

Fenwick, Charles county,
Maryland,

26 October 1947.

Dear Boris:

I have two of your letters to answer, one of September 15, and the other of an earlier date, which I don't have with me and which through some mismanagement on my part or on my family's has become mislaid. That provokes me no end for I am not in the habit of losing or mislaying things.

The thing I remember about the earlier letter is that you notified us that you were sending us a gift of a box of something good, by the hand of a friend, a member of the royal family. The count duly arrived at our town house one day, when none of us were there to receive him and Mrs. Perkins, who occupies the first apartment took the package for us. She said that it was a most charming young man who was the messenger and when we told her who it was, she was quite ecstatic. Well, we got the box down country and immediately opened it, and sampled its contents. My, are those cookies grand! I have been hoarding them and have practically a monopoly on the box. Thank you so much for this very fine gift.

You probably know by this time that I happened to be in New York the day on which Art, Ingrid, and the baby, and Bo arrived, so I arranged with Stuart to meet the ship. It was quite a long wait until they got through the Customs formalities and then Stuart took us all to lunch at a swank place. Mabel joined us, too, so it was quite a nice reunion. I thought Ingrid looked very well and the baby is most charming, such a good child too, with not a murmur during the noisy time on the dock and in the taxi. Also, a very bright baby, looking like Annis a ggod deal.

I gave Art my addresses and telephone numbers, asking him to be sure to let us know when they got to Washington. When we didn't hear anything from them I called up the Statler Hotel and left word that I had called, wanting Art to get in touch with us. But so far there has been no call and I am wondering at their silence. I don't think they have left Washington yet, for their names were still on the register when I telephoned last Wednesday.

Well, are the brick works straightened out and working satisfactorily now? I was interested in your reports about the new mechanisms and hope we shall have a chance to see something soon. Bo was his usual self, full of exuberance and enthusiasm. He came across the ocean without any hat, I think, at least he got off the boat without any. We hope he will come to see us in Washington soon.

We have had a very fine summer here and have enjoyed our stay in the country place immensely. Elizabeth threatens to stay on through the winter, all by herself if necessary, she likes it that much. I have been travelling the 35 miles in and 35 miles out every day except Saturday and Sunday, with an occasional day off during the week. We have done a lot of hard work but the place shows it and we are happy with it. The children also are most enthusiastic about the place and there are plenty of young people around especially on weekends. Barbara, as you may have gathered, is back in Washington now and is going to try a new job at the Bureau of Standards. John is back in Ithaca and is doing quite well.

When I was last with Stuart I explained to him some things about a strip device, concerning which he has written you. I hope that you will find some interest and possibilities for marketing the device. I will leave to him the correspondence in the case. I understand that he and Mabel are planning a trip to Europe soon and there is the possibility that he will come to see you all, I suppose, and see that lovely country place of yours.

How has your health been of late? I have been feeling very well and think the country agrees with me. We have also found our neighbors all most cordial and congenial so it is all in all a satisfying little community in which to be. I can only wish we had a lot of the wherewithal to build up the place and to do the many things that could be done to beautify and improve it. The cost of everything and of services is skyhigh and we can only afford to do a very little bit of what we'd like to do.

Well, the sun is setting now. It is a perfectly beautiful evening and it has been a pleasant day. We had guests for lunch -- Boris' and Stuart's old and dear friend General Alkin and his spouse. Really, Boris, you and Stuart got a wrong impression of him. He's OK.

I must go out now and enjoy the sunset, while it lasts. Elizabeth is out gallivanting around the neighborhood, Barbara is out playing golf, so I shall have to enjoy the sunset all by myself, without any blonde and red head or brunette.

My love to you all, in which I am sure Elizabeth joins me.

Sincerely yours,