

Reed, Arthur

B.

II

Edrt Washington, N.Y.,
Jan. 26, 1931.

Dear Margaret:

I went out to Montauk Friday and found the deer and Indian Head pictures. In addition I found 4 large racing scenes, a boy kneeling by a fire, maring scene, Rhine Maidens the same being a vision of Wagner, a painting of a boat like those used by Chris Columbus, and a pirate picture. I found several other small prints. If you will select from this list those you wish sent to Mrs. Corson I will get them off without delay.

As to the rugs I found four as follows:

- 1 6ft 2 in x 3 ft 3 in
- 1 6 ft x 3 ft 3 in
- 1 6 ft 6 in x 3 ft 6 in
- 1 The rug that was at the head of the stairway at Sands Point and was so badly attacked by the moths. This rug is not fit for use at present but might be repaired.

I spoke to Ziggy about his last year Christmas gifts and he said he had received a check for \$100.00; Mrs. Ziggy a check for \$30.00 and Petie some small gift. I am more at sea than ever about the check for this year now, so please tell me what you wish me to do.

I will not attempt to tell you about the crop of rabbits. The number at present is three score or more with prospects good for twice that number by spring. Unemployment seems to have overlooked those rabbits.

Ziggy and family were fine and happy. Alex and his helper are working on the ceilings of the upper and lower floors.

Ziggy gave me the list of garden and flower seeds and I have sent them to the seed house.

King is looking fine and fat and makes as much noise as ever when you near the house.

I got Ziggy his paint for the Kitchen, pantry and help's dining room. He expects to get at that work this week.

Dont forget to advise me about the Christmas checks.

As ever,



MRS. CARL GRAHAM FISHER
MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

March 16th, 1932

Dear Art:

Tessie, as you know, came down with us last fall and staid at our house until the Nautilus opened and has since been there as chambermaid. The hotel closed yesterday and Tessie is leaving this morning for New York by motor. She is anxious to get located someplace in a private family either as chambermaid-waitress or general housework. Maybe you might be able to help her find a place. I thought of the Amory family, if they are out there yet, or someplace in that neighborhood.

In the meantime while she is looking for a place I thought she might clean up the house in the Colony and have it ready for us; as I suspect we may stay there for a few weeks until it gets a bit warmer at Montauk and no doubt there will be several business meetings in New York. At least I want to stay there, if it can be worked out that way. After she finishes there, it may be we would want her to get the Montauk house in shape, however, we will decide that later. I do not know yet when we will be up - but imagine it is going to be about the first week of April. We should know definitely by the 26th.

Now, I'm going to leave it up to you to have her clean the place and pay whatever is paid up there for that kind of work. We must keep our expenses down as low as possible, but I want her to have a fair price too; as her work is very thorough. If you know of any reason why she should not clean the house - ~~SURE~~ NOW or forever hold your peace!

MCF

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MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

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Dear Art:

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MCF

Port Washington, N.Y.,
Oct. 25, 1932.

Dear Margaret:

I have today ordered the flake and moth balls from the National Kill Dust Co., 203-205 East 21st St., New York. They have assured me the shipment will go forward today or tomorrow.

The flake being packed in 125-lb drums I took that amount. You can use the 100 lbs you desire and Waterside will take the extra 25 lbs. The price of the flake is six cents per pound plus transportation charges.

The moth balls charge is eight cents per pound plus the transportation charges.

I talked with Mr. Purdy and he said they will send the truck out to get the trunks for \$15.00. That is reasonable as it will take an entire day to make the trip, the services of a driver and gas and oil for the trip.

If you use the Purdy truck I will send the trunk here at the office out if you so desire. I also have two or three other trunks, my own trunks, and you can have them if desired and they are in fit condition to travel. I have not seen them for months so don't know as to their condition.

Yours very truly,

Art

Fisher Automobile Company

ESTABLISHED 1898

INCORPORATED 1903

DISTRIBUTORS, REO MOTOR CARS AND SPEEDWAGONS

434-442 North Capitol Boulevard

Indianapolis, Ind.

Port Washington, N.Y., Dec. 27, 1932.


 TELEPHONES
 MAIN 3396-3397
 AUTO. 3447-11

 H. H. BATCHELLER
 MANAGER

Dear Mr. Fisher:

Enclosed find triplicate of check No. 762 your personal account, Port Washington National bank, Issued Oct. 8, 1930, in the sum of \$979.35, with bills in detail attached. It will be well if you return this triplicate and bills to me to be replaced in the files after you have secured the information from same.

Enclosed also find dividend check from the closed Bank of North Hempstead in the sum of \$7.21, the same being fifteen percent of the balance you had in that bank at the time it closed. You will recall I gave you a check last summer for twenty percent.

I was out to Montauk last week. Found everything in good shape. The day I was there the frost was out of the ground and Ziggy was busy spading up the ground just below the drives at the house preparatory to making same over into a lawn. previously, while the ground was too frozen to spade for the lawn, he had been moving shrubs, cutting wood.

I took my two saws out to Hugh Reed and he had the two car-loads of wood nearly cut for the fireplace.

Here at Port Washington things are as usual. Fred was out just before Christmas for an afternoon. He was cheerful and very hopeful. Said he was going to Florida after Christmas.

I have all of the hedges and shrubs cut down by the waterfront, have all of the leaves burned and this week will cut the hedge along the front of the property.

Mr. Carman has not sold his new house as yet but feels sure he will make a sale after the holidays. Said people were too busy with thoughts of Christmas and the holidays to give new houses serious attention just before Christmas.

Yesterday I had Mr. Hardy out looking at the lot next to his house. He wants it but does not want to buy it just now. I have not given up hopes of making a sale.

Yesterday two men were here and looked the property over. Also a Mr. Edward Jones is coming down this week to look the two houses, Nos. 6 and 7 over. His brother is looking for a house.

Fred spoke to me about the reduction of cash salary and I told him I would be glad to make such an arrangement. I want to help as much as possible. All the cash I need is enough to buy food, fuel and clothes and pay taxes and insurance.

Port Washington, N.Y.,
Dec. 27, 1932.

Dear Margaret:

Your two notes received. I have waited but to date I have not heard from the young lady in New York. I took the battery out of the Hudson and have it in my house where it is warm and will hold its charge. I had it tested the other day and it is still up in good shape. I will have the oil changed and will see that everything is in first class shape when she departs. She is getting such a late start now you will have to send me the new license plates as the present plates will expire before she reaches Florida.

I was out to Montauk just before Christmas. Nan collected a number of Patsy's coats, sweaters, dresses, mittens etc. she has outgrown, some of the girls' dresses, and I had an overcoat cleaned and took all of the articles out with me and gave them to Ziggle and his family. Were they grateful? Well I should say they were. Mrs. Klackowski has not been very well of late and they had the doctor three times during December at \$12.00 per visit so you see a few warm clothes looked good to them.

Hugh Reed had taken charge of the wood cutting and had nearly all of the two carloads of wood cut and delivered to the two houses. He expected to cut the balance in a day or two. I offered to come out and help but he said he had enough help but was glad to get my two saws, which I took out to him. The wood is so hard and so full of nails it was necessary for him to sharpen saws constantly. With my two extra saws he could keep cutting and not stop until saws were sharpened.

Here at Port Washington we are living the simple life and trying to avoid the customary winter ills. We have not had the doctor as yet though Patsy was in bed nearly two weeks and Nan is in bed now. Her heart is bothering her, as I guess I told you. Helped me run my car up and down the drive to get it started and overtaxed her heart. I'll never do that again.

We had a nice Christmas, a little thin as to presents, of course, but as Martha put it, we probably enjoyed it more than any other Christmas as we all appreciated the few simple presents each received. That is one virtue of a depression, it makes you appreciate what you have and what you get.

This town is swamped with flu. Dr. Newman says he was never so busy with the flu.

Tell Mr. Fisher the Purdy's are all well. E.D. and family drove to Norfolk to spend the holidays with George and family. The new boat they were building was completed and set on its way to Florida a week or so ago. They have no new work to date but are hopeful.

- By the way ask Mr. Fisher what he will take for the big lot next to Lafe Page's house. Say that is your lot, but you will probably have to consult Mr. Fisher just the same as to price. Mr. Hegeran was in Saturday and looked the two houses over and was very much interested in the vacant lot. I could not quote him a price but told him it cost around \$12,000 but could be bought for much less now. So give me a price if it is for sale.

Well, be good, Margaret, and keep hopeful.

Best wishes from all of the Reeds.

Art

MRS. CARL GRAHAM FISHER
MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

Dec. 28th, 1932.

Dear Art:

I'm glad to have your letter - sorry you have illness in the family. We are very well... I have a very stiff neck, for some reason or other.... and Skip is slightly "grouchy" but outside of that we are quite comfortable and happy.... and getting ready to squeeze every penny out of the "New Year."

About the "big lot next to Life's" I have talked it over with Skip and we believe the proper asking price would be \$8500.00 .. one-fourth cash, six percent..... if you think this price is off, please advise and we make a change one way or another. I did want to keep it to build on, but I can find some other place, when I'm ready for that, perhaps!

I'm going to have Garrett get the license plates and send on for my car, either today or tomorrow just phoned Garrett and he says the Florida license is good down here until February, and I should think it would also be good in New York state. I know that the New York license expires on Dec. 31.

I have just talked to Florence Mahoney and she said the last word she had the girls were expecting to leave any day, so now she is going to wire them to get away before the 1st, so as not to run into complications with the license, but maybe you are right after all, and I'll possibly wire you later this afternoon.

What are the taxes on my lot there, and when do they have to be paid? Best wishes to all.

Port Washington, N.Y.,
Dec. 31, 1932.

Dear Margaret:

Happy New Year and many of them.

Received your letter tonight. Well the car is on the way, at least the young lady, a Miss Wetheral, was to depart for Miami Beach early this morning. Miss Sheets phoned me yesterday to bring the car in and turn it over to a young man at Elizabeth Arden's factory, East 52nd St. I had the oil changed, the tires properly inflated, the gas tank filled and left at 1:30 pm for New York. When I arrived at the Arden factory a fine young Irish lad attempted to get Miss Wetheral over to take the car. I wanted to give her what little information was necessary but she was working and the best I could do was to talk to her over the 'phone. I did, however, write her a note after I had placed the car in the East 51st Street garage and gave her such information as I thought necessary about starting the car etc. I did not hear from her today so I guess she got away without any trouble. She should not have any trouble for the car worked like a Swiss watch when I took it into New York. If she is a wise girl she will be able to surmount any license situation, so I guess there is nothing to worry about.

As to your lot here at Bayview Colony I think the price quoted was entirely fair. You know it is a large lot and the highest on the Colony. I will quote the price to the broker and see what his customer's reaction to that figure happens to be. As the taxes I will know in a day or two. The tax bills will be ready shortly and I will mail your to you without delay.

By the way when you left you gave me some money with which to pay some bills. I paid them and had some change left. I put the change with the receipts in a large envelope with some letter for you and today thought of the outfit and am enclosing everything. I fear one or more of the letters may be a bit stale by this time.

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total cash given to me | | \$2.50 |
| Bills paid: | | |
| Postage | .42 | |
| Bayless Pharmacy | <u>1.55</u> | |
| Total | | <u>1.97</u> |
| Balance enclosed | | .53 |

We are all well again and getting ready to tear into 1933, due here in about five hours.

Tell the Old Timer a Mrs. Payne was here with her mother and two children Thursday to look at No. 6 house. They were all impressed with the house and the bargain and Mrs. Payne assured me she would bring her husband out to see the house. The two daughters were very enthusiastic and begged their mother not to look at other houses. I hope they make good.

I am sorry you have a stiff neck. I thought none other than the Skipper and myself were entitled to look other than straight down the road. Perhaps you strained it looking for dividend.

I had a faint hope of getting a chance to drive your car down and see Miami Beach again and go fishing but I guess I will have no such luck.

I prepared a list of the Montauk bills I paid during the past year for Fred to aid you in checking the salary accounts etc. I sent a copy to Fred in New York and another to Fred in Miami Beach not knowing just where he is at the present time. You know before the Bank of North Hempstead failed I kept Mr. Fisher's personal account for the Montauk bills in that institution and after the failure paid the bills from the Waterside account. He will have all of the detail and with your accounts you can figure out where you stand on the salary matters out at Montauk.

Emma was over here Friday for an hour. The day was fine and she enjoyed the waterfront with her sister for an hour. She has not been able to locate a job as yet and may open a boarding house with her sister.

E.D. Purdy and family spent Christmas with George Purdy and family in Norfolk. Their Christmas pleasure was marred by an accident in which George's wife ran over a poor little kid and he was taken to the hospital and suffered the removal of his spleen. E.D. says it was the little fellow's fault as he rushed out from behind a car directly into the path of Mrs. Purdy's car. So you see, Margaret, being manhandled by Old Man Depression is not the worst thing that can happen to you.

Well here is hoping you have a lot of people down there this season and enjoy some real sales.

Best wishes for a Happy and Successful New Year to all of you.

As ever,

Art

Did Mr. Fisher get the dividend check from the Bank of North Hempstead? I heard from him today but he did not mention the check.

Port Washington, N.Y.,
March 27, 1933.

Dear Margaret:

Enclosed find tax receipt in the sum of \$60.40 covering the 1933 taxes on your Eatview Colony lot. Delay in sending this receipt was caused by the delay in getting same from the Chase National bank.

I am also enclosing 60 cents in 3-cent stamps, this sum being the balance from the \$69.00 check you sent me.

Well things here are about the same. The No.6 house, the one back of me, has been sold to Mr. and Mrs. John Freeman and expect to move in in April.

A Mr. McNutt has been giving No.7 house, the one where the Gayness family lived, much consideration the past month. I started the fire in the house and kept it going three weeks that he might test the heating plant in all kinds of weather. He was out Saturday with his wife and some friends to look the place over but there is no way of telling if he will take the house.

Mr. Carman has not sold his house, the one across the street from the Hardy family, as yet.

The weather here has been terrible the past two months. Rain and snow and cold winds. Today the sun is out but the wind is cold. A week ago Sunday it snowed and sleeted all day and yesterday it snowed during the forenoon and rained during the afternoon. We had some real spring weather in December and January but February and March were not fit to eat.

Did you pay Ziggy for February? I did not as I did not have the funds to do so. You see all of the money we got for No.6 house went to the mortgage company and for taxes and commissions. The Waterside Corporation did not get a penny in cash, only credit on principal, interest and taxes. Let me know about Ziggy's February and March salary as I might be in a position to pay him if we sell No.7 house.

The death of Mr. Purdy was a terrible loss to all of us. Well he went quickly and without great suffering.

Kindest regards to everybody.

Ant
Jel

Port Washington, N.Y.,
July 2, 1933.

Dear Margaret:

Received your letter with check enclosed. Paid the taxes and an enclosing tax receipt.

About the 2 medicine" I found the same and have moved it to the No.7 house and in addition I found another "medicine" and moved that to your "medicine" department in No.7.

Yes Mr. Woodbury and family arrived on Saturday and so far I have not had to do much to the house. He seems nice, however, I am reserving my final estimate until later on.

Galloway arrived Friday to get his car, stored here, and a trunk stored at Montauk. His car needs a little attention to the brakes and license plates and he expects to drive to Montauk to get his trunk. You will see him then.

I have No.7 house in fair shape for you but will continue working on it that it may be in shape when you arrive Wednesday or whenever you come in. I put the vac on the rugs, hung the screens, had the gas and current turned on. I started the ice box but the pipes got hot so I will call the expert in tomorrow. I do not want to ruin the box because of a slight fee for expert's advise.

Moved Mr. Fisher's desk in and placed it at the far end of the living room much like the location in the office. Also moved my desk and filing cabinet etc. into the vacant room on the second floor. It will do for you and I. I took one of the porch rugs, the one rolled up in the office dining room, and placed it on the floor for the office upstairs.

Tomorrow, Monday, I will wash the window sills and scare up some blankets from the Shadow K, try and locate a double bed for Frank and his wife, the bed in the maid's room at the present time being a single bed, and otherwise make the house a place of comfort for you and Mr. Fisher.

By the way I presume you are taking care of Ziggy's salary for June, however if I am to do so let me know.

Had the meeting of the property owners last Tuesday/evening. They were all present and were interested in everything. Had some good suggestions all of which they are getting information on to be considered at a future meeting to be held a week from next Tuesday night at the Hady home.

I have told Mr. Fisher all about the meeting in a letter enclosed. Well I will be seeing you when you come Wednesday.

