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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.

FROM NAT FIBSBURG, MISS

Sept. 27th 1940

Dear Ben, AT MADISON WIS

I have not heard from you in such a long time, way last Spring, I believe, but I seem to remember that either the last of Sept. or the 1st of Oct. is your birthday, and so I am going to wish you many Happy Returns of the Day. Our family are still old-fashioned enough to remember their birthdays and either send a card or a letter to celebrate the date. I hope this year has been a year of pleasant memories, and I had such a nice trip this last August, that I am still "keeping my golden memories aglow."

There was a small party going from here to the Fair on a cheap R.R. fare for 15 days returning via Niagara Falls via Schenectady where Louis, my son, and Rosalie, live, so I made up my mind in a great hurry to go to Schen. leaving out the Fair and Washington stop-over as that would give me about nine days to stay with Louis. I am so glad I did. He and Rose had taken a house out at Ballston Lake for the summer, 18 miles from the city. It was lovely out there, many other summer homes were clustered on both sides of the green lake, which shimmered like an emerald in the thick groves of pines and maples and wild flowers. Louis' house was on a rocky bluff, 60 ft back from the lake with steps leading down to the water out out of the rocks, to a platform for the swimmers, and "a little red canoe" for boating. The house had a big living room with large glass windows across the front and one side looking out on the lake with a fine view. Two other young engineers, Bob Fisher, and Woodrow Bloomsdahl board with Louis and have their autos, and Rose's young brother from Atlanta, was there, so we had a happy household. There was always "something doing" with so many young folks around. Louis has a new Ford V-8 auto and we had fine rides over to the mountains and to other lakes for outdoor parties. Louis is President of the Young People's Group of the Church and they are very active in their work. Rev. McKeel takes a great interest in them and they have week-end trips and social gatherings and you would be surprised at the enthusiasm and interest they display.

They took me in to the city often and I went thru some of the big electric plants with others, and to the Lab bldg. where they have a theatre and a lecturer gives demonstrations with queer looking electric machines and colored lights and other apparatus, both weird and wonderful. It is called "The House of Magic" and it truly is. The name "Schenectady" means "Gateway to the West" so I was told. It is on the Mohawk River and at the Union College they have an open air theatre on the campus where the Mohawk Indian Festivals revive old Indian legends and stories in performances each year.

There are 18,000 men employed by the G.E.Co. and 250 bldgs. The American Locomotive Co. where Edison first worked, and this G.E.Co. is the outgrowth of Edison's work and planning. Here Charles P. Steinmetz, the humpbacked electrical wizard lived and worked--he came here an emigrant, although born in Germany, and he had a beautiful home, a zoo and a fine conservatory of flowers as well as an electric lab. He was the man who produced such terrific volts of lightning from his machines. I saw so many interesting things I can never forget them all.

A large city of 100,000 it was founded by the Dutch and other settlers in 1661, and was bought from the Indians for "Whyte Wampum paint, 6 keates, 30 barrels of lead, and 9 bags of powder." Thus did the poor Indians have to give away their glorious land--they did not know what they were doing anyway. But then they never could have developed this country as the white people have done.

(Over)

Returning home I stopped over for two hours at Niagara Falls and took the auto bus sight seeing trip, and was thrilled by the beauty of it all--only wish I could have spent the whole day there. I wish I had had time to go over to Madison and spend a day with your interesting family, but had no idea whether you would be at home, or off on a vacation, but I thought of you anyhow.

DeWitt could not go with me on this trip, I am sorry to say, as he had taken his vacation in May, going to the Gulf Coast and Mobile, and I had really not planned to go on this extensive trip, until the opportunity came. But I shall never regret it. One of our young men friends stayed here at the house with DeWitt while I was gone so he was not alone. Last year we had such a nice trip to Cape Cod to visit the Barkers and had such a nice family re-union. Louis and Rose were awfully glad to have me, and conditions all over the world are so upset, no one knows whether our young men will have to be called to the colors by this time next year, or not, but we hope not. The Gen'l E. Co. is one of the important Key Industries, so we put our hopes on that. The war is too terrible to talk about. We have to keep up with the events, and they seem to grow worse from day to day. I do so wish they would stop and have PEACE.

Our city is to have 50,000 soldiers here next month out at Camp Shelby. Many buildings are being fixed up for them now, 300 houses, mess halls, 20 hospitals, etc. and we cannot get a workman now for the Govt. will pay \$1.00 a day, ten hours, and double pay on Sundays. We hardly know what it will be like to have so many people here, and we will be crowded off the sidewalks, and the stores will do a big business. Many officers have taken houses down at Biloxi and Gulfport for their families, and rents and etc. have gone way up. I hope food stuffs will not go up too, but suppose they will.

I have such a nice letter from young Lloyd Dugger of E'ham. I am very fond of Lloyd and am always glad to hear from him. I write to Reuben Dugger at Gallion now sometimes. Since Minnie tells Fanny and Sadie about her trips back home to "New Hope" at Gallion, and she always tries to go to see Reuben whenever she can. There is such an interesting article in the Sept. number of "The Country Gentleman" by Paul deKruiff, called "They Wait for the Light" about how trachoma blindness is being cured by the drug, sul'famidimide. I know it is a dangerous drug except in the hands of a doctor, and I do not know the nature of the trouble with Reuben's eyes, but it must be a terrible cross for him to have to bear. I do not wonder he is often irritable.

