

MALTY
March 10, 1954
2001 Los Amigos
La Canada, Calif.
Sylvan 0-3877

Dear Albert:

We have, after hectic adventures, arrived. And after a long and painful search, we have found, for the sum of two hundred bucks, an immense old house on the top of a high hill in the center of a dark forest. It will always be dirty, but it has plenty of space for our furniture, work room for me, and acreage for the children.

I have sampled the waters here briefly, and have reason to believe I shall be able to earn a living. In fact, I have already made an encouraging start in that direction---the first earned money to come into the treasury in some time. People here seem generally well, and in good condition. Friend Joe has suffered some severe setbacks lately, and the democrats are fighting in fair form. Many of our old friends have given up writing entirely, and turned to other lines of work. None is getting rich, some are actually suffering, but by and large an adjustment is being made. I noted, with keen interest, Phil Dunne's picture in the paper the other day accepting an award for some biblical film he wrote.

My ~~fixes~~ checking here seems to indicate that the producer who bought that thing about which you have the papers, will delay production until later. Hence all that may be expected on May 25 is \$1500, with the same sum every three months thereafter until the \$7500 is paid off. Thirty percent comes off the top for other persons, but still you can expect something in excess of a grand on May 25, and the remaining two grand before the year is out. I presume the papers got to you ok. George has his copies, so everything can be quickly arranged for the transfer once the stuff comes through. Again, thanks for being so nice about it.

I am going to work like hell for two or three months to get back on my economic feet, and after that try your trick of apportioning a certain time to Christ and a certain to Caesar. I saw Ben the other night, and sure enough---! Just as you had anticipated. However, without any ill feeling. He is practicing, for the first time, some regular law, and making money, which is pleasant to see.

This is one of about twenty letters I am cramming in today, which explains its brevity. Our best to all of you. We bleed for that sixty-five cent rum!