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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

Washn, May 1 1919

Dear Folks:

Just recd long letter of 26 ult from FOB, so I reckon I better write one in reply before I go out to take my dinner. It is now 5.30, and I have to call on Ruthie at 7.30, but I reckon I have time.

First you must know, that yesterday I went to Willard Cts and brot my horticultural library down to th_e Ofs. Mrs York was there, and when she saw me taking all those books she said "I feel that I ought to tell you that I am going to vacate on June 1st, and I dont want you to take all those books away just for a month"; but I told her I wanted em anyway, whether she vacated or not. We talked things over in a veru friendly fashion, and she said she had made a verbal agreement to vacate on June 1, and was going to do/ so, altho Mr Ruth had several times urged her to sign a lease for the apt and keep it. She has not been occupying the place for 2 weeks, and has moved a lot of stuff out of it. She says Mrs Page has regained her own apt, 305. So, Pablo, I guess you can figure on getting 311 back on the 1st of June. I noticed that our dining table was just covered with burnt spots where some of the drunken friends of Mrs York and Mrs Page, or perhaps their drunken selves, had laid down cigarets.

Further, I am told that Dr Fairchild has had to postpone his western trip until September, because he is needed here to appear before a congressional committee or something.

Vista our horticultural headquarters. It is a trifle remote, but ought to be fairly frostfree, and it is a place I have always liked immensely. If you have a car, which I suppose you always will have, it doesn't matter how far you are from Pasadena. Don't go ahead any faster than you are prepared to follow; that is, don't put in trees which you aren't going to be able to care for, but I agree with you that it is well to put in some first class avocados and then treat em right. But it looks to me as tho you pretty nearly ought to move down to Vista if you are going to develop an extensive orchard there.

In re the distribution of our Guatemalan trees, we have sent out practically everything we have on hand, about equal numbers to Calif and Florida; more to Calif if anything. We will probably grow no more of the 13 numbers which have been distributed, but are now working up a stock of the remaining 10 numbers; these will be distributed in the fall, and then we will clear the decks for action, keeping nothing but our set of trees here in the greenhouse and the set at Miami, Brooksville and Chico to furnish budwood as wanted. It is expected that I will send in a lot of seeds from Guatemala in the fall, and that they will be planted to furnish stocks on which to bud the introductions which we hope to make from Costa Rica and S A next winter and spring.

Glad to have your suggestions re the Tropical Fruit book. I am working on the avocado chapter. I will try to make the book as interesting as possible. I can see that it is going to be a big job to finish it. I am not trying to do it at home, but will work on it here at the Ofs. I can probably get about

as much done as I could at home, and it is better to be seen around the office most of the time. They like to have you where they can come in and talk to you when they get tired of signing requisitions for hose and galvanised buckets. Seriously, I think I can do the work as well here as anywhere; I may, however, do a bit at home now and then, when I want a few hours uninterruptedly.

Paul, Dunn called on Little Mart last night. He has agreed to play tennis with her, but I don't know how often. This will probably let me out, tho I am not anxious to be let out altogether, as I like tennis. I asked D how he liked her, and he said she was a nice girl, but he wasn't going to fall in love with anybody just yet. I fear he belongs in Group C, middle aged bachelors who are hard to suit. By the way, I enc a note from Rito, in wh you will see that he has taken to writing pottery. According to Marta, now known as Patty, this is a sure sign that he is in love, but judging by the quality of his poetry I don't think he is in love very deeply. He fails to mention, however, any new girls who are fairer than any flowers are fair.

I'm still spending money pretty rapidly, tho not at the rate Paul does when Marguerite comes up to see him. Haven't yet broken my Lots of Sleep pledge.

Siempre tuyo



Washington, Saturday p m, May 3rd

7/19/93

Dear Folks:

Guess I'll just drop a note in the mail tonight before I go out canoeing. I have invited Mr and Mrs J Harry Johnson, late of Los Angeles, to inaugurate the season with me, and have this day purchased 3 new cushions a rason de 50 ctvs cada una, and yesterday I purchased some matting for the bottom of the craft. All I need now is a lantern and a canvas or duck hat to fit me out from stem to stern. I may have to take little Ruthie out tomorrow afternoon. When I called on her the other evening she allowed as how she found it awful lonesome here on Sunday afternoon (there being no dances at that time, I suppose) and she would like to have me stick around a bit. I can see where Ruthie is going to be willing to spend an afternoon in the canoe just as often as I will invite her. Kitty Browne also allows as how she likes to go canoeing, too; but it looks as tho the adorable Kitty might go West in June to spend the summer at Wau-paca, wh will take lots of the joy out of Washington.

Speaking about the adorable Kitty, I am here to say that Paul's book has worked wonders in that girl. She seems to have brightened up quite a bit. She says she knew everything that is in Paul's book before she read it, but she didnt put it into practice (Ed.). Yesterday p m I went out to her house and we took a wlak over back of Rock Creek Park to look at some fine real estate, and then we went home and looked over house plans in The House Beautiful for a bit. You see, mother, the Brownes are talking of building,--not the Wilson Popenoes. After a typical Brunonian supper we all climbed in the little Fom Sedan (Mrs B putting me up front with Kitty) and went out to Cheyy Chase, where Mrs B got my approval on several attractive houses which they may copy when they build theirs.---All in all, the Browne family wears better than any other friends we have here. By the way, Kitty told me sub rosa that Helen has broken her enagement with Louis. Kitty thinks that Bill Ross has been getting busy and beating Louis' time. Kitty thinks it is a shame. I suspect that Bill Ross is the sort of chap DF would characterise as a d--n scoundrel.

I havent seen little Marthe, I mean Patty, for three days. I reckon she will think I have forgotten her altogether. I'll have to take her for a walk in the park some day. Dum sticks around a bit, I think, so I will let her imagine that I am sore because she is going with D.

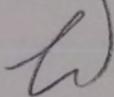
Paul, I have had a couple of letters from Rito, but he doesnt give much news. Says he will write more about the Divine One,--I mean the Devine One,--in his next. ~~Six~~ Apparently there are no new/ ones in sight, or else he is afraid Paul will think he is fickle, and does not mention them. The latter hypothesis sounds quite likely. He asks for the address of the publisher of Womens Eyes, wh I have given him. Doesnt say yet when he is coming up here.

Weather is delightful here, and I am greatly enjoying my time out of doors. I have felt too lazy the last day or two for much work in the Office, however; cant seem to get up steam to write. Must be spring fever.

Dont know what I will do tomorrow morning; but guess I will go to church for a change. Have been looking for Herb Austin to show up here today, but he hasnt sent any word yet so I guess he isnt coming untill next week. Wonder if I will wake up tomorrow morning and find Paul in the room? I guess not.

Kitty Browne agrees that long engagements are nix. Hoping you are the same,

Ever thine

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be the initials 'W' or 'L' with a flourish.

[May 4, 1919]



Mother Darling:

My, but this is a glorious
Sunday morning! I only wish I
could be enjoying it with you.
But I shall certainly come home
later in the summer for a good
month with you before going
off on another - and my last - for
the present - trip to Latin America.
We will have nothing to worry us,
and everything to enjoy.
I am going to hold D F to

Daisy Bell's proposition - 3 years
more. I have never agreed to
wait until I am 35. But I'll
have to find the girl. He isn't
going to do anything for me.

I'm going to church this morning
with the Roses. If they hadn't
invited me I should have gone
to the Mt. Pleasant Congregational.
I still enjoy going to church, when
I can hear a preacher who is
really worth while. If Paul
doesn't, I can't criticize him
for it. But as for me, even if
I didn't want to go, if I
knew it would please you I
would go anyway, for you

don't ask. At next, however, that Paul
thinks my love of you than I do; and
we can't be different, that's all.

We both love you so much that we
just can't get over it would be possible
for us to love you any more.

I had a nice note from Amelia
yesterday. She says Don't try to again in
this country. If you see him, give him
lots of love from me and tell him not
to miss an opportunity to see me. He
he will stay in California until I can

I can probably return to H a white duck
suit or two which are getting too small
for me.

I now have \$1000 in Liberty Bonds laid away.
I am going to keep them to build a bungalow
at Miami or somewhere else.

I'm very happy to think your affairs are
getting in such good shape. If we make the
right moves now, in a few years you
will be on easy street.

Always devotedly your own

Washington D.C.
May 4 1919

Wilt

Monday, May 5 1919

Dear Folks:

Two letters from Paul today, none from Altadena, unless I find one home tonight. Wh reminds me that you dont want to send me any mail at 1812 after June 1st, because I expect to leave those diggings about that time and retire to my quiet hermit's life.

Paul, me lad, I am sorry to have such an unfavorable report on Katherine Kaiser. I allus thought every girl named Katherine had to be nice; all that I have known so far have been so.

Raymond Fuller came around to call on the Roses the other evening. I talked with him and he seemed to be in good health and sperrits; much more like the R F of 3 yrs ago than the R F of 3 months ago. Becky said "I havent seen Raymond so rational in several years." I told her I hoped the day would never arrive when folks would say of me "Wasnt Wilson unusually rational last night?" He says he is going to a summer seminary somewhere, and is going to be a parson. He will leave here in June, I believe.

Dick Groves called up yesterday, and said he would be up to see me next Sunday. He said Owen was in N Y and wanted Paul's address, so he could hunt him up and ask for a job.

I went to church yesterday morning and sat in the Rose pew, and then came home and dined with the Roses, and later took Patty out for a walk, Becky being obliged to return

to church for something or other, It was a glorious day, and the park is still beautiful, tho not quite so fine as it was a week ago. I am more than ever convinced that the one great tragedy of life is that so many perfectly adorable girls should have to go unmarried, simply because they never meet men who would make suitable husbands for them, or if they do, the men are too busy with their affairs, or agricultural exploration, or something of that sort, to want to marry them. Patty may not be an intellectual heavyweight, but she will make some fellow a very devoted helpmeet, if she gets a chance.

Its getting hot here, and I have to work with my coat off. I wish my atty would bring down my Panama hat. I feel considerably chagrined because DF beat me to it today, but opening the season with a Maddy Gascar.

Curt G Pfeiffer was here this morning for a brief call, and told me to come out for dinner with him when I go up to N Y the end of this month.

I will be glad to get back to the Apt for the sake of being able to cook my meals once more. I am beginning to get tired of the restaurants. All the good ones are too expensive for me, and the cheap ones serve poor grub.

Recd the program of the Avocado Assn mtg at Pasadena today. I fear I wont hit the next meeting either, because I will probably come home too early for it. I suspect that I will go West late in the summer, stop a month in Calif, and sail down the Pacific to Guatemala.

Ever thine

Washn, May 8 1919

Dear Folks:

I dunno where that brother of mine is, but if he doesnt show up here the end of this week, I shall go up to NY and hunt for him. I intend to go around to see if Marguerite Neale is still in Washington; if not, I shall understand that she is in NY, and Paul could not of course be expected to wr̄ite his family under such circumstances. Indeed I do not see when he would have time for it.

It has been rather chilly here for several days, with some drizzling rain, so I havent been able to go out canosing this week. It is cloudy but warmer today, and Harry Johnson and I will have a try at it tonight, unless it rains. I wanted to take the adorable Kitty out tonight, but guess I better wait until tomorrow in hope of better weather.

Night before last we had a big meeting at the Cosmos Club. Botanical Society of Washington, y'understand. Mostly SPL. Dr Fairchild talked 30 mins on Meyer's life and work, and I followed with 45 mins on Guatemala, both of us using slides. The chief of the Bureau, Asst chief, and lots of others were there. It wasnt quite as easy as talking to the assembled citizens of Fort Myers, but I gritted my teeth and went to it, and after it was over everybody came around to shake hands and tell me how much they enjoyed it. They always do that. I think if a feller made an utter failure they would do it.

Father: I have just sent to the laboratory to have mounted

all of my Mexican views. There are about 125 excellent 5x7 photos. I expect to make up two albums of them. One album I will keep for my personal use, and I am going to send it out to you, since I will have no use for it right now. You will probably like to have it, as it contains lots of Querétaro and Atlixco views. The other I had rather planned to send Dr Webber, but I am beginning to wonder if it is really worth while to do so. I have been wondering whether or not he is really very much interested in the subject. You are on the ground and can best advise me. I am furnishing him two lengthy papers which he can publish if he wants to, with about 20 views with each one, so that I think my obligation is discharged; but if you think anything would be gained by sending him the album containing all of my photos I will do so.

I hope you will give me an account of the avocado assn meeting. By the way, if they read my paper, and anyone objected to my stand in favor of the Mexican race, just tell em that they are already growing one Mexican variety, Puebla, and another which is half Mexican, Fuerte. Ergo, the Mexican is going to have a place in the industry.

I felt pretty tired yesterday, after my lecture, but am allright again today. This plenty of sleep campaign is a great thing, and I am going to stay with it.

Paul, Martha says Dunn is a tightwad. One Capt. Lowe was around for dinner last night; Martha says he stuck around a lot before he went off to the war, but after leaving he wrote her that he admired her as a woman, but could never love her

as a sweetheart. He ~~had~~ better have kept his mouth shut. Evidently

he aint no psychologist. Might as well have said she'd be a great help to her mother.

Allright, Pablo, if you think Mrs Browne still nourishes a hope that she may have a Popenoe son-in-law, I will guide myself accordingly. However, if that great epoch-making work Applied Eugenics continues to exercise its benign influence upon that girl she may turn out to be a world beater, and we cant afford to let *her* get by. I'll keep my eyes open and if the prognosis is favorable we'll send for Herb to come back here and marry her.

Paul, you were wrong about Marthe. She says she never stands for any handholding or anything of that sort. That's why the men dont like her, according to her story. Mebbe so.

Dick Groves is going to be here Sunday morning. The Roses say, however, that when he called there one day with Paul he did nothing but kick.

Doc Rose took me down to the Cosmos Club wed evening, and I spent an hour talkin~~g~~ with Frank G Carpenter, who has written travel stuff for 36 years. He is rather interesting, but not a very deep chap. If he were deep he couldnt sell his stuff to the folks that now take it.

Howard Vanderbilt, cousing of Mrs Rose, is coming to the house today to stay a while on our floor, so I reckon I may have to wait to get in the bathroom mornings; but I usually am up and away before there is a sound from any other part of the house.

Money still going fast. It comes like water, and like wind it goes.

Always happily yours

May 10.

Shpmt of duck clothing recd day before yesterday. There is a pair of pants missing wh should have come with my coat made in Guatemala, but I suppose it is in the divan, along with our dancing shoes, and everything else which we have loved long since and lost awhile. There are several articles of this lot wh are too far gone to be much good to me, and I will send H a pr of pants which dont come much below my knees. The next time I get south of the Tropic I'm going to lay in a stock of dux; we need em.

Lissen: Kitty Browne, the adorable, wants to come out to Calif next winter with some friends. There would be four of them; Mrs and Mr Moore, and their daughter Charlotte. a chum of Kitty's, and Kitty herself. They think the would come out by the end of Sept and stay 7 or 8 mos. I told them they better arrange with you to get the little bungalow at Pine Lodge. Kitty takes to the idea like a duck to the liquid element, and wants further particulars. She wishes you would send, via me, a snapshot of the bungalow, if you have one, and a diagram of the floor plan of the house. Is there /a sleeping porch? I told her I thought one of the rooms was practically open and would be just the same thing. I told her I thought you got something like \$40 per month for it, furnished, in winter. Is this right? Send on full particulars and mebbe I can rent it for you. Kitty would probably want to buy a ^{pony} ~~sex~~, and would have to rig up a little corral somewhere in the rear of the lot. She would take care of the animal herself.

May 8 1919

Dear Folks:

Jess after I had written you today I got letters both from NY and Altadena, so I reckon I will have to write again, if only to tell Paul that Rito neednt save Tillie for me, or anything of that sort.

pad: I am glad you liked the avocado bulletin, and wish to advise that I can send out any number from here without cost, and will mail em to anybody you want. I sent em to all members of the Calif Avocado Assn, as per list in 1917 Report.

You overestimate the importance of the Guatemalan introductions considerably, but I do believe some of them are going to prove of value. Altho I will say, strictly sub rosa, that I very much doubt if any of them will be so valuable as the El Fuerte, as the boys would put it. That Fuerte is going down in history as a monument to the West India Gardens.

Pablo, bring down that Panama when you come. I need it. I am chagrined to see that several johnnies have beaten me to it by appearing already in straws. By the way, I note that DF is today wearing a cravat identical with one you bought at Stinemetz the day we shopped together.

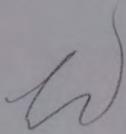
Yes, I'm holding off on the J of H, and am going to try to get by with doing only the necessary things here, letting Woods run the thing from Boston. The O's force brings a good deal of work into my room, and on the whole I am going to be loaded up

with more than I want this summer. It might interfere with my canoeing. Not to mention the book.

I may be wrong in a good many things, but I have just proved myself correct in one. You know how I hate to get in a scrap. Uh-huh. Well, when I came back from Wattamala Chas L Marlatt called up about some avocado seeds wh were in the quarantine house, and which he wanted shucked so his inspectors could look at em. Something had riled him, apparently, and he was snappy; and to boot, I had nothing to do with the matter, as it was under Galloway's supervision. But instead of telling Marlatt that it waent up to me to attend to the thing I was courteous and told him I would see that the matter was attended to at once,--and then I phone Galloway about it. Allright; it now happens that I want to get into the Cosmos Club, and Dr Fairchild has nominated me, and asked Marlatt to second the nomination, and what does M do but write the Committee a very strong letter in my favor. And if I had rowed with him; of course he wouldnt have busted himself to put me in the club. Never. Whomsoever the shoe fits, let him put it on.

It looks as tho I might get in the Cosmos, altho I dont know whether it will be right away or not. They may keep me waiting a while. But with DF and Marlatt back of me I think my chances are a little better than those of C.H.P.

Jess so.





May 11, 1919.

Mother Darling:

This is mother's day for most folks, but for your boys it is only one of the 365 mother's days which occur in every year.

Your letter of the 3rd reached me on Friday. You can tell Mrs Mansam that I expect to be home a month in Sept and Oct and if it will do her any good at that time I will be happy to lecture for her - or for anybody else.

I need practice in this lecturing business, and will take all I can get of it.

If you can get \$10,000 in cold coin for the West field at WIG I would favor selling. We would have plenty of land left, and it would be fine to get rid of so many obligations. We must develop the logan proposition at Vista, and the avocados there too, if they keep doing well, as I believe they will. If we see the avocados at altitude we can develop a new grove at Vista to take their place. I would be mighty glad to join Paul in putting in \$4,000 at Vista. If I don't invest out there I may

buy a lot in Cherry Glen, or something of that sort.

If we can get rid of the WIG property to advantage, I just as soon hang on to San Diego. At San Diego I see things as on it and is certainly attractive. With that and Vista we ought to have all we need!

Paul's Grace didn't work in the morning at 7.30 as I had hoped to work. Reuben I will leave the day alone. Dick grows my da in a little later, and towards evening I may run out to Proctor, or come when I can nearly always find plenty to do here! I

am having a very enjoyable time, and trying
to lead a rational existence. I haven't
been out after 11 in 2 weeks now. If Paul
were here my record wouldn't be so good.

For goodness sake don't let H eat 4 eggs
for his breakfast, nor for his dinner or supper.
Make him lay in a supply of fruit on the
side. Its easy to do in California.

The summer will pass very rapidly, and then
for a month in California. It will look
mighty good to see Pasadena - and you - again.

Heaps of love from your ever devoted
Wilt

1812 Calvert, May 12 1919

Dear Folks:

Say, but its a glorious evening! Just gullorious (after T. Jeremiassen). I dined tout seul chez the Merchants Lunch, then walked home, changed my Stetson for my Bersalino, took my Cuban bastoncito, and strolled down thru Rock Creek Park. Oh, but its fine! One evening like this is worth one hundred in Veracruz or Coatzacoalcos. I shall now top it off by a chapter of W James, one in Horses, Saddles and Bridles, and then to bed at 9.30, so as to be up and about at the accustomed hour of 7.15 tomorrow morning. I was in the Ofc today from 8 to 6, barring two hrs out in the a m, when I went down to see my old friends at Navintel. Sheldon is leaving, and Commander So-and-So is taking his place. And hear me when I say that the Commr. is a live wire. He speaks Spanish like a Madrilenos and French like a Parisian. He pumped me about Mexico for an hour; said he didnt knowanything about conditions down there and wanted to learn what he could. I understood that he was bluffing of course, but went ahead and gave him my opinion. When I got thru he said that was just the way he looked at it too. I took the opportunity to inquire my status in regard to my oath, that terrible oath which I swore when I jined up, and was informed that I was at liberty to tell everybody that I had been employed by Navintel, but that I was not at liberty to appear before

any congressional committees and give information re Mexico without first coming to Navintel and letting them tell me what I was to say. Also, that I was not to disclose any confidential information gained while in the service which could not properly be disclosed. So I have a much freer hand than I thought, but I don't intend to talk very much about it, nor do I intend to let it appear in print that I have been in Navintel, not, at least, until I am thru traveling in Latin America.

