BEACH PROPERTIES — RANCHES — COMMERCIAL — RESIDENTIAL

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8-1-74

Dear Mr. & Mrs Elsdon.

Just a note re- Bert's Condition.
He had been growing steadily weaker this week but would seem to regain a little appetite, then a bad day following, so I could see we were constantly losing ground.
Wednesday ~~Thursday~~ I made an appointment for 8:15 this A.M. with the same Dr. in Arroyo Grande, and convinced Bert that we had to do it. I took him out in the Bronco at 8:00 and transferred him into our good car which has a reclining seat for the trip. He was in such bad shape from the ordeal of crawling out the trail and the trip that the Dr was shocked and thought he should go right into the hospital. I told the Dr. that he was not this bad at the cabin, and after he examined his vital signs he agreed that Bert had to be

built up before he could undergo any testing and with medication he felt he could recuperate at home as well as in the hospital (knowing Bert he could not stand the Hospital unless he was in complete collapse as he is very nervous and ~~sensitive~~ sensitive as you know).

I filled 2 prescriptions, one for pain, one for prednisone, and he was given a shot at the office. By the time we were halfway home he wanted to drink some V8 juice that I got for him. We had a bad time getting him back over the trail but after he was settled and made comfortable, he remarked that he felt better than ever. I left him at 10:00 and went back this evening and was amazed! He came to the door a different person. He had color, no pain and said he ate a sandwich & made for him, and was drinking his little assortment of juices. His appetite was so bad Wednesday that he asked me to taste his drinking water thinking something was wrong with it. I am greatly encouraged by this turn for the better, and feel that if he can eat again and get relief from the pain, he will get strong enough for a complete exam in a week or two. It was gratifying to leave him in such good spirits tonight, and I only hope he continues an upward trend. I am going to try and build him a recliner of sorts so he can spend more time sitting up now that the pain is arrested, and will watch him morning & night for a few days. I will keep you posted. Regards N. Smith