



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation  
5th Floor, Hunt Library  
Carnegie Mellon University  
4909 Frew Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890  
Telephone: 412-268-2434  
Email: [huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu)  
Web site: [www.huntbotanical.org](http://www.huntbotanical.org)

The Hunt Institute is committed to making its collections accessible for research. We are pleased to offer this digitized item.

#### *Usage guidelines*

We have provided this low-resolution, digitized version for research purposes. To inquire about publishing any images from this item, please contact the Institute.

#### *Statement on harmful and offensive content*

The Hunt Institute Archives contains hundreds of thousands of pages of historical content, writing and images, created by thousands of individuals connected to the botanical sciences. Due to the wide range of time and social context in which these materials were created, some of the collections contain material that reflect outdated, biased, offensive and possibly violent views, opinions and actions. The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation does not endorse the views expressed in these materials, which are inconsistent with our dedication to creating an inclusive, accessible and anti-discriminatory research environment. Archival records are historical documents, and the Hunt Institute keeps such records unaltered to maintain their integrity and to foster accountability for the actions and views of the collections' creators.

Many of the historical collections in the Hunt Institute Archives contain personal correspondence, notes, recollections and opinions, which may contain language, ideas or stereotypes that are offensive or harmful to others. These collections are maintained as records of the individuals involved and do not reflect the views or values of the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation or those of Carnegie Mellon University.

#### *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.

December 3, 1947

Dear Donald,

I am joining an lawn mower and will seize this opportunity to write you a few lines. You are quite right that I cannot enter into a correspondence - many of my friends have not heard from me for months - I need a social secretary. Three weeks ago I went downtown and bought my Xmas cards with the plan of writing two or three each evening - I usually write about fifty Xmas notes, which takes a long time - so far I have not even opened the package.

My plans for the holidays include a brief visit to Danbury. I feel I must stay at home through Christmas Day, and I feel also that I should improve my time in

according to your decision.

I am sorry to learn that your father & Annie have been running into more troubles. It is a shame indeed that your father must have yet another operation.

A couple of weeks ago I was taken to hear the local orchestra. It doesn't sound like the Boston Symphony, but I thought it far from poor - in fact I was most pleasantly surprised. Uminsky played the Emperor concerto that evening - very much to my liking. The latter part of the program was Wagner, Debussy & Stravinsky, none of which I care very much for any more, but the performances were rather outstanding.

Next week I shall hear the

the East by spending a few days in Washington where I can get help & advice from Mrs. Chase. Accordingly I have reserved the week end following Xmas for Danbury. I cannot reach there on Friday afternoon. I should be in Washington Monday night. Helen has asked me to stay with her. I have written her that I shall do so provided your quarters in Bethel are not completed by then - and she has replied that if I stay with her she will expect me to spend considerable time in Bethel.

I would be glad to spend a night in New York with you if it is possible. I could meet you there for Friday the 26th or we could go down for Sunday night the 28th. I leave it to you to

it - first appeared last year;  
I believe, with very flattering  
reviews.

I spent a rather hectic Thanksgiving  
week-end. Turkey dinner Wednesday  
night at one staff member's, another  
Thursday at a second. Today the  
American Mathematical Society met  
here & had a turkey dinner. Saturday  
I fled to the herbarium & worked  
all day, except for a couple of hours  
for dinner with the Andersons -  
who received the succession with  
poin, beef heart meat loaf, red  
wine, salad & excellent bread.  
Anderson is the big justice here -  
in fact I would make fame - he has  
been most friendly to me.

Thanks for sending the notice of  
Elizabeth Bell. I am glad to see it.  
With my love,  
Perry

September 14, 1947

Dear Donald,

It is Sunday afternoon and I am here at my desk in W. U. cooling off in front of a fan. It is hot outside, although not unbearable - but for the twenty four hours after I arrived Wednesday evening it was most uncomfortable. Then we had a big rain and since then it's been cooler (up to 90°) and the air drier.

A friend in Washington had arranged for a temporary room for me. I found it to be the smallest thing in the way of a room I ever saw - actually 7' x 8' - so small the wash-basket stands outside the door! But it is clean and neat and fairly quiet. However I set about at once to find something else and put the y-office on the trail. Forty eight hours had passed nothing suitable came along, but then I was told to look at a room in the home of Prof. Edwards, about eight blocks from here. He had died the previous week and his wife was planning to stay on

in the house and take in at least one roomer.  
I enjoyed the room almost on sight and  
shall move in to it this afternoon. It is a  
house of huge rooms, in a nice residential  
district, toppling over a nice of land as there is.  
I have a bath to myself, half the garage  
and the privilege of getting my breakfast of  
I like - all for \$40, which is less and think  
of the price quoted. I hope it will be quiet  
- Mrs. Edwards assured me it would, for her  
husband had brought up their three  
children, 19, 16 and 21, to respect his desire  
for quiet. He was head of some fine Gunguzes  
here and quite a pianist. It was he who  
wrote the notes for the local symphony  
programs. Mrs. Edwards intends to continue  
their custom of having orchestra members  
not once a month to play chamber-music  
so I may hear some good music. And I  
shall probably meet Eddie Murphy (after  
finding to do so at that dinner of years  
ago in Rochester) for Mrs. Edwards  
says he frequently comes.  
On the evening before I reached here I

failed to find any place to stay, so, it  
having been so late, I decided to keep  
driving through the east of the night -  
taking a couple of lumpy naps in the  
car. By breakfast time I was in Jackson  
ville. After getting some breakfast I called up  
Raefl who wanted I come and to the house.  
He waited a while & then I showered &  
bathed & had a couple of good hours of  
sleep. Raefl & Suzanne were very cordial  
and of course wanted the news of you  
& Betty. After lunch we called on Joe  
Cleveland - who must be my age, but  
looks 10 or more. Some week-end he  
fine too say I must run up to  
Jacksonville again. I think P. & S. have  
three two pretty nice children - while  
I was there, at least, they were charming.

I am sorry indeed that you & Betty  
had to be away on my last jaunt to  
Danbury. And sorry that I couldn't  
have made a longer stay, until you  
should return. But things became very

wounded at Cox & Libenstedt, after  
mid-August and I only just managed to get  
one day. I shall be indebted to you for  
caring for the two framed lines, which  
I wouldn't bring along & hesitated to  
store with my other things (I stored 29  
cushions, 2 trunks & 2 book cases!). I  
am glad you found some of the clothing  
worth sending to Canada. As for the  
suit I wearily threw it away, it was so  
thin - it might have been worth \$2.71  
but not the 27.50 you mentioned!

I hope you & Betty have been able to get  
into your house and that you can be  
completely settled in it. I liked it a great  
deal - and, in fact, felt very envious. As  
a result I began thinking of buying one  
myself. But the prospect is not very good  
here. There is almost no building going on  
and houses are very high - with not many  
to be had.

I shall write Herwan and tell him I shall  
lead him for looking me to T-Roberts Hall at  
a later date. I had no time to get there.  
All yours, with much love for Betty & yourself.  
G.

P.S. My address: 7165 Kingsbury, University City, St. Louis, Mo.

June 22, 1947

Dear Donald,

You must have decided that I have entered a monastery! The term suited not such a huckle + huckle and the weather was so bad every time I could have been free to get out of doors that I have rather over-indulged these past days in three weeks in collecting and poring over my miscellane.

I exceed the term more vigorously tired than I have been in years, - which showed up most prominently in the nerves of my left eye which would twitch as much as a thousand times a day. I don't think this was eye-strain in any work, for it has cleared up somewhat these last ten days despite plenty of eye-work - but rather the worry I have undergone regarding my mother's condition. I had thought to settle matters for at least a year or fifteen months by having Mrs. Delf to live with Madhu + take care of her.

But about a month ago Mrs. Delp told me she  
didn't believe she could stand the strain  
for many months - perhaps not even until  
September - Mother is extremely ~~restless~~ but  
with us in Texas, she pushes Mrs. Delp to do  
everything we have or see in advance of the  
season or call-for time, and keeps up a  
running report of comers which she lists  
which are apparently pure imagination I'm  
sure it is wearing, and I can't blame Mrs. Delp  
for not wanting to stay - but it does  
throw the whole problem back upon me.  
At the moment the problem remains but I  
have compelled myself to cease worrying  
about it, although I realize I must do  
something before the summer is out.

I have decided to take a complete holiday  
from the whole thing by putting it relatively  
far away both in distance and time - perhaps  
after such a month I can deal with it. So it  
is my plan to go off to Canada all alone  
for a collecting trip, probably going around  
the Gaspé and returning via Maine where  
I <sup>could</sup> spend a couple of days with Elizabeth.

In collecting and studying plants I do forget everything else and if I'm alone among trees & people who can't suggest the problem I can have a complete rest from it. It is because of this that I don't write you to ask if I might come to Danbury now. I know you & Betty and the others there would do your best to try to make me forget, but I'm sure you realize that I wouldn't forget as completely as I should. On my return I shall want to see you all - how much time there may be I don't know, but you shall have as much as I can manage.

During the latter part of May I worked many hours redrawing the shield for the lettering on my father's gravestone. The stone-cutter had set <sup>up</sup> a fairly good-looking shield, but there were several things about it I didn't like, so I brought the whole thing here and did it all over myself. Last week I saw the stone in place, all cut, and am greatly pleased with it - it looks almost exactly as I had hoped - to my eye it

is a very good-looking object, and by far  
the best in the neighborhood. The steam-cutter  
too is pleased with it, and it had already  
brought him two or three requests for  
treatment of bedding.

I went back in New York two weeks ago  
tomorrow - I leave pass + am enough  
had to stand with the crowd - eventually  
giving up + going back to the hotel - that  
place was chaos. He stayed in New York only  
one night, long enough to make various  
arrangements - on Wednesday I drove him  
to Vermont to wait for a day, while I  
went off to drink a small break east of  
Rutland, - Pico. Thursday night I  
drove him here where he took the train  
for Detroit. He starts teaching July 7  
with a schedule of fifty hours a week -  
what seems nipped enough to me. - He  
reported that life in Smoke is anything  
but simple, from the standpoint of obtaining  
the necessities. If you have plenty of money  
and are willing to deal in the black market  
you can get along comfortably, but only then.

He said it was very difficult to get enough  
to eat in England - that he would have  
been much hungrier but for the packages  
sent by sea from over here. As for  
wants in winter he doubted you would  
be warm anywhere except in Sicily or on  
the Riviera - fuel is almost non-existent  
in Italy, - he believed you would find Rome  
much too cold. I am wondering what you  
& Betty will decide to do. I hope that if you  
do go you will be prepared to spend money as  
it may be necessary to keep you comfortable  
- you must not go under any other circum-  
stances, for neither of you ought to try to  
'get along' - years ago when you went to  
Europe you could do that, but you cannot  
now, especially with things as bad as they are.

I have little news of Tom, although our  
sawmill at home was out in Holland  
recently & brought word of her. She finished  
the year without breakdown and seems to  
the unobservant eye, at least, to be in good

health. It was a terrible ordeal, however,  
according to account, and she will not re-  
turn there. I believe she is negotiating for  
another position, where I don't know. If  
only she were well and stable it would be  
so much easier to solve my mother's problem,  
for I could then count on Eva to face up  
to whatever seemed necessary - but as  
it is I feel she may find doing the  
necessary more than she can take.

