



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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About the Institute

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

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

April 27th 1850 Glebe Cottage.

My dear Helen & Wilson

It is high time I wrote to you to thank you for the wonderful parcel you sent. It is so wonderfully full of the most useful and desirable things. It is specially useful to me. I am so often in a dilemma, and it is grand to have good things to fall back on, providing a really good, delicious meal for the family. There's beef and tongue and bacon, and ham and sausages and butter, several tins of each! I put them in our fridge, and take one ~~one~~ out whenever we need it. I bless you every time I go to the fridge. Your dear little Nancy sent us some lovely surprises at Easter. We hope, very much, that she will come to see us before she goes back to America. We have had rather a trying early Spring. It was not a hard winter, and in March and part of April things warmed up, but we all three caught bad colds. Now it is quite wintry again, with very cold winds. Elizabeth is quite fit again, but Bess & I are still under

the weather. We have a specially good
kind doctor, who does his very best
for us, and I hope we shall soon
be quite well again, and as active
and energetic as our age will allow.
Very near our house, in a meadow
by the river, is a little very old Church.
It dates back & back to very early
days, and it has not been used for
many years. It is badly neglected
but now our friends the Chamberlins,
having a new baby boy, Tom, are
arranging for him to be Christened
there on May 1st. The roof has been
repaired, and the Chamberlins, with
their 4 other children, are going to
work hard to clean it, and decorate
it with flowers. Llywelyn has a very
good paraffin stove, that burns for
several days. He will put that
into the Church for 2 or 3 days
before the event.

When you come to see us, I feel sure
you will be interested in our
little old Church. Now that we
are to be allowed more petrol, Llywelyn
will be able to show you some quite
interesting places. ^{very much to be and thank}
~~your love & Aunt Kathleen~~

Gloucestershire

Great Staughton

Newbury, Berks

10. 5. 50.

Dear Wilson

It is more than high time to write and thank you for the quite noble first parcel which we recently received through C.A.R.E. I am glad that

Kutcheon has already written. The winter has been very reluctant to leave us but the last two days have been perfect. today in fact quite hot.

Our garden has however given us quite a gay show of flowers and there is a fair showing of fruit.

In a meadow near us is an old, nearly derelict church, built in about the 13th century. It has not been used for about 40 years. About 40 years ago this & the next parish were merged and the old church fell into disuse

2

Some neighbours of ours who came about 1½ years ago have taken a great interest in the old church and were determined to get it into service again. They are a young couple and have recently had their fifth child, and decided it should be baptized in the old church. They were instrumental in getting the roof made water tight and they cleaned & generally renovated the old building. The christening took place last Sunday week, and I think practically the whole village attended. The Chamberlains, the family in question are very good friends of ours. They keep a few cows and every day for the last eighteen months have given us a quart of milk. We do what we can for them, and I

3

am able to do a lot of odd jobs for
Tom, mechanical & electrical - installing
extra lights etc.

We don't hear from Nancy very often,
but she, like you has sent us a good
many food parcels. In her last letter
she was expecting to go home this year
and has promised to stay with us on the
way, and we are hoping that her stay
will be longer than the three days she
gave us last year.

My sisters are not too well. Bessie
has a paralyzed would which makes eating
a bit awkward, but either it is better
or she is getting used to the disability as
it does not seem to interfere much with her
eating except that she takes a good deal
of liquid with her meals. Kathleen
has a gastric ulcer, and is on a strict
diet. The doctor says it will get well in time
I hope he is right.

4

I hope all are well at Tarnorano. I know
the Hogaboorns have left but hope you
have most of the old staff - Are the
Arnolds still with you?

My brother Reg. who is 85, is planning
a trip to North Wales this month, and
is hoping to land some salmon. He got
one last year which was a pretty good
effort as there was hardly any water
in the stream - This year we have had
much more rain and there should be
quite a good salmon run.

I often think of the delightful time
I had with you, can it be 3 years ago -
and I wish I were with you again -
I suppose Hugh, Marion & Sally are
still away -

Much love to Helen & yourself

Elizabeth Hughes

81 on July 1st - still going strong -

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS EN-
CLOSED THIS LETTER
WILL BE SENT BY
ORDINARY MAIL.



Dr. & Mrs. Wilson Spence,

Apartado 93,

Jaguigalpa,

Honduras,

Central America.

To open cut here →

Second fold here →

Sender's name and address:
Hughes, Henry Brown
Pittsburgh
Pennsylvania
U.S.A.

First fold here →

→ To open cut here

Hawley House
Whitchurch, Wants.
15.10.50

Dear Wilson & Helen

you will be sorry to hear that my sister Elizabeth (Bess.) passed away last Thursday, very quietly and peacefully a little more than two weeks before that, she suddenly collapsed and had to be carried to her bed. We got the Dr. at once and he had her moved by ambulance to a nursing home in Newbury where she lay practically inanimate until the end. She was I think fully conscious and knew her visitors and seemed pleased to see them. Kathleen & I were with her about 2 hours before the end. We lay her to rest on Tuesday afternoon she will be buried at Shafford, she loved the little old church there.

Our house is closed for the present and Kathleen & I are staying with friends at Whitchurch. The house and grounds being much too big for us, will I think be sold and we have so far made no plans for the future, which looks to me rather a mess.

Nancy should be well on her way home by now. She is a dear girl and we all loved her. I am so glad I have had an opportunity of seeing & knowing her, which I missed when I was with you.

I can't write more as I am due to take K. out in the car to see some distant relations.

Yours affectionately,

(Father, Llywelyn Hughes.)

