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January 1, 1937

Hon. R.H. Walker,  
Athens, Alabama.

My dear Mr. Speaker:

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I couldn't possibly start the year off right unless I wrote you a letter. I have been meaning to write you all the news for several days but have been "up to my neck" in work since the lawmakers adjourned for the holidays.

I asked Ros Richardson how you were progressing when he was here this week. He says you are continuing to make headway. This is good news to me, for nothing would please me more than to see you mount the speaker's rostrum and take the gavel in hand again. There are many many others who would enjoy the same sight. Others, especially the single-listers, want you to live and breathe but they hope the Lord will keep you off the floor of the House until they can get their pet bill to Bibb's desk.

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It appears almost certain now that the telephone tax reduction and single listing bills will be passed with the aid of the Administration. Even Clint has been doing some cheering for it. He carried the petition to two or three Ways and Means Committee members to get the bill out of committee when Robertson was unwilling to call a meeting.

Hubert's magazine is a scream. It is certainly read here. Not all agree with his policies, but all concede that it is highly readable and interesting. I look forward to seeing the rascal next week down here. I had wanted to go up to Athens during the holidays and carry him with me, but I got snowed under here.

Judge Rice was very much carried away with a Christmas card from you that he was displaying to his friends this week. He certainly prides your friendship and he is your booster always.

Henry Long always asks about you. He seems

to be very much your friend. I think he really is. The Governor asked me about you recently. I don't think he would mind having you back in the saddle with him.

I hope to be able to get around Athens shortly after the first of the year. Will plan to spend a day and night there so that I can give you the "low-down" on everybody and everything.

In the meantime, I hope you will soon be back in harness and that you will be ready to again vie with the spirit of Colonel Alf as you commence to assail single-listing and other despicable measures of the special interests.

Your friend,

*Eddie*  
Eddie Reid