

German town, August 12, 1951

Lieber Jochen,

Though I concentrate on my work fairly well I cannot do a great deal. There are so many other problems. This morning I spent about an hour talking to Filena, or rather in letting her tell me about her sore, numb hands. She has looked in all the books and is frightened. Papa has given her some vitamins, but she feels no better. I suggested to her that her trouble might be only partly physical. She seemed to feel better and to be glad to leave Algis with me and go to church. And I was glad to have such a good reason for staying home from Meeting.

Now Alex is back from New York. He says little and stares fixedly at nothing. He wants to sleep though he has already slept a good deal. Mother and Papa are very attentive and cheerful. What they felt and showed yesterday afternoon is decently covered. Poor Alex. I hope that Cecile will be able to decide whether she loves him or not before she comes back. My impression is that she is embarrassed and doesn't know what to do.

Papa talks of driving to Maine "soon after the eighteenth." I do not know whether he means it, but if he does it would be good if you told me whether you want me to look for an apartment or room, how much you can pay, etc. How I wish you could be with me. I hate doing that sort of thing alone, though, of course, it is never so hard as I anticipate. My parents want me to stay with the Craheims while I hunt. That would certainly be cheap now, but later?

I have been reading Pope's "Essay on Man", which I like much better than I had expected. This afternoon I must start to read the American history text which I assigned to my failing Breanley students and make up their test. I would much rather read Pope.

It is not yet two weeks since I left Konnuroch, and yet it seems so much longer to me. It will be still longer until we are together again. In spite of that fact, I start each time the telephone or door bell rings, and I imagine as I come down the hall that you will be sitting in this chair.

Deine,
Margaret