I am working down at Military Intel every few days. They are sort of up against it down there. They really haven't the men that are familiar with the field, and most of the material they have obtained has been thru us Navy men. We don't think much of the army anyway. Awful bunch of rotters.

Note from MBR and one from PP today. I had been to call on Marguerite and found her out, and had just figured it out that she had gone to NY, wh explained Paul's failure to show up here yesterday; but I find PP is in Philly, so he has an alibi. But Cielo Santo, boy, you say casually that you will be here some time within the next two weeks.

You better be! That's a long time. Say, send me the address of the Real Estate agt to see about the apartment. I will see Mrs York again one of these days and then see the agent.

Allright, boy, I'll be careful.

Looks like it might be canceling weather again by tomorrow night. I hope so.

and getting rid of money in great bunches. Well, I wont be young but onst, nor in Washington much during the next year or so. I am having 3 prs shoes half soled, and it takes all but forty cents of five dollars. Its a dirty shame.

Doc Harris and I may purchase the acre adjoining us at Miami and sudidid the 3 acres to form Ahuacatlan Heights, a select colony of scientific men. Guess I will talk the matter over with him when I go up to N Y Memorial Day.

I had a nice evening at/ the Brownes last night. When I got there, about 5, I asked Kitty if she wanted to take a bit of a walk. She averred she had already walked 5 mi that day and didnt want to walk any more. Mrs B then said to get the car and take a little ride. Said Kitty "Do you folks want to go too?" Mrs B renigged that they guessed they did not. "Then" said the adorable Kitty "it isnt worth while to get the car out". Either that girl is terribly ingenuous or else she is trying to discourage me. It ended by all of us going out for an hr to look at some more houses. After supper (typical brunonian) the family gradually dwindled away in orthodox fashion, and as soon as I discovered it I got up and came home, so as not to compromise my attorney. But say, attorney, the more I see of that girl the more I think that she will make somebody an A I wife,--oh thats allright, I'm not in any danger yet. Mother, you say you dont like intellectual women; no, neither do I, but I dont think your idea of an intellectual is quite the same as ours. The non-intellectuals that I dont like are girls that havent enough real good horse

sense to be interesting. They must have some ideas, or else you could never enjoy their company for 45 years. I dont want the Bertha L^ovewell type, neither do I want a girl like Florenne Casey used to be before her mother got that windfall. You know what I want. In fact I dont want anything just now. Maybe if you get Kitty Browne out there next winter you will decide that she is allright. I dont dare pick one out for myself; I shall always feel obliged to get the okeh of Pal and yourselves before going in too far.

Paul, the folks at the Natl Cap Press says Dr Woods is a terror; doesnt tend up to business at all.

Chandler has left our Ofcs, to go to War Risks at \$2400. I dont know whats going to hapnen to the world of science. The clerks will soon be getting double our salaries. And then they have to go to work and form a Federal Employees Union to stick the Govt for higher pay and shorter hrs. There is no body of clerks in the world that does less work for the amount of pay recd by our force.

Pablo, it begins to look as the Rite was really serious about Sinclair doesnt it? When he sticks by one girl for two weeks there's something in it. But dont let Tille fall in love with me. It would break mother's heart to have me caught by a baby vamp.

Father, in a week or ten days I will have the avocado chapter ready to send you for revision and emendation. I bet you are going to find it a bit heavy, according to your way of thinking. We can always change it, you know.

WAR DEPARTMENT
COMMISSION ON TRAINING CAMP ACTIVITIES
WASHINGTON

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

1812 Calvert, May 16 1919

Dear Folks:

I am sitting here in my room, 7.40 a m, waiting for Paul to show up. I dont guess he is going to come until tomerrow, but I'll give him another 20 minutes and then I go down to the Of's.

Father, I was glad to hear that the avocado meeting was coming off well. I sure would have enjoyed being there myself. But I am not going to turn aside from the straight and narrow path until I get that book finished. I hope today to wind up the first draft of the avocado chapter; Imwill get it copied next week and send it to you. I think I will let Miss Spraker do the copying for me. I would do it myself, except for the fact that it is too hard work. It would take me at least two days of hard grinding to copy this avocado part, and I cant afford to use up the time,

Paul has just come, --I'll finish this downtown.

Later, at the Of's: Paul and I had bkfst at the Press Club, and a good talk, and I got down here at 10. I worked 45 mins on my avocado chapter and then FOP's letter came, telling of the reading of my paper at the avocado mtg. I am sorry Yaggy did not omit ~~xxxxxxx~~ the historical and botanical sections of the paper so he could have read it thru, but no harm done. As you say, father, it is not as popular in parts as it might be, but I dont want to limit myself to the popular stuff; I want to make the work thoro, and cover all sides. The paper was really intended for publication, and is suitable for that purpose better than for reading.

While on this subject I may mention that when I finish the avocado book I am going to settle down to a little more technical work for a while, and not do quite so much propaganda or popular work. DF is beginning to say that I am too superficial and that what I need is to dig in deeper; I am spreading out too much and cannot go deeply into any part of the field. I have the book on hand and want to get it finished, but after it is out of the way I think I may try my hand a technical work for a year or so in order to prevent these fellows here from saying that I am not a scientist. The feeling is rather general, I think, that my work is decidedly too superficial.

The Atlixco paper I believe will be a monograph of the subject which will have considerable value as a historical document. It will be dry reading for some folks in parts, as I have tried to cover the history of the region, its present agricultural and horticultural products, and all that sort of thing, as well as avocados. If we can get it printed I believe it will have value, for Atlixco has never been known in California, and this paper with 15 or 20 fotos will make it known.

Paul will be here until Monday night anyway, so we will have a fine time. We will probably dine with the Roses tomorrow noon, and I wouldn't wonder if I might get him to call on the Brownes in the evening.

I went out canoeing with Ruth last night. Canoeing is one of the best sports I know anything about.

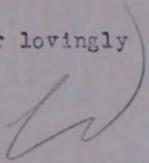
I am going to get Paul to go over the avocado

chapter and give me suggestions. I will get it copied the first of next week and send it out to you. I wish you would revise it particularly on the basis of what has been put forth at this recent meeting. It has not been a very long job working up this chapter as I have re-hashed large parts of the bulletin I wrote three yrs ago wh was never published. It will take me longer to do some of the other chapters.

Rideout's circular was hot stuff, wasn't it? He is certainly crazy. By the way, what is the Atlxco variety which he shows on the front page of his circular, the big pear shaped fruit? I wonder if it is named. None of the boys, Rideput Stevens and Clower, have answered my letters re Atlxco as yet but I suppose they have been too busy with the mtg.

Paul and I agree that Washn is just about the finest place there is. He brot me down two lbs of chocolates. Aint he a nice brother?

Ever lovingly



Washington, Tues May 20

[1919]

Dear Folks:

Paul left me last night at 10 p, and I turned in to get a good sleep so as to be down at the Ofs at 8 this morning. It is now that hour, and here I be. I have my desk piled high with mango data, and am starting in on the mango chapter this morning. Yesterday I went over the avocado chapter for the last time and turned it over to Miss Spraker to copy, at 75 cents per hr. I guess she will finish it this week and I will then send you a copy wh you can read and submit to anyone that might be able to touch it up a bit. You spoke about having J Smeaton Chase go over it; Paul thinks that JSC would want remuneration for doing so (he thinks you paid to have the data book go over) and if this is correct I dont believe it will be worth while. I can have Stockdale go over the whole thing when he comes up later, and Paul will go over it all later on. If JSC wont charge anything, now that he is independent in financial matters, it would be good to have him go over it.

No word from you all since Paul came down Saturday morning. We have had a good visit together, and have been out canoeing twice. I was waiting for Paul to get away so I could take Kitty out again, but this morning the paper says rains so I guess I will have to postpone the trip. Paul and I dined with the Roses Sunday noon and then offended the girls by running off as soon as we were up from the table. I dont think Paul uses quite enough diplomacy at times. Saturday evening we dined at Dr Bell's with the Bells and Fairchilds, following which we went out to In the Woods to sleep; young Sandy and a friend of his were out there and Mrs F wanted someone to be with them. My but it was delightful out there Sunday morning. Regular spring morning, mocking birds a singing, and the irises in full bloom. DF says I can go out whenever I want to, and I am going to spend a Saturday night there occasionally. It is beautiful out there. We worked on the avocado chapter in the morning and came in for dinner, the Fairchilds having arrived at 10 a m. They invited us to stay all day but we knew they had some plans for the p m and that it well not to wear out our welcome.

Father, I am interested to learn that Condit is retiring to commercial life. I dont think it will be a great loss to the avocado industry, for he has never done much original work. I told DF Condit was leaving the University, and he said they would probably try to get me to take his place; I say they they wouldnt in the first place because I have no degree, and in the second I wouldnt accept if they did. I have too soft a snap in this Ofs.

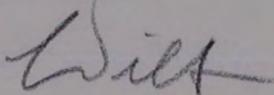
By the way, both Paul and I congratulate H most heartily on the improvement recently conspicuous in his handwriting.

Two or three bulletins sent to members of the Avocado Assn have come back due to the people having moved away, so I know that the bukletins have been sent out. If you want, I will send you a dozen or two more of them to distttribute. Guess it would be allright to send them under frank.

The avocado chapter is going to make about 100 pages. I will have to hold the mango down to 75 I guess. I dont want more than 400 pp of mes all told. Or perhaps 450. That will bring the book up to 500 pp, with the illustrations. I am going to have to use plenty of line drawings, which I shall try to have made here, as Bailey says they will need to hold down on the full page plates. The drawings will be just as good (if well made) to illustrate the different fruits under consideration.

Harold Chandler has been hanging onto the clerical work for the J of H, but we are probably going to put it in the hands pf our new chief clerk; Dr Woods came down yesterday and is in conference with DF; and we ought to know in another day or two just what we are going to do with the J of H. I really havent taken hold of the thing officially as yet, and rather hope I wont have to. I have enough to do right now.

Ever lovingly,



Washington, May 23 1919

Dear Folks:

Life's just one darn thing after another. Between work and my tireless round of recreation I dont seem to have much time left these days, as is frequent remarked by the Rose family, in pars or in toto.

I have blossomed this morning in my Guatemalan (not Jewish) gabardines; I am surprised to find how decent the suit looks, and reckon I will wear it -quit a little, when it is too cool for dux. Panama hat and light tan colored scarf. Pretty fine.

Yesterday morning I went out to Brownea at 7.30, took bkfst, then we went out to Chevy Chase to get my okeh on a house wh Mrs B and Kitty had picked out; I think they were having a hard time to convince Pa, and wanted some moral support. I gave it them. Mrs B talks often about my staying with Pa this summer, and I reckon I will do it if they give me a chance. If they buy the house that I/Kitty and Mrs B want them to buy it will be a fine place, just three doors from Chevy Chase circle, nice little yard wh I have agreed to reorganise if I stay with Pa during the summer.

Doc Kellogg was here yest^rday, he of Battle Creek, and I took him around a bit. He says I look like PP. In the pm I went out to Yarrow with gafford in his jit. Interferes with the book business a good deal, but cant be helped. I shant leave here until the book is finished, if it takes all year. In the pm I went home with VanEseltine and dined, and attended the Iris show at Takoma Park, at wh I listed 12 varities to plant in the Browne back yard. Two of our girls were out there, from the Ofs that is, and I had to bring em home, natcherally. Hope DF doesnt find it out.

In the reclassification business wh we have being passing thru lately, Dorsett and Van drew up the requirements of an Agrl Explorer, and said "College training with degree of B A and practical experience, or full high school training and longer practical experience (10 years)" I told em to cut out the degree business, and finally I think I had em convinced; anyway, when the thing went to DF for approval he made it read "Thorough technical training". Most of these boys think there is nothing like a B A.

Two good letters from MB^r recently, wh I am sending on to Paul in this mail. Probably going to canoe with Ruthie tonight; with Kitty Sunday afternoon,--and mirabile dictu, Kitty says Lets go out early! Hoping you are the same,

Washington, May 25 1919

Dear Folks, no carbon:

I am down at the Ofc on this glorious Sunday morning when I ought to be out in the woods, but I am going out this afternoon and I have a few things on hand which I want to finish up before tackling the new week tomorrow. I want to get at the mango with a clean slate; this past week has been so taken up with other and necessary work that I haven't done much on the book.

I have, for example, spent quite a little time for Safford, working on the Dahlias which I brought from Guatemala. He finds two new species in them. One seems to be the wild ancestor of the Cactus Dahlias which you know in California,--what's his name at Eagle Rock always has plenty of them at the flower show. Heretofore it has never been determined what species the cactus dahlia has descended from. Our new species may, therefore, prove to be of considerable horticultural interest, and Safford claims he is going to name it Dahlia popenovii. I suppose I will have to send you some plants (we are growing them here) so you can set them right in front of the house, where every one can see them; and when inquiries are made as to what that plant is, you will look sort of bored and suppress a yawn and reply "Oh, that is Dahlia popenovii, you know."

What I am writing for this morning is to advise that I despatched to FOP last night, per insured parcel post, two albums containing a complete set of my Mexican

views. I think this is a pretty nice collection, and I believe you will be interested in seeing it, inasmuch as Querétaro and Atlixco are well represented. These volumes really belong to the Dept, of course, but I am going to let you keep them for the time being; you understand. I have a duplicate set here. I asked you, I believe, whether you thought it would be highly desirable for me to send a set to Webber. You haven't replied yet, please inform me. If I send him my second set I will only have the field prints left for my use here, but I can get along with them. I am beginning to believe that Webber may not be as interested in them as we are, and that it may scarcely be worth while to send him a set. There is a lot of work in it and it will be useful to me here. I have sent him most of the Querétaro views and will send the ones from Atlixco when I send the paper on that region, so he will have all of the avocado views anyway.

By the way, none of the boys to whom I wrote about the Atlixco introductions have replied as yet. Where is Dan Clower now?

I took Martha out to Chevy Chase last night and had a good dance. It was the opening of the season. This p m I have a rendezvous with Kitty, and unless it rains we will go out canoeing. Dick Groves came into the Ofc last night and we went out home together; he is spending the week end with the Bryans, right across the road from me. I asked him to come over this morning, but he allowed as how he didn't feel sure he could do it. I suspect Dick is physical-

ly lazy. He isnt the boy that Allen was, not by a long sight. I guess Owen isnt either. It is too bad that Allen had to be the one to go.

I continue to enjoy myself here in Washington to an extreme degree. The only regret I have at the end of each week is that it has not been possible to get more work done. But I am putting in good honest days at the Office, and when I look forward to another yr in the Tropics, I feel that I must enjoy myself a good bit while I am in the City, even at the expense of a little work. I guess they wont shove me out until I want to go; DF and I have a pretty good understanding and I will ask him to let me stay here until the book is done. Just as soon as that is off my hands I want to come West and then go back to Guatemala.

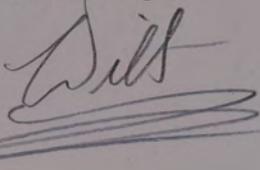
People remark that Paul and I are growing to look more alike. I guess it is because Paul is back in Civilians and is wearing spectacles much of the time.

I have a nice comfortable office room, but no stenographic help. I never get any. If I wanted to sit back and let my work go until I got it, I could of course have a few hours assistance once in a while, but when I want to write a letter I want to write it now, and I refuse to be tied down to any such system as waiting around to be served when Miss Jones gets thru with Mr Dorsett's work. I am glad I know how to handle a typewriter myself. Miss Spraker is getting along slowly with the copying of the avocado MS, but will finish it in four or five days. She can only put an hour a day on it. I will send you a copy as soon

Thursday next I am going up to N Y, to spend Friday to Monday inclusive with Paul. I take two days on leave and get two holidays. We are going over to Cold Spring Harbor to stay over night with the Harrises, and I will dine with Pfeiffer one day. We will doubtless have a good time and spend lots of money. At times it really hurts me to see the way my money is going here. I could never save anything if I lived here all the time.

Charles has joined the Federal Employees Union, apparently because they promised to put him on some sort of a committee if he would, and is en train to becoming a first class walking delegate. He can get you in the corner and talk to you just like a political boss. This unionization of our scientific staff wh has recently taken place does not appeal to me at all; I shall not join until D F does, and he is now as much opposed to it as I am. All that the union has done so far has been to shorten the hours and lengthen the pay of the clerical force, and there never was a body of clerks who were so well paid for so little work as ours. It makes me tired. The country is going to pot.

Ever lovingly

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dill", is written over a thick, horizontal scribble.

Washington, May 29 (1919?)

Dear Folks:

I am just shutting up shop preparatory to going home to dine with the Roses and then boarding the northbound express for N Y and way stations.

I have been working on the Mango chapter since Monday. Have it about half done. Will probably finish it next week, unless I run into another bunch of work here in the Ofc which I can slip out from under, Miss Spraker hasn't finished copying the avocado chapter yet, but I'll get it when I return from N Y.

I went around last night to complete arrangements for moving back to Willard Cts. Mrs York told me May 1st she would vacate on June 1st. Imagine my surprise when Mrs Paige informed me that they were going to keep the apartment, and we could see the agent about it. I did, and the agent said that he guessed they had seen a lawyer, and found that we couldn't legally get em out now that they had paid up their rent, and they are going to keep it indefinitely. They are anxious to have us take out our books and what is left of our furniture. Herb, the next time you pick out lady friends please choose some of a little higher moral tone.

I don't know yet what I will do for summer quarters. Either I will (1) go out with the Brownes on July 1, that is, with Pa Browne, staying at Roses for the noyce, or I will (2) take in Sewall at Roses so as to make it cheaper;

I will talk the matter with Paul in N Y tomorrow. I hope I

can squeeze in at Brownes. I certainly cant stand \$40 per mo all summer, which is what I am now paying at the Roses.

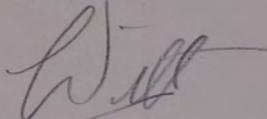
Father, we have recd a remarkable note from Mrs Frank Hart of Sierra Madre, in which she says that she now has the place; that she and Frank have separated, because he spent all his time with the typewriter (L.C. Smith or Jane Doe?) at the office; and so forth. Mr Bisset wants to know, confidentially, what you know about it? Should we keep on sending her plants?

I have recd a letter from Don Fox, and Paul has just sent me one he recd. Glad to know there is some hope of our seeing Don back here. So Ralph is going to stay in Los Angeles,--at least Don says so. I rather hope he will. It will be much more pleasant for him than coming back East again.

You may not hear anything more from me until I return to Washington, next Tuesday.

This book is a big job, but I find it isnt coming hard,-- just taking time. I am trying to be very careful about it, so as to have it accurate. I dont think I will try to get out another book right away, and I dont believe I will finish this one before September.

Ever thine



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

FOREIGN SEED AND PLANT INTRODUCTION

June 3 1919

Dear Father:

Charles Deering of Miami, Fla., wants to get some date offshoots to plant on his place. He wants 100 if possible, or any part thereof. We understand that it is prohibited to ship them from any point east of the San Bernardino meridian, so he probably can not get any from the Coachella. W J Paul has promised to get him some if he can arrange to get them released for shipment, but I feel sure he cant do this. What I am wondering is, would it be possible to obtain any ofshoots from the coast,--Whittier, Altadena, Fresno or elsewhere. Do you suppose 15 or 20 good ones could be secured? They ought to be early, Persian Gulf varieties I believe. I wish you would let me know what the prospects are.

WF

Washington, June 3 1919

Dear Folks, no carbon:

I have this morning returned from the New Jerusalem, and breathe a sigh of relief at being once again in the U S A. That New Yoik is a dirty, ungodly place, and there is not a native citizen in it who will give you a polite answer. They feel it incumbent upon them to insult you whenever they open their mouths. There is just one redeeming feature to the place,--the eats are good, and cheap. During our brief sojourn together we ate in six languages and drank in a seventh, so I figure that is just about 4 more than you can do in Washington.

To return: I reached there Friday morning feeling pretty seedy, after a bum night in the Pullman. It took me ten minutes of pounding on Paul's door to rouse him. We ate bkfst at the automat, bummed around town, and landed in the Syrian quarter for dinner at Beyrooty Bros. After a bang-up good dinner we went across to a little Muhammadan coffee house where I blew bubbles in the narghileh and occasionally let out great puffs of smoke while Paul talked to the boys in Arabic. There were some ten of them, and they wouldnt believe Paul was an American. Probably took him for a Turkish spy or something of that sort. At night we dined at the Fashion de Orient Café and had a good curry with dhal-bath estilo Calcuíta. There was a bum crowd of dirty hindus hanging around, however; probably revolutionists. Saturday I went shopping in the a m, but finally got tired of being sasssed by jew clerks, and we

dined at noon at the Russian café, which is absolutely the best out. I drank the best glass of tea I have ever put inside of me. At 1 we took the train to Cold Spring Harbor and spent the afternoon at the laboratory with Harris et al. We then stayed with the Harrises over Sunday, and had a bully good time and picked up some new ideas. I am satisfied that Harris will be one of the biggest scientific men of the country ten or fifteen years hence and believe our friendship with him will be of great value to us. Sunday evening he had most of the station crown in for a cold supper. We took a couple of walks Sunday morning, and saw a lot of very pretty country,--mostly millionaires homes.

