

Dear Daddy:-

Monday afternoon
(1933-12-11)
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I was very glad to get your letter last Saturday. Of course, I was a little surprised about the check, as you probably know by now that Mother had already sent one. I think I am going to need the \$10 extra to take care of a few Christmas gifts I am going to buy here before I come home. Another thing: The ticket agent tells me that the rates for a short period round-trip have been reduced, now being a fare and a ninth. If I ~~had~~ bought a round-trip ticket here now, and used ^{next summer} the return that I have already left from last summer, I would save about \$5.00. Then if I send my trunk home next summer I will already have a ticket to Newark, which will be wasted if I use it this vacation. On the other, I may have a chance to ride back to school with Rolly Wilson, of Columbus, although he is not sure that he will be driving back. If you could advise me whether or not you think this buying another ticket now is a good idea, I will be glad. Either you or Mother, will have to write right away, as I will buy the ticket next Monday.

So far I haven't decided whether I will start home Monday the 18th or Tuesday. I will find out for sure Wednesday about the arrangement of some work, and then will write you a brief note saying when I am coming. If Mother does not plan to meet me in Columbus please let me know at once, as in that case if will use the return ticket I hold, as it has a stub for Newark. You remember that it is good either now, or for Spring vacation, or for summer. I expect to bring some books home with me and do some reading over the vacation, which extends to Jan. 9, longer than most schools.

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I am certainly glad to hear that you have been getting some business from the government. It's a good thing that these programs are doing somebody good, anyway. I have thought over your suggestion of writing to Mayor Martin, but I think you were right when you thought it would be rather late. If I had ever met Martin it would be different, but as I haven't, and since it is pretty late, I think I might as well let it go. I am going to see Mr. Lawyer this vacation, and I am going to congratulate him on the election as well as talk about the job. Rudy told me about the Claggett situation last ~~year~~ summer, and I am certainly going to make a stab at the Examiners, but I don't know whether I will be able to pass it or not. A scholar's ~~life~~ life isn't particularly good physically, as I seldom have any time to do any exercise. The swimming pool is open in the evening, and this makes it particularly hard for me to find time to do any practicing. Nevertheless, I am going to make a special effort at the first of next semester, before the hour exams and papers start, as I will have more time then. None of my friends ever use the pool, so I never have anyone to go with. And another thing: the tests aren't given until Spring, so I won't know for a long time whether I am going to get it or not. Anyway, I am going to take the course, and if I don't pass I will at least have the training.

I am certainly sorry to hear that you hurt yourself working at the farm, and I hope it is all right now. I wish you wouldn't work so strenuously, as it certainly doesn't pay when you have a doctor's bill to pay. I am also glad to see that Janie's grades have come up so much. I am not surprised, tho, as I thought she could do it. The first year is always hard to get started in. I sure is a good thing that Alva Waltan has a good job now that his father has gone. Well, by this time next week I will be almost ready to start. Much love to all.

William