So much for this time. It is a heavenly  
fine day - the first really cloudless one  
in weeks - I wish you were here to  
go for a week with me. I've taken us  
over as far this year, but today I must.

I'll write you some sort of address for  
my wanderings, but shall hope to have a  
word from you here before I leave -  
which may be on Friday - if not I'll pro-  
bably delay till Monday to avoid week-end  
travelling. - I hope you & Betty are well  
and finding some gratification in the  
passing season. Much love to you both,  
George

P.S. I shall visit the Schumann this week!!!

May 15, 1947

Dear Donald,

A few lines to greet you in New York since I can't get down myself.

It has turned out to be as well that I didn't plan the trip. I am simply swamped with work. Our classes end next week, by the end of which time I must mark a full set of home exams for my classes and prepare three finals. In addition to this I took on another task last week I had not planned on. Months ago I gave the stone cutter at home instructions for making the stele for Father's gravestone - I did not see the result until last Friday when I was at home. He had done fairly well but still the thing didn't please me and I found it impossible to put into words what it was I wanted changed. After struggling to do so for an hour or two I realized that I could only find out by

trying to do the thing myself, so I borrowed  
the skid - brought it along here. I  
have washed down over it and while I  
don't believe I am creating any waste of  
it I think I am getting something  
that will satisfy me much more than the  
old skid. I still have it less than  
half done and <sup>am</sup> trying to finish by a  
week from now when I expect to return  
to Coxsack with the skid. Mother  
is anxious to have the work finished  
and I must comply. I have let it hang  
for a long time.

Before leaving home last Friday Milburn com-  
plained of a pain - I persuaded him to see  
the doctor instead of neglecting it and going  
off to his camp at Lake George. Fortunately  
for him, for he did have appendicitis and  
had he driven to Lake George <sup>the appendix</sup> it would  
certainly have burst - as it was they operated  
just in time. When I saw him on Sunday  
he was feeling good and since I've had  
no word since I suspect he is mending  
well.

The week-end was gorgeous for a change -

I took a friend out to Indian Ladder in the  
Helderbergs on Saturday afternoon, where  
we climbed up the steep slopes of one of the  
'gullies' there. For nearly half a mile the  
forest floor was carpeted with squirrel  
corn in full bloom, with its beautifully  
cut gray green foliage - I had never seen  
such a sight in these parts. On Sunday  
I took another friend with me to Catskill  
to stop at the Hospital and afterwards  
we drove up to the Mountain House, from  
there climbing to a shoulder of North Mountain  
not a rugged climb, but the summit affording  
that wonderful view of the Hudson Valley.  
At that height of 2000' there was little in  
bloom yet. - Somewhere over the weekend  
I picked up garden itch and have been  
itching ever since. It has spread to  
various parts of my body, but not alarmingly,  
and I think by tonight that it is moderating  
in force - the army lotion helped <sup>relieve</sup> the  
itch, but I believe <sup>the</sup> laundry soap I finally  
used this morning was more effective.

I had a note from Elizabeth this week

saying she was planning to get down to  
Danbury about the 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> for a week.  
I hope she will be able to come for some  
time she needs a change. I ~~do~~ regret  
indeed that that is going to be my busy  
week - my exams about the 27<sup>th</sup> and run  
through the 31<sup>st</sup>. I shall have to wait to  
see her until I can get up to Maine this  
summer - which I shall do - if I don't go  
to the Rockies - for the time being I am  
not planning on the latter.

All for now - I must get back to work.  
I hope you are having a fine time in  
New York and I regret that I can't be  
there with you. With my love

George

May 8, 1947

Dear Donald,

I have been most ungracious not to answer you sooner regarding the week-end of the 17<sup>th</sup>. It is most generous of you to offer to have me come down on a free trip and I would have indeed to do so. And you have been generous again in realizing that perhaps the weather has been so bad here that I have had no time out-of-doors. Which latter is the fact - we have had continued bad weather since April 19, mostly rain, some snow, and I have not had a bit of exercise since then. So I am going to take the 'out' you give me and ask you to understand why I shall not dash down for the 17<sup>th</sup>. In addition to the matter of out-door exercise there is the matter of time harassment now upon me - in barely two weeks classes

will be over - before then I must give a  
complete set of exams as well as prepare  
the finals. With all of this I am trying to  
get out of the way as much paper work,  
filing, etc. of my last year's collection as I  
can before the new stuff starts piling up.  
I am frightfully sorry to disappoint you  
but I'll try to make it up to you during  
the summer - I trust you won't be  
hung up in New York that evening with  
nothing to do - or perhaps you'll cut  
the Sunday performances - get back to  
Danbury Saturday evening - I think  
by that time you'll be tired enough to  
get back.

Plans for the summer are still vague  
- a letter from Joe this morning says  
the Egyptian job may not pan out  
after all, but he does not indicate  
that if it doesn't he intends to make  
the trip to the Rockies, - frankly I  
feel too harassed to hope that he

will plan it - what with wanting to  
St. Louis, getting some business done  
for my vesicle, etc & seeing something  
of my friends I want more time than  
I'd have were I to go west for the  
summer.

I suspect Elizabeth has given up the  
idea of coming to Denmark this  
month if she has not written you.  
I'd not be able to get down myself, I'm  
afraid - my exams span from the  
27th to the 3rd or 4th, including Friday  
& Saturday (the holidays!). I'm tenta-  
tively planning to climb Hunker on  
the 24th with the taxonomist here -  
I did not make the top two weeks  
ago - it was a furious day here -  
the boys went & said it was pretty  
muggy - snow on top of the  
mountain - and they were soaked  
by the rain.

Have had no report on the book I

ordered for you - you will collect in  
time.

I hope the festival or whatever you  
call it will prove both interesting  
and enjoyable. At least you'll surely  
enjoy Morris + Stewart. Please give  
my greetings to Morris & tell <sup>him</sup> that  
some time I hope to see him again.

Now back to work. Hastily,  
but no less affectionately

Gray

April 20, 1947

Dear Douce,

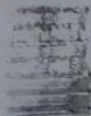
I write you from the northland - or as it seems. I lay until ten this morning, wondering what kind of day it might be - yesterday I had ~~looked~~ on the sun-warmed ground of a hill-top from which I could see the Catskills + Adirondacks - thinking I should be up + getting ready for a hike. I raised my shade to find the world all white - and it has been snowing ever since (I believe Louis) - all told it would amount to several inches, but it is wet + packs itself down, although even at that there's a layer of at least two or three inches. It is very beautiful, and despite the bleakness of the season not discouraging, for on Louis's eye will make all green again. - It does seem, though, it is a lateish spring - I have found coltsfoot, hepatica + bloodroot, but that is all so far, except for the ancient bearing trees +

shubs. blue maples & alms. A year ago much  
more was out - a year ago tomorrow I took  
a long ride through the Catskills, their  
slopes white with shed leaves rather than  
snow. There will not be such there, even a  
week from now, where, if all goes as planned,  
I expect to climb Hunter Mountain. I'd  
rather wait a week or two, but some students  
here are anxious to do it next week and  
I think I'll go along.

This should reach you a day before your  
birthday and brings you my affectionate  
greetings for that day. I hope it will be  
a happy anniversary and the first day of a  
year of much interest & satisfaction. I've  
been reading a most fascinating book  
which I would like to give you - I have  
ordered a copy, though I am afraid it is  
not of first - the copy I have is the library's.

All for tonight - I hope I shall hear from  
you soon that Betty & you are well & flourishing.  
With very love to your books,  
George

James B. Fowlkes  
107 York  
Union County  
Danbury, N.Y.



Mr. & Mrs. Donald Tweedy  
11 Farview Ave  
Danbury  
Connecticut

March 5, 1947

Dear Donald & Betty

Word from you, in the form of your letter, Donald, was welcome today. I hasten to reply to make some statement regarding the spring recess. You have had written to ask me to Danbury during the absence of Jim & Marguerite. I wish I could write that I could come for an extended time, but the only available time is the spring recess, part of which I must spend in Washington - for that will be the only opportunity Ewan & I shall have to talk over plans for the summer. However, I would like to plan to spend the week-end of the 29th (of this month) with you. If I could be met at Harrow on Saturday afternoon I could reach you on the 29th - to stay over until the morning of the 1st (Tuesday).

Do you have a local doctor within driving

because of Dr. DeBary who is really good and  
who could give me a thorough heart examination  
- including electrocardiogram? If so, I'd be  
glad to have you try to arrange an appointment  
for Monday the 31st, - I ought not to set  
out on a summer's expedition without checking  
my heart, and the check should be made before  
I leave yet far far along. I believe my heart  
is alright - it is true I have periods of skipped  
beating now & then, but I still seem to be  
able to shovel snow without losing my breath  
and without an undue rise in my pulse. This  
last week - and I shoveled quite a bit -  
chiefly to clear the driveway in case I were  
snowed, for I've not had my car out since  
Saturday - parking could be out on the campus  
as so bad I have preferred to walk the  
half-mile to the bus rather than risk parking  
& getting stuck.

Thanks for the report from Jim - though  
it's not very hopeful. I don't know how  
that problem will be solved - I don't think  
we can consider buying a vehicle - something  
may turn up - it usually does for people

of Evans's type!

Am still awaiting confirmation of my appointment in St. Louis. After accepting the offer I received a request for recommendations & personal history - this is a new sequence of procedure to me!

News from Frank is that he personally did not suffer during the coal winter - and in fact, while the situation was serious, he heard little complaint - the people simply took it & huddled down - he said he reckoned the thing had been played up in this country. He is due back in this country in June, for he continues his summer school in Duluth.

All for tonight. I have just returned from my evening class, having been gone for thirteen hours and I feel like getting into bed!

With my love,  
George

February 18, 1948

Dear Deane,

I do believe it's a month since I wrote you - much too long. When I got back from the St. Louis trip I found my schedule all altered to give me considerably more work than last term (although the same number of hours teaching) with every hour day including Saturday evening again taken up, and with each day's span increased by one to two hours. This because of the serious illness of the head of the department. I regret especially the Saturday morning class, for I had counted on being able to have good week ends this term. Feeling myself pressed for time I have worked when I had these past two weeks, trying to make up time and as a result have made myself too weary to do much other work.

The situation at St. Louis turned out to be as follows. The university would

My teaching regular session and rehearsal,  
a total of nineteen hours. This seemed  
a reasonable offer - a little better, in fact,  
than I had been led to expect - and  
I have accordingly accepted it. I took  
the offer to the president here but he  
said that as regretful as he would  
be to lose me he could not meet it  
either in salary or schedule - and remarked  
rather humorously that he couldn't,  
of course, supply a herbarium. All  
regular salaries here go up slightly  
on April 1 and he said he might  
get me a little beyond that, but still  
short by several hundred of the four  
thousand.

