The Waldorf Towers,
2300 Overlook Rd - Apt 817
Cleveland 6, Ohio
February 20, 1962

Dearest Nell:

I was so pleased with the account of John's birthday party. It's a wonderful idea. I hope somebody thinks of it on my nintieth.

The big news in our family is that Edward and Alice and their four children are going to Australia for a year or two to establish a Edward Howard and Company in Sidney. Leaving May 2-ott, sailing from Seattle.

I am proud of them and glad for the business but am missing them already!

They are coming to New York over the week-end on March 23rd to 27th.* I hope to come with them and would love to see you at that time if it is convenient for you. As you know, I usually stay at a hotel because I am usually working and my schedule doesn't mix too well with a family schedule. I know how difficult it will be for you to make any plans until your wonderful husband is well again but know that I will look forward, with hope, to seeing you then or some other time soon. I willdo my best to fit my time to yours.

My love to you both. Tell John I think so often of his words to me last summer in New York as we parted. He said, "Remember, this is only the beginning". I hope he will be strong enough to want to go to Australia because I am planning to visit with the children when they are properly settled. Do plan to come too!

Blessings on you, my beloved cousins,

Claire.

* They'll stay with Ed's Cousins Carson and Howard Merry, who have adopted a son. They have named him Edward Howard Merry, and we're going to the Christening.

The Off Islanders
Nathaniel Benchley
McGraw Hill
1961

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