Golfrey could take over part of her work, but now that that is out I don't know what to do.

Well, enough of radio....Since I am not coming home, there are a number of things that must be taken care of right away. I'll list them and you can divide them between Zephyr and Mary, or perhaps Zephyr can do them all.

1. My fur coat should go to storage right away. I don't want to risk my next two years protection against the chill winds to the moths any longer. Send it to Arcade-Sunshine, be sure to get the receipt, insure it for about \$200.

2. Your winter suits and my winter dresses should be put away for the summer. They should be hung out in the back yard on a line in the sun, brushed very thoroughly to dislodge any possible larvae, and have some anti-moth preparation hung in the closet with them and stuffed in the pockets. I suggest putting them in those two closets made out of paste-board up in the attic. There is some no-smell moth preparation if Zephyr can find it. To fail to do this may cost us a lot of money and grief next Fall.

3. Tell John that Aunt Effie sent me some roses--a dozen, ~~if~~ I believe, which when they come I want set out in the yard in whatever he thinks the likeliest spot--I just can't pass on it so far away. Tell him to be sure to plant the morning glories around the little porch with the rail around it where we have spoken of eating our breakfast. The seeds he will find wherever the vegetable seeds are, I suppose. Also he had better put out the sennias--in the bed at the back end of the yard. Tell him to ask Mr. Reed whether he had better get some copperas to put around the peonies and some plant food for the roses and other flowers and if so what kind. And I wish you would give him enough money to do it on.

3.

4. If the garden hose I bought from Hecht's has not come yet, tell John to take this enclosed receipt, go down to Hecht's and ask for our money back and go somewhere else and buy one--if one is to be had anywhere.

5. Before I left I took a suit to Smith's Laundry, on Connecticut Ave., to be cleaned and pressed--my own beige suit. It was not ready when I left. If left longer than 30 days they may dispose of it and that I couldn't bear risking, so please have John take the enclosed check (pray God I can find it) and go get it.

6. Tell John to put out plenty of tomato plants and onion plants or sets or whatever you call them. Tomatoes are the most important thing because they will can most successfully--and cost a lot of points.

It's hot as hades here and I have only winter clothes--or rather "Washington Spring" ones, but I guess I had better write Zephyr a separate letter about what ones to send. Surely do hope she can find them. Also, John ought to get out your Spring suits--it is such a short season to wear them at best.

Let me hear about Columbia as I am on tiptoe with hope and fear!!!

Goodbye, for now.

I am sorry to bother you with all these things, but they are either things of considerable financial import to us, or else the things that are close to my heart.