

Ellis - wife of

New Waverly, Texas

April 20, 1945

Dr. A. Ellis (Society)
U.T.

Dear Mary:

"Heavy showers" have interfered with my plans and my feelings. So I was glad to have -- in your letter and enclosure --- an excuse to loiter at the typewriter and gossip with you. I will bring you the Key Reporter when I come next week. And I am ashamed to say I have some other things to return then that should have gone back to Dr. Ellis before now. 00000!

Marion will have reported to you what fine meetings on Dumbarton Oaks Lillian and Margaret have put on. Now they are angling for an invitation to take the troupe out to Coleman. Both ladies made the front page of the Houston Post (the Chicago Tribune of the Southwest). Now Margaret's local paper has offered her a full page spread, and will afford reprints. It is thrilling how these gals work. Lillian's local paper had given her talk to the Sunday school on the Proposals full coverage -- a column on the front page and two and a half on and inside sheet. They are great citizens.

About Dr. Rainey and the Press and being "wise". I think when the Press is against you they hem you in with questions and then give whatever slant they choose to your replies. You do not have a chance to be wise. Personally I think your best bet then is to be bold -- not cautious. But each one of us has to do it as best his reaction to danger inspires him. I really think Rainey is doing all right.

It maybe that Parton is tied up to Bobbitt. That pledge may have been the price he paid for Bobbitt's breaking loose temporarily and as vice president of the Exes forcing the fighting. And Bobbitt is trying to hold that horse and capture another which he had rather have -- the Federal Judge-

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ship left vacant by the death of Judge Keeling. That may be good politics. But it is poor citizenship. No important office should be left open right now. Nor should there be any uncertainty on the part of the public that the leaders are going to fight the University battle clear through to the finish. I am sure that is both good politics and good citizenship. So I have taken my stance here : If Rainey runs I am supporting him, if he does not I am running myself !

Moreover I am steadily promoting my " slate". Namely Rainey for Governor; Metcalfe for Lt.Governor; Yarborough for Attorney Gen'l; and Wright Patman for US Senator. And I have steadily increased the number of adherants to my banner. God help me if Penrose ever catches me ! I bet he will beat me up. But Yarborough (now in France) knows about it and is pleased. And Rainey knows about it. And Wright Patman may know about it and hasn't killed me yet.

Really I suppose the ones who will actually kill me are Tom Miller, Lyndon Johnson (and whoever is behind them to make them "tick") and Tom Connally. Well let 'em. I've been killed by better men than them, and it didn't hurt me at all. So there.

Margaret and I plan to meet in Brenham Tuesday afternoon and fetch up in Austin that evening or sooner. I am looking forward with temerity to the coming meeting. Not the meeting of the women, but the resignation of the poor little Jane. I hope it will not be too hard on her to retire. It is certainly the devil when your strength will not take you every where you want to go and you have never had a doctor who knows how to teach you to discipline yourself so you could go part of the way and enjoy that, but not fret over the rest.

Love to you

MFC