



Mrs. W. Hugh Deal
Turon Kansas

of Mrs. Sarah Watson

W. Hugh Peal
1900 Que Street
Washington, D. C.

October 1, 1943

Darling:

I have heard nothing at all from Foster. That seems strange as he was on the point of decision when I was in New York and appeared to you to have made up his mind. Did I tell you his reaction when I asked him whether he thought Mr. Howell would resent his leaving? He said that that was a new idea and seemed to be troubled. Mr. Howell can be quite better when he is seriously crossed.

I have become accustomed to seeing WACs driving motor cars and trucks, but I never thought to see diminutive Woves as guards for the Navy Building. The one who patrols my corridor is only about 4'10" and carries a truncheon about three feet long.

Your letter sounds as though you might be gaining weight. Don't get spoiled by the food.

We are having an open air art show in the park just across from my windows. A copy of the Washington Square Show, I should say. It is bad

luck for the artists that the two
days they have been there have been
the first wet, gray days for months.
Arroyo, the fine sugar people behind
them is putting on a gorgeous show
of crimson and gold as if on purpose
to put their puny efforts to shame.

The more I have thought over Bill
Troylo's new move, the less enthusiastic
I have for it. The Security is bringing
these new men-like corpses into a pit
among the old members of its larger
organization. They will be frankly
rivals of each other and will be the
center of envy and dislike from all
the ambitious members of the old
group, I'm glad that the road isn't mine.

Love,
H.



BUY
WAR SAVINGS
BONDS AND STAMPS

Mrs. W. Hugh Seal
Turon Kansas

c/o Mrs. Sarah Watson

W. Hugh Peal
1900 Que Street
Washington, D. C.

October 3, 1943

Darling:

It was twenty-one years ago today that I sailed from ^{N. Y. to} Southampton to take up residence in Oxford. Enough time has elapsed for a child to be born and grow to voting age. A similar period will bring me to 66 - if I survive. And yet it doesn't seem very long. Pip and Drone Kester, who were among our most amusing companions, are gone.

Perhaps I was led to the thought of Oxford by reading a two volume collection of papers and speeches of Lord Berkenhead. One of the speeches is on the Oxford Union, and I heard it delivered at the Union at some celebration, the centenary, I think. Although past his prime, Berkenhead was still a great figure in England during my time there, especially at Oxford. He had been president of the Union himself and the place was alive with legends about him. Although I have eagerly looked for a good biography, I have never seen one. His daughter is a well-known novelist, Lady Eleanor Smith, but filial pride has not as yet led her to give the world and adequate account of her father. One of the interesting things about the book is the great admiration he had and expressed for Churchill.

I enclose an interesting letter from

Malcolm. of course I have written that we are not interested in the house I hope that he didn't find Mrs. Moore in residence when he went to the apartment.

I celebrate another anniversary on Tuesday - my first at the Navy Department. I trust that I shall not sound too conceited when I say that I think that my work is recognized as having value and that my relations with the Navy men are good. Perhaps cooperation is not always the quickest way - sometimes a very bad way - but generally it accomplishes results that are impossible to the militant reformers.

Your family will decide from the number of my letters that I am a love-sick husband. As, indeed, I am. Have a good time and write as often as you can.

Love,
H

2 Wall Street

October 1, 1943.

W. Hugh Peal, Esq.
Assistant General Counsel
Bureau of Ships
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Hugh:

I got back this week from a very hard but interesting trip to Chicago and central Illinois, where I was working on the new bond issue. Everything is moving along nicely, and I am enjoying the work a great deal.