The Garden has offered me what they  
call a research associateship, with  
full privilege of a number of staff  
except for salary! So I am finally to  
have a research appointment, after  
all these years you have been holding  
out for it. But as hope I do some  
research I suspect I was not appointed  
'honorary curator of grasses' for  
the

consider appointing me an assistant  
professor at a salary to be maintained  
only in a probable offer. The 'load' would  
be twelve hours and although the  
appointment would not be 'permanent'  
I would in due time come up for a  
permanent appointment if I hadn't  
switched over largely to herbarium  
work. Further the appointment would  
be flexible in that should the Garden  
later choose to pay me a stipend I  
would be allowed to use my schedule  
at the university to such a point  
as I chose, with a proportionate cut  
in salary. - The Garden would offer  
its full facilities in return for which  
I would be put in charge of grasses,  
to do exactly what I could find out  
It was emphasized that it was  
hoped in the course of time to find  
me a stipend.

A few days after I returned here  
I received an offer from the university  
at a salary of four thousand. This is  
exactly what I am making this year

Conflict with the present head curator  
- a fine old gentleman of 78 who has  
staid on past his powers and has  
become a sort of problem child.

Going to St Louis will have its draw-  
backs of several kinds, but I think it  
is the thing for me to do - surely no where  
else in the U.S. could I hope to find  
so generous an arrangement for letting  
me try to do what it seems I want to  
do. If I can do some of this the right  
fashion, I believe, will make up for  
the drawbacks. And of course I shall  
not plan to stay in the city sum-  
mers.

Please tell Betty I was happy to have  
her very letter of a few days ago - she  
writes such a good letter and gets so much  
interest into it. I am sorry to hear  
that you have been having more  
trouble with your toes, but pleased to  
know this latest difficulty seems to be  
clearing up. You will have to go out  
daily schedule of toe exercises.

I ought to write more, but it is  
after midnight and I'm very weary.  
Tell Betty that difficult as it seems now  
I shall certainly try to get to Danbury this  
Spring. Much love to Betty & yourself. George

July 4, 1946

Dear Dr. Dudley

Just a brief line to welcome you back to the East - I am sure you must have drunk heavily the night you received the Father of Males, as I think even shaved drinks when I arrive to your return.

I hope your day in Washington was as fine as it was here - I thought of you and prayed that the sun might be cool. It was a superb day here and I celebrated by going off on a picnic all by myself - the idea was to go collecting at a certain spot some twenty-five miles away, but actually I got only five miles away having found a charming spot where there was so much of interest I couldn't leave. Came home washed myself & dinner and was at 11:30 AM

July 5 I have just stopped working  
on what I collected.

I am looking forward so much to  
seeing you next week - as you will  
probably have been told I am expecting  
to drive down on Sunday and shall  
be staying with Helen for a time

With affectionate regards  
my love

George

June 6, 1946

Dear Darius,

I do hope you have been wise in  
abandoning the plan to have me meet <sup>you</sup> in  
Paducah. Much as I would have enjoyed  
the trip with you & Betty my one real  
concern is that you will not have  
attempted a more difficult task than  
you should. And if you keep to your  
determination not to drive more than  
two hundred forty miles a day I think  
you will not have too much difficulty  
- although I must confess that I, myself,  
would find that amount, day after  
day, at least something of a chore. I  
don't know how much you can average  
west of the Mississippi, but I hope  
you won't try to average forty mph  
when you get east of that stream  
- that average is tiring - must better  
drive eight hours and average only  
thirty. My prayers will be with you  
that all will go well. And should it

profitable and enjoyable, despite  
much cloudiness and rain. We didn't  
get on any high peaks, though we  
did climb Mount Washington, Chocoma and  
a second peak near the latter - to  
find some interesting sub-alpine plants,  
some new to me & some not - but most  
of my collecting was at lower levels.  
We had a very quiet cabin to stay in,  
at the base of Chocoma, remote from  
the road, with almost no one about,  
so I got a lot of sleeping done  
and no letter-writing - nor did  
we see a probe or have the mine,  
which yielded ten days of unalloyed  
goodness - it is a shock to get back  
to 'civilization'.

Helen has not written me that she  
thinks of my not visiting you and  
there are no plans for my visiting  
her. However I expect to see her  
in Maine in about ten days at  
which time she may invite me  
dinner. I want, of course, to visit  
you & Helen this summer. Hope

turn out that you need me after all  
I shall be glad to hasten to you if  
you can reach me.

My report on Union, so far as this  
elder goes, is that I've liked the posi-  
tion, which means that in all probability  
I shall be teaching there next year. And  
if so it will be good to be near enough  
to you to see you soon in a while.

I returned home to find a letter from  
St. Louis saying that the head out  
there was plugging for me, trying to  
get the Missouri Botanical Garden to  
appoint me to an honorary curator-  
<sup>in compensation with an act. prof. of bot.</sup>  
ship of grasses. Except for location  
that would be an ideal combination. I  
doubt the M B G will come through  
and even if they do I don't believe I  
could succeed requesting a release  
from Union for this coming year. But  
~~perhaps~~ something may come of this  
another year.

My love to Helen. <sup>Wm. H. Sargent</sup>

that because I must taxi Mother about  
my time will be more restricted than  
I wanted with. Present plans call for  
my reaching Maine to pick up Mother  
on July 19, after which I must drive  
her to Michigan and stick around out  
there until about September first to  
drive her back. So my free time  
to visit you lies between your arrival  
in Drumhury and July 18<sup>th</sup> at the latest -  
a bare ten days of which the first several  
will be taken up with your getting established.  
But will do the best with what we  
have.

I am glad to hear you are arranging  
to see the Tarbeck house. The price  
doesn't seem high for these days, but  
there seems to have been a fire on  
that house and I think you will  
be well rid of it.

Your remark about the Project  
will greatly interest me. It is  
that question of which I sent you  
a reading from Allen and which  
you have never mentioned till now.

I am wondering if you never played  
the records I sent? It is a glimpse  
into a better world, as I realized on  
first hearing it in my Duesenberg but.

Congratulations on having your  
records played some - I wish I might  
be around to hear it. I am glad that  
Mr. Carke seems to like you as it  
will be pleasing him & his institution,  
and happy that apparently you have  
been able to keep your circumfact  
there more or less a secret.

I leave here Sunday to drive Malibu  
to Maine where I shall stay with her  
for a couple of days. Then I plan to  
stop a night or two in Worcester and  
visit Elizabeth. Following that,  
if I hear from my other friend who is  
a doctor in Rockland, I shall visit  
him over the week-end of the 16<sup>th</sup> and  
then go on to Brooklyn to pick up  
Helen, driving her back to Saughey  
some time before the 25<sup>th</sup>. I can't  
be too definite about addresses. Prob-  
ably they are as follows: through the 10<sup>th</sup>

The Curtis, Ocean Park, Maine; 12-13<sup>th</sup>  
Massachusetts; 15<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & Dr. J. W. Soule, 80  
Broad St., Rockland; thereafter & Geo.  
Murray, Washburn Pt., Brooklyn.

I earnestly hope these last days in  
Texas will not be intolerable in any  
sense, and particularly that they  
will not be hot. Please plan an  
easy journey and stick to the plan.  
And if you feel tired stay over a day  
somewhere.

Much love to you both,  
George.

West Covach, N.Y.  
May 19, 1946.

Dear Doreen,

In case I don't know where we are in our correspondence - which is the present normal state of all my correspondence! I wonder continually how you & Betty are making out in Fort Worth these last weeks of your exile, and hope that the weather has been as mercifully cool with you as with us - we have had essentially no hot weather for a month, being kept cool by cloudy skies & frequent rain.

The two packages you were so anxious about were delivered to my Washington address where they were waiting for me when I returned on April 2nd. My thanks must be in inverse ratio to the attention I have been able to give them. Having no records of the symphony I have merely glanced at the score. The book on mountains seems to me a very fine piece of work - the kind of thing of which there should be great quantities more - one

that I could have gone into the matter  
freely with you - the result might have  
been the same, but the matter would  
perhaps have been more thoroughly threshed  
out.

As it is I have undertaken to be a can-  
didate for a teaching position. I would  
have written you fully of it had I ~~had~~<sup>had</sup>  
~~the~~<sup>had</sup> time and pertinent information. But  
until yesterday I really knew that I  
was being considered without knowing  
anything about the position. Yesterday  
I was interviewed and last night received  
an offer via telegram. I expect to delay  
my final reply for a week - this partly  
to see what may turn up in that time  
and partly to let you have your say  
if you wish to! The position is at  
Union College (Schuylady), appointment  
to Asst. Professorship at \$3200 for nine  
months (two summers) - on probation  
for one year with merely a verbal under-  
standing that if the six new appointees  
I am the sole one to be considered  
for ~~promotion~~<sup>promotion</sup> at the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation  
be considered for a successful class -

learns more geology from a dozen of its  
pages than from an equal number of  
lectures. I am told that the lectures  
are goalposts and have some several  
greatly good books or manuals. I am  
very glad to have the book - though  
I could have wished the authors had  
said more about the East!

I believe I indicated to you some time  
ago that it has seemed unwise for  
me not to plan to devote myself ex-  
clusively to botany. According to what  
seems to be the best information I  
can get there is just too small a  
chance that I could ever earn my  
living in the subject. I believe a spe-  
cialized success would probably as-  
sure me a job, but specialized successes  
are few. A number of botanists have  
told me they are sorry I feel I must  
give up the idea of joining them full  
time but have added that they honestly  
believe I am probably wiser in deciding  
to make my living by mathematics  
and to come botany for my spare  
time. I think you will also agree as

room production. Before I consented to an interview I made it very clear that I would be interested in the position only if it were understood I should be considered for permanency on this basis with the further understanding that all such time as would normally be devoted to research in mathematics I might freely devote to botanical study as I saw fit. Both the department head and the president (just inaugurated) were quite agreeable to this understanding, making it emphatic that their interest in me was in securing a good teacher who, so long as his teaching was satisfactory, would be free to follow his other interests without question. The present staff of six is largely Harvard trained and so far as I can see is maintaining a high standard in the subject, very much higher than at M S C and somewhat higher than at Rochester. The student body is normally small (800-900) and apparently carefully selected on the basis of college board

examinations. So, as a job from the academic standpoint and in consideration of the kind of thing I feel I must do, it seems to be a job to accept. The present alternative position, which has so far not been offered, is at Washington University, St. Louis. There, I feel sure, the standard is far from as high as at Union, and the place is co-educational, which feature is not attractive to me. The one important item at Washington would be the Missouri Botanical Garden and Herbarium. Against this are the two items I have mentioned and the additional item that I would be in the center of the middle west, essentially remote, except for the garden and herbarium, from the things I prize - the culture of the east and my many friends here. Schenectady is not a lovely city, but the campus is rather fine and in a quiet + pleasant section of town, and within an hour's driving one can be in the foothills of the Catskills, the Adirondacks, the

addresses: May 22-25, Keene, N.H.;  
May 26-28, North Conway, N.H.; May 29-June 1,  
North Woodstock, N.H. Expect to be back  
here on the 3rd or 4th of June.

Which again reminds me of our meeting  
in Paducah. I have looked up trains  
and find the best way is to leave New  
York in early afternoon, reaching Louisville  
late the next morning, and getting on  
train from there to Paducah that  
afternoon, arriving Paducah 6:45 PM  
C. S. T. I suggest I plan to arrive there  
on the 28th of June. Can you make  
this definite soon so I can get after  
a vacation?

