

Dear Kit and Tommy:

To report that the Mount Hoods are blooming scrumptuously - thirty-one blooms - and have lasted almost three weeks so far; a great joy to us, and cause for superlative comment from all who come to our door. I was afraid we would miss them when we went to Penn State, but they are still looking fresh and we have been back ten days.

We wrote the Brockways inquiring about their house. And piano (it was in the dining room, and I can't believe they parted from it, being such musical people.) Many thanks for the suggestions. The Brockways came first since it is within walking distance of the campus, and we are familiar with it.

We met an ardent admirer of Kit's at Penn State: Maurice Cramer. From way back. He had not met Tommy. Wished to be remembered. Very nice guy. Nice wife, too.

We have put in a full vegetable garden since our return and the peas are already up - sweet pods. We have decided to eat our own chemicals and insecticides this summer, and at least know what we're getting. Next year we try organic farming. By the time we get to Bennington we shall be bursting with vitamins and energy - we hope, a-hope, a-hope.

Weren't you impressed by that list of birds I sent you from Florida - from "our own beach." And they killed five rattlesnakes ^{there} besides. When the mackerel were running through the "pass" we counted fifty pellicans scooping them up, while hundreds of laughing gulls screamed over them - and I mean screamed - the noise was ~~xxxx~~ deafening. We loved the cor-morants almost as much as the pellicans.

Hope you've had a good winter, and that all goes well at Bennington this spring term. Give our regards to Elizabeth, and to all our other friends there, too, when you see them. And the best to you both,

Love,



May 10, 1960