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June 13  
Anderson Island

Dear Murray and Rosa:

Do you know anything about this outfit? <sup>tiny</sup> Lake Josephine is on Anderson Island. The acreage up there ( a big one ) sold a few months ago to an outfit that called itself "The Heritage Development Company." It had been owned for several years by a man named Hess, who was trying to sell lots on the lake and who suddenly threw in the towel and sold to this company, rumored to be a bunch of moneyed developers. They have built a 160-foot dock on salt water, are making a road up from salt water to the lake on the bluff and are supposed to have laid out some 300 lots, are working on a public park and beach, propose to run a shuttle yacht, the Retzil, from Tacoma, build a cocktail lounge, a restaurant, a golf course, and are going about trying to buy property from everyone on the Island. Oh, yes, a super market. Their letters, "You have won second prize and are entitled to a steak dinner and a tour of beautiful Anderson Island" etc, sound sneaky and corny.

I had a letter some weeks ago from a "Hat Island Yacht Club" saying they had heard I had written a book about Anderson Island, and asking where they could buy copies. Jim said they called him at the Times and he asked why they were interested. The woman said they were "developing" Anderson Island and wanted to use the books in their promotion. He said, "I don't think my mother would be interested in helping with that." Since, he has heard rumors that the outfit, that calls itself by various names, is under suspicion, has sold lots under water and has signed up buyers and then withdrawn their shuttle service. We heard once that they had developed on either Harstine or Herron. The Islanders are quite concerned. Ferry is much too small to support any such project and the roads are not adequate. And of course they're just not wanted. This is the first newspaper advertising we have come across. I have seen one color postcard, aerial view showing about half the island, including the lakes, promising clamming, water skiing and all of the nasty things we don't want here.

One thing, perhaps you know, my book will not be out until Spring '67, so at least they can't use that. Bill James thinks it might be late February. As usual, Don Ellegood talks around the bushes. I don't care. I have started work on the ISLAND YEAR one and am trying a jump-off of a sort of protest of progress. No one has ever lived on those lakes except a caretaker of a summer place between the two and they're real wildlife sanctuary. Imagine three hundred families up there! Horrors.



June 15  
Anderson Island

Dear Murray and Rose:

As you know, everything about this outfit (Lake Josephine  
is on Anderson Island. The package up there (a pig on)  
sold a few months ago to an outfit that called itself "the  
Neville Development Company. It had been owned for  
several years by a man named Ness, who was trying to sell  
lots on the lake, and who suddenly threw in the towel and  
sold to this company, rumored to be a bunch of monetary develop-  
ers. They have built a 100-foot dock on salt water, are making  
a road up the salt water to the lake on the hill and are  
supposed to have laid out some 300 lots, are working on a  
public park and beach, propose to run a shuttle boat, the  
Retail, Mrs. Tacoma, build a cocktail lounge, a restaurant, a  
golf course, and are trying to buy property  
from everyone on the island. Oh, yes, a super market.  
Their letters "You have won second prize and are entitled to  
a steak dinner and a tour of beautiful Anderson Island" etc,  
and so on and so on.

I had a letter some weeks ago from a "Big Island Light Club"  
saying they had heard I had written a book about Anderson  
Island, and asking where they could buy copies. Jim said  
they called him at the time and he asked why they were in-  
terested. The woman said they were "developing" Anderson Island  
and wanted to use the book in their promotion. He said "I  
don't think my mother would be interested in helping with that."  
Since he has heard rumors that the outfit that calls itself  
by various names, is under suspicion, has sold lots under water  
and has signed up buyers and then withdrawn their money  
service. We heard once that they had developed on either  
Anderson or person. The letters are quite concerned. Jerry  
is much too small to support any such project and the roads  
are not adequate, and of course they're just not wanted.  
This is the first newspaper advertisement we have come across.  
I have seen one on the island, aerial view showing about half  
the island, including the lakes, provincial claimant, water skiing  
and all of the nasty things we don't want here.

One thing, Murray, you know, my name is not to be out until  
spring '11, so at least they can't use that. Bill James thinks  
it might be later, but he's usual, and if good talks around  
the house, I don't care. I have started work on the  
island and am making a jump-off of a sort of  
trust of business. He has been ever since the two lakes  
except a narrow strip of a summer place between the two and  
that's all. I'll be away. I'll be away. I'll be away.  
I'll be away.