

Columbus, Ohio
Dec. 1, 1976

Dear Dan and Aletha,

Thanks for your Thanksgiving remembrance. During the day, a quiet one with the Bierleys, I thought of the Lambert reunions we used to have on the last Thursday of November. And the other Harris get together on New Years. Also some warm memories of New Years with the Stacys at Wellington.

I am faced with two major problems:

1) After some clinical examination, Dr. Jack Taylor, urologist, has assigned me to University Hospital on Dec. 7, with some surgery on Dec. 8, with perhaps 5 days hospital. Convalescence is unpredictable, but I have asked for December vacation -- (attendance for music lessons is very low in that month).

The difficulty: bladder retention. X-rays show average prostatic enlargement, with light tags or dams at the outlet. They expect to operate via the lesser TUR (trans-urethral-resection) which means they will use a gadget that does in like a catheter and snips off little obstructions. They've found that I have a small diameter urethra, sort of predisposing me to the problem, but they say the equipment and procedure will work, with no complication foreseen.

I have Social Security Hospital and Med; also Ohio Teacher retirement System Aetna insurance, 100% coverage. No apparent financial problem.

2) Paul Zubrod, owner of Gahanna Music Center, has decided to go out of business. He has suffered financial losses for 3 years. That means I have about 50 students with no studio beginning January. There is a potential new owner to keep going, but everything is uncertain, except that Zubrod will leave the operation.

As for the holiday trip and visit, it seems questionable. With the avalanche of Orange Bowl flights, maybe I better just sit right here and recuperate. I have been approached by two Columbus studios to join them, plus another in Grove City, so that situation is not overcritical, tho rough on ~~xx~~ the Gahanna families.

Plan to have a warm, beautiful Christmas and holiday.

With love,

DICK

No
EMERGENCY,
but
advised
by physician.