Jan 4th [1935-1936] The Spinney
Little Gaddesden
Herts.

My dear Helen

Thank you very much for
your kind greetings for Christmas
and the New Year. I hope you
and Wilson, and all yours will
have every blessing, happiness
and prosperity in this New Year.
I am ashamed that I did not
write to you for Christmas,
nor for a very long time before.
It was dear old Bess, who
was the good letter writer,
and I am afraid I depended
on her to keep us all in touch.
Peggie is our other good letter
writer, but he, dear old Chap
is losing his grip on life now.
He is in bed most of the time.

though he still manages to type a few letters to his friends, and to me. He is quite comfortable, and warm. He has an electric blanket, which he finds a very great comfort. I have never seen one, but they sound very comfortable. So far this winter it has been mild. We have had a few frosty days, but no snow. Most of the time it has been wet and warm, with a good deal of fog. Selby and Vi are fit and well. They are very good to me, and give me a very happy home here. Lorna is at home now for her holidays.

She goes back to school on the 22nd of this month.

I expect you are well in touch with Llywelyn. It is difficult to remember that it is a very long way from where he is, with Gertrude and Maurice, to Central America.

I am very interested in the house Gertrude and Justus are building with their own four hands. It seems an impossible work to undertake. I hope it will be a great success.

I wonder if Nancy will come to Europe again. It will be a great pleasure to see her again in England.

We had a very pleasant Christmas here. The house was full, and a family of four slept and had breakfast in the village. We were 13 at table.

for two days. We all helped
as much as we could, but
all the main work and the
planning and responsibility
was on Vi. She really did
manage splendidly. I was
very comfortable in my own
comfortable little room over
the garage. Everything went
smoothly and happily.

I hope you will all have
a very happy New Year
Party and Vi join me in
sending love and all good
wishes.

Your loving
Kathleen.

Feb. 12, 1951-1951 The Spinney
also send you their love.
Your loving old Nat. Herts
My very dear Helen

It was so nice to have
your interesting letter. I am
afraid I am slack about
writing now. And I can
still write if I am slow and
careful. It is very dear of you
to propose sending me an
electric blanket but I do
not want one. I really have
everything I want, and Selby
and Vi are wonderfully good
to me, and keep me warm. I
would tell you if I wanted
anything that you in your
loving generosity could send
me. But I am a happy old woman
and have everything I want.
I am so glad to hear from you
about the family. It is indeed nice
to hear of the little ones coming

on so happily. I have been
thinking so much of Elvelyn
lately. He was a very dear boy.
You do have an interesting life.
It was good to see Nancy and
Marion in N. York. Marion
must have a very attractive
apartment in N. Y. I think
a "roll-away" bed sounds lovely
and very useful.

We have been having very good
weather this winter. I am a-
fraid there has been too much
rain in most parts, but here
it is nice and high, and we
don't have floods. I'm able
to go out in the sun most days
in the garden. Fancy Marion's
not wanting your help and
company when the baby comes.
As you say, it is wonderful what
these young people can do and
feel capable of. I thank you again
for what I know you would send me
if I needed it. And I send you all
my love and blessings. Be and Selby

CHILDEN, 201 Rayne Road

Essex, 17.2.51

Dear Wilson & Helen

At last I am more or less settled after the upheaval caused by the death of my dear sister Elizabeth. As I think I told you, she had a very quiet peaceful end, just seemed to fall asleep, almost with a smile. She rests in Shafford Churchyard.

Braintree (queer name, isn't it) is an old Market & Manufacturing town about the size of Newbury with large silk & rayon mills, and here Hugh Rose, Betty's husband, has started a roller skating rink. He opened the rink on 21st Dec. and it shows signs of being a great success.

They, Betty & Hugh with their two children are living in a caravan in the adjacent village of Rayne, about a mile from here but hope to get a house sometime this year when I shall join them. Mrs Gage, whose house this is, is very kindly and attentive, and does her best to make me comfortable. I have

a small bedroom and the run of the rest of the house. She lives alone and has no domestic help, as is a very busy woman. Did I ever tell you of an old picture we had at Shafford, showing the Jubilee wedding feast of our great-great-grandparents. It took place in 1851. This year 1951 there is to be a great family reunion at the home of the present head of the Panter family. They aim to collect all they can of the descendants of John Leach Panter. The present head is Air Vice-Marshall A. F. Panter, and I have been asked to send the enclosed circular letter to any of their descendants that I know of. This year besides being the centenary of our Jubilee picture is also the year of the Festival of Britain, and I think it would be a good idea for you or some of you to pay the old country a visit. I know you have had that idea in mind for a long time, and this should be a good reason to carry it out. Kathleen has gone to live with Selby at "The Spinney", Little Gaddesden, Herts. He is our youngest brother, and the only one of

the family to make any money. He has a lovely little house which he had built in Ashridge Park. He has 6 or 7 acres of land which he cultivates for profit. Nancy has been there and can tell you about it. We have been having vile weather, cold high winds, frost fog and rain, and are very tired of it. Let us hope that summer will be more agreeable. I am writing this on my knee, to be near the fire, so please excuse bad writing. I left Whitechurch, where I stayed a short while after leaving Shefford, nearly three weeks ago. I left Kathleen & her friend Mrs. Smithson, whose house it is, both in bed with influenza. They have both recovered & Mrs. S. is with Kath. at the Spinney. I had about 150 miles to drive here alone, largely over unknown roads. It was a fairly good day for driving but cold and in a few places the road was icy. I skidded once but not badly. Next day fog was dense all over the country, and I was lucky to have chosen the day I did, as the fog persisted for

about a week. Kathleen's

The house at Shefford was sold by private treaty, and fetched quite a good price £3500.