As ever,

ast

STATEMENT



SINCLAIR REFINING COMPANY

REFINERS OF PETROLEUM

EASTERN DISTRICT

205 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.

PAID

JUL 31 1933

Check attached pays following invoices

| DATE | AMOUNT | |
|-------|--------|--|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| TOTAL | | |

193

Carl G. Fisher,
Montauk Beach Developing Corp.,
Montauk, L.I. N.Y.

~~Edgmont EW~~

TERMS AS INVOICED
TEAR OFF ALONG THIS LINE AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK

PORT WASHINGTON, N.Y. Aug 16 1933 No.

THE PORT WASHINGTON NATIONAL BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Sinclair Refining Co. \$ 9 / 17

Nine / 17 / 100 DOLLARS

Carroll Fisher

**SINCLAIR REFINING COMPANY****REFINERS OF PETROLEUM**

205 EAST FORTY SECOND STREET

NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.

August 21, 1933

Mr. Carl G Fisher
Montauk Beach Developing Corp.
Montauk, L I, N Y

Dear Sir:

Find attached your check dated August 16th drawn to our order in amount of \$9.17, which you forwarded in payment of July 31st balance.

According to our records, this balance was paid in full on August 2nd and for that reason, we are returning this check.

If, however, this check was to pay an August item, which has not as yet been posted to your account, we will appreciate it if you will return the check to us.

Yours very truly,

SINCLAIR REFINING COMPANY

J. J. Dennis
Assistant Credit Manager.

EJG:ac
BRIDGEHAMPTON, L I

U



Art

Port Washington, N.Y.
October 1, 1933.

Dear Sir:

I herewith present the annual statement for the maintenance account for Bayview Colony for the year Sept. 1, 1932 to Sept. 1, 1933. The charges are distributed as follows:

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Pool and tennis court water, current, repairs etc | 140.78 |
| Lawn Mower repairs, gasoline and oil | 31.80 |
| Street lights, globes and bulbs | 216.42 |
| Labor | 1589.00 |
| Snow Plowing | 5.00 |
| Taxes on Tennis court and Pool plot | <u>819.60</u> |
| Total maintenance charges | <u>2302.60</u> |

Of the total costs your proportionate share is 54.50
Your prompt remittance will be greatly appreciated.

Yours very truly,

Waterside Realty Corporation,
By S. D. Reed.

Mrs. Carl G. Fisher,
Port Washington, N.Y.

March 31, 1934.

Dear Margaret:

It is needless to say I was surprised and distressed to learn you were about to be disfigured by some old Saw Bones down there in Miami Beach. I can readily understand how the dear Old Skip's face was two feet long anticipating the ordeal for I was an nervous as a June bride all evening after receiving your note telling of the anticipated operation, and every time the telephone sounded I was fit to be tied for I "just knew" they were advising me you were holding a lily in your hand and looking natural and peaceful. I can see Mr. "Fish" now wearing out five or six rugs awaiting a report from the operating room. I do trust you are on the high road to recovery now and that it may help some to divert your attention from your "misery" I will attempt to give you the low down on the news, near news and what-have-I here on Long Island.

As I recall I gave you a bit of information on the winter we have had. Well it has not really left us yet in spite of the fact that Spring officially arrived ten days ago. It was down to 11 above zero this past week. Thursday and Friday were quite nice but Friday evening it turned cold again and today rained and may snow before the day is over. The indications are that the new Easter hats are in for a nipping by the frost tomorrow if not an old fashioned blizzard.

Intermission

I just took time out to ask Flippie, you remember Flippie I am sure, the dear bird from the office, what message he wanted to send to you. I told him you are ill and he said: "Tweet, tweet and a couple of more tweets", which when translated means "I hope my Mommae gets well right quick". Well Flippie expresses the wish of all of the Reeds too. The night I got your note I took the folks to Easter service and they all said a prayer for you, even to Patsy.

Yesterday I went out to Montauk to see Ziggy, Mrs. Ziggy and all the little Ziggies. For once they were all well and reasonably happy. The house looked neat and cheerful. Ziggy was attempting to spade the garden but the frost was slowing him up considerably. Mrs. Klackowski was painting and varnishing furniture and the three little Ziggies were helping their Poppie and Mommae. King gave me a noisy welcome and looked as though he had been well fed all winter.

Saw Tom and Mrs. Ringwood. Tom has not completely

recovered from his injuries as yet. You will recall he had an automobile wreck and broke some ribs. He is about as usual but says when he moves with too much speed his fractured ribs give him some pain.

I have gone in for Rare Old Prints and the one enclosed is not from the Victorian period in fact I have not been able to accurately trace its origin but think it may be from the Greensburg, Indiana, or possible New Jersey period. Ask those two Old B Bicycle Hounds, Skip and Earl, or even it might be from the the Far East period and Fred might throw some light on the subject. I think it right good, shows movement and atmosphere at least.

Oh yes George showed up here last week and got his car and Ziggy told me yesterday he was out there to get some things they left there. I did not know they had left you until George turned up here. He did not have much to say and I did not question him. He did say he and Mimmie were not working in the same family. I remember he did a lot of "lording" it over that pint-sized girl and wondered if she had not got her fill of the Lord and Master stuff.

Between snow storms and rains I have managed to get all but two or three lots here at Bayview Colony burned off. As yet there is no evidence of green grass. A few robins have shown up but they are all suffering from chill-blains now and can hardly navigate. The only real harbinger of spring I have seen are the inquiries from the grocery and meat boys as to when you will return north.

As you know the Adams family remained here this season and they sure got a taste of real winter. Mr. Adams is in Pittsburgh right now. Mrs. Adams and the children are here and all look fine and seem to be in excellent health.

The Purdy Boat Co. is going strong on the new boat for Mrs. Slover of Norfolk, Va. The hull has been completed and they are now working on the cabins, engines etc.

Ernest L'Ecluse and family are all well. Ernest looks for some business this year and I hope he is right. That is one thing we need, business.

The Freeman family, they bought No. 6 house a year ago, are making some changes as to shrubs etc. The Hardy family spent the winter in New York but expect to be back this spring. The Goulds and Rosses are

well after a spell of whooping cough and are anxious to manicure their lawns and get ready for the spring and summer activities.

A.F. Knowles and family and Mr. and Mrs. Roberts are well and happy. The latter are doing a lot of planning on their lawn improvements.

The Reeds, well the Reeds are OK. Mary has done very well in the art school and was promoted for good work. Martha is stepping out at Barnard. Was elected treasurer of the Freshman class and has now been elected president of the Sophomore class for 1935. She is in the Greek games to be given in a week or two. This is the big event of the year in Barnard activities. She is a Charioteer, if you know what that is. Well it means she drives a chariot in the chariot race. She and her horses, all girls of course, are the representatives of the Freshman class in the contest with the Sophomore class. Best of all Martha got two "As" and the balance "Bs" in her midwinter examinations. Patsy has just recovered from the whooping cough and will return to school after Easter vacation. As to Nan and yours truly we have worked hard all winter, have not had many outside activities but are well and happy to be well without so much outside diversions. I shoveled snow and ice for six solid weeks and right now am as tough as a piece of leather. I am really in mid-season form right now and ready to get at the grass and tennis court work.

If this "Bertha Clay" novel is getting the best of you just give it the "sack" and have a little rest and a nap.

By the way give me some notice as to when you expect to come north that I may be sure to have the Montauk and office in readiness. I heard yesterday at Montauk a party was looking at the cottage over in Shepherds Neck Village. I hope the sale goes through.

I have not played any cut-throat since you two left. I think I will enjoy a bit of that when you return.

How is Mrs. Kaiser? And how is Mr. Kaiser? I hope the latter is feeling better and I know the former is just as cheerful as ever. I am sure Mr. "Fish" feels like a new woman with you on the mend and I hope he had some good business to cheer him up this winter. Tell him the Long Island RR is going in big, according to reports, on the fishing business this year.

The papers the past few days have been full of indicated return of better business. I suppose you have noted that the big street companies, automobile companies, electric companies and others have raised wages and shortened hours. According to the morning papers the taxi strike in New York is settled in fact on all sides there are indications that money is going to be freer this summer than last year. Here in Port Washigton the stores have been enjoying better business which indicates the people are turning some of their funds loose. I was talking to the Dodge agency this week and one man alone had sold six cars to say nothing of the other sales.

It was disgusting the way congress replaced most of the cuts the President made last fall. I hate to think of fellows like Cap. Hewes, with a good job, getting from \$50 to \$100 a month for the rest of my life because they are in the Spanish-American war. If they were or are invalids and unable to support themselves Ok but if they are able bodied and capable of making a living why should I contribute. I know a fellow here in Port Washington with a nice business, a nice home, excellent health who gets \$90 per month or will get it after this month. If they turn up a few more crooks in public office we will have a situation very like that in France and then will come civil war and revolution. But that is not good talk for a sick patient.

How is the little house on North Alton road? I'll bet it is attractive and a comfort. You two must be quite happy up there with Mr. and Mrs. K right there at hand at all times.

So they sold the Shadow K. Praise be Him from whom all blessings flow. I saw by the paper the poor old craft is going modern, that is into the goat gland business. I wish Doc Brinkley would operate on the real estate business and install a dozen or so rejuvenating glands. I rather think if inflation of any extent takes place the real estate business will pick up. That seems to be the opinion of most everybody up this way.

Well Margaret if the nurse has not taken this letter away from you by this time you must be getting along in good shape. Anyway give my very best regards to all of my friends and know that the Reeds are thinking of both of you most of the time and wishing you luck and happiness.

As ever,

Art

WATERSIDE REALTY CORPORATION

PORT WASHINGTON, L.I.

NEW YORK

CARL G. FISHER, Pres
ROBERT H. TYNDALL, Vice Pres.
JOHN J. REDFIELD, Secy.
ARTHUR B. REED, Treas.

May 3, 1934.

Dear Margaret:

I was out to Montauk and found Zigmont "trip-toeing through the butter cups", the onions, beets, corn, peas, beans and other "vegetables". Seriously his garden is well upon its way. If he can keep the rabbits from getting first call on the crop you should eat this summer.

As to the wire fencing same has been received and erected but it appears to be too short on one end. Tom Ringwood said he thought they had some short pieces and if so would give Ziggle enough to completely enclose the garden.

I told Zig to take the wooden shutters off the house and on nice warm days to open the windows and let the house dry out. I told him also to have the water turned on.

Here at Bayview Colony the big house is ready for you folks.

I sure trust you have completely recovered from your operation. I do hope they did not carve you up so we will not recognize you.

I guess spring is here at last. It has been quite respectable the past three days and last night we had our first spring rain.

I am enclosing a clipping from the Chicago Tribune which you can use to make Jess Andrew unhappy. As I recall he is still connected with the Indiana State Prison.

It looks to me the states Indiana and Ohio and good states to be from, and the sooner the better.

Now that you call my attention to it that was an "itching".

When do you start north?

As ever,

Art

Port Washington, N.Y.,
June 1st. 1934.

Dear Margaret:

Just received your letter. I sure will give you a lift on the Deforest house. Will await the arrival of the station wagon and drive it out for we will need it, in fact Ziggy has had no transportation facilities for the past month or more. Tom Ringwood had Hugh Reed feed Jerry to save Ziggy the long walk.

I will go out and get the coast clear for Mr. Fisher. Leave it to me to have everything clean and cheery for the long delayed home coming. I am all set here at Port Washington now. I really think I have the office looking more attractive than in the past several years. I painted the wood trim on the entire lower floor and the concrete porch and have the yard looking fine. If the Old Scout does not appreciate it I will sock him, verbally of course, on his appreciation tank. I will try to keep him here if you do not come up when he does, however, that you know, is a big order. Anyway I will try. That will give you a chance to get here and take charge of what will be left of the Montauk arrangements.

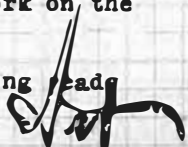
As to the sale of the station wagon. I have been hunting for the past month for a light truck for Ziggy. I suggested some weeks ago that we try to trade the Packard for a truck but never got a reply until today when Fred wrote. He did not approve the plan nor did he disapprove, so I am just where I stood before I heard from him. He is to look up the status of the Packard and let me know when he arrives. In the meantime I have all of the local dealers and some over at Mineola looking for a used truck and in the event I strike a good bargain and trade the station wagon in on the truck I will advise you.

Poor Mitzie. Her life seems to be just one "little thing" after another. You sure sound like a hard-hearted grandmother. I would suggest you put the poor little gal in a "convent", the "next time".

I have a prospect for the aerocar and wrote Mr. Fisher some weeks ago. Allison Wysong. Has a friend who wants one and I suggested Mr. Fisher write direct to Allison or send the dope to me and I would see that he, Wysong, got it. I never heard from him about the proposition and the other day I asked Allison if he had heard from Mr. Fisher and he said no. I told him then I thought Mr. Fisher was awaiting his arrival with the car that it might be shown to his friend. So you see we have one prospect in line at least.

Here at Port Washington I have been "triptoing" through the buttercups" with painful regularity and have the work right up to date so can spare a day or two to go out to Montak to work on the Deforest house.

What ever you do rest assured we will have everything ready at the DefOrst house, the Sanger house and here.



Port Washington, N.Y.,
August 2, 1934.

Mrs. Carl G. Fisher,
Montauk, N.Y.

Dear Margaret:

Enclosed find blank bill of sale to be prepared for the sale of the suburban.

I do not know how your Florida license was executed but presume it was issued in your name. I have indicated with pencil the possible manner in which the bill of sale should be executed, however, if I were you I would take the document down to Mr. Niesse, when you receive your registration and ownership certificate from Florida, and have him prepare the document for you.

I do not know in whom they want the title to rest but you can leave that blank until you get to Shelter Island and then fill it in.

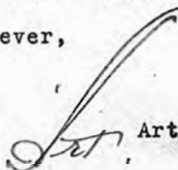
As to the little beds I brought them in to fit out the office as a bed room in the Manor House for the Woodbury boys. When they left I asked to buy the beds for Mary and Martha and Mr. Fisher instead gave them to me. I will return them, of course.

I am sending a new hinge for the suburban door. It was broken and the door would not close properly. I put on a pair of common door hinges while the new hinge was being secured. I gave Garrett the screws when I was out there for the new hinge.

I am sure you understand you are to deliver the suburban to Miss Carney, Shelter Island, Garrett knows her, with the ownership certificate and bill of sale properly executed. You will then get your check in the sum of \$250.00.

By the way one curtain or more needs new celluloid. I spoke to Garrett about that and he said he would have it or them repaired. I am sure you can have it done at East Hampton, however, if not send them to me and I will have it done here.

As ever,

 Art

Port Washington N.Y.,
Sept. 16, 1934.

Dear Margaret:

Received your note with the enclosure from Mr. Gimbel's representative. It took some of the stress off Mary's mind as she feared they had entirely forgotten her.

I can imagine what you were confronted with going over the mountains. I can see you right now gripping the wheel with both hands, shoving the floor boards out on the brake and praying as you never prayed before. Mountain climbing is quite thrilling, at the first experience. I know the first trip I ever made over the mountains I wished I was a mountain goat, small and all.

The Skipper and Dr. Heath, with their faithful attendant, Ruth, were in over Thursday night. Mr. Fisher was in perfect health and spent a delightful evening visiting with Mr. Jay and Mr. Adams. Ran the gauntlet of subjects of conversation including old racing days, the depression, the boom in Miami Beach, financial matters etc. Mr. Jay went home at a reasonable hour but Mr. Adams stayed on until a later hour, I guess. I went home with Mr. Jay and did not remain to wind the cat and put out the clock.

You sure know when to make your getaway. The next day Mrs. Marks was down with the "Siatticia", so she said, or was it lumbago. Anyway she was flat on her back down stairs and slept there two night with Nan getting her means and caring for her. She then called Dr. Whitcomb and he found it was an injured muscle in her hip or leg or somewhere and ordered her to bed for an indefinite period. Nan continued on the job three and four times each day, getting meals, listening to the mortuary record and other cheering personal history. Well the period of indisposition lasted until last Thursday when Mr. Fisher came in and since then she has been caring for herself. What a break for you that you left when you did.

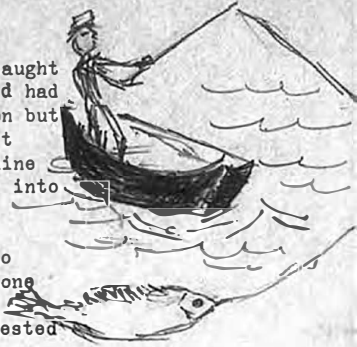
The hotel managers were here Friday and hold their meeting with Mr. Fisher, Mr. Collins and Mr. Humpage. Friday afternoon Mr. Fisher left for home.

