

Jan 4 - 1946 -  
Friday night - 11:30 PM

Dearest Bobby -

Wrote you a short note this afternoon - Harrison came to see me a couple of hours ago - He insists I won't be able to go out before Tuesday - altho I feel much better and have only a fraction of degree of temperature - am taking Sulfadiazine - Can't sleep for some reason -

Enjoyed your letters of Dec 18 & 19th - That was an excellent suggestion about the trip to Canada next summer to buy Ruth a fur coat - however it arrived late and did not solve the problem of something to wear now this winter - I believe you said you found it pretty cold in Greenboro - Anyway the coat is already bought and paid for and I do not believe I'll suffer because I spent that money - You haven't forgotten your trip to Philadelphia the last year you were in college - The coat was only thirty-five dollars, but you wanted so much to go and I gave you the trip - That money was far more to me than the price I paid for Ruth's coat the week before Christmas - I have tried to do the best I could for each of you in so far as I could when it was needed, so I hope you understand and do not think that Ruth urged, or insisted, on my buying the coat - Really I wanted to get it for her and am glad that I could - I know she'll enjoy using it for years - and if she should get something nicer within the next five years then she can pass it back to me as it fits me perfectly -

Naturally I've not been able to discuss, on inquiry, about the back lot - Robert says he sees some lumber on the east lot, so maybe a part has already been sold and a negro house will be built there - I don't know and I'm not worrying about it - Certainly I wouldn't pay \$350.00 for an half interest in those ill shaped lots facing negro dwellings - Over there it is easy enough for you to say do this - or that - but I know I do more any day than I should and I simply can't take on anything more -

The weather has kept so bad until the house is not painted yet - Do hope we will have a chance to get it done before you arrive - Your package hasn't gotten here yet - Hope it isn't lost - Wrote you before that I could not make the trip to Herbing's, but maybe we can go one weekend after you get home -

Certainly I want you to take in some of our famous  
Gardens before you go on to college - Believe I mentioned  
that Gene West is to give two services per month here -  
one at Faith Chapel and one at Heavenly Rest -

Sigs Solomon has moved in the little house next door -  
Believe he painted it fresh inside, but it is as forlorn  
looking as ever from the outside - The few buildings around  
are going up slowly, due to the bad weather -

Sure wish you were here now - It's practically  
impossible to get any help now - Don't know what I'd do  
without old Lizzie (Aunt Ettel's old cook who lives  
right back of us and cooks for Essie Batten) - She  
has come every afternoon since Ruth left and cleaned up  
things for me - I can't stay up to do anything -

Can't think of anything worth writing - It's time to take  
more pills so maybe when I get that over I'll be  
able to go to sleep - Robert keeps coughing a lot - Sure hope  
he doesn't get the type of Flu that I have -

Love and good wishes -

Note the last train has  
stopped - Guess J. F. W. and  
Scooter have started their  
trip to Philadelphia -

mother -



Estill S. L. Nov 6-61-

Dear Bob & Lou-

Thank you both for your letters. Always  
am glad to hear from you and see you.  
Enjoyed your visit.

Ruth and I went to Sadie & Margaret's  
party then on to Sunday Sunday a M-  
Baptism of Rolf Frederick that afternoon at  
4 P.M. - Ruth Kate's family - one friend  
Larvia Green (her husband is retired Army Colonel)  
a cousin, Mrs John Kate - widow - husband was  
Pastor at Sunday for years - and us - The  
Church had grand Breeding Service for new  
building (other burned 2 yrs ago and have been  
using S. S. building since) cost to be \$540,000<sup>00</sup>  
then Randy had to go to dinner at Church and  
Solicit some pledges for coming year - so  
saw little of him - They live in a rush as  
we all seem to do - We then had a snack  
and on to Col. - Stopped at Falk's - They had  
spent the day with Paul & Peter at Lake  
on Hog Back mt. - Steve has grown so tall -  
4 in - This year - He walks better since the  
feet operation but still using high-top shoes  
and not too steady walking but he looks well  
and this is much better than having muscular  
Dystrophy - They are counting on trip to your  
place and seemed delighted that you asked  
them - I got home at noon Monday  
via Bus. Have worked every day in yard -



Tub out cuttings - 20 in all - some box wood  
 3 - Pyracantha 9 - 1 Camellia - and 2 Bottle  
 Brush Bush - will try to do some more  
 later before Christmas - Have picked up about  
 20 lbs Pecans, so will bring you some  
 when we come to H. H. - worked a  
 coloud near 2 1/2 days - cost \$25<sup>80</sup> and have  
 Randy's lot cleared except will have to cut  
 some 75 stumps 2 in to 8 in - and plan to  
 try and get a Pulp Wood man with chain  
 motor saw to do this - Wayne King is leaving  
 Nov 15 for Barnwell (they're opening a place there)  
 so will try to get another renter for the little  
 trailer - and keep on with the back Lot -  
 The Town is holding a vote Tuesday asking  
 another tax increase of 5 mills - Sure  
 wish could do something to get a definite  
 decision about the same - Pray for guidance  
 and any suggestion will be wayer helpful -

I am fine - Miss Young went away Fri-  
 and back late Sunday - She and her family  
 2 sisters & br-in-law - went on 500 mile trip  
 thru mountains Sat & Sunday - She was worn  
 out when she got back - Heavy fog in morning  
 or said she would have stopped in Colo -

Ruth went to Clemson for Home-Coming Day and  
 Foot Ball Game - Stayed with Mildred & Joel Wyman -  
 Cora, if you think of anything I can do to help



You, please tell <sup>me</sup> - your Reader's  
Digest should begin with Dec. issue -

Love & good wishes  
on other oranges



Lila, Bill, Ethel and Elaine  
were at Margarets - Said had  
enjoyed your visit at Jay Beach  
so much and of course are  
coming Thanksgiving -



Thursday AM. Nov. 14, 1965.

Dear Cora and Bob:

Thank you for the nice letter Cora. You were so much help when I was feeling not up to par. Am finally about straight, I think. Ruth and I will bring such food as you mentioned. That is Ham for all - about forty and salad that will be enough. I'd like to bring some Cinnamon rolls that will be made the day before and some cookies with a light chocolate topping that the children might enjoy. I'd be glad to fix the rice, too, as this would be just one thing less for you to do and no trouble for me. Please do not try to have the variety you have had in the past. Just one vegetable. Keep it simple so you will be free to enjoy your guests.

Someone has suggested that maybe my sickness was caused by eating green pecans, which I did as I was shelling some. Ruth had the same trouble here the past weekend. She did shell pecans one day and probably ate some too. Anyway she went back to Cola, Tuesday with an upset stomach, cramps and low fever. Mahala came home yesterday and said that she had talked with Ruth the night before at Folk's and that she was still not free from cramps. The doctors in Greer could find nothing wrong with Charley and advised that he take more exercise and think less about his recent heart attack. He went back Saturday.

Have had about a dozen or more debutante's open. They are better than usual since the bush does not have as many buds as usual. Also a few blooms on several other plants and all are pretty. It is cold this morning but no frost in back yard. Have a small trailer to come in and park just for one night. Going on to Fla. and came from Oregon. Only about twenty feet and complete with two sofas - like mine in dining room - ready to let out for comfortable sleeping for two. Man was 68 and wife looked about the same. Sara had told them to go in and park while I was at the Garden Club. Only \$1.50, but it all helps. He said I should advertise in the Mobile Home Travel Book. Mentioned that he saw no Office either. It seems this could be developed to a much larger extent if I cared to work at it.

I hope all is well with you and that you are happy and busy. When you come again will be glad to give you more pecans. I looked at the trees carefully yesterday and there are quite a few still there. Am surprised that there are so many. Now have about three quarts picked out and at least forty pounds in bags on the porch. Will be glad to share for we do not use many. I have offered Randy and Ruth nuts every year when I had them (a couple of years I had none at all) but they never seemed to want any. Maybe because they were not good for the children when they were younger, but also I believe the Pate family had some source of supply and I believe I heard Ruth Pate say a friend always gave them pecans each year.

Let me know if you will agree for me to cook the rice. The other things mentioned, ham, salad, rolls and cookies, I'll bring regardless, but if you cook rice and I do so too, there would certainly be a waste so drop a card about that, just to be sure.

I am glad that you seem to keep busy and I hope happy. Problems are with most of us always and we have to learn to live with them and do our best. Looking forward to seeing and being with you at Thanksgiving.

Love,

*Mother*



Monday, Dec. 20, 1965.

