

4921 30th Place, N. W.,  
Washington, D. C.,  
April 12, 1943.

Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson,  
c/o Mr. J. C. Kellam,  
Brown Building,  
Austin, Texas.

Dear Lady Bird:

This morning I had a talk with Jim Bond of the Manpower Commission here. He told me that under the new stabilization order our radio operators and other employees could not quit to take a similar job at higher pay some other place because of certain penalties provided in the order. I told him about your employment problems there with your radio operators and others. He said that he would talk to Mr. Belk, the State Director of the Employment Service in Austin, and tell Mr. Belk to contact you. In the event one of your operators quit on short notice, Belk could have already contacted his district offices throughout the State and have someone lined up to replace your man. He suggested another possibility of putting some people in training now that the draft would not get and train them for this type of work. The Employment Service, as Jesse can tell you, has such classes.

I suggest that immediately upon receipt of this letter, if Belk has not contacted you, that you or Jesse go to see him and outline your possible needs and then ask him to give you his recommendation on the best available people, and if none are available to get going on training some people.

Just the moment I hear anything from the INS or the CBS matters I will get in touch with you.

I don't believe I have ever sympathized with you as much as I do now. You are a very brave little girl and I believe except for your being down there now life would be unbearable so far as the station is concerned. There has been no good news here. We have had enough bad news, however, and I believe that when we finally rain good news, we will have a flood of it.



Zephyr and John are both up again and I give them plenty of time off. Gene and Bobbitt have been with me the last few days but Bobbitt went back to camp yesterday. I want very much to get down there next week, and I am going to make every effort to do it. I am having the same problem with Sam Houston but haven't quite given up. Since I sent you the \$1500 our finances are at an all-time low. Mary paid the rent yesterday, and I paid John and Zephyr their wages due the 15th this morning. I have just about enough money to keep me in cigarettes to the end of the month. After you total up the bills here let me know how much they are, and I will get you a check. Tell Mother that I am expecting her to keep up the monthly payments on the house where she lives. Lucia's checks for \$37.50 will continue to go to Mother, and if she needs some additional from me to make ends meet, she should tell me in advance. I have written her about this, but she has not answered it.

Tell me what you found out about your Father. His letter concerned me and I know it added little pleasure to your day.

I hope that by the end of the month Jesse will have all of the accounts paid and in good standing. We can at least know accurately then how much we are going in the hole each week. If I were you, I think I would have Escoc call a staff meeting, give all of the staff a good pep talk, outline the possibilities to them and then let you talk to them as a group. This could be done some evening at Jesse's house. I think you can take the March financial statements, show them the station has lost \$5,000 last year, and lost \$1500 in January and \$1500 in February. You can tell them of your plans to make it a paying proposition, night-time, increased power, network connection, etc. The stimulation you give them may inspire them to higher quality work.

In order to raise a good crop we must plant seed corn; that is the theory I have been following in making contracts with ASCAP, AP, Standard Library, etc., but we can not spend all of our money for seed corn because we may have a drought with no crop at all and have to give away the farm. Now that we have made the improvements we must produce enough revenue to meet expenses. We must cut such items as insurance, colored messenger boy, telephone, water and light, etc.

The following items in the statement drew my attention:



(2) How does it happen we spent \$391.30 for telephone and communication in February and only \$156.89 in March?

(4) And why did we pay \$15.76 interest in March?

I love you very, very much.

LBJ