Came in to NY again Monday morning, and I went out to the botanic garden in the p.m., after a dinner at the Sonora café, where I ate some of the hottest chile it has ever been my misfortune to put down. Owen and Russell went with us. Owen doesn't seem to have a very lively interest in anything. I don't believe he will burn the river up.

Last night we dined at the Hungarian cafeteria, and then went down to the Lafayette café, a decidedly French place. We finished with some French pastry, and I went on board the train, to wake up a couple of hrs ago when we got in the Union Station. I must confess Washn looks pretty good to me, and I don't think I shall leave here again very soon. Guess I will make Paul come down here next time;

Paul is very well situated in NY. His hotel is OK, altho I suspect he will want to get farther out of town during the hot weather. He has some excellent eating places, much better than I have here in Washn (barring the Brownes

and can live well. I see no girls on the horizon, however. We didnt see a one all the time I was up there. Paul didnt think it worth while to call on Kitty Kaiser, as he has marked her off the list and is now concentrating his efforts toward marrying me to Kitty Browne. He is looking well, and has about the nicest office in N Y, overlook a fine big square. On the whole, I think he is very well situated for the time being, and I envy him that salary. If I had a salary like that I would get married.

Thanks, Herb, for the key to Willard Cts. I am going there this week to move out all our property. I will store it somewhere,--dont yet know where. I dont know where I will stay this summer, but if the Roses will put two beds in my room and let me take in Sewall I think I will stay right there, as it is convenient, and at \$20 per mo I could not do better, but I object to paying \$40 myself. I think they will do it allright, as they need the money. I find that Pa Rose, after being 30 yrs in the dept, and rising to the rank of associate curator of the museum, is only getting \$2400 per yr. Nothing in science.

Suspect I may go out canoeing with Kitty tonight, if she is willing. It is decidedly warm today and I have opened the season for all white,--Guatemalan dux.

No one down to the Ofs yet, septing me. Come early go early, that's my motto. Big excitement up our way this morning, I attempt to blow up A Mitchell Palmer last night a few blocks from us. Darn these bolsheviks. Its rotten.

Lovingly

Washington, June 6 1919

Dear Folks:

Several good letters read since I last wrote. I dunno just how many, cause I dont remember just when I last wrote, but I reckon it want more than two or three days ago.

Paul, Rito says he is making big progress. Evidently Sinclair has asked him for his foto, wh he takes to be a good omen. He seems, however, to feel still that he is a long ways from his goal, and is knocking on wood.

Weather has turned cool here, and I put on a woollen suit again today, with a new pale green crepe shirt. I picked up two of em Paul, chez Tyssowski, at \$2. I guess they are the last ones in town. I have tried half a dozen other places, nothing doing. But I fear I cant use the ones with the turndown collars which you have found.

Paul, I am planning to bring your bookcase down to the Ofs and keep it in my room; when I go away I will box the books and leave em here. Mrs Rose says there is plenty of room in the cellar and I can store the other goods there if I want to. I dont think I can find any better place for them, but will see. If not, I will go down to the Willard Ots next week and get things in shape for moving and then get a truck and take everything.

I had nothing to do last evening, so sat up with the Rose girls until nearly eleven telling them why I had never gotten married. Little Marthe says she will introduce me to some girls. That's a good sign, atleast, that she has lost hope. Yes, Pablo; I anticipated you in the cold bath deal; have taken my second one already, this morning; and they are okeh.

I went out canoeing with Kitty night before last and we stayed out pretty late. First time I ever saw Kitty when she wasnt in any hurry to come home. Paul, she says the dog-faced lieutenant of engineers used to come out four times a week, regularly. She seems to be sort of gone on him, but not entirely so. He wants to marry her and is up in Wisconsin waiting for her to show up there this summer.

Lissen; you folks out home better make up your minds pretty quick whether you are going to want us to put in any money out there or not. I will give you until July 1, and if

you dont say anything by that time I am going to make some investments elsewhere. I will only have \$1500 myself, but I guess Paul can make up the balance of \$4000.

n Father, I recd a fine statement from Wm D Stephens about the eraly Atlixco introductions. When I have Marrieta's paper I will be complete, and will wind up my Atlixco monograph and get Miss Spraker to copy it.

I am much interested in what you write re the Linda. That eliminates another from the running, and le-ves that much more room for my Guatemalans. I only hope mine wont peter out the same way.

Mother, we are very glad that you are feeling so much better. By the time I get home you will be in splendid shape to tour the country with me.

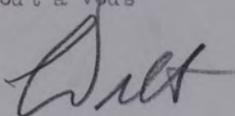
I am entertaining the Browne family at dinner tonight, Powhatan. Going to nick my pocketbook, but I thought it was time we paid up for a few of the meals Paul has eaten out on Highland place. I may get a month's free rent in August, too. I havent seen their new place yet, but will go out there one of these days. I am going to plant some irises later in the summer.

Paul, I told Ruth last night that you sent your love. I just said hello to her; I havent time to hang around there much any more. I went down in Rock Creek park and ran a road sketchofor an hour, using a compass and sight; I did it on a scale of six inches to the mile, and went half a mile down one road and back on another nearly parallel, and came out just right at the end. Lots of fun.

I called on Ned Vosbury yesterday, and he reciprocated by phoning me today to come out to dinner tomorrow night and meet Mrs Vosbury, nee Connor. I accepted. I dont believe Vosbury is going to burn the river up, horticulturally. It looks to me as tho Scott was pretty weak. He is leaving all the tropical fruit work to Vosbury, and is devoting himself to bud selection work with citrus in the southern states.

Mrs Browne and Kitty dont leave town until Sunday. If they stop in N Y, Paul, you must take em to dinner at the Russian Inn. I told Kitty you would. Say,--you ought to see that girl drink buttermilk. She likes it. Sure!

Tout a vous



At the Ofc, Sunday morning June 8 [1919]

Dear Folks:

I last night dined with Lieutenant Edward D. Vosbury late United States Air Service and wife. The Lieut. has moved in to the Connor apartment and is living with Margaret and her mother. Margaret is his wife, however, so that part is allright. I notice that he has stuck his name below theirs on the mail box in the lobby. I rather fear that in later years people may refer to Ned as Mrs. Vosbury's husband. However, after meeting Margaret's sister last night, and seeing her mother again, and also noting that she herself isnt growing any prettier as the years pass by, I am inclined to agree with Chas Dearing that it is a good match. I believe Margaret about as good as she gave. But say, you ought to see the collection of freak silverware which they received when married. It is fierce. Everthing from silver soup knives to silver can openers and silver fish spoons. Wow! I didnt give em anything myself, which was rather careless of me, but I am tired of giving wedding presents without never getting none myself.

Ned wants to go out canoeing, and says we will get up a party and take the ladies along. I have agreed contingent upon my finding someone to fill the aching void now being created by the departure of the adorable one; but I guess in the last extremity Margaret can bring along a girl for me. Probably we will go out some time this week. The Johnsons are coming back to town this week also, so I guess I will have plenty of canoeing company,--of a sort. Of course it doesnt amount to much when compared to the company I have been enjoying recently.

I have two of those fine Guatemalan dwarf palms on my desk as I write this, in 5 inch pots. They look pretty nice. I want to see how they will stand the Ofc this summer. It lends an exotic air to the place, also.

The mango chapter has been coming along slowly. I will finish it this week. While my progress on the book is not as rapid as I would like, I think I will finish it by fall without much difficulty, and the way I am handling it now it is not a burden to me.

Margaret Connor's sister who dined with us last night had read Paul's book and thought it was great stuff. I shone by reflected light.

Dad, I agree with you; we cant afford to give Webber that set of Mexican views. He wouldnt appreciate em. You keep that set there for your use and I will keep mine here for my

own use. I would like to get you up a good volume or two (album I mean) of Brazilian views and another of Guatemalan views, but I won't tackle it this summer, unless I get the book off my hands and have some time. It takes quite a little work and I am sliding out from everything that is not absolutely necessary. Of course I have to devote a certain amount of my time to Office work, so that by the time I have been in the service 25 or 30 years more I will understand our policies; and I have a certain number of conferences with the chief, mostly on the subject of premature marriages.

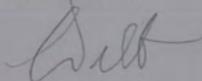
Dad, I will be glad to receive those white pants. I hope one pair of em is cream colored, to match the coat previously sent back. I am pretty well rigged out for white ducks, and now if I can stand the strain of having em laundered I will dress pretty well. So far I have only seen one other civilian in white upon the streets. The naval officers are all wearing their white uniforms now.

Lemme see; did I tell you that I took the entire Browne family to dinner on the Powhatan roof night before last, and we wound up with a few dances. This noon they are reciprocating by dining me at Wallis' (they have now left their house and are staying with a neighbor) and in the p.m. she and I go canoeing; tomorrow morning Mrs B and Kitty go north, and Pa and Tom take a room in Cleveland Park until August 1, when Pa and I move into the new house at Chevy Chase. They are located about a block from the Columbia Country Club, I believe. The place cost them \$12000. It is a new house. I haven't seen it yet.

Weather here pretty scrumptious, altho I suppose all the Jews are complaining of the heat.

Thaseall.

Lovingly,



Paul, are you coming down next Sunday?

Washington, June 13, 1919

Dear Folks:

After working with fiendish zeal all this week, I yesterday Thursday finished the mango chapter and turned it over to Miss Spraker to be copied. It will make 75 to 80 pp of MS. I am now going to take today and tomorrow to bring down Paul's books from Willard Cts, catch up with the Govt correspondence wh has piled up on me, and put a new ribbon on this typewriter. Then on Monday morning, bright and early, I will begin to tell the world about the Relatives of the Mango, o sea capitulo 3, which will fill a space as has long been empty.

Yesterday we reorganised this room I am in, and Allanson moved in; he is doing the JofH work and we thot it well to be together, inasmuch as he had to find desk room somewhere, and I thought I might as well take him in as to wait and let em put some less desirable fellow with me. By the time we get all of Paul's books in this room it will look like a genuine workshop. We now have a big double desk in here and all of the JofH files, my files, my bookcase, Allanson's bookcase, and whatnot, ad T Philip Terry hath it.

I believe the mango chapter is going to be by far the most complete thing yet turned out on the regal fruit of *Mangifera indica* L. (Hobson Jobson). With this and the avocado done I have at least one third of the book finished,—

that is, the first draft. I would like to finish all of the 1st draft by August, but I dont feel sure that I can.

I last night went out canoing with J Harry Johnson et uxor. The old canoe aint what it used to be, neither does Mrs J Harry bring out the same sort of lunch as Ma Browne puts up and someone else brings out. A canoe was made for two, anyway.---Bob Hempstead wants a young feller to help him on his finca, and I have put the thing up to Harry. He is wild to go, and I have written Bob to send the word, and he will start.

Father, we will be interested to hear the returns from the loquat crop this season, when they are all in.

Reed letter from Webber in wh he remarks that he would like to get a good man to take up the study of tropical fruits out there. That may or may not be a hint. Anyhow, I am busy. Dont distoib me.

Paul, I feel that I ought to belong to a scientific organization or two, so I am applying for membership in the Washington Anthropological and the Ecological Society of America.

Safford says his family is going away this summer and he will join me in a canoe trip once in a while. His paper on the new dahlias, including Dahlia Popenovii, is now in press. We looked at the proofs of the plates yesterday.

Blake is back from Guatemala. Says he didnt get to see any of my friends, altho he heard from Bob H and the Owens, and found he could get José if he needed him. But their expedition got tangled up in official difficulties with the Honduras govt and didnt do much. He seems already to have acquired a conviction that Comandantes are nix. Right-o.

Washington, June 14 1919

Dear Folks:

The boys are all talking a half holiday this day because of Flag Day and I will, therefore, get a chance to put in a little work. I regret, however, that it will all have to be on Heredity; we are reorganising the files, etc, and I will have to help Allanson.

Paul, my boy, I congratulate you. That brother of yours has brought all of your books down to his office, and he has salvaged all of your property at Willard Courts and put it in a cool and presumably dry place in the Rose basement. First you must know that the books all seem to be here, with the exception of one, i.e., Womens' Eyes, which I presume you have given to Marguerite and if you hadnt I would have given it to Kitty so it is all the same, and they are all safely arranged alongside my desk in your bookcase, and classified as follows:

- Sec. 1. Arabia Felix. A. Deserta. A. Immoralia, and General Orientalia.
- Sec. 2. Foreign Travel, General
- Sec. 3. ~~English Literature~~ Biology, general
- Sec. 4. English Literature.
- Sec. 5. Horticulture, and Smithsonian Reports
- Sec. 6. Science, inc. Home University Library, and non-biological
- Sec. 7. Psychology, and Too Late to Classify.
- Sec. 8. Foreign Languages and Literature, except Arabic.

I will keep the books right here until I go away, at wh time I can store them in someone's house or you can take them to your apt in N Y if Mrs Popenoe doesnt object.

In re the other property; there was more stuff there than I had dared hope for, and I think when I get it all pawed over and classified we will have it in shape so it can be left some time without further deterioration. The woolens are probably done up pretty badly, and I threw away several carpets et id genus omne, but there is quite a lot of stuff left there. Table is in bad shape, but can be made over. I put everything in the Rose basement and Monday ²⁰ and going to begin to go thru everything and put it in good shape. The pictures are all there but two are cracked. One of Three Bagdad scenes mounted together, and one of the small ones you had in the bedder. Not bad on the whole, is it? I think there are some clothes we can use among the stuff; will pick out the good things when I do the overhauling.

I had a hard time to get a nigger to haul the stuff. I finally got a very slow one who did it for \$5, and I gave \$2 to the janitor at the Apt for being so decent in giving up the fonograph (wh Mrs York had presented to him, evidently) and for leaving all out stuff there so long. The fan is apparently in good shape. I will try it out at the Roses.

I found the Positive Background etc.

Enc franks as requested for Snall's separates.

P a Browne stopped by this a m and picked me up, and we came down to bkfst together, folloiwng wh I took him out ti the canoe house and showed him the locker etc. Tom was along

and the two of em wanted to go out canoeing for the morning. After showing them the lay of the land I came into town at 10.45 and got to work. Reorganised the books and then went out to see Safford, in response to urgent telephone call. He has found a new cherry in my Mexican stuff, wh makes him quite excited.

Last night I went out canoeing with Mrs and Mrs Lieut. Vestury, and a Miss Taft they brot along for me. The latter is a Wellesley girl so we have something in common,--a bone of contention. I got home at 1130. Tonight I shall take it easy. Tomorrow I rather t think I shall go out in the woods and rusiticate for the day. I am doggone tired of the social whirl, and I have no good canoe partner in sight! Miss Taft would always be glad to go, but she doesnt fill Kitty's place in any respect, particularly in so far as concerns the important matter of lunch.

Glad to hear that MBP is making good progress. Let it prodeed.

Paul, send down a copy of your paper on free love when you get a chance. The girls will want to read it.

m By the way, many of the fonograf records of smashed, buht I find the Cuban ones left. Herb took the Arabians to Calif, didnt he?

Ever lovingly,

At the Ofs, Thurs eve June 19 [1919]

Dear Folks:

I have finished a hard day's work, and am going to sit around and read a while and write a few letters before going home and then to bed, a la Pepys. I find by putting in hard licks I can just about do ten pages of book MS in a day. That doesn't seem like much, and I can't do it every day at that, but I guess I will finish some time. I today finished the Relatives of the Mango, and tomorrow I begin the Amnaceous Fruits.

One thing I can see, and that very clearly: I am going to be forced to hold down or I will never get it all between two covers.

Father, I think we can brace up the introduction to the avocado chapter a bit. In its present form I am not altogether satisfied with it myself. If you want to touch up any of the other chapters, it will have to be done in the introduction to each, because we will have to hold ourselves down, in the body of each chapter, to the necessary fact and figures. I will send you the mango chapter before long (it is being copied) and you can see how it strikes you. Yesterday I got a letter from my publishers, asking for a brief outline of the work to include in their announcements of fall publications, so I will have to push right ahead and get the work finished for them. I sure will be glad when it is done, and you bet I won't waste much time in getting out to Calif, and then to the Tropics once more, unless something comes up to stop me.

Allite, Paublo, I will hold the dancing shoes against your arrival. I doubt if I will have any use for them in the meantime, as I notice Martha doesn't take much pleasure in dancing with me any more.

I haven't Mendy's address.---Glad to see the adorable Kitty's handwriting again. In response to your footnote that you are not her age, I would reply that matrimonially you are.

When the Karens of India were called together with the other tribes before the All Powerful, they brought along a bunch of hog-plums as a peace offering, and the All Powerful was so incensed that he decreed that the tribe should ever after be punished. I don't blame him. I had a pretty hard time to make out a case for the hog plum in my chapter just finished.

Thanks, father, for the copy of Murrieta's paper,

I reckon my Atlixco work is now complete. It makes about 55 pp of MS, and I want them to use 20 plates with it. You will have to get Mr Sallmon off in a corner and talk to him. I think I may write him a letter about it sometime. I dont believe I will be able to hold my book MS until I come home. I will probably have to turn it over to the editor (Bailey) before I leave here. He wants it by the end of summer. All the suggns for the first (introductory) chapter wh you want to give will be gratefully read.

Mother dear, we surely are glad to learn that you are making good progress. And as to the importance of cookery as an accomplishment of brides-to-be, it cannot be over-estimated. I give it 50% or thereabouts. And as for Mrs B favoring one side, Kitty would allow that to settle her own mind, pretty nearly; and it would settle it against the party wh her mother favored. She has complained a good deal because her folks have tried to direct her matrimonial activities. What are these Bartons going to do next? Ralph has had a collision. It seems to me they are always running into grief of some sort. Toombad.

Paul, Rito is plum crazy. He wants to correct a feeling I have to the effect that he thinks one's attitude toward one's intended should be purely intelektual. I never can please that fellow. Either I am looking at the matter from a purely intellectual standpoint, wh is wrong, or else purely the contrary, wh is equally wrong. He, Rito, has the only perfectly balanced system. I enclose his letter, from wh you will infer as I do that he isnt at all sure of landing the Angel Child.

Fine summer weather here, and I am enjoying it,- what little I get to see of it. I went to call on the Gates last night and find they had just left town. They wont be back until fall. Guess I will go out canceing tomorrow night with Johnson et ux.

Ever lovingly

Will

June 23, 1919

Dear Folks:

I came down to the Ofs intent upon putting an awful lick into the cherimoya article for the book, and here it is 5.30 p m and I havent been able to touch it. Work for the Journal has taken part of my day, and I was called in by the Chief to meet Admiral Ross, U S N, and so forth. Darn it, but I just wish the days were 48 hrs long.

I recd a big grist of mail from you-all today, including letter from F OP regarding the avocado land and date stock. I will let Paul attend to all the details of the latter. We literary men have to leave all such things to our financial agts. However, I may say, Paul, for your information, that \$80 for insurance and \$100 assessment on date stock, and expenses on my book, are so eating into my capital that I dont feel sure I will be able to put up the full \$1500. I will do all I can, if you can make up the \$4000, and will pay you back as rapidly as possible, if this arrangement suits you. You better come here for a big conference on this subject.

Just had a letter from Bailey in which he says he is going to call the book "Tropical and Subtropical Fruits"; he doesnt like DF's title "Fruits for Frostless Regions" a-tall, and I guess I will leave it to him to call it whatever he wants. Hit dont mattah to me.

Father, thanks for the notes on the avocado chapter. I am glad Chase is going over it. We will see how much he does to it, and I will be glad to have you send him the rest of the work if it seems worth while. Personally, I should think he would be able to polish the thing off quite a bit. I hope so. Hit needs it.

Recd registered envelop containing my \$100 liberty bond, for which Thanks.

I today recd a letter from Rito enclosing a foto of the Angel Girl. Just as I was looking at it, Dr F walked in. Says I to him "You've heard all about Rito and his score card; now look at the sort of a girl which he has picked out by his method." He took the foto and said "Yes, but she isnt going to marry him. I can see by her face that she has other things in mind." "Yes, she has" says I, "she aspires to be a great biologist." "She DOES?" Says he; "Then you get right on the train and go down there. Maybe you can win her."