Dear Bob: Thought of you and Cora all of last week but so many things happened and had so much to do that when it was vacant time I just did not get a card written, or even the note to you. I do appreciate your coming and giving me the couple of days and all the work that you did particularly when everyone has so much on hand to do for themselves. Fortunately we have had nice, quiet rains and cloudy weather so the plants should be well started naturally. It seems that I must have eaten food that was not good for me since I have not felt at all well for several days. Have had severe cramps in stomach and some fever a couple of days. Nothing else. I did not take asperin because wanted to know how the temperature was running naturally. I am feeling much better yesterday and today. Went and stood at the exit door for Lib yesterday at the Drop-In. She had a beautifully decorated house thought and better than average small ham biscuits, cookies, stuffed dates, candies - Coffee. Annie Herbert poured Coffee and I helped keep the table supplied and also showed the people from the dining room. Practically everyone was there and quite a few from out of town.

Margaret McAbee came up and told me she had attended the wedding that you played the music for. She was most complimentary and said the music was well chosen, perfectly rendered, and they had surely enjoyed hearing your performance.

Mr. Wyman's death and funeral was sad. Can only say that he was fortunate in having Lib for a wife, since I feel sure he was here many years longer because of her love and care. He will surely be missed in many places. I helped serve the dinner at the Church Fellowship Hall and so talked with most of the family. Lib made herself come. Saw Hugh Vincent and he asked about you. Was the first time I'd seen Vincent and his wife in a long time and one daughter also was with them. We served at least forty or more. Mrs. Bush is Pres. of Women of the Church so she was there. She mentioned that she enjoyed your music at the Presbyterian Church on the Island. As mentioned before, Ruth and I plan to go to Sumter on Christmas Eve, stay through Christmas Day, then home by Columbia. I believe that Thelma has decided on Dec. 30th. for her dinner, but whatever time we'll be expecting you to come. Ruth will be here through New Year's as far as I know. I am enclosing a check for you and one for Cora that I hope you will purchase something especially for yourself, each. Have something in package here that will keep until you come. The couple upstairs plan to go to her Mother's home, near Darlington, leaving Christmas morning for a couple of days. Linda's parents are divorced. The mother lives in upper part of State and the father is at Grays, where she made her home the past few years. She says she likes living in the section where her Mother lives. Guess the most I can say now is that I am thankful for many blessings and I hope this coming year will be equally as good, or better. Please take care of yourselves and remember we are a family and love one-another.

My best to you both,

*mother*



Wednesday, March 11, 1964.

Dear Cora and Bob:

Thank you for your note for it is always good to hear from you, and also thank you for the Forward. This is one of the outstanding Church publications, I think.

You should have been here the Tuesday and Wednesday after you left on Monday for the Magnolia tree was then at its best and most beautiful. The Camellias were also at their height of beauty. There are still many handsome blooms, but the plants as a whole do not look as well because of the many that are on the wane. Ruth helped me put out fertilizer Saturday and Saturday night we asked Sam and Margaret McAbee to eat that Steak with us. We just sat and talked afterward and they seemed to enjoy being with us. I had the Circle meeting here on Monday afternoon. Caro conducted the Bible Study for me. I had filled an appointment with Dr. Causey at 8 AM that morning so it was a full day for me. Yesterday I worked on the back lot and made several Telephone calls about putting some more Tile in the canal. Last week I bought some wire and worked one day - five hours - with a colored boy helping, and put wire around the small trailer to keep the cats and dogs from going under. Don't think the job is fool proof, but am hoping that it does put up enough resistance to keep them out. Ruth is getting prices in Columbia this week about the tile. If I am able to buy some known as "rejects" made for Hwy. department, will be able to cover about twice as many feet of the canal as if I am able only to buy the first quality, so I am ~~anxious~~ anxious to hear what luck she has. Like you say, I expect it is better not to have these worries about improving property, but it does give me something to think about and to work with, which is important. This portion of my lot is what I plan to leave for you and Bob with a front on Lawton Ave. of about about 150 ft. and a depth of 100 ft. and of course the small trailer if it is still in condition, which it should be. From time to time, I hope to continue the filling process to eliminate the open canal. It is good to have some purpose to work toward. Cannot think of anything that is news. I am fine and grateful for many things. My love and good wishes to you always and please come for a visit any time. Had a long distance call for Bob on Monday night and gave them your number and told them you were in Savannah, but should be available in Hilton Head before midnight. It was then about eleven o'clock.

*J. Morgan*



Wednesday Morning. May 27th. 1964.

Dear Bob and Cora. Just to say that I enjoyed your visit. Bob, want to say that I'm sorry that I made you ashamed of me up town. Of course Protocol means so much more to you - and it rightly should - being in the work you are doing, you have to give honor to your superiors in every instance even when you cannot respect them for some of their actions. As I said, in everyday life a person takes so much, then the blows, verbal or manual, begin to fly. This is natural. The one being imposed upon just has to take a stand and fight for principle. I'll try not to subject you to such again. However, some good must have eventuated because yesterday while I was working this young colored boy getting the back corner in order, the Town had two trucks hauling in dirt, about twenty loads, I'd say, and all finished about eleven AM. This morning there are men working with shovels leveling the dirt down and one of them said a load of rock would finish off the end of the covered portion so maybe it will be usable for a crossing by tomorrow. The Creasemans come over last night and moved most of the things and this morning Mrs. C - came back and cleaned up what was left and turned in the keys. Nice couple. I like having someone upstairs as I sleep better and of course the money is always useful. That sixty dollars will almost buy twelve feet of pipe - or whatever else I want to use it for. I do want to take a few days off, somewhere besides Bluffton.

Have a plan that I hope to start and see if something cannot be brought to make a definite decision about the lane. I assure you I will make no mention of you, or Ruth. Randy could be a little involved since the back lot is in his name. will talk it over with them. maybe it will be a good idea to have it put in my name until same is straightened out, then we might decide on squaring off the property if that seems more desirable. Actually I like the effect in my back yard as it is, but it would be nicer for Randolph if he had more frontage on Lawton Ave. We'll talk that over.

Hope you had a pleasant work period in Sv. Monday night and that you are feeling fine. Thank you for the pruning and washing the dinner dishes, even though I'd rather you had just left them for me to do at my leisure.

Love to you both,

*another message*



Friday Night: June 19, 1964.

Dear Cora:

Thank you so much for your nice letter. You are always so prompt with writing me after so short visits. Actually I do not understand just what you were saying to me about not being able to come a stay with me while Bob was in Camp because of some things that have been said along from time to time about imposing on people. When Bob chose you to be his wife, I accepted his decision and I think you have made him a good wife. All that I ever wanted to do with any of my children and their wives is to be as helpful in any way that I could be. No one of you could ever make me feel that you were deliberately imposing on me. Anything I have been able to do as been a pleasure. We are a family - and while no two people, much less a whole family, will ever agree entirely. But we are all ready to stand firm to help when needed. Certainly I am. As a family group we have been blessed. Our trying times have been insignificant to those of many people, but you do agree that we have made an effort to encourage at all times. Randy felt pretty bad about the Sumter Mill Work Deal; Ruth was much put upon about that barb wire fence deal and Bob maybe was hit the hardest, however he was in position to take it and we surely are most grateful ~~for~~ for our blessings generally, that the Lord has sustained us all in time of trouble. Please just stop worrying. I'm glad you had the courage to write me as you did and I want to reassure you that never will I feel that my children are imposing on me. Please come anytime it suits you to come. You have been told where the outside key is kept and there is enough food on hand to meet requirements. I thought nothing of it when you did not accept - simply that maybe you'd be happy to have a quiet time alone to relax and think things over and you mentioned about the picture you were working on for Frances. I do hope she has married someone who is capable and will take good care of her. I liked your two sisters so much. Am writing this even though I expect to be with you on Sunday in Bluffton but there will be no time to talk. No one is perfect. I realize how far short I am in doing many things. Evidently much of what I do and say does not meet with your approval. We just cannot make people do what we want them to do. We have to accept them as they are, or reject them. It is just impossible to do things as another one would do them. Some times some people react to situations and are able to work together ~~smoothly~~ without friction. My Wyman said many times, "Miss Margaret and I think alike", that was businesswise, and helped me to be a worker he could depend on. With others maybe that was not the case. We can only do our best and hope our loved ones will accept our efforts in good faith. I do hope that you have been able to rest and that the two weeks just by yourself has been a good period for you. Too much noise and confusion is not good for you, when you are nervous you are not able to think as clearly and you laugh and get angry quicker, so many times saying things you otherwise would not. It is good you can let off steam that way. I do it too - and I believe in one way or another everyone does. Just remember as long as I am here and able that I want you to come and be at home.

