



CENTRAL FLORIDA MUSEUM

CENTRAL POST OFFICE BOX 1781 • ORLANDO, FLORIDA,

810 E. Rollins Ave.

Orlando, Florida

Director + Frederick W. Sleight

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DEAR LAURA:

THIS AFTERNOON I AM HOLDING DOWN THE INFO. DESK AT THE MUSEUM, AND IN BETWEEN CUSTOMERS THOUGHT I WOULD TRY TO GET A FEW LINES OFF TO YOU.

OUR TRIP THIS SUMMER WAS EXCITING BUT EXHAUSTING. I INTEND TO WRITE ABOUT IT IN DETAIL AND MAKE COPIES FOR FRIENDS, SO IF YOU WILL BEAR WITH ME, I WILL SEND ONE A BIT LATER. WE DEFINITELY NEEDED MORE TIME, BUT THAT ALWAYS SEEMS TO BE TRUE. IT RAINS A GOOD DEAL IN ALASKA, SO IF WE COULD NOT SIT IT OUT AND WAIT FOR GOOD WEATHER, WE HAD TO PHOTOGRAPH IN THE RAIN, AND YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS THEN. WE COVERED ALMOST 15,000 MILES, AND SO YOU CAN SEE THAT WE HAD TO KEEP ON THE MOVE.

THE SCENERY IS SIMPLY SPECTACULAR. THE ANIMALS, THE MOUNTAINS, THE GLACIERS REALLY DRIVE YOU CRAZY, PHOTOGRAPHICALLY SPEAKING. FRED WILL WANT TO TELL YOU ABOUT THAT PART HIMSELF, SO I WILL LEAVE THAT FOR HIM. I WILL JUST SAY THAT WE PHOTOGRAPHED LIKE MAD WHEN WEATHER PERMITTED AND SOMETIMES WHEN IT DIDN'T PERMIT. THE GOING IS REALLY ROUGH, AS IT IS A VERY STRENUOUS TRIP. WE DID NOT CAMP AS MUCH AS WE PLANNED BECAUSE IT WAS TOO COLD.

WE HAVE BEEN HOME JUST OVER A MONTH. I DON'T KNOW IF WE TOLD YOU THAT WE WERE TAKING AN APARTMENT IN ORLANDO, MAINLY FOR SUSAN'S BENEFIT, SO SHE COULD GO TO A LARGER AND BETTER HIGH SCHOOL. FOR THE TIME BEING WE ARE KEEPING OUR HOUSE IN MOUNT DORA AS WE STILL HAVE OBLIGATIONS THERE. SO AS SOON AS WE ARRIVED, WE HAD TO DROP EVERYTHING ELSE AND GET OURSELVES MOVED - JUST IN TIME FOR SUSAN TO START SCHOOL. IT WAS AN UNFURNISHED APARTMENT, SO WE MOVED THINGS FROM HOME WHICH WE COULD SPARE. WE GO BACK AND FORTH EACH WEEK FOR CERTAIN DUTIES, AND YOU CAN IMAGINE HOW MIXED UP LIFE CAN BECOME. THIS OF COURSE CANNOT GO ON THIS WAY FOREVER.

THE MAIN THING IS FOR SUSAN TO HAVE A BETTER SCHOOL EXPERIENCE, WHICH WE FEEL IS HAPPENING. SO FAR SHE IS ENJOYING IT SO MUCH MORE, AND WE FEEL AND HOPE SHE HAS MADE A SUCCESSFUL ADJUSTMENT.

SO MY FIRST DUTIES WERE GETTING HER STARTED PROPERLY , GETTING OUR NEW HOME ESTABLISHED, AND EVENTUALLY WILL GET TO THE LOOSE ENDS OF THE SUMMER. I AM CHAIRMAN OF THE LIBRARY IN MOUNT DORA SO HAD SOME PRESSING BUSINESS IN THAT AS SOON AS I RETURNED.

WE THOROUGHLY ENJOYED YOUR BOOK, MOST OF WHICH WAS READ ALOUD. HOW RIGHT YOU WERE THAT WE WOULD WANT TO OWN A COPY. ! SHE HAS SUCH AN UNBELIEVABLY BEAUTIFUL STYLE. WE COULD ALMOST BELIEVE WE WERE THE ANIMALS SHE WAS DESCRIBING. I SHALL RETURN THE BOOK WITHIN A DAY OR TWO NOW. YOU WERE SO NICE TO LET US TAKE IT, AND WE ARE ALL MOST GRATEFUL.

WE ALSO ENJOYED SO MUCH THE EVENING IN YOUR HOME SEEING YOUR WONDERFUL SLIDES. I DO WISH WE ALL COULD MEET IN YUCATAN. PERHAPS IT CAN BE WORKED OUT, THOUGH RIGHT NOW IT IS TOO EARLY FOR US TO PLAN.

MARJORIE WROTE THAT ANOTHER CHANGE HAS BEEN MADE AT FOLK ART. THAT INSTITUTION HAS HAD A PITIFUL HISTORY. WE ARE SO INTERESTED IN SANTA FE, I WISH WE DIDN'T LIVE SO FAR AWAY.

DO DROP US A LINE AND LET US KNOW WHAT YOU ARE PLANNING NEXT.

P. S. AS YOU CAN SEE, I DID NOT GET THIS MAILED RIGHT AWAY. I HAD ORDERED A FEW PIECES FROM ALASKA AND WAS HOPING THEY WOULD ARRIVE BEFORE I WROTE YOU. THEY HAVE NOW COME, SO I WILL TELL YOU ABOUT THE PIN THAT WILL SOON BE ON ITS WAY TO YOU. PERHAPS YOU KNOW ABOUT THEM, BUT IN CASE YOU DON'T, I WILL EXPLAIN THAT AT THE PRESENT TIME THERE ARE 2 ESKIMO ARTISTS WHO DO THE BEST CARVING OF IVORY, AND THEY SIGN ALL THEIR WORK. WE THOUGHT PERHAPS YOU MIGHT LIKE ONE. DO PLEASE FORGIVE THIS LONG SILENCE, AND WITH OUR VERY BEST WISHES TO YOU AND MISS BETTSY,

SINCERELY,

Eleanor Sleight