Human nature is a queer think. I find that DF, with all his remarks about marrying with the head, etc, believes in the last analysis in love and lots of it, and he doesnt seem to have much sympathy for the Rito-Paulonian system of going about it too scientifically. Daisy Bell confided to me that she didnt feel sure Paul was ever going to get ~~me~~ married. Dont let that dampen your spirits, mother; yo me hago cargo de eso,--I will tento that. Pittier was telling me the other day a story of Werckle; one night they were exploring in the wilds, and at 4 a m Werckle waked him up. He found that Werckle was dead drunk, but he had dressed himself out in his best clothes, and he announced gravely "Senor Pittier, hago renuncio formal y solemne de mi puesto en el Instituto Fisico-Geografico" and he turned around and started away, and walked three days without a bite to eat, before he hit the nearest town.

Saturday afternoon I went out to the Browne's new place and dug up some of the flower beds and sowed a few seeds, which I suppose the chickens of the present tenants will enjoy infinitely; then in the ening I put my knapsack on my back, containing (the knapsack) two blankets, some grub, a tin cup and a machete, and I dressed up in riding breeks and puttees, and I hied me to In The Woods, where I slept on the ground, upon a goodly pile of oak ~~leaves~~^{leaves}, a-gazing at ye trees, and amusing the kids. Nancy Bell woke up at 4 a m, sick, and I had to carry her into the house. Paul, the fellow that gets Nancy is going to get a second edition of Daisy Bell. But I cant say that I think very much of Barbara; she hasnt the sweet disposition that Nancy has, and is inclined to be rather rough and boyish. We cooked our meals on an open fire, and had a bully time. The Ruckers have the bighouse now; we were down at the Retreat. I came home at 4 Sunday afternoon, to take tea at the Roses; they had Dunn and his niece (just in town for a week) and his father (ditto) and a new botanist from Cornell there; altogether quite a lively crowd; in the evening we got to talking latin America and psychology and had an exciting time, but later on Martha told me she thought the conversation was awfully dull.

I took lunch with Chas today; he tells me Edwin is engaged to marry a buxom lass who is the daughter of a well-to-do farmer who lives nearby (another vicary for the odd General, Paul!). Chas says the folks approve of the match, and the girl is only about 21. Hubert is running the farm and is doing well; Park is going to Washburn, Chas thinks; he isnt just sure about it.

Herb, I will get out that Walt-ham and send it to you just as soon as I can.

Mother, Kitty B still thinks she may come to Calif for the winter, with Charlotte Moore.

Apr 25 1919

Dear Folks:

Yesterday Bulletin 743 showed up in the Ofc very unexpectedly, and I immediately mailed you 12 copies. The edition is 5000 copies. I hope to see that everybody in the Calif Avocado Assn gets one. Will make up some mailing lists in a few days. It takes a week to get a 3 hr job done here. I was talking with Dr Fairchild this morning, and he says this Guatemalan avocado work, with the bulletin, is the best rounded piece of work the Ofc has ever turned out. He also says that this bulletin will establish me as an authority of avocados. After all, a Govt bulletin carries a certain amount of prestige with it which you cant get from any other form of publication. I shall have to get out one every once in a while, I reckon.

On looking over the bulletin myself, I feel that it is about as good as I could hope to do with the material I had. In other words, I do not feel disappointed in it, as I did in the Brazilian bulletin. It sticks strictly to business, and while it is not a thing which will set the world on fire, I feel that it is a business like and fairly thorough presentation of the case. I like the plates fairly well, tho they are printed on cheap paper of course. We use no other kind now.

I found a lovely letter from MBP at home last night, which I think I will answer from the house Sunday, day after tomorrow. Tonight I am going to see Lima Beans with Marguerite Neale (Greenwich Village stuff, for Paul's sake) and tomorrow Dunn and I are going to take the Rose girls to the Powhatan. Hoping you are the same,

W

Brooksville, USA, Mch 25 1919

Dear Folks:

Guess I'll have to write on this Royal, much as I hate to do it. In any event, it will give me an opportunity to make a carbon, so I wont have to send my letter to the California contingent via Paul, as I have been forced to do recently.

I got here yesterday noon and found a nice bunch of mail, tho most of the letters from Paul were characterised by an unusual degree of terseness and brevity. However, I was glad to get em anyway, and I realise that we cant all be as prolific writers as Mary Leitch and John C Sims. Speaking of Mary reminds me that I recd 7 pp of foolscap from her, copy of a letter sent to DF asking that I be delegated to Porto Rico for the spring. I fear there will be no delegation. Mary says it is time the Govt came across with some aid in their mango project.

Paul, Tillie's last effusion is on a level with Love me Tonight. That girl is a winner. I hope Rito meets her, and doubtless you will see that he does. But wait until MBP sees that note. I enclose it for her edification.

I agree with Paul that I will get my head turned if the Florida papers dont lay offn me. I really dont like the sort of publicity some of them having been giving me. There is nothing to it. I try to take their compliments in the spirit in which they are given, which means to say that I realise fully it is all pure bunk, newspaper bunk, and I have fully made up my mind not to let it affect me one way or tother. But I dont like it.

But DAWGONE IT, BOY: I dont like the idea of your going up to NY to live. However, if you can soak those fellers for \$4000 a yr, I would say go anywhere to live. With that much money to spend I will expect you to come down to Washn to stay over Sunday frequently. It will be a whole lot better than nothing. I guess I will have to keep the big room at Roses so as to have a place for you, and also to have room for my books and work table. I figure I will write my book out there, unless you can suggest some better place.

So Rito is on the way! I will write him today at Houston, but do not feel sure of satching him. If he gets to Washn before I do, put him up in some place which will be convenient for all of us, and fix things so I will have my mornings to myself. Beyond that I will be glad to see just as much as possible of him. I would take him in to live with me were it not that I simply must put the book before everything else, and the only way to get it done is to keep my mornings free.

Effie Rolfs is on my trail again. Help! She says, however, that I will have to come to Tally to see her, so I will get off easy. I cant go to Tally, no authorization.

Say, but I am glad to know my other \$5000 ins has been issued okeh. The delay made me think perhaps they were going to refuse the risk, due to my occupation. Little Paul and little Marion are now pretty well protected.

Paul, I reckon I better have that ERLake proof, as it will be quite a job to read it and in addition they might go ahead without me if I wait too long. Send it to me at the Royal Palm Nurseries, Oneco, Fla. I am going to pick up my next batch of mail there. You will find a further note on this point at the end of this letter.

Some folks seem to be laboring under a misapprehension regarding my status at 1812 Calvert St. Mother says that I am taking chances in "leaving Martha in Paul's care". Why shouldnt I leave her in the care of her intended? Of course I am fond of my sister-in-law, but I see no reason why I should not be happy to have her in the hands of her fiance. You can just ask Paul if I didnt pick her out for him the second day after we got there. And now you accuse me of having made a mistake in leaving her in his hands. Why, I couldnt have planned it so things would work out any better.

Pablo, I have recd the vouchers, i.e., the two dance checks from the Pwohatan. The account is passed as submitted.

I think its a shame for Sewall to be getting \$2160. In other words, he has never had a raise, as the \$160 is the war increase which congress gave to everybody. There is no justice in the Govt wage system.

Pablo, when you re-enter civilian garb I am going to present you with one of my Guatemalan Panama hats. I have another for myself. Herb will receive, as soon as I get back to Washn, the Panama wh I bot and wore in Mexico. It cost me \$18, is in good condition, would have cost \$5 in this country, and will have the added value of having been thru the thick of the recent Aguilar-Gomez-Menendez-Lopez-Martinez uprising. So dont buy yourself a cheap straw, Herb.

Mother, I dont believe you need to wait for either of us to come home to discuss the advisability pf selling Pine Lodge and building in the West field, or anything else. As far as I am concerned, I would be heartily in favor of selling Pine Lodge, unless you folks decide you dont want to leave it, in wh case I would be

sell, because there is less frost, better soil, and a better neighborhood up the hill, but either you prefer will suit me. We must certainly keep the avocado orchard and the Vista Loquats. By the time I get back to Washn I will have \$2000 available, and I will hold it with the object of putting it in out there in any way you decide to swing the matter. I ought to be able to add another \$2000 by the end of a year more, that is, by June 1920, and would be glad to invest it in that land at WIG, in any way you see fit. You understand that I have undertaken to overawe my fond relatives and not get married for three years yet, so I should still be able to shake loose a bit of money from time to time to invest in something good, such as Altadena property. I want to have a few good assets so that in case I shouldnt be fortunate enough to marry a girl who is able to support herself (using the verb in the Fairchildian sense) I will have a little something to fall back on. But I can tell you it is going to hit DF pretty hard if I dont contract the sort of a marriage he wants me to contract. Its a hard world, this.

I am putting up with Bob Jones here, and eating his good grub. Dined with Dave et uxor yesterday. I dont think the ux is any prize. Bob, however, says she is okeh, and he knows her better than I do. I was planning to stay here over next Sunday, but there is not much to do here and I am so anxious to get back to Washn that I am going to pull out for Ft Myers on Friday. I cant make Washington much before April 20 anyway. You can address for the next few days, or until April 4, care the Royal Palm Nurseries, Oneco. I may advise later regarding an extension of the date, or will send a new address

Ever lovingly

COSMOS CLUB
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Jan 30 1919

Dearest Little Mother:

I just came into my office after my noonday round of good American grub, and Harold remarked "Bill, I hear you are to be congratulated: \$2590," so I knew that the request for my promotion had been granted. This is really a \$400 raise, as the \$120 is an increase wh I understand everybody is getting, due to high cost of living, sp. War. But with \$2590 per annum and traveling expenses I imagine I will be able to live as extravagantly as I want and still

have a little bit left over. I began to feel wealthy. More than the additional money, however, I appreciate the added standing that I get by being a \$2500 man. It puts me up out of the Simmonds class. Old D.A. does the right thing pretty nearly every time, doesn't he?

Paul and I are having a gull-orious time, as Thyer used to say. We went to a dance last night and met some nice girls, and tonight I'm escorting mother Browne and Kitty to a lecture. Tomorrow night we hope to dance again. We have figured it out that we must dance at least twice a week.

We are exceedingly comfortable in our quarters. Oh, D. Dear! She now is very attractively furnished and we get clean towels in the bathroom every day.

To celebrate my promotion and the \$2500 to me which I got from the Physician Trust I expect buy myself a new pair of shoes today, and I want you to join me in the celebration, using the enclosed check to deposit the expenses. We hope you have entirely recovered from your cold, mother dearest.

(over)

Always devotedly your son
W. Pitt

Dorsett just said that I might spend 2 or 3
months in Cal this spring & summer on avocado work

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

FOREIGN SEED AND PLANT INTRODUCTION

Jan. 13, 1919.

Mr. F. O. Popenoe,
West India Gardens,
Altadena, Cal.

Dear Mr. Popenoe:

I am very glad indeed to get your letter of December 26 regarding Wilson. I have felt all along that Wilson was thoroughly devoted to this project of bringing in new plants and had determined to make it his life work, as I have done, regardless of what might come. I had opportunities early in the game to get out of it and financially would perhaps be better off today had I done so, but there are other things besides money, as you will appreciate, particularly in these days when values are being so tremendously shifted. I consider that Wilson is in line for substantial promotion and will get it, and if I have any power I shall see to it that he is taken care of financially. You can rest assured of that. His very interesting and worthy bulletin on avocados, which has been delayed so long, will soon appear, and it will be, I assure you, a credit to

(Mr. F. O. Popenoe, No. 2)

him. It will be a great delight to see him back here again.

What becomes of the west India Gardens? I am sorry to learn of the fact that you will soon be out of the business, for you have done a substantial piece of work in the dissemination of interest and material along these new lines.

with kind regards, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

David Fairchild
Agricultural Explorer in Charge.

F-3.

Su despacho de Uds,
Wed June 25 1919

Dear Folks:

Seven-thoity, and just arrived chez moi, that
is chez moi office.

I this morning handed Mrs J N Rose my check No.152,
amount \$27, being \$25 for rent and \$2 for storage.
I guess we are getting off a lot easier on the storage
than we would have done chez the Fidelity or other, and
I think we can leave the stuff in the Rose basement until
Paul gets married. Paul, I have learned that the Roses
own that house. We thot so before, but didnt know it.

Last night I took Mr Eyster, a botanist who is
down here from Cornell, to the Powhatan for dinner. He
had a pleasant talk. He invited me to stay with him when
I come to Ithaca, wh I may never do.

It is sprinkling this morning, wh relieves my mind
of all concern regarding the seeds I put in at the
Brownes last Sat. I figgerred I might have to go out
there and water them tonight or some day soon.

I am sending Herb at Altadena the wristwatch I
offerred him. I am not sure it needs cleaning, H; I
wound it up yesterday and it ran allright. It was tired
a while back, but I put it away for a month, and now
that it is rested, it seems to andar muy bien. The
chronometrist at Coban explained to Mrs Hempstead,
who took her watch to be reapiired (\$2.50) that "if

you dont wind a watch it wont run." Bear that in mind. H.

Yesterday I had done 8 pp on the cherimoya and was just getting up steam when a young methodist came in; he was going out to Angola as a missionary, agrl, and wanted to talk it over. DF was just starting somewhere with Mrs F so he turned him over to me, and the sunnum-agun feller stayed until 5 o'clock. He didnt have anything to say, either. Neither did I.

Father, have you looked into the possibility of obtaining some date offshoots there on the coast (outside the quarantines area) for Chas Deering of Fla?

Herb, if you knew all about the character of your friends Mesdames Page and York before you left Washn, what in the dickens did you let them have the Apt for? I dont think you knew as much as you thought.

I stopped in to see Chas night before last, as already advised, and found that Baron Lancaster had bought a pianola, electric, to fill up that gaping space in the north wall of the living room. They insisted in playing me 7 tunes, in order to show me how this instrument reproduces with perfect feeling the fine touch of the artist, etc. They ended with the Alcoholic Blues, wh Chas tried (vainly) to accompany on his sax.

I notice they have stopped billing "Lonesome, Thats All" in the music stores, and you can now get "I'm Always Blowing Bubbles".

I'm a goin to work.

Lovingly,

Friday June 27, 1919

Dear Folks:

I hope tomorrow to finish The Annonaceous Fruits, and on Monday begin on The Myrtaceous Fruits. I did 22 pp on the cherimoya, wh will make a nice little treatment of it, I think. But Golly! I am going to have to cut down somewhere, else I will never get everything between two covers.

Recd one letter from Paul, dated Loueyville.—Yew boy, you simply MUST come down here over the 4th. I have no excuse to come to N Y, and I presume you can arrange to come here on O B so it wont cost you much. Anyway, we can get more wholesome enjoyment canoeing and all that sort of thing that we can walking from Central Park to the Battery. COME.

William Edward Dunn Ph.D. left for California last night, and Martha cried most of the evning. I suppose she sees one more opportunity going up in thin air, but I dont believe Dunn ever exhibited any signs of making business.

I havent heard about the new year of 13 mos of 28 days, New Years Day free, but it is what the old Mayas had in Centro-America 2000 years ago (fide S G Morley) and if it was good enough for the Maya it is good enough for me.

Good letter of 21st from father yesterday. Dad,

you might get Herb to marry Anna Franklin unless he is

already committed to Flora Kerr. From what I saw of Anna when she was a child I don't think I need her. But that isn't saying the Franklin family aren't all right; they are. Only, I don't think Anna is just the kind I am used to, y'understand.

I had a big talk with the Agricultural Explorer in Charge yesterday and we discussed ways and means of the So American expedition. Our tentative agreement, subject to ratification by the Secretary, is that I am to leave here Oct 1st, spend the month of October in California to see my little mother and my dear old dad, and incidentally to address the Avocado Association, remember day and date, and then sail from San Fran for Guatemala, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Chile, Venezuela, the West Indies and New York. How does that look? We are biting off a big chaw, but I don't never want to go to tropical America no more after this trip is over, so I intend to finish the job if possible.

Father, have you a bunch of Guatemalan avocado slides of mine? I think I left them out there. And do you know whether they are going to use the fotos with that Preliminary Report on Mexican Etc wh is coming out in the next Report? I think I sent Webber 14 to go with it, of which they ought to use 7 or 8. Make em do it. I shall get some Atlixco and Queretaro slides made to bring along I think. Shall I bring any of the Guatemalan slides or have they been used enough? They are all colored now, and look pretty good. I can fill up all the time these boys

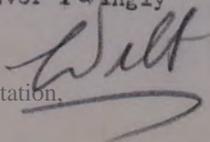
want, between Guatemalan and Mexican explorations. I am having my Atlitxco paper copied now; when it is finished I will send you one carbon of it, for your information.

Whedon sent me a short note re the profits of his Fuerte trees, I will correct my MS accordingly. Yes, those boys are working the bud selection business pretty hard. Like everything else that shows promise, we are inclined to attribute all the virtues possible to it. Some of our best men here, e g Merton B Waite, dont believe there is a great deal in it. Scott is going too far with it I am sure.

Paul, the Rojes are getting a good deal of pleasure out of our victrola. I am leaving it down stairs, and Geo and Rebecca dance a good deal. I dont care to use it myself very often; our stock of records is very limited and I am rarely home these days. Mrs R complains that I am going in for too much society. I called on Ruth last night and just as I was starting for home she requested me to take Edna and herself up to Huylers. That girl is a sponge. Maybe I have said that before.

I am bankrupting myself bywearing white dux, pero el pobre demonio tiene que vivir.--Called on she that was Maude Kellerman yesterday, and had a very pleasant chat. She is still allright, even if she is married, and just was learned as ever, along all lines. I also greeted W tennyson Swingle. I'se gwine to work.

Ever lovingly



1919

Washn, Sunday June 29

Dear Folks:

If the ex-capitan federal P. Popenoe were here this morning I would fill his little belly so full of mangos that it would hurt. We have received from Professor Simmonds a shipment comprising three varieties, (a) Cambodiana, (b) Pairi, and (c) Amini. They are fine, altho the professor picked them a trifle too soon, as usual. J. Arturo Harris and myself put down a goodly number of them yesterday. Said J. Arutro phoned me that he was in town, and I took lunch at the Mess at noon with him; in the p m we came down to my ofs and talked a while, then went home with Safford where we talked some more. Saf's family is now out of town. We three dined at the Brown Betty Inn, compliments of J. Arturo, and I came home feeling that I had enjoyed a delightful afternoon. J. Arturo spoke in a very complimentary manner of Paul's free love lecture; he said, in fact, that I had a remarkable brother.

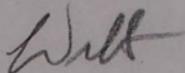
Yesterday morning I breakfasted at the Cosmos Club with Sylvanus Griswold Morley, Ph.D. He had just arrived from Guatemala and told me all the news. He was wearing the uniform of an ensign, U.S.N. He says he is now out of the service and is going back to archeology (genuine, not pseudo). It appears that he has done some good work in central America. He is going to be here in Washn most of the summer and I expect to see him a good

deal. He is a likeable fellow.

I am expecting a visit from the ex-capitan federal P. Popenoe over the 4th instant. If he doesnt come, by Gad I shall go up to New York and fetch him, so I shall.

Everything fine here. I am going to dine with the Roses this noon, much against the wishes of little Martha and this evening will chat with Eyster of Cornell. I continue to lead a moderately active existence in this man's town. And the cost of laundering white dux continæ high.

Ever thine

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

[June 30, 1917]



Mother darling:

I have had two good letters
from you in the last two days.
I will hold them for Paul,
as he comes down for the 4th.
I can hardly believe it is
nearly a month since I saw
him last. He will stay four
days, and so will have a glor-
ious time, 4th and all.

So Herb lost Womens Eyes!
Ask him what he did with

the Garden of Kama. And I am
sure my dancing shoes are out
there somewhere.

I will get you some of those
damned palms of mine one of
these days one of the trees at
my office is putting out a new
leaf. They remind me constantly
of my days in Guatemala.

Do you mean to say Herb is
still smoking? I thought he had
put away childish things. His
brothers don't smoke.

Sure, I'll address Mrs Milli-
kens Club, or any other crowd
that will listen to me.

Go had you ever having that sweater out
there. Well it is delightful - so far that
just wait however, I've been in
Los Angeles. They can't come no!

Merley says he came up from Guatemala
last year with a recommendation to
the O. M. J. that they employ me and send
me to Southern Med. Co. Besides in
formed him that I had already been
down there four or five months! So
certainly glad I did my bit in this

war. I shall not be afraid to look
your grandchildren in the face when
the Great War is discussed.

It is fun to think you are so much
better, mother dearest. The time for my
visit is rapidly approaching and you
must be in shape to go scurvy-free with
me. I think I will take you to San
Francisco to see me off.

Devotedly your own

Witt

June 30 1919.

Washn, July 3 1919

Dear Folks:

This morning just as I was coming out of the bawth, dressed in my stunning Jap crepe bath robe, Paul crept up the stairs, bringing with him three lbs of assorted candy. Bet FOP will wish that he was here. we dressed and came down to the Press Club for a pair of waffles, then went over to the bank to the strong box. The guardian was considerably baffled by the appearance of two Popences synchronously, and both wearing spectacles. He used to distinguish us by the fact that one wore spectacles and the other didnt.