Fanny has had a nice trip up to Trenton, Tenn. to visit Alice, and I hope to go to Mobile before long to visit Fanny.

I must bring this epistle to a close for it is almost time for DeWitt to come home to supper, but trust the shock of hearing from me will not be the "Blow that almost flogged Father" and so you must remember that you are not by any means forgotten, and with many wishes for a happy birthday, no matter whether I have the exact date right or not, believe me,

Cordially yours,

Louise Sprague Hutchins

1019 Main St. Hattiesburg, Miss.

Prattville, Alabama,
October 15, 1940.

Dear Uncle Ben,

As I have had a chance to visit Uncle Reuben recently, I am writing you in regard to him. The inclosed letter will give some idea about his problems. Very rainy weather followed by a drought caused failure of his crop and hay supply. He is pessimistic and worried about it and his mental state probably aggravates his periodical heart spells. He is unable to do the odd jobs surveying, that formerly brought him in a small income. He only gets about 10¢ a gallon for milk as he cannot comply with grade A regulations. I have sent him \$6.50 since Sept. 10th and father has sent him at least a box of food that I know of. I am going to ask Thelwell, Frances and Dorothy to join with me in sending Uncle Reuben a small sum each month until his spring pastures relieve his feed troubles, and will continue to send him \$5 a month as long as my school session lasts. My oldest son will send \$1 a month. If all close relatives who can would care to join in this and send small sums directly to Uncle Reuben at \$1 a gallon we can make sure that he does not suffer privations during this fall and winter. Father said you helped so very generously with the heavy hospital bills about a year ago.

My oldest son, Ambrose, Jr. is a freshman at the University of Alabama. My second son, John, age 16, is

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a sophomore in the School of Chemistry. Louise is in the first year of Senior High and Jimmy is in first year of Junior High. Ambrose, Jr. carries a news route with 160 subscribers. Jimmy milks the family cow in my absence.

I am on permanent status as a teacher in Autauga County High School at Prattville, Ala.

Elsie ^(Mrs. A. C. V.) was very much pleased by the visit of your son Ben and his family, and described him as an exceedingly handsome young man. I was very sorry to have missed seeing him. I cannot remember any of your family except you and Cousin Louise. I remember the very pleasant day in St. Louis when you took me through Shaw's Gardens and she took me through the Art Gallery.

Hoping that you are well and still enjoying your work as much as ever, and with love to all members of your family,

Your nephew,

Ambrose Duggar

1 Gallion Ala
Dear Angrose
OCT 1907
Your letter recd & was
glad to hear from you
& I surely appreciate the check
very much as my cows
have fallen off in milked
much as pastures were a-
bout played out, a good
season. So I hope they will
pick up a little though so
cold & so late in the season
& my cows handled so
roughly & milked by chaps
so they'll never do any
thing much. I don't have
but little hay, not near
enough to start into win-
ter with, so I can see
nothing ahead for me

2) But to sell out & quit.
Then what to do for a
living I can't solve that
yet & cows won't bring in
much this late in the year
hardly more than half their
worth, if the herd
was fresh they might sell
O.K. to (A) grade dairy-
men to help their out to
keep up their quota of
milk thru the winter.

Do you know anything a
bout surveying etc or
was it Levee that could
do surveying. That Mrs
Porter looks that line was
asking my dairyman as
to when yr Father

3) might reach here so
she might expect to start up
something this fall. & if
I could get the line
run out right away I
might keep out of a lot of
trouble, worry & expense.
Many thanks for the
paper. I missed my chair
& went down on the corn-
er of the cot & it larded
me up for days I am not
over it yet. Planted some
seed in my little garden
since the rain & garden
now in good shape all
planted in two small places
I've put in oats for chickens
to pick on.

Don't have an **D** corn corn to
speak of. Had no idea you
children were as old as they are
& glad to know they are
doing nice by at school
also Fred III. Lewin Sledge
was thrown from his horse &
hit his side on a hard bank
& had 3 ribs broken & other
injuries which are very pain-
ful when I saw him last Sat.
urday. Again thanking you
for the clbk & paper too.
Love to all yr family &
those in Auburn too
when you write, answer
Gr aff Uncle

Saturday. ^{Bellevue} ^{at a pit} ^{that} ^{is} ^{at} ^{the} ^{end} ^{of} ^{the} ^{road} ^{to} ^{the} ^{city} ^{of} ^{Atlanta}
Inver 4:30. I'm tied up in a letter
Auto of Atlanta a rad joy contact them
to make any settlement & attorney was engaged
anted for 30 days & must meet had must
over 2 days so

so he returned it to their Demo-
cratic store & asked Lloyd to
please write them & see if he could
bring them to settlement. It
would be such a pleasure to me
if I could hear the organ & would
serve. I certainly enjoyed it
while I had it & was able to
have it charged every 7 days &
then it took sometimes 4
days to get the battery back
home & mileage on one occasion
of 88 miles. Going on

To get it & it was not char-
ged enough to bring out
sometimes it was in traps a
week if it rained much.
Had a little rain during equin-
ox so planted my small gar-
den alongside my house.
also planted my larger garden
to oats sown very heavy for my
chickens. then a small wheat
and patch too was sown & both
will be sown to rape too for them
With best wishes from Linda R
Monday eve.