The furniture, mostly mine was sold by auction and did not do so well. The auction was held in the barn & everyone was cold and miserable. I think I was about £100 down from what I should have got in the summer. I saved one bedroom suite which is now in storage in Braintree until such time as I can find a home for it in Betty's house.

I still have my old car, ^{1934 vintage,} and it is still giving good service. Hugh, Betty & I went to Harwich yesterday on his business, rain all day and we could see nothing of the country. We had lunch at a 15th century inn, which would have rejoiced your heart. I know you love antiques and in this part of the country there are many such. That was in Colchester, a town with Roman or even pre Roman remains. Much love to you all.

Father Hughes.
[Llywelyn?]

201 Rayne Road
Braintrus, Essex
25.2.51

Dear Helen

I am sorry for my long silence, but am only beginning to feel settled in my new surroundings. Is ~~the~~ Nancy at home now? I will write to her next. I see you say she is now in Washington she spoke to us of her hopes to be sent to London for her next spell of service. I should like that, she is a dear girl and we all loved her here. I am sorry Gertrude does not answer letters. I am afraid it is one of our family failings. Did you know that she & Justus are attempting to build a house. They have bought a site at North Wales, Pa. and were hard at work there all last summer, digging a foundation trench and filling it with stone & cement. I suppose they will resume work when the weather opens up again. They have quite a good will. I will write & tell her to answer your letter, and hope for the best. You would get a much more ready response from Ruth. I should very much like to receive a CARE package. My hostess, Mrs. Gage, is worried about our meagre rations and I can share it with Betty, who lives about a mile away from here. She hopes to get a house before next winter, and I should have a room in it. Meanwhile I have a tiny bedroom here and the use of the rest of the house. It is quite comfortably furnished, but one small fire does not keep it warm. We are very restricted in the use of coal, and wood seems hard to get. And the weather continues cold & windy with occasional icy showers. So you will see I don't feel completely blest yet, and often sigh for your lovely paradise. I am so sorry about Hugh's call up. It is an awful thing to think of that every generation must have a war, and that the most promising of our youth should be the first to be

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS EN-
CLOSED THIS LETTER
WILL BE SENT BY
ORDINARY MAIL.



WISSENT TO BELIZE, B. M.

Mrs. Wilson Lopez,

Escuela Agrícola Panamericana,

Yaguajay,

Honduras,

Central America.

Second fold here



Sender's name and address:-

Father, 201 Bayne Road,
Barrington, Montserrat,
England.

sacrificed, What service will he choose, Army, Navy, or Airforce?
It is very hard luck though that he can't go home. There is still
hope I think that the war clouds may pass away. The war in
Korea is bad enough, but it looks as if that may be over
this year. We don't want our lads to face another winter there.
We just don't know what cold is.
I will try + not leave you so long without a letter again.
Much love to you + Wilson
Father Hughes.
[Llywelyn?]

May st^h [1855] Glebe Cottage
My dear Wilson and Helen.

Another of your wonderful parcels has actually arrived for us!! Thank you so very much from all of us. We are indeed grateful. I think I am the most grateful, as it saves me so much in the way of thinking & contriving. As I get older, my thinking powers are not up to much. I expect you know what was in that most beautiful C.A.R.E.:- butter, sugar, tins of meat, rice, flour, huge slab of chocolate, tins of bacon, tongue, ham, tea. - a most luxurious parcel! And it is so exciting unpacking it. We have a cousin staying with us till next Thursday, Eva Ash. The weather has been very unkind to her - very dull, damp & drizzling. It ought to be warm and sunny now we are well into May. Reggie is going to N. Wales on the

soth of this month to Bettw-y-Coe
to try to catch a salmon, as he
did last year. A fortnight
later he is coming to us for
some weeks. It will be very
nice to have him with us.
I think his two granddaughters
Janet and Carol will be going to
Selly & Co. at the Spinney. They
are big girls now, and growing
fast, and have enormous appetites.
Bess and Llywelyn are going to
write quite soon, and will make
their letters much more interesting.
But I do want you to know how
grateful we are for all these luxuries.
Much love to you both, and
to the children we do not know
yet.

Your loving aunty
Kathleen.

Annandale, Hurling Home.
May 12th Beckington Somerset
My dearest Helen.
You are a brick to write
and tell me all the family
news, and I've not written
for so long. As you see by
my address I am ill. I was
staying with my niece Helen
Hughes, and one morning I
had a stroke & she got me
into a hospital at Westbury -
a very nice happy place. They
could not keep me, and I
have come here, but only for a
short time, & then Selby will
find me a place near there.
I am so pleased to hear of
Nancy's little son. He sounds
as fine baby, and I am sure

little "Mimi" is pleased to have a brother, and you and Wilson to have 4 grandchildren. I hope I have your address right. I've done my best. I've got back the use of my arms, but my legs are not much use. I am feeling my age very much. Helen Hughes comes to see me quite often, and brings me flowers from her garden. Yesterday she brought a big bunch of cowslips she gathered from Salisbury Plain. I love cowslips. Glywelyn's grandchild, Jennifer Rose, is very ill, and in hospital. She is now a little better, and has written me a letter. She is Betty's daughter, and they also have a son, Christopher.

I don't know Jenny well
but she seems a specially
nice child.

Please tell Nancy, with my
love, how glad I am about
her two babies. I'm glad
also about Sally's, but I
don't know Sally, and I do
know Nancy, and love her.