I started this letter early this afternoon,  
broke into to take Mother for a walk,  
and now it's midnight - for I  
collected a few plants on the walk  
and they have commenced hurr  
since! So I must wrap up. Please  
write when you can. With much  
love for you both,  
George.

Berkshire on the Queen Mauntau.

One further item needs consideration. My  
mother has lately become quite a bit  
older - she is by means feeble, but her  
mind is often confused and she can  
no longer be depended upon to take care  
of her own business. I would steadfastly  
refuse to spend any considerable length  
of time here or to come here more  
frequently than once a month were I  
in Schenectady, but were I in St. Louis  
I think it quite possible I would  
have to make several trips a year  
here and even <sup>then</sup> fail to be able to do  
what must be done by someone.

Now, have you anything to say? I  
suggest that if you have any compelling  
reasons to give utterance to that you  
write them by night letter for I  
am about to go off to the White  
Mauntau for a couple of weeks and  
a letter would probably fail to  
reach me in time. I expect to have  
Berkshire on the Queen Mauntau (P.A.).



Dear Donald & Betty - What has <sup>1946?</sup> hap-  
pened to you - I hope you have  
not been going through a siege  
of illness. It seems weeks & weeks  
since I have heard from you - I  
noticed the enclosed in the  
Washington Post this morning. I  
had not known of the rental - I  
should have tried to extend.  
I keep very busy - much too busy  
to get to keep up my correspondence  
to J. D. C. - but there is no  
time to learn, and I am  
having a formidable time  
learning & working at the  
Lutheran - I have been getting  
out of hand with the work  
- what I should do in these  
distressing times. - Please  
write to me & please take  
care of yourselves. Much love  
George.

THE THREE TABLES  
Ezraing by ROSEMARY VAN RYN  
Duck (1966-1999) Rosewood Collection

Please return

Ordinance Dept, Navy 163  
F.P.O. San Francisco Calif  
May 27, 1945.

Dear Donald,

I am sitting here in the ordnance office this afternoon (in fact all day) 'standing the duty,' as we say, which on Sunday means waiting for nothing to happen - although not one of our best days it is good enough to be out & roaming, which is not always true - but with good luck this duty won't come again on Sunday for some two months. And as I was sitting here I was thinking that it was just 54 weeks ago that you visited us in Boston & I proposed to myself that I commemorate the occasion by writing - whereupon the mail arrived and I am corrected by your letter of last Monday - anyhow it's a pleasant memory

nized at least three or four common  
plants here - while now I can  
walk out & call the names of between  
a hundred and two hundred. My pamphlet  
is in the process of being illustrated  
and should be run off within a week  
or ten days. It is only about forty  
pages long - I would not have  
believed such a little could exact  
so much labor - almost without  
break I have spent an average of three  
hours a day on it for seven weeks.  
Many thanks to you for wanting to  
keep me with it (and you may have  
a chance on the introduction!) - but  
what I wanted to put out now was  
something for use here right away.  
It will be full of mistakes for it is  
almost wholly based on my own notes,  
many of them made before I knew  
what to observe or how to observe.  
I have just this week obtained an loan  
from Dr. Walker the money cash on  
the Alleghena place - by a Lewis-Hucker.

54 weeks. I am glad, as always, to  
hear from you and to hear about  
your doings. I am sorry you are so  
tired down - I can understand how  
you are, with the many small duties  
you have - I hope, come the end of the  
war, that you and Betty will find  
it possible to get some adequate  
domestic help, so that the two of  
you can again enjoy some of the  
freedom in living that you once  
had.

I, too, am tired down! - in another  
way - for just about 18 months  
I have moved & had my being all  
within a radius of less than ten miles.  
And I have not yet by any means ex-  
hausted the possibilities of that small  
circle. Our plants are coming along  
now in some profusion - I have seen  
a number in blossom and have recog-  
nized some fifty or more ~~possibly~~ new  
new growth. I was reflecting recently  
on the fact that a year ago I recog-

It would not have helped me much  
last year, for it assumes <sup>on the part of the reader</sup> a knowledge  
of the ~~and~~ species, describing distribution  
to sources, ~~occurrence~~, ~~to the~~ ~~text~~ ~~in~~,  
etc. But at my present stage it is a  
fascinating work, showing me what  
I have missed, pointing out problems,  
etc. In particular I find that my  
collecting has certainly extended the  
known range of at least fifteen species.  
In the mail today came a letter from  
Dr. Watsch reporting on a mustard I  
had sent him - he had sent it to  
L. N. Bailey at Cornell for determination,  
~~since~~ <sup>since</sup> it is a cultivated plant & Bailey  
is perhaps the American authority on  
such plants. It is *Brassica juncea*,  
Indian or brown mustard, cultivated  
for greens, salad, pickles, oil.

I guess this is a good place to call a  
halt - you see I can talk indefinitely  
about the flora here - it has literally  
become all consuming. — You  
remarked recently that you had

no idea what my duties have been since I was switched to Ordnance. Well, in the beginning, at least, my duties had not changed, in fact I am still at the old game - I am assigned to Ordnance merely administratively. Recently I have been put on this duty Officer list, but the duty (once every nine days) is little more than a telephone watch. Col- laterally I have several duties - such as censuring, once a fortnight, standing Officer - 2. the day watch, also once a fortnight. Also I have been on court martial duty for fourteen months - the first year as a member of the court and latterly as recorder - which means I am essentially the D.A. of the station - fact or fiction - oh, what?

Since I last wrote you the war in Europe has ceased. There was no great celebration here - as for myself I felt such a profound sense of tragedy that I was

without intellectual accomplishment.  
I have probably dipped (and often passionately)  
into more subjects than all but a thousandth  
of one per cent —

June 4 - At that point I was interrupted  
and wasn't eight days later - and I  
haven't stopped ticking a minute since  
- I am so tired I scarcely know  
what to do. At the moment I'm  
waiting for the time to come to secure  
(i.e. dismiss) a share patent and in  
my exhaustion I've tried to rest with  
my head on this desk, - only to  
find my mind racing along planning  
this & planning that - & only my  
mind could let me alone for a little  
while. I have been feverishly driven  
for the past few days, with five  
concord. ventrals dumped on me last  
Thursday night - now four days later  
I am not quite half through the job  
despite working until eleven today  
& Saturday night. Finally yesterday

in no mood for celebration. The utter  
degradation of such a great state, however  
inimical, brought about by its own  
folly, appeals to me as great tragedy - and  
the cessation of such a colossal con-  
flict I found overwhelming. I  
happened this afternoon on Thomas  
Mann's 'The End' in the May Reader's  
Digest, where he puts most my own  
feeling very well indeed.

I am grateful for your appreciation  
of Mannheim - I felt sure you would  
enjoy knowing him. How much worldly  
wisdom he may have about me I don't  
know - though he wouldn't have to have  
much to have more than it. Once in  
a while, though not often, I wonder  
what I shall do after the war. Shall  
these two or three years make a con-  
plete break in my life so that I  
start anew again, or shall I try to  
pick up where I left off? I am so  
unmitigatedly intellectual, yet so

at five I simply had to stop and  
after a quick chew tore off to  
climb a mountain all by myself. It  
was about a fifteen hundred feet  
climb, the last quarter in a thick  
fog - up there on top I could have  
been thousands of miles from anyone  
- I could see no one nor do anyone  
in the world know where I was.  
It helped a lot to repair me, for this  
morning I was quite cheery again  
but today has been a devil and I'm  
very fogged. It would be nice to  
have someone to talk to - I have  
had such here but they are all gone -  
not that I haven't quite a number of  
pleasants or game birds, but no one  
of sympathy. - Oh well, never mind -  
the last few days have proved one thing  
anyhow - there's still life in the old dog  
yet. - All fawn - in a half hour  
I shall be reached in. Much love  
to Betty & yourself. Joey

Ordreman Dept. Hwy 163

P.O. San Francisco, Calif.

April 17, 1945.

Dear Dorcas,

It is terribly late and I am equally tired, and while I can't hope this will reach you in six days it may not be too much delayed to be seasonal - so I say I hope you will have had a happy birthday and that the year ahead will bring rewards and a minimum of perplexing problems.

I feel I may soon have word from you 'laying me out' for not writing. My promises + good intentions have gone by the board. In truth I have written a scant six or eight letters for a month - I have simply not had the energy in the little time available. I am spending literally all my off-duty time on botany - except for a duty night or two I have been in this office

dave I expect I'll be roped in on some sort of organizing of botanical interests - that I know of a Red Cross woman here on whom I think I can pin that - to the moment she's been too busy to allow her to get hold of me - I hear she is one of these very energetic folkies & you know how I write in such a blast.

I am wondering how you may have reacted to Roosevelt's death. I was quite shocked, myself - you know I had a great deal of faith in his instincts, though I didn't always like his methods. But he is gone and in coughing about to find some jack in this ill I feel that perhaps since now it is necessary there will arise some men of good will who have previously been completely overlooked. This must happen or we shall surely have a bad peace and untold difficulties in the post-war years.

This must be all, for it is now even later. I hope that both Betty & you are well and that you are reaching with vigor to the spring. The Times sheet came - but waiting now for some time. Much love to you both, George.

every night for a month until very late. How long I can keep this up I don't know, but I have set myself so many tasks I shall have to keep it up for a long time if I accomplish them. I have been collecting lichens and a single hour's haul takes several evenings to clean, classify, record & stow away. In addition I've been studying grasses and think I have had some success at identifying several collected last season - it is a painstaking job, requiring a steady hand (or rather two steady hands) and extremely close observation even with the aid of a 10 power lens. Further, a fairly major project, in writing a note or two explaining layman's guide to the flowers here as I observed them last summer - I expect it to run to thirty five or forty typewritten pages - to date I have at least 25% written and after that there'll be the long job of typing, for no one can read my writing - I expect to get the micro-graphing done by some special service

Ordinance Dept. Navy 163  
S. P. O. San Francisco, Cal.  
March 14, 1945

Dear Donald,

For a place where for most everyone  
time is regarded to lag I find it rushing  
past maddeningly fast - there is never  
time enough to do one tenth of what  
I keep planning. I often wish I could have  
been born with a single track mind - per-  
haps then I could have put something  
on that one track. As it is I have so  
many interests I get practically no where  
with any of them. - So much for exaspera-  
tion with myself.

Now for yours with yourself - namely  
impatience. I am sorry you find Helen  
Tupper as trying I can see how exasperating  
she can be if you're not properly oriented  
to her, but I do think you can so  
orient yourself so that she becomes  
little more than an occasional blur  
in your landscape - you know so well  
she is only a child - much over age -

just let her be that - let her say what  
she will, however ridiculous it may  
seem to you. It is undoubtably desirable  
to you to have to plan not to be at  
" Chapel Place at the time she comes,  
but I think you ought to realize how  
likely you are to have a place like  
" Terrace only a block away where you  
can flee and be in peace - don't you  
do your work there anyhow and wouldn't  
you naturally be there all of any afternoon?  
Well, whatever arrangements you have  
made or can make you must get down  
to the brass tacks that you can't afford  
to let yourself be impatient - you  
just haven't the strength for it. I think  
you should try to get to New York at  
least twice a month - it is probably  
something of a chore, but it gets you  
out of the confining atmosphere  
of Danbury and particularly away from  
your women - you have too many  
women nagging at you all the time -  
and in Danbury I can't think of a  
single man among your friends I  
know who is an intellectual

sparring partner for you - that you  
need - that you can find among  
your friends in New York. - So there!

