

Princeton
Sept 64

Dear Tom,

My time in Princeton and the States is coming to an end. It has been one of the most enjoyable and profitable vacations which I have spent for a long time. The work on a homotopy theory for dynamical systems has come on very well and it has led to all sorts of side problems too, so I have plenty of maths to show when I get back to Southampton. Moreover, lots of my friends assumed that I was coming here looking for a job and had lined up contacts for me. I only took up one of them which was with the Atlantic Research Co. I thought that I was to be taken round the laboratories but when I got there I discovered that the chairman sent me his apologies; the vice-chairman and I talked for an hour, and I could only give the president half an hour. I had already told the chairman's personal assistant that I did not anticipate leaving Southampton yet, so they did not try to persuade me to work for them, but I heard later that they would very much have liked to have got me. So I return to England with much more confidence — I hope that I am not unduly swollen headed. That is all of the 'profit' side of the vacation, unless one counts renewed friendships under that heading.

The catalogue of enjoyments is much larger, but less easy to set down briefly. First there is the most wonderful woman I have ever met (I recall saying that about a woman I met in Greece last year too). Then a fortnight in Quebec fishing and canoeing with an old friend. Small mottled black bass are the best fighting fish there are in Canada, and we found a small lake full of them. My companion had not had such good fishing for twenty years, since the days when he was a guide in his father's camp.

After spending a few days back in Princeton, a week in New Haven, Connecticut staying with a Yale undergraduate who was the leader of the scull team in Princeton seven years ago, and then another week in Princeton, I set off across the country. This time I did not try to see places but simply

visited three people. Yet since the three people lived in Washington, Kansas and Victoria, Vancouver Island, I did see a lot of the country too. On the way back from Victoria I had a couple of days walking in in the mountains between the coast and the Rockies. They were two sunny days amongst a great many poor days so I was very lucky. I sat on a bus for four days and three nights to get back to Princeton. That is

FIRST FOLD

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D. & M. T. M. Platz

Glen Alpine
ENGLAND

AÉROGRAMME • PAR AVION

SECOND FOLD

DO NOT USE TAPE OR STICKERS TO SEAL

NO ENCLOSURES PERMITTED

one way to impress upon ones self the size of the country! There were only four bits of scenery between Victoria and Princeton - mountains - prairie - forest - rolling farmland. You get each one for a solid 24 hours. Now I am back in Princeton for the first two weeks. I went to the world fair a couple of days ago. It is just as good as its descriptions.

Best wishes Frank