

December 27, 1960

Dearest Shirley:

I was ever so pleasantly surprised by your call from Mrs. Neagee last week. She has already sent me some reviews of her husband's books and I shall see what there is.

Time goes by quickly. It is almost a year since our visit to Sarasota. I did not expect that it would take this long to get to where we are going. But the time was necessary. It has been in the last six months or so that I've been able to make the necessary contacts. By the time Dick is through with our SEC filing, all should be much easier than it would have been. Easier, but not easy. It never is, it never will be.

As for the Doctor's Wife, after considerable soul searching I cannot ^{force} myself to hold you to any agreement with me if it is not in your own best interests. On that you alone are the judge. You know what is best for you. Your first duty is toward yourself, your family, your own survival. I had hoped that I could help you realize that duty; but I am no longer in a position to judge. You are there and I am here and it is impossible for me to know your situation as it really is.

The financial situation is simple. We cannot possibly disperse any money until the public offering is subscribed to. And I have long explained to you the state of my own personal finances. So that leaves us where we started. If only I could say something else. But what good would it do ~~xx~~ not to face the situation as it is.

As I wrote to you previously, I hope the Spring will see us well on our way. In any case, the next few months will be exciting ones. In a way having had to wait so long has somewhat taken the kick out of this; but I know that I shall feel differently once ~~xx~~ the setting changes.

Otherwise the world situation is what bothers me more than anything else. It is so obvious, if you know how to read your newspaper, that the West is headed for really stormy weather, and I don't think we are at all prepared for what it going to come. Kennedy is taking his sweet time and giving no inkling at all that he knows what's going on in the world; Adlai will press for disarmament, which is just a Soviet trick to keep our minds off the war which is actually going on; we shall be caught in a Pearl Harbor the likes of which this country will never see again, for we shall simply not survive to see it. The atmosphere smells like 1938.

Sorry for this pessimistic letter. Business is good, however.

Keep smiling, love,

Best to Sam & Judy