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Margaret to Jim, 7 December 1959

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Dec. 7th, 1959

Dear Jim:-

Before another day passes, I'm
going to get off a letter to you. I've intended
writing for the past month & one thing or
another has interfered. You know how that is,
I'm sure.

Wanted to straighten out the
matter about the review of some book or
other (forgotten how) which you thought you
sent you. It was a nice thought, but you
I should know he'd never get around to anything
like that. It was Jane Huey (who is John
Johnson's secretary - and efficiency personified)
you had mentioned it to her & she was responsible;
not Ben York. I thought I'd better straighten
you out. Jane bought the book (by Daniels)
and just returned it. York has been exposed,
but I'm sure would never forsake the newspaper
& current news magazine to pursue it further.
I will wrap & mail it back to you one of these
days soon.

Some time ago I had a letter from
Henry enclosing these clippings that he said to
send on to you. Don't ask me why, but here they
are. Seldom hear from him, but York does.
I'd be near being the stock - he's settled so
involved selling it. I mean involved in the

legal aspects - sending & signing papers etc.
He was even so distraught he called you one
morning. Honestly you'd think he hadn't a dime -
I can see what you mean about his making
money & investments his goal in life. He's
after you continually to get things settled
so he can have the money. As a matter of fact
just an estate - at least in this state - isn't
supposed to be settled before seven months.
I think you're quite disgusted - and I can
hardly blame him. He's made him a lot of
extra work - & so needless. It's as though he
doesn't trust anybody with anything belonging
to him. You know you've got plenty of faults
but his integrity could never be challenged.
As a matter of fact he's fanatically honest. I
kiss him about it. He made some copies (on
some machine he has at the office) of mass
for Kane & paid the county for the paper
(Some special kind) he used! Did I even tell
you the classic thing he pulled during the war?
We were riding, with another couple, from
Carmel to Indio, Calif. & you had given the
fellow some ration coupons. I think it bothered
him to do that - in fact it was evident, because

When we stopped to get gas (in the middle of nowhere) Jack explained to the filling station attendant that the coupons were not issued for that car! You may remember that the ration tickets were not supposed to be transferable. It would have served him right if the fellow had accepted them & we'd have been stuck in the ~~street~~ desert (not the desert!)

Well, I've sign off. When I get to writing (luckily not too often) I never seem to know when to stop. I'm kind of like an old shoe - all worn out but the tongue.

Oh yes, I almost forgot to say Jack & I have are buying a new house; hope to be in by Christmas. Real estate is certainly cheaper in the south - this is a brand new place - brick with 2 bedrooms, pine paneled den, modern kitchen (with even a copper overhang over the stove) 1 1/2 baths. All this for \$12,500. They will finance it thru the L.N.A. & pay \$800 per month, which includes taxes, insurance & interest. I have had them over their finance (Thank Heaven) and they - or I should say she -

has paid up their bills & saved money towards
a down payment on the house. Jack's
company is giving him a \$200⁰⁰ bonus.
The house, incidentally, is in Anderson so
it will be easier to resell than in a
small place like Asheville.

The Marsh's are leaving the 19th
to spend the holidays with the kids. Some
week I were going along. They invited all
of us, but Koneu wouldn't think of leaving
home during the vacation. (Too many parties)
and Jack wouldn't think of leaving at any
time.

Have a few remembrances for your
kids for Xmas which I see set off soon.
They are strictly remembrances - give them
an extra package to open.

What do you hear from Bill and
where is he? I see let home will never look
better than it will this Christmas.

Love to all,

Margaret