

From Harry S. Truman to Bess W. Truman, June 28, 1935

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[Washington, D.C.] June 28, 1935

Dear Bess:

This is the day sixteen years ago that I made a plunge and took a chance for which I have been a better man. My only regret is that it was not done ten years sooner. I hope Red Sands did his duty today. You really don't deserve a letter or a telegram or any flowers. I only got a postcard and an answering telegram.

I am going to punish you by not mailing this until tomorrow morning. I have found time to think of you and write you every day. I wonder if you are now or ever have been sorry you did it on June 28, 1919. You see you have been married to a financial failure and the reason for that is that I have al-

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ways believed in doing as I'd be done by, and to make money and keep it you must be a pirate or strike an oil well or a gold mine. Had I not been a fool patriot in 1917, I'd had the oil well. And maybe would have turned pirate and been successful. I am hoping to make a reputation as a Senator, though if I live long enough that'll make the money successes look like cheese. But you'll have to put up with a lot if I do it because I won't sell influence and I'm perfectly willing to be cussed if I'm right.

I've never had but one golden-haired, blue-eyed sweetheart and she's still the same blue-eyed, but now maybe silver-haired, sweetheart and just as perfect and as beautiful as I dreamed of when

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I was ten and twelve and sixteen.

I am at the flat writing this at four-thirty. The Senate recessed at five-thirty yesterday to Monday. I could have made the New York trip but didn't do it because Harrison invited me to a meeting at Kennedy's house at seven o'clock this evening. Kennedy runs the Securities Commission and I ought to know him.

I told the girls they needn't come back tomorrow but I think they are coming any way. They treat me just like you do.

Hopkins asked me to come by his office on my way home and he showed

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me a letter where my good friend Mrs. Mary Edna [illegible] had asked all the people in the employment office in St. Louis to contribute to the Democratic Campaign fund. She'd sent 'em a circular letter--a penitentiary offence. You know I spent the better part of my time as Employment Director keeping her in good here in Washington. She's overturned the apple cart sure enough now. Hopkins and Miss Perkins wanted me to fix it up and I guess I'll have to do it.

You should be glad you're home--it's hot as blazes here--but I wish you were here. I hope I get more than a post card tomorrow. Messall said he'd bring the dish home before Sunday. Bud said he'd have me to dinner next week.

Jane's getting me a frame for your picture and Catherine's sending you hairnets. I'll find something for Mildred to do next time.

Kiss Margie, love to you, Harry