I have just learned that, because of internal domestic difficulties, the Pangborns' house near us is for sale. To my mind it is a unique piece of property, about three-quarters of an acre directly on the water - on the side of the little harbor north of Eddie Eagans; that is, out on the water beyond the Hodgson house that Mr. Douglas Vought bought. The place has lots of trees and a house that was largely constructed in the middle 30s. The house was built for a family having two children. Perhaps it is too large - though it does not seem to me to be a large house - for you and Margaret to think of, even if you would consider coming to Rye or being on the waterfront. I know the fact that the house has a pier and a place to drag the sailboat from the water directly into the basement would not appeal particularly to Margaret. However, I want to write you about it at once because I think it is about the most desirable place that I know. I don't know of any small place which is directly on the water with ~~the~~ magnificent view which is not in the midst of a lot of other small places. But this place seems perfectly protected - and best of all from our standpoint, it is only a stone's throw from us. I understand that \$40,000 is being asked, but Mr. Vought said he thought that \$20,000 or \$25,000 represented about the market value. Whether it could be bought for this I don't know, but I want to write you about it at once. Though I haven't been inside the house, I believe that I would exchange our place for it in a minute. I should think that the Pangborn house is about the size of ours and probably much better built.

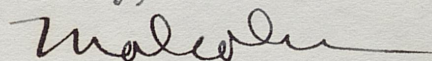
Foster has told me of changes contemplated, and, while my initial reaction was that of disappointment at the changes, I am inclined to believe from what he has told me that everything may be decidedly for the best.

I am sorry that we didn't get to see more of you and Margaret two weeks ago. I don't know when I have been so worn out. I hope that Margaret is now having a good vacation at home. Do give her our best. We hope you will let us know whenever it will be possible for you to come up to spend a weekend with us. Incidentally, Clare and I may use your apartment this evening - and probably on many other occasions, in conformity with tradition.

Don't bother to write about the matter of the house unless you are interested. This is such a unique opportunity in my opinion that I want to mention it to you before I see whether any of our other friends are interested.

With the best ever,

Sincerely,



P.S. You may have seen that this morning's papers carried a picture of Way Highsmith and the announcement that he has just been made General Counsel of Hercules Powder.

Unfortunately the deal on which I was reading the indenture for Commercial was postponed last July. Under the renegotiation of the deal and accompanying bank loans, I have just learned that Guaranty is to be the Trustee instead. Foster and the Commercial took it in fine spirit - disappointing though it was after so much work - to such an extent that, when Guaranty asked me if I would continue on the job and act for them, Foster commended me to the Guaranty and thus made sure that I got the job. I, of course, told Guaranty that I could not consider acting without Foster's clearance. Margaret may be interested in this, since she worked so hard on the matter.

2 Wall Street

1852



Mrs. W. Hugh Deal
Turon Kansas

90 Mrs. Sarah Watson

W. Hugh Peal
1900 Que Street
Washington, D. C.

October 6, 1943

My Dear:

I enclose a letter from Mrs. Moore. I opened it, knowing that it would not be confidential and wishing to know whether she was in our apartment. I had visions of the apartment being something like a railway station, with Mrs. Moore, Dorothy and Malcolm coming and going. I suppose that Malcolm and Dorothy could occupy the apartment at the same time in a condition of virtue bordering upon the absurd, but I don't know what Mr. Palmer and his myrmidons might think.

I thought that I had written to you that I had extended our stay here to November 1. The spacy people mumble vaguely about unfurnished places in Virginia and Maryland. Noble may let us have his place for two months. It is larger and probably more expensive - than we need but two months wouldn't hurt us. And we could get the use of ~~some~~ things, as household linen, which are not usually furnished.

I worked all day yesterday with Bob Page on a Phelps Dodge matter. He

is very charming but not as forceful as I would have thought. Perhaps the explanation is that his client was blustering and Bob's best card was to be the conciliator. His mind is very good indeed. Points which have puzzled many attorneys were grasped by him, seemingly without effort.

I am reading a very good legal novel - which I took to be a mystery story when I borrowed it. "A Tragedy at Law" by Cyril Hare. I don't see why I can't write such a volume. Perhaps I will this winter with your assistance. Surely Mr. Frye could be dressed up as a comic character that would rival Major Hoople. Arthur Lane also ought to provide some good pages, although no one would believe in him who hadn't known him.

I'm anxiously awaiting your return.

Lovingly
H