Auburn, Ala., Dec 8, 1840.

Dear Ben;

Knowing that it would be impossible for you to come to the funeral, I did not write you of Reuben's death. He died at Frederickton, late Friday afternoon, Nov 29th. With him at the time were ^{my son} Ambrose and Dr. Bobo, of Demopolis. For more than two weeks he had been almost continuously confined to his bed and suffered about six heart attacks.

On a note from Lucy Stedje Pauland I had spent the weekend with him a week before his going. During our stay he improved, ate with relish, and was cheerful. Paul and I again drove down Nov. 30th, to the funeral in St. Michael's cemetery. Arrangements were in charge of Brown Service Insurance Co., in which I had kept up Reuben's policy for the last few years. Lloyd L. B., who is Executor under a recent codicil to Reuben's will, met me at Gallion Saturday afternoon, and remained until Monday noon. Together we made considerable progress in arranging for the early sale of his 29 head of cattle, chiefly stiffer cows, their temporary care, etc.

(2)

We made an inventory of personal effects ^{scarcely} and farm equipment, assorted odds and ends in the house and disposed of objects having no value. We looked thru what seemed to be his most recent papers or those promising to be most important, all of which were taken home by Lloyd for more careful examination.

We visited his banker, arranged for an extension of his note for about \$300 with him, and listed such other debts as we knew of. It looks as if ~~these~~ total will not exceed \$600 or 700. We have offers, of \$850 ^{or about} and \$950 for all the cattle, and probably may get a hundred or so more for remaining chattels.

On Monday afternoon I went to Liden, made contacts with three out of four applicants to rent the farm in 1941, and dictated to Paul (on a borrowed typewriter) the exact language of those ^{"real estate"} paragraphs of Grandmother Duggan's will of 1887 and codicil of 1896.

I'll write you of the contradictory provisions later, and probably then send you a copy of our resume. Meantime, I have sent one copy to Lloyd, for him to use in planning the clearing of title to permit a sale of the realty.

Dec 8 '40

I expect him to find this to require at least a ^(year) instead of the few months to remove the more recent cloud on his title, arising from the failure (double-barreled oversight) of my brother L. to return his copy of the agreement ^(other copies of) which you, Wm, and I had signed, giving Reuben a quitclaim deed to any interests we might have in the Duggan land. He thinks this latter can be remedied by proceedings to remove any disability of his sister Helen, now ^{18 and} a Sophomore at U. of Ala. His sister, Mary Morgan D., expects to receive the M.S. there in Jan. or Feb. 1941, in dramatics.

You may be puzzled when you receive from Lloyd a blank form for signing, approving Sat., Dec 21st, as the requested date for formal approval of ~~the~~ P's will, and seemingly committing us to attendance there in Greensboro. As that seems a merely perfunctory matter, I have written L. to ask whether that is my obligation or only my ^{privilege} right. If I hear in a day or two, I will let you know.

Paul still has a room in my home and spends part of his time here, tho enrolled in and domiciled with a group of N.Y.A. youths supposed to be engaged in being trained in defense industries.

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The registered ⁴ primarily for an intensive course in welding, but is greatly disappointed thus far in shortage of necessary equipment and instructors, and in the "general" character of her instruction.

Fred III also rooms and eat. with us. He is now a sophomore, and is very noticeable crippled from infantile paralysis.

We greatly enjoyed the visit of Nancy & Jack Adams, and the later visit of Ben D. Jr.

I haven't forgotten my obligation to return to you the Duggan geological sketch, by Ida. I am hoping for time to read it more carefully, having merely sketched it thus far. In my ^{two} recent trips to Wash Dc. I have visited the Camerons, Harris, Sledges, the Minge twins (Mrs. Luke (Bessie) Summons) and Melville Brown and other relatives.

I am still in the dark as to what may be the college policy regarding ~~retiree~~ retirement, whether it will adopt the state law which permits it to become effective next October, whether it will add anything to retiring allowances. If not, and if I am then retired at 73, I estimate that my allotment may be only around \$1000. If college permits some of its staff (Winters, Blair, Duggan, etc) to continue to the date permitted by the State Law, viz. Oct. 1943, the sum may be a little larger. I shall need ^{some} radical changes in expenditures and ^{and} income (now-)

I am not taking time to worry.
Love to all members of your family.

Your aff. brother,
Fred.

FROM HATTIESBURG, MS

Dec. 12th 1940

Dear Ben, AMY MARSHON, WIS

Your very delightful letter was like a birthday gift for mine comes Nov. 25th-nearly and at times on Thanksgiving Day. What a jolly time your family must have together with so many and varied interests; and now you have another little boy to make it lively at Christmas time, congratulations to all of you.