Paul talks as tho he expects to remain in NY indefinitely. And now that he is going to get \$4500 after Oct 1, and \$5000 a yr from that time, I dont blame him a tall.

we are going out canoeing tonight; tomorrow morning will work on the book in the a m, and go canoeing in the p m. we are going to have a big time these next few days.

No more now; just a line to tell you I am very happy, and that we have just mailed our stocks, bonds and cash to fix up the land deal out there. paul has written you about the matter.

Stacks of love

W

Independence Day 1919

Dear Folks:

Hot, wow! When I sat down with Paul at the Press Club this noon and downed two fried eggs and some fried spuds and felt the hot air come up offn the street I felt just like I was back in Coatzacoalcos.

We went out canoeing last night, and slept rather poorly on account of the heat; at least I did. Paul says he was so tired he could have slept in a furnace. This morning we came down to my Ofc and took up the Date chapter, wh Paul has been writing all morning. It is now 2 p m and we are going home again.

I have on my desk a manga da Rosa, grown on a tree at Miami wh Dorsett and I brot up from Rio de Janeiro. It looks like it might be a valuable variety; it is one of the handsomest things ym ever saw, beautifuly colors, and is going to be a fine keeper. We may have a good commercial mango in this variety. It promises to bear much better than most of the Indian varieties.

I have the annonaceous fruits copied, and in a day or two will fwd it to you, along with Relatives of the Mango, and you can fwd it to JSC. I have finished the guavas and the pitanga and am starting tomorrow on the other myrtaceous ffuits,—feijoa etc. The book is coming on well, and I have hoped of finishing it in Sept. Gee but I hope so.

We have been talking over our assets today, and we

both think we have some good prospects in California,
between the date plantation and the avocado orchard. I
intend to see the Date country when I am home in the fall,
and I want to eat a lot of fresh ^sdays. I like em.

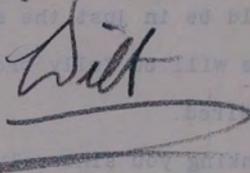
We have also been talking about our little mother,
and how much we want to see her, and it makes me feel
good to think that only three months stand between me and
California. And we agree that you were correct in not
allowing that Fessenden girl to sing "Stop Shaking that
Shimmie at Me". That's about the sort of a song Ruth
would go in for.

My dam palms are growing beautifully this weather.
All they want is plenty of water.

DF is going to put me in touch with Minor C Keith
before I go south, and let me get a letter from him to
their managers down that way.

I sure wish you could see my manga da rosa. It is
a beauty.

Heaps of love



AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION
July 5 1919

Dear Folks:

Paul has been on hand all morning, working on the Date chapter, but he has just been called to the War Dept and I will stay here this afternoon, Sat, to work on the Myrtaceae. Its another warm day, but we have to finish that book. Bailey has just written me that he is going abroad, to return in September, and that he will expect to find the work completed and ready for the press when he returns. Allright; I'll make an effort to finish it by that time. I must do it, for I want to clean up here and get away October 1st.

We recd by this mail India's Love Lyrics from Herb, for which we are duly grateful. ~~It explains the mysterious disappearance of The Garden of Kama.~~ We will greatly appreciate Womes Eyes, wh H says he is sending. It has not yet come to hand. And say, while I am about it Herb, do you know anything of the whereabouts of my Filipino bolo? It doesnt appear among our knickknacks. Pls reply on this subject. If you have taken it West with you, pls advise me, but dont send it on now. If it is lost I would like to know it.

Father, I have sent Hardin a copy of the Murrieta article; you sent the original and a carbon, that is, an original or ribbon copy and a carbon, so I sent him the ribbon copy and kept the carbon;

Well, well, well; Herb certainly is getting to be a man, now that he smokes and is a deputy sheriff. Re the latter, we dont have any objections, but neither Paul nor I see any great advantage to be derived from his smoking, except a much-needed stimulus to the alfalfa industry. Herb, I hope you got the wristwatch OK. It is a good one, and in the dry climate of California O 2 give excellent service. Those light watches dont stand the tropics very well; you sweat too much into em. When I sent that watch it was running, so maybe you wont need to have it cleaned. But maybe you will; anyway, you will have a good watch in the end.

H, I will send you the coat to that striped palm beach suit if you want it,--cream color with a thin white stripe in it. Is that the one you want? I might spare you a pair of white duck trousers too. No, keep the arabian records at home; we are going to leave our phonograph with the Roses when I move out to Chevy Chase next month. Neither of us have any use for it now, as the Browns have a good one, and Paul doesnt want it in N Y

We didnt take in any of the excitement yesterday. Work here at the Ofcs all morning, and at home in the afternoon. Found it ~~cool~~ in the cellar, where we had our stuff to work on, so stayed right down there all the p m. I took Paul to a Japanese club for dinner, and bwe had a meal that was as purely Japanese as (hey we got in Kyoto. Which is saying it was not good, but very exotic. This club is a place where the Intelligence

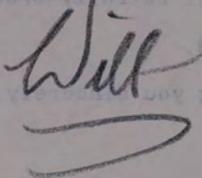
from the Embassy, et id genus omne. Very swell and very Japanese.

Mother, if you are going to hold Flora Kerr for me you better call off your dog-on son, quick, or he will be irreconciliably committed. As for me, I have fallen pretty hard for Kitty Browne, but it looks very much as tho Paul had done the same, and I suppose in that case he will win out, since he is on the ground and is in a condition to get married, which I am not, nor will I be for two years. If Flora is all you say she is, and of course she must be, she is a winner. Nous allons voir ce que nous allons voir.

Well, I shall turn my attention to Myrtaceae, as soon as I read a few of those Indian love lyrics which Herb has so kindly sent on. I understand, of course, that H did not lose the Garden of Kama, and that this volume is purely a free will offering, for which we are duly grateful. Come again Herb.

But ~~xxx~~ Herb, havent the biologists been able to convince you of the effects of nicotine?

Ever thine



July 11 1919

Dear Folks:

I left 2nd Lt. K Ryerson at home in bed this morning and came down to the Ofs alone. said 2nd Lt. K. Ryerson has a touch of indigestion and thinks he will take it easy today. I guess he isnt able to stand this rough American food after living in France for 2 yrs.

We went out canoeing last night, and came back just in time to avoid a big shower. When we got home we found little Marghe proudly entertaining a Capt in the marines, who was wearing a blue uniform and a DSC. This is the chap that said he could admire Marthe as a woman, but he could never love her as a sweetheart. Well, I know that little Marythe is of a forgiving nature,—in matters such as this.

Rep. La Guardia says this morning in the Post: "We should go into Mexico with beans in one hand and hand grenades in the other. Then in case they do not accept our well-intended and sincere friendship, may God help them." Hear, hear!

Pablo, I will go the best I can for Mr and Mrs J Belling, but I do hate to pick out wedding presents. I might get them a nice set of long handled spoon for iced tea, like she that was Marg Connor recd.

I last night finished the myrtaceous fruits, 50 pp, and tomorrow will tackle the sapotaceous. Today I must

clean up my correspondence and prepare a memorial for DF regarding my proposed trip and the work it is planned to cover.

Father, your letter of the 4th was welcome. Does the Avocado Assn want the illustrated evening lecture on Guatemala? I assume it does. I should think that Atlixco would be a good thing to feature this time, however, since it is brand new stuff, and everybody has now read the Guatemalan bulletin. However, we must cover both fields. Glad to know Hardin is using 10 Mex fotos with that paper. I will have 18 with the Atlixco paper, wh is now copied and 58pp.

No, we cant get results out of Mexican seeds in Florida, and have to use Guatemalans. The Mex do not grow well in that sand.

I guess it wont pay to have any separates printed of the Mexican paper in the forthcoming Report. I feel too hard up, from paying the costs of my book. It is not an important paper. I will want 300 of my Atlixco paper, however, no matter what they cost.

I note what you say about Date offshoots.

My forthcoming trip is scheduled for 18 months, and I think it will take all of that. I dont like to look forward to such a long sojourn in latin America, but business is business.

I will write Mellen about the Fuertes, Ity would be a good time to plant them now. Hold three against the probability of his wanting* them.

Pablo, I may be in N Y the end of next week. we have asked Taylor to authorize my trip up there, time limit 5 days. I will only stay 4 if I come, and am to call on Minor C Keith, the folks at the American Museum, and N Y Bot Gdn. I may only stay 3 days. Das Buch is demanding my attention.

Knowles and I have been having lots of chin music. He is keen on getting home to Calif and after spending two weeks sightseeing around this part of the country will take Sante Fé all the way. He is going up to Philly tomorrow, probably, and then on to Boston. He has a soft snap just now.

Fine weather here. Little Annee Cooper called up last night to see why I hadn't come out, and I booked her for tonight. She says the moon is glorious right now and I ought to come out. Alright. Anything to please.

Stacks of love

July 12 1919

Dear Folks:

K A Ryerson is feeling pretty fair again this morning, and has come down to the Of's with me. He avers that he is going to call on his friend Gif Pinchot today.

I am sending Herb a pair of duckpants, his whitecoat, and a Spanish book he wants.

Paul, the shirt recd. It is just the thing I want. What colors have you? I shall stock up. Maybe you better leave buying the rest until I come to N Y, wh should be in about a week, if I get my authorization ok.

I have recd bill from Euler of San Cristobal V. for \$200, moneda nacional, for fotos of the Guatemalan earthquake. I remeber Paul's mentioning these, or Herb, or somebody. Where are they now? Paul or Herb please inform me! I will have to pay for them, as I shall probably go back to San Cristobal and will want to stay with Euler.

Fine wæather here. I went out to see little Anita Cooper last night, by request, and we went down in the woods in the moonlight and discussed matrimony. Little Anita is allright, but she has got to aquire a little more domesticity before she will make an ideal wife. If she only had as much interest in this phase of human activity/as Kitty B!

I have revised the memo re my proposed trip, wh

I included in my letter to F O/M/P yesterday, and am

today turning it over to DF to send out to Taylor. I want to get my authorization thru before DF goes to Baddeck about August 1. Mrs F and the kids go the first of next week, I understand.

When the girls learn that I am about to start abroad for a two years trip (I make it that, to stand em off) they lose interest in me altogether.

Well, its a great life. Washington is the first city there is. And I have never seen the time when I could standup to so much work as I am doing this summer. I better knock on wood, but I think now I am going to be able to see it thru. If necessary, I can cut down my social activities a bit. I will begin by doing away with calls on Ruth. I havent seen her since she got back and dont know how sore she is at Paul. I suppose she is not so sore that she wouldnt accept an ice cream soda from me.

Lovingly,

Witt

AMERICAN GENETIC ASSOCIATION
July 15 1919

Dear Folks:

I was greatly surprised yesterday morning to see Paul drop into the Ofs. He had come down from Pennsylvania for a conference here. He stayed over at the SGO all day, and met me at 4.30. We went up the river for an hour, came back and had supper at the Cosmos Club, and went out home for an hr, after wh he returned to the station and went back to NY. Not a very long stay, but gratefully recd. He is working pretty hard these days, and ought to get out into the country o' nights, but he says he is in and out of town so much it would hardly pay him to do so.

Knowles left last night for a tour of the north and east, and comes back here in a week or so to start home. ~~Max~~ Sunday morning he went to call on Gif Pinchot while I went to church, then we met at the Powhatan for dinner, and in the pm sat around the Ofs and wrote letters until 5, when we went out for a walk, and finished up with tea at the Roses, and spent the evening discussing matrimony (our usual topic of conversation) with the girls. Knowles is a pretty good fellow. He is going to end up in politics, or I'm a liar. He likes that sort of thing much more than he does investigation. I, on the other hand, am finding more and more that my tastes are carrying me away from politics and executive work and into the investigative side. I think the Ofs folks realise this, and are beginning to think I am never going to make a Chief, because I don't take enough interest in our

Policies. But I am going to establish myself in the scientific world first, and then if desirable I will devote myself to Bureau politics.

Father, that was a warm letter from Cremer. Paul read it here so I return it you. I suspect there are a good many Germans that feel the same way, and it is going to make foreign travel a lot less enjoyable than it has been in the past. We must also remember that these disgruntled Germans can stir up a lot of trouble for us in Latin America. Those little brown brethren are just ready to receive any scandal about Uncle Sam and believe it. It is like adding fuel to a flame. I don't blame the Germans for being sore, but their way of getting even is typical of the German race. My one kick against them is that they don't know the meaning of Fair Play.

I will see if I can find another WIG cert in our strong box. We went thru everything, and I don't believe we missed one. I am tickled at the disposition you have made of my Liberty bonds. That \$26 gives me pretty good interest for the money I had tied up in them. Thanks.

I think Knowles will reach Pasadena just about the end of the current month.

Herb, thanks for your letter re the watch. I am glad to see it is still running. I guess it just felt the effect of the general attitude toward work in Mexico, and decided to stop for a while. Say, if you will send me a note once more re the numbers of the J of H that you want I will pull em out for you, as we now have the files in order. We are glad to know you have dropped the filthy weed. We never

that you would stick to it very long. Bob Jones has adopted Yogi philosophy and is struggling hard to pay off karma. Poor Bob, 'e didnt know.

Yes, mother, I have been planning to stop a couple of days in Topeka on my way home. I havent been there for a long time. I would like to see the Currys in particular, and also Edwin and the rest of his family, and I will be glad to call on Gma B. I wanted to see her last time I was there but thought I better not.

I am about to start to the wedding of John Belling and Hannah Sewall, with a half dozen of solid silver teaspoons in my little pocket.

W J Krome of Fla went over the avocado and mango chaps and made an excellent lot of suggestions re the former. He is the best avocado man in Fla so I feel that this chapter

is in just as good shape as we can put it with our present state of knowledge. The cultural end is going to be out of date in about two yrs, but we cant help it. I will send you on another bunch of copy in a day or two, and also send the Atlixco paper wh I thot might interest you. It need not be returned; you can hold it there until I come out. I will not send the original, but an extra carbon wh I have had made. I am now going to work over the avocado chapter, altering the introduction a trifle, and including corrections of Krome and Chase, and get it copied off for the final draft. I dont think I will need to have the mango copied.

Thassall for today.

With much love

July 16 1919

Dear Folks:

I mailed father today a large envelop registered containing Relatives of the mango, The Annonaceous Fruits, Fruits of the myrtle Family, and the Date. PLS send them on to JSC registered, and ask him to return them to me ditto, as I have no carbon copy nere of the date varieties, and do not want to lose them. I finished today the Sapotaceous Fruits and tomorrow begin on the Loquat. Ça marche toujours, aunque aespacio.

Dr Fairchild's family has left for Baddeck, and he invited me down last night to stay with him. I went, and we swam before going to bed and again on arising this morning. He has a French couple in the house as caretakers, and the madame got us a fine bkfst with café au lait, fried eggs and pommes frites, and some good French cheese. All very exotic. We talk to her in French. It is a soft life, and just the kind I like. I shall probably stay with him until he leaves about two weeks hence. It means that I will get down to the Of's two hours later in the morning, but I figure I cant afford to miss the opportunity. It is not only a great pleasure to be with him but an opportunity to learn things which I cannot miss. I shall hang on to my room chez Rose until our month is up the 23rd, at wh time I may pull out, and after leaving DF's go out to Chevy Chase.

Yes, if you can get \$10,000 for the West field at WIG

I would advise selling, and paying off the mtz on the East

field and what we can on Vista. I would like to see the East field held as long as possible as I believe it is going to be more valuable, eventually, than the West, from a real estate standpoint.

Mother, that was a nice letter from Lee Schmidt. Why doesn't Louise get married.

I fear I can't plan to speak at Mrs Mansar's club the end of September. I won't get home before early in October. Simply impossible.

Thassall for tonight

Much love from

Will

July 18 1919

Dear Folks:

Last night Dr Fairchild and myself dined at the Aici Kwan, No 1 Iowa Circle, same being the Japanese Club which Paul and I inaugurated some two weeks since. The chief fairly raved over it. He said he wished he had found it in time to bring Mrs F.

I cant go to NY until the agrl appropriations bill is passed, so I probably wont get there until next week anyway. They didnt pay the employees of this Dept this week, due to the fact that the bills has not yet passed.

L D Wishard is stopping here today, or at least said he would be. I think FOP knows him. He wants to talk Porto Rico and mangos,

I am beginning the loquat chapter this morning. Dont get se much done now that I sit up until 11 or 11.30 with DF and straggle into the Ofs about 9.30 in the morning, but it is worth while to be with DF at any cost. He will only be here a week more, probably.

I shall probably give up my room at the Roses on the 23rd. I saw Ruthie for a moment the other evening, Paul, and she expressed great regret at having missed you, but no anger. I went out to call on Anna C night before last. She got pretty sore because I told her I had to go home early, account DF sitting up to let me in, but she got over it. I dont like these girls to get peeved so easily. Kitty doesnt do thataway.

Hoping you are the same

July 19 1919

Dear Folks:

The chief and I got down to the Ofs early this morning,--sharp at nine. We didnt sleep well last night. I guess it wont happen again in the near future.

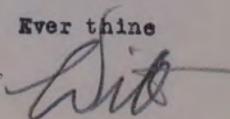
The agrl appropriations bill will probably go thru today or Monday, so I may be in N Y by the end of Next week. Better keep me advised of your plans, Pablo, and if you are thinking of coming down here about that time I will stall off my trip until the following week.

Blake is naming my beautiful new blue Salvia from Guatemala for Bob,--Salvia hempsteadiana Blake. I got a wablegram from Bob this morning saying that he wanted Harry Johnson to come down. Harry is going to take a job with Bob as assistant. I hope he makes good. It will be a nice place for him.

The chief informed me last night that he did not get married until he was 35. I thought you might like to know.

I made good headway on the loquat paper yesterday as Wishard failed to show up, and I hope to advance still farther this p m, ~~and~~ since it is Saturday and noone will be here to bother me. Wishard writes that he isnt able to come as he had planned. What sort of a fellow is he, father? Tropical promoter?

Still cloudy and wet here. Inwent out to the Rases last night and consoled Mart and Becky half an hour, also said hello (nothing more) to Ruthie. Ever thine



Washn, July 31

[1919]

Dear Folks:

By great effort I finished the relatives of the loquat today and turned that chapter over to Miss Spraker to copy. The effort was to avoid interruption; it was only about an hr's work. Monday is usually a busy day. I got a wire from Bro Wishard asking me to meet him at the Willard for dinner at 6.30 dark face figures, so in 1 hr more I shall betake myself to that famous hostelry.

Allright, Dad, I will send you some more Guatemala bulletins. Mebbe I wont sail from San Fran. I didnt know the boats stopped at San Pedro nowadays. However, I may want to run up to Frisco anyway.

Womens' Eyes read today, and mighty glad to have it. I suppose I will have to read some of the gems to Anna Cooper. She wrote me a note wh I got last night asking me to come out soon. That girl hasnt many gentlemen friends. DF told me last night, in one of our confidential talks, that girls who havent many male friends are not the girls to marry. He also told me several other things, particulrally in regard to proper age at which to conjugate yourself.

I took tea at the Roses last night and told em I was going to move out the 23rd. I shall go up tomorrow night and store my stuff in the cellar. Was going tonight but Wishard changed my plans.

Mother, I dont think 18 mos is too long for a trip like the one I am going to make. It is the only way to keep me

away from the girls. And as for doing it on \$3000 a yr for expenses, I dont think it will pinch me. If it does, I will simply holler for more, or else pick out a nice place to hibernate until the end of the fiscal year.

In printing the description of *Dahlia popenovii*, which has now appeared, Safford forgot and said "Paul Popenoe" in one place instead of "Wilson Popenoe". But he has the latter in four or five places, so I guess people will understand, and I am glad to share the honor with my illustrious brother, anyway.

Yes, mother, when Knowles gets home you certainly will hear about the war. I am looking for him to show up here one of these days. He is due now.

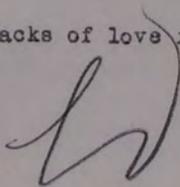
April bill not yet thru Congress, so we have no money. I wont get to NY before the end of this week, and if Paul is coming down at that time I will postpone it until next week.

Still lots of rain here, and more a coming. We had a bice tea ta the Roses last night, with Mr Killup there. Je he is a young chap who is now working for Doc Rose. Marthe vamped him as hard as she could.

Carl Pomeroy came in tofay and gave us lots of news from California.

Hardin says he is using 12 fotos with my Mexican paper. Pretty good.

Stacks of love from

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be the initials 'LW' or similar, written in a cursive style.

July 24 1919

Dear Folks:

At least, I reckon its the 24th.

I have spent yesterday and today revising the avocado chapter so that Miss Spraker can recopy it before she goes for her vacation August 1st. I will give it her tomorrow. I have written a new introduction of 2-1/2 pp, wh I think is better than the former one.

