

SOCIÉTÉ D'EXPORTATION & IMPORTATION A.R.L.
EXPORTATION AND IMPORTATION COMP. LTD - IZVOZNA IN UVOZNA DRUZBA ZO. Z.
LJUBLJANA - (Yougoslavie)

ING. PAUL DE PAVLINOVITCH
REPRÉSENTANT

PARIS,
34, BOULEVARD DES ITALIENS
TÉL. PROVENCE 09-74

Nov. 11 - nasty thought¹

Dear Pop,

Jimmie called up & read me your cable this afternoon. I'm glad you finally got the "happy letter", I suppose it was the one in which I told you about the marriage ceremony. Yep, the old boys with the Fr.[ench] Gov[ernment]'t thought they had us tied hand and foot - but love will find a way. I never thought they'd break down without a struggle and just let us get married normally & naturally, so it seemed very obviously necessary & right when at last moment they announced happily that they couldn't possibly marry us then, because the little slip of paper saying that the banns had been published in the ninth arrondissement as well as the 14th was missing from among the 4,327 official papers all vitally important which lay on the Mairie's desk. Somehow it seemed natural to us. You should have seen the rusty, cynical smile on the face of the clerk whose business it was to lead the lambs and the witnesses to the slaughter. The smile on the face of a fisherman who helped salmon to jump up waterfalls. He knows how much they struggle, & for what little good! A nasty, nasty smile, that made you think about divorce & papal dispensation and annulment. Boo to him.

We gathered that you got a letter from J. Arthur Jones, Senior. That's nice. Only what you meant by "now us strings love & best wishes" was beyond us, daddy dear. It must have been a typographical error, or two or three.

I hope you looked kindly on my love's masterpiece, unsigned because I grabbed it & put it in the envelope as soon as it was finished, fearful that his perfection complex would get the better of him. He's a darling, he means well, but he has a tendency to want to display his worst sides to people so they can like him in spite of them, or not at all. As he also wanted to please Poppa, the struggle was leading inevitably to a bloody Armageddon, & you weren't getting any letter. That last attempt seemed a reasonably good compromise. So I say, I hope & am pretty assured, that you cast a favorable paternal eye on it.

We'll probably be getting some translations from French to English soon - I hope so. It will not be dull work (I'll do most of it, & type it) and we can get 30 or 40 francs a page - enormous pay.

I must put on the tea for Angel Pie's supper, as it's nearing midnight. I'm enjoying Abe Lincoln in Ill., though I could have screamed at Robert Sherwood's² ridiculous letter to Time of a few weeks ago. Sucker for propaganda is he! Love to you & Helen - Me

¹ November 11: Armistice Day, memorial to the end of World War I in 1918. This date probably brought fears that "The Great War" was not, after all "the war to end all wars."

F-23

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² **Robert Emmet Sherwood** (4 April 1896 – 14 November 1955) was an American playwright, editor, and screenwriter. ... Sherwood is credited with originating the phrase which came to be shortened as the 'arsenal of democracy' and later used by Franklin Roosevelt in his speeches. Sherwood had been quoted on May 12, 1940 by the *New York Times*, 'this country is already, in effect, an arsenal for the democratic Allies.'" From "Robert E. Sherwood", *Wikipedia*. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_E._Sherwood (Accessed 2014-07-28)

Papal dispensation & indulgence. Boo to him.
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us, daddy dear. It must have been a typographical
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