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DENVER
FEB 24
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1943
COLO.



VIA AIR MAIL

①. Mr. Miller & I ought to
really get along well. The clouds clear again
and the skies are blue. P.S. if I weren't so damned busy
just then I would have been plenty lousome too.

Dr. O. Donald Cheiman

Surgical III

Boston City Hospital

Boston

Massachusetts.

night.

Dear Don,

Thank heavens ^{that} ~~if~~ I haven't gotten word from you confirming the week-end plan. It seems I spoke too soon and my departure from here is not imminent. Mr. Miller, my section-head in Washington, arrived Monday & informed me I was either to be sent to Dallas or to be brought back to Washington to take my direct supervisor's place, if he is drafted. In any case, however, I have to stay out here for another ten days while they decide which. I think I know how you'll feel in the Navy.

As a matter of fact he was very nice about it - the committee I've worked under here are rather enthusiastic about what I've done & he wants me to stay here as long as possible. The Dallas job would really be marvelous - a study of spheres of industrial influence in the south west, and I'd be working under one of our most brilliant people. He added, that if I went, I was to go via El Paso so I could see the country! The Washington prospect is a little more frightening. I would have to more or less supervise the work of the three people with whom, up to now, I have been working. Rather ticklish in any case & made rather more difficult by the fact

I'm the youngest. So you see you apparently caught 2.
on before I did - I was sent out here for a
definite reason - it's fun to be at the point where
one's job is growing, and you must grow to
keep up with it.

Furthermore, Don, I discovered Sunday that I
came very close to being taken in rather completely.
I had dinner with Morris Quensy & his wife -
an old student of Daddy's, now at the Univ. of
Colorado, works on the Project. I told him about the
offer the other men had made me & he was
furious. He said they had no right to offer me
such a salary. He also revealed to me the fact
that the University of Denver is backed by money
from Bonfils & The Denver Post (a perfectly
terrible paper) & that The Bureau, for which I
would be working, is merely a front for the
local business interests! What really upsets me
is that I have so little ability to see the whole
thing - I walk into ~~the~~ it with both
eyes wide open & see nothing wrong, - when, if
I had been at all clever, I would have
understood. I felt like a naive Alice in
Wonderland.

If I do get sent to Dallas it will
be only for a couple of months. I told Mr. Miller

That it was of the utmost importance I be in Washington in May. If I figure rightly the you would be coming to Hopkins between May 1 & 7th. Mr. Miller was very understanding, and promised me I could come back whenever it was necessary. Because I ~~have been~~ will have been out here so long, I think he will be rather lenient about my taking leave at that time & I will be able to take a day off when you are off - even if it's a week-day. If you will be coming to Hopkins some then May for heavens sake don't forget to say so. (My letters seem to be full of these two-month-old prognostications & speculations. I suppose one isn't a post-war planner for nothing -).

May I tell you something else, Don? Mr. Miller seemed really quite pleased with me. He felt I'd gained from my experience in poise & understanding, and that I was a lot ~~more~~ ^{more} mature & sure of myself. It was really marvelous - he & Mr. MacLaughlin, chief of our Industrial Location Section, took me out to dinner & treated me as a contemporary & an equal - instead of Junior Staff. MacLaughlin was fascinating - he has worked on the Plant

Site Board which ~~was~~ checks on the location of new war plants. Apparently our friend R. J. Kaiser has delighted in flouting all advice offered & has been using his government funds to experiment with. His location of the steel plant in Southern California is one of the reasons for the Transportation tie-up on the West Coast.

In other words - individualism run wild, looking marvelous in the papers, contribution, little to the real need. His 3 cargo planes are being built when he wants to build them, which means they will have to be dismantled, carried across Los Angeles, reassembled in a larger plant near a large field & finally, flown. All this in the face of acute need!

Another interesting discussion went on with reference to post-war uses of these war plants. He had talked to various DuPont, aircraft, steel and other people. Despite the fact DuPont & its branches have built, with government funds, factories all across the West. Their top men say they will consider using none in the post-war period East of Chicago. With the west? "Close them down." Their arms plant here occupies some 300-400 acres of land.

It was really tremendously challenging, - but
 depressing. They both feel that with the reaction
 setting in, as it has, so early in the war-period,
 there is no chance to avoid the conditions of
 the 1920's - Miller says he thinks it will take
 another crash to finally awaken the American
 people. It seems a tragic waste of several
 generations.

I am rather exhausted from living in the centre
 of such excitement for five days - and from
 having three two-hour conferences per day on top of
 it.

Funny, despite it all I feel lonely for the first
 time. I think I was rather counting on seeing you, if
 not within ten days, at least relatively soon. I won't
 know for a week or so what they intend to do
 with me - when I do I'll let you know -

Tll. r. am.