Knowles is here, and rooming with Capt somebody (fulano, doubtless) out near Dupont, and he comes down and takes a swim with us. Dr Fairchild leaves day after tomorrow, and I will then hold down the house with the assistance of Capt Wallace, of H M's embassy.

Yesterday I took Knowles around to the Rose residence with me and we packed everything in the basement. I paid up in full, including storage on our stuff up to the end of the current calendar year. I dont know whether the girls are glad or happy to see me go, but I fear the latter, as they have felt the stigma of Paul's remarks about the landlady's daughter (in his Book) and have often mentioned it to me. They are a pretty desperate pair of girls, and I dont really see much hope for them.

Last night I went to call on Anna Cooper. She spends her time either telling me (1) what a good guy I am, or (2) telling me what a bad guy I am. She has no one to trot her out and would be willing to have me call pretty frequently,

but I shall have to limit myself, for various reasons.

Knowles may be around town some days. He makes my Ofis his headquarters, and we are together a good deal. Just now he is sitting over in the other corner of the room reading what Amir Khurasau said about the mango. He went over my avocado chapter today.

I guess I told you that W A Taylor has approved my trip to S A, and now the matter goes up to the Secy. But our bill isnt thru yet, so nothing will be done for several days. We havent yet had our pay due July 15th. That would be cause for a revolution under the Carransista regime.

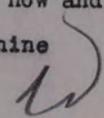
I have greatly enjoyed living with Dr Fairchild, and I have gained an impression that the proper age for a man to conjugate himself is somewhere between 30 and 40 yrs,—say about 35. I seem to recollect that he himself married at about that age.

Paul, when are you going to get my shirts, and when are you coming down? I shall probably get up there by the end of next week, but I cant say until the bill goes thru.

Weather has turned warm again, gracias a Dios, and I am back in white dux. Oh, yes! The palm beach suits etc have come down, and yesterday I stocked up with two, one a tropical worsted, gray mixture, and one cool Cloth, tan, for my next trip. They will do me very well, I think. I had to spend money in some way, and you know I never buy less than two of watches, suits, or pocket knives. Ask Herb.

I must take Knowles out home now and swim him.

Everthine



July 28 1919

Dear Folks:

Just recd envelop from FOP enclosing two Trop
Date certificates for 100 shares each. I will put them in the
strong box.

Hot as blazes here today. Wow!

DF went last night, and Knowles spent the night with me.
We had two ~~sims~~ swims in the course of the evening.

I have learned why DF always dressed in such good taste,
and the reason is Daisy Bell. He went down and bot some cravats
the other day, and they were the plainest looking bunch you
ever saw. He showed em to me and explained that he supposed
Mrs F wouldnt approve of them, as she always wanted to pick
out his cravats personally. He had one blue tie with white
polka dots wh made him look like a regular feller.

I am waiting to hear from Minor C Keith, to come to NY.
I may blow in there suddenly about Thursday.

Knowles and I have just come back, 4.30 pm, from Mount
Vernon. We will go home soon and take a swim.

Called on the Roses last night. Just to show them ther es
no hard feeling, but those girls dont take any interest in me
any more.

Nothing new to report.....just occurred to me there
might be a letter for me, so I went to look in the incoming
mail, wh wont be distributed by the messenger until tomorrow
toward noon, and found 4, one from MEP of 21st, in which

she advises that Blanch Calkins has married Charlie Hill of Model Gro. Is that my old friend? If so, he is at least 10 yrs older than Blanch, but then, Rito is 12 yrs older than the adorable St Claire. Good luck to Blanch.

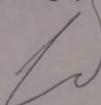
Thanks for the "Dicen que no nos queremos." It is a touchant souvenir of one big feed at the Fortún residence, Obrapia ll altos. Mon ami, how that girl could play! And such ojos!

These are the days when I am glad I have white dug.

I am going to be very comfortable at 1331 Connecticut Ave. By the way, you can address me there at any time you want. I suppose I shall stay there some time now. I havent heard anything regarding Pa Browne's return, and as I learn that the House expects to take a vacation in August I suspect he may not come back until the end of the month. I can stay at 1331 until Oct 1 or perhaps later, without inconveniencing anyone.

I certainly do enjoy the company of DF.

Lovingly

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be the initials 'DF' with a stylized flourish.

July 29

[1919?]

Dear Folks:

Whoopsee! Tomorrow night I go up to New Yoika to have a conference with Minor C Keith Thurs afternoon, and remain in N Y with Paul until Sunday night. I will see all the boys, and buy a few things for my forthcoming trip, and eat in 7 languages and drink in only one,--ginger ale. I got the blues, the alcoholic blues.

Knowles leaves tomorrow morning for home, HOME, and I feel sort of lonesome to see him going that direction and leaving me here. But I will get there before you know it, and I aint a going to leave until I doggone feel like it. I am going to have a real jennywine good visit with my mother for onst in my life. And with my Dad, too.

But say, Dad, your letter of 24 says I suppose you are bout thru with that book,--dont see what else there is to write about. NIX. I wisht I was. You have forgotten all the fine bird and children favorites, and I have not even sent you the loquat and the mangosteen, et al. I have another month of good solid work on that book, and it is going to make a right smart good sized book when I am thru. I believe it is going to be a worth-while volume, but it will probably look like a pretty puerile effort 5 yrs hence.

I will take 5 days vacation from writing now, and enjoy myself in N Y. Then I will have to settle down to a grind,-- I mean grind, for a month. I plan to come home October 1st.

for West Coast ports. I want to know about the Pacific Snail and the Toyo Kishen Kaisha,—at least I think it is that line. Let me know what I can get after October 30 which will drop me off at San José, Champerico or Coos.

Your explosion re Wishard does me good. I had about sized him up that away myself, but of course, knowing him so much less than you, I feel so much short in my analysis. He told me he had never written you to tell you why he couldn't go on with the date selling scheme in Iowa, but that the truth was, when he got there, he found that the people to whom he had been given letters, or those with whom you had tied him up in California (it seems to me he mentioned Read) were in such bad odor in Iowa that nobody would listen to him when they found that he was connected with them. It sounded fishy to me, but we see a good many such chaps here, and it is part of our business to pass on rapidly when they come around. I work em for a dinner if I can, but unfortunately I didn't get to work Wishard for one. If he comes back I will tell him I'm busy.

And say, Dad, that California Avocado Assn has just simply GOT to publish my Atlixco monograph in toto. That paper is a valuable contribution, and I don't want it cut in halves. I think if we put it up strong they will do it. They could afford to get it out as a separate bulletin, pretty nearly. Of course, if they refuse to publish it, we will have to see what can be done, but I don't see why it shouldn't go in its present form. I think Sallmon would approve of it.

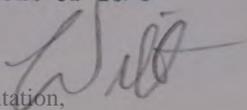
I would like mightily to have ten copies of the Report but six will do me in a pinch.

I surely am comfortable around at Daddy Sans. That big swimming tank is great. And the Madame makes my bed and picks up after me, and leaves me a pitcher of lemonade in the ice box every night for me to take after I have my last swim at 10 p.m. I am taking three swims daily, when I can get home in time. I am really having a delightful life here, altho the book weighs a bit heavily on me at times. But I am not letting it worry me a bit; it is simply that I have to work pretty hard on it. I am making good progress most of the time. I have quite a little office work to do, and some calls that take up time, but I couldn't stick to the book all the time anyway,

I have greatly enjoyed Knowles' visit. He is a good old scout, and we will all be proud of him some day,--or now. He will give you a full account of what a soft life I am leading. I am going to send him via him my two big Mexican ~~xxxxxxx~~ zarapes, which I am afraid to have ~~not~~ stored here because the meths will eat them up. You can use them somewhere if you have any place for them, otherwise store them until I want them. When I get married I will call on you for them, along with some of those big Guatemalan blankets. I am going to get a couple more of those blankets this trip.

Glad to hear that MBP is progressing satisfactorily. She must be in shape to take some rides with me when I come home. I am going to visit the Coachella this trip, and Vista, and Santa Barbara, and all the places around Los Angeles, and Riverside. yes sir. Big time coming.

Stacks of love





July 30 1919

Dear Folks:

It seems beastly quiet here in the big house tonight, - but in some ways rather pleasant. Knowles and Charles were both here last night and we had two swims together. I put Knowles on the train this morning, and got myself a ticket for N. Y. In half an hour more I'll go down and crawl into my

at all, and then I don't want to
write anything more for a while.
Tonight, when I think of spending
the next few days in N.Y. I realize
I'm more what a nice place there
is. Really, I don't believe I could
be on Kobby's property for a night
here. I guess I'll have to write him
some day. Charles has been around to \$2500

death. It's a nice cool night and
I expect to sleep well.
I thought I was all there my
work today, when they were in
poor and humming for the June
of it and I had to go over
it. Really, I got them just
about 5 o'clock.
I think it will be good for
me to drop my work for
few days and have a change
of scene. I'm not tired, but
I have been in it pretty
often for the past 2 months.
I'll work more ought to find

and he gets the \$240 bonus wh Congress
voted to Dept employes (and wh I do not
get because I have had a raise in
the past yr) so he has \$2740 all
told. He doesnt earn it. Congress is
meddling in our affairs now, and things
are getting worse than ever. Thats a
tangling body.

Well, I'm off for N. Y.
Devotedly
Will

Washington July 30 '19

Dearest little mother:

Knowles will give you a full account of the soft life I am leading, of how fat I am, and of the amount of ice cream he and I have been consuming recently. It only remains for me to add that we have talked about you a lot while he has been here, and how much I am looking forward to following

his footsteps westward in a couple
of months more.

Just to think that Knowles
will be with you next Sun-
day! When I see him packing
his (rather, my) suit case over
there in the corner of the room
it makes me wish I were
going along too.

But I am coming soon.

And in the meantime, and
always, I love you more than

Ever
you just awfully much.

Devotedly yours
Ever

Ever

Washington, Aug 6 1919

Dear Folks:

I yesterday finished the Mangosteen and its relatives, and today I must devote myself to cleaning up office and J & H work so I can begin tomorrow on the Breadfruit and Jackfruit. Ca va lentement, mais ca va.

Allright, dad; I have asked for 100 more Guatemalan bulletins, and when I get em, I am going to do em up in small pkgs addressed to you and drop one in the mail every few days. I guess the supply here is ample; we have so many of our Brazil bulletins that the Ofs of Publications advised recently that they were going to destroy a lot of them unless we would order them out.

In re loquat picture, I guess the one I have here will do me, as I have to hold down on plates anyway. But I surely would like a good date pitcher or two; one of a palm in bearing, close view, and one of the grove if possible. You know.

I begin to feel as tho I was going abroad again; we have been drawing up my letter of authorization and it goes today to the Secy for his signature. I suppose in a week I will have it and will then know definitely that I am going and can begin to buy things to take along. I suppose I should have at least 4 wrist watches, shouldnt I Herb?

Say, this book is going to be a long one! I cant seem to hold her down below a certain point. I shall have to leave out all non-essentials right straight thru and stick to biz.

Yeoman (f) R. Bowman, late U S N, now civil service, called me up just as I was about to crawl into my quiet@thermit's bed Monday night and asked me to come out; that they had another John on hand and were going to dance. Nix. I proceeded to carry out my original plan.

Tonight I am booked to amuse Little Anne Cooper in some fashion, preferably one which does not involve the expenditure of too much Filipino good money.

Sub Rosa, there is considerable talk that Bisset may have to go to the Fed Hort Bd, and leave this Ofs for good. If he does, I suspect they will bring Dave up from Brooksville, and let him do most of the distribution work, under the general supervision of Dorsett. The latter expects to be out of the Ofs in another couple of yrs. There is going to be a dearth of men to man these works one of these days, and Henry Allanson, my new side partner, and myself figure we ought to be in on it. But as far as I am concerned, I do not want to be brought in from the field for a while yet. There's plenty of time for office work later on; and when they do bring me it, it will be with the understanding that I am to have 3 months a yr in Florida and a good trip to Calif every year or two. I want to carry on work with fruits at the Miami station, in order to have something to write about ever and anon.

No excitement here these days. Race riots all over. I have a considerable cold as a result of too much high life in N Y, but it will be cleared up in another day or two. He who dances must pay the piper.

Ever lovingly,

Washington August 8 1919

Dear Folks:

There is always a fly in the ointment! My residence at 1331 Connecticut avenue is lousy (figuratively speaking) with fleas. It makes me feel just as tho I was back in Zacapa, Guatemala,—or any other point south of the 23rd parallel of North latitude.

Night before last I dined chez the Coopers, Mr C and Bill being away. Anna baked a cake which was calculated to impress me with her domesticity, and while it was a medium middly fair to middly fair cake, it was no great shakes; that is, I have eaten better ones in Congressional circles. We walked down to the Knickerbocker afterward, looked over the bill, and decided not to go in, much to my relief. Then we walked home again, Anna telling me the nonce ~~was~~ what a disagreeable person she was. But she booked me to come out again soon, no obstantes.

I expect to go out canoeing tonight.

Last night Allanson and Hopkins, two of my colleagues, and myself went out to In the Woods to see if we could bring in D F's big camera. Met Dr Rucker (who lives there now) coming down the road and he stopped to see what we wanted. I lent your name Popence? he says to me. Recognized me from the Popence appearance,—he knows Paul.

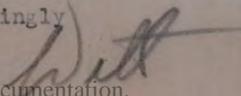
Father: I have just packed up 25 avocado bulletins in two pkgs and will mail you one today and another tomorrow. Or maybe I will mail one here and drop the other in the post box down in the street. I have 100 on hand waiting to be sent you.

I recd last batch of MS from Chase yesterday, with a goodly lot of editorial changes. By the way father, I suppose among my numerous acknowledgments I should mention JSC as having criticised the MS, shouldn't I? Just what should I say?

I finished the breadfruit (ein good frucht) yesterday and hope to do the jak today.

Letter came from Bob Hempstead yesterday giving Harry Johnson his marching orders, and listing some things to bring down. Bob wants some shirt, neckties, leggins, shoes, etc, and everything "The best". He is making money pretty fast now and has no opportunity to spend any of it, and I guess it worries him.

Well, Thaseall for today.

Lovingly


1919



Sunday evening
Aug 10th

Dearest little mother:

I've been enjoying a quiet afternoon alone here in my luxurious quarters. It seems to me I haven't had a waking moment to myself all this past week, so it has been doubly enjoyable to loaf around here today. I wish you could see how comfortably I am situated here; it really is

the softest snap I have ever
fallen into, and it was most kind
of the old Chief to turn me
loose here when he went away.
I surely do owe him a great
deal.

I begin to feel that I can
see light ahead, in so far
as the Pack is concerned. I
think this month will finish
the hard grinding. I surely
am putting in some hard ticks
on it, but I never stood up
to my work as I have done
this summer. It has sur-

passed me to see how much I have
been able to stand.

When in Mrs York's parlors to see
any part of Paul's collection. Of course
he would keep it under cover if there
was one.

I rather suspect Kitty is going to
marry a chap out in this country, this
I don't say for sure as yet. And as
for Ann Cooper, she would never
do. But then in lots of others, and

there is plenty of time left. Both
Paul and myself will surprise you yet.
Apropos de rien, the pretty p.c. you en-
closed from Flora not long since showed
that she is getting to be quite a girl,
and that she has good emotions.

I'm beginning to feel that I will be
home soon. You know it! And won't
we have a good time!

Yours devotedly
Will

Washington August 13

[1919]

Dear Folks:

This day, in spite of the fact that I am somewhat horse-de combat due to having taken the first injection of a new series of typhoid inoculations last night, I have done the durian, the white sapote, and the carissa. I will finish all the writing this month, I no longer have any fear on that score. Miss Spraker will not be back until Sept 1, and I reckon it will take her a good ten days to do the copying, after which I will send the stuff direct to Chase, and ask him to get it back to me pronto, so I can close everything up and get away from here on or about October 1, proximo futuro.

Yesir, I felt pretty rocky last night, but I slept well, and this morning I got up, bkfstd in my rooms, and wrote the durian at home before I came down to work. I sure do enjoy living at 1331. And by the way, Dorsett has just wired DF that he better come down here next Monday to present the estimate (whatever that means; I don't yet understand our policies, only having served 6 of the necessary 20 years to learn them) and if he comes I suppose he ~~xxx~~ will be with me two or three days before he starts West. Yes, I reckon he will get down you way about the end of September, and I trust you will impress him with the fact that I like my job, and intend to stay by it, and didn't never intend to stay with Webber nohow.

Harry Johnson expects to leave Friday night for Guatemala. I shall have to spend tomorrow shopping for Bob. I hope Paul gets those shirts here before Friday night.

Recd today a copy of the new Pasadena daily, advance issue.

Thanks.

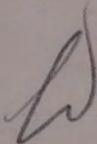
I have sent several bundles of bulletin 743 and will fwd more~~d~~ as fast as I can.

Glad to hear Knowles turned over the zarapes. They are beauties, in my opinion, and I only hope I will get a wife who will, unlike Safford's, allow me to have such things about the house. By the way, I enclose a copy of Safford's daily paper to FOP, in which he can read all about the new *D. popenovii*.

Father, I intend to have Bailey send me the galley proof in Guatemala. I certainly ought to read it. Paul has offered to do the index for me, but I want a whack at the galley if possible. Of course, if it will hold up the work too long and Bailey won't stand for it, we will let her go. Hope you get a foto or two from Thales, but if you don't, I have enough to pull thru with.

Guess I will go down to the Acropolis and take my digner.

Ever lovingly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be a stylized 'D' or 'D.' with a flourish.

Sunday August 17 1919

Dear Folks:

Paul tells me he is writing, so I will add a few lines on my own account.

I was greatly surprised (and pleased) to see Paul walk in Friday morning, and still more pleased when he advised that he would remain until Sunday night. He was busy Friday afternoon but the rest of the time we have spent in enjoying ourselves. No longer having the canoe to fall back upon, we have had to sit around the house much of the time, and take an occasional dip in the pool to break the monotony; but it has been enjoyable, and probably the best thing we could do. We have both of us enjoyed a good rest, and will go back to work tomorrow feeling the better for it.

I got Harry Johnson off to Guatemala the other evening, with a star trunk full of stuff for Bob and his wife, much of which someone in N Y sent down for Mrs H. Harry presented me with a pair of solid gold cuff ~~xxx~~ buttons, engraved with FWP, just before he left, and his wife made over my mosquito net for me, after a new design which I have figured out. It is an enormous thing now, and will certainly keep off any and all comers.

Dr Fairchild will be here tomorrow to spend a few days before he comes to California. He intended to go direct West from Boston but Dorset wired him to come down here first. So I will probably have his company a bit.

It is pretty quiet in Washington these days. but not quiet enough for me, for there are always many interruptions to my book. However, I have the thing so far along that I will easily get all the hard writing done this month, and Sept I can take to fix up the bibliography, put in the corrections and caption my plates. I will have it all finished by Oct 1 unless someone goes back on me.

Last night I read from Hardin 6 copies of the Rept of the Avocado Assn, and I find that my paper has come out in pretty good shape. There are half a dozen typographical errors in the text which I could have caught up, but they are of no importance. I think the cuts came out better than they do in our Govt publications. I hope they will handle my Atlixco paper in as good shape. I have written Hardin that I will address him in Santa Barbara (in response to his request for a title) on Exploring the Tropics for Avocados. He said they wanted a lecture of general interest, entertaining, etc, and this will give me plenty of leeway.

Ever & Gringly

August 25th 1919

Dear Folks:

It is 5 thoity, and I have just came back from Yarrow where I went with brother Safford in his jit, and I find here a tremenjous pile of male which I have just finished perusing. I also find a foto of Herb which shows him in the act of wearing one of these non-inflammable, everbearing Walt-ham kahki wristwatches. Also other fotos, for all of which thanks, and I am passing em along to PP.

Fayther, I think I want to be on hand right straight thru that avocado mtg, as I ought to stand around the lobby with the boys before and after and tell em all about it, and consequently you better not plan for me to speak in Pasadena on the day after. I would like to accomodate, but I fear I cant quite make it and do the avocado justice.

Herb is getting to look more like Paul.

Allright, mother, I will find out about the pajamas and bring out the crêpe when I come. I will ask the Rose girls how much I need. It always makes them feel chagrined when I ask a simple domestic question like that, and they are unable to answer it; and then I expound upon the domestic virtues of Kitty Browne.

I went out to call on the Roses last night, and after having a very pleasant evening with the girls Rebecca wanted to know what I was going home mad for. Paul, can you beat it?

My friend Nydegger from Winter Haven Fla. is up here now and is sleeping with me, and taking me to the theayter in the

spend his money some way or other, so far be it from me, etc.

I am working on the Jap persimmon, positively the last chapter in the book, and will have it finished in two days more. Then I have only the introduction, wh I will do at my leisure. So on the whole I should get everything out of the way in time to leave here as per s chedule.

