

7/12/95

Dear Rosa and Murray:

It was a nice surprise to have the good looking copies of books, so neatly packed, and Rosa's letter with all the family news and my new title of "Peace preserver on Anderson Island." I could only wish at times that I really were. We have so many small and large bureaus and boards and organizations, now, including the denominational and nondenominational cults and churches that agree to disagree, that it's not the same Island to which we came in 1950, or even the one I wrote about in IITS.

I met a woman at a function I attended whose first job was teaching the island school, Wide Awake Hollow, in 1929-1930. She came back, at my invitation, to attend the Historical Society's annual meeting, and talked to some of her surviving students. She had a great day and so did they. She saw a different Island <sup>too</sup>, even a better one than Earle and I discovered.

Now, about the books... You bought all these, obviously, and I need your statement. An ex-Islander of sorts, who prowls bookstores as a hobby, one Ruthene Larsen of Puyallup, picks up these copies and I pay her, including tax. So I need your invoice. She drives to Steilacoom and delivers them to our mail carrier, who brings them across, gratis, and illegally, I am sure, and he stuffs them in my box, or brings them to the door. I was amused by the one Tom Fransen, an ex Islander who works at Tacoma Book, had autographed one. These were all in better shape than is usually the case. But it doesn't seem to matter to Jeff's (the store man) customers. His clerks call me when they run out of books.

Population growth here is out of bounds, and Pierce County, with tax stars in their eyes, are unsympathetic to our effort to stop the increase.

I found some of your news of much concern and felt thankful for the happy ending about Lane's Shanna and Murray's heavy Mower. Isn't she the youngest of the girls? Amazing!

2

I am healing nicely. Thanks for asking.

Walking the trail to Andy's Marine Park on West beach, I found the label on madrona reads *Arbutus menziesii*. I wonder if this was one of the specimens taken back to British Museum in 1792 from the night spent on A. Island. I wish we had found the time during your visit to walk that trail. Maybe we can some time, together. Wouldn't the name indicate that he saw it first, here?

Love,

Love to Lane, too,

Hazel

*Angel*