By the way Mr. Fisher told me your sister had suffered the loss of sixty or more turkeys by theft. That's bad. With a hard winter coming on every turkey counts. Nan knows what a trial it is to raise turkeys and to have them kidnapped is just the last straw.

Oh yes I got home in good shape but a little tired and sleepy. Reached the house at 1:30 am and left at 2am



for Orient Point. Went fishing for blue fish and I caught all of the fish. Five good fishermen and Old Art Reed had to hustle to get fish for everyone. We only got seven but they are all large, enough for everyone and the fact that I caught all of them furnished me with a fine line of conversation and let me tell you I sure rubbed it into that bunch of High Binders with me.



By the way I was talking with a fellow yesterday who is looking for an aerocar. He is really looking for one he can hook onto his car but is not sure that is possible as he had a large Studebaker sedan. I suggested he sell his Studie and buy your aerocar. May make the deal yet, though it does not look so encouraging at the present moment. As I recall you are asking Two Thousand Dollars for the Aerocar and would take Eighteen Hundred. Am I right. Let me know about this at once as the chance to sell it may break anyway. I suppose the ownership certificate is with the car or in Garrett's possession.

Are you going to require a guide home? I hope so and if so dont forget I am the best little guide in the world. And too when do you expect to head this way.

We had a regular hurricane here a week ago last night. Such rainend such wind. Wrecked a lot of boats in the bay and otherwise did a lot of damage in this section. Fortunately Bayview Colony escaped with the loss of a few branches from the locust threes. Mrs.Marks was sure the house ~~was~~ going to blow over but it did not. Mr.Whooseis, her customer, came out today with Mrs.Wcoosis and promptly said the house was too large for them so that deal is off.

Mr.Fisher said he was going south early this year, in October, so be ready to depart.

The Mahoney family are to have the office for a while. They are due tomorrow or Tuesday. The house is all ready for them and I am sure they will enjoy their stay as September is a lovely month here.

I never saw Bayview Colony look as nice as it does now. The lots have all been cut, the hedge has been retrimmed since your left, the grass has been cut and with the heavy rains of late is green and soft.

Of course you heard the result of the first yacht race. I am pulling for the Rainbow and think she will win. Vanderbilt is a tough bird to beat in a yacht race. He sure knows his Balloon Jib and his Top Gallant Sail.

I sent the silver cups to Mr.Nritten and got a letter from

him saying they had arrived. I also received a silver picture frame from Mr. Fisher but have not been able to find a sale for it as yet.

By the way did you get a line on your ancestors? I hope none of them disappointed you. Frequently when people start to dig in to the dim distant past we find ancestors working on the rock pile or doing some other disconcerting thing.

Galloway is still with the MacIntosh family and is making salads and making them like them. Some accomplishment when you think that they had 20 butlers in one month and Galloway has been there for nearly four months.

Yes I forwarded a telegram from a real estate dealer to you. I hope he makes the sale at the price you ask.

I hope too I may be able to make a sale or two for myself before snow sets in. If I dont you may see the Reeds on a walking trip to Miami Beach. We sure will not stop at Henderson, N.C.

Garrett expects to make a trip home before going south. He is having his Ford dolled up to give the Indiana gals a treat. I suppose "Doc" will have a VanDyke beard by that time. I tried that once and had a grip and all of my prospects thought I was a piano tuner.

The art for this letter was drawn by Man. She says she is a bit out of practice but her efforts are so much of an improvement over my art that there is no comparison.

Here is hoping you are having a good time and found all of the members of family well even though a bit downhearted over the loss of the turks.

As ever,

Art



OCT 11 1934

Cart 9

Fisher

Deliver to

A. B. Reed

489 Main Street

TEL. P. W. 2111

STATEMENT

DATE _____ 19____

M _____



TO NORTH SHORE LAUNDRY CO.

409 MAIN STREET

PORT WASHINGTON, N. Y.

Telephone: P. W. 2111

North Shore

THE SIGN

409 Main St., at 2nd Ave.



Laundry Co.

OF SERVICE

Port Washington, N. Y.

M Carl G. Fisher
 Address Apartment.....

Articles claimed to be lost must be reported within 24 hours with this list.

Unless list is sent with goods our list must be accepted as correct.

Certain dyes are not fast, so we cannot Guarantee colors.

Not responsible for goods left over 30 days, in case of fire or burglary.

Kindly separate your bundles as follows:

Collars, Shirts and Articles to be finished in separate bundles from Flat Work.

This will enable us to render more efficient Service.

MARK F.I.S.B. DATE OCT 11 1934

.... Lbs. Hand Ironed @ c lb
 " North Shore Special " "
 " Float Ironed " "
 " Fluff Dry " "
 " Flat Work " "

No. Gentlemen's List Price No. Ladies' List Price

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--|----------------------------|-----|
| COLLARS | | Waists | |
| CUFFS | | Corset Covers | |
| Shirts, plain | | Chemises | |
| " silk | | Combinations | |
| " pleated | | Night Dresses | |
| Night Shirts | | Drawers | |
| Undershirts | | Undershirts | |
| Drawers | | Underskirts | |
| Union Suits | | Dresses | |
| Pajama Suits | | Middy Blouses | |
| Handkerchiefs | | Aprons | |
| " silk | | Bibs | |
| Hose, per pair | | Sheets | |
| Neckties | | Pillow Cases | |
| Coats | | Counterpanes | |
| Pants | | Blankets | |
| Vests | | Pads | |
| Boys' Waists | | 2 Table Cloths ✓ | 30 |
| Aprons | | Tops | |
| Caps | | Curtains ✓ | |
| Boys' Suits | | 15 Napkins ✓ 73 | 45 |
| " overall | | 37 Doilies ✓ 47 | 111 |
| Rugs | | 5 Tray Cloths ✓ | 50 |
| Rompers | | 2 Towels ✓ | 72 |
| Mattress Covers | | Roller Towels ✓ | 6 |
| Bath Robes | | 13 Bath Towels ✓ | 52 |
| | | 5 Wash Cloths ✓ | 10 |
| | | Rags | |
| | | 1 Bath Mats ✓ | 15 |

Laundry Bags

Due on A'ct. 391

Amount

Total 391

Port Washington, N.Y.,
Nov. 14, 1934.

Mrs. Carl G. Fisher,
Miami Beach, Fla.

Dear Margaret:

Just got the snow shoveled away from the typewriter and the machine otherwise thawed out so it is fit for use. Sure is nasty here. You left just in time. Been very cold and damp since you left with a lot of cold winds and rain and yesterday a touch of snow.

Yes you are like all of the young birds. As soon as you get an opportunity to try your wings alone you find you no longer need a chaperone. You at least admit you cannot drive and see all of the beer signs. You must have stepped on the gas those two days you made 819 miles. Too fast for me. Miss too much scenery.

Well, I have about all of the regular pre-winter jobs done. Closed the houses as you wished. Did a good job on the concrete wall evidently, ~~for~~ George said not a drop of water leaked into the basement during two heavy rains. Located an old drain leading to the cistern off the north-east corner of the kitchen at the Sanger house and connected up the down-spout to the drain and now all of the water runs into the cistern instead of down along the side of the house. Removed the gas cabinet and put in a big slab of concrete and then replaced the cabinet.

Put up the missing wooden blinds on both the Sanger and DeForrest houses. Spread moth flake and put down the newspapers as directed.

Took all of the old carpet out of the caretaker's cottage and my how it did smell. George and I thought there was a dead rat about the premises but when we took the carpet out found the odor came from a damp portion of the carpet. Swept the cottage out in good shape and opened the doors and windows and let in the fresh air for several days.

Closed off the third floor in the Sanger house with that door we had and now George and his family are able to keep warm with the use of less fuel.

George is keeping dear old King in the basement at night. King has taken to George and his family and seems quite contented.

By the way you did not give me the keys for the Hill house. When I got out there I only had the keys for No. 12 cottage. I did find a window unlatched and got in

that way. Look over your things and see if you can locate the missing keys.

I am enclosing a receipt from George for the sum I paid him for help on g me with the Sanger and DeForrest houses. I advanced that sum so if you will send me a check I will appreciate it as funds with me at the present moment are at x low ebb.

I am also enclosing laundry bills for laundry picked up at Montauk. I will return this laundry to the Sanger house this week. You can send the check for the laundry direct to the North Shore Co. if you want to, otherwside send it to me and I will see they get it pronto. By the way you had a laundry bill from them when you left. Did you pay it?

The laundry bill enclosed is for laundry found in Ruth and Harry's room, Mr. Fisher's room etc. None of this is for George's family. Mrs. Hlavac does her own laundry.

Oh yes Fred wrote me about the paint at the station. You made a trip or two down there, I amde two trips n and Mr. Fisher made a trip for the paint but we could not locate the agent. Well I called again when I went out to close the houses and found the paint had been returned to Jamestown, Pa. Tell Fred as I neglected to advise him in my note to him.

I will see about the current bill this week when I go out to Montauk. That is the bill for the DeForrest h house.

I trust you have the house cleaning completed by this time.

Remember mg kindly to Mr. and Mrs. K. I do hope Earl is much improved and able to strut his stuff this winter season.

Well be good, have a lot of luck, sell a lot of property and otherwise make it a real Old Time Season.

As ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Art". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed text "As ever,".

Port Washington, N.Y.,
Dec. 3, 1934.

Dear Margaret:

Received your checks, the one for ten dollars for me and the blank one.

I took the \$6.50 out of the ten dollar check but did not take the balance, \$3.50. Instead I applied it on the laundry bills. The laundry account aggregated \$11.45 and with the \$3.50 applied left a balance of \$7.95 which is the amount I filled in on the blank check.

As to applying the \$3.50 on my expense I will say I had the car filled with gas and oil before I left and charged the gas and oil at Charlie Ponner's station on the trip home.

The big bunch of laundry was largely from the third floor at the Sanger house. Nearly two hampers full including kitchen and house dresses worn by Ruth. That last batch cleaned up everything in the shape of laundry so there will be no laundry bills in the future.

How about the Hill house keys. Did you find them. The last time I was out there, which was about a week or so ago, I managed to get into the house through a window Ziggy had nailed up, and once in the kitchen I found a key for the back door which I turned over to George Slavac.

I don't understand about the DeForrest house electric bill. What was the idea of having the current turned on when you had no renter?

Mr. "Fish" invited me down for a vacation. Had seen Fob Reed and they figured out all I would need was ONE GOOD MEAL before I left and promised to give me another meal when I arrived there. I just wrote him I approved the plan and told him the only thing that was holding up my departure was that ONE BIG MEAL, and hoped he would find it possible to send it on to me so I could shove off.

Honestly conditions here are terrible. Poor Old Ziggy is flat. On the county and state relief and they are threatenin' to send him back to Suffolk County. I went over to the county welfare office at Mineola and urged them not to send him back to Suffolk. Told them he would be lost and completely sunk. Urged them to have Suffolk County permit him to remain here among friends and relatives, people who would at least think of him and his family. Nan and I provided a large Thanksgiving box for them, gave them a lot of Patsy's clothes for the children and some of Nan's, Mary's and Martha's dresses and coats for

Mrs. Ziggle. I would have given Ziggiesome of my clothes but the weather was too cold to spare them.

I have run myself ragged huntint for a job for Zig and only turned up promises so far. There are 500 men looking for every job and you sure have to be on the job to grab the few jobs that show up. I rather think the little house and regular salary of last year would look pretty sweet to the Klackowskis now. I will continue to hunt for work for Ziggle and have a lot of my friends doing likewise. One of my friends, George Muller of Seaman & Muller, had the local Welfare Society send them a Thanksgiving basket also. It embraced groceries, meat etc. The state and county relief allows Ziggie \$6.00 per week and that helps some.

The old cistern I turned the drain into was partly filled with water so a little more will not hurt.

The Sanger house looked neat and clean when I was last out there. Mrs. Blavac is evidently a good housekeeper.

Sorry to hear Harry is "stepping out!" He seemed a good boy when here.

The only way I will make Florida this year will be for you to sell the aerocar and ask me to drive it through. So get busy. I will make my keep when down there catchigg fish for the table, so jazz up your selling ability. I still have one hope for a sale up here, J.J. Ricks. He has been away so have been unable to get to him as yet.

Well be good and with best wishes for all of you, Mr. Fish, Mr. and Mrs. K., Mr and Mrs. Katz. and anyothers interested.

As ever,

Art



DATE Nov 22 1934

M Mrs Carl Fisher

Montauk Point



TO NORTH SHORE LAUNDRY CO.

409 MAIN STREET
PORT WASHINGTON, N. Y.

Oct 13
Nov 5

391
754

~~11.45~~

PAID

NOV 22 1934

NORTH SHORE LAUNDRY CO.

Per W. J. M.

Telephone: P. W. 2111

North Shore

THE SIGN

409 Main St., at 2nd Ave.



Laundry Co.

OF SERVICE

Port Washington, N. Y.

M
 Address Apartment.....

Articles claimed to be lost must be reported within 24 hours with this list.

Unless list is sent with goods our list must be accepted as correct.

Certain dyes are not fast, so we cannot Guarantee colors.

Not responsible for goods left over 30 days, in case of fire or burglary.

Kindly separate your bundles as follows:

Collars, Shirts and Articles to be finished in separate bundles from Flat Work.

This will enable us to render more efficient Service.

MARK L-F DATE 11-28-1911

.... Lbs. Hand Ironed @ c lb
 " North Shore Special " "
 " Float Ironed " "
 " Fluff Dry " "
 " Flat Work " "

11-4-11
 7-9-11

No. 1 Gentlemen's List Price No. Ladies' List Price

| No. | Gentlemen's List | Price | No. | Ladies' List | Price |
|------|----------------------------|--------|-----|-----------------------|-------|
| ✓ 15 | COLLARS #31 | 45 | | Waists | |
| ✓ 5 | CUFFS Dress colls 5 1/2" 4 | 75 | | Corset Covers | |
| ✓ 1 | Shirts, plain 2 1/2" 4 | 18 | 1 | Chemises | |
| | " silk | | 1 | Combinations | 15 |
| | " pleated | | 1 | Night Dresses | 15 |
| ✓ 1 | Night Shirts | | 1 | Drawers 2 PLYS | 10 |
| ✓ 1 | Undershirts | 90 | | Undershirts | |
| ✓ 2 | Drawers | 25 | 5 | Undershirts | |
| ✓ 1 | Union Suits | 6 | | Dresses 1 1/2" 4 | 1.50 |
| ✓ 1 | Pajama Suits | 6 | | Middy Blouses | |
| ✓ 2 | Handkerchiefs #52 | 6 | 9 | Aprons | |
| ✓ 1 | " Silk | 6 | 10 | Bibs | |
| ✓ 1 | Hose, per pair | | | Sheets | 90 |
| ✓ 2 | Neckties | 70 | | Pillow Cases 2 1/2" 4 | 18 |
| ✓ 1 | Coats | 25 | | Counterpanes | |
| ✓ 1 | Pants 7 1/2" 4 | 75 | | Blankets | |
| ✓ 1 | Vests Bath suit | 31 1/2 | | Pads | |
| | Boys' Waists | 42 1/2 | 9 | Table Cloths | |
| | Aprons | 15 1/2 | 2 | Tops | |
| ✓ 1 | Caps | 15 1/2 | 7 | Curtains | |
| | Boys' Suits | | | Napkins | |
| | " overall | | | Dresses | 6 |
| | Rugs | | | Tray Cloths | 11 |
| | Rompers | | | Towels | 21 |
| | Mattress Covers | | | Roller Towels | 21 |
| | Bath Robes | | | Scarfs | |
| | | | | Bath Towels | 36 |
| | | | | Wash Cloths | 8 |
| | | | | Rags | |
| | | | | Bath Mats | 42 9 |

Laundry Bags
 Amount

Due on A'ct
 Total 75.4

Port Washington, N.Y.,
January 7, 1935.

Dear Margaret:

Well Christmas and New Years Day have come and gone and we are launched into a new year. I hope it will be a better year for all of us. I hope we have at least a reasonable amount of success. I would so like to have a breathing spell from always stewing about what is just ahead of us. I would like to have Prosperity at least give us a semblance of a smile and a nod of assurance for the future. However wishing and hoping will not get us anywhere so what is all of this wishing and hoping about.