Father, you neednt bother about the Thales loquat fotos, if you dont get them without further effort. I am pretty well fixed anyhow.

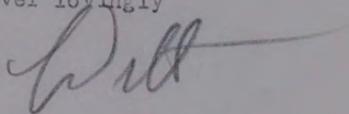
I talked to Charles over the fone today, and he advised me that he had just returned from weekending at Piney Point.

Yesterday's Post published an Associated Press dispatch regarding German intrigue in Mexico which was a crackerjack. I hope you read it. I cut it out and will send it on one of these days in case you have not. It rings true, from what I know of the facts.

Mother, its going to be an awful nuisance to have to stop off in KC, but I'll try to do it. I use to think it my duty to stop there so Shirley could kiss somebody who wore trowsers, but I dont see any outstanding need for it now.

Well, Ima goin down to the Acropolis and get some soup and hydropeppino (Herb, I bet you didnt know that was the Greek for watermelon, did you?)

Ever lovingly



August 27 1919

Dear Folks:

I last evening finished the Japanese persimmon, bringing my total up to 500 pp of MSS, and now I only have to do the appendix, wh will be easy, and the Preface, which wont be hard as it cant be very long. I am getting most of my drawings done, and will soon commence to caption and place them. I think I will have nearly 75 drawings and probably 36 full-page plates. On the whole, it will make a well-illustrated work by the standards of the Rural Science Series. I can see that they are going to put the thing out in cheaper style than I would like, but it isnt a question of what I like; we struggling young authors have to take what is given us. And I figger that anything I may lose in the mechanical presentation of the work I will make up in having Bailey's approval of the subject matter; that is, people who dont know me will consider that the book must be sound, or Bailey wouldnt have put it out in that series. It gives me a start; next time I will hope to publish independently. I hope my next work will ~~wik~~ be a complete account of the avocado. But say, isnt it a lot of work to write a book? I appreciate Paul's industry more than ever after having tackled this one myself.

I am informed that my letter was signed by the Secretary last night, so my fate is sealed. And when I get out this time I aint a coming back until I finish the job. This is my last avocado trip. And by the way, DF approved the other day of my plan to come home via the BTL and visit Trinidad and Dominica

to make a study of the mangosteennin those islands. And I guess if I can visit those two, I can slip in two or three more on the side, and see all of the islands I really want to. Of course I will be in a hurry to get home by that time, but I think when I get to the BWI I will find myself too much interested to cut my time very short.

Yes, bhikkhu, we have a few biled shirst down here, and I will look over the stock next time I call on the ~~Roses~~. In the meantime, if you will indent for them, or inform me how many you require, and what size, I will cause inquiries to be made, I presume you will need a 14-1/2, wh is just the size I wear myself.

Herb, I note that you think you can wear the shoes wh are too small for me, and will bring em out when I come and let you have a try. I also have a nice drill suit wh I am going to bequeath you, to wear when you are playing esport-man with some of those girls.

Bhikkhu, why dont you marry Tillie and set MBP's heart at rest? I really believe the girl is allright; but of course you know best.

I take my last shot/ of typhoic inoculation today. It aint a going to hurt much.

Bhikkhu, a bowl of that greek soup, bread and lebban, and hydropeppino makes a fine meal. I tried it twice. I took my Florida friend Nydegger down there yesterday, but he couldnt quite go the yourti.

Business is good.

Ever lovingly,

Washington, Aug 29 1919

Dear Folks:

Night before last at 5.30 the late Cam Franceschi, now C F Fenzi, called me up on the phone and told me he was at the Dewey. He also advised that he had asked MBP to write me that he was coming, but said advice hasn't reached here yet, thus giving one more instance of Burlesonian inefficiency. Nydegger and I took him to see Look Who's here in the evening, and then we went home and had a swim, and Cam stayed with me overnight. He was around yesterday and will be here today, and I think tonight he goes on to N Y. He wears forestry serge Norfolk jacket and riding breeches, with puttees, and an enormous four-pointed cowboy hat with horse-hair band, and rarely does a passerby fail to turn to take a second look. He exactly resembles, even to the presence of a 45 Automatic colt under his coat, a Colonel in the Federal Army of the República Mexicana.

I have had my foto taken down at our Lab for my passport and enclose copies to Altadena and PP.

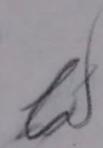
Tonight I am dining with Mrs Chase, botanist with Prof Hitchcock, to talk with young Otón Jimenez, a Costa Rican botanist who is here for a few weeks. It is a good chance to get acquainted and have some one to tie to when I get down there. Jimenez is a nice little fellow, a boy of perhaps 24, but thinks that medicinal plants are the chief part of botanical science. Those Latins always go off on some utterly useless tack.

It sure begins to feel as tho I was going West before long. I am getting my credentials now, and have ordered almost everything. Another month and I will be on the point of leaving. But say, why dont you get Knowles to find out about the steamers down the Pacific Coast and let me know what the prospects are, Pacific Snail and Toyo Kishen Kaisha?

Minor C Keith has sent me a beautiful batch of letters, including requests to his local managers to extend to me the courtesies of the railways in Guatemala and Costa Rica. Guess I will do a lot of riding this trip.

Its so cold here that I am thinking of digging out my winter suit.

Everythingg lovely,



Washn, Sept 1 1919

Dear Folks:

Labor Day,--i.e., the day 1 labor.

Which 1 wish to remark that it seems more like the antebellum Washington today than 1 have seen it in a long time; they say 40,000 overworked government employees have gone out of town for a holiday.

By the by, is my Jacksonville handbag out there in California. 1 think 1 left it here, and 1 dont find it now. Herb probably took it out with him,--small brown leather handbag. 1'd hate to lose that old friend, as 1 notice that Topham is now asking \$15 for poorer ones.

Father, 1 concur with Paul in the belief that it is entirely out of the question to import date palms now. If there was some particular variety which was considered valuable and worthy of introduction, 1 suspect the F H B might allow the importation of a very few offshoots, thru this Ofs, and with proper precautionary measures; but a commercial importation is absolutely nix. As 1 see the policy of the FHB, it is to prohibit the importation of everything except small quantities of new plants which are needed here to build up industries. As you know, they have even cut off shipments of standard nursery stock from Europe; the American growers can produce this stuff just as well as the Europeans, but it costs them more to do so, hence they used to import.

1 last night tore my Atlisco paper all to pieces, and am cutting it down about ten pages. 1 found that there ~~were~~ ^{were} ~~xxx~~

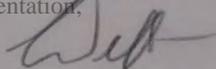
a good many repetitions in it. I think it will be in much better shape when I get thru with it. Since seeing Chase go over my stuff I have learned quite a few things about writing. What I particularly need is a more direct and concise manner of statement. I shall attempt to improve my style from now on,— expect in fact to devote much thought to ~~the~~ subject. I can see right now where I could write the Book better if I were to do it again, but there is too much work in it to think of rewriting it. The avocado chapetr is the poorest one of the lot, and should be the best. This is because most of it was written four years ago, when I wrote even more poorly than I do now.

Paul, the champion of the Greek population has returned after a short vacation; and say, but they serve big slices of Casaba at the Acrop! I dined yesterday upon on a bowl of soup, a salad, yogurti, and casaba. Will repeat the performance today.

Night before last I dined chez Mrs Chase of the National Herbarium; she had Blake and his wife (one of our botanical colleagues) and young Jimenez from Costa Rica there. Jim (that's short for Jimenez) and I talked in Spanish most of the time; I find it impossible to avoid using my hands the moment I drop into that language. Blake et ux are from Stoughton, Mass; and Mrs B, who is a very sweet girl, altho reticent, said that when she was last home someone was telling her about me, on the grounds that I was a distant connection of his. I think Richardson was the name; and she also mentioned a Clara Bowman. Mrs B is connected with the Richardsons by marriage. On the strent of all this, I shall hereafter call Blake Cousin Sid.

Well, I'm going work, as Mrs Simmondé says.

Ever thine



Washn, Sept 3 1919

Dear Folks:

It wont be long until October will roll arouhd, and then you wont see me losing much time in buying my ticket for California.

Father, I scared up about 40 copies of our Brazilian bulletin today and mailed them to myself, at Altadena. They are for you, of course.

Spicer Simson lied, Paul; he didnt talk with me about the Meyer medal, but with DF; and inasmuch as we have \$1000 to make the medal with, and he wanted \$1200 for the design, I guess there will be no trade. It seems to me he is rubbing it in a little hard,--to ask \$1200 for a job like that. It isnt to have Meyer's head on it, so he cant call it a portrait job.

These artists are all alike. Paul, you stay out of the village.

Wessir, Sam sure is the bold bad man and the desperado,-- in looks at least.

Dr Harris pulled in yesterday, and we had a fine afternoon and evening together. hE is just back from Miami, and brot an avocado wh we ate for supper.

Just read a letter from R D Cornell, addressd to F O Pope-
noe. And he still insists on spelling it ahvacati. That boy may be a good landscape gardener.

Herb, I'll try to bring the sticks you want when I come out, tho I am not sure they will go in my trunk.

Paul, I enclose check for \$25. Many thanks.

And say Paul, when are you coming down again? Just had a note from Rito, and he says nothing re plans, but I am beginning to suspesion, from remarks he lets drop now and then, that St Claire is a nice girl. I already entertain kindly feelings toward her.

The Acropolds folks think that Greece is going to get Stamboul.

Miss Spraker is copying the rest of my book so I can send it on to Chase. She came back yesterday. Month's vacation.

Nothing exciting here, as you may have surmised.

Ever lovingly

Washn, Sept 5 1 919

Dear Folks:

I'm a goin round today to start action on my passport. Looks like I was going to leave these parts one of these days.

Paul, the only reason I can see for Thyrsa's inviting you round to lunch is to have you meet Carlotta, who, dollars to donuts, is neither engaged nor married. They're all alike. However, I will back you against the best of em. The old Mawster isnt easily fooled.

I stayed down at the Ofs last night, after a good dinner of roast lamb and casaba peppone at the Acrop, and finished the first draft of my Preface. Gee, but I would like to elaborate it into 30 or 40 pages, but I cannot run much over 10. I am dreadfully afraid now that Bailey is ~~gaxxtax~~ going to say CUT! The book will be longer than any other of the series which I have seen.

Herb, I concur with my esteemed contemporary Capt. Popenoe in his opinion regarding your new offer. I think it shows that you have evinced distinct ability in you work, and like Paul I think I would accept the proposition, if it meets with the approval of Williams. But I would be guided pretty much by what he says; if he wants you to stay, and urges you strongly to do so, then I wouldnt take it; but if he is willing I believe the experience in a new field would be distinctly to your advantage.

Bhikkhu, the corrected date MS duly arrived yesterday and I have added the corrections to my printer's copy. I also made a few changes in the description of the palm, to make it read a little more like my descriptions of other plants. It is going to be one of the most valuable chapters in the book, and while it wont contain so much detail, I think it does cover the essential practices of date growing in a very satisfactory manner. It ought to be useful to those unfortunate individuals who, from now on, will not be able to obtain copies of that able contribution entitled "Date Growing".--And say, bhikkhu, I want you to cultivate Major Thompson, so that when I go over to Kew I will be invited to make my headquarters in the Director's residence. see?

I have been eating a few good avocados wh Simmonds sent up, Our Mexican var the Gottfried is a far better fruit than any var of that race in California; it weighs a pound and is excellent in quality; but we dont yet know that the tree is going to bear heavily; if fact I rather feel that it is not.

Doc Harris said that Simmonds was looking badly. I rather suspect he is only good for another two or three years at Miami, and I dont know who will take his place. I suppose I could have it if I insisted, but Doc Harris agrees with me that I cant afford to tie myself down to a job in a high-grass town. You have to keep near the center of things to keep from going stale. Guess I'll stick to my present system of part of the time out, part of the time in.

Ever lovingly

Washington Sept 9 1919

Dear Folks:

I don't seem to have noticed any marked hiatus in the matter of mail from Altadena. I don't think I have missed more than three or four days in receiving a letter. So these here strikes aren't as effective as the population (American, not Greek) would like.

By the way, Paul, the name of our waiter at the Acrop is not Demetrius (as I have been calling him) but Augustus. Oh my brethren! I think I shall continue to call him Demetrius.

Thanks, father, for the complete information re sailings. I will book for one of the Pacific Snail liners when I get tired of California and can't stand it any longer.

Norton cabled yesterday that his health won't permit him to do any exploring in China and he is coming home.

Father, I think those 24 slides are all Webber had. I will probably not want to use them, but can send them back here with the rest I will have after I arrive. I shall bring out 50 or 60 anyway.

I went to church twice last Sunday. It was the first Sabbath in two months on which I had not felt obliged to work, and at the morning service the minister arose, and with a meaning look at me (so it seemed) announced him number so-much, which begins "Oh day of rest and gladness!" in the pm I went with the Rose girls, after a typically rosaceous dinner, to the Washington cathedral and heard the bishop of Indian preach of the League of Nations. It was a corking talk. Had a cold collation with the Roses at 6 pm and returned home at 9.45.

Yesterday afternoon I got Safford and we two got young Jimenez from Costa Rica and went out to 1331 and had a dip in the pool (it was very warm yesterday) and then all went down to the Acrop for dinner. I must take Jim out again the end of this week, as I expect to work him pretty hard when I get to Costa Rica.

Gee, but it feels good to have the book all written. I only have to caption my figures now and insert Chase's corrections. I am writing Bailey to tell him I will be ready in two weeks, but I don't believe he has yet returned from Kew.

I have on my white dux and Omar Khayyam tie today. Going to call on the Admiral this afternoon.

Mother, I read the letter from Mrs Shirer with interest. I plan to take 3 or 4 days in Topeka (as I have plenty of leave due me, and it won't matter much whether I reach home on October 5 or 7) and I will be glad to do what I can to look after any matters connected with Grandma Bowman which may be necessary. I will go to see her, of course, and I can bring along anything which does not weight more than 25 or 30 lbs. I will only have my suitcase from here, I think.

Yessir, my time in Washington is growing short. The Brownses will probably return next Sunday. Mother, when I get home I want to eat fruit, and MORE FRUIT. Juts lots of fruit. And then some fruit.

And I would love to have a strawberry shortcake once in a while, in addition to strawberries and cream 3 times a day.

Paul, Jimenez says there is a first-chop Spanish restaurant somewhere down town, on Pearl street or Fulton or something of that sort, called La Chorrera. Look it up in the directory and try it some ndon when you happen to be down that way.

You ought to see Jimenez swell up with joy when I use some the Central American idiom on him. These folks here speak nothing but Spanish, and he years for a little of that good cholo slang. Safford speaks Spanish pretty fluently and correctly, by the way, but I can skin him a mile on accent. That isnt pride,--just consciousness of superiority.

Paul, I think Rito better get hooked up quick if he doesnt want to lose that girl, dont you? I had a letter from him last week and he was still happy but didnt say a thing about plans. I really fear if he has to wait a year or two to marry her he wont land her at all.

Whassamatter with my old power of attorney? Have you ever found it insufficient in any way? I dont think there is any time limit on it. I am going down to the strong box in a day or two to see if I can find that Trop Date stock among my other liabilities, and I will see if it says on that power "My commission expires Oct 1 1919 (Signed PP)".

I brot my truhks down to the Qds yesterday from the Rose manion, and and going to overhaul, repair, and recaulk everything before I start, and have areef taken in my riding britches (were yours, dear).

Business is good. But say, wait until I board that sant^e Fay all the way!

Ever, thine



Washn Sept 11 1919

Dear Folks:

Just back at the Ofc, 5.00 pm, after a busy day making Official Calls. Came in about noon and found my old friend Prof Simpson of Florida sitting here, so I took him down to the Acropolis and he thought it was great. We had an unusually good dinner. I have Augustus trained now so he knows just what will best suit me, and I rarely have to do any ordering.

Paul, I enclose note from Rito, in case he hasn't yet written you as threatened.

Also, Paul, kindly send me Grandma Bowman's address. I forgot to note it when I sent you her letter.

Last night I went out and gave little Anne Copper some more good advice on matrimony. A fellow is coming down tomorrow to see her, just back from four years YMCA work in India, and I coached her on how to act, so as not to let him get away single. That girl has it pretty bad.

I note Herb now weighs 140 pounds. Guess I will have to take a job at Whittier myself.

I shall have to fast for a day or two, as Safford says he is going to invite young Jimenez and myself out to his house for dinner within the next four or five days. Mrs Safford has come home from her summer in the mountains, and I hope Saf will now wear entire shirts instead of parts of shirts.

Father, don't mention to DF that I told you Norton is coming home. He won't want to talk about it until it is all over; he probably still hopes that N will pull himself together and stay out there, but I don't believe he will.

Okeh, you can just figger me in on that motor trip to the Coachella, with Lil Archie along. I surely want to see that valley this time, and I want to pull down three or four libbits of good dates for my private consumption.

I have got some army lockers and am packing up. Begins to look like I was going somewhere

Looks to me like Knowles might have sent me a note some time during the period which has transpired since his departure for the Southland and the present instant, but he hasn't done so. Rebecca says he should have sent me a bread and butter note, after the numerous days he camped with me. But I suppose his hands are occupied all the time and he can't do it. I bet they will be a wedding out the way one of these days, now that Knowles has a stiddy job.

Tomorrow I lunch with Morley and Glenn Stewart of the Dept of State at the Cosmos Club. I tell you, Washn is the place for sassiety.

FATHER N.B. The waxed paper we get here is no good, and I want to take with me some ~~the~~ of the kind we used to use at the WLG,—got it from Germain. Can you still get it from them? If so, I won't bring any from here, but will stock up out there. Please let me know.

Going home now to take a swim and loaf, and then go to bed.

Washn, Sept 13 Saturday

[1919]

Dear Folks:

Gee, another week gone. There wont be many more of them for me,--in Washington. El hamdillah. Not that Washington is not okeh, per se, nor that I dont like it, but I want to get to California. I figure I may take that boat which leaves about the middle of November, but if it isnt a good one, and there are lice in the cabins, as Oton Jimenez says there are in most of the Pacific Mail steamers, I may have to wait until the next one.

Yesterday I lunched with Morley and Glen Stewart at the Cosmos Club. Morley made things interesting by upsetting a glass of milk in his lap. As he was wearing a white uniform it didnt matter a great deal.

Real autumn weather is on us, and I smell of moth balls. By this you will understand that I have laid away my summer clothing and brot out my winter suit.

Got a letter from Knowles yesterday, but he didnt announce the date of his wedding. Mebbe she only looked upon him as a soldier needing a marraine. Why dont you show him to Flora, mother?

The new editor of the J of H is here, and he is a fine chap. I think he will make good, alright. By the way, Paul we are forming an editorial committee and want two men in each ramo; on plants we have Collins and Van Fleet, on animals probably Marshall and Wright, and on homo F A Woods and whom? Do you want to be on the committee? If not, whom would you suggest.

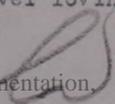
This town is mostly improvised grandstands to view the parade next Wednesday. I dont know whether I will be able to see it or not. I sort of figure the Brownes ought to have reserved seats, and if they do I may work em to take me along, but if they dont, I may stand on the sidewalk behind 78 other citizens and wait until Pershing rides by, and then come back to the Ofs and work. Wednesday is going to be a legal holiday here.

The Roses are going to Atlantic City next week. If the weather stays like this I dont see how they can do much bathing. They didnt want to go until Geo went back to Princeton. It seems to me they make an uncalled for amount of fuss over that fellow.

The late Yeoman f R. Bowman is back from Cleveland, O., where she went in the hope that Walter Knaser, late Sgt myjor, USA, would come across. From the way she talks you would think he must have done so, but there isnt any ring in evidence. I had to go out to get my suitcase back, and she dragged me thru the rain over to call on Florence, so she could tell Florence all about the trip, and I got pretty durined tired of sitting around and made up my mind that I wouldnt let her rope me in again. I am willing to do anything within reason to help make life bearable for my poor relations, but there's a limit.

Hope to get the last of my drawings today, so that I can place them in the Ms and caption them all.

Ever lovingly



Washn Sept 15 1919

Dear Folks:

Another weeks commenced. I wont have more than a couple more of them here. Paul, I cant leave before Oct 1, as my authorization doesnt go into effect until that date, and I doubt if I actually get out much before the 5th. So make your plans accordingly, but dont fail to come down; I have 4 white shirst, boiled, and pretty well worn out, and 3 white vests to turn over to you.

Saturday night I took Otón Jimenez to the Powhatan roof garden. He knocked the music pretty hard, and when he saw the folke dancing he remarked "If they will do that on grape juice, what would they do on alcohol!" Yesterday morning, and it Sunday, I attended church at Epiphany (I am developing into a pretty good Episcopalian) and it happended that general Pershing was there, so I got a good look at him and have satisfied my curiosity so I wont be heartbroken if I dont get to see him in the parade day aftef tomorrow. I dont yet know whether I will see the parade or not; if anybody offers me a reserved seat I'll go; otherwise I shall wander down for a few moments and spend the rest of the day at work in the Ofc.