I do not think I shall have
any visitors today. Helen
came yesterday, and she is
quite a long way off.

Elby and Bi are well and
I am sure send you greetings.
I will show them your
letter.

This is a poor letter, from a
poor old crock, but it's the
best I can do. Much love

Dear to you, Nancy and
the precious babies
your loving old Kat.
And my love to Wilson.

May 30th 1927
I will stop now, but will
write again as soon as even
I have your letter back. Hawley House
from the love to you Whitechurch
My love to all Kathleen. Hants.
My dear Helen.

Thank you very much for
your letter. It was so interesting
that I sent it to Selby and he
to read, and enjoy, and they
have not yet returned it. So
this will not be a proper answer.
Anyway I know you are really
coming to Europe, and may,
though not very likely, come to
England, before going right away
again! Today is Bank holiday,
and a perfectly lovely day - sunny
and warm. I am so glad for
the holiday-makers. They are often
disappointed, and shiver instead
of basking in the sun. Also, this is
the first day of the horrid railway
strike, which is paralyzing the

country's movement. Also the conservative government is in again!! I was able to record my vote by post to Little Gaddesden. I am sitting on a swing seat, in the garden, in the sun. Everything (except the strike) is lovely!

I think, probably, Vi will answer your letter, that I sent her to read, to tell you their dates. They are going to Lisbon in Sept. I know you will let us know, in good time, if you really find it possible to come to England. Wherever I am, I will come to the Spinney to meet you. I think that is the surest place you will come to!

I am glad Nancy is coming to ~~be~~ be nearer home, and that you will be able to see little Marion, who will be 2 in October

June 15

Post sent June 22

[1951-1931]

HAWLEY HOUSE
WHITCHURCH,
HANTS

My very dear Helen

Thank you very much for your letter, and the exciting list of parcels to choose from. It is very dear of you and very generous. I want to send your letter to Selby and Vi, as they will be interested in all your news. I also am very proud of Hugh, and very glad that he has done so well. He will begin his new work in Florida in a week's time. It sounds most interesting. He looks a dear boy in the snaps you have sent. As you say, Eight weeks will not be long for Sally. It will be good for her, with her baby, to go to you when she finishes. I shall think of Marion and Dick

going to you on July 4th. I hope
they will be able to visit Antigua
and that conditions will be
settled and peaceful there,
and in many unrestful places
all over the world.

I do like to think of your
Mother and Aunt at 84 & 82
being "lovely and spry" and
able to be with you. It sounds
so happy.

I wonder if it will be all right
to send you the parcel I would
like, cut out from the big list.
I think it will, and my letter
will go better without the whole
list. I have chosen "Meteor"
and hope it will be all right.

I chose that because of the
tinned salmon. I have not
seen any in the shops for a long
time, and it is so useful, and
very nice.

I wonder if you know that
Betty and her family now have
a house, and have given up
the caravan. Their address is

10 Duke's Road
Bocking
Braintree

Essex,
in case you have not heard
from them. I had a letter
from Jennifer telling me
about it.

Selby and I are very busy all
the time. They get up early to
give Lorna her breakfast, and
get her off to London at 7.15.
They are busy all day, and get
to bed quite late. Saturday and
Sunday are a bit easier for
them, as Lorna does not go off.
This is June 2nd, and we are
still very glad of a fire. My
friends, the Smithsons, Anita, and
her mother, Annie, are very cold
people - and so am I!

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Much love to you, and Wilson
and many thanks
your loving Aunt-Kat,

July 10th 1945-1946 Hawley House
Whitchurch
Hants

My dearest Helen

Your beautiful parcel of
good things came yesterday.
Thank you so very much for
it. It is so very kind and
generous of you to send it.
I am keeping half for us to
enjoy here, and the rest I am
taking to the Spinney in
two week's time. Selby and
Vi also thank you very much.
On July 25th Selby, Vi and Lorna
are coming by car to Marlow
on the Thames. I am hiring a car
here, to drive, with my two friends
also to Marlow, where we shall
all have lunch in an hotel.
Being Sunday, the restaurants

will be shut. Then, when we have lunched, I will go to the Spinney in Selby's car, with my luggage, and Mrs. Smithson and Anita will come back here, in the hired car. It sounds a happy plan for us all. Our weather this summer has been very bad, but we are all having it alike, and it is worse in many places. A friend here has lent me a wheel chair - a sort of large baby's pram, and Mrs. Smithson pushes me to Church, and for walks in Whitchurch. I cannot walk now, I always use a strong stick but can go very slowly, rather like a snail, so I am very glad of this chair. I think, perhaps when I am back at the Spinney, I shall try to get a chair of my own! Very much love to you, and grateful thanks from Aunt Kat.

Hawley House, Whitechurch, Hants
11.7.51

Dear Helen

I cannot remember if I answered your interesting letter of June 5th If not I should be and am ashamed of myself. I heard from Gertrude of your family reunion in Phila. and she is trying to urge me to spend next winter on your side of the Atlantic - and I am ashamed to say I am still vacillating. There is so much to do. She suggests an air crossing - There is my passport to see to and an American visa. Airlines to see. Clothes to get. Here I almost live in a pair of riding breeches, though I don't ride now. Also if I am to go by air there is luggage to buy and I expect a host of other things - I must confess the idea has a very strong appeal, and I should love to spend the cold months with you. I am so glad you had a chance of seeing Gertrude and hope she will now write to you occasionally. I am glad the meeting was enjoyable & that Ruth did not forget the drinks. I am at present without a car. My son in law, Betty's husband was driving it when it shed its off side rear wheel - and a great deal of damage was done to the body work. I am expecting a letter any day to say the repairs are completed. I shall have to go to Braintree to collect it. I am staying here until our family centenary on 28th July. This is only a few miles from Basingstoke where it is to be held. I had hoped that Betty, her husband & Jennifer would attend but now I fear they will not be able to do so. So our family will be represented by Kathleen, Selby & me - no members of the younger generations. I am very disappointed. I wish Hugh could make it on his flight to Siam, has he gone yet or when does he go? I would love to see him again. Nancy had hoped to get an appointment in London. Should I see her again if I come

to you for the winter months.