Have put in two more trailer outlets this week. The men have scraped part of the back lot and hauled in several loads of dirt. Will have to pay something, but had planned to buy around \$50.00 worth of dirt so now will get the dirt free and just have to pay for machine work, that should be less.

Love,

*Margie*



Aug. 18, 1964.

Dear Bob & Cora:

Thank you for your letter Cora. It is always welcome to hear news of what you are doing for I am concerned about your happiness, and in general any news or happening that affects your daily life. Randolph and Ruth told me that you had supper with them on last Wednesday as did RosaLou and Charlotte and Duncan. I am glad that the weather was pleasant when they were on vacation and that they were able to get around some. I believe they said they had spent one day, taking lunch, at Fripp Island and another at Milton Head. Saralee told me yesterday that Edith Rhoad's baby had been born - and that it seems the child is not normal in some way. She did not know just what. I am sorry to hear this for Life is a difficult journey at best for most. It seems that we are just not able to accept all of the good the Lord has provided for us and use it as He wants us to. It is so much easier to give than to receive - yet, there are so many people who are unhappy because they feel cheated all of the time thinking they should receive much more. It is truly most difficult to know what is right and what is wrong. I enjoyed having Marce and Robert Frederick with me and all went well. Dot's little girl, Kay, spent two nights with Marce and they were kind to Robert and that helped him to be satisfied. He is definitely allergic to chocolate but when I found that was true and was careful not to let him eat any then the large itching wheals cleared and when he left here Saturday afternoon he was in good condition. Reba and Barney had a family gathering at Davis' Sunday a week ago - Barney's birthday - and invited me, so the children enjoyed that day in swimming. No one was there except the immediate family and Reba asked that no one bring any food, however Rita brought a Brownstone Layer Cake that looked elegant. I did not eat any since Reba had a Pound Cake, Cookies and a large Cherry Crunch casserole that she had prepared. Mahala also added a large platter of delicious Swift's premium baker ham - which was added to Reba's huge platter of fried chicken - plus Potato Salad, whipped cream salad, chicken salad sandwiches, pimento and cheese sandwiches, and Peanut Butter sandwiches, then a beautifully arranged large server of pickles, beets, celery and other extras including grapes, tomatoes and such. We ate in the building usually in use for cooking barbecue and such, so got away from the crowd and noise under the regular stand. There were many groups there upstairs and down - and much noise of roller skating. After lunch we had chairs out near this house and so could talk and be heard without shouting. It was a nice outing for me and I believe all of the others, and of course the Pool was enjoyed by the children. Rita and Paul were the only grown ones of the group who went in. I sat near the shallow end of the Pool and kept watch on Marce and Robert. They had a great time.

Have seven trailers on park - and this with the apartment gives me about a net of \$140.00 per month rents. Never know just when they may leave but I keep having inquiries for apartment trailers. It makes Ruth unhappy for me to have the Morrison couple upstairs, but they do not worry me and it seems that is not too difficult a way to accumulate money to cover the ditch. Each month means six feet can be covered. Mr. Fagnant said tonight when he came to pay rent that he thought he would be here maybe until about Oct. 15th. The Gas Pipe people continue to put in some dirt, but their machines have gone to Hampton and so whatever is put in now, I will have to level. I had to pay \$50.00 for the dirt and work done so far, but this was less than I had planned to pay for dirt alone, whereas I got more dirt and all of that labor scraping and leveling the place. Thankful for that. The latest trailer is a 10ft. 55 ft. and belongs to a Mr. Simmons and is parked on the new place on Randy's lot. He is a mechanic and his young wife works at the Sewing room. They might prove to be long-time renters of parking space. Never know.



INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

WADDELL & REED, INC.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TO \_\_\_\_\_

FROM \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT \_\_\_\_\_

A few grapes are ripening. Picked the black vine carefully yesterday late so will cook some spiced grape jam today. I still have the work to do at the Legion Hut. managed to do the front yard mowing and about a fourth of my back yard last week, then on Sat. morning Ruth went out and finished the back yard, so now have the Park, but sort of plan to let it go until next week.

Ruth and I plan to leave Columbia on Sept. 12th. so that means I leave Estill on Friday, 11th. and will be gone for two weeks. Plan to send whatever clothes that will not be in suitcase by Ruth when she is here and then I'll just ride the Bus to Cola. She and Helen did rent another room so they will now each have a private bedroom. They have not decided yet which one is to get the old bedroom. They painted the new living room last week and spent some time selecting a rug. This item and the drapes for two windows and the door seem to be the only new purchases they will have to make - except Ruth will have to buy a dresser of some kind, or else use the chest of drawers that belongs to her and is now in the living room and that would require only the purchase of a mirror - since her large mirror and card table and dining table, with eight of those bent wood chairs, plus a large chair and the new winsor chair she bought a couple of years ago will go into the new living room. She carried the large cocktail table (made out of a door core) that has been stored upstairs for some years back with her Sunday afternoon. Helen owns the davenport and has recently had a new cover made for it. Ruth doesn't like this expanding too much, but I believe it will be better for both. Come and get some grapes if it suits your other plans. I'd say it will be better to wait until Aug. 30th., or even Sept. 6th. weekend. No news.

Love and good wishes to you both.

*mother* \_\_\_\_\_



March 8th. 1965.

Dear Bob:

Thanks for the nice letter. So glad to hear things are active with you, that you two are getting around, doing things. Sorry that Cora is not so well. Fortunately I am feeling fine and so far have had no type of cold.

Ruth came in Friday afternoon. The weather was cold and she was tired so we just stayed at home, except I believe she did go out visiting after supper for an hour or so. Saturday we did some laundry, other errands, then had a very light lunch and went to Hampton where I had an appointment with the Dentist there to talk about having some of my front teeth capped. He advised that maybe it would be better to do nothing until such time as it became necessary, so I am quite willing to do just that. Did have one small cavity fixed and my teeth cleaned. Went by and tried to contact a man who had recently repaired the Tuten's old piano for Mary and David's girls to use. Left a message for this man so am hoping that I'll get the Piano put in good order before too long. Mary Brooks was most pleased with what he did for their instrument. Reba said she had enjoyed hearing this man perform at several parties and that he recently had made a trip to N.Y. City to take part in a rather large Concert. I hope that he will fix this for me, as I just cannot even try to use it with the ivories off so many of the keys. Have been searching for these that were off, but am unable to find any of them. Cannot imagine what has happened to them since for years they have been right in the top of the piano. Maybe I'll find them, or, maybe it will be better to have an entire new set put on.

The flowers are about over, that is Camellias and such bulbs as open now. The Pear tree still has some open blooms, but there is a lot of new green growth in leaves that look pretty. All the places are rented as when you were here. I've done some work leveling dirt hauled in and have planted a very few more Dogwood trees and some Shasta Daisies. The weather has been uncomfortable for work, either raining, high wind, or too cold. I did finish the Afghan for Helen last Tuesday and so sent it on to her yesterday by Ruth. She called me L.D. last night to thank me. I think she does appreciate my doing this for her. Actually, I enjoyed having this to do as it is easy to do while watching T.V.

Rosalou is still sort of semi-invalid. Believe she gets up and helps with breakfast and getting them off to school and work, then goes back to bed. Mary's sister, who works at the store, comes in at noon and gets the dinner for her, Duncan, Charlotte, Rosa and aniece Miss Shuman (Annie Marion's daughter) who works in the Bank - so Rosa stays in bed in the guest room for the remainder of the day. She talks good and strong and seems to be in happy mood, so I think she must be feeling pretty well. Mr. Wyman is still in Savannah in hospital. He has been there about two weeks with Pneumonia. Today I talked with Camille and she said he would be there another week. She had her third child about a week ago. A little girl that is named for her Mother and for Camille. They are fine.

No news. Will be looking for you two on Sunday, Mch 14th. for dinner around 1 PM.

Love and good wishes.

Selling investments is something that has to be SOLD, so can and do understand it is not easy. I didn't try hard, so, if you really try you'll sell enough to make it worth while, I am sure. I have the money to buy 30 Shares of Income Fund, to make my total 100.

*time you want to come -*



Wednesday Afternoon, Mch. 31, 1965.

Dear Bob: Was nice hearing of your activities and that you are well. Have an idea you have heard about Lilla Theus' death and the funeral here Sunday afternoon. Kept her rather long, but on Sunday it was better so that the family could come. The Church was completely filled and at the cemetery there were around three hundred, or more, people, which is a large funeral. She had been in hospital to have removal of accumulated fluid and was to go back to the Home that afternoon, when it seems a clot from some place moved and she passed out quickly.