Why how lovely it would be if you and your son Ben and family could tour thru Florida next summer, and if you have a chance to come over our way we would be delighted to see you again. I was so sorry that you did not come over to Amy Barker beautiful home and I am enclosing a few views showing what a mansion they have. They call it "The Hill". And here is a snap shot of Rose Leigh and me taken in Amy's front yard just after breakfast. Louis took these and if you wish you can keep the one of Rose Leigh and I as I have a duplicate of this one, but the others if you do not mind I will ask you to return as I have no duplicates of those. I hope you may have a chance to visit Schenectady--it is a very wonderful city, I think. Mountains all around it, lakes in profusion, settled by the Dutch way back in 1664 with quaint old houses and most modern hotels and homes also, and the electrical plants and Union College where they have the Mohawk Indian Festivals every summer on the College Campus in the open air theatre. I enjoyed every minute of my stay.

How
good
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But life has been rushing ever since I came home--our city is so over crowded with people-nearly every one who lives near down town had applications to rent their rooms, and even sleeping porches. I have two nice young couples at my home, the young men are working with the Construction Force, and Mrs. Restus has a fine Pontiac auto and she has enjoyed seeing something of Hattiesburg. I expect they will all leave before Xmas as their work will be finished but more soldiers will be sent here and the officers will want rooms and apartments for their wives. Camp Shelby is ten miles long and 8 miles wide--a sea of tents. On Sat. nights the streets are so crowded with men in uniform one cannot make progress. If we do not shop early the stores will have nothing left.

And all the Clubs are having their Christmas parties this week, and I have five boxes of gifts to fill and pack and send to relatives. It is a pity to have all one's relations live in other cities.

And I have a letter from my Brother Myron telling me of the passing away of Reuben last month. I have felt very much saddened over it altho he did not give any facts except that he died on a Friday night and was buried Sat. afternoon at Faungdale. I do not know whether Reuben was at Gallion or at Auburn with Fred's family when he passed away.

Myron is so busy he did not have time to write a long letter. I remember Reuben as such a lovable, attractive young man, way back in 1894 when we were at Grandma's home in Demopolis. So sociable, and so willing to "beau" us girls around to the summer social affairs at Gallion. Minnie Hatch (Mrs. Pearson) wrote to Myron and told him, and I know she will

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miss Reuben very much. She always invited him to dinner when she came back to "New Hope", and he always called her "The Boss". You know I expect Minnie has had a time with that plantation, keeping it going. One brother Ben Hatch died two years ago, and Taylor could not be depended upon to manage, and she had trouble collecting rents from colored tenants. I wonder she did not sell the place long ago, but I think her brothers were opposed to her doing so. She loves the place I suppose from association, but it must be a "White Elephant". Alice thinks that Reuben was always in love with Minnie Hatch, and that had a great deal to do with his wanting to stay up in that part of the country.

It is too bad he had such a heavy cross to bear with his blindness, but so much is done to make blind people happier now. We have a young girl in our Bible Class that the ladies are putting thru College here, paying for her musical course. She plays on the piano and sings also, and her "Seeing Eye" dog is devoted to her and takes her about every where. But it is terribly pathetic all the same.

I have been so worried about DeWitt, (Mr. Hutchins) he has not been so well lately, and the Banks are all working over time three nights a week handling the weekly million dollar pay roll for Camp Shelby. The men come in after hours, and stand in the Bank lobby in four rows, lined up to get their checks. He has to be down at work by 6:00 AM and often they are at the Bank until after 9:00 PM. His deafness and sinus trouble bother him and he has to go to the Clinic often for treatment. The nervous strain is very hard.

There are many events I would like to write about but I must hurry along as there are Xmas gifts to make and pack up and I have to look after the wants of the ladies in the house, and after the Xmas rush is over one will have time to talk about other things.

I just feel the war is so depressing to talk about--it hangs over us like the Sword of Damocles. Of course, if the U.S. is going to send American ships over to convoy shipments to England, some will be sunk and we will be in for trouble. I understand that is what Congress is discussing now, and ten Senators want to go and visit the European capitals and see for themselves just what the situation over there really is like, as they are by no means certain that Great Britain will win. It does not seem that either side will win much but ruins of fine cities, and bring famine on the people. How fortunate that you visited in Europe when it was beautiful and interesting--Germany was in its artistic and intellectual glory during the early years of the Kaiser's reign, and has never been the same since the World War. Do you suppose those beautiful old Cathedrals over there have been destroyed. They keep so quiet about the damage in Germany, the papers do not tell us much, so I have not heard.

Did you break the bone in your arm when the accident occurred? That is too bad and of course, there is need to be very careful. I do hope you will have no further trouble with it, and here's hoping that you and all the happy family will have a most delightful Christmas with the loved ones coming and going, and with best wishes always,

Very sincerely,

(Enc)

Louise Sprague Hutchins

L.P. I guess you have already seen Annie's &
Baron's home & I will have to cut
them out of our Kodak Album & I have
not time right so - will do so some
other time if you wish to see them.
L. H.

