

1995

Dear Barbara:

I cannot tell you how sorry I am not to be with you, but a funny thing happened to me on the way to Montreal. As you know, American citizens do not need passports or visas to enter Canada. However, the Canadian government seems to have made an exception in my case. It turns out that some crank wrote that there appears to be a correlation between my attendance and strange happenings at conventions. However, I am certainly with you in spirit.

When I first heard the name Semanche, I thought you were an Indian tribe. After observing your performance as head of this division, I realized that if there had been such a tribe, the white man would have lost. John Wayne would have been unemployed, and you, Barbara, would have been "Great Sitting Woman" - the Chief of all the Indian Tribes of North America.

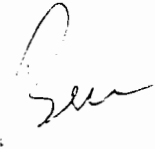
I have been working on a select biography of ancient women and have now assembled a cast of some 450 of them. The one whom you most closely resemble is Cleopatra VII, the greatest of all the Macedonian Queens of Egypt. She was beautiful, highly cultured, had a sweetness to the the sound of her tonque that was most beguiling, was an expert in the arts and accoutrements of seductive women, and had the ability to command. All of these adjectives apply to you, There is, however, one great difference. I cannot for the life of me see you reclining on a barge or anywhere else for that matter.

If Kwapil is the father of the News Division, you Barbara are its mother- In a platonic way of course. No one has done more to advance our division. In fact your contributions are so great, that you are the obvious choice to be selected as the first recipient of the highest highest honor this division can bestow - the Double Kwapil. The Kwapil Kwapil is awarded to that individual who has done the most in the last quarter century to enhance our division and the

*From Ben Lightman
former library director
Lime, Ind.*

profession of news librarianship. Just one word of caution. In the future whenever you go walking in the country of your beautiful state of North Carolina, please refrain from mentioning your award during the height of the hunting season.

With much affection and love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gene".