

Hotel Imperial, New Delhi, Jan. 27, '52

Dear Mother:

My work here is really done now, and I have been spending the day relaxing. To-morrow I hope to see a model town built for the refugees from Pakistan, and then be off next day for Paris via Beirut on Pan American Airways.

The visit to Mysore was really the culmination, in a way of the whole trip, for my lifelong dream of immunizing an elephant was realized. The Maharajah and his private secretary couldn't have been more helpful, for I was a State Guest, entertained in the Residency at Bangalore and in Government House in Mysore, with a huge suite in the latter. Then the Maharajah let me use two of his most valuable elephants, and will allow more to be worked with, as well. He also had the big dam and park specially illuminated for me last Wednesday as I couldn't stay for the usual week end show. It was really a marvelous sight, with flowing cascades and fountains in changing colors, beautiful designs in colored lights, and everything most artistically worked out. I had a short interview with him in his enormous palace, but we didn't play, as he wasn't well.

To get the elephants, Drs. Rao and Doraiswamy and I had to round up the chief veterinarian and the chief forest ranger. We then drove 45 miles to Karapur, on the edge of the jungle, where three elephants came along out of the woods for their bath. While they were enjoying themselves in the river one of the assistant rangers we had picked up scooped up some of the muddy water the elephants had waded through and brushed his teeth with it and his finger! I suppose the mud served as toothpaste. When they came out and had blown dust all over themselves to keep off the flies, the biggest one, a tusker 52 years old, was persuaded to lie down and be bled from his ear and be injected with the solution made from the material brought. By the time they worked on the second one, the team was quite

expert and it went more smoothly, with the beast only whiffing rather pathetically in feeble protest. When he got up he went right on chewing leaves and branches just as if nothing had happened. I got to like Dr. Subrahmanyam, the director of the Food Research Institute very much, and he wants me to come back with Charlie and his family and stay several months, at least. There was long and spirited discussion after both of my lectures at Mysore, and I particularly enjoyed the one for the medical students, who are a fine, keen lot. Most of the Indians like to laugh, and the educated ones, at least, are very pleasant to be with. I really wish I could stay longer and I certainly must come again.

It was good to get a second letter from you. I'm sure you wrote more than that, but so far I haven't seen them. I finally had a second one from Charlie, too, and three from Hazel.  
 Lots of love to you from Michael.

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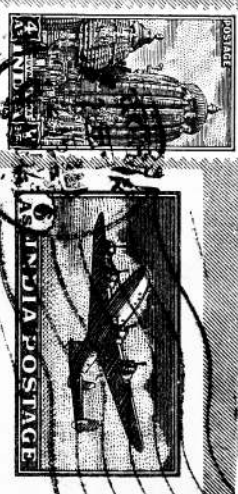
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Mrs. D. Heidelberger

Hotel Alden, 225 Central Park

New York 24 NY

USA



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