The wonderful basket of fruit and nuts arrived right on time, Christmas eve and reposed in all its glory beneath a little Christmas tree on Christmas morning. Thanks very much for the lovely remembrance.

Christmas with the Reeds was entirely satisfactory. Mary is still working at Gimbels and probably had her best Christmas. She bought all of the presents she gave with her very own money this year, as did Martha, who had a Saturday and holiday job at Altman's store. Mother made most of her presents to the girls, new coats etc. and Patsy selected from her supply of former Christmas presents gifts for the little Klackowski children. Thereby hangs a tale too and I will tell it to you and Mr. Fisher.

Since Ziggy gave up his position at Montauk he has not been able to find work, even for a day and it has been up to the state welfare department to furnish them with weekly financial assistance. Nan and I have been keeping an eye on them and furnished meals for each of the three holidays and when Christmas approached Nan suggested we give them such clothing and gifts as we could afford. The suggestion was made that Patsy select from her supply of dolls one doll for little Victoria. Nan said she would make new dresses for the doll and that would be Patsy's especial gift. Well Pat could not make up her mind which of the eight dolls she possesses should be selected. Days went on and no selection until the night before Christmas. Pat always takes one or two dolls to bed with her but that evening she gathered her entire family into her bed and when questioned about the reunion told Nan they were having a fast night sleeping party before one (still to be selected) went away. Nan had to have the doll to be dressed and Patsy after much deliberation did select the doll to be given away. She removed the ragged little night gown on the doll and turned it over to her mother, keeping the night gown in bed with her. It always is hard for a little child to get to sleep on Christmas eve and I suppose it did not help Pat any to know one of her children was leaving her. Anyway morning finally came, Patsy was called but she delayed getting down stairs. That was unusual and Nan went up to learn the cause of the delay. She found Patsy completely dressed sitting on the bed with her back in the ragged little night gown removed from the doll and crying as though her heart would break. "What is the matter Patsy" mother inquired. "Mother I will never see her again. She will never wear this little night gown again." "Well Patsy you do not have to give your doll away if you feel that way about it". "Oh I want to give her to Victoria, mommie, but I love her and cannot help feeling bad. Anyway, mommie, how would you feel if you gave me away?"

I guess, Margaret, that is what is real giving, giving until it hurts.

I am so glad things are so cheerful in Florida. I do hope the season turns out to be one of profit with a brighter future for Mr. Fisher.

I suppose you have seen my letter to Mr. Fisher about Galloway's illness. If not he had an abscessed throat and for a time was threatened with pneumonia. Was taken to the Post-Graduate hospital and there recovered and now is back on the job, the McIntosh home at 740 Park Avenue, New York. They are in town for the winter. In case you wish to drop him a card the address is Allan J. McIntosh, at the foregoing address.

The Capehart was delivered to Howard Lyon in New York for sale as directed by Mr. Fisher. Have not heard as yet if the sale was made and probably will not hear direct from him as the check will probably be sent to Mr. Fisher.

Sold the silver picture frame Mr. Fisher sent to me and sent the ten dollars to Miami Beach last week.

I have not been out to Montauk since my last letter, however, I hope to get out this week. I feel confident everything is Ok but at that will take a good look when I do make that port.

The weather here has been very mild for winter. It has been cold at various times but so far we have not had any snow.

Are you listening to the Hauptman daily broadcasts? I suppose you get the same broadcasts we do. We get them several times each day with resumé around noon and in the evening. I don't know where it is going but I have a feeling there is to be a blow-up before it is over. I spoke to Martha about it and she too feels apprehensive as to what will happen before the case is concluded.

Martha has become interested in some dramatic work in New York. She has the leading role in a production to be offered in the Heckschel Theatre this spring and a minor part to be given in New York and about this section of the country this winter and spring. She has been suggested for a minor part in a Broadway show but does not know if she will land this latter part. Keep all of this to yourself as she is not telling anyone.

Kary hopes to resume her art study at Pratt Institute this month. She will concentrate on commercial art and hopes to hold her position at Gimbel's store and attend night classes.

How about the sale of the aerocar? When are you going to put it over so I can deliver it to you in Miami Beach? That will be the only manner in which I will be able to get to Miami Beach this winter. So hurry up and make a sale.

Best regards from all of the Reeds for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

As ever,

Art



Fort Washington, N.Y.,
Feb. 13, 1935.

Dear Margaret:

As far as I can determine you do not owe the Sinclair Co. anything for oil. If I were you I would destroy the enclosed check and await results, that is I would await another letter from the oil company.

I delayed attempting a trip to Montauk until yesterday on account of the condition of the roads. There has been so much snow on the island that automobile traffic has been quite some hazzard, especially towards the east end of the island.

Yesterday promised good weather and I decided to make the attempt. Ernest L'Ecluse, having a holiday, accepted my invitation to accompany me and equipped with ropes, skid chains and snow shovels we set sail. Of the implements mentioned all were used and in addition another auto was pressed into service to say nothing of a tire repair man. At Southampton we had a flat tire and from there on until we reached home at 3pm it was just one darn thing after another, but at that we accomplished all we set out to accomplish, that is check the oil account, inspect all of the Montauk houses, inquire as to the health and living conditions of the Hlavac family etc.

At Bridgehampton I had an opportunity to go over your account with the Sinclair Co. At that point the accounts showed all bills paid. At the Montauk Sinclair station I did the same and as at Bridgehampton all accounts were shown as paid. It appears to me you have paid this account twice and that is all there is to it.

At East Hapton I attempted to confer with the lighting company on the current account but they evidently believe in observing Lincoln's birthday and closed for the day.

I sure do not understand the DeForrest house account at all for when I cleaned the house last spring I had to use a Bissel sweeper as there was no current turned on and we could not work after night set in on account of there being no lights working. Just when you turned on the current and why I am at a loss to explain. What do you know about it. I do not see how such a bill could be run up even at the minimum charge for the entire summer. Is it not possible that Irving Berlin failed to pay his last current bill and they are carrying it over and looking to you for payment. I was going to check this feature up yesterday but as I said found the office closed.

At Montauk I found Mr. and Mrs. Hlavac worried on account of the freezing up of the toilet in the one bath room in service. George said he had sponged out the water each evening during the cold weather but did not know water would remain in the back of the bowl. He said he had shut off the water in the basement each night and drained the line running to the bath room. With no direct heat to the bath room I can see how it would get pretty cold there during the severe cold spell they experienced. At the present they have gone back to the old bucket type of toilet and have the water completely shut off in the one bath room left for their convenience.

The DeForest house, Hill house and the cottage over in the village were in good shape. It was while inspecting the latter place we got stuck in

the snow drift. We shoveled snow for a half hour and finally got Mr. McDonald to give us a pull and help us out.

There was much less snow at Montauk than at points farther west but we happened to run into one of the few deep snow drifts in that section. At Calverton the drifts were over six feet high and the driveway has been shoveled out only to the width of two cars, so driving was slow. At other points along the way the snow is several feet deep as the result of drifts, however, spring is not far distant, a little over a month, so we have something to look forward towards.

We saw Tom and Margaret Ringwood at Montauk. Both are well, however, Stewart has a little cold and has had some fever, nothing serious at the present moment. Saw George Sears. He said there was no business there but he is looking for a good season this summer. Tom and Margaret were in New York, the former to attend some legal action in court, when the recent storm started. In time they started for home and reached a point near Calverton where the snow blocked them. They back-tracked to Coren and went south to the Marrick road and finally reached home but not until they had consumed the entire day in making the trip.

By the way did you ever locate the keys for the Hill House. We will need them when you come this way. I have one, for the kitchen door, as I told you but have none for the other doors or the garage.

Here at Bayview Colony all is well except business. Have had two inquiries for lots indirectly but so far neither of the prospects have put in an appearance. Outside brokers have asked for information on prices etc. and said they would bring their prospects out shortly.

While in Montauk yesterday I got the small electric washer you had in the garage and Ben will try it out on small articles. Our machine had worn out and I cannot afford to buy a new one at this time. I will return your washer by the time you return and will see that it is in good condition when I return it to Montauk.

Ziggie has had some work on the streets during the snow removal period and the other ~~has~~ had an hour or two trimming trees. Received a letter from Bob Tyndall relative to Ziggie. I do not think Ziggie will do at all out there. In the first place he would have to finance himself until his crops were sold next fall and that he could not do, and in addition he would be far removed from his friends and relatives. You know Zig's temperament. It is not too good and he lacks the knack of getting along with strangers. Anyway he hopes to land some work here in the spring. In addition to all of this if he went out there and flopped he would, regardless of the fact we only wanted to help him, look to us to get him and his family back here. It would just be another case of Bethilda Croissant only different that our financial liability would be greatly increased by the size of the Klackowski family. I have talked to Ziggie about what he has in mind relative to any claim he has on Mr. Fisher in connection with land certificates for what he calls unpaid salary. He is almost as easy to understand and explain things to as a Chinaman so I really do not know what he has in mind.

I have not heard from Galloway of late, however, I feel he is getting along Ok or I would have heard from him to the contrary.

I will be glad to see you folks back this spring. Sorry I cannot run down to return with you. I had some faint hope of selling some property and feeling able to pay you a visit this winter but things did not break

for me and my cash reserve is so low I cannot afford to spend a cent unnecessarily. I would like to make the trip and come up with you and Mr. "Fish" and Garrett. What a trip that would be. I hope Garrett comes north with you this year for your sake as well as Mr. Fisher's sake. He likes that boy and Garrett knows Mr. Fisher and they get along pretty fine.

Mary still retains her job at Gimbels and when ever she speaks about it she gives you credit for she is sure were it not for your letter to Mr. Gimbel she would have been let out along with hundreds of other after the holidays. She is now in the "Personal Contact" department; takes orders over the 'phone and receives 'phone complaints. She has entered Traphagen Art school for night classes. Is paying her own way, tuition, transportation, lunches etc. That alone is an education for a young girl who has never had to think about where the money was coming for the things she wanted to do. Martha continues to attend Barnard and is going along with her dramatic work. Patsy has scored as Mother Goose in a school play and is well after an attack of sore throat. Pa and Ma are looking after eachother so you see the Reeds have weathered the winter in the usual manner.

Ernest L'Ecluse is Grand Pappie, John being the proud Daddy of a little son now four weeks old. The Alan Goulds here in Bayview Colony have a little daughter, Mary Ann, and lovely baby I will tell you. It's this invigorating Colony air I think. Better tell Fred to have a care when he comes north.

Well that is about all for today. Be good and you will be happy. Kindest regards to everybody.

As ever,

Art

Port Washington, N.Y.,
February, 25, 1935.

Mrs. Carl G. Fisher,
The Carl G. Fisher Co.,
Miami Beach, Fla.

Dear Margaret:

Here is some bad news for you, the tax bill for your lot here at Bayview Colony, and too there is your maintenance charge for the lot in the sum of \$54.50.

If you happen to have \$54.50 kicking around the house I sure can use it this month. Have been trying to collect enough money to pay the current bills without having to call upon Mr. Fisher but checks are coming in very slow so do not know definately the Reeds will eat after March 1st or not.

Nothing new here. The snow started to leave but a cold snap last night froze things up again and today shoveling was rather tough.

I have not given up the idea of getting to Florida this winter. Have a prospect or two for my lot through an outside broker but todate he has not dashed at the offer with a certified check. Should he do such a thing I will be heading that way within 24 hours.

Who helps you lick those two high-binders at contract these evonings? My what a licking they got the last few evenings.

If I am to get this note off this evening I must hustle to the post office, so be good and with kindest regards to everybody.

As ever,

Art

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16

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THE CARL G. FISHER COMPANY
MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA
U. S. A.

Port Washington, N.Y.,
July 23, 1935.

Dear Margaret:

Received your letter today. It was the first indication I had Ernest L'Ecluse had not wired you the information you asked for. After talking to you over the 'phone I sent a night letter to Ernest requesting the information you desired. I presumed he had furnished said information. Your letter enlightened me and later today Ernest drove over from Manhasset and said Mr. Rowe had a house in view in East Hampton, but if it was not satisfactory he would consider the DeForest house.

Rowe wired Ernest and he was away and Milton L'Ecluse called up Tom Ringwood. I was out at Montauk at the time and he came to the house and told me and I called you for a price to give Ernest L'Ecluse. Both Tom and I thought you could probably get \$1500.00 or possibly \$1800.00 for the season. We knew nothing about the size of the family but did know Mr. Rowe is considered rather wealthy, in fact a banker as I told you. Perhaps you better give Ernest a price that he may have it in the event he has another inquiry.

Now as to the news here and at Montauk. The Old Dear has been lonesome, I am sure. He has nipped a few but has been in a happy playful mood most of the time. Both he and Garret called me out there a week ago last Sunday and I remained over until Tuesday. I had a fine time and Dear Old Skipper was perfect. I am sure he has not entertained any "friends" in fact has not even mentioned the subject so your mind can rest free on that point.

Yesterday he and Garret drove in to Port Washington. They thought it was hot but at Montauk but found they had abandoned the Arctic Circle and the Equator. After having supper I think they decided to shove off early this morning and evidently did for I gave the No. 7 house a wide berth to avoid awakening them. Around 11 AM and I did come over here to find them gone.

Martha left for her Marth's Vinyard position last night. She arrived there this afternoon and we are all wondering how she likes the place. Mary is entertaining a little card club to which she belongs, Patsy and Mother are in bed and I am waiting till the water in the pool runs out that I may wash it down and be ready to fill it early in the morning. It is so hot here the only relief the Bayview Colony folks get is taking a dip in the pool or bay.

Emma is fine and put out some wonderful food while I was out there. I am sure you must miss her fine cooking.

WATERSIDE REALTY CORPORATION

PORT WASHINGTON, L. I.
NEW YORK

Carl G. Fisher, Pres.
F. R. Homans, Vice Pres.
Arthur B. Reed, Treas.

I have my new lawn mower. It is a marvel and I have a mower attachment to cut the unimproved lots. I borrowed a two-wheeled sulky from the Mc.Govern place next door and now I ride while the mower cuts. For three days, during the heat, I walked and really it nearly killed me, the heat I mean. I was sick to my stomach for the next three days. With my Af-Frickin hat I look like Hallie Selassie, Ethopia's ruler, in fact I am considering shipping over, ymower, hat and all, to help him cut "Missie" and his gang down. If I go over I may bring home a lion or two if I can find one house broke.

Howard Lyon and his gang were out last week for a day's outing. Brought loads of lunch and "other necessities for a pleasant day."

I hope you get the building arrangements completed to your satisfaction? I hope, too, you get all of the space contracted for and make a lot of money this year.

I have a bottle with just one drink in it and for fear my feet get wet while washing the pool I will say "Abbisinnia" and drop that one snifter to a position some two inches above my belt. I will be seeing you when you arrive.

As ever,

Art

SM

Port Washington, N.Y.,
Dec. 1, 1935.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Fisher:

Received your letter, Margaret, enclosing check in the sum of \$2.50. That check was just 54 cents too much, as I recall, the correct amount I advanced for the express charges from here to the Clyde line being \$1.96. As a result of your error in remittance I am returning stamps in the sum of 54 cents which remittance makes all accounts square.

I would say you folks had a rather exciting time during the recent storm. You would be standing where you could get the one lone injury the blow had to deal out to your household. I hope it proves not too serious and you enjoy a speedy recovery.

We too had a real blow up here with an abundance of rain. The tide came up to break all previous records here at Bayview Colony. Within a few feet of the flag pole at the office and within a few feet of the swimming pool. Fortunately the wind was almost directly off shore so did not experience any rough water, however, the tide laid up a nice mess of debris from in front of the office across the property to the Turdy Boat Co. Much damage was done at other points on Long Island and along the Jersey coast.

Aside from a very determined cold that settled on my chest the Reeds are all well after a malignant attack of fleas. You recall Pat had three cats. Well they had fleas, it seems, and after a time the fleas decided the Reeds were better meal tickets than cats and I guess they all changed boarding houses. For a long time Mary and the girls thought they had nives. I did not seem to be bothered. The others changed diet, that is laid off fruits etc. but without any apparent result, unless it was to have more "nives". In the end someone discovered a flea and then a hunt started with the result that fleas were discovered on everyone.

The supply was traced to the basement, where the cats had been kept. You may be assured the cats were hurried off to the Bide-A-Wee Home and a campaign of eradication against the fleas put under way without delay. I spent two whole Sundays scrubbing the basement with kerosene and water to the confusion of the entire family for the order seemed to be even worse than having fleas. There were followed thereafter three daily sprayings of the basement with plain water. Only just now am I convinced I have made some real headway.