Yesterday evening, that is, from 3 to 5 p m, I snoozed and then I went out to make the Roses a farewell visit, and was urged to stay for supper, wh I did. I also wrote Tillæe a letter, blowing her up for her numerous sins. Yes. Paul, I would like to be with Rito in Houston at the big event. If he offers to pay my fare down from California I may take a

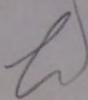
week and run down for the event (and also get a glimpse of Ellamarye and Tille, so as to see what Paul missed), but I don't reckon he will want ~~me~~^{me} to come that badly.

Sorry you couldn't find L'ra Chorrera, Pablo; look it up in the Directory, or inquire of your friends at El Farolito. Or the Redacción de La Prensa.

I dug out my heavy suit, as previously mentioned, and that I was fixed for the fall, but lo and behold! Yesterday when sitting on a nail in the Rose's swing I awoke most abruptly to a realization of the fact that the trousers were getting thin; this morning I left them to be mended and reinforced, but I presume I will have to buy another heavy suit before I start south. I might wait and get Carlos Minke to do me again, but/^{me}being an Ally, he would probably do me a bad job this time. Guess I will get one of those famous Brenwood Specials when I reach California. Everything is out of sight back here. If I had thought about it a month ago, I might have had a suit tailor made, with the summer woollens, and a decent figure, but they have the fall stock in the windows now, and everything is way up.

Must get back to ~~work~~.

Ever lovingly



Washington Sept 18 1919

Dear Folks:

Only 11 more days to October 1st.

The Grand review day before yesterday was quite an impressive affair, judging by what I saw of it. I sat in DF's room with my achromatic 12x spy-glass and watched it from a distance of one block, but due to the spy-glass I was actually nearer to it than folks standing on the side lines. See? I didnt see it all, as it lasted about 4 hrs, and after the 1st hr I got tired and went home and took a nap. Independent. Whats me.

Yesterday I called on their excellencies the Chilean Ambassador and the Ecuadorean Secy of Legation. Today I do the Venezuelan and Peruvian, and tomorrow the Guatemalan. Big orgy of diplomacy.

Mother, you wasnt knock Tillie that way. She is a nice girl. Rito says so.

Yes, yes, I would decidedly favor selling Pine Lodge if you can get \$6000 for it, and moving up to the East property at W 1 G, or the West if you prefer. That East property is good land,--you can grow stuff on it,--which is not true of Pine Lodge. And some day, if I come out there to live, I would, like to have a place where the soil permits of agriculture. So I say go ahead and sell if you can do so to advantage.

Herb, it will interest you to know that we fellers dined yesterday noon at the Old Virginny, and little Jefferson

Davis Culpeper wasnt there, but Mrs Culpeper staged a dog fight

for us right in the dining room, and the table cloths are the same ones they had when you and I were there, without being washed since that time, and the grub is as abundant as ever, and the price for a table d'hote 30 cents. Its still the best buy in town,--if you can stand it. This noon we are going to try the El rancho, wh has opened again with chicken tamales and board-top tables on wh they put no cloths. Looks like home.

I have bot a two-handed Whitman saddle, wh looks pretty good to me. The main reason for buying it two-handed is that they wont charge me duty on it when I land in Guatemala.

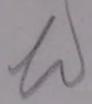
Allright, Pablo, I'll look for you down here a week from tomorrow. Remember day and date. And allright again, I will book you for one of 6 to make the editorial committee (purely advisory) for the J oh H. We will probably get you to do some book reviews for us; have one now, "Modern Psychical Phenomena" by carrington, which I have tried and think very unscientific.

Paul, me lad, you have a bright idea. Board the Quebec Line about January 15 and go Down the Ielands. But dont write a book about it when you come home.

When I last inquired, about 5 yrs ago, the RT fare was \$125. I suppose it may be \$175 by this time, but perhaps not more than \$150. Its worth it.

As soon as I get the last batch of MS from Chase I will insert my corrections and diapatch the book to Bailey.

Ever thine



Sept. 21, 1919



Dearest little mother:

I didn't write you yesterday,
and I am going to Baltimore
tomorrow (Monday) so I had
better write you a note this
morning before I go out to the
Brownies for dinner. I went
to bed last night with the
intention of being a good
churchman today, but I didn't
quite see how I could attend
church down town and still get
out to Chevy Chase by 1 p.m.,

and I got deeply engrossed in Harry Francis's delightful book on South America, - and here I am at 11.30, in Dr. Bell's big leather-backed armchair. I suppose I may not have more than one more Sunday in it.

Dick Groves came in the other evening and stayed for supper with me. It seemed to me he had picked up a good many ideas over in Europe. Hill never set the world on fire, but I believe he's considerably ahead of Owen. In God's name, Reto came out

to see. I sometimes wonder if he will really be able to hang onto the Chair (that's his first name) until he gets his married to him. I hope so, for his sake.

I suppose Dave will be with me a week from today. My time of departure is rapid by appointment. I have written Aunt Nellie and Edwin that I will leave her between Oct. 1 and 5. More likely the 2nd or 3rd.

I shall stay in California just about as long as I want to, for I may not get there again for two years. And I want to have a good visit with you and fill up for once on Fruit. It's a scandal the way one has to go without it back here.

Ever devotedly yours
Wilson

1331 Conn Ave
Sept 21 1919

September 22 1919

Dear Folks:

Got home from Balto this afternoon just in time to accept an invitation to dinner with Safford and a friend from Bermuda, but later he recalled it; so I still have to look forward to that famous and much-talked-of Dinner with Safford. However, he has a good heart.

Yesterday Noon I went out to the Brownes, and found Kitty in bed with acute indigestion, but Ma set us up a pretty good dinner (not the kind Kitty would have had, so she said), and at 4 pm I came home and went to Henry Allanson's for supper, fried shicken and all the trimmings. The Brownes arent yet settled in their new house, and cant get anything done because there is no labor available (and with all the returned soldiers kicking because they cant get jobs!), but they have things in ~~xlixixlix~~ livable shape and will pull thru allright.

I find this evening several letters from both quarters, which I will attempt to answer, but firstly,

Know, O Bhikkhu, that I will await you Friday morning at the Bell mansion. If you dont come by 8.30 I will journey down town and wait for you again on Saturday, but I trust you will arrive Friday. And you might bring with you a libbit of choc caramels if you wont to,--it wouldnt offend me a-tall. Speaking about offenses, Bhikkhu, I just have a letter from Tillde which is full of em. She seems to be getting an idea that you and I are conspiring against her, or quien sabe que,

Good Lord, as D F would say, is that boy Paul really drawing down \$5000 per annum? I shall feel free now to marry at any time, knowing that he can advance me the money to build a house with. I got a lot of my own.

Yes, Pablo, I believe the RR advertises from NY to Habana in 40 hrs, but I guess you can figger on about 48. Anyhow, you could made a nice trip of it in two weeks. Further particulars apply personally to 1331 Connecticut Ave.

I am beginning to feel the pressure of the last grand rush. It will be hop, step and jump now until I get outn here.

Pablo, when it comes to speaking of MY spyglass, J Belling is the man to be heard from, not you. However, in this case I was using my 12x achromatic, not the prism monocular.

Thanks, father for letter from Chas Caldwell. I am ~~sorry~~^{sorry} his bladder is giving him so much trouble.

Sorry you couldnt see Rito, mother, but I know just how you felt. After my last shot of triple typhoid my face grew very tender, and when I shaved I took off a lot of skin in patches and had some frightful looking scabe for about a week, and scarcely dared to appear in public, but I grinned and bore it. I didnt lookkvery handsome. I sometimes wonder whether that triple typhoid stuff is all its cracked up to be anyway.

I had a letter today from Gma B, saying she would like to see me when I get to Topeka.

Well, I am going down to take my regular fusil chez Demetrius in lieu of a Saffordian dinner. I guess Dem will be glad to see me, as I didnt get around yesterday.

Ever tlie

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

FOREIGN SEED AND PLANT INTRODUCTION

Sept 23 1919

Dear father;

Yes, the waxed paper is just the thing, as per sample just recd. You can hold the entire 30 lbs for me, and I will take it along. We can no longer obtain anything of this quality back here.

Did the Bulletins on Brazil ever reach you? However, you wont have time to answer this question before I come out. I will see if I can scare up some more before I start, and send them along. I asked for 100, but only received 40.

In re writing me here, you probably are timing your mail so as not to send anything that will reach here later than Oct 2.

Ever yours

Poppend

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

FOREIGN SEED AND PLANT INTRODUCTION

Washington Sept 24 1919

Dear father:

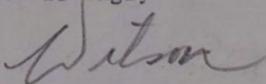
Herewith a copy of the revised Atlixco paper, with the photos I am going to submit along with it. Please hold it for me. I am bringing another copy when I come, with the same photos, but send this along as a safeguard.

Paul left last night, after we had called at the Brownes. It was a bit hard to say good-bye to him.

Letter from Rito says that "Oh, Poppy, I'm in love with your dad. What a darling fellow he is! And how enamored of his family!

Work pretty nearly all caught up here. Waiting for the Preface from Chae, and after it is copied I will be ready to leave. Expect to get away the 2nd or 3rd of Oct.

Ever lovingly



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY.

FOREIGN SEED AND PLANT INTRODUCTION.

Washington, D. C.,

Sept 24 1919

Dear Folks:

That five-thousand-dollar brother of mine came stomping up the stairs at 8.15 this morning, just as I was settling down, comfortably surrounded with my manteau universel, to read over my MS for the last time; and we came down town and had bkfst together, and then he went to the War Dept I suppose; and now, at 5.45 p m, I am waiting for him to show up so we can have supper together at the Aioi Kwan. It was quite a surprise to see him this morning, as I didnt think he would be here until Friday. He brot the customary tribute of Loft's bargain-counter candies, and I suppose we will break up with colds tomorrow night when he returns to N Y. I am hoping I can keep him here until Saturday. Nous allons voir.

Father, I today recd your letter about your talk with Bennett concerning the Date plantation. I will show it to PP tonight. And in reference to the note enclosed in it, I have dug out the negative of that picture of myself at Hedin's finca near Tapachula, and am having two enlargements made wh I will bring out when I come.

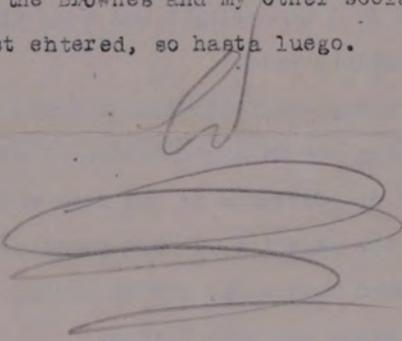
I this morning pulled down a \$4000 warrant from the U S treasury and deposited it in my bank. It covers my salary and expenses from now until next June 30th, with

the exception of about \$300 wh has been held back here to cover travel requisitions wh I will use in the U S.

Mr Dorsett's mother died a couple of days ago, and he is feeling that quite a change has come in his affairs. He has been tied down to her for some time. He thinks perhaps he will go out on an exploration trip next year, if we get the funds we are requesting from Congress for additional exploration work in Central Asia. I would just as soon they didnt send me on that trip; it is in a region which would not interest me a great deal, and I dont know the plants. I would not mind going to South China some day, if they dont previously get a man to take Norton's place.

Last evening I dined at the Browne residence in Chevy Chase, and then went to a little party at Allanson's. we played cards and ate an unconscionably large amount of cake and got home irreconciliably late. I have my evenings pretty well filled up from now until I start home, what with several at the Brownes and my other social obligations.

Paul has just entered, so hasta luego.



excessively comfortable. I will not be in the City very much of the time, anyway, and it is a good place to store my things. Yesterday I got my trunks out of the custom house (courtesies of the port, no examination) so now I have everything I need. I came pretty near to running out of clothes before I got the trunks.

On Thanksgiving Day I had a picnic dinner at noon with the Allisons and the rest of the mission crowd in Minerva Park, and it was a good feed and pleasant company. In the evening I dined with the American Consul and his wife. There were about a dozen present, including Thurston, our chargé d'affaires, his mother, our military attaché Major O'Donnell, who is a capital fellow, and a few other Americans. We had a bully feed, with lots of turkey and cranberry sauce, and plenty of dago red.

On Friday I called on Mrs Owen and one or two others, and dined at night with George Graven, who was at Zacualpa with Mr Ker last year.

Yesterday, Saturday, I lunched at the Legation with the Thurstons, and today, Sunday, I am going to church and to dinner afterward with the Allisons. After that, all bets are off, and I start for Antigua. An Agricultural Explorer isn't supposed to devote more than three-fourths his time to social affairs.

I sent Bob a wire on arrival and last night received a reply. I think I won't go up there until about the 15th, as I want to get off a shipment of avocado seeds first, if possible. I shall probably spend all of this week at Antigua, then come over here for a day or two, and go back there a second time for a few days. Major O'Donnell has loaned me his mule for the next two weeks or so.

I found José looking for me, and he wanted to come back to work for me. I talked to his present patron, don Roberto Nanne, traffic manager of the RR, and told him I would like to have José if he could spare him, but wouldn't take him otherwise. He said I could have José if the son Augusto would stay in the house. José wanted both the boys to go down to Chiquimula to school again (at my expense), and when he found that Augusto would have to stay with Don Roberto he began to sidestep. He tried to make me believe that don Roberto had changed his mind and didn't want Augusto, and he was going to bring the entire family and move over to my place, but I handed him a note to don Roberto, asking him if it was true he did not want Augusto; and a few hours later, probably without having delivered the note, José came and said that he had decided he would stay where he was. He hasn't reformed any, and I could see that he thought he was going to have things pretty much his own way now that I had come, so I was just about as well satisfied to leave him alone. I have now employed Federico García to go to Antigua with me, and I have employed the Verapaz I will fire him

Guatemala City, Dec 7 1919

Dear Folks:

I have just put down a good dinner at the Pensión Grace, and will dine this evening with Mr Simmonds, so I figure I am making out pretty well today. And I am just back from a week of high life at the Hotel Rojas, so it is no wonder folks here tell me that I am getting fat.

Well (as Frank Meyer always began), Antigua hasnt changed very much since I last saw it. I surely felt at home in the Rojas; the furniture is exactly the same as it was when I was there before, and they must have the same cook, for the food is just as good and just as abundant as ever. And Angela still waits on the table. Martin, the stable boy, has grown considerably, but I think he still holds back the corn on me, just as he did of yore.

Everybody in Antigua welcomed me back. Doña Matilde was very cordial, and I called on her twice. The kids have grown considerably. I went down to San Antonio, and up to Santa Maria, and to all the other spots which my infancy knew, as the song hath it. But it isnt time for aguacates yet; there are not mature ready for picking, and I have postponed until later the purchase of several thousand for seed. I shall have to go back there about the end of January, I think.

Father, I am once more indebted to ~~xxxx~~ you for showing superior wisdom in matters which touch my personal welfare. That McClellan saddle is much better than my other one, and I shall give the latter to Harry Johnson, at cost. When old Major McClellan put the finishing touches on that saddle of his, he did something. Forty years of service havent shown up many weak spots in the design. The little mousecolored mule which Major O'donnell loaned me made the trip in about 5.5 hours, which is average running time. She is a pretty good animal, but I never could bring myself to love a mule. They dont correspond, as the Spaniards put it.

The Consul's wife and her sister, and three Americans from here went over the day I did, and in the evening we had a marimba in the patio, and dancing until eleven. After which the marimba left and the boys proceeded to drink the bar dry. They got away with all the hard likker allright, but there were several quarts of claret punch left which they were unable to attend to, account its being too bulky.

From the tenor of Paul's letters, several of which I found at the Consulado upon-arriving yesterday afternoon, I judge that he begins to look toward California with longing eyes. Well, I would also, if I had spent six months in N Y. I would if I had spent six weeks in N Y. I might even do so had I spent six days in N Y. Its a ghastly place, that; positively weird. I am hopeful that things will be fixed-up so that he can take over the Tropical Date Co next spring and I wonder whether brother

Russell wont find the climate of Coachella slightly too suggestive of the life to come. I dont believe an Easterner will really enjoy that vally during the summer months, at least not for the first few years.

Father, I am infinitely obliged to you for taking the trouble to answer several letters which reached Altadena after my departure. I hope people will by this time have realized that I have departed for foreign shores, and will trouble you no more.

I agree with my learned colleague P Popenoe that St Clair's letter is remarkable. Rito must have won a genuine prize. Durn it all, why dont Paul and I ever fall in for anything of this sort? When I get home again I am going to take six months in California to write that book with Shamel, and incidentally stake out a claim somewhere. Paul, Gladys Gosney told me she was going to N Y next summer to spend a year in school there; if you dont come West before that time you better look her up, for you will find her interesting. As aforesaid, if she were only a bit better looking she would qualify 99.44 fine.

I forgot to mention that there was a girl from Santa Ana, Salvador, at the Hotel Rojas who is a dium of Rosa Battle, the latter having been one of my traveling companions from California on the SS San José. I got well acquainted with the girl, yolept Rodrigues, and she confided to me many things of psychologica value, all of which will be incorporated in that monumental work, How to Choose "a Wife, soon to appear. Yessir, I larned about women,--Latin American women,--from her. She confirmed several of my own opinions of the sex.

Father, thanx for the skin of Johnson. It is a West Indian, or pretty nearly so. One of my "Intermediate group" indubitably. I have written Shamel a long letter about his proposed book. I think if it is to be half on subtropials other than Citrus I might get DF to agree to it. He would not listen to my helping Shamel on the navel orange book, at least for the time being. About two years hence I would like to collaborate with Shamel on a book. The fact that Prof Piper of our Bureau is after it is a strong factor, since Piper is a big man, and DF will feel that the book must be worth while if Piper wants it.

Plenty of physical exercise and ten hours sleep,--thats a fine diet I am finding. Herb, you better try it for a few weeks.

Mother, if you let Paul discover the whereabouts of Lois I swear I will never come home again. Herb is saving that girl for me, arent you Herb? As for Knowles, he had his opportunity, so he has no kick coming.

Papers here say that the Carrancistas have captured and shot Felipe Angeles. If so, the best military man in Mexico has been lost to the Cause.

Someone passed the word around here that I was coming down with a new wife, and I am having to do considerable explaining. Hoping you are the same, I remain

Ever thine

The city is not what it used to be. The majority of the residences have been repaired or rebuilt, most of those which were formerly two stories now being reduced to one; but the churches and all the large government buildings are standing in ruins, and look decidedly out of place. They havent hauled all of the debris out of the streets yet; I am told it will probably take another year to do so.

On Thanksgiving Day I got a fine bunch of letters from the States, including one from MBP, one from FOP, two from Paul, and several from the Office. Tillie sent me the clippings from the Houston papers telling of THE wedding, and I had a letter and a card from Rito. He says they liked the pictures very much (§12 please, PR).

By the by, I have investigated the blanket market and purchased two for my bed, as Simmons did not have any spare bedding. They are at the same figure as formerly, but exchange is now 23 instead of 36 to 38, so that they will actually cost me considerably more. Hit dont mattah (as Cellon says); I shall get mother a couple more, and one for Daisy Bell. It is always hard to find choice patterns; the one I bot first is about as good as the one I sent Miss Spraker, and is the best available at present, but by watching the market I may find something much better. My second one is a small plaid, wh looks like a steamer rug, and I am going to convert it tomorrow into a saddle blanket,--that's what I got it for. I am going to get 4 or 5 really select huipikes for MBP too. In re Panama hats, Paul, I think with the rise in exchange here I can probably get them cheaper in Ecuador, and I will pick up two or three there and bring them home. Paul, do you want another cut of that overcoat cloth, before it is too late? I can get a beautiful gray one here, like my old coat, or a brown or a blue. They will cost about \$250 now, wh means \$10, but they are cheap even at that price.

Paul, I note with pleasure that J. Pastorfield, caterer, has opened a tea room at 534 Madison Avenue. Of course, I never heard of Pastorfield before, but that doesnt matter; if he is a friend of yours, by these same presents he is a friend of mine.--Thanks for the Cosmos Club printed matter; I see I am gradually dimbing up, and I figure I ought to voted inat the Jan mtg, if not in December.--Too bad about little Ruthie isnt it? No one to love.--Its allright for you to marry one of the Gosney girls, provided you take Gladys, but as for both of them, nix! Herb and Lucile are saving Lois for me, arent you Herb? I really believe that girl is a prize, and I hate to think that someone else may pick her off before I have a chance to get home and get action. Herb, if you let her get away, I will declare your own engagement null and void.--The Amconsul here has a certificate of membership in the AGA framed and hanging on the wall. O Tempora!

Ever lovingly

Will