Ruth stayed over until Monday morning, but had arranged this so she did not get up early as was reporting in after lunch, which was not so tiresome as getting up early and making that long ride and then doing a full day's work.

It has rained here all day today. Haven't been out of the house but will get this off before close at 5 o'clock. Yesterday I went to Allendale to the District meeting of the Women of the Church. It was quite interesting. The Speaker had been to a World wide meeting in Germany last year and her talk was most interesting. She mentioned that the Lutherans were the largest group of Christians in the world and the Presbyterians were next. This sort of surprised me.

I am trying to get material hauled to fill in the spot where the people left, but so far haven't gotten anything done. Have been out chopping weeds, which are growing fast. Had another letter from Edgar Burch and he plans to come down about April 15th. buy two trailers and put them in place on the lot, then go back to Illinois and come down here in late May with his Travel Trailer. Said his house had been sold and that they were to be out before the 30th of May. Said everything there was still frozen with several feet of snow and ice and impossible to drive with trailer on the iced roads.

Cannot think of anything that might be of interest. You know that when it suits you will be glad to have you come anytime. The Judas trees are well open, some Dogwood are pretty and others not opening yet, and the large Crab Apple is also showing color. Things are just sort of spotted, some Azaleas opening, but will not be any full show of color, yet maybe will be a longer drawn out flowering season, which is nice. Have no plans except to try and get the back lot in better condition. Ruth wants me to come to Columbia for a visit, but will not go anytime soon. The Garden Club is having a day at Piney Island, the Hannas' place next week, then the next ~~is~~ meeting is planned to go to Sumter for the Iris Garden Bloom, that will be in May.

Finally finished Thelma's tax papers, but haven't called her to come for them since the rain hasn't stopped today.

Am glad to hear from you, so write when you have the time and come when you wish.

I am well and busy.

*Lera  
Smith*

Mahala has gone to Florida for three weeks. Said she planned to be home for Easter.



Wstill. S.C. April 6, 1965.

Dear Bob: Thank you for your letter of April 1st. with enclosures, the receipt I have signed and forwarded in your stamped envelope with your receipt. It seems that I bought almost at the High, however maybe it will gradually pull up as it has been doing. Nothing spectacular in these stocks, and just a reasonably fair return. Note what you say about your efforts. Was at the Social Dozen today at Mrs. Thomas' and sat by Hattie O'Neal. She has just been to Bluffton and was talking about Ed's place, Mrs. Rhodes' project of selling deviled prepared crabs - having made clear more than one hundred dollars last year, and she is in her eighties, I believe, also suffers with much Arthritis. She is still representing the Encyclopedia Company, said they hire many teachers for summer work and many do well selling - she, herself, is supposed to sell at least one set per quarter to keep her selling "kit", just what the pay is, I do not know for sure, but it seems that I've heard \$20.00 and they do all the financing and collecting.

Note your remarks about developing more of Randy's lot and covering more of the Canal. Now, just how do you propose for me to finance this, when his lot is paying only \$20.00 per month and you saw the condition of the portion already supplied with electricity, water and sewerage? This has to have immediate attention, if it is to be offered for use. Ruth does not want me to rent the apartment - and I must be extra choice about who I let occupy the small trailers - so what am I to use to bring in the extra funds I'm needing to live, progress some, and save a portion? Well, what you suggest does not seem to have been given much thought by you. You know, from past talk, the Town is not going to do anything for me where money is involved, and, even where it seems just common integrity could be shown and make things better. I need more dirt hauled at once. Bro Wiggins, who has very light weight equipment, is my only hope for getting any hauling done, and this has to be when he can do so without interrupting his Store deliveries of cement and such. S.W. Tuten at Furman has offered me plenty of good mixed clay and sand free of charge, but it is eight miles to be hauled and Bro said this would make an additional cost of \$2.00 per load, so you see what this amounts to. I talked with Dudley Rouse who has much good clay from a ditch dug on their property between Estill and the Cemetery - actually just beyond the Negro School. I may get some of this, but will have to pay as I did Mr. Long, but hauling would come back to around \$3.00 per load. You see it cost to do this. Anyway, I'm going to get possibly five loads this Saturday, weather permitting, and another five loads as soon as can get it hauled.

Haven't done anything about changing the property to Ruth. Have a couple of blank Deeds and blank mortgages. It isn't easy to just transfer property. You can give only so much each year, there is the matter of making new returns for taxable value on the property - separating the boundary of home lot and portion now used with four trailer spaces, and the fact that I need to keep control, as I have on the money I loaned Randolph. I just do not want to dispose, without recourse, of what little I own and become dependent on anyone. I could live another twenty years, easily fifteen, and, if as good as Auntie, Sister Irene, and many others, be able to run my affairs and add to my holdings some each year. Certainly you would respect me more, and so would Randolph and Ruth.

I wonder just what does the two appointments as Chaplain mean? And, what goes with the Army transferring you to its Retired Reserve? Will this establish any present income for you, or, set up any income when you arrive at a certain retirement age?

*You recall when I bought the 30 share of W.G. Stock from Bottom for regular fee from Bob's business down to the home road - starting out the family of the home road -*



Today I had a nice letter from Randolph which I'll keep and let you read when you are here again. It seems this will be the week after Easter when we have the annual Cemetery Barbecue Dinner. Will be glad to have you and Cora plan to come at that time also if you wish to be with the crowd.

Had a letter from Lilah, enclosing article about Stoney at the Citadel and saying they wanted to see all of us, to come down. Ruth wants to take a trip out to New Orleans, to Orange, Texas, where my Mother is buried, but she also wants to go on the Natchez pilgrimage of the old homes, so that will have to be put off until another year, since she cannot get off just now. I'm perfectly willing to just stay around home and that probably is what we'll do. Want to go to Bluffton to clean up and when I find which of the three keys I have opens the front door, I'll have one made and give it to you so you may go in when you desire. Of course, I wish Ruth could plan something interesting to do with some group of her friends. She should.

The flowers are quite beat up from the heavy rains, but have had blooms all along, since our Azaleas do have various blooming dates, and the location, exposure, and etc. also tend to keep blooms coming in. Some of the Dogwood trees have beautifully open white blooms and many seem to have damaged partially open blooms. My theory is that a hard cold hit when buds were at a certain stage, damaging some not so well protected as the others were. No open Amaryllis yet. One large bunch of Daylillies covered with scapes, the Orange Azalea <sup>at the flower</sup> and of course still many blooms on other varieties right now. Have fixed flowers for the Church for past three Sundays, and for Dot's Bridge Club on Monday night, and this afternoon, one large arrangement for Mrs. Thomas.

Have one unoccupied Trailer right now. Folks left last Saturday so have had to do some cleaning. Louise Johnson Barnes is going to make a slip cover for the dining room Sofa as soon as I am able to locate a suitable material. May go to Hampton tomorrow and see what is there. Still want to have the roof painted, however, no leaks most of the time, but occasionally it does leak in one or two places. Think the Piano job is good, but am interested in hearing what you think.

Expect Ruth for this week end. Talked with her Monday night.

I am fine - and busy. Hoed out the grass plot planted last June as so many weeds. Looks good and think mowing will keep it from now on.

My love and best wishes. and of course come when you like.

*mother*

We're having Church services during Holy Week, Monday through Friday. Will entertain Dr. & Mrs. Estes for supper and the Dr. Lilly, who is the visiting minister. Sort of plan to have Margaret & Sam McAbee, since they had all of us to Davis' one night to supper many years ago, she entertained me for Dinner at Hilton Head, had us at their house during Christmas once, the Bush couple were there that night, too, and we were served cold turkey, cake coffee and such, and again since Christmas they had me to supper when entertaining a Speaker for the Lions Club, who brought along his wife and a friend of theirs who happened to be on visit. May have another couple to fill the table, but not decided as yet.

Will have to get busy and do some cleaning.

Note in this morning's paper that the P.M. at Hilton Head died, and that he is a brother of the Miss Milley who used to be P.M.



Tuesday AM. June 8, 1965.

