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January 21, 1937

Hon. R. Harry Walker,
Athens, Alabama.

Dear Mr. Speaker:

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I enjoyed very much your letter of the 11th. It made me feel that you are continuing to improve and that soon you will be your old self. There are many Alabamians who would be interested to see you take your familiar place again as Speaker of the House and that you could take the floor in your courageous manner to defend the interests of the "peepul."

I saw John Chichester and Cliff Almon and told them about the suggested amendment to the Chichester substitute for the Ellis Bill. Both agreed it should be amended according to your suggestion. Cliff asked me to write him an amendment, which I have done.

Looks like the "wets" are once again "pulling the house down upon themselves." No liquor bill is likely to get through this "mad scramble."

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I saw Hubert over the week-end. He was in good spirits and optimistic over his publication's future. We had a good talk over old times and your name was very prominently and pleasantly mentioned. In fact over the broadcast program of Hubert's we mentioned that you are doing fine and enjoying newspaper accounts of the legislature's "mad house."

Judge Rice, Stanley, Judge McCord and Frank Grove very frequently mention you at the luncheon table at the Tangerine. Old Jim Rice recently said when things were at an impasse at the Legislature's Chamber: "I wish old Harry Walker would come down here and give this damned crowd a good fight." He is your devoted admirer as is Jim Simpson. Many times of late he (Simpson) has remarked that you were a man of deep character and fearless. He stated then that you were one of the finest men ever to serve in the Legislature. Coming from a man whose philosophy

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of government differs from your's I thought it a fitting
tribute.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Always your friend,

Eddie -

Eddie Reid.

EER:MW