

for art or a profession rather worked on him. And he has great ambitions to have something in his own right. Frankly, I believe that he will do it. But I did not want to inflate his ego and make it easy for him to purchase a house because he was not satisfied in the beginning to purchase a house that his means would enable him to pay for. But after a period of two or three weeks his philosophical tendencies have brought him around and I believe that with his tenacity and indefatigable energy he will put this thing over. In six months if he is quite successful he will get a raise. People who meet him and tell me about him express an opinion that he is old for his years. But to Papa and Mama who have lived with the young man - they might not be impressed that he has been too old for his years all these years.

But I am pleased, Mary, I am pleased beyond measure with his growth since he has arrived. I think when a parent helps a child, even though his child is pursuing a study and that child isn't earning much of the money, the child has a tendency to take things too lightly. When the child begins to earn his own money and depend entirely upon himself then there is a great growth, or a deterioration, that takes place. Either a lack of confidence, or a consciousness of successful effort that acts as a stimulus will make an individual respond like a high-gearred dynamo.

Now I have written far too much, but here's the point that I am finally getting to. Mother told me over the phone this morning when I called her for your California address, that she had saved this money up to hike out to California to see your dream cottage. I am wondering if you, Pete, Hoot and Jane could send her a wire and offer to pay her railroad fare to California. Of course, I will pay the fare, but she told me that she was planning to come to see you and had saved this money for that purpose. Now I am not sure that she will spend her money for this trip, but I would suggest that you figure up what the railroad fare is, round trip, and then send her a wire stating that you will purchase a ticket, or wire her the money for the ticket if she will come. I doubt if she will do it, but anyhow it will give her a big thrill.

You just can't pull her away from 801 Louisiana. Now if she would ever get wind of this that I was planning she would shoot me, so whatever you do, keep the secret among you four. I will watch the happenings with a good deal of interest. This housing situation, together with the fact that she thinks she forced Mit and Isabel out of her own house under the normal business-line transaction of leasing it to Mr. Purcell, has got her goat. She is so nervous she can almost fly to California. And she loves to ride on a train! If I were to make a proposition to her she would tell me I didn't have the money.

I told her over the phone this morning when she said she expected to go to California to see you people but that paying for this house had used up all her money, that any time she was tired of her bargain she could sell some of our bonds and turn the bond money into the house and restore her own money. But she is a fine business woman