During the period we were battling the fleas it was not only annoying but also kept us apprehensive of what might happen to the friends who visited the house. Whenever anyone called and they visited the rubbing or scratching an arm or leg started we were fearful

they had some of the Reed's fleas. I recall one young lady called on Mary and shortly after her arrival complained about hives. The first and second floors of the house have never-before received such attention as during the past three weeks. Black flag powder, ammoniated water, daily vacuum cleaning, rugs beaten and aired and a number of other methods of eradication applied, until at the present moment it might be said the Reeds are "pure". I recall Emma had a siege with dog fleas last summer while you were south. You might tell her I now know it feels to have fleas.

By the way you did not tell me if the filing cabinet arrived in good shape or not. I trust you did not pay other than the freight from the Clyde Line docks here in New York to the Clyde Line docks in Florida as the \$1.96 I advanced paid the way from here to New York City.

We have experienced two light snow storms. One two weeks ago that remained with us several days and a light snow today.

Mr. and Mrs. Jay have left for Florida. Mrs. Jay was down shortly after the blow down there but returned. While she was away Mr. Jay started for Washington to meet her and enroute stopped for a traffic light and a truck ran into his car locking the bumpers. Mr. Jay alighted to assist in releasing the cars and left the car door open and Mrs. Jay's Peakingese dog left the car too. Mr. did not notice the dog was gone for some time and as a result spent the balance of that day and the following hunting for the doggie. He advertised quite elaborately in New York and New Jersey papers but to date nothing has been heard of the missing dog.

I have not been out to Montauk since you left so am unable to give you any news from that quarter. I am sure Charlie will take good care of your houses so there is nothing to worry about.

What has happened to Dr. Heath? He must have penman's paralysis.

Remember me kindly to Emma. I miss her good meals as the Reeds are on a restricted diet these days, holding in check financially for the necessities of a hard winter. You see we have to have coal and warm clothing. All of that makes the winter months cost more than the warm months of summer.

By the way keep your eyes open for a place for me to land in the event the Home Life Insurance does not keep me on the job.

Well folks, good luck to you and let me know if I can be of service to you.

BAYVIEW COLONY CLUB INC.

Port Washington, N.Y.

January 5, 1936.

Dear Sir:

The Bayview Colony Club, Inc., has virtually ended its first year. The success of the club, which we are sure you will admit, was largely due to the support its members gave both financially and otherwise.

With the ending of the year 1936 the date for the selection of directors and officers for the ensuing year approaches. Under the by-laws of the Club the date for the annual meeting is Tuesday evening, January 19th. This meeting will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest A. L'Escoluse, South Court, Bayview Colony, Port Washington, N.Y. at 8 P.M.

It is hoped a full membership attendance will be recorded at this annual meeting because, in addition to the election of officers, other matters of vital importance to the future success of the Club will be up for consideration.

Owing to the lateness in the year of the formation of the Club, and the consequent lateness of the application filed with the Board of Assessors of the Town of North Hempstead to have the Club property accepted as a recreational center, for the benefit of the owners of property in Bayview Colony, dedication cannot take place until the tax year 1938, therefore it will be necessary for the Club to meet such tax assessments as may be applied to the property during the year 1937.

Your directors and officers have made a conscientious effort to anticipate the probable income and probable necessary outlay of the Club for the year of 1937 to aid the new directors and officers in piloting the Club over the next twelve months. This check of the probable income and outlay for 1937 indicates the following facts:

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Probably income | \$ 705.00 |
| Probably outlay | 1186.11 |
| Excess outlay due to the tax difficulty above explained | 381.11 |

A close estimate of the taxes to be paid next year has been placed at \$546.75. With this tax mill-stone removed from the Club's obligations by 1938, the normal income from membership dues, fifteen dollars per year, should more than carry the Club through succeeding years with a comfortable balance, and in time, should be sufficient to provide desired improvements to the tennis court and other recreational features.

To meet the necessary 1937 outlay in excess of the probably income your directors and officers beg to suggest the dues be increased from fifteen dollars, as fixed by the by-laws, to a sum not to exceed twenty-seven dollars for the year 1937 only. The dues so increased should prove ample to make up the threatened shortage.

It is the wish of the present directors and officers that all members of the Club attend the annual meeting Tuesday evening January 19th, and give the Club the benefit of their opinions on the suggested dues increase. If any member finds it impossible to attend the meeting the receipt of his or her written opinion and proxy would be greatly appreciated.

Please give this matter your serious consideration and either arrange to be at the annual meeting or address a communication to the Club setting forth your wishes on the subject.

At the last meeting of your directors and officers a nominating committee suggested the following for your directors for the year 1937:

Mr. Henry Roberts
Mr. John P. Freeman
Mr. A. F. Kewles

Mr. F. A. Macnutt
Mr. James T. Rogers

In closing we urge you to reserve on your 1937 calendar Tuesday evening, January 19th, for the annual club meeting. A list of the members of the Club is given below in order that if you do not expect to be present you may select some member who will be present to act as your proxy. A form of proxy will be sent on request, but anything in writing which shows your intent over your signature will be accepted.

Very sincerely yours,

For the
DIRECTORS & OFFICERS,
BAYVIEW COLONY CLUB, INC.


Secretary

Membership Address List:

U.W. Atwater, 2 Park Avenue, New York,
E. A. L'Cluse, Bayview Colony, Port Washington, N.Y.
E. Jarvis Adams, South Court, Port Washington, N.Y.
F. A. Macnutt, South Court, Port Washington, N.Y.
Henry Roberts, South Court, Port Washington, N.Y.
James T. Rogers, Home Life Insurance Co. 256 Broadway, N.Y.
Joseph F. Pfohl, Home Life Insurance Co. 256 Broadway, N.Y.
Mrs. Clara Purdy, South Court, Port Washington, N.Y.
Howard Lyon, 18 East 48th St., New York
Alan J. Gould, Pine Drive, Port Washington, N.Y.
W. S. Ross, Pine Drive, Port Washington, N.Y.
A. F. Knowles, Pine Drive, Port Washington, N.Y.
A. B. Reed, 489 Main St., Port Washington, N.Y.
F. R. Humpage, Carl G. Fisher Corporation, Miami Beach, Fla.
Mrs. Margaret C. Fisher, 5812 Alton Road, Miami Beach, Fla.
John P. Freeman, North Court, Port Washington, N.Y.
Mrs. Murial Merrill, North Court, Port Washington, N.Y.
Walter Hardy, Hardy & Co., 11 Broadway, New York.
Harry Berg, Berg Oil Co. Port Washington, N.Y.

Port Washington, N.Y.,
Jan. 8, 1936.

Dear Folks:

I am a bit tardy acknowledging your wonderful Christmas remembrances, however that does not denote I lack appreciation. The candied fruit and nuts, Margaret, arrived on Christmas eve, and my birthday by the way, and it occupied a position under the Christmas tree. Your gift, Doc, reached me on time but I put on my girlish figure instead of under the Christmas tree. You are all high-grade citizens, "marvelous" friends and last out not least regular guys, and I thank you again, and, too, the whole Reed family thanks you.

Margaret I received your letter and check enclosed and have paid the first half of your taxes, the receipt for which payment I am enclosing. The first half, not including the school taxes which will be billed out later, amounted to 41.97 and I am enclosing a money order for \$15.03 that sum being the amount due from your sixty dollar remittance.

Now to get back to less serious things. That matter of the fish and the cake was libelous, criminal, nefarious, flagrant, infamous to say nothing of it being sinful and a down-right lie. I dont catch fish that small (the facts are I catch them smaller) and when I want flannel cakes I want flannel cakes not paper cakes. I might add we all got a mighty laugh out of the whole affair as did all of our friends who are still enjoying them as both the cake and fish are part of the holiday decorations left hanging.

By the way I have been looking into the future today. You hear a lot about turning time back, I instead have turned time ahead and you can see the results I got. There I guess I am even on the fish and cake matter. I got quite a laugh out of all the results of the glimpse into the future but the greatest laugh I got was the fact that The Skipper looks as he will look when we get up there on that Matama plantation. I really think all of the views flatter you a wee bit. Ha ha.

I have been having right smart of a time here shoveling snow, trying to keep warm, painting and polishing engines,



MAGGIE



SKIP



DOC HEATH



EARL



FRED



EMMA

and doing the other routine things to be looked after. We have had three snow storms, two light ones and one real one. Had quite a spell of cold weather and according to the radio reports we have another coming tonight. Minneapolis reported 41 degrees below zero today and the cold wave is headed this way.

I still have my cold, the one I contracted two months ago. It is much better but still annoying. I have developed a swell case of chronic indigestion from the inability to masticate my food properly because of the lack of teeth and have lost 20 pounds in weight. Your wollen shirt, Mr. Fisher, has really saved my life. I have two others so wear wall all of the time.

I have a man looking at the engines. he has a gas barge and wants to change over from gas engine to fuel-oil engine. I am doing my best to see him the engines, at least one and I hope two. He is one of those fellows who takes his own sweet time to make up his mind and he refuses to be rushed.

I must turn in now so will say goodnight.

As ever,

Art

PS. Nan asked, "Will not Mr. Fisher be angry"? I told her "No, he can take a bit of kidding like anybody." So if you feel like getting angry over the "glimpses into the future" just forget it and remember it is only a poor attempt to get a few laughs underway.

A

Eratrah, Ethiopia,
Via Port Washington, L.I., U.S.A.
February 16, 1936.

Dear Folks:

Having at last arrived over here to help my old college chum in his little spat with the spaghetti molders I am sending you my new address. Perhaps I had better send a self-addressed envelope and stamp. You sure have forgotten me. Not a line for weeks from any of you four. As for you, Mrs. Fish I do not even know if you received the money I returned after paying your taxes. And you, Mr. Fisher I do not expect more than a line or two but a line or two is better than nothing. You know I am still interested in your health in case you have no other news to send. As to you Doc. Heath you at least might ~~write~~ advise of your new girl's name if not her address. And you, Emma, well you too have forsaken me. A swell line of friends you four proved to be.

I am sending under separate cover my latest picture taken in Ethiopia. I fear it flatters me a bit and, too, it is strange what a resemblance I find in my crew to certain Florida friends (or are they near friends).

You are lucky to be down there this winter. Cold and snow, snow and cold had been the order for two months and no relief in sight as yet. Yesterday the sun was out in fine shape but late in the afternoon it turned cold again and we are promised more snow for tonight. Traveling via foot or automobile is dangerous. Only three days ago Miss Seaman, the nice looking lady in Seaman & Muller's hardware store, fell on the ice and broke her right arm in three places and the injury required running a silver wire down through the arm from the shoulder to the elbow to hold the splintered bones in place. Doc Whitcomb said at 10 o'clock that morning he had already had five fracture cases.

Here at Bayview Colony things have been very quiet. The town highway department continues to give perfect service as to snow plowing and sanding the streets. The entire Page family have been in bed, that is the children, with an assortment of ailments. The three girls had the flue and are just out, little Lafayette had the flue, infections in both ears and had both ears lanced and little Jimmie has been ill since Christmas and is still ill. I saw Lafe out shoveling snow in his driveway and I met Mrs. Page out for a walk so I guess those two alone escaped the siege of illness that set upon the children.

Jarvis Adams, Buster and Helena are in bed with the flue. Mrs. E. D. Purdy has the shingles. Little Margaret Ross and Patsy have the flue and I am suffering from the latter end of the combination of "typhoid-No-Money". Seriously the Reeds have done pretty well in the matter of health this winter. The extreme cold has cost us twice as much in fuel and food as the mild winters of the past few years.

With the Puddy Boat Co. things are at last breaking for them. Friday they received a contract for a cruiser and already have the water turned on and the furnace going that work may be started at once.

We had a scare here a week ago. Fire broke out in the Vanderbilt garage back of the hangar and burned to the ground. A Stutz car was stored in the garage and was destroyed. The origin of the fire is quite a mystery as there had not been a fire in the garage for a week and the current was turned off.

Ernest L'Ecluse told me yesterday his daughter is to be married next Friday. Said he had been busy working on possible real estate deals but so far had not closed any todate.

The other evening I took a guest to the midnight train and on the way back found Mrs. Bill Harper stranded in the street with her car. Said she could not get the car started and I pushed her from the Beacon theater to Bayview Colony, up Reid avemvue, Macaky avenue, Willodale and to her home in the park. Before I could get her into the driveway she stopped me to advise me to swing into the next entrance. We stopped on a hillside that was ice coated and when I attempted to start her broke an arm on the bumper. She got out and got Bill up and he got a small cable and I managed to get him headed into the driveway when the cable broke. About this time he turned the switch on and the car started immediately. Mrs. Harper was questioned and admitted she had neglected to turn on the switch. All this occurred with the temperature down at 10 above zero. I was frozen stiff but burning up with disgust to think the hour I spent trying to go a good deed when the turn of a switch would have made all of our efforts unnecessary.

I have all of the catch basins dug out hoping we will have a thaw and remove the snow and ice in the Colony streets. March is not far away so I am living in hopes.

Well folks I do hope you have been well and happy this winter, have enjoyed some business and will be ready to return north early.

Best wishes from all of the Reeds

Art

Port Washington, N.Y.,
February 27, 1936.

Dear Margaret:

To say the information in your letter was pretty much of a shock would be putting it mildly. I had not heard that dear old Earl Kiser had gone on ahead of us. Peace to his soul and well he deserves peace after all of the suffering he experienced the past few years. Please extend to Mrs. Kiser my most sincere sympathy when you see her. I know just how the Skipper feels. So many of his business and sports-day friends have passed along he naturally must feel lonesome and a bit tearful when he permits himself to review the past. At that he is really quite young yet and should have a good long life yet to live and as I see it it is going to be up to you to convince him of that fact, and nurse him out of any blue-flunks he may fall into from now on. It is too bad you both have no little Carl or two and little Margaret or two to concentrate up in your later years. When you have children you forget yourself to some extent and center your attention on your children and in so doing it really helps you as well as them.

Yes I understand you have had a real mow down there this winter and I am not surprised for anyone with the price to go to Florida was just plain dippy if he or she remained up here in this miserable weather. I have not seen such a long spell of cold weather since I was up in North Dakota. Turned cold in December and has been cold every minute since. One day it did start to warm up and by 10 am the temperature was 43 degrees above zero. In thirty minutes the worst blizzard was underway from out of the northwest and by 4 am the next day the temperature was two degrees below zero. The doctors and undertakers have been overworked and their business is still going strong.

You seem to be sort of a mystic for I have not had such a winter in year as I have experienced this year. I got a bad start with the loss of my teeth. Indigestion was a natural sequence and let me tell you I had my share and then some. I lost around 20 pounds and then had the illfortune to contract a severe cold in my chest. For weeks I could not get rid of it and had about given up hopes of ridding myself of that TB hack I had. In the end it broke and I began to improve. Patsy next stepped into the hospital list with a throat infection that shot a fever of 103 degrees. To bed she went for four days before improvement put in an appearance. By the following Monday she was ready to go to school when she developed a terrible cold. Back to bed for her and remained there another week. Nan attended her and caught the cold, evidently, for when Pat emerged from the sick bed Nan went into it. Nan was in bed three days and got up against my wishes. That night she went

went back to bed with a cold that topped all colds and there she is yet. Along with her cold her heart went off its track and honestly, Margaret, I was terribly worried last Monday. Nan was as colorless as a grey sky. No color at all in her face and lips. I became the nurse, doctor, chief cook, houseman, dishwasher etc. For over a week now I have cooked the meals, made the beds, swept the floors and attempted to keep cheerful. Right in the midst of this Martha was asked to attend the anniversary dinner for Dean Gildesleeve of Barnard at the Roosevelt hotel by one of the college officials and they made arrangements for her to stay at the Barnard Dorm that night. While Mart was at the banquet a girl at the Dorm was taken ill and removed to the sick bay. Other girls in the Dorm thought Mart would not have sufficient covers, it being a very cold night, and removed some of the blankets from the sick girl's bed to the one to be occupied by Martha. The next day the fact became known that the sick student had scarlet fever. They called Mart in and advised her and of course we have been hoping she will escape that disease but the probation period has not expired as yet and we are still somewhat apprehensive. On top of this the Home Life Insurance Co. will take over the Waterside property this week or the first of next, perhaps, and I am apprehensive about being put out on the street. So far Fred has not been able to get the other interests in Florida to take care of the back salary due me and I am broke. I have written to Fred several times about the situation but to date he has been unable to put it over. He intimated I might think that Mr. Fisher had not done all he could to bring about a settlement for me. That is not true, I never even mentioned Mr. Fisher in the matter, in fact if Mr. Fisher would tell me he had not done all he could I would not believe him. I know the dear Old Scout would lift himself by his boot-straps for me, and he knows I would do as much for you two.