I am indeed glad to hear that  
somebody with apparently some pull  
has at last come to the defence of  
you pro and con and I earnestly  
hope Balogh has been able to find  
a publishable fact.

As for a couple of remarks in your  
letter of March 4. First, I mean  
hardly of Dr. Baker nor do I know  
anything about Long Linnæus & Whitting.  
I took off my glasses at the invitation  
of Dr. Berliner - whom you do not  
find kept to you. At my last  
physical exam in July I still had  
20/20 vision - I wear glasses now &  
then for reading, but by no means  
regularly so - guess I am just busy.  
I hope Dr. Peppard will do you some  
good and I know you'll be faithful  
in carrying out the exercises, but  
I am inclined to feel that you

ought not to do too much tinkering  
with your eyes - there must be a good  
ocular whom you'd find sympathetic  
and he would know what you can  
& can't do.

Second, as for my will - I forgot  
all about the explanation - since I can't  
remember now what there was to explain  
will skip that. I'm even forgotten the  
terms of the will except that my mother  
and/or Eva (or vice versa?) were es-  
sentially the only ones to whom  
I wanted anything left. Of course  
I'm still hoping you won't have to  
execute the will before I have a  
chance to see it again!

My reading lately has been various in  
that & that - of note is Bernard Pares  
'Russia' (Penguin Books) - a complete  
survey from early times to 1943 - I  
find it the most lucid thing I've  
ever read on Russia - Pares knows  
the country well and is friendly toward  
it, but is by no means blind - he  
finds plenty to criticize, but in an

understanding fashion and in a way to  
make one understand. I think you  
would enjoy a perusal of it.

Within the last ten days I have had  
two opportunities to meet and talk  
with a group of scientists who are  
here on a special mission. One of  
them is a Norwegian physiologist  
(apparently now an American citizen,  
for he is a captain in the Army) -  
Schlander by name - a man who  
has done considerable work  
exploring - he is particularly in-  
terested in lichens as he and his  
group came to us with an indication  
in the science of lichens - on one  
day we collected a number of them  
& studied them - he was interested  
in general I had collected last  
summer. Another member is Major  
Hutton - an ornithologist from Cornell  
- a very fascinating & enthusiastic  
naturalist. I hope to see them  
again before they leave here.

All for this time - winter is still  
with us and though there's been  
little skiing lately, we're all looking  
to have some more. Seems hard  
to believe your spring is already  
showing signs - and harder to  
believe that another six weeks  
here will bring the first frosts.

Much love to Betty & yourself

George.

P.S. The enclosed photos show the  
general type of terrain here. The  
long rounded Crescent hut is identical  
with the one I lived in for many  
months. At the moment I'm in  
a similar but smaller hut - without  
windows.

Ordinance Dept, Navy 163  
F. P. O. San Francisco, Calif.  
February 24, 1945

Dear David,

It is after eleven (2300 to Admiral time) but tomorrow is Sunday, the one day I am not up to breakfast, I have a bottle of port to finish off, and I take a longer coffee than I intended between letters (with three of yours to answer) - so here goes - when the port runs out my pen will probably do the same. I have got to be mean of a wine drinker than I ever be able to afford take on - we get a cabinet of two bottles a week - one of which must be wine - I usually make it two of wine which comes to the stupendous figure of \$200. The port I don't care much for, but the cherry (Creta Bleuse) is not had at all and three of us in this hut have put away a lot of it

during the past few months.  
I got three boxes of 23 + 28 Jan + 14 Feb  
I have come since I wrote. I was glad to  
get them - they were so full of so many  
things - and the book on the Dutch has  
come - it looks very interesting in itself -  
as if it would give me a really clear  
picture of that tiny land which in  
some ways has made more than its  
numerical share of contribution to civilization.

I was glad to have Churchill's speech -  
I had not seen it - it is something of a  
masterpiece - but I still <sup>take</sup> it with a  
grain of salt - it is one side - and we  
all know how clear he is at saying  
what sounds well. Anyway there seems  
to be some truth in Green's view.

I am glad to hear that you sink  
in going to have a free playing - it  
seems unlikely that the N.B.C. group  
will work it up for just one performance  
so we should expect it to be performed  
elsewhere. I wish Hantzzi had been  
a little more generous & played  
Loo on these movements of your former  
suite - however, it's never his to

Love had one played and I'm sure  
he does a good job. I hope I may  
some time hear some of your  
chances for religious service - after  
all you have had to say on that  
subject I want to see what has  
come out! Hal Tweedy excites a  
certain something to me as antithetical  
to your ideas I wonder how you  
collaborate!

Marie seems to have found his  
place in New York - guess he was  
home just at the right time after  
all - I don't doubt his fabulous  
salary - nor merit it - though I  
do resent the fantastic amounts  
paid to so many worthless &  
not promising performers on the  
air. In fact I feel the air waves -  
they are fast as dangerous a political  
weapon as the airplane is a military  
one - they feed on money and  
the money class accordingly control  
them & influence through them.

I think I must get home soon to  
to leave you away (kissy term!) on  
Roosevelt - I'm sure his net is held  
as you think. I don't really believe  
his move to put Wallace in command  
was political - though it may have  
political aspects. Wallace has the  
right instincts and wants to do the  
right thing and isn't afraid - it is  
to be expected that his enemies should  
remain his enemies. I'm inclined to  
believe Sam Johnston as ~~you~~ he writes  
on the envelope. I refer you also  
to Dorothy Thompson whom, I  
think, you must pay attention to  
- she gives us a ~~idea~~ and she has quite  
a reputation for being right - had  
all of us paid attention to her from  
1933 onward things would now be  
very different.

I'm sorry to hear that Betty has  
been so shut in for so long. But  
apparently you have had terrible  
weather & I am glad Betty has been  
wise enough to stay in most of the

time - spring will come - I hope  
soon for you. I am glad to  
hear that Annie's operation was  
so successful - she is getting to  
be quite a veteran of hospitals -  
~~days~~ she mind them as much as she  
used to?

You had not told me you were  
to study Puccini. But I am not  
surprised to hear you are at it. It  
is going to be an important language  
for now on and I expect it will  
be taught in many of our colleges.  
But I doubt I shall get round  
to it - I'm not very good at lan-  
guage, although their theoretical  
basis - I should say their history  
& structure - interests me - but  
Puccini is so damned hard. Report  
on Japanese are even worse - that  
language ought to be abolished  
- I'm just used the Atlantic article  
on it - I think that people who  
felt that way can be expected to

act as irrationally as the Japanese  
do - their language is a mess.

I am glad to hear that your meetings  
with Grant have been so pleasant.  
I think you have sized him up very  
well. I'm sure I don't know what  
job he has in mind - and I sus-  
pect him of overestimation of me the  
same as I suspect you - if either  
of you really knew how low I ranked  
you'd be so appalled you'd probably  
sever diplomatic relations!

Shipping has been fairly good since  
I wrote & I've been out six or eight times  
I think I am lucky - at least I haven't  
broken any bones. - My headquarters  
have divided me - some to other  
quarters, some to the States - so  
I'm all alone - it's beautifully quiet  
but so isolated I'm going to move  
soon into another but pleasant  
maker, but inclined to listen too  
much to the radio - my office is far enough  
near so I can retire there if I must.

The post basket is empty - the piece  
sent to you is empty. Thank love to  
Betty & you, Arthur, George!

Navy 163, F.P.O.

San Francisco, Calif.

February 5, 1944.

Dear Donald,

Yours of the 11<sup>th</sup> January came as I mailed my last to you there a few days ago. I was greatly relieved to hear that you had com. pleely recovered from the flu and that the physical examination revealed nothing to worry about except worry. Of that I hope you may soon have much less. But wishing is easy - finding a place for you & Betty to live, where you'll be comfortable and where she can have the kind of life she must now needs have. Life here is much harder - even with a large bank roll it would be difficult these days. May you have early & pronounced success. At any rate you will feel less anxious now that Betty is getting so well and having no more attacks - cost as it may, it's probably better for a time that she must remain in the hospital - there she will rest. And you must also be

relieved about your mother - I am glad  
you seem to have found her a place  
where she is comfortable and well looked  
after. What a shock the Pueling must be - your  
grandfather living on an invalid for so long  
and now your mother. Taking this with your  
father's march your only began to fight!

Found the unaltered clipping in the next  
issue of N. & N. I suppose the one I sent you  
wasn't on a very high level, - but I still  
think it put part of the case rather convinc-  
ly.

Had a slightly panicky letter from my  
mother a few days ago. She expects the  
woman who's living with her to leave  
before summer, and she believes she must  
move. I think it is probably the best thing  
- Milben has a comfortable apartment in  
his house in which she could live, and  
apart from the initial discomforts I think  
she'd be as lonely as she's been this year. But  
she shrinks from the task of leaving out  
the house. I'm trying to persuade her  
not to try to do so right now - just close  
it up and forget it until I can get back  
for a decent leave. - If only I could have

Had some of these months of vicissitudes  
as leave. It will be at least a month  
yet before I can begin working. It is  
beginning to be a scandal.

I have been charmed & delighted this  
week by reading a condensation of Beetham  
Damon's 'A Slice of Heaven'. If my chance  
you've noticed it you must get hold of  
it at once. Every gardener & lover of the  
country finds her saying as often & as  
well what he has often thought. Landers  
here knows her and says she is just as  
charming as she writes. Have also been  
delighted by L. R. Pivson's 'Roughly Speaking'  
- a very tale over the hills & valleys of  
these past forty or fifty years.

You ask if you can't send me something.  
Thank you indeed for wanting to. Several  
others have asked the same and I've  
parcelled out my few needs among all  
of you. You will assign the Parrot  
Books & Avon Library - <sup>I've received</sup> ~~you've sent~~ one  
of the former and two of the latter are  
on the way. If you'd like to sandwich  
in a Harper or Atlantic now & then  
they'd be most acceptable. Reading

matter & reading time promise to balance  
out, especially after I get to work and I  
don't need anything else much. I have  
stacks of clothes, few of which however, we  
get plenty to eat and can buy lots of  
things <sup>to eat</sup> you can't get easily in the States.  
So what is there? But I'll call on you  
more when I need.

You also ask about the binoculars.  
I've not used them much, but have  
had some good looks with them. And  
next summer I think I may get some more.  
I suppose the Navy caused me them, but  
I have myself seen such quantities spread  
about I rather doubt the present need -  
there probably was a need at one time,  
but Bessel & Lamb crashed through.

