

June 4th.

Dear Frank,

You will remember that I discussed with you some time ago the possibility of a visit to Shetland this summer, and we mentioned the beginning of July as a tentative date. I hope that this will not upset any plans you have made, but I want now to postpone the visit, either until September - or, if you can't make it then, until next Easter. Several reasons for this decision, but the principal one is that I still haven't been able to send the summary of our results to Shetland, and I feel that it would be politic to do so before we go again. I also feel, after some reflection, that July is likely to be difficult with regard to accommodation, - much more so than September.

So far as September is concerned, I would suggest leaving from here immediately after the Colloquium, and either motoring up to Aberdeen or flying directly from here - depending on the availability of ~~hire~~ hire cars in the northern islands. Would you let me know what you think about this? I hope that you will be able to make either September or next Easter, for I very much enjoyed the last joint venture to Shetland.

I seem to have had hardly <sup>(spare)</sup> any time since the beginning of the Easter Vac. ~~I~~ I had a week-end course for the Extra-Mural Dept at the beginning of the Vac. and then I spent a fortnight in London while I attended the L.M.S. Conference on Functional Analysis. The conference was very good, but very exhausting, and matters were not improved by the fact that Jean moved to her new maisonette



during the period when we were down there. It was, of course, purely coincidence (so she says!) but it landed both of us with a good deal of work. ~~Since~~ The conference over-ran the beginning of term by two or three days, so I came ~~back~~ straight back to lecturing. Since then there have been no meetings on syllabus changes, plus the usual exam marking, and the time seems to have flown past.

~~What~~ What is the situation with regard to your Nova Scotian material? Is there any chance of your being able to finish it, say within the next month? I hope to get our part of the manuscript finished by then, for all that remains now is to polish the chapter on Country Dances and add a short account of treeping. Could you also let me have Dunn back <sup>(please)</sup> before June 17th — that is our library recall date.

What do you think of Roger Marriott's ~~Special~~ <sup>Extraordinary</sup> General Meeting? I feel that he is not tactful, but that he is certainly correct ~~in~~ in his desire that the Society should make up its mind on what the Director should do, before it looks for "suitable" candidates. I had a letter from him on the same day as the Notice of the meeting arrived — the important extracts are:

I don't know what to do about the E.G.M. I am very tempted to go down, but am worried by the facts that criticism of the Society's past policy is criticism of Douglas. Also ~~and that~~ I have had no experience of the day-to-day work of the Society in its attempts to revive "folk"-dancing, so that I am ill-qualified to say what ~~the~~ it should do. ~~With~~ With regard to R.M., we are going to invite him up here for a session one Sunday before the E.G.M., so that he can have his illusions about "folk"-dancing shattered. After that, he may well feel that an undertaker is required, not a director.

We go down to Cambridge next week-end for me to take my Sc.D., and are then here until August 23rd, when we go to the Lakes for a holiday. Should you be in these parts, ~~you know~~ don't forget us.