Dear Bob: Was nice having your letter when I got home yesterday morning. Ruth and I did go to Bluffton for the Sunday and Monday of May 31st. weekend. However, we arrived there around 12 o'clock Sunday and came home Monday leaving there around 2 o'clock PM. We thought you would maybe come by after church, but evidently we just missed each other by minutes. Went crabbing and picked crabs Sunday night until 10 o'clock. Dot and her children came down and Ruth took us to S and Bar, while she went and caught Crab. Lewis Jr. had an ear infection, fever, so she brought him back to house and he slept all afternoon. Monday, after supper in Estill, we drove to Columbia where I stayed until Thursday P.M. Margie had us to supper Wed. night. Helen C. was in Charleston, office business, and came back Thursday around noon. Went to Sumter Thursday night and was there until Sunday afternoon. Helen came by and brought me back as she went in from Summerton. Sunday night we drove out to new Columbia Air Port Quite an improvement on the old one - beautiful. Got home via Bus at 11:30 and have been busy - mail and minor things outside. Parked a trailer for six days, then had told Saralee to let a couple have rooms upstairs and they had moved in, so collected \$24.00 for two weeks and had to call Mr. DeLoach about light in kitchen. They had used some appliance and burned the socket, as was too heavy for that wire. I explained about the heavy duty service which is behind the refrigerator - but had to repair the damage done by the use of too heavy toaster, or, rather a small electric oven. Always something, but am glad to have this couple for a few weeks. They are in 60's. He is Peach inspector and works U.S. Ag. Dept. Will be looking for you Friday afternoon, and, if able, glad to go to Reception with you. Making this short. Will talk when you get here.

Have to drop a note to Ruth Pate. Her mother had light stroke-Cerebral Thrombosis- Early Sunday AM but recovered and was able to take food for breakfast. Dr. kept her home and said thought her condition favorable to recovery



The TITLE Mr. Eltzroth fixed up was not like what he read to us, so sent it back for corrections. He had named "Mrs. Margaret Peeples" leaving out "F", as grantor, and had added Est. of B.R. Johnston in as an East boundary. I, of course mailed it back in late May and did not find a corrected Title when I got here yesterday, but suppose it will be sent soon. This is June term of Court now, so guess that is the excuse for not answering my letter and sending on a corrected TITLE. I instructed that he use the East boundary description as in my original Title and of course to name Mrs. Margaret F. Peeples, as grantor. He had used the check I paid him, as it came in my May bank statement.

Well, must get off note to Randy and to Ruth. Look for you Friday and be glad to have you as long as you wish. The rain we had did help, but yesterday grass looked dry and wilted. We are having a Workshop at Garden Club meeting this afternoon and I have no flowers worth mentioning. A few Daisies and Day Lillies, but will find something, and go. I am feeling fine, just too fat. Don't lose a pound, but keeping at a standstill, thankful for that.

Love and good wishes,

*Ernie*



Estill, S. C. Jan. 11th. 1966.

Dear Bob & Cora: Thank you for your letter. I do appreciate all you two did for me while you were here - and for the gifts. Randolph and family got off about 6 PM. on Sunday. We had a nice day Sunday - Randy slept quite a while in the afternoon. The children seemed to enjoy being here. Ruth left right after dinner since she had to be back in time to attend a party for Mr. Wilson, who was retiring from their office. He has a sort of nice Nursery business going that will give him something to do and some income.

I've been busy writing a few notes, then the Jimmy Morrisons moved out of the trailer when I said no "dogs" - the little puppy that attracted Robert so belonged to them. Thinking back, I believe you did not see this part hound puppy that soon would have been a menace to the flowers and worse to the Park. They have moved in with Oscar and are there, I imagine not for long. Have had Lula Mae cleaning the Trailer yesterday afternoon and again this afternoon. The policeman who had been wanting a trailer moved in yesterday. May not be here too long, or could be for some time. Never know, but somehow I feel better about things. Gene Chassereau paid up his rent and expects to keep the other trailer, unless he can get a house to move his parents into town, since his mother is taking care of his two small children. He said he will not be having his wife again. Mrs. Burch saw them all in the store up town last Saturday and said the children were clean and happy looking, and both were much improved. Actually they are quite bright and intelligent looking, so maybe they'll get off to a good start after all.

The gas people gave me another load of dirt for Randy's lot. I'll have to get someone to move and spread it and I believe this will give all that is needed, unless I put in a load of sand as a sort of top finish.

Mrs. Camp, also Mrs. Annie Rhodes are both quite ill - maybe terminal cases. Guess you knew Mamie Theus was buried last Wednesday, I think. *maybe Thursday* Remind me and I'll tell you about the escapade Charles Summer got into on Monday before they left Wednesday before I had dinner on Saturday. Just a bit of what and how the real young act, but enough to worry his parents. I am feeling fine. When you come I'll make you a birthday cake to take back with you - and now I'm wishing you the best of Happy Birthdays, and many more, and am sending you this check to buy something you want or need. Remember you and Cora are always wanted and welcome, so come anytime. Ruth said your upholstery work has been completed and that she thinks it will be another week before she comes to Estill and that she hopes to bring it then on to Hilton Head - that will be a week from this coming Saturday. No especial news.

My love and good wishes,

*wants to see Grandma  
Charles Sunday afternoon -  
mother*



July 7, 1965.

Dear Bob: Took stock on our bank balance and have decided to buy another twenty shares of United Fund Shares - Income - which should amount to a cost of something around three hundred dollars. Will you please send in this order for me at once and will pay as we usually handle such. I note the buying price in today's paper is 14.99, I believe. However just get in my order for the twenty shares of United Income Fund as soon as is possible.

Ruth and I did not agree on any work we thought might add to the comfort of this house. She wanted one thing and I wanted another. We are still good friends, just a matter of difference of opinion and since neither was really essential want to invest my money on hand. May be able to buy another twenty shares by the end of the year. We spent a quiet Fourth and Fifth of July. Ruth got up early Monday morning - about eight o'clock when she began mowing the back yard all the way through to several rows on the Trailer park, then she started on the front yard and did all of that including the "side-burns" and under the large Pecan tree. I know she has paid for it in soreness for that was too much to finish before 11:30 AM., which she did. Yesterday I had to go to the Bank, pay the water bill - and Otis and Mildred are going out of the Store business. They had advertized everything and was selling out at one-fourth and one half off. Not especially GOOD buys, but I did spend a couple of hours there and bought some standard priced things at the discount - such as socks for the children, a nice sweater for John's christmas and a prize to be given at our next meeting of the Garden Club. I have never been able to buy dresses at Mildred's, and few other things. Her stock of goods was low - so they must have had something like this in mind for some time. Just say that do not know what will do, but have a prospect to buy and reopen the Store here.

Played Bridge at Mrs. Thomas' yesterday afternoon. This morning I've done some washing and written a couple of letters besides ~~that~~ I worked by the grape vine hoeing the grass under the small clothes line but did not complete the job. Will do the balance another morning. The Burch's continue to work on their improvements. As soon as it is safe to move some Azaleas and Dog Wood, I hope it will suit you to come and stay a week and help me get some moved. I have worked at the ditch crossing and also put out grass along the 2nd. street trailers. Have everything rented at present. The Simpsons will be leaving early next week. Have had two applicants for the upstairs, but expect to go very slow about renting that.

I hope you and Cora are fine and that you are keeping busy. Had a note from Edith and she said all that you two did helping with the dinner arrangements was appreciated and they enjoyed having you so much.

My love and good wishes, *Come whenever you like -*  
*always glad to have you.*

*Mother Mergie*



Estill, S. C. Oct. 27, 65.