I have heard nothing from your friends the Parkers & should like to meet them. This is a lovely part of the country and we are only a few miles from Winchester which is full of interest and history. I should love to take them around. I am of course a very old man now I was 82 on July 1st, and not so spry as four years ago. Anyway if they have not already come and gone I should like to show them around in Winchester and Romsey where there is a very interesting church which was once the chapel of a convent. It is of Norman date somewhere in the 11th century. When Henry VIII suppressed the monasteries he sold the church to the people of Romsey for £100. The receipt for the money can be seen today in the church. I am sure they would find Hampshire much more interesting than Dorset. My best love to you, Wilson & the girls if they are with you.
Lily Evelyn Hughes.

First fold here →

Sender's name and address:-

Hughes, Hawley House,
Whitchurch, Hants.
England.

Second fold here →



To open cut here →

Mrs Wilson
Apotado 93,
Tegucigalpa,
Honduras,
Central America.

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER HANTS

IF ANYTHING IS EN-6 15 AM

CLOSED THIS LETTER

WILL BE SENT BY 2 JUL 51

ORDINARY MAIL

WHITCHURCH

HANTS

EN-6

15 AM

WHIT

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12



Sept. 23rd [1951-1954] Hawley House
Whitchurch
Hants.

My dear Helen.

You really are a Dear - writing me such a kind, generous letter! I think you are home again now, and I hope your change has done you both much good, in rest and refreshment. I think your idea of giving me a wheel chair of my own, is just like you for great generosity, but, after much thought, I am sure it is right for me to go on creeping about on my own two legs! I can go about Selby's large and beautiful garden with my stick. The road outside is narrow and very full of traffic. I am now nearly 82, which is a great age, and I am sure I ought to take what exercise I can, while I am able. I shall never forget your offer, and I do

love you both for your kindness,
and for your offer to send another
parcel sometime when I tell you
what is difficult to get.

I am very glad to have the dates
and birthdays of the children. I
knew some of them, but not all,
and I shall enter them in my old
birthday book, which belonged to
Bess. I do remember hearing of

the Fairchilds, and I am glad you
were with them again, and were
able to help Mrs. Fairchild so much.
How I should love Florida, being
so hot. I expect you know what
a wet-cold summer we have had.
It is better now but getting colder
all the time. How nice that Hugh
met you in Miami.

Elly has a lovely car, and we often go
for beautiful drives. So I get about quite
a lot. I am staying here now, as Be
has a very full house. Her sister, with her
husband and three children are staying
there, from the Canal Zone. They are
going, at the end of this month, to

for 2 years
Paris, and then, I think, he is retiring. I shall
probably be going back, to the Spinney, near
the beginning of October. I stayed for 10 days,
with Helen Hughes, in Wiltshire. She is still
in her big bungalow, which she hopes to sell,
and to build herself a small house, on a bit
of the land. This large bungalow means
too much work for just one woman.
I hope, when you come to England, next year,
that you will see her. She is a dear.
Lolby and Vi have had a short holiday in
Scotland, with their car. Lorna went with
them, but she spent her time in youth hostels
with a friend. I think the change did them

all good, although the weather was poor.
All my love to you both, with many thanks
from Aunt Kethleen.

Nov. [1951-1954]

The Spinney
Little Gadderden
Herts.

My dear Helen

This is to send you, and Wilson and all the Family, all the best possible good wishes for a very happy Christmas, and for every blessing in the New Year. I am sending two more of the little Beatrix Potter books for Marion for her book shelf. I expect she is nearly old enough to understand them, if read to her. She was, I know two last month. I send them to you, as I do not now know Nancy's address.

I hope your visits in Europe were very enjoyable, and that you feel all the better for the change.

I came back here, from Whitechurch a month ago, in a hired car, and my friends came with me for the

joy ride. Now we are all busy getting ready for Christmas. Vi and Selby have very much to do. I expect the house will be full, as usual. I hope the weather will be fairly mild, so then I can sleep in my outside room. If it is very cold, Vi makes room for me, in the house. I have an electric stove in my room, which makes it cosy. I cannot tell you about Betty, as we really only exchange greetings at Christmas. I think now that Jennifer is 14, I shall get letters from her sometimes. I think they are all well, and I know they are very busy. I wonder if Hugh came to England in the summer. I know his time was very short, and full. All our love and the best of good wishes your loving Kathleen.

Dec. 27th [1951-1952] The Spinney
Little Gaddesden

My dear Helen. ^{books arrived} Hert's
in PR

Your splendid, whole ham
arrived a week before Christmas.
I have not seen a ham like
that for very many years. It
is most delicious. We are a
large house party, and you will
understand how welcome it is. Selby
and I thank you very much too.
I hope you are spending a very
happy Christmas, as we are. Nancy
sent me a snap of dear little Marion
sitting up and looking sweet. I am
very glad to see her as she is now.
So far, we are having a very mild
Christmas, but I suppose we shall
get frost etc. a bit later.
Nancy will be glad to get back
nearer to you, when she leaves Puerto

Rico. I wonder where they will settle.