I am a bit to the horrible realization the  
other day that this is 1948 & we must have  
an election. I'd probably give no chance to  
vote, but well I do it would be for F.D.R.  
Perhaps I'm misled, but I think the soldier &  
sailor vote would be overwhelmingly for  
him - despite the easy lead his lead  
on labor. - All for us, - this can't  
be only a vote. Give Betty my sincerest love  
and tell her I'm so glad she's seeing so well.  
And my love to the family & yourself.

George  
P.S. Several packages come as I said this morn'g acknowledge in detail later

Ordinance Dept., Navy 163  
F. P. O., San Francisco, Calif.

February 1, 1944

Dear Donald,

Your letters of the 5<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> of January, miscellaneous clippings & three books have been gratefully received since I had wrote you. I am particularly pleased with the New gift from your Betty - it is an interesting collection of fascinating small pieces, which I shall dip into as into a box of Delmonico - I had not heard of it. It perplexes me in one respect - does 'naturalist' exclude those who have interested themselves in flora - I write only writings on fauna. I suppose I write this last more because of my present interest in flora. I have just had a letter from Walker in Washington saying that he has taken over a hundred of my specimens to add to the National Herbarium - which you can imagine pleases me very much - though at

The same time it depresses me to think that had I only realized the opportunity presented me I could have done so much more. In particular I practically entirely ignored grasses & sedges, of which there are perhaps a hundred here - and ecologically they are of great interest - I have had a letter from the custodian of grasses at the museum impressing upon me my great sin of omission & urging me to send any & all should I remain here another season. My chances of remaining do not now appear to be very great. Nearly four weeks ago negotiations were begun to hunt about my removal elsewhere - to date nothing has come of them and right now there are indications nothing will for a time - but my eighteen months will be up on May 2nd and it is unlikely that whoever has my desk in hand will consider that without further training in new developments I ought to remain here longer.

I have just read 'Maudsley's Nazi Germany' (Rainbow), which, for a matter of fact account of Nazi atrocity, could scarcely be improved upon. But for some reason or other I found it almost completely unconvincing - I don't know whether the writer failed in his treatment, or whether the substance was as appalling as to chew one into a state where amputation ceased to function. The book won the Stalin prize, for reasons fairly easy to see. And I think it does show very clearly why the Russians have fought so wholeheartedly & to the last inch of endurance - for the vast majority of them their system has given them so much more than its predecessor had that it is surely intolerable to them that they should lose it. And it is certainly interesting that the author is the head of the Dublin government.

Until a week ago our weekly had done fairly well at browsing source

decent thing from time to time and  
I was having a lot of fun with it -  
of not so much success. Enough  
success however to get an idea of  
the genuine thrill there is in it and  
why it was engaging such a regular  
up to the time of the war. I'm cer-  
tainly too old now to become a good  
chick but I hope not too old to  
have a good try at learning some  
parts of it - and now very often  
the war job has the additional  
condition of very nearby hills!

I was indeed disquieted, Donald, by  
your reaction to my suggestion that  
you get in touch with I.M. in New  
York - and perplexed to understand  
the reference to your country. My  
idea was completely innocent - you  
are back numerous with intense  
devotion to music, both men of  
wide acquaintance of people & lands,  
both of many interests outside of music  
and I believed quite genuinely that

you'd best enjoy meeting now & gain  
for some really good conversation  
over lunch. Vanity never entered  
my head, nor any profession I gain  
that either of you might have. I  
am sorry I am such a bungler in  
human relations etc., but you know  
enough of my history to know I am  
and I thought enough to dis-  
count it. I would have been quite  
content to have you refuse to make  
any move to meet F. M., simply  
feeling that if you chose not to  
you knew what you wanted - though  
probably wondering why you should  
choose not to meet one interesting  
personality as opposed to another.  
If this reaches you before your  
contact ~~with~~ please feel  
quite free to call the whole matter  
offs - if not before, you are still  
free, so far as I am concerned,  
to avoid any future meetings.

I am wondering why you sent  
'Mungit Victory' - do you see the  
play? I had not heard of it and  
to date have read only a single review  
of the music made from it - which  
rather blasted it - ending by saying  
that the A.B.T. certainly deserved some-  
thing better. What do you think of it?

How had we word this winter  
from Elizabeth Webb. What do you  
know of her? I hope she is not  
ill.

All for this time - please look  
of you try to keep well during these  
next critical months. With love  
to you both,  
George.

Quil Det. Navy 163, F. P. O.

San Francisco, Calif.

January 30, 1944

Dear Donald,

It's a month today since the last mail from you was received. I am wondering what that month has led for you and Betty. I hope it has been the beginning of an easier time than '43 ended with - certainly that in it Betty has rested enough to feel free of the fear of another heart-attack. And what about your own heart - did the pain you had in November prove quite temporary, or to be something else. Of course, whether it did or not, you must realize you can't garden, keep house, run a chair, teach and compose all at full tilt - you'll just have to give up some of these - I hope you can give up at least the housekeeping - it is so unrewarding and hard - may you find a way to circumvent it! Perhaps before

Another year Germany will have fallen  
and the domestic situation will have  
eased somewhat - but only somewhat,  
for beating Japan is going to <sup>require</sup> a major  
effort.

My own day, go along in the established  
routine. Still no promise of setting-up  
time - though my division head has  
lately indicated he is about fed-up  
with waiting for me to be supplied  
with working-quarters. I get plenty of  
sleep, good food and keep well. Our  
kit contains nearly everything we have  
in the States - adequate fresh fruit, some  
fresh vegetables, 'fresh' eggs (i.e. from  
the shell), milk via Klein, etc. Every  
other day I go to the solarium for a  
steam bath, ultra-violet bath &  
massage - 'compliments of the management'.  
There is very little illness here - apparently  
very few germs circulating about.

To go back to your letters of mid-November,  
re wills, etc. The will I made in Port Townsend  
was a poor affair made in great haste  
for I had a hundred things to do in two days.  
By it my mother would have the use  
of what money I should leave (except for  
insurance policies of which she & Eva are

beneficiaries), such money to revert to  
Eva on Mother's death. Aside from that  
I experimentally mentioned only my mathe-  
matical library which I would want  
to go a friend in last leaving - my closest  
friend among mathematicians. The  
remainder of such effects as I might leave  
would go to Mother. But it was  
stated in the will that it was my wish  
that you, as executor, should carry out  
my wishes. They would include certainly  
that you should have something I  
had treasured to remember me by -  
the big Vermeer, which we both love,  
some brass or copper - candle sticks or  
the Russian baking dish - and any  
books, should there be any you'd  
care to have. I should also wish  
that Mr. Mambheimer have something  
- for example the Luciani sketch which  
he has admired. As for Con I must  
confess I never thought of her until  
the lawyer raised the point! Whether  
I might be inclined to leave her would  
be only a drop in the bucket and I  
am not sentimental enough on that

to leave even a drop.

As for your own wish to leave me a  
piece of furniture I would be happy  
to have the butler's desk - I am ashamed  
to say I can't seem to visualize it way  
out here - but I know that you must  
have worked at it and that alone would  
make it something I would cherish.  
As I would the paintings and sketches  
and books.

Enough on this level - I hope it will  
be many years before either of us has  
to think of these things again.

I've been writing this under a continual  
harassment of small talk from my abhorred  
butler. I wish he'd die. Under-sized  
but that he is, he must anyway adhere  
to keep up his own sense of importance.  
However, on rereading sounds as if it  
said essentially what I intended - so  
if it goes I hope it finds you both  
in better health and good spirits, ~~and~~  
of which I trust I'd soon have word.  
With much love to you both,

P.S. The enclosure states the case to George  
my entire satisfaction - no guess I should to show it  
with you. - Mr. Mansheimer sends me copies of the  
N.S.W. new album - it is so well written.

Navy 163, F. P. O., Great Del.

San Francisco, Calif.

January 20, 1944

Dear Donald,

I am for once nearly caught up on my correspondence, but considering the amount of time it takes me I can see that when I finally get to work again it will <sup>be</sup> largely V-mail that I shall have to use.

Three letters from you since I last wrote, the two of middle November which finally got here, and the one of end December. I am sorry you were at all concerned that the receipt of your note should have prompted my repaying a long-standing debt. Your receipt did accelerate me, but I had had it in mind to send the money shortly anyhow. Besides which I would have been more than happy to help without owing. I trust the money orders will shortly reach you - they were mailed on the 10<sup>th</sup>. I was quite able to spare the full amount, so have no qualms regarding my having sent it all. My salary at the moment is so considerably more than I have ever had before I feel quite rich. You see Donald as a married man -

according to law I am still responsible for Con  
and my Navy regulations must be paid ac-  
cordingly, to protect the Navy, which means  
that I receive extra rations and although oc-  
cupying government quarters receive the quarters  
allowance. All of which with my 10% foreign  
duty adds up to \$300 per month. By virtue  
of this I shall shortly be entirely out of debt  
with a lot saved besides. All things considered  
(except my present inactivity) I don't feel over-  
fraid, for I think by next I should have  
been made a full time servant to begin with - I  
as far forward as one my eye was ap-  
pointed at junior grade rank.

I am sorry that your letter had again to  
bring word that Betty had had another  
heart attack. She must not be allowed to  
become so fearful of any activity that she  
was utterly useless - that would be too cruel  
an existence. Of course in time she will find  
out what she can do with impunity and how  
she can live and then she will not be so  
fearful. It is false, indeed, that you had  
to kill during her last stay in the hospital  
- had on both of you, - and even worse false  
that this has come during these difficult  
times - if only you could get respectable  
help it would be so much easier. I'm anxious

For your next letter and earnestly hope  
it will bring better news.

One package from you has arrived - a  
couple of days ago - The Riddle of the Sands -  
it looks like a good tale though I've not  
started it yet. I'll let you know when the  
Bee Hunt & Wolfe arrive. Thank you so  
much for pushing them. They will come in  
handy when I have charter periods to read  
in. I'll keep an eye out for the Betty Smith  
and Alice Pollock - they may well show  
up in the new shipment of books which I  
understand may get here this spring.

I speak of my inactivity - that is technical  
- I keep busy all the time - quite a lot on  
math - that is endless of course. At the  
moment I'm tutoring three men in H.S. math  
in preparation for the Amherst exams in  
April. One of them, my one & only man, is  
very smart - he will undoubtedly be able and  
saved have a good chance of an appointment.  
He's just a kid - 18 - from Holyoke. He got on  
excellently well and he knows his job al-  
most perfectly - I should be very sorry  
to lose him - in fact lost without him - but  
still I'd like to see him in a better position.

There is also lack of my teaching a calculus course a couple evenings a week - I've not too keen on that, for I'd afraid the material (human) would be pretty far down the scale. I would like to find someone who was really gifted in math & had had enough in college to make it possible to talk on a relatively high level. But as luck so far. In fact, it would be nice to find somebody to talk to - some of the men here are not unpleasant, but they have few interests in common with me. My hut-mate from Exeter - a first-  
I do have a lot in common, but I see so little of him - he's a welfare officer, seldom in my hut except on one in the morning, up late and sleep off to his work.

