

St Paul, Minn.  
18 Sept. 1955

Dear Josh and Esther,

You were right — we did it in one day!

This even allowed for taking route 56 into La Brosse — in our humble opinion a delightful road, rolling and winding and bill-board-free, with fall coloring already enlivening the foliage. We also took a dip in the Mississippi, which for opority (at La Brosse) compares favourably with L. Mendota, and enjoyed the cooling experience of driving for the next hour or two in wet bathing suits.

We didn't realize until we had left that we should have wished you a happy new year: but we do so now, belatedly. We also felt we had been remiss in not looking up Boris in his lab. — but somehow we think the Sussmen will be able to convey their regards in person before long.

I bet the sowing was a hot and heavy business — possibly much of the energy so expended should have gone into a heat-pump and been stored up for the winter. I feel a bit selfish, having left just in time to miss the fun.

After much debate, we think we have finally decided to go to Salt Lake City via Yellowstone Park. Somehow the thought of two phycologists not visiting the hot springs smacks of letting the side down. Maybe we could surreptitiously collect a few samples of mud containing thermophilic diatoms, which could survive a trip in our perambulating hot-house. At the moment even the outside air is almost 90°.

I hope Seymour collects honors for the Ph.D. thesis. We expect to meet him again out west.

It was most kind of you to put up with us, over and above the fauverie, in such a polarized residence. As you can imagine, it's nice not to be in an attic for a change.

We'll keep in touch with you in respect of future developments on the employment exchange.

With best wishes -

Ralph & Joyce.