

42, EAST 75 ST.

Feb. 14. 1926

Dear Ida M.

I have just finished  
the life of Judge Gary and allow  
me to say that your biographic  
land has not lost its cunning.  
Evidently it is a principle with  
you to make your latest work  
your best. And as you started  
some years ago with a rush with  
Maudie Phlipson this means that  
you have attained now a

formidable crescendo. I am  
impressed with your sheer power  
more than with anything else, I  
think, intellectual power and moral  
power, power of understanding,  
power of presentation. It used to  
be said of Gladstone that he was  
a seven-hour Chancellor of the  
Exchequer, that in speeches, five hours  
long, on the budget, he could make  
"hippkins and cheese interesting, and  
tea serious", and that while he  
could sweep the widest horizon  
of the financial future of Great  
Britain he never lost from view

the significance of penny stamps  
and post boxes in the national  
economy. Well, you can do the  
same with billets and ingots  
and rolling mills and blast  
furnaces, and very statesmanship  
— for you absolutely and  
abundantly prove that your  
citter was and is a statesman.

The peewit pipings of my  
colleague, Rexy Tughard, are  
unimpressive, are ludicrous in  
their thinness, his intimations that  
he could tell the world a lot  
about the Steel Trust an' he would,  
that he knows more than you do

about it and that moreover he is  
honest and fearless whereas you  
Lane sold your soul and betrayed  
your country - oh, well, all that  
is simply the arrogance of adoles-  
cence - if I am not doing him  
injustice and exaggerating his age.

I have been thinking, as I have been  
reading Gory, of what a lot of  
fun you Lane had, must have  
had, all your life living in the  
presence and companionship of  
Madame Roland and Clafabon  
and Josephine, and Lincoln and  
John D and his crew of pirates  
and now this clear thinking and

42, EAST 75 ST.

imaginative and constructive and  
essentially courageous Albert.  
You're had to work like a  
galley slave, you're had to break  
up a lot of granite before you  
could build up these monuments  
of biography, for I don't believe that  
anything you have ever done has  
been very easy - but you're done  
it - you're written a fine foot  
shelf and not merely compiled  
one - and I'll wager you have  
had to wrestle long and hard

with the Powers of Darkness before  
you gained that crystalline clearness  
of style which is very remarkable  
and which has characterized everything  
you have written, and which is a  
never ending delight to your readers,  
and which, I know to my sorrow, is  
lamentably rare in the literature  
of Economics which, all too often,  
is apt to have all the attractions  
of a Serbonian bog.

You have made, as you have  
gone along, several good large  
clearings in which your fellow humans  
can take much pleasure and

satisfaction and whence they can  
draw much inspiration.

But you will regret having done all  
this if I go on much longer. So I'll  
stop merely saying that I want to  
talk over a lot of interesting  
topics suggested by the Gary and  
that I see no way of doing that  
unless we get together, — which we  
ought to do very soon. Meanwhile  
let me say that your latest book  
is as exciting as the theme of which  
it treats.

Affectionately yours,

Dwaine Hazel.