Our house party included Vi's Mother aged 88, and the youngest grand child, Kate, aged 6 months, and the rest of us ranged in between.

Vi's brother, Anthony Nicholls has just come home from America where he has been at work on films at Hollywood for a few months.

I do so hope you and Wilson will be able to come to see the Spinney when you come home next year.

I am so longing to see you both. You have been so good to me.

All our love, and great thanks from us all.

your loving aunt
Kathleen.

March 13th

My dear Helen. (1950) The Spinney
Thank you very much for
your most exciting letter.
It will indeed be splendid
to really see you in England
in September. Betty tells me
that Plyoslyn has booked to
fly home early in September,
and he told me, in his last
letter that he hoped to take
you about in his car. It all
sounds a beautiful prospect.
I am also very glad that
Marion will be coming over.
Fancy is a dear girl, and I
expect Marion is too.
I am sure you will both love
Selby and I, and the Spinney
is a beautiful place. They have
been here 20 years, and have
converted it from rough
park land into a really
lovely garden. I do wish
dear old Bass was here, to
welcome you to our house
at Sheffield.
It is very dear of you to think
of me when you are in
the Spinney electric blanket! But I am
always beautifully warm
and cosy in bed. I take a
hot bottle to bed with me,
and quite soon I am warm
all through, and put the
bottle out. Once I am
properly warm, I stay so
all night.
How very jolly it will be
if Maurice and Ruth come
to see you in April. It will
give them a glorious holiday.
No doubt they will leave
Carolyn with her grandmother.
Peggie has an electric blanket.
He switches it off as soon as
he is properly warm. Dear
old Peggie is, I am afraid,
in bed all the time, but, perhaps
as the weather really warms
up, he will be able to get up
a bit, and perhaps go out.
I am planning to go to friends
for Easter. To a mother
and daughter, who live at
Whitchurch, not far from

Winchester, The Mother, Mrs
Smithson, will come here
by bus, to stay a week, and
then we will go back to-
gether, also by bus. It will
make a little change for her,
and be very nice for me.

I am sorry the Coronation
is fixed for next year, but
I am very glad you are
coming this year, and not
waiting till next!

Much love to you and
Wilson and Nancy and the
family

your loving old aunt
Kathleen,

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS EN-
CLOSED THIS LETTER
WILL BE SENT BY
ORDINARY MAIL.



Mrs Popenoe
Escuela Agrícola
Panamericana Apardaa 93
Tegucigalpa
Honduras C. A.

Sender's name and address:-

H. Hughes,
The Spinney
Little Gaddenden
Herts.



Hawley Howe
Whitchurch

22.2.53.

Dear Wilson and Helen

I regret my very long silence, and hope you will forgive me. As you may remember my inability to contact you last September was due to a disastrous breakdown of my usual good health. In August I caught some sort of infection that the doctor called virus pneumonia. The symptoms were just high temperature and not much else but I had to postpone my departure for home for about 16 days. One night during my illness I was awakened by the sudden cessation of blood flow to my left hand which has remained useless ever since. I have had several doctors examine me but so far none has done anything for me. About ten days ago I attended a London hospital where they studied my case for over two hours, by means of complicated machines for measuring blood flow &c. I am still awaiting their findings. I think they will operate on a sympathetic nerve, hoping that some circulation will be restored and that the hand will cease to be a useless lump. They do not promise a complete cure, but an alleviation only. At present the hand is almost continuously painful. It aches if too hot and if too cold, and at night is always troublesome so I have to take sleeping tablets. Well enough of my troubles. I am still without a home. Betty has not succeeded in getting a house and I think no nearer getting one than she was two years ago, so I am still in lodgings. I was much interested to hear of Nancy's marriage last November and do hope that she is very happy. What of Sally + Marion? I often look back with happy memories of the time spent with you, and my disappointment was intense when I failed to meet you last September.

The persons with whom I am living are very old friends of my sister Kathleen, and the house I think would interest you having been built in the 15th or 16th century. They tell me that it was originally three cottages, partitions were taken down

and the three made one. I could not begin to describe the layout with passages & little twisted stairs all over the place. This room is best and the windows look out on to a small walled garden, mostly grass with at present clumps of snow-drops and crocuses. It is a dull & rather chilly day, but the flowers seem to hold out some hope of spring coming soon. It is a dark house being closely built around with houses. I can see no sense in building so closely as Whitechurch is a very small town and there are hundreds of miles of open country around.

I am afraid this is a poor sort of letter, but I hope it will serve to re-opened a correspondence that I should not have allowed to lapse.

With my best love to you both and to Marion. Sally & I if they are with you or you are writing. Yours affectionately
 Llewelyn Hughes.

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→ To open cut here ←

Sender's name and address :-

L. L. HUGHES, HAWLEY HOUSE,
 WHITCHURCH, HANTS.,

ENGLAND.



↑ Second fold here ↓

Dr & Mrs Nelson France,
 Boulevarde de la République,
 Saigon, Indochine.
 Llewelyn C. H.

→ To open cut here ←

BY AIR MAIL
 AIRPOST
 IF ANYTHING IS EN-
 CLOSED THIS LETTER
 WILL BE SENT BY
 ORDINARY MAIL.



