

May 29th

Dear Ones,

Today's mail brought an Alumni Bulletin and a couple of BB Monthlies, the Center Bulletin, a package from the Osgoods (I wonder where they got the request - I just dropped them a V-mail) the book "Try and Stop Me" and a flock of Press Herald's. I skipped the movie tonight even though it is Guest in the House which is supposed to be good; the volleyball game was pretty good and I feel fairly tired. The Bulletin was the opening gun of the Campaign, and I must say Mother that you are the only one of the group who knows how to take a picture - or don't I rate as impartial?!!

May 30th

Memorial day. Your letter of the 11th was tops, Toots - when I read your reflections on your current position in Portland, there was no doubt in my mind but that your mind works in ways similar to mine. You expressed yourself with logic and clarity, and I think with good sense and judgment. It is unfortunate that in Portland you are unable to find a ready made and balanced social group which suited for you - the result is that you must find your own balance, between the extremes of Liz and the sorority. It is not the best way to get to meet the good and bad in people and how to get along with both and with yourself, but you are certainly mastering its difficulties; I am glad that you are able to take the petty annoyances and lack of consideration in stride. The point is - and I mean this - that the fault is not with you, but with the others. If you are good natured in an ill-natured group and suffer because of it, it does not mean that you should sink to the other level to get along. Keep you chin up, Toots - and continue your good work in school. And, of course, write to me as you like and when you feel like it - I do want to hear from you and discuss these things with you.

I was a little surprised at the news of Bob De Wolfe's souring because of a case; I haven't heard from "The Judge" for some time now - he used to write with some regularity. Perhaps I will drop him a harmless V-mail word of greeting and see what cooks if he replies as I think he will. I was sorry that Bobby Abrams did not win admission to Harvard - he has a lot of obstacles to overcome especially at this time of war (in additions to coming from the Metropolitan Boston district.) (I think you are right that Louis Epstein will enjoy that - it is human, not necessarily a mean streak, to feel better when someone who has always been thrown up at you as an example of excellence fails to make the grade.) If Bobby does well at Tufts and still wants to go to Harvard he should not have much trouble - does Uncle Joe have any sort of usable connections at School? Aunt Anne had written to me about Robert Zimman - I don't know whether it is better to cling to the slim offering of hope or to know the worst. In that regard, I need no reminders to know how fortunate I am.

The editor from Indianapolis may be ready to concede the victory of Silver, but I doubt if Wise is. I certainly wish that a clear cut agreement could be reached - the current indefinite status is of no advantage to us. I am glad the Harvard Fund got the check - sending a note of acknowledge is certainly a finished touch.

There is not much special news - the weather is still predominantly cool, and it is cloudy rather than sunny. The Cerf book is quite good - there are chuckles on every page even though few of the jokes and anecdotes are new; I see that the TIMES crosswords have not become any easier although I did manage to do the one you sent as well as the double acrostic below. I have often wondered how you go about preparing an original crossword - I have tried, but there must be some trick to it, besides having a Webster full of nothing but rare and obsolete words and names to help you out when the combinations are seemingly impossible. And that is about it for now -

All my love,



Regards to Doris.