Another hut-mate - Wickham, by name - is fast becoming a frightful pain. He's a screwed-off chunky man, who's fast has induced a frightful inferiority complex, for which he has built up a blustering defence. Appointed an sergeant at 34, ~~and~~ at present subordinate to a 24 year old lieutenant, and formerly a high school principal he is continually gifted and spends one to two hours a day, telling me about it in the faintest language. However he seems quite frank

of me which prevents me from giving  
him office. The farthest member here is  
a kid of 22, a (jg) - left Virginia Polytechnic  
in junior year - a typical college kid - at  
first I thought he would drive me wild with  
his jitherbugging, whistling & humming &  
his classmoussness, but he is on the other  
hand rather charming in a way and so ab-  
solutely likes me despite our differences that  
I have come to like him - in fact the prospect  
of his moving is not acceptable, for I  
might draw something rather impossible.

Well, the last two described notes have  
just come in as there is no longer any place  
for going to answer your notes of November  
even.

Keep up your courage and don't get another  
attack of the flu. Much love to Betty and  
James, George.

Guidel. Navy 163, F. P. O.

San Francisco, Calif.

January 7, 1944.

Dear Donald,

It was good to have another letter from you today, but I had hoped it would contain better news. You can imagine how sorry I am to hear that Betty is doomed to live the rest of her life a semi-invalid. With her temperament it will be very hard for her and for you. I hope the condition may not be as severe as Dr. Delahery says it is, and that in time you two can resume as nearly a normal life as these times allow. Being ill, if you're a civilian, is surely difficult now. — And I hope your own illness proved temporary and has not left you with any residue of trouble. Yes, this Christmas must have been rather dreary for all of you. I am glad my cards reached you before Christmas — they apparently went through in a hurry — must have

than mail gets out here. This Christmas  
I had not one single message before  
the day itself - and still very few -  
Marguerite's card came during the holi-  
day week.

I am glad your Christmas program  
proved so satisfactory from the public's  
standpoint - and they should have  
been grateful to hear something other  
than the Mess-sh. But I wish you  
could learn to take these preparations  
less hard, for I feel you wear yourself  
out with them. I know it's difficult to  
compromise with your standards, but  
you must learn to, or all of a sudden  
you won't have any standards.

There's nothing new to write about from  
here - Sir still waiting to begin operating  
- it may be weeks yet, or even months.  
Getting this far away one realizes the  
colossal task of supply.

Thanks for the news of the Bigges and of  
your father & Annie. My love to all  
of them. And to your mother - Sir speaks now  
of ~~making contributions~~  
releasing money orders for \$250,  
as I promised you in my last. They  
come with all my gratitude for the  
loan and the hope that they may some-  
what lighten your present burden. Love to  
you & Betty, George.

October 15, 1943

Dear Doreen & Betty,

To start with the last paragraph of your last letter and work backwards! It is by no means clear how long I shall remain in the wilderness, though it begins to seem that I may not stay in this particular one for very much longer. The mine school here has folded up entirely, so that there will be no more ships being trained here in mine warfare, and since the command school was merely a side issue to the mine school there will probably be no more ships for the farmer. At the moment I am training several officers who are temporarily attached here, so that I have work, but it is not so strenuous as it was up to the 20th of last month. As I look back at it now I wonder just how long I could have kept up that pace - certainly I was very tired, which partly accounts for the way my cold beset me out - I was a pretty lumpy guy for an

week - but since Oct. I have <sup>been</sup> pushing myself rather less hard in correspondence! so that I am again feeling pretty well. - As a matter of fact I am rather dreading that I shall be moved from here - just as this town is, this assignment is far better than many I might have had - surely I am happier here by far than I would have been in Seattle or San Francisco or Portland (Maine or Oregon) - to date the weather has been remarkably good (though it must soon start raining), the scenery is ever beautiful, I have commodious & fairly quiet quarters, good food and all for a mere pittance. However, my dread of moving is not very real - I have now started out anew in so many places at so many times and more or less successfully adjusted myself, that the Navy can do what it likes. - I have been fortunate here in knowing found at least one very congenial fellow - a young ensign (the supply officer) by the name of Dick Morris - he is from Salt Lake, a great grandson of Brigham Young -

his whole training & background have been  
on a high cultural level - he is fond of  
music (knows much more symphonic music  
than I do), loves the outdoors, the mountains,  
etc. And just recently, a very young man  
from Endicott, New York, (Harvard '43)  
has arrived, who promises to be a  
welcome addition here. Not that every one  
hasn't been very pleasant, but except for  
these two I have not felt any definite  
attraction. One couple, leaving this  
week, has recently been quite hospitable,  
but I doubt I could enjoy all their  
hospitality regularly. He is a pleasant-looking  
type, whom you'd put down for not knowing  
enough to come in out of the rain, but  
apparently he's smart enough, and both  
he & his wife are very warm-hearted. Dick  
& I were invited to their house to dinner  
on Wednesday - after dinner we played 'train'  
with John & his young son Bruce, aged 1/2,  
for some two hours - that is fun now &  
then. After that there were bridge & rather  
amazingly some rather good records.

My trip to the mountains turned out to be  
two trips, more or less identical. On the  
Saturday I was sent out in the station  
wagon with another officer, Gravesen by  
name, to reconnoiter for a lake for Sunday.  
We drove south to Quilcane - some 25 miles -  
and got information at a forest ranger's  
station. He told us of a quite reasonable  
lake leading to a marvelous view, so we  
set out to make it. We drove up on to the  
eastern foothills of the Olympics on a  
CCC road like this ~~one~~, though much  
burned over land - a rather frightful  
sight, but what it must have been before  
being cut over & later burned - there were  
many trunks of Douglas fir trees 20 feet  
or more feet in diameter. Our trail began  
at perhaps 2000 feet at the base of Mt  
Fion and took us to the top, at 4200  
feet. It was a poor day - the sun was  
under fog, so we saw only to the west,  
and not too clearly, but it was beautiful,  
each range of mountains rising from fog  
as in a Chinese landscape. On the peak  
we found a middle aged couple - bushy  
mountaineers, manning the forest fire -

aircraft warning service station - they will  
be there all winter - snowed in from to six  
months. They were most hospitable and  
entertained us with much talk & some food  
- he was particularly interesting, knowing  
something of living in nearly every state  
and knowing practically every region  
of this country in some detail. - On  
the following day Doctor D took the  
station wagon again with seven enlisted  
men & made the same trip. Sunday was  
a fairly clear day and we had a fine view  
- to the east the whole Cascade  
range from Baker south to Glacier  
Peak, Rainier & Adams. Rainier is just  
about unbelievable, standing up there  
nearly three miles high all by itself. To  
the west we had a good view of the main  
Olympics - one cannot see Olympics  
itself - it is too far back. The men packed  
food up the mountain & cooked us a good  
meal of steaks, potatoes etc. - If only  
one had the means of transportation one  
could do this often, for forty or fifty  
miles takes one right into the mountains.

Oct. 17. And now it is Sunday evening - and  
in going to finish this - get it in the mail.  
By this time you are well into the fall - I  
hope that the summer weather was as warm  
kindness as your letters indicated, for  
you have not spoken of excessive heat, and  
you have written of plenty of activity for  
both of you - in fact when you, Betty, seem  
to have done a lot of canning, which is hard  
work. Canning has become quite a national  
custom - in these parts almost a compulsion  
- there is a canning factory here, 'open to the  
public', which means you can bring your  
vegetables, etc. to the factory, prepare them  
under direction, and then have them canned  
in tin - all for the sum of 5¢ per can -  
salmon, of which there has been a quantity,  
has been canned already by the ton by  
individuals.

Both you and Mother have written of how  
dry it has been - if only you could have  
the moist air which is here, gardening  
would be much easier. It has been dry  
here, in the case of little rain, but the  
ground itself and the air seem to be  
moist, and everything grows luxuriantly.

Many different kinds of flowers are still  
blooming - in particular great masses of  
sweet pea beside beauty laden dahlia  
bushes - it seems crazy. The mountain  
ash here is amazing - covered with berries  
as brilliant as holly - and of this there  
is a great deal.

Since Friday I have had two rumors of  
my next move - one from the commander  
of a near by base who said he heard  
I was going to San Diego, and the other  
from the captain, who said there was  
talk of transferring me to Seattle - which  
probably means I shall go to that place.

Well I must stop and get to bed - I  
went for a rather long walk this after-  
noon with Bob Kerley - the fellow from  
Credisat - we covered a fair sized portion  
of this sub-primula, passing from  
fields to woodlands to the shore & repeat  
- just a nice random walk of discovery.  
- I am so glad to hear your mother, Doreen,  
recovered so quickly from her accident and  
that she seems as contented as she is, - and  
that Helen too has been cured, even if it  
be by means of getting in touch with the

Infinite - any part in a storm! - My  
own mother seems to be getting along fairly  
well - I think she is very lame for  
my father, but she is being very brave and  
thickly building up a defense. - Did I  
write you that Harold was honorably  
discharged and has taken a position in  
Cleveland? So it has been hard for mother,  
losing father, having Harold made well,  
and having me out of bounds, all in  
17 six months.

Please write me as often as you can and  
I shall try to be a better correspondent  
- though to be a good one I'd have to  
improve a lot! Much love to both of  
you.

July 23, 1943.

Dear David,

This gadding about the country is hard on correspondence - says so & weeks go & I don't know how long it is between letters I write - it will be a comfort to be settled for a few months at least - anywhere or nowhere - and it's pretty nearly the latter that I'm destined for. I am being sent to Port Townsend, Washington - across the sound from Victoria, B.C. I know that I leave here Saturday but can't seem to find out when I am due there - probably about August 1, - at least I shall be able to get home for a night or two - I wish it could be long enough for me to make a side

trip to Danbury. But a phone call  
will have to be the best I can do, and  
I shall call you Sunday night, about  
eight or so.

I was unable to make any of those  
five trips in California that you  
suggested - you see we were working  
seven days a week! I left San Diego  
a week or so Sunday and reached home  
Wednesday noon - and here today  
morning. Since then I have been  
on duty every day - including all  
day Sunday - so I've had only  
time to unpack & get some laundry  
& cleaning done - and now I must  
pack up again. These long hours of  
teaching, standing and work great  
confusion, I find rather tiring so  
at night I usually fall into bed early -  
but I reckon I shall get into the routine  
after I am settled. All news and best  
hopes of hearing your voice & Betty's on  
Sunday. - George.

[1943] 694

Dear Betty + Donald,

I am arrived at the destination I set out for and it was good indeed to find your familiar handwriting. Donald, awaiting me - your card of remembrance of the which had been sent me from Port Townsend. But its news I had hoped would be better, though I'm glad to know that you, Betty, are beginning to improve - hospital - please stay there for a good long rest - how I wish I could get in to see you.

Now that I am here I find that this is only a transfer point for me - I can't tell you where I am going, but my new address will be Navy 163, F. P. O., San Francisco, Calif.

Smith I could tell you of many of the things I have seen + experienced while they are still fresh in my mind. The trip was not too unpleasant and it was interesting geographically, militarily + psychologically - very interesting to know that I could 'take' quite a number of things I hadn't supposed I could, - in particular noise + ~~fatigue~~ <sup>fatigue</sup> - particularly the latter seems to be the natural state of quite a percentage of men - it was quite possible to keep clean, but some of them made no effort to do so.