Dear Bob: Thank you for your letter which arrived yesterday and Cora for her note some days ago. It is always nice to hear from you and interesting to hear about what you are doing. Sara M. Lawton had told me and Ruth about seeing you at the dinner in Ridgeland. I have been sort of under the weather with, I suppose, trouble with spots of the diverticulae and have done practically no work outside since you were here. The Gene Chassereau though has done quite a lot of cleaning on Randy's lot around the east side of his trailer. I told him that if he'd clean the whole that I would give him a month's rent and he has used my mowing machine to do the biggest part so far. He has not had regular work for the past two weeks - only about half time - and so this should help him and me. The Town has cleaned out the canal some and it surely is an improvement, except not what anyone would call a real good job. The odor is much less so Sara and Mrs. Burch say, but the Manufacturing plant is in operation again and there is flowing water that helps. Yesterday I played a table of Bridge for the first in weeks. Ruth was home for Carolyn's funeral from Friday noon through Sunday. This was such a surprise to all of us. Carolyn had come home with Sissy Baker, who is teaching near Atlanta and living in Atlanta, the previous week end. She came up behind me on that Sunday and kissed me on the side of the face and looked so alive and fine. Was the first time I'd seen her dressed up since she lost more than forty pounds in weight. A Mrs. Francis Smith - the lady friend who came to Bluffton in the summer to drive Carolyn back to Atlanta in the late summer came with a cousin of Lib's from Atlanta for the funeral. She was with Carolyn at the hospital when she died. It seems she had gone to her Doctor earlier in the afternoon when she was not feeling so well and the Doctor had sent her to hospital in ambulance and Francis Smith had gone with her, getting the necessary things to take for personal use, around five o'clock that Wednesday afternoon, after Cryoly was here on Sunday, and Carolyn said she really did not feel too bad and didn't understand why the Doctor had sent her, and was laughing and talking about Francis not having brought the right tube of toothpaste and etc., but Frances cautioned her to be quiet and left the room telling Carolyn that she would be just outside in the hall - then she called a Nurse to go and stay with her when the nurse came out in a hurry and calling for a Doctor Frances then looked in and saw Carolyn gasp a time or so and knew she was not conscious, when the nurse and Doctor came rushing back and they got busy trying to revive her - Francis said she really died right then not aware of what struck her. The hospital folks continued to work with the machines and etc. from then until finally about nine o'clock they admitted she was dead. They had called the Wyman's here and Framoie Jr. and Camille had gone, leaving here around 8:30, being as soon as they could get off after they got the message from the hospital that she was ill. Mr. W - had been sick all week with a severe cold. He did walk in the Church for the funeral through the front and on out through the back door after the very formal service, no singing and not flowers except the casket spray and a basket on the regularly placed pedestal on the left of the pulpit. At the cemetery the service was again simple, no singing, and not once was her name called in either service. There were many floral tributes, about the most I have ever seen here, and also an unusually large attendance. Caro said she had talked with Mr. W - a few days before and he had told her that he was much concerned about Carolyn altho she apparently was doing fine - then he had listed some eight or more who had dropped off very young in the family and said that considering the history that he could not feel otherwise than to be anxious - which was all too true. I am helping Mildred with her Book Club this morning and will be going there, carrying Mahala, around 9 AM. Plan to take it quietly.



I am wondering if Cora will let me bring the Dessert for the Dinner since she has no oven to bake. Thelma gave me some pecans - and I have picked up between five and ten pounds here, so will bring a couple of cakes, plus some chocolate coated Brownies for the children, if she is willing. I'd like so much to do this and will surely be no trouble for me - or, if there is something she'd rather plan, then I could go ahead and do just whatever she prefers. My suggestion in full would be a pound cake, a dried apple fruit cake and the Brownies, iced in chocolate, and I'd also be glad to bring a molded Angel Bavarian that everyone seems to think is extra nice - each of the cakes will cut into more than twenty slices apiece and should give sufficient with the iced Brownies about forty or more. Now, I know that Cora can do all of this well, but I'd like to help, just as I am helping Mildred today, and no one need know other than Ruth and me and you two. What is your answer.

I find that the man who works regularly at the Cemetery is sick, but the Garden Club has given me permission to hire help to put out the thirty odd Dogwood - and I've also asked to buy some Watermelon Red Crepe Myrtle plants that will give some bloom in the summer. The plantings now are all spring blooming. Someone suggested some Day Lillies, but these also would bloom before June, and actually after studying the present planting I just cannot see where they could be used to advantage. Anyway I want to get this done sometime before the first of December.

Nothing happening of interest. Note what you say about the ones to be with you at Thanksgiving. I had a note from Randolph last week and he sent the interest check for the year, altho it was not due until Nov. 1st. Am going to look around for the new refrigerator, but will not go into any work about changing the kitchen now. Believe Ruth has given up the idea of buying a new car, but of course never know what she will do. You know the Office has been consolidated in Columbia and she had a raise from that plus the 3.6 % voted for all, so she is not too disappointed about not going on the Theater Train trip to New York, or, losing some of her vacation days that she will be unable to take.

My love and good wishes to you two, and remember I am with you at all times to help in any way I can. Certainly I have faith that all will be well, if we just do the best we can each day.

Have the red blouse that came with the plaid suit and maybe Cora will like it for a change. Ruth said that by all means the dark cotton you sort of liked was free for use, so I have it washed and ready, but will not iron until we can see if any adjustment is needed.

Come any time you like.

*Mother*



Feb. 24, 1966.

Dear Bob:

Was nice having your letter telling of what you and Cora are doing. I'm glad you have these trips, short, but then a break in everyday living. Ruth came home Saturday noon and was here until early Wednesday morning. Sunday afternoon we drove down to Bluffton, stopped by to speak with Mrs. P.K. Rhoad and found Edith there. We had a nice visit. She is 77. It's funny how we get ideas about people, for I thought she must be at least in her eighties and it sort of slapped me in the face when I found that she isn't quite six years older than I am. Certainly hope that my health will continue to hold for me until my passing comes. Yesterday I went to Hampton to the Dr. Harter there who does Theima's and Benita's dental work. I had Dr. List to fix a tooth for me not long ago and it was already causing trouble, so decided to try Dr. Harter. Certainly I am of the opinion that he seems to be concerned and trying to do good work. It seems that my main tooth for chewing is in bad shape. He found deep infection that also was causing trouble with the adjoining tooth. If this is controlled he advises that I take good care of what I have and do nothing more, which I am glad to hear. Mahala rode over with me and I was in the Dr's chair for about an hour and a half. \$21.00. He does not recommend that I have any front teeth capped, since he feels it could not be done in a way to give satisfaction, which is what Dr. Mixson told me just before he went to Atlanta. Guess I'll just have to be happy with my old discolored ones for the present. He says he does not like false teeth and would avoid having them as long as possible.

Note what you wrote of your plans going here and there. That is fine. The Downing Camellia plant is full of blooms and all are pretty but some smaller than usual. The C.M. Wilson, Paulette Goddard and Chandleri are all in bloom. Am afraid the Vielle will not have any blooms worth considering. The Margaret Higdon and Tomorrow also seem to have been much damaged and now what buds are opening are not well shaped. The cold was unusual. Ruth put out three hundred pounds of Fertilizer, Pecan special, on our Pecan trees. She used the shovel to cut down about eight inches, then filled each little cut with fertilizer. It was some work. I wanted to try and get a colored man to do this work, but she insisted that she could and wanted to. She was all in when she finished Tuesday afternoon, but came in had a hot bath, washed her hair and got things together so she could leave early yesterday morning.

Nothing to write that you might be interested in. Come any time that you wish, and my love to you and Cora.

*M. E. Hart*



Tuesday Noon. Mch. 29, 1966.

Dear Bobby: Thank you for your letter. Ruth came home the past week end and Derby came with her. Derby was having a week off for Spring Holidays. After Mr. Tuten died, Ruth thought it would be better for her to come home, which she did, and helped with the family at their house, so she will not be coming again until Good Friday. She read your letter and when I said I'd write you it seems that maybe she will write also, maybe not, but anyway we'll get to Hilton Head on Saturday before Easter and pick up the papers. We thank you for the dinner invitation and if the change is suitable for you, then maybe we'll come on Sat. April 9th. Will let you know if it is necessary for us to be absolute. Derby is staying with me this entire week and I believe Randolph and the two boys are going to Bluffton this Saturday and clean up the yard and decide on what will have to be done about the roof, then come on by here and pick Derby up. Something like that is what I am able to make out of what I've heard here and there. Just to have something to do, I'm going to Hampton to see if my Tea Pot has come back in good condition. Haven't anything else special to do. Tell Cora that I have finished the pale green dress that she thought she might wear to something special. I think it looks, just fine. Do you know I asked the girl upstairs to try it on for me to see if I had the hem line straight and it fit her perfectly - except I did not have the hem in so the length was long. I never would have thought that she could fasten that dress on her, a size 14, but it was perfect. This is sort of a quiet week here and nothing for Derby to do, except visit with Dot's children. Had a travel trailer to park overnight last night \$2.00 - and all other the same as when you were here. The two of mine are rented O.K. I've put out a few small Red Buds and a small Dog Wood that was in the wrong place. The flowers have been pretty and decided a few more Red Bud would help on the back lot. The Tulips are in bloom, at least the ones in the front yard and the red ones down at the Burch site. Some must be earlier blooming than others. Am glad to know that you are well, contented, and interested in way of life. I am fine, just wish I had someone to help me get the place outside in some better shape, and of course still looking forward to getting the porch roof fixed and the bit of work in the kitchen done. I'd like to do some housecleaning then. My love and best wishes for you both,

*J. T. Fisher*



May 31, 1966. Estill, S.C.

