

Dear Mother and Dad,

I apologize for not having written, but I've been waiting until a surprise I have for you was definite. I have been offered and have accepted a very good job in Washington. Surprised?

To explain, I will serve as the assistant to a man by the name of I.F. Stone. Mr. Stone, a Washington correspondent for 25 years who worked for P.M. and the Post among other papers, is the editor and principal author of a publication known as I.F. Stone's weekly. Though its circulation is small - 25,000 - it is a very influential. It is, I have been told, widely respected in the intellectual communities. Stone is also a frequent contributor to the New York Review of Books and several other publications. He is ~~the~~ the author of many books.

My responsibilities will be confined to the weekly, which by the way I've read on and off for several years, I will be a reporter, researcher, and general editorial assistant. The amount of writing I will do depends, of course, on how much Stone likes my writing.

I will cover, among other things, the Supreme Court, the senate and the house and the state department. What this means is that I will go to these places and pick up what information I can. Naturally I will be doing some interviewing.

^{in the 50's} Stone is a fascinating guy. He is a Jew with Russian parents - I know that will make you happy. His political opinions are independent left $\frac{1}{2}$ or better said - about 5 paces to the left of the New Republic. He has a wonderful library which will be available to me. The ~~magazine~~ weekly is put together in his home. His wife, also a charming woman, is in charge of circulation. I think he is the kind of man who can be very pleasant, but who is at the same time extremely demanding. Its not going to be an easy job, but I will learn a great deal and will have the fantastic opportunity of being in Washington.

The pay is the same ~~as~~ as I'm getting in Providence. 100 a week plus expenses. It is five days a week.

As I got the job today - in a quick visit to Washington - I've haven't told the paper yet. Frankly I'M scared. I don't know how they will take it. After all they have put some faith in me. On the other hand this is an opportunity I just can't turn down. I'd be crazy to pick another ten months of learning the fundamentals of covering sewer board meetings when I can be in the center of action in the most important capital in the world.

The way I got the job is another story. A boy I graduated with who went to the New Republic thought his position there was only temporary. The New Republic recommended him to Stone, but then decided they wanted to keep the boy and he, in turn, recommended me