I want Mary and Martha to have an education and then Nan, Pat and I can go anyplace where I can make a living. Mart gets \$300.00 per year out of a \$400.00 scholarship and has one more year and I want to see her finish. She is doing fine at Barnard. At the top of her class, in strong with all of the needs of the college because of her high standing and they are all helping her in every possible way. Mary has a half scholarship in Packard Business school and earned enough the past three months to enable her to save \$100.00 from her Gimbel job. She will finish in five months and will be able to get a position as a stenographer. She is working hard on the shorthand and typing and making headway so I am encouraged as is Nan. Pat gets "Above the Average" in all of her studies at school so if I can hold on for another year here in Port Washington we will all be set.

Well, Margaret, I have poured all of my troubles out onto you. Don't let them bother you. If I have to go to the poor house I will try to get a southern exposure and get some

sunshine if nothingelse. You have as many troubles as I have I am sure but you have never experienced the thrill of being a wee bit hungry and a little ragged. I would like to get the salary due me, nearly \$5,000.00, and I would send Nan down to have a month or two of sunshine and warm weather with Boo and Ruth. They have asked her to pay them a visit repeatedly. From the way it looks now I will have to start a walking trip if she ever gets that far south.

Keep everything I have told you to yourself. I dont want to burden others with my troubles, anyway it will not do any good to spread the bad news.

By the way I have not yet found out if you received the refund from the \$60.00 you sent for your taxes. If you did not receive it let me know and I will have it traced from this end.

Give those two wild CowBoys of yours my best wishes and Emma too and know that I am hoping your helath hold out until you can come north again. I sure am going to miss that trip up this year.

Sincerely Art

Fort Washington, N.Y.,
March 26, 1936.

Mr. F.R. Humpage,
Carl G. Fisher Corporation,
Miami Beach, Fla.

Dear Fred:

There seems to be some misunderstanding on your part as to just what I wired you Sunday night. I said a severe storm had wrecked to the bulkhead from the Manor House to the pier. Well that is what happened. It is reasonable to presume a storm of that severity would be of such intensity to make any attempt on my part with a row boat to round-up the thrashing wreckage a physical impossibility. The Purdy Boat Co. work boat was out of commission at the time or I would have pressed it into service without even wiring you for instructions.

The wreckage embraced sections of all sizes. One section, for instance, embraced a width of eight feet and a length of practically 200 feet. These timbers are 12 inches by 12 inches and are spiked to each other by several 24-inch drift bolts. Cannot you imagine what a terrible force this great raft would have against the pier and slips. If you cannot I can tell you (even though you don't seem to give me credit of having judgment worthy of much consideration). If the wind had changed Sunday night from west to north or even north-west, that raft-juggernaut would have battered its way through the pier and possibly the slips, with the ease of a knife through soft butter. If that had happened both you and Mr. Fisher would have been the first to ask "Why in hell did you not get a tug and drag the menace away."

Don't you suppose Mr. Purdy, in fact all of the Purdy boys too, were on hand all through the storm and well into Monday morn, hoping to be able to do something to prevent further damage. Mr. Purdy said they had no equipment to handle the wreckage, in addition the Purdy Co. was busy trying to save the boats stored in their yard, one or more of which had their blocking washed out by the storm and tilted to the point of crashing on their sides. In addition great timbers in one two and three to a section chnred about the pier plunging through the stay braces. Some managed to pass through the pier and jammed in about the Purdy Co. railways, mounted the floats beached for the winter, littered the beach as far as the Port Washington Club on the south and the Knickerbocker Club on the north. No Fred it did require your opinion or even Mr. Fisher's, both of you more than a thousand miles away, to convince all of us we were in for a fine mess unless we had some luck, luck as far as the wind was concerned. We did not get any encouragement from the weather man either. He promised still north west winds. Thank goodness he guessed wrong that time.

Well daylight came at last with the wind completely blown

out. The tide then started the wreckage for the sound. I got my own little row boat out after a winter in storage. I launched it near the pump house and before I could reach the end of the pier it was ready to capsiz with the leaking. A fine craft it would have been the night before as a wreckage tender. The situation was finally gotten under control by a work scow from the boat shop and all of the lines and wire we could assemble.

Your telegram reached me around noon and I set about to get in touch with Ernest and Mr. Cook. An hour or so later Mr. Cook advised me to get a tug man to round-up the wreckage and get it into a safe harbor and said to spend up to \$50 for the tug, if necessary. I saw Lewis Coal Co., Ray Marshall and finally Mr. Peterson of the Peterson ship yard. The latter not only agreed to clear up the wreckage but paid me \$25.00. I sent the check to Mr. Cook. I trust this meets with your approval.

The foregoing is not all of the bad news for the bulkhead from the pump house (pool) to a point near the Purdy storage yard to the south has broken away and the bank has been undermined and the pumphouse is ready to take a dive into the bay anytime. The Purdy Co. has moved the boats near the bulkhead farther to the east in case another storm completes the job started last Sunday. The Purdy Co. has engaged a driver outfit to reinforce their bulkhead with several piles.

The only structure left standing is the new seawall about the little beach south of the Manor House. It is the plan of the Home Life to remove the two angles from this seawall and extend the seawall from the north side of the property to the Purdy Boat Co. property, at least to the road leading though the swimming pool lot. They plan to permit the soil to terrace down and move the rip-rap that was behind the old bulkhead up in front of the new seawall and thereby make a sloping beach for the waterfront lots.

That you may get a picture of the time and effort and cost to clear up this situation I can say Mr. Peterson has had three men and a tug working three days towing the wreckage to the creek bottom he has at his yard. He still has a job before him in getting the drift bolts out of the timber. If I had attempted to salvage this timber for firewood with the old Dodge as my only assistant I would spend the balance of the spring and summer getting the timber beached, to say nothing of getting the timber separated and cut for use.

Well I guess you have all of the facts and I hope both you and Mr. Fisher feel that in wiring you for instructions and suggesting the tug assistance to take care of the immediate situation was not done without due consideration of all possibilities.

I sure have givej you an ear-full of detail, however, you asked for it and that is that.

See Fred I want to call your attention to the fact that you took exception to my remark about it taking six months to get my salary situation thrashed out. You recall saying it would not take that long. Well it started in November and up to the present moment I have not received a settlement and there remains just one more month to complete the six months period. Perhaps I was right at that. I sure would like to get my salary that I might get some teeth, pay my taxes before my lot is sold out from under me, provide my wife and children with a few clothes to take the place of their worn outfits.

Now Fred if you have nothing encouraging to write me about this salary matter just dont write anything. I dont like excuses. I prefer to hear nothing. I learned t that from Mr. Fisher. Excuses do not go with him.

Well I am going to bed now as spring work is on in full blast, the weather being fine and a lot of work is on hand. I got a jump on the situation in that I have all of the lawns, parkways, streets etc cleaned with the exception of No. 7 house yard, and that is half done and will finish there tomorrow.

Yours very truly,



Arthur B. Reed.

P.S. That Mr. Fisher my get the dope on the sortm and damage I am sending him a copy of this letter.

Art

Port Washington, N.Y.,
April 22, 1936.

Dear Margaret:

Your correspondence record is almost as good as your bookkeeping record. For several months I have been trying to get you to admit you did or did not receive the remittance of the balance of the tax money sent to me. Today I have not had a word out of you concerning this remittance I made. Oh well don't tell me, I'll guess.

Now as to your correspondence I wrote you the sad story of my life about the last of February and your letter today was the first you have sent along since before the February date.

Now that I have all of that straightened out let's get down to the business of the day. I will write Charlie Tuma this evening asking for the data of the Essex. I think the old gal had a New York license last but to whom it was issued, which would indicate the ownership, I have no idea, however, Charlie can give me the number of the old license plate. If it was a Florida license you will have to get the new ownership card down there and if it was a New York license I will get the dope on the method of procedure from a local auto tax department.

In the car needs new tires and battery I can get them here and will get seconds if possible, anyway inexpensive tires. They will do for the driving you do this summer.

If I get all these things taken care of before you come east from Ohio I will have the car here for you when you arrive. At least I will keep you advised.

Better give me your mother's address in Ohio so I can keep you advised as Mathilda Essex goes through the process of rejuvenation.

I can imagine Mr. Fish has been pretty busy with nobility on hand to entertain. Well the dear Skipper can entertain them, nobility or otherwise. I am sure His Highness will go back to dear old Lunnon at least remembering he had a delightful time and was entertained by a most interesting host.

As to little Mitzie and her children it is too bad you can only be grandmother to some puppies. I hope "the mother and quads" are doing well.

I am sorry your mother is not feeling so well and that your sister and her husband have been under the weather too. Well you can be cheered up by the thought some delightful spring and summer weather is just ahead of them.

The situation here is unchanged. The formal transfer of Waterside property is scheduled to take place Friday afternoon of this week. Thereafter I will be working for Home Life Insurance Co. Having something to do helps a lot but I sure am going to miss you, Mr. Fisher, Garrett and others I have been associated with for so long. When Mary and Martha finish school I will be free to move to some other place if I have work. I might get to Florida, who can say. I at least hope I do not have to keep Nan here another winter.

There is really not much news here. Ernest L'Ecluse sold a strip of ocean-front property for a party at Amagansett Beach. Not his property but the sale was large enough that he will profit handsomely as to commission. I see by the paper they expect to develop the property with typical Cape Cod houses.

I received a check from Howard Lyon for his maintenance and he asked if prompt payment would not entitle him to a ride on the lawn mower.

Saw Mr. Harper this week and he asked about you and Mr. Fish.

You received the letter announcing the formation of the Bayview Colony Club, Inc. The meeting of the property owners will be called as soon as Ernest L'Ecluse returns from West Virginia where he is visiting his son and family. At that meeting the by-laws will be read and applications for membership will be received. The membership fee is \$10 and the annual dues are \$15. So if you are hankering to become a charter member send on your check for \$25.00 and I will send you a pretty green certificate. It may not be worth \$25.00 to you to belong but I am sure it will be worth that sum and more to hear some of the talk that is going to take place when the prospective members hear the by-laws. Better come on up and get a ring-side seat.

That Old Second Story Worker cannot catch fish unless I am along. I will admit he is better with the ladies than I am, but just think I have no teeth which is some handicap. Once I get the new teeth, and it looks like I may have them in a month, I'll give Old Doc. Heath a run for his money along any line.

Sure Emma would not want to drown the pups. She even disliked killing the ticks out at Montauk last summer for fear they had a family of children at home awaiting supper. Tell her Nan makes her fruit muffins often and the entire family are very enthusiastic about them.

Since I wrote you in February Martha has been elected president the Undergraduate Association at Barnard, the highest elective office at Barnard, has been

given a complete scholarship for the balance of this year and 1937, has been given a room at Brooks Hall and meals. All of that represents \$1000.00 per year and let me tell you that helps some.

Mary continues to do fine at Packard and right now is the leader in her class. Pat, of course, could be other than just right with her Dad. As to Nan she is enjoying good health.

Bayview Colony looks beautiful this spring. All of the residents speak about it. I have started cutting grass already.

I moved your furniture from the Purdy Boat Co. shop to the garage back of No.7.

I doubt if I get much chance to fish this summer. The Home Life wants a salesman here at Bayview Colony on Saturdays and Sundays. L'Écluse & Washburn have charge of the property and their regular men do not want to sit over here two days of the week awaiting customers. They prefer to be in their offices and have an opportunity to work not only Bayview Colony but also other parts of the island so if I am to figure in any profits from commissions I will have to be here on Saturdays and Sundays and of course I will have to be here on week days.

Well I have told what little news I had. I will now get off a letter to Charlie Tuma for the information on the Essex. Will keep you advised of the outcome of my efforts.

Es ever,

Art


PS I enjoyed the flase teeth story.

By the way I have not heard from Fred since he left Miami Beach. I have written him several times at North Wilbraham, Mass. Do you suppose he was taken ill on the way home and is laid up in some hospital along the way. Write me at once if you have any other address than North Wilbraham, Mass



WATERSIDE REALTY CORPORATION
PORT WASHINGTON, L. I.
NEW YORK

Carl G. Fisher, Pres.
F. R. Hampton, Vice Pres.
Arthur B. Rand, Treas.

May 11, 1936.

Dear Folks:

I am enclosing application for new plates for the Essex. Please have Mr. Fisher sign the application on the three lines I have indicated and have him sign the affidavit enclosed. Take the affidavit to a notary public and have Mr. Fisher's signature acknowledge. This is necessary owing to the fact the car was not licensed since 1933.

I have been unable to turn up the ownership certificate but have written to the State Vehicle Bureau and found the car was registered in Mr. Fisher's name. With this letter and other data I will be able to get new plates.

Please mail this back to me via Air Mail as I still have to get to Montauk, change tires, get a new battery and get it back here for your use when you arrive.

In haste,


Art

Carl Fisher
Carl Fisher

WATERSIDE REALTY CORPORATION

PORT WASHINGTON, L. I.
NEW YORK

Carl G. Fisher, Pres.
F. R. Hempson, Vice Pres.
Arthur B. Reed, Treas.

May 28, 1936.

Dear Margaret:

The enclosed 75 cents I found at the side of your bed. You must have dropped the two pieces from your pocket book.

I sure am in the money finding business today. Just came up from the tennis court and as I came down the path at the rear of our house I found a quarter. I am going back to the court after supper and trust I find a million or two. If I do I will show ~~this town~~ how to spend real money. I will buy five dollars worth of ham and eggs the first thing.

Dont forget to ask Tom to have the boys down at the shop to fix up the big mower over at the Hill House for you. It will not only cut the grass but also roll the lawn.

Have not located a man to give me a price on the dismantling and rucking the pool top. Will keep after a fellow who will give me a figure.

By the way if you decided to take out a membership in the Bayview Colony Club send your twenty-five dollar check along so I can report it at the next meeting.

I am sorry I carried your parcels home with me. Sent them via parcel post to you today.

Better give me instructions about replying to Fred concerning the furniture and furnishings in No. 7 house at the earliest possible date.

It is 9 PM now and I finished the tennis court and am a bit tired. I will take a bath, look for ticks and attempt to catch up on my sleep.

Hope the cleaners arrived on time and are as good as you expected.

As ever,

Art

Order 15110

5000 Cash

1
60 days
☒

3yr.

Mr Jos F. Pfohl

Kenn Lf Dns

256 Broadway
N.Y.

Negotiate for purchase of Post Post house
~~had art wire off~~ which is contingent
on getting furniture and furnishings as when office closed
Art is making inventory tonight last fall for five hundred
Please wire as soon as possible if acceptable ✓
Am office C. C. C.

WATERSIDE REALTY CORPORATION
PORT WASHINGTON, L. I.
NEW YORK

Carl G. Fisher, Pres.
F. R. Hampage, Vice Pres.
Arthur B. Reed, Treas.

June 10, 1936.

Mr. F. R. Hampage;
Carl G. Fisher Corporation,
Miami Beach, Fla.

Dear Fred:

Received your letter relative to the wire I sent you concerning the furniture in No. 7 house.

I sent the wire upon the instructions of Mrs. Fisher. I know nothing about why she wanted, if she did want, her identity withheld. I have sent your letter on to her and perhaps she will reply.

As to your membership in the Bayview Colony Club, Inc., you are a bit confused on two or three points.

First off, as you know, the membership and dues the first year are \$25.00?

The second year and thereafter you will pay dues of \$15.00 per year only.

It does not mean anything to me if you join, that is not anymore than it means to you.

If you join you help the club along and I hope the club will help sell my lots.

You also knew as well as I do, you having dictated, checked read Bayview Colony deeds many times, that there cannot be any maintenance collected after the streets are turred over to the town. Your deed states that specifical.

As I told you before I am cutting the grass and hedge on your lots the same as all others. That you will get for your \$25.00. You cannot pay me for it, as you knew, but by contributing to the club you help produce a good selling argument.

Anyway do as you wish. You and I will be just the same no matter what decision you make.

Yours very truly,

Arthur B. Reed.