Dear Bob & Cora:

Just a short note to say we are back, came in via Greer, where we stopped for an hour's visit with Paul, then on to Columbia after dark Thursday, then to Estill on Friday. We were tired and stayed on bed most of first day at home, then had wedding gifts to buy and graduation gifts for many, also the small trailer on the canal bank had been vacated the Sunday before and this had to be cleaned as there were three people wanting to rent it. Let the Mr. & Mrs. Simpkins, Peach Inspector from Fla. move in on Sunday afternoon. They probably will be here not more than three or four weeks, but are nice and expect the others will be glad to come in later. Seems to be a constant demand. It seems there has been too much rain around here and everyone is crying, however none at all yesterday and I mowed grass three hours in the morning and two in the late afternoon. Won't do too much today though for I wanted to write this note to you, one to Randy and other things to do. Thank you for the Credit Cards. I used around seventy-two dollars on the two - about thirty odd on Gulf and the other forty odd on Phillips 66. I am enclosing a check for \$75.00 to take care of these tickets as you are billed with them and keep the small balance for your efforts in writing checks and stamps. We had a very good trip and saw much that I had not seen on the other trip. Stopped one night with Charley. Will tell you more if you are interested when we get together again. Here in Estill life has gone on as before, but there is much to be done around this place. Come when it suits.

Love and best of wishes and thanks again for the cards. The trip cost less than the one I took over with you, a week longer also, but of course it was the return ticket home by air that brought the cost up. We went to Las Vegas and on up into southwest Utah, and this was beautiful country. The driving is wonderful as all roads are just about perfect. The Georgia roads, also Alabama were sort of bad, rough, but otherwise all fine. Quite a bit of change around Grand Canyon, beautiful roads but not like the full view we got - observation points are many - just change that to me takes away from the majesty of the natural.

*mother*

*Will return your  
cards in person  
when see you again -*



Estill, S. C.  
Monday, Oct. 24, 66.

Dear Bob:

Thank you for the letter for it is always reassuring and a comfort to hear from you, Ruth and Randolph. Note what you say about this coming weekend. It happens that I have made several trips to Cola. recently trying to decide just what to do about my teeth and think I have made a decision and now there is the consideration about when appointments will work in to advantage for me and for Ruth. It seems that is difficult, since she is never sure until almost the last minute if she will be out of town. I will be pleased to have you and Cora come in Saturday and be here as long as you like. I cannot go to Columbia with you, however, for it just does not suit me to make such a trip with nothing to do, except to go. Ruth is not sure if she will be leaving to attend Court in Florence, or just what her situation will be. I believe she is expecting one of the ladies who works in Court to maybe be with her and Helen. When she has anyone in they either give up Helen's room with a single bed, then she and Helen sleep together in her bed. They have sleeping room for three only. Ruth owns and uses the double bed. You see how it is. Anyway, I'll be looking for you Saturday.

It is a lovely day here today. We are trying to prepare today what can be done for the meeting of the Presbytery here tomorrow. Have to get dinner for around eighty men. I am to make cake for tomorrow and am now hurrying to get to the Church to help with tables and such preparations. Please excuse the abruptness, must go.

My best to you both; will be looking for you.

*Mother Morgan*



Tuesday, Nov. 30, 1966.

Dear Bob and Cora:

Let me say a big thank you for the very pleasant Thanksgiving Day. I enjoyed being with you and the others very much. Went back to Columbia with Ruth on ~~Friday~~ Monday morning and had my dental work about completed. Came back to Estill on the Bus Saturday morning. Ruth had to go to Charleston Sunday afternoon. She did not know how long she would be there, but had a room at the Fort Sumter that Doris Appleby had reserved for her. She has friends there so I expect that it may be pleasant, as well as work. I expect to go back to Columbia for the final adjustment this coming Monday, Dec. 5th. I believe Ruth plans to be here and so will ride back with her then back to Estill via Bus - and start plans cleaning, and etc. for the folks on Sunday 11th. Will hold dinner until 1 o'clock so that you are able to be here with us. Charley, Mahala, and ~~Otis~~ Paul and their families will not be here, but expect the others (maybe Steve will not come as he cannot get back to Clemson) however, there still will be a full croud of around thirty or so. I like the front teeth fine and they are no trouble at all, quite an improvement, I think, but the partial plate for the back teeth is not a good fit on the left side, so I am hoping this will be corrected when I go to have the front teeth have the permanent caps put on. Take care of yourself, will be awaiting your arrival on Dec. 11th. Have rented the Spartan Trailer so feel encouraged about finances. Had spent an extra hundred on my teeth, so was a bit short, or at least I missed the Trailer rent and with Christmas at hand seemed a bit short. Actually had enough, but just felt, or missed that income.

Take care and wukk be expecting you,

Love,

*Johnathan*



Feb. 1, 1967.

Dear Bob & Cora:

Read your notes and glad to know that you were able to find a Camellia that you wanted. What I want to say is that I have the Chandleri Elegans, now blooming, in the front yard that I'll be happy for you to have, so why not take this one and use your money for something else. It seems that the Spagnum Moss is hard to acquire, but one Company in Columbia is to have some in stock shortly so Ruth is getting some for me and I plan to get busy. You know that I have two other larger Elegans and also that at least one large limb of the C.M. Wilson is a very handsome Elegans, so you will not be depriving me to take the one in the front yard.

I've been busy last week getting the Income taxes off and am glad that the four I needed to get in the mail have been finished. Quite a relief, yet in a way the contact with these people was pleasant and good for me, as well as the little extra cash.

Ed Burch got out his electric lawn mower and after mowing his lawn on Lawton Ave. came on around in back and did a large section the East of his Travel trailer. It is quite a joy to have them. The Camellias ~~are~~ much in bloom and many are handsome, so much more than the several days ago when you were here. Benita is not so well. No word from Mahala as to when she plans to return, but think Mildred said their last news is that it will be another two or three weeks.

I believe that Ruth said something about calling you. Anyway she does not expect to be at home this coming weekend as I think she is to be at court in Rockhill this weekend. Betsy Wyman rode back with her Sunday.

*It was nice having you and Cora  
and come any time you like -*

*Love*

*Margie*



Estell S. C.

Jan 12, 1947.

Dear Bobby -

I think of all my family  
often and especially on anniversary -  
Had a card from Cora dated Jan 5  
and 7.0 ~~for Texas~~ Corte roads - Calif.  
She is now probably on the return  
trip - I know she must have had a  
very interesting visit - I am glad she  
could go and decided on this method -  
am anxious to see Cora and hear  
of her experiences -

am going to Colo. in the morning  
for appointment with Dr Luten to try  
and get this partial plate more com-  
fortable - and change the cap on the small  
tooth as it is short at gum and it seems  
that might cause leak and infection -

Oliver, Mildred, Fern and Mabelle went  
to jump yesterday 4 P.M. then go on to Orlando  
today - Oliver ~~and Fern~~ comes back Sunday & Mabelle  
plans to stay 2 weeks or longer - No more

The check is for your birthday 20.00  
+ 5.00 for Cora to pay for difference on



watch I gave for birthday & Christmas -  
Hope you do have a happy birthday  
and many more - Come when it  
suits you and if you let me know  
I'll make you a cake to take back  
with you -

I did not get a Sea View Catalog  
but Helen Johnston did so if you want  
to look it over she said she would be  
glad for you to have it -

Had Bank Club - Sunday P.M. - one  
month early, however glad to have that  
over -

Love & good wishes and hope  
you'll come soon

Mother



Saturday AM. Feb. 18, 1967.

Dear Bob: Thank you for the letter and glad to hear about various activities. Sorry you did not get the Elegans Camellia from here, as I have two other plants and then one large limb on the C. M. Wilson, probably the stock that was grafted, is a handsome variety of Elegans. This plant had four beautiful blooms open now, one bud yet to open and one that is over. I hope all of your purchases grow well and give big returns. I do not know of any plants that give so much satisfaction all the year around. Ruth was here over the week end. Dr. Lilly had dinner with us, also I asked Edgar, Elsie and Mary and it was quite a nice day. He said that he knew you and complimented you on your music. I believe he plays also. They are planning a trip to England as I believe one of their sons is living there for a year or so. He said that he had been here to dinner before, but I did not especially recall the time. I have heard nothing from Randolph and Ruth Pate, but had valentines from the children, then Marce did write and thank me for the check I sent for her birthday. Ruth Pate did write me about two weeks ago, but said nothing of interest. That she had washed so many tubs of laundry, cooked so many meals and on Sundays she taught a class of seven-year old children at S. C. - and that the boys, or entire Band, had decided not to go to Nassau - as the trip jumped from a first estimate of \$65.00 to \$110.00 per each. Mahala is at home again. She said yesterday that Charley had pushed his trip up a week and was leaving Calif. on March 13th, however did not say how many are coming. She said she had not heard from Jane since the wedding at Christmas. However, I believe she is expecting Charley, Dod and Carolyn. This morning it is a slow rain here and am invited to the Bush's to a "Coffee" at 9:30. Thelma asked me to go with them and has just 'phoned and said she is at the Beauty Shop and will not be here until about 9:45. I understand many people are invited on the hour and there will be coming and going all day long. The party is at Edna's and her daughter and daughter-in-law are co-hostesses.

