

April 23rd. 1924.

Dear Etoile

What sort of an old bum are you to buy and sell property, take on new jobs etc without in anyway telling me about it. Are you afraid to have me know how much you are making for fear I shall want to borrow it? Well anyway I am very glad that your deal was a success and I hope it will not tend to make you less careful next time. It is better to make a little and keep on making than to take too big a plunge and lose.

I think it is just fine however, with your bonus check and your profit on the house and what you will make during the few weeks you will be teaching, will give you a good year's wages anyway and you will have half a year left to spend it in. I don't think you have treated us right, however, in not coming down to see us, altho the noise of the children might set you crazy. That's why I am on the bum.

Have lately had a good letter from Grace and two from Julia but you are tongue tied so can't help it. On the 18th we remembered little mother's grave and planted some blooming hyacinths, A lovely purple one and an equally beautiful white one with perhaps a dozen blossoms altogether. We have also planted peonias so if it is not too dry this summer things will be very pretty.

We have not had a rain here for more than a month, which is unusual for this time of year. Previous to that it had been very wet. So far crops are not suffering altho they will soon be needing rain.

Dolph had his tonsils out last Friday and is getting along well. He is thinner than he has been for years. Weighs only a little more than 150. I think he will now take on more weight. He expects to spend the summer with the Associated Press in Chicago. John Louis is getting along fine and we hope will be greatly bettered by his operation of some weeks ago when a part of the septum was taken out and an opening made into the left antrum.

Things look very pretty out home. Blanche will come with her family this week to make Lawrence her home and expects the stock next month. Pat will become the head of the job department and I hope will increase the volume of work to a much larger figure altho our volume of job printing for 1923 was larger than the total volume of work, newspaper and all for 1914, the last year Brady was with me. Don't put off writing too long. Lots of love from your old brother

Collin