

DRS. SHAW & PAULSON  
THORACIC SURGERY  
3810-12 SWISS AVENUE  
DALLAS, TEXAS  
February 28, 1951

Mr. Norman L. Smith  
Atlanta, Texas

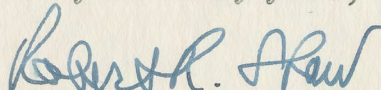
Dear Mr. Smith:

I have received your letter of February 24 giving me a report on how Shirley is feeling. I am sorry that she is not being able to use the left arm as well as she did formerly. At the time of the surgery that I performed I was working alongside nerves that go into the group of nerves that go down the arm. They were the nerves that control some of the sensation and also some of the muscular control to the inner part of the arm principally going to the ring and little finger. These nerves were not cut but were exposed by the removal of the bony prominence above the left collar bone. I believe that the exposure of the nerves probably explains why she does have some ache there which is regrettable. I would suggest that you use heat applications over the region of the scar left by the incision that I made. This could be done either with moist heat such as with a towel which has been wrung out after being placed in hot water or by the use of an infra red lamp. I believe actually that using an infra red lamp or some type of heat lamp would give her perhaps more relief. Shirley should be encouraged to use the arm as much as possible. Unfortunately she does not have good use of the arm so that it is difficult, I know, for her to exercise it. The more, however, she does use it the less difficulty she should have with it both from the standpoint of the aching and also from the standpoint of the loss of strength.

I talked to Ted Mills today about Shirley's problem and he stated that he was going to see you in the next few days on a fishing trip.

I am sure that the cold damp weather of the last few weeks has contributed to Shirley's discomfort and I hope that when the warmer weather of the summer comes she will be much more comfortable.

Very sincerely yours,



Robert R. Shaw, M. D.