April 27th [1953]

My dear Helen & Wilson

Forgive me for not writing sooner to tell you that Glynn died this month on the 19th. It is very sad news. It was so unexpected. Reggie died on the 22nd, after having been bed-ridden for more than a year. Glynn, hearing Reggie was worse, decided to go to Bolton to see him, and was a real comfort to him at the end. On the way back here, after the funeral, he had a stroke and had to be lifted from the bus onto the house. After two difficult nights we were able to get him to a nursing home in Winchester. I went to see him as often as I could, and was with him just at the end, when he was quite unconscious. Betty & Hugh came here

the next day, and said to every thing, taking the responsibility off my old shoulders. He was buried last Friday at Brierley, where he had worked for years and been very happy, and where Kate was buried.

Glynn said to me, not long ago, "I am a very unhappy man. He suffered very much from his left hand being useless and very painful. He had no home to go to and that worried him very much. This house was not really what he wanted. Anita's daughter is ill and away from home, and her mother is ill now too. She has done his best so they could not have taken care of Glynn in his poor state of health."

Now Betty and I are the
only two left of our large
family.

Lhywadyr had a stroke
just after Christmas
but we did not hear about
that.

Altogether it has been
a very sad time for us
all. And he was so
disappointed when he
missed meeting you,
and driving you about
when you came to England.
So was I!

Much love to you both
and Nancy.
Don't forget we have silver
spoons for Nancy, which
we can give them to some
one to take them to you.

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS EN-
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WILL BE SENT BY
ORDINARY MAIL



Mr. Wilson Papinac
Escuela Agrícola Inica
Tegucigalpa
Honduras

Sender's name and address:-

to King David
Habit of Heart
08
a heart of love
and faith

Digitized by *Hunter Institute for Botanical Documentation*,
Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA

Dec. 6th [1853]

Winney
Little Gaddesden
Herts

My very dear Helen

This is to send you our love
and every good wish for a
happy Christmas and every
blessing in the New Year.

I thank you very much
for sending us the exciting
news of Marion's wedding
and the birth of Nancy's
little Marion, and far not
forgetting their names and
addresses. I also want
to send loving congratulations
to Wilson on his decoration
of the Order of Ruben Dario.
It is indeed gratifying to
know that his work is so
well appreciated.

So you know, on reading
your letter again, I cannot
be quite sure that I answered
it. I am very ashamed and
sorry, if it is so. I hope you
will forgive me the almost im-

forgivable. You asked
me to tell you the name
of the place where dear
old Llywelyn is buried.
It is Hurley not far
from Maidenhead, on the
Thames. He worked there
for a long time, and
loved the place. It is
there that Katie is buried
in a peaceful little spot,
in the Churchyard, near
the river.

I do not know if the
Beatrice Potter books for
small children, are publish-
ed in America. I am
sending the first, "Peter
Rabbit", to Baby Marion
for Christmas, to start
her baby book shelf. I
hope Nancy will not think
it absurd of me to send
a book to a baby of 3 months.
She must put the absurdity

down to old age!
You will miss the three
girls in the home, at
Christmas, and I suppose
Hugh is still in Alaska.
All my love to you Dears,
you and Wilson. Also
from Selby and Vi, with
all very good wishes
your loving aunt
Kathleen

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS
CLOSED, THIS LETTER
WILL BE SENT BY
ORDINARY MAIL.



Mrs Popenoe,
Escuela Agrícola Panamericana
Apartado 93
Tegucigalpa Honduras
C.A.

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To open cut here

Sender's name and address:-

K. Hughes
The Spinney
Little Gaddesdon
Herts



Dec. 14th [1953] The Spinney

My dear Helen

Your wonderful surprise parcel has arrived safely, full of an assortment of the most delicious and most luxurious things for Christmas! When we were small children, I remember at Christmas we received a hamper of good things from a great uncle, George Selby Hale. Thank you so much for all the good things. It is indeed good of you to send them. I wish you could be with us, to help us appreciate them.

We are having a spell of very queer weather. It is foggy, dark, and very mild, not at all like winter. I hope we shall have a good hard frost, not that I like the cold but it is needed

to kill slugs and other pests that are enjoying themselves in the earth. The Spinney will be quite full for the few days of Christmas. Vi's Mother and sister are coming, also her brother and his wife, and a small nephew. Her brother, Anthony Nicholls, is an actor. He acts for the Cinema and is very often in television. He is very good looking, and has a fine voice.

All our love to you and Wilson, and with grateful thanks and very good wishes
your loving aunt
Kathleen

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION
AIR LETTER
AÉROGRAMME



Mrs Wilson Popenoe
Escuela Agricola Inc
Tegucigalpa
Honduras
U.S.A.

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Sender's name and address: R. Hughes
The Spinney Little Gaddie
Werts

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS LETTER
MAY BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL



March 10th [1854] The Spinney
My dear Helen.

I think it is indeed kind of you to write and tell us the exciting news, that Sally has a son, that I am another great aunt, and that you are another grand mother. I am so very glad the three girls are so happily married. Sally is indeed a busy little woman. I love the idea of a "baby sitter." I think I could make quite a good one. I can now only walk with difficulty, but I can sit quite well, for a long time! And I do love babies! It is good news about Hugh. You must have enjoyed his being home for Christmas, and he will have finished his army work in September. I wonder how he likes Alaska. I think it must be a queer sort of place - exaggerated in many ways, and terribly cold.

It will be good for you having the family at home, probably

they could not all come together, which would be more fun, but coming singly you could concentrate better on each one.

