

July 25, 1955

Dear Ash:

I've noticed your name and address being flaunted about the office now for several days, so without hesitation I embark upon a letter.

News from home: A terrific thunder and lightening storm last night that set several fires in Yakima; a downpour of rain that clogged the Walnut street underpass and destruction by lightening and fire of an asphalt plant in East Selah.

Warm again today, more thunderstorms in prospect.

Office news: Herald's new ME, Ulla Bauer now on duty; M. Helland on vacation will head up Valley work. Jerry Tornoy (Spelling?) on duty for Herald writing farm. He comes from Pendleton. Bauer comes from Coos Bay and used to work with Executive Editor Carson at Santa Rosa. Sam Churchill working on farm news. Nothing been heard of what Bob Kull is doing. Reports heard that Hansen will begin public relations work for Great Northern and will move to Seattle. Jackie Burns getting ready to head for France; Sally Clark going to Seattle Times in a month or so; Virginia going to Seattle to take over Rosalie's work there at the YWCA; she going to Olympia where Ray has some kind of a court job; John Haigh on vacation, went to Minneapolis by train with his family; Tom Thomas getting ready to go; Melander back from vacation (?) in California... but I suppose most of this is old news to you by now. Anyway it may verify former reports. And, I don't know how much I've missed.

Saw your dad and mother the other night in the lobby at Hotel C where I went to Yakima Tribal dinner given as washup to honor those who had helped with centennial. Hovis not there, but Neibell was there. He and wife (he married his secretary before coming out to Yakima) attended.

I'm enclosing an advance circular of the book which is being scheduled for spring publication. And in that connection could you do me the favor of checking the phone book and coming up with addresses of the following: The Old Corner Book Store, DeWolfe and Fish Company and The Personal Book Shop. It has been suggested (By Goodspeed's) that they might handle a new book like that. Maxtons is so limited by help that I'm moving in and making contacts with dealers, giving dealer discounts etc. and forwarding orders to them! I whack out a dozen or so letters every night and my home corner is taking on the aspects of a real office. The funny thing about it is that they are responding. I get from four to 15 letters a day, correspondence relating thereto.

I suppose by now you have re-acquired the "accent" and that your daughter is speaking Bostonian fluently. I hope that Mrs. B. is able to continue to put up with you, and my best regards to all three of you.