

Dear Annie and Boris,

For weeks I have been berating myself for not writing to you, so Boris' letter received two days ago was a reproach, as well as a delight to us. We think of you so often, in the wonderful coolness as well as peace and tranquillity of Sandhamn. It has been one of the most frightful summers in United States that we have ever lived through. The 90 degree heat began the first week in May and has been unremitting. Both May and June were the hottest and driest months ever on record for the District of Columbia. July has had a few thunderstorms, but not nearly enough, and the heat and humidity, temperatures going up to 100, have been unprecedented. For the first time in his life Bill has ~~XXXXXXXX~~ found the heat practically unbearable. For a man who has thought nothing in the past of playing 9 holes of golf on the hottest of days, he has found it impossible to face the heat long enough to take the mile walks the doctors order for his leg-circulation. We have staid strictly within the AX air-conditioned house, and gone out only for doctors' appointments.

He has recently been through a series of examinations and tests with one of the leading heart specialists in Washington, in an attempt to find out the cause of his extreme weakness, fatigue and exhaustion, which is constant. He also has attacks of extreme shortness of breath, plus alternate spells of drenching perspiration followed by chills. At such times his temperature ~~drops~~ drops to ~~xxxxx~~ 94 degrees, or less (98.6 is normal). Now he is being given injections of vitamin B-12, and is taking a new medicine called here choladyl. He was taking so many different medicines at one time that I kept a chart--to make sure he got them all in withing the 24 hours.

In addition to his miseries, so to speak, this country is having a very difficult problem in the field of race relations. The passage of the civil rights bill could not instantly cure all the ills of the negro, and there have been so many bloody riots, murders, ~~xxxxx~~ burnings, etc., etc. that the daily news is to say the least absolutely HORRENDOUS. Washington itself has been free of these ~~xxx~~ forms of violence, but one cannot escape the sight and sound of it all around us. And on top of all the foregoing, the nauseating spectacle of the Republican convention with the scarifying result in Barry Goldwater being nominated, is almost more than an intelligent, feeling person can take.

All in all we are inclined to regret very much having come home from Europe. You are fortunate to have had your family with you, and in such surroundings. Your letter indicates that Ingrid is returning to the States. I had been under the impression that she had planned to stay in Europe. I know if I had the choice I would be staying over there!

As for our family, we have had several short visits from John; and Eric, John's 10-year-old son, flew down from Boston all by himself for the Memorial Day week-end, Friday to Monday evening. My sister in the Middle-West died in June. I flew out there for three days--the first time in six years I had been back to my native habitat. Otherwise neither Bill nor I have been away from Washington since our return from Europe.

Boris, I am very sorry to hear that you are not pursuing your autobiography seriously. I know how hard it is to parcel ones time to get such dictating done, so may I make a suggestion? Assign so many hours to your father's history, and the same number of hours to your own. Or do the one one day and the other the next day. Then you might not get tired or bored with either.

Annie, dear, we do hope you are not overdoing, and that you have the perfect rest in idyllic Fryksos. I just hope that getting in the new bath, etc. will not spoil the restful quietude of that heavenly place.

Bill says to say for him that he is glad to hear that the Steinhansen project has gone through and he wishes you every success. We assume, ~~that~~ since it is so near Zug, that you will keep your home in Zug?

Please give our regards to the various members of your family, and especially to Annie's sweet sisters Edith and Vera. We often speak of them.

Most affectionately,