I am going away at the end of this month. I think you know of my niece Helen. She is Robin's daughter and last June she lost her mother Ethel. Now she lives alone in the bungalow that Robin built in Wiltshire, at Bratton. She has now bought a car, and she is coming here in the car, on the 25th. Then, on Sunday, the 28th she will drive me away to stay with my cousin, Effie Hughes, at Cirencester for about a week. Then she will come for me and take me to Bratton for another week, and then take me to Whitchurch, near Winchester, to stay with my friends, Annie and her daughter, Anita. Smithson

is their surname. They have a rest house, and Anita also has a shop in the house. She sells sweets, cigarettes, stationery, and fancy goods. She also has a lending library. So they are very busy people. I go to them as a P.G. for as long as I like, and they spoil me terribly - and I like it! They are very old friends, since the time when Bers and I lived in Cornwall, and she was the health visitor, visiting the babies and children, to give advice to the mothers.

It is good to remember those good old times! They have not really gone, as long as we remember them.

Lelby and I join me in sending much love to you and Wilson.

your loving aunt

Hattie Green



Mrs W. Popenoe
Escuela Agrícola Panam
Americana Apartado 93
Tegucigalpa
Honduras C.A.

Sender's name and address:

H. Hughes
The Spinney Little Gadda
Herts.

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS LETTER
MAY BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

Aug 16th [1951]

My dear Helen.

I hope you had my letter of thanks for the beautiful parcel you sent me. It was very much appreciated by us all, and arrived in perfect condition. I also thank you very much for your most kind offer to send other things, if I should ask for them. I won't forget!

I have been here now for nearly four weeks, and am going away again quite soon. Vi's sister Peggy, is here now with her husband and three children - two boys, aged 11 and 6, and a little girl of 8. They are home from Egypt, the Canal Zone, and are to go to Paris for two years, towards the end of September. The hospitable Spinney has opened its doors to them, to save them all sorts of difficulties and discomforts for the time spent in England. The house is pretty full, but they are all so happy, and are enjoying the cool damp summer after the heat of Egypt.

Vi and Selby are going for a fortnight's holiday in Scotland. They are taking Lorna, and her friend in the car, where they will spend their time in youth holiday hostels, and Selby and Vi will tour about in their car.

Betty's married name is Rose. I hear from them very seldom. I know they are very busy with the skating rink. Betty gets up all sorts of shows, and pantomimes, Jennifer is a star skater and I think Christopher also does a lot of show work.

I am going, on Aug. 27th to stay at Bratton with Helen Hughes, Robin's daughter. Her mother died in June 1953, and she is still in the big bungalow, often alone except for her much loved little golden spaniels. She has talked of ~~selling~~^{settling} the bungalow, and most of the land, and building a small house on the bit of land she will keep. It seems a happy plan, but I do not know if she has

got any forwarder yet, or if she has given up the idea. One of the spaniels has pups, and I am looking forward to seeing them. She has a car now, and after she is tired of having me, which ought to be very soon! & she says she will drive me to Whitechurch. Then, later I hope to come back here, after the Peggy family has gone to France.

I am so glad to hear of the children! Nancy, Marion and Sally, and the grandchildren Marion and Hugh. I remember Marion's birthday is Oct. 26th but I don't think I know Hugh's. Much love to the Dearest of you from Selby, Vi, and me, and Lorna.

Your old Aunt Kathleen



Mrs. Wilson Popenoe
Escuela Agrícola Inc.
Tegucigalpa
Honduras

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Sender's name and address: K. Hughes

The Spinney
Little Gaddesden, Herts

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS LETTER
MAY BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL



Nov. 3rd [1954] The Spinney

My dear Helen
Your kind letter came to me at
Whitchurch, and I returned to
the Spinney three days ago. Sally
and Vi and Lorna are very busy
and quite well. Vi's brother is
at Hollywood, doing films, but
will be home before Christmas.
His wife with her little daughter
aged $1\frac{1}{2}$ months, are here, but
are going away today.
I am very glad Sally and Hugh
will be with you. I am
sending you two books for
Marion. They are not quite
the ones I wanted for her
bookshelf, but I shall try to
get those, to carry on with
Peter Rabbit. If Sally likes
them for Baby Hugh, I will
send some for him. I meant
to send these two books for
Little Marion's birthday Oct. 26,
but I was in Whitchurch and
did not have her address with
me. I shall love to see the photos
you are going to take, to have a

real idea of you all.
It is indeed good of you to
think of sending us a parcel
for Christmas. I think of all
the things you mention that
a piece of jam would be the
most surprising and acceptable.
We really can now get most
things in the shops though
everything is very expensive,
as I am sure they are with you.
I suppose there is as they say
a growing world shortage of
food. Perhaps the atomic
energy, put to good use, may
help to supply shortages of all
the necessities of life. Let's hope
so.

It is awfully good of you and
Wilson, to leave the wheel chair
as an open offer. If I find I can't
walk at all and can find a
chair that I could push about
by myself, by working the wheels,

round with my hands. I will
indeed tell you. You see, my
hands and arms are quite strong.
It is only the old legs that have
given way.

He has today gone to a meeting
at his old college, and Selby
and Lorna are shopping in
Berkhamsted. I am now
expecting them back at any
minute in time for tea.

I am very glad you had such a
great good time in New York
and Florida. It must have done
you very much good, as a rest
and change.

We all send you our best love
and also my friends at Whitehouse
send you all the best.

Your loving aunt

Hathorn



Mrs. Wilson, Panama,
Escuela Agrícola Panamericana
Departado 93
Tegucigalpa
Honduras, C. A.

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Sender's name and address:

R. Hughes
The Spinney Little Gaddenden
Herts

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS LETTER
MAY BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL