

February 21, 1944.

Mr. Paul Whiteman,
The Blue Network,
RCA Building, Radio City,
New York 20, N.Y.

Dear Mr. P.W:

Your letter of the 16th received, advising that Mr. Cubelin had completely renovated the old fireless cooker, changed the oil, ground the valves and had everything fixed except new tires and that you hoped by next fall the old threshing machine would be in good enough shape so that I could harvest some black-eyed pease with it; further that if I should raise a good crop that you would come down and help eat them. The last part of this message is the most exciting part - that is having you down with us and, as you say, nothing is better eating than black-eyed pease with a good piece of sowbelly properly seasoning them.

Frankly, I had forgotten all about leaving the watch with you, but as long as we are on the subject, I hope you will not consider it amiss in my telling you that while it was one of the nicest presents I have ever received, that I was and am still tickled pink with the beautiful watch with my name emblazoned in diamonds on the face thereof which you presented to me on my fifty-seventh birthday and for which I realize you no doubt paid a fancy price, you might tell the manufacturer of this time piece that it has caused me nothing but trouble for the past seven years. The winding key has been almost impossible to work, the crystal has never fit the case and the face of the watch soon becomes covered with dust and dirt which sifts underneath the crystal and the damn thing loses time consistently. So, taking it all in all, outside of the sentiment which prompted you to provide me with an exquisite present of this kind the damn thing has not been as dependable as an ordinary Ingersoll or Elgin watch. Therefore, while the watch is under observation and inspection you might tell them all of these various ailments. The ol' boy

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has been doctored from time to time and I have probably spent over a hundred bucks trying to make it run and keep accurate time. Nevertheless, I would not trade the watch for anything I know of, but seriously I would appreciate having them place it in tip-top shape.

My thanks to you and with best love to you and Margaret, I am

Sincerely,

AGC:KD