Box 1928

University, Ala.

Dear Uncle Al - Oct 16, 1941

The big news in the family just now is that I'm going to get married a week from tomorrow or Oct. 25th.

The lucky boy is Harry Coulmin from Mobile. We've been going together for more than two years, but the wedding plans have been made in a hurry.

You see, on the first of October he was made state personnel officer of NYA for South Carolina and moved to Columbia, S.C. so we decided to speed things up.

I've been working since early spring
for the Tenn. Coal, Iron + P. & C. in
Birmingham. Mother came up from Ince-
brook yesterday to get me, & I will be
here until the wedding.

The wedding will be a very quiet,
simple affair here in the Episcopal
Church. Helen, who is a junior at the
University now, will be my only attendant.

Gloyd is still practicing in Birming-
ham, worrying at present about the
draft getting him.

We had a nice letter from Cousin
Maria Minge yesterday. Ruth + Cousin
Sybil are visiting Little Maria for
a few days in Charleston, where she &
her husband are living.

How are you and Emily getting
along? Do let us hear from you.

Give Emily my best love.

Affectionately,

Mary Morgan

FROM HATTIESBURG MISS

Oct. 18th 1941

My dear Ben,

AT MADISON WIS

It has seemed such a long time since I have heard from you that I almost hesitate to write lest I should be intruding upon you. You write such charming letters that I have certainly regretted all this long lapse of time. I wrote to you after Reuben's passing away but never did hear from you and thought you must be too busy to write, or that you had some other reason.

Ever since the Army Camp was established here we have had rooms rented like everybody else in Hattiesburg for the sudden influx of many people caused much over crowding. So we have had our hands full with transients coming and going. And so many weddings are taking place we can hardly keep up with them. Among them I am sure you have learned of the coming marriage of your very pretty niece Mary Morgan Duggar, (for Ida must have written to you) to Mr. Harry Toulmin, the wedding to take place next Sat. in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Ida wrote us about it a few days ago, and we were glad to hear all about it. She has our best wishes for we all admire her. I have not seen Mary Morgan for years but I have heard about her from time to time. Her younger sister Helen is also very attractive. Lloyd is still in B'ham, I think. He wanted to become an Ensign in the Navy, but I understand he has taken up something else. Ida wanted to get a position here at Camp Shelby as hostess as they pay so well, but decided otherwise, and is still in Tuscaloosa.

Louis and Rose Leigh are now at Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey and will be there for awhile. He is a 1st Lt. but tells me he is also working in the Lab. there. They were in Washington July, Aug. & Sept. where he took a course at the Army Industrial College, and had invited me to come up and spend the month of Sept. with them but I was ill & bed all during Aug. and not strong enough to take the trip in Sept. However I am almost fully recovered altho a little lame yet. DeWitt thinks I worked too hard with all those roomers and so he will not let me have anyone in the house at all right now, until I become quite strong again. I am going over to Choir practice this afternoon, however, as we are to have special music at the Church to-morrow. This is Home coming week for the soldiers who have returned from the La. maneuvers and the down town is decorated with flags, and all Clubs and other organizations have welcomed them to their Club rooms, and the Churches have invited the soldiers who have musical talents to sing in the choirs, and we want to make them feel specially welcome.

I do not get out to the Camp very often. Had some ladies here from Ohio who had relatives there and we went out in their car to visit the boys but after she went back to Ohio I have not been out there much. It is an immense place but a great deal of sameness about it. Every street looks just like every other street, and the recreation halls are unusually nice, but I am glad I do not work out there.

Had a letter from Alice telling of the passing away of Cousin Madeline Barras. She was the youngest of the four Duncan sisters who moved to N.Y. years ago. Cousin Louise Cunningham is now in N.Y. City visiting her daughter Mary Allen Petrie--she writes to me every now and then. Another sister Cousin Alice Pierpont lives in St. Petersburg, Va. and Gertrude Dinwiddie lives in Miami, Fla. By the way did your son Ben Jr. and his family move to Florida? I remember you wrote me that he wanted to go there to live, and that you hoped

OCT 18 41

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to make a tour of the South some winter and I hoped you would be thinking of doing that at some time in the not too distant future, and that you would come by to see us. However this frightful war has upset many plans and caused so many of our boys to be sent far away from their homes, that I imagine you are still in Madison. Louis does not know where they will be sent after Nov. 1st and they are looking forward to an interesting event the last week in this month October 28th. I think Rose has been very brave--she has been far away from home, and they left many friends in Schenectady when they went to Ft. Monmouth, and knew no one there, and she has sent for her Mother to come and be with her this next week, and we are looking for news from them any day now. How I wish they could come South and be with us. My son means so much to me, and he has a very sweet wife in Rose Leigh.

The minutes are passing swiftly and I must hurry, if I am to get over to the Church. I have been singing in the Choirs of Churches ever since I was 17 years old, and for weddings and for funerals and all sorts of musical occasions and am still at it.

