

Monday

Feb. 13, 1967

Dear Marjorie:

Let me break the embargo just long enough to say that I got the new batch of pictures and the two letters sent since your vacation presumably began. Thank you very very much but you really ought to shake it all out of your mind for a couple of weeks. It hasn't been very nice of me to keep at you so. I must say in passing that I like the writing sample you sent to me and also the semi example. At the moment I am reading a biography of the 20's in which some attention is given to automatic writing along with dadaism and surrealism. It is oh so cold here now. Last night it was 35 below zero if you can imagine anything that cold. Even in Michigan's upper lower peninsula it rarely gets that cold so I doubt if your memories can encompass what we are going through now. Although from reading the old clips of the Petoskey Evening News for 1919 I found that the winter that year was one of the snowiest and coldest on record.

Late news: Scribners is coming out with a new book May 29 entitled Byline: Hemingway. There will be 29 pieces of Toronto journalism included, covering the period from 1920 through winter of 1923. I learned this from the book editor of the Toronto Star and a former Canadian Woolworth Store executive who worked for Mr. Connable, a Mr. Ernest Smith. They tell me Hem was known as Hemmy in those days, which is a new one to me. On one occasion, I was told, Hemingway went to a dance clad in Smith's full dress tails but wearing mocassins. D. Connable had told me, apparently, of the same dance, saying she always remembered Hem's look of insecurity as he came into the room (as proof of his humility in those days). In view of the mocassins, however, one can understand the insecurity in a slightly different light. All of these people make the point that they never knew Hemingway the celebrity. Smith says Hem had lost some of his unspoiled quality when he came back from Paris in 1923 so that Hadley could have her baby and that the general feeling was that he felt Toronto was a hick town. Nevertheless, some still noticed his naivete. I do think it is a Hemingway characteristic to get tired of everybody and everything, as I have said before, including wives and, finally, lives. Incidentally, on one occasion that Hem went out panhandling, Mr. Connable senior went out with him dressed as a bum. As you say, one was left to one's own initiative more in those days in so far as entertainment was concerned.

The best to you until after the
new year's truce,

Monday

Feb. 13, 1967

Dear Marjorie:

Let me break the embargo just long enough to say that I got the new batch of pictures and the two letters sent since your vacation presumably began. Thank you very very much but you really ought to shake it all out of your mind for a couple of weeks. It hasn't been very nice of me to keep at you so. I must say in passing that I like the writing sample you sent to me and also the semi example. At the moment I am reading a biography of the 20's in which some attention is given to automatic writing along with dadaism and surrealism. It is oh so cold here now. Last night it was 35 below zero if you can imagine anything that cold. Even in Michigan's upper lower peninsula it rarely gets that cold so I doubt if your memories can encompass what we are going through now. Although from reading the old clips of the Petoskey Evening News for 1919 I found that the winter that year was one of the snowiest and coldest on record.

Late news: Scribners is coming out with a new book May 29 entitled Byline: Hemingway. There will be 29 pieces of Toronto journalism included, covering the period from 1920 through winter of 1923. I learned this from the book editor of the Toronto Star and a former Canadian Woolworth Store executive who worked for Mr. Connable, a Mr. Ernest Smith. They tell me Hem was known as Hemmy in those days, which is a new one to me. On one occasion, I was told, Hemingway went to a dance clad in Smith's full dress tails but wearing mocassins. D. Connable had told me, apparently, of the same dance, saying she always remembered Hem's look of insecurity as he came into the room (as proof of his humility in those days). In view of the mocassins, however, one can understand the insecurity in a slightly different light. All of these people make the point that they never knew Hemingway the celebrity. Smith says Hem had lost some of his unspoiled quality when he came back from Paris in 1923 so that Hadley could have her baby and that the general feeling was that he felt Toronto was a hick town. Nevertheless, some still noticed his naivete. I do think it is a Hemingway characteristic to get tired of everybody and everything, as I have said before, including wives and, finally, lives. Incidentally, on one occasion that Hem went out panhandling, Mr. Connable senior went out with him dressed as a bum. As you say, one was left to one's own initiative more in those days in so far as entertainment was concerned.

The best to you until after the
new year's truce,