WATERSIDE REALTY CORPORATION
PORT WASHINGTON, L. I.
NEW YORK

Carl G. Fisher, Pres.
F. R. Hampson, Vice Pres.
Arthur B. Reed, Treas.

June 10, 1936.

Dear Margaret:

Received a long letter from Fred relative to the furniture. I am enclosing it for reply.

I am also enclosing my reply to Fred. Better return the copy to me for my files. I am t~~at~~ tired to make a copy tonight.

I hope you have your houses rented by this time or at least have some good prospects.

Martha finished school a week ago and was in the midst of getting ready to go to Lake George to represent Barnard at a conference and from there to Martha's Vineyard for the summer when she came down with the measles.

I am so sleepy I must go to bed.

As ever,

Art

P.S. "Didja" ever hear a Tick Tock ?

Port Washington, N.Y., Aug. 17, 1936.

Dear GEORGE WINS:

You are wondering what that means. Well it is your well earned title, not tittle, and means Champaign Eel catcher Montauk and Points East West North and South. Some "Tittle" I would say, speaking off hand. Of course you are not entirely in Mrs. Fish's class as yet. She lays just claim to the world's Olympian Championship for catching turtles, almost, as well as the woman's championship for catching Eels.

On the other hand, practically as you may say, I arrived home safe sound and a bit tired and sleepy. I never saw so much traffic as I encountered last night after I left Smithtown. It was like the Battle of Balaklava, "Autosto the right of them, autos to the left of them, autos to the rear of them and autos to the front of them clattered and rumbled!" Old Napolian did a right bit of clattering and rumbing, as you might well guess, but at that the Old Ras put me right into the garage here at Bayview Colony safe and sound. The Old Bird pulled a number of "Knock Knocks" on me. One I thought, even in my rather befuddled sleepy condition, right good. I said "who goes there" and the Old Ras replied "we wona". Naturally I said "We wona who" and the that good old can replied "We wona go home till morning". The old Bird seems a bit stiff in her joints today and I may try Citrate of Magnesia on her. She sure should show greater acceleration, movements if you will permit me to be so bold with you dear Doctor.

Seriously I had a swell time, thanks to all of you, and "I hope to meet you again" in the near future, under more favorable circumstances. My fishing style was a bit cramped without my "African" hat, and too I failed to put on my socks after hauling for minnows. This may seem silly to you but I just cannot get the feel of the game without my complete equipment.

I have prepared the letter for Mr. Fisher. You know you are to have it copied on his letter head or memo paper, get his signature and send it on to Fred. Of course he can change the letter to suit himself or rewrite it. I am only furning it at his request. I am also enclosing a statement of the facts as to the salary due and interest on mortgage. Get Mr. Fisher to approve this statement if possible and enclose it with the letter to Fred.


I neglected to make an extra copy of the letter for Mrs. Fisher so let her read this one. Keep the carbon copy for Mrs. Fisher's file. I refer to the carbon copy the young lady at the office will make.

I do wish you would drop me a line advising me as soon as you send the letter and statement on to Fred.

Well, Old Dear, I will be hoping to see you the last of the week.

By the way if I can get Fred to thaw out you and I will go to Florida this fall or winter and see if we cannot find a place for both of us to light with heads up and set to go places. We might take Mrs. Fisher in on the deal. She and Nan could take care of the farm and we could hog-tie the Skipper and take him fishing with us. I'll bet a good-sized bass would grow that Greensburg Cowboy.

Ethiopia,



Port Washington, N.Y.,
Feb. 16, 1937.

Dear Folks:

You are always spoiling my whole day. For weeks I have been content to sit here at home spading coke into the furnace, sweeping snow off the walks, doing a bit of interior decorating (both with a paint brush and a gin bottle) and right when I am resigned to my fate you folks come along with a pictorial story that shoots my temperature up to a point of bubbling over the top of the glass.

Seriously I was in a sort of a winter coma as far as fishing was concerned until your pictures arrived today. At the moment I am all hot and bothered and have developed a raging fishitis temperature.

It would not be so bad if you folks would look dejected but instead you both look as though you had just consumed a canary.

And the size of that one fish fairly ruins me, Doc. I know he made the Old Master's normal blood stream to speed up. Did you land him from the foot-bridge or did you lead him ashore and land him on the bank.

As for you, Margaret, you look as though you would be contented sitting there in the sun even though the elusive bass failed to pay his respects to your hook.

The Skipper does not appear in the pictures. Was he the official photographer. I did see an excellent picture of him in the New York Daily News. It was taken during the golf match in which Patty Berg captured the honors. The Skipper was there with the familiar hat, coat, light trousers, hands on hips and a cigar in mouth.

By the way did you see the pictures and read the newspaper stories about the stripped bass caught at Toms River, N.J. They took tons out of the river last week. The bass piled into a deep hole near shore and everybody in town and most of the fishermen of New York were there to gather in a few hundred pounds. Two fellows took over 600 pounds in one day.

I expect to run into New York next week to see the Sportsman's show at Grand Central Palace. I may learn a few new tricks to try out on the Reed pond and Fort Pond bass this coming summer. I will look about for the latest dope on eels too, Margaret.

Thanks for the pictures and if you get a chance write me and tell me all of the interesting details.

As ever,

Art



Port Washington, N.Y.,
June 2, 1939.

Dear Mr. Fisher:

Been fairly sitting at the station of late expecting you to put in an appearance. The weather has been warm enough so cannot understand what is detaining you.

Sure been hitting the ball today. Cut 2000 feet of hedge today and will do likewise or better tomorrow. Sounds suspicious you will say. Well you are right. There is another trip to Block Island in the offing. Adrian Iselin has invited me to a week-end cruise on the Red Head. We are going to look the mackerel and swordfish situation over. To make the trip I must get all of my work caught up thus the pressure on the hedge clipping.

Spent the last week-end at Montauk. Howard picked me up Friday afternoon and we arrived at Montauk in time to get our names in the pot.

Margaret, Ruth and Garrett were slightly seagged at the knees from house cleaning, grass cutting and various other duties at the DeForrest house. Garrett said he had the lawn raked to find the following day cattle pastured on the east of the lake had broke down the fence and wandered up around the DeForrest house and ruined his lawn.

Margaret is well despite the house cleaning. She has not found a customer as yet but is still hopeful.

Ruth Maynard, who accompanied Margaret and Garrett to Montauk, has worked like a horse at the house cleaning. It seems to agree with her, gained so much Howard now calls her Slim.

Garrett got his hands on a used power mower and has worked on it until it not only cuts grass, weeds and the like but also a good job of shaving and hair cutting in an emergency. That Flaxville Boy is sure a mechanic.

Saturday Garrett and I went over to the beach and unlimbered the surfcasting rigs. I only landed one *Morone lineatus*, Striped Bass for sport. Garrett landed five while I was collecting my lone fish. That Bird sure throws a mean squid.

We attempted to get Howard intersted in surf casting but his early trianing up at Fairbault, Minn.,

seems to have given him a perch complex. Perhaps he considers perch fishing more suited to his gallinipper physique. The most that can be said of Howard as a fisherman is that he is a good Capehart salesman.

Arrived home Sunday evening, tired, sunburned but delighted with the week-end fishing. Had enough striped bass to supply the Needs for the week.

Monday morning Dick Townsend galloped in with a fine mess of flounders for me and on Tuesday evening Ernest L'Ecluse brought me the best soft-shelled clams I have seen in years. Dug them at his camp at Montauk. Wednesday Vic Kleesrath brought me four nice weakfish, so, you see, I have living on seafood all week.

How is business in Miami Beach? There is a scarcity of common labor here. Everybody seems to be working. Hard to get a man to do ordinary labor.

There is a lot of building here too. Several new developments. Small homes mostly. Good looking.

Jervis Adams is happy for once. Has charge of the Bayview Colony Club tennis court. He is well as is Mrs. Adams and their children.

Vic Kleesrath has his little boat in the water. The Bendix outboard engine installed as an inboard is a success in a big way. When you come up you must see it. Might be the thing for your fishing club.

The Purdy Boat Co. has about finished putting all of the storage boats in the water. They have been very busy of late. Put on some extra men in the overhauling work.

The Worlds Fair here is going over in a big way. Wonderful show they say. I have not been to the fair as yet but expect to give it a look soon.

Howard told me Mr. Bendix is in financial trouble. Too bad. Howard also told me Mr. Capehart was cleaned out in the Capehart Company, was flat broke for a year or so and then sold a bill of goods to the Wurlitzer Company, the nickle-in-the-slot machines for public places, and I cleaned up a million or two and now is back in the real money.

Dick White, the Montauk druggist, was married last Thursday. He bought the theater building at Montauk and has put in a liquor store on the east side. Enlarged the drug store side and has a fine layout now.

3.

Dont forget you are to stop over at Port Washington for a day or two when you come north.

I will build a fire in the fireplace and you can have a real old-fashioned time.

You can read all night if you like, sleep late and Nan will feed you the things you like.

Just pull up anchor anytime and set sail for Port Washington.

Let me know when you are to arrive and I will be waiting at the Penn. station to give you welcome.

Until that time dont forget, I am,

As ever,

Art

Saturday Night.

Howdie Folks;

Enclosed find a "Bertha Clay novel" I sent
To Mr. Fisher.

Expect to take a trip on the Red Head
next week end. If we touch Montsuk will try to get over
to see you. however, we may go direct to Block Island
from here.

The striped bass were wonderful. Snooks.
Ate the last of them tonight.

How is the little boat or have you been
too busy with the new mower to give the boat a second th
thought?

We are all well. Trust you are the same.

When I get to Monrauk next we must run
over to Ernest LeBlaise's camp and get some of those soft-
shelled clams. Wonderful fried.

The Reeds all send best regards.

As ever,

Art

Port Washington, N.Y.,
January 30, 1940.

Dear Margaret:

I trust you have the snow shoveled from the sidewalk, the icicles clawed from your hair, the pump thawed out and the temporary heating unit steaming along under a full head of pressure. I might add if you think the situation more than you can handle just lay aside your earmuffs and come on back north where we are enjoying some delightful weather.

At the moment the spring planting is all done, in fact the delicate young vegetables such as lettuce, onions, beans, peas and beets are well on their way. Nan says she expects to have fresh strawberries from her own vines by Sunday and I have been out sampling the the new black berries, direct from the bushes to the mouth. Darn those mosquitoes and sand flies. The unusual weather brought those pesky irretators along in droves.

I never saw the grass and hedge grow as they are growing this season. And the flowers, well the flowers all seem to be in a free-for-all with each variety attempting to get the jump on the other. You know we have had to make a complete change in our flower planting. We are now growing only tropical flowers on account of the mild warm weather.

A lot of strange fish are poking about the dock here at Bayview Colony. I don't know any of the types I have seen but they do look strangely like the fish from down Florida way.

Had all of the moth holes darned in my bathing suit and expect to take a dip in the pool late this afternoon.

Nan has taken up tennis and has she developed a back-hand. And don't I know.

Howard and his friends have been over several times for picnics under the trees here at the Colony. Casualties about as usual.

Have not heard from Ruth lately. She may have gone south to get out of the heat.

I hope the Lord forgives me.

Seriously, Maggie, how are you, where are you living are you well and happy ?

The weather situation has been so serious down there I fear you may be suffering from chilblains and frost-bitten ears.

How is my Boy Friend, if you know ? I have had only one little measles card from each of you.

I dont even know, definately, your present address. In fact you may be marooned on an ice flow down Key West way. You might give me Doc. Heath's address ,too,if you know what it is.

Hold everything until I turn off the electric fan.

My brother, Bob, is in a Boston health resort. Came up here to get out of the cold.

Seriously he was in a bad way for a few weeks down there. Had some sort of a stroke from high blood pressure. Too much work and no play the doctor thought. Bob had been burning the candle at both ends in connection with his work. Should have slowed up about six years ago. Is improving nicely and may spend the summer with us here at Bayview Colony. Ruth is with him so there is no reason why he should return to Miami Beach at present. His daughter, Barbara, lives in New York and his son, John, is at school in Boston so he might better stay with us than return south.

If you are interested the Reeds are all well. Mary continues to go places with her portrait painting. Delivered one painting, has another underway and a third to start on as soon as the present commission is completed.

Pat is growing tall, writing plays, an editor of the Port Junior, a school newspaper, putting in a lot of time on her sketching and doing very well in her school work.

Martha and friend husband, Spike, are well, working hard, Martha at her studies at Columbia, and Spike with the classes he teaches at City College.

Nannie, well Nannie is well but has a mental worry, she is getting stout. Started yesterday to walk to market in an attempt to reduce. I may have to get her a track suit

and have her do a little read work. Come to think of it you could throw in with Nan and do a bit of read work too.

As for myself I am getting younger each day. I am getting to be a devil with the ladies, too. Why only last week I helped a lady with a grip off the train. No I did not grip her, I took her, her, her, suitcase while she got off the train.

Dont you think I am getting to be a devil ? Or dont you ?

Now, Margaret, I trust you have had a good season despite the cold weather down there. Howard told me you had rented one house and I hope you managed to rent the other two or three.

It will not be long now before you will be loading up the Old Bus and heading north again.

I have to take Nan to St. Frances Academy to do some silk painting for the Sisters, so with my advise to keep your red underwear on, your overcoats at hand until the ice goes out of Biscayne Bay, I will say,

I have to be "gittin",

Percy Waltzingham
Alias-A.B. (BigFish) Reed.

Oh yes Doc Lyon is a doctor, an indian doctor. His correct name is Big Chief Long Lieing. Spelling correct. He is a distant relative of Sitting Bull and Standing Cow, on the maternal side of his ancestry and his paternal ancestors embraced Big Chief Tall Lieing, Little White Lieing, Chief Whopper Lieing, Big Fish Lieing and many other noted Liars. As a disguise he changed the spelling after they let him off the home reservation up around Fairbault, Minn. I understand he studied medicine at Waupun, Stillwater, Joliet, Jeffersonville, Atlanta and several other state "universities" and Reform Schools. Knowing him as well as I do I don't blame Old Doc Heath for getting well pronto. That Flackville boy seems to be a mystic and can look, not only into the future, but in addition, way past that point. It is said he is a descendant of Clari Voint, whoever she was, anyway he seems to know it is time to get well when Doc Lyon lights the fire under his herb kettle.

When are you coming home, if at all? Let us know and we will give you welcome in an appropriate manner. We will light the signal fire from your hill and assemble all of the tribe including Little Squaw Mainard, Slightly Rotund Squaw Odell and such others as happen to be about. Until then keep your chin up and "don't go in their lions' cage tonight", or any other night for that matter.

I got to be "gittin"

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'RZA', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

P.S. I hope you catch a good fast bus.

A



Port Washington, N.Y.,
March 12, 1940.

Dear Margaret:

Home again and right side up. Arrived Monday evening at 7 o'clock after an easy ride from a point south of Washington. My biggest day was from Jacksonville to the point where we put up Sunday night 685 miles from the starting point in the morning.

Margaret I want to at least mildly tell you what a wonderful time Simmie and I had at your hands. I think Simmie was right when he said "Mrs. Fisher is a wonderful woman". Wonder why I did not find that out before. Ha ha. Seriously, Margaret, I want to thank you for the wonderful time we had while in Miami Beach. I did not intend to be a sapper but it seems that I was and for that I trust you will forgive me. I at least will be trying to make it up to you in the future.

I sincerely hope Dear Old Garrett is improving by the minute. Give him my sincerest regards when you next see him. I will write him tonight or tomorrow. Also remember me kindly to Dollie, Florine, Ruth and Howard and don't forget Thelma.

Nan and the girls send love and best wishes.

As ever,

Art

(over)

Dear Margaret -

The rest of the Reed family
think we owe you a vote of
thanks for giving our Dad
a wonderful time -

Both he & Sammie are
singing your praises
we will try to ~~rep~~ reciprocate
when you come north unless
we are by that time
camping in a tent on
our lot but you would
be welcome even in that
case -

Much Love

Wan -



East Hampton, L.I.,
July 25, 1940.

Dear Margaret:

Received the folder from you and I gather you are a full-fledged "bullheader" by this time. I was a bullhead fisherman at one time. I can hear you say: "Yes, but he has dropped the fisherman end of his title". That really has the ear-makka of a dirty remark and I can hardly believe it came from you, and perhaps it did not. On second thought I am sure it must have been Howard.

Speaking of Old Tall Dark and (only slightly) Handsome I have just got onto one or two of the Old Buzzard's curves. I noted of late he has been missing from the house much of the time while out at Montauk. Being a bit suspicious I followed him one day and his trail led direct to the tower of the life savers at the Ditch Plains Station. For the life of me I could not figure what inducement would make him climb away up to that little glass-encased room high above everything. I did not have to wait long before the enigma was solved.