Don't you think you could find time to write to me occasionally? I do not want to have you slip out of our memory and hope it would be as much of a pleasure to you as it is to me.

Maybe I will have more news next time I write. Louis wants me to come up a little later, if I can, but things are so uncertain as to where he will be, that cannot make any plans right now.

Here's hoping you are having a pleasant time this Fall even tho I know you always keep marvelously busy.

Yours sincerely,

Louise Sprague Hutchinson

1019 Main St. Hattiesburg, Miss.

Lazy A Camp,
Monterey, Mass.
August 13, 1892.

Daddy Darling—

The trip went very well with no casualties to report—thanks to your putting us on at Chicago and Mother Adams and Phebe meeting us at Pittsfield. Charlie was really very good and interested in everything going on and in everybody. There were 3 other babies & 4 other children, all on the same

Pullman car. The porter looked mighty harassed and said he "never did see the like".

It's raining here on the lake, and with a fire in the fireplace & Charlie taking his nap, it is very restful here in the living-room where Mother Adams is snoozing while I write. Willow, the Colored-girl (who is ~~at~~ a colored picnic in the rain) said she just couldn't wait any longer to see "our baby" and proceeded to talk "colored talk" to him in a way most charming to behold and hear. And Charlie makes a very good listener. That cemented their friendships.

Did I, perchance, leave my
 eversharp - a black Sheaffer -
 with you while we were on the
 train. If not, it will probably
 turn up among my things, & but
 I couldn't find it in my purse.

you asked me to remind
 you about having the washing
 machine returned & the name
 will be in the want-ads some-
 where - the only company that
rents such machines. If you
 can't find it, Emily knows the
 name of the company.

Thank you, Daddy, for the
 wonderful visit & I was so

4.
pleased that Charlie & I
could be at Em's wedding.
Take the very best care of
your sweet self and don't work
too hard. Wish I could be
at hand as more of that
corn gets ripe.

Haps of love to you,
Daddy
from
Charlie and Nancy

From HATTIESBURG, MISSA

April 7th 1946

Dear Ben, AT MADISON, WIS

I have been thinking about you so often lately-- the old memories have a way of coming back to us as we sit and recall days gone by. That sounds very sentimental, but it is nevertheless true. Altho our days are busy and ever since 1940 this house has been filled with roomers, people coming and going. Owing to the drastic house shortage here in Hattiesburg, and 65 000 soldiers stationed out at Camp Shelby with their relatives here to visit them before they left for over seas, we have had a busy time. We have felt so very sorry for many of them. However there is just a small number out at Camp Shelby now but I still have a nice couple in the house at present.

But I wanted to ask how the War treated you and your family. I might have asked this before but I only recently learned where you were, and what your address was. I was down in Mobile recently on a visit to Fanny and Alice and the last two letters I wrote to you at Madison, Wis. were left unanswered, and I had no way of knowing what had become of you.

We were fortunate in that Louis did not have to go over seas. He was stationed at Ft. Monmouth, N.J. but has been discharged now with the title of Lt. Col. and is at present located at Ringoes, N.J. where he found a house for his family while he is attending Princeton College. He was lucky to find such a comfortable home for his family with an acute house shortage existing at present. And Oh! I am going up to see him some time this coming summer and my two lovely little grand-daughters, Barbara Leigh and Amy Lou Hutchins. I must tell you that Louis is studying to be a Presbyterian Minister at Princeton College and he was given the charge of the Church at Ringoes and their present house adjoins the Church yard. They like it very much, and Rose Leigh, his wife, is having her first experience in being a Minister's wife, which is a profession in itself. Louis came to this decision after much serious thought, and I expect he will make a very fine Minister.

I have had our house done over, repapered and painted inside and the front porch screeded to keep out the mosquitoes and insects--this is a great comfort as we sit on the porches so much in summer-time.

While I was in Mobile I went to see one of the most beautiful gardens in the world, the Ballengrath Gardens situated 12 miles south of Mobile on Fowl River. It has every flower that can grow in the South, beautifully

never-failing bulwark, always sympathetic, always willing. He was a high degree Mason, and a much loved citizen of Mobile. I also heard of the passing away of Cousin Fred Duggar, and I know what this means to you - he was such a fine man and did so much good here on earth. These loved ones can never be replaced, and I extend to you my deep sympathy. I had a letter from his daughter Dorothy Duggar who is now in Augusta, Ga.

Myron died of heart failure in his sleep, apparently without a struggle, leaving a wife and daughter to mourn his loss as well as his sisters and a host of friends.

I wanted to ask you also if you could tell me where I could buy a microscope, not an expensive one. Possibly if I knew some firm in New Orleans but I seldom or never go down to N.O. always visiting Mobile whenever I have a chance.

Won't you write to me sometimes. I would be so glad to hear from you. At our age it seems to me we ought to be able to enjoy some sort of sociability and correspondence, so matter if we are busy. We may not have so much more time ourselves here on this planet. Not that I feel old, I work in my garden full of flowers, take care of the house, rent rooms to one couple, and have part in the social life of the city.