You should see the Camellias in full bloom all over the yard. However the Victor Emmanuel and Mrs. Charles Cobb have not begun to open yet. The blooms are especially large and handsome. I have carried many to the sick and given by the dozens for party decorations on several occasions. However, I did not send, or offer, any for this - and I am ashamed that I forgot for there are so many. I believe Mrs. Bush has quite a few plants and then she and Virginia Lawton are close, so I'm sure she had plenty. I've been doing some limb grafting - trying to get the plant by the back door finished up with Joshua Youtz and then working on the one in the front yard to get more French Donckelaari there. Am wearing a white Pride of Descanso this morning with my newest suit, a bright green David-Dow that Ruth bought on sale for me and which I do not think you have seen. It is most comfortable and I like it. I had looked at it when we bought the things for Derby, but actually did not need a suit. It had been marked down from \$125.00 to \$80.00 then and Ruth said a clerk called her and said it was marked down - for what reason I do not know - again so Ruth bought it and I imagine probably for considerably less than the \$80.00. She would not tell me, but I'll be able to figure when I check the bank statement at the end of this month, and of course will repay. You mention being off the next Sunday, I believe, in fact several places, so of course come by and stay as long as it suits. Will be glad to have you and Cora any time and there is always plenty to make you comfortable. R. W. came in yesterday morning and stayed a couple of hours. Said he was planning to go to Hilton Head and wondered if you were at home. Your letter had just come, so read him your plans, so perhaps he has seen you by this.

My best wishes to you and Cora and will be happy to see you any time.

*Mary*

*Mrs. Bush's party this morning at 9:30*



May 22, 1968.

Dear Bob & Cora: Am still unsettled from the time off on the trip which we enjoyed, especially seeing Mahala and family, Lilah, Ethel and Elaine, and the beauties of Florida. We feel that the money spent on the Boat trip could have been enjoyed much more simply riding around through Florida. We spent three nights with Ethel and Lilah and took them out with us during the two days when we went riding around the gulf coast, and to Clearwater where we had dinner that night at the Kapook Tree Inn. It is a beautiful place. The next day we went to Bush Gardens and around the College Campus where Lilah is to work as Councilor in one of the Sorority Houses this coming school term. Ethel had lost a front tooth, about a year ago she said, and had not had it fixed. Why I can't understand, gave the excuse that she and her Dentist do not agree on how to make repair best. She lives with Lilah and rents the house she call her own, so I imagine she has enough income to at least have her dental work done. Lilah spoke as if she hopes to come to Estill probably for a few days in July. I believe she figures this is the only time she will have free to leave home before her work begins again. Ruth and I were glad to have your letter and hear about your plans for developing the sixteen acres of land you bought. Mahala and Forest showed us the lot they bought in Orlando and on which they were to begin their house within the next week. They bought on a man-made canal, about thirty foot wide, that ~~enters~~ enters the lake, or larger water so that they can use a boat to their back door. The lot is about 160 feet deep and 80 Ft. on the main road that leads into a wooded are about two blocks down that is covered with ~~large~~ large spreading old oaks where the lots sell for \$25,000.00 per each. This place is about four miles nearer to where Forest works and is off the main line of travel so it will not be so noisy. From the map you sent us, it seems that you will have entrance by water to the Inland Waterway and of course this will be a help in developing and selling off the part you do not want to keep for your own personal use. Note what you say of plans for Lawton Reunion and etc., so see that you'll be busy and your time occupied which is good. I have much work to do here getting the place cleaned again and at present have on trailer (next to Sarah's) unrented for the past week. All the flowers are gone, believe I cut the remaining Amaryllis to have flowers in the living room last night when the Amer. Legion Aux. met with me. We have over 100 members, but to have from six to eighteen present at a meeting is usual, nine being an average and that was what we had last night. We do quite a lot of work though and the members, most of them, contribute when asked or contacted. Cora, there is a practically new cotton dress and jacket here from Ruth if you are interested. Would be ideal for this cool weather, but I expect you may as well forget it until fall that is if you can make adjustments and want it. Lilah tells us that Stoney is going to be in Charlottesville Va. for another year getting his P.H.D. degree. Billie Dee and his wife are expecting an addition to the family in August, I think. Their son is five years old. Mahala says that John & Jane are coming to Duke Uni. this fall to study there for John to get his Master's degree. Nothing especial to say. Come when it suits you. I am fine, and we did have a very nice trip through Florida. Key West and the drive there was especially interesting.

Love and good wishes,

*W. Walker*



Dear Bob + Cora -

I thank you for coming by yesterday - How you had a great visit in Angete and all was so better than you anticipated - Don't know why I forgot an important piece of news - ~~Photo~~ answered a big question -

She emptied the chest upstairs last year when the second teacher came to stay upstairs after Colchester - gave clothes being in chest to you two - then she

put the chest up on shelf in the laundry room - I forgot to tell you it is there for you - I am so glad we found it right there - Hope you + Cora had a wonderful visit to Angete -

Come any time you have a chance to - Love + best wishes always -  
mother

Oct-16-1980



Wednesday P.M. Nov. 17.

Dear Bob & Cora:

Haven't heard from you since I mentioned that I'd be glad to bring a couple of cakes and cookies for Thanksgiving, if this will be O.K. since your Oven is not working.

I have been busy - not so well about three weeks ago, had fever, no cold, but guess it was some sort of virus. Am fine now. The man has just completed the roof painting, which should last for another eight years, I hope. I went out Saturday with the young white man who lives on the back lot and we put out 2 ~~5~~ Dog Wood trees at the Cemetery. He dug them and we made two trips to get them all out there. The weather was murky, but not exactly rain, and we got them all planted in four hours. I had been out there the day before (Helen J) went with me, and we had the man who does the regular work there to dig the holes for planting - so this made it easier to get them in on Saturday morning. I hope they all live. Still have plenty of trees that should be taken out of the various flower beds. I have planted out six or so on the back lot and have given Mr. Burch a number of Azaleas and two or three Camellias. They are expecting their son and his wife to come in Sunday night, or Monday to spend the week with them, and are quite happy. I've been helping Gene Chassereau by giving him rent to do work and it has surely helped as the whole lot is cleaned pretty well - the dead oak has been cut also the pine and Dog wood that was in the new drive - and the place cleaned. Of course there are many leaves. I believe the total Pecan crop has shelled out around three quarts. Ruth says she will fertilize next spring and keep the Squirrels away, too, so maybe we'll have a larger crop.

I plan to bring Thursday, some chocolate coated brownies, an Angel Bavarian cake topped with whipped cream (serves at least twenty) half of a fruit cake, being about 2½lb~~s~~. and a Pound cake, nothing preventing.

Think nothing especial to write, but am looking forward to being with you Thursday. My love and good wishes to youboth.

We have enjoyed our Joshua Youtz Camellias. Gorgeous. Have <sup>mother Margie</sup> seven open now and more large buds. Have also had a number of Empress that are extra handsome, a number of Debutantes and only one High Hat. It was a real beauty.



Thursday Noon.

Dear Bob:

Just to say your card received and thank you for letting me know about the change for I would have been looking for you on Monday night. I do not plan to go to Columbia since there is nothing I actually need and the ride is tiresome, also have work to do here.

Hope you are feeling fine and that all is well there. See you Tuesday. If I knew the time you planned to arrive would have invited a couple or so to be with you - but, if it suits maybe can plan something for Wednesday night when you are to be back from Columbia -- altho this is Prayer Service night and I do go out at 7:30 as a rule. Will talk when you are here.

I am fine, just procrastinating about the Income Tax work.

Love,

*Brother*



## PEEPLS—SUMMER

Dr. and Mrs. Johnston Peeples of Estill, S. C., announce the engagement of their daughter, Mahala Olive, to Charles Forrest Summer, Jr., first lieutenant, U. S. Army, of Newberry, S. C.

Miss Peeples is a graduate of Coker College, Hartsville, S. C. Since then she has held a position with the Liberty Life Insurance Company in Greenville, S. C., and for the past year has worked for Dr. Harrison L. Peeples in Scotia, S. C. Lieutenant Summer is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Forrest Summer of Newberry, S. C. He attended Newberry College before entering the army. He has recently returned after serving two years in the European theater.

The wedding will take place at the Lawtonville Baptist Church in Estill in December.