

August 26, 1938

Dear Mr. Updegraff:

Yes, I have always, that is all my working life, followed what you call "the quick-freeze" method of note taking, that is if I thought I had an idea I put it down as quickly as I could get hold of a pencil and paper. If I didn't it was lost as a rule.

Mr. Wallace attributes ~~some~~ more systematic use of "quick-freezing" in the matter of newspaper and magazine reading than I deserve. ~~Probably~~ he picked up this notion from an interview - a copy of which I am sending with strict orders that you return. Paragraph marked. But it is only when something has struck fire, something that I must get off my chest to be comfortable that I use my dictaphone. If like Dorothy Thompson I had a ~~Grouse~~ grouse opposite me at the breakfast table I probably would confide my reactions to him.

However, it is not all a matter of relieving my mind. I always have the idea that what I am dictating may work in with one or another of my "subjects on hand."

I hope this gives you what you want.

And thank you for recalling that meeting at Scarsdale and Chic Sales' reading of "He Knew Lincoln." What a loss to healthy merriment-his going.

With all good wishes

Very sincerely

Mr. Robert R. Updegraff
Scarsdale, New York