You said once that I was very dear to you from association, and then you never did take the trouble to write to me again. I do not know how many years. Let's do better than that from now on.

With certain good wishes - and maybe I could come up to see you too this summer when I go to Ringoes which is not far from Princeton, and that is not far from New York. You paid me a visit once and I have never returned it. Again,

Sincerely,

Erwise Sprague Hutchins

landscaped, with lakes like mirrors reflecting the beauty of the flowers on the banks. It is more like Paradise than any place on this Earth I have ever seen. People come from all over the U.S. to visit it. They take in lots of money, admission \$1.00, and autos crowd the parking space while people walk around enjoying the lovely vistas of beauty. It must be grand to live in such a place.

Mr. Bellengrath was head of the Coca-Cola Bottling Works in Mobile and they designed this fine garden to attract visitors to Mobile. They have been more than repaid for their trouble.

Have you heard anything more of the book that Cousin Alice Pierpont of Petersburg, Va. was to have published by Easter time, this month? It is her *Brainchild* and she has been working on it for twenty years and so far it has cost her \$1500.00, and I believe it is now in the hands of the publishers. It is called: "Reuben Kidd, A Soldier of the Confederacy." It is evolved largely from letters he wrote during the War Between the States, to members of our family. He was killed in the battle of Chickamauga and left a ring to be given to my Mother Alice, but she never received it. Alice Pierpont said it was a lovely story and I am very much interested and hope to have a copy as soon as it comes out, if it ever does. There is a picture of Grandma Alice Duggar. Alice Pierpont wanted me to talk it up with the U.D.C. here in MoG and try to sell as many copies as I could. I will send you a list of the illustrations and I imagine it is very interesting indeed. She is so busy she does not always have time to answer letters, she says, and she is now 79 years old, & I hope she will hurry and get it published and on the market. I suppose you have heard of it, have you not?

I must hurry on--it is a lovely Sunday afternoon with all the charms of the Spring-time and soft, warm breezes and every lovely flower blooming out. It is all the more peaceful since we recently had a severe tornado to visit our city and tore off tops of buildings, up-rooted trees, placed an auto on top of a tree that was turned over, and another tree fell on top of that, and flattened a furniture warehouse, tore down street car barns and left a wake of destruction in its path. Fortunately no life was lost, and it did not visit our part of the city, but went thru the south and east portions.

I wrote you of the sudden passing away of our beloved Brother Myron Sprague in Mobile, on Dec. 30th 1942. We miss him more than I can tell, his cheerful, constant cordiality and ever ready kindness, were our

12-29-46
Dear Ben. We are so sorry
to have missed you last summer.
Ever remains about the same.
I am worse, Look + everything
else here at home. Last year
at this time I thought I could
not move a chair without an
effort. Now I lift Ben +
would probably think nothing
of moving the grand piano,
(if we had one.)

Affectionately

Ben + Daisy.

We have moved to 2134 Kendrick
Ave.

The
Season's Best
Wishes



From Earl Adams, father of Dr. son-in-law
Jack Adams
To D. Pearl River

LAZY A CAMP
MONTEREY, MASSACHUSETTS

July 26, 1948

Dear Ben:- Our whole group here has been greatly interested in reading, first the editorial in the New York Times and Sunday the Science article in the same paper about your new discovery, Aureomycin, and something of its effective behavior with certain virus diseases. Nancy had given us advance notice of the meeting that was to be held on the 21st so we were on the watch for the publicity that developed.

Congratulations to you for a fine piece of work the results of which promise to be a real boon to many people for years to come. We shall continue to watch for further testimonies as to the effectiveness of this new antibiotic.

Katharine and I would like to have you come to Monterey anytime that you can get away. We will gladly

meet you at the train in Great
Barrington whenever you say the
word.

We are hoping that Jack & Vane
and the boys will be able to come
up for a few days anyway in
Sept. when Jack gets back from
the West.

Phoebe and her family are in
Jack's college now for two weeks
and are enjoying it greatly. Sheel
our grandson from Florida is
with us for all summer and
helps the younger ones in swimming
and horseback riding.

Nancy writes that Charlie & Ruth are
advancing well in their swimming
lessons.

Hoping that we may hear word from
you as to when you can come and
with our very best
Sincerely

Earl



ONE HUNDRED FIFTY ROOMS

ON U. S. HIGHWAY NO. 40
MIDWAY BETWEEN KANSAS CITY AND ST. LOUIS

The Daniel Boone

A FIREPROOF HOTEL
OPERATED BY COLUMBIA HOTEL CO.
FRANK W. LEONARD, Pres. & Mgr.

Columbia, Mo.

Pearl River Apts., #21

Pearl River, N.Y. Nov. 23, 1948.

Dear ~~Bill~~ Thilly,

It was a great pleasure to have your letter, forwarded from the New York office of the Laboratories. Dr. Curtis told me at Woods Hole last summer that you and your family were living in the city. Whereupon I determined to find an opportunity to see you if this might be arranged conveniently some time when I were in the City. But Mrs. Duggar and Gene Lorraine were with me here until about October, and since that time I have not been once in the City except on short business errands.