This place is beautiful (in a stark way) when the weather is beautiful - when it storms it comes near to being terrifying - an individual would last but a few hours, or even minutes. Life is quite rugged on the outside - nothing you have read about it exaggerated - in fact, for myself it is incredible without experiencing it. And when you get out in a place like this you begin to realize the importance of morals and of keeping it up - one can see the latest movies, (when he can get in), there is a

there are lots of ice cream, candy & drinks - and that is about all. So far I have not found any reading matter for sale - there probably is a library of books but I've not run into it. If you notice any new titles in the Public Library you think would interest me I'd appreciate one now & then - also copies of the Room short story monthly - of which I've now read several - Neil Carver, Sinclair Lewis, Steinbeck, and Maughan.

Was surprised yesterday to meet a fellow whom I'd known as a teacher at Exeter - haven't seen him since those days, - how we do get around.

All right now - hope to hear more from you at my next subscription. Much love to you both. George

Lt J. George B. Von Schaack  
Navy 163, F.P.O., San Francisco, Calif.

June 22, 1942.

Dear David,

Two months is a long time to be silent - a lot to explain away - I'm not going to try to explain - just you have guessed, I have been very tired and harassed by work - just I trust you have not guessed for it would have worried you. I have thought of writing you several times and have set down to do so, only to fail to get started. Now that the step is taken I want you to know, but as much as it may pain you you will be spared having to help me make a decision - not that it is pain for you to help me, but it would have distressed you to see me try to arrive at such action as I have taken. I am not going home to Can this summer. I simply

could not face another summer such as the past three and I could not see that any elements in our relationship had changed in the direction which would make this summer better than any of those.

Perhaps I have not deceived you these several years - I thought I ~~was~~ <sup>had</sup> and liked it, but I was so chagrined and ashamed and afraid to face the facts that I was not able to bring myself to talk to you about it. Now could now go into any detail, if that were even necessary. I do not know, nor does it now make much difference, where the blame lies - I am prepared to accept a major portion of it, for, whoever made the mistakes, had I taken a strong line and acted more wisely, in the first instance we should not have been married, in the second, the marriage made, it might have been a success.

[My first major mistake I made in the April holiday before we were married. At that time Con presented me with an ultimatum - either I then & there agreed to marry her that August or I got out. I was wavering.]

Without trying to judge her feeling for me

I know that she has set great store by the security of marriage - and this will be a profound shock to her. I am very sorry for her, and it took a great deal out of me to do this to her - I am fond of her and I value her friendship and I want to keep it. I hope she will be able to see that we have been trying to make a marriage out of a friendship, and to continue is to destroy the latter.

The repercussions of all this on everyone except Ann I had to ignore, other than for deciding I could face them. My parents will be greatly distressed, so will Eva, and so will you and Betty, but I think you and all of them would be wiser so by having me go on, knowing what that meant. ~~For~~ Of all these you are the one most deeply affected, for you should have had my confidence four years ago - and that I did not give it to you then has been a hard thing to live with. I have worked so many times I had done so for the

sake of our friendship - but I have not  
very strongly believed it would have  
made much difference in the result - that  
is, I am so headstrong I would probably  
have gone ahead anyway. Now - it is true,  
at great cost, - I think I have learned my  
lesson. I know you will understand and I  
hope you can forgive me for withholding  
my confidence.

What I shall do this summer I don't know.  
Summer school opens today - I am not down  
to teach in it, but there is fair probability  
there'll be a large enough registration so  
that will be needed - I hope so, for I  
need the money - so pretty a sum as it is. In  
any case I shall stay here until the first  
of August and get some work done. After  
that I shall get away, - where I do not  
know, but it must be to some real country  
where I can be out-of-doors, can walk, think  
and be in the sun. I'd desperately love to  
see you & Betty, but I'm not sure the  
east is the proper place for me to go just

now - I need something <sup>4</sup> new and wholly  
unconnected with the past. We shall see.

Enough of my ~~own~~ troubles! Your letter  
yearly this month distressed me by the  
reminiscence of your own. I am so sorry  
to hear that your mother has failed so  
and that in her ill-health she has had to  
put up with so much domestic inconvenience  
and at the same time have so much illness in  
the family. You had not written me  
that Annie had a cataract - poor dear, she  
seems to be making up for lost time with  
the hospital. I am glad that she is im-  
proving.

I was not surprised to hear of Uncle Charles'  
death - I did not believe he would live  
long after Aunt Stella went. I shall  
miss him - as far out of my sphere as he  
was I was fond of him and always en-  
joyed seeing him. It has been hard for  
Helen to lose both her parents in a  
year, but more years such as this past  
passed would have been harder. She

has been a very good daughter and has sacrificed herself most generously for her parents - I hope that now she can have a life of her own. - And what was Louis' heart with the doctors - of that you had not written me.

How are you and Betty? I hope you will not have to stay all summer at Chapel Place, - I don't like to think of Betty having to stand the heat of downtown Danbury without respite.

The war goes on and on - and yesterday's fearful news of the fall of Tobruk makes it seem that many months fighting have been added. I suspect I shall eventually be drafted. My number is 1252 - so far I have not received my questionnaire, but it may come any day - they say it is about two months thereafter that one gets called - I am as hopeless as army material that. I and when I am called I am inclined to let the college try to get me deferred - we shall see.

Please do not be upset - I am all right, and prepared for whatever comes. But I'd love a word from you. With much love to you both, George

March 26, 1942.

Dear Donald,

My own convenience in doing ~~is~~ a pretty fine job of ravaging me with fierce bites, considering the long letter you sent in answer to mine. Had the hard winter term not finished last Saturday I might have <sup>had</sup> to go on being bitten. I don't know why it was so hard - there have certainly been terms when I got more done, and when, on the whole, I had fewer good students. I had one sterling freshman class in analytical geometry - never have I had so many such nice youngsters so positively eager to learn & to please - we had a wonderful time and it was with deep regret I sent them at the last class. The outlines of the coming term are still vague - it will have plenty of work, but just what I don't know. My senior class in mechanics will go on and consume days & weeks, but I think my

graduate class will have vanished into thin air.  
It would have had only four students at best -  
three brilliant boys & a rather mediocre girl.  
But one of the boys left for defense work in  
M. I. T. two months ago and today another  
left for defense work with the Chrysler Corp.  
The remaining boy doesn't really want to take  
the course and the girl is hardly capable  
enough - so even if I'm not asked to give it up  
I think I shall try to have it cancelled. But  
it is not without some pain, for it was to be  
topology, my own subject, and I have spent  
literally weeks preparing for it - three things  
left-back I had set about writing are and  
had finished nearly half of it - working on it  
right up until last night. But all things con-  
sidered I think it had better be one of the war  
casualties - for I shall have plenty to do -  
I am going to take a course myself - in electron-  
ics - a basic course in radio communication.  
This, in preparation for what may come. If all  
goes well and I can find the right thing I may  
well follow it up with work this summer.  
I don't doubt for a minute that the death  
will eventually catch up with me and when it

Does I'd prefer to have some definite technical knowledge to fall back on. I don't think I have any real physical fear of war life, but rather concern that in any ordinary unit my temperament would crack - officers training at 27 is one thing - the same (or lower) at 38 is another - I think I would have to have something I was interested in and have to be spared too close intimacy with all sorts of people. It grips me that I am not big & strong & changeable and was able to stand nervous shocks.

As the summer is completely vague. I see now no reason why I shouldn't get East, but that I'd be spending any large part of the summer idling around New York looks doubtful. So I feel I must have a vacation and my depth number is very large perhaps I'd feel I can take one - but my number may be low & time short - so far I've not learned either my serial or order number - I'm expecting the latter to be published within a few days. Your suggestion of me going to Elizabeth Barb is more than attractive and in any normal year I'm sure we'd consider it to the point of planning for it - just what to do about it as things are I don't

know - we're certainly going to keep it in mind & and if as June comes on it looks possible for a while at least will go into negotiations - how do you think they should be started? Had I only a couple of weeks for a real vacation that would be a place without equal to have it - but I would have to have a tussle with my family! I'm sorry that you think you must cancel your vacationing in Wisconsin - it will be a deprivation for Elizabeth & for you and Betty - I shall pray it may be a cool summer if you must stay in Danbury.

Maurice's invitation out to Sunday morning breakfast came three weeks ago and I had a perfectly delightful time. The time out in the country in a charmingly furnished house which he managed to rent 'as was' - has a negro man of all work - cook, housekeeper, chauffeur - valet. Considering all his years in London his man is better than one might think - but, as he says, he does get away for a week or more each month and he has everything his own way when he's here. We talked about many things, - a good deal about his last three months in London - April to June 1939.

He had become disgusted with the way so many Central European refugees were being pushed about from bureau to bureau, so he stopped all his own work & set up a bureau of his own. He described out the difficulties of nameless people, some of whom were still in Vienna or Budapest, etc. and filled his own house with refugees. When he left, for a time here, he left many of them in his house, & some of them are still there - the house has not been wrecked though it has been damaged. He has been helping also with Jurga Ples's National Gallery concerts, giving concerts here at which he inserted part of the proceeds for her. - He played part of a suite he had arranged - solo pieces for flute etc of early Italians. Transcribed in karpis-hand style - very charming & very well done. - I have not seen him since, but see going to make the Gulf soon.

I'm glad to hear yours to have the North-western quite published - even though yours was so keen on the publisher - despite the publisher it will keep you to be in print. And I

hope you'll soon report you've had some authors  
accepted - more power to you, for I know  
they're good, & Leaven knows they are  
needed.

I did something today I wish I had done  
when I first came out here - bought a bicycle  
- under what pressure I'm not sure - I still have  
the car though it's unlicensed - and anyhow I've  
never felt I could afford to run it out here -  
and I may feel I should get rid of it after  
the summer - if not before. So three weeks  
ago I went down town & ordered a bike - scarcely  
expecting to get it in less than six weeks; but  
it turned up yesterday. It's a Liberman light-  
weight - American copy of the English Hercules  
- a very 'nice fat' as they say, and seems so  
much easier to ride than the heavy styles.  
If I can only find time to use it this spring  
I'll get some much needed exercise.

This must be all now - I talked with Eon on  
the phone a couple of weeks ago - she sounded even  
so much better - I think in some ways she is  
better, but there's still a very long way to go.

Do you suppose the R.C. Hoising of the unclassified  
clipping could be Prof. Hoising's son - I can't remember his  
name, but it seems to me it was Richard. - With much

George  
to journey & back to the family

April 16, 1941

Dear Doreed,

This is a note to tell you that you are receiving a package for a week from today, somewhat in advance of that date. The shop which mailed it wouldn't let me put a card in it because they adhere strictly to the P.O. regulations - but were there a card it would say something about wishing you a very happy birthday and about sending my love to you. I hope it will be a happy day, the end of a winter well spent and the beginning of a year of even more successes. You will guess, of course, that I have not sent you something to read, but rather something to look at, less hard on the eyes than print - I think you'll like it - I swear!

I've missed not hearing from you for so long - I earnestly hope it has been so long be-



Endorsed on their behalf by letters

1941-1947 —

(Tweedy +  
VanSchaath  
as natural  
Sunbathing  
in Conn.)

