

April 15th, 1960

Dear Co-worker,

I know many of you are wondering why, since I returned home from my world tour, I have not written to you more often. Some of you think I am not appreciative of the great amount of effort expended by you in my behalf. This is not so! I am most appreciative and often remark of the great work you are doing through a united effort toward better understanding among the peoples of the worlds. If we were as telepathic as we could be, writing letters would be unnecessary.

During my visits with you last year, I gave you such information on which to work for better understanding of yourselves and, in a scientific field, of Nature and how she works. This could keep you busy for several years without hearing from me in the meantime.

Here at home I have kept busy in an effort to get the manuscript for the book completed. There is still more to be done on it than I would wish. Yet it is necessary. Lucy is working with me on it now and all correspondence is being ignored until we have accomplished our goal and the manuscript is in the mail.

There have been innumerable interruptions. The most important came as a telegram on March 16th, telling me that I was expected in New York on the 19th. I was gone two weeks and one day, and visited both New York and Washington, D.C.

In Washington I was granted the great privilege of fifteen minutes with Senator Margaret Chase Smith from Maine, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee for Space Research. During that time I gave her as much information as possible, for which she thanked me. This was an accomplishment that I little expected and for which I am most grateful.

In Washington also a new organization has been formed recently which promises much assistance to our work in many ways, if all goes as we discussed various aspects of our effort and our hopes. Time will prove whether these hopes will be fulfilled. One of the most important at the present for your consideration in the Interplanetary Space Conference I discussed with some of you while on the tour. The organizers of the new company, Mercury Enterprises, Inc, believe that May 1961 will be the best and earliest time such a project can be arranged. Washington was suggested as the site because of its beauty and the abundance of accommodations there to handle crowds of all sizes. We hope several thousands of people representing every nation in the world will attend our first Conference.

These conferences, it is hoped, will become annual events, held in a different nation each year. So you can start your plans and we will keep you informed of progress here.

In New York I had the great honor of dining and visiting for one and a half hours with Dag Hammarskjöld's right-hand man in the UN. Original arrangements had been made for me to meet ~~Mr. A. B.~~ But, the African conflict took him away at just the time. But I learned a great deal of interest to us all. Did you know that the UN. has a Space Committee? I didn't before being so informed at that time. It has the potentials of one of the greatest powers of any organization in the world. More details