I came to Lederle during those war years when penicillin was being developed

and the expectation was that I would return to Madison in about three years. But I soon found that the job of a consultant was too passive, sketchy, and with objectives rather hazy, although there were fine young men as advisees. Very soon a laboratory was equipped, assistants provided, and I went back to work with much satisfaction, and with perfectly fine cooperation. With the new retirement rules my work should be discontinued with December, but with aureomycin out "on its own" and a promising project of a different type well under way, it seems that things must have continuity through '49.

My family are widely scattered, though Louise (Blunkett) is living only about seventy miles distant, in N.J., and Nancy (Adams) is in New Haven, Conn. George and family were living in this metro-



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politan area when I came to Pearl River, but they are now in San Francisco. Ben and family are in St. Petersburg, Fla., since he left the navy. Emily (Saunders) is in Madison. There are eleven grandchildren, eight of them boys.

With your interests and those of your daughters, it must be superb to be in the heart of things literary and otherwise.

I do appreciate the opportunity of having had a share of luck in the effort to do something for humanity, tiny though it may seem "tomorrow" as the young men of today - with their equipment in scientific training - move forward to eliminate contagious disease.

With cordial greetings to you, as also to Gertrude and Margaret, and repeated thanks for your kind letter,

Sincerely yours,
W. B. Huggins

Edrys Heywood
800 Vine St.
Hudson, Wisconsin

December 20, 1948

Dear Dr. Duggan,

It was good to receive your Christmas greetings and kind note. I was sorry to hear the climate is not entirely agreeable with you and sorry too to hear you have an ailing shoulder. I hope the operation you anticipate will make it well. I'm glad you like life at Lederle - that it is enjoyable as well as rewarding in a special way to yourself and others.

Thank you for inquiring about my father. I think his cataracts were not caused or influenced by infection. It seems that their progress has been slow; he has had them about two years since they were diagnosed and noticed only a small change. But I very much wish that you would

write to Dad. He would be deeply
pleased to hear from you. It may
even be that there is an infection
which I do not know about. His
address is: 244 Broadway, Costa Mesa,
California.

I was interested in news of Emily
and delighted to know she has
three lovely children!

I told Katherine that you and
Ed Backus on a trip in the Middle
West considered paying us a visit
and she agreed it would have
been very good to see you.

Jack and I send our wishes to
you for every blessing and a
Merry Christmas.

Sincerely,
Edgar

Photograph attached to Dec. 20th, 1948 letter



Greensboro. Ala -

"Contentment"

March 19th 1949 -

My dear Bee - In a recent issue of Time
your picture, & an account of your
work of which we are very proud, brought
back many recollections of the past - of
course you are wondering who I am - but
I don't believe it will be hard to explain.
What a joy it was in my childhood
to go with Father to Prunedice on the 3rd
Sunday & after Service, stop at the Duggan's
for dinner. How vividly it all comes back
your father, mother & your five boys - And
then the familiar faces at Church -
Miss Adelle & Mrs. House, Mrs. & Mr. Clifford
Smith - Mr. Robison - Miss Seavey & Miss
Lamie, Mrs. & Mr. Hatch, Herman - Paylor
& Bee - Miss Butch & Sue Steele - The family
Duggan, & your grand mother to Prunedice -
Of course a number of the Collins are
left, & Paylor Hatch. The Brooker place

is now owned by Will Spencer who lives in
Poham, Miss Martha Steele's son - On the 5th
Sunday, generally during the summer, we
make a pilgrimage to St Andrews & have
a lovely service & after the service we
gather on the grounds for lunch - There
we meet friends from Annetown, Pocomoke
Demopolis - Easton & Lexington, and what
a happy time we have together -
I wonder if you have ever read - "Brethren
Vaughn Read - Confederate Soldiers by Mrs
Pierrepont of Petersburg Va - She gives such
an interesting account of the people in
this section of the world, and tells especially
of the Duggans & Henges - He are well
familiar with a number of your kin -
Mrs John Henges daughter, Fannie Henges Jackson -
Mrs Fann Henges daughter - Melville Henges -
Mrs Richard Harris' son and daughter - Fannie
Greene - Lotie Adams' daughter - & many others -
We have of Fred's grand daughter, who is a
student at the University of Ala - Why don't you
come to this part of the world again? He would be
so happy to see you - Mrs Steele & my son & two
daughters all wish to be remembered -
Sincerely
Edith Cobb Steele

VIA AIR MAIL



Dr Ben L. Duggar,
Pearl River Apts #2
Pearl River.
New York -

Tuesday
P.M. Los Angeles
Aug 12, 1949

Dear Ben:

I have sent your letter on to Julie. Despite your not being absolutely sure of recovery in Janet's case - I am tremendously reassured. It has been a long pull and she has shown great courage -

wise -

My ~~gratitude~~ is very
sincere and you wife
and Jane and Jules
are as sincere -

Remember me to Esie
and believe me -

Very sincerely yours
Mary O'Garra
The sea Lark is behaving better -