That Past-Exhausted Rooster of the Skirt-Lifters Union no sooner ~~was~~ ~~re~~ reached the lookout before he trained a pair of field glasses on the back yard of the Two-Gal nudist Colony almost beneath him. I sure got a kick out of it, I mean watching Howard watch them. I have learned since the Station Lookouts spend the entire day with their glasses trained on the Eyes without their Leaves. Modesty prompted me to hang a few leaves about their waist lines, as you will note. All I can say is that a drowning man around that Life Saving Station has not even a Chinaman's chance of being saved.

It being as hot as Dutch Love here in East Hampton I am sure the temperature must have reached the boiling point down there at Hot Springs. What ever you do dont go nudist. You might freckle and probably would sunburn until you would have to take your moels off the shelf with an "electric" fanning you before and aft. I could have said "fanning your fanny" but I decided it was indelicate.

Doc Heath suffered a slight indisposition last week end. Caught a cold and was laid up for a day. Dr. Lyon came out, however, and set about to give some of his herb cures and the patient got out of bed and announced he was cured before the remedy was applied. It was a case of self-defence

Port Washington, N.Y.,
February 16, 1941.

Dear Margaret:

I dont know where you are so am sending this note to Winter Park, Fla., that being the place where the oute valentine was mailed, and to Miami Beach, hoping one or the other will locate you.

I will leave here Monday afternoon, February 24, on the Champion and will arrive in Miami at 4:55 Tuesday afternoon.

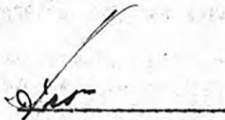
I will be staying with Ruth and Barbara but will want to see you and Garrett. On the return trip I have to stop at Daytona Beach to get Mrs. Walter Hardy's signature to the petition to reduce the restrictions on Bayview Colony property.

I wish you would let me know where you expect to be while I am there.

If Winter Park is not the correct address please advise me.

The Reeds are all well and we all trust you folks are enjoying god health and prosperity.

As ever,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Dor', is written above a horizontal line.

Port Washington, N.Y.,
Sunday Afternoon, March 9, 1941.

Dear Folks: "All out for the North Pole". That was what I thought the por er said when we dropped anchor here at Port Washington today. What a sight greeted me. Snow twelve inches deep on the level and deeper in spots. Everybody wearing earmuffs and carrying a snow shovel. I suppose, also, they carry a bit of "first aid" on the hip. Naturally, my trip to Florida

seemed like a dream.

The trip home was without incident. Despite the storm the Vacationer, even though an hour late out of

Jacksonville, came in on time. Martha and Spike met me at the station and came out with me. Today is Pat's birthday, at least the day the anniversary is celebrated. The birth date, Mrs. Weeks, is March 13th as I told you. Upon my arrival at the house all was set for a birthday anniversary dinner. Needless to say "a ~~at~~ good time was enjoyed by all!"

For me oranges, orange blossoms and other tropical products are at least a year in the offing. It really dont seem right but I guess it is so why fuss and fume. As Jane says "I must take the better with better".

I trust you, Margaret, will be completely recovered from your late illness by the time this letter reaches you. You must take it easy, however, and not work yourself into another decline. I was sorry I did not see more of you, but then you will be heading this way shortly. I want to thank you for your hospitality and thoughtfulness as to my health. I will never look upon mushrooms again without thinking of what the nurse at Dr. Hart's office asked, in fact I doubt if I can ever eat fungi growth again.

As for you, Snookins, you know I appreciate your interet in my welfare and the many kindnesses heaped upon me. I only await the time when I can really get even with you.

I sincerely hope you, Mrs. Weeks, continue to improve until you can swing with ease from the flying trapeze in the very near future. Seriously I do hope you enjoy an early and satisfactory recovery from your present illness.

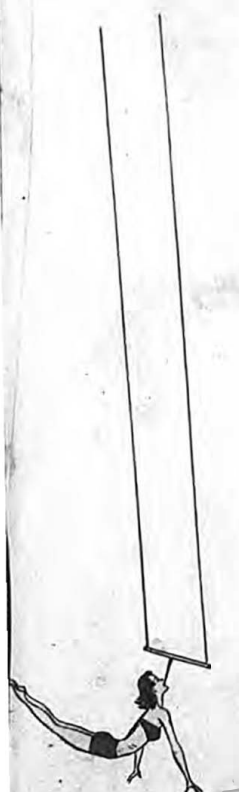
Mrs. Sullivan

I sure missed you last night on the



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3-8



train. My evening High-Ball did not taste the same at all. I really wished for my own private "Doc". It will really be up to you to take good care of both Mrs. Fisher and Mrs. Weeks. They are two persons worth saving so do "your durndst" to make them well and happy again. Thanks again for your many kindnesses and best wishes for a happy future.

I do hope you, Margaret, and you, Mrs. Weeks, do not develop "sciatica", along with your other ailments have to have someone hand you down your walking stick evert time you take a notion to move about.

By the way the gal with the "sore feet" continues to cause me to marvel. I have come to feel quite sorry for her over-worked "dogs", "an-everthing".

Snookins I am sure you and your troupe assi tants will be busy these coming days setting up the orange trees in the next ally and otherwise making "aitland Terrace a place of beauty and a joy for ever. Slip in a few onions for me, will you?

Now that the lease-lend bill has been enacted we can startin plotting against Hitler and his gangsters. It might be a good idea to tear up his rubbers and wish for rain.

Well, dear folks, dont forget me.



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'J. M.' or similar, located at the bottom center of the page.



June - 11-42

Dear Margaret and Garret-

Thank you for your kind letter - the checks. It is a queer world without Dad. Even though we knew he could not get well and were glad he was released from his suffering, his going is very hard to take. He had the comfort of our religion at the end. He loved Father Hayden so much and cried for him constantly at the end of his life.

I think Garret met Father Hayden last summer. He is a wonderful person and was so good to Dad. The finest kind of a priest. Dad was baptized and anointed about a week before he died and never had any more pain after that. He had been semi-conscious a good deal of the time for a week previous.

But about an hour after Father Hayden left him I went in to see him. His tongue was stuck & he could no longer talk but he smiled at me brightly. He had not smiled in weeks.

I said "you are sitting pretty now
Dad aren't you? got your passport
& a through ticket." He just grinned
from ear to ear & held his hand &
pretty soon he fell asleep & just
slept away. That was Fri P.M. & he
lived until Mon 4:30 P.M.

We are sad but we are also happy
for him for he had everything that
mortal could have & speed him on
his way & he had paid the price
of long suffering for it.

I'm sure he would not return now
even if he could. St Peter was a
fisherman you remember so it
may be they have plenty to talk
about.

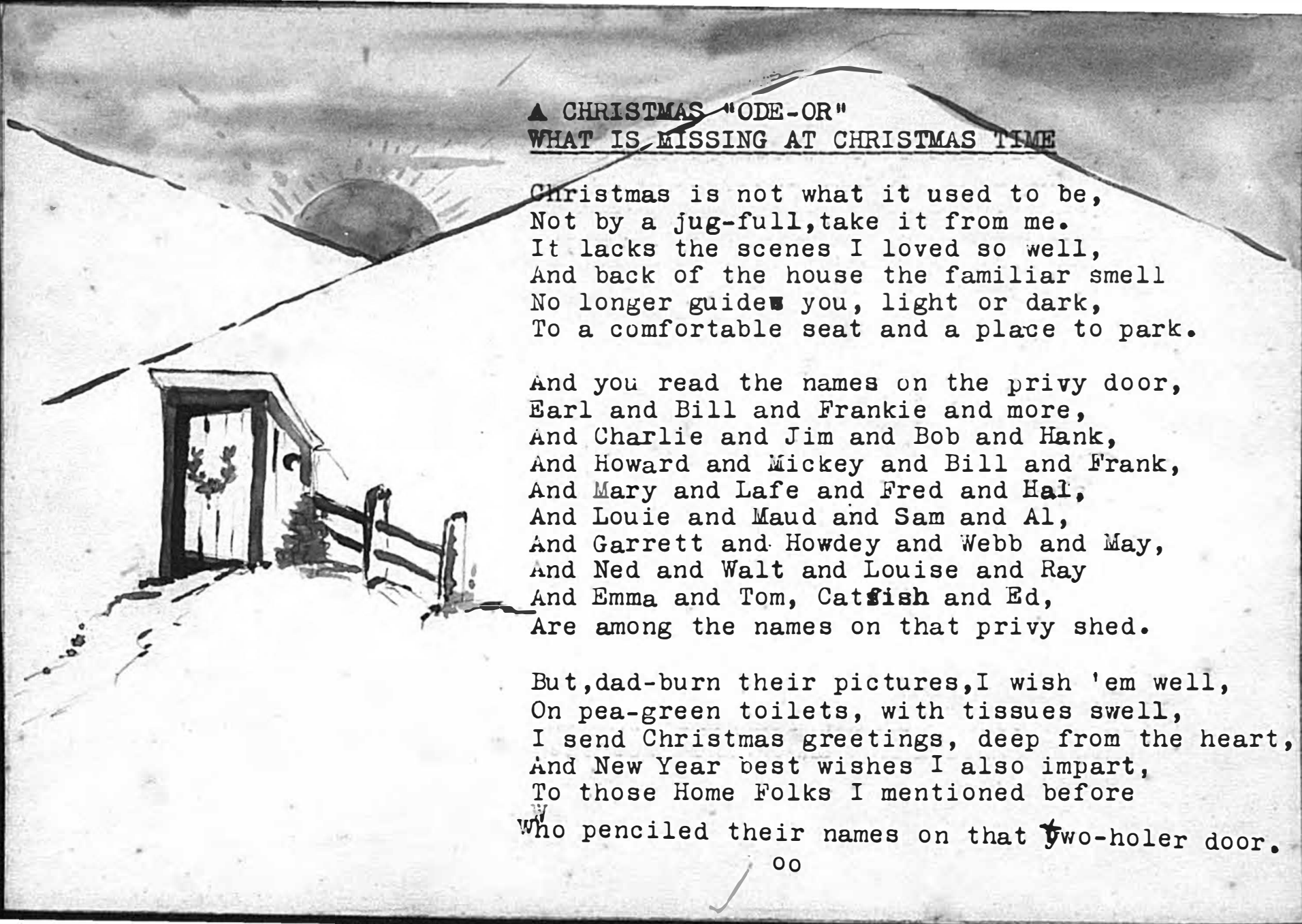
We have only fine memories of a
loving husband & father.

Martha's little daughter was born the
day after Dad was buried. He wanted
so much to know about that but
I'm sure he does anyway.

With Love to you both
from all of us.

Nan

After July 1st our address will be 13 Columbia St.
Post Washington



▲ CHRISTMAS "ODE-OR"
WHAT IS MISSING AT CHRISTMAS TIME

Christmas is not what it used to be,
Not by a jug-full, take it from me.
It lacks the scenes I loved so well,
And back of the house the familiar smell
No longer guide you, light or dark,
To a comfortable seat and a place to park.

And you read the names on the privy door,
Earl and Bill and Frankie and more,
And Charlie and Jim and Bob and Hank,
And Howard and Mickey and Bill and Frank,
And Mary and Lafe and Fred and Hal,
And Louie and Maud and Sam and Al,
And Garrett and Howdey and Webb and May,
And Ned and Walt and Louise and Ray
And Emma and Tom, Catfish and Ed,
Are among the names on that privy shed.

But, dad-burn their pictures, I wish 'em well,
On pea-green toilets, with tissues swell,
I send Christmas greetings, deep from the heart,
And New Year best wishes I also impart,
To those Home Folks I mentioned before
Who penciled their names on that two-holer door.

If we can just get through the terrible depression I am sure we will get a break
somewhere and we can come back. Just keep your toes in, Mr. Fisher, and don't
get discouraged.

As ever,

Art

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Art', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Port Washington, N.Y.,
Jan. 3, 1937.

Dear Folks:

First off let me tell you dear folks we received all of your wonderful gifts. I am convinced there is really a Santa Claus.

With all my new clothing gifts I have decided to and have dropped the "Arthur" and replaced it with plain "A" but have stooped my middle name up to full spelling, Bolding, instead of the initial "B". Hence I will be A. Bolding Reed.

With this new arrangement of my moniker, my new shirts, tie, socks and my silk handkerchief peeping out of the breast pocket of my coat I sure have a "ven Port Washington" thrill. Why the other evening I stopp'd in at Bradloys for a mug of stout and someone addressed me as Lord Bolding.

What who, Old Dear, Old Thing.

F&B's may not make the bird but your fine gifts have lifted my rick off the sewing machine into a position of eminence in these Airings.

The first thing I know some society matron will want me to lead a cotillion.

The wonderful case of jell and jams come and Mar and the girls are enraptured with them. Every glass will be a surprise. Of course Mar is rather stingy with them and so far we have had a chance to sample only two. They are wonderful.

The entire family joins me in extending thanks. Mar will write you, Margaret.

At the moment I am busy painting the interior of our house. As soon as I can get the painting done I will start looking about for some bargain in carpet. The old floor coverings have been down for years and as you know are worn out. I have to locate some bargain and recarpet the entire house. The long life Yes promised to paint the outside this spring and if they do the Old Home will be quite an attractive place.

By the way, Doc Heath, I have become an expert at washing ceilings and removing old wall paper. If you are only here now I could start you out as a paint contractor. I could wash ceilings and remove old paper and you could finish the paint brush. I hope you can paint better than you can catch colds.

Boy I have an idea. Why not the four of us form a decorating company. Margaret could plan the color scheme, I could prepare the ceilings and walls for decorations. You, Doc, could apply the paint, and that Rootin, Tootin Johnny from Greenburg, Wizzonor Skipper Fish, could be the general manager. Some organization I could say.

Port Washington, N.Y.,
Jan. 3, 1937.

Dear Folks:

First off let me tell you dear folks we received all of your wonderful gifts. I am convinced there is really a Santa Claus.

With all my new clothing gifts I have decided to and have dropped the "Arthur" and replaced it with plain "A" but have stepped my middle name up to full spelling, Belding, instead of the initial "B". Hence I will be A. Belding Reed.

With this new arrangement of my moniker, my new shirts, tie, socks and my silk handkerchief peeping out of the breast pocket of my coat I sure have given Port Washington a thrill. Why the other evening I stopped in at Bradleys for a mug of stout and someone addressed me as Lord Belding.

What who, Old Dear, Old Thing.

Fathers may not make the bird but your fine gifts have lifted my right off the sewing machine into a position of eminence in these dings.

The first thing I know some society matron will want me to lead a cotillion.

The wonderful case of jell and jams come and Nan and the girls are entranced with them. Every glass will be a surprise. Of course Nan is rather stingy with them and so far we have had a chance to sample only two. They were wonderful.

The entire family joins me in extending thanks. Her will write you, Margaret.

At the moment I am busy painting the interior of our house. As soon as I can get the painting done I will start looking about for some bargain in carpet. The old floor coverings have been down ten years and as you know are worn out. I have to locate some bargains and recarpet the entire house. The Home Life has promised to paint the outside this spring and if they do the Old Home will be quite an attractive place.

By the way, Doc Keith, I have become an expert at washing ceilings and removing old wall paper. If you are only here now I could start you out as a paint contractor. I would wash ceilings and remove old paper and you could swing the paint brush. I hope you can paint better than you can catch eels.

Say I have an idea. Why not the four of us form a decorating company. Margaret could plan the color scheme, I could prepare the ceilings and walls for decorations. You, Doc, could apply the paint, and that Rootin, Tootin Cowboy from Greensburg, Hizzonor Skipper Fish, could be the general manager. Some organization I would say.

There is really nothing new here. Still more like early spring than winter. Lots of rain but no snow. From the present indications this winter cannot be as cold as was last winter.

It looks like 1937 might be a big fish year and quite a smattering of eels and clams.

By the way we must work out this clam business more elaborately than last year. There are so many ways clams can be prepared that we really should give the matter some thought. There is clam pie, steamed clams, baked clams, clam chowder, broiled clams, creamed clams, and a dozen other ways to prepare clams that will be attractive.

Think this matter over the three of you. We might want to use the clam business as a side line during the dull season of the decorating business.

Serious, folks, I am thinking of you all every day and hoping your Christmas is a delightful one and you have excellent prospects for a happy new year.

As ever,

Art.