

July 27, 1946

Professor S. Lane Faison, Jr.
Chairman of the Art Department
Williams College
Williamstown, Massachusetts

Dear Lane,

Our General Meetings Committee has asked me to find out whether Thursday, October 10th, would be a convenient date for you to give your proposed lecture here on Hitler's art collection.

Our usual procedure is as follows: the lecture starts promptly at 7:35 p.m. and lasts for approximately forty-five or fifty minutes; after that there is a short intermission followed by a question period of about one-half hour. We are looking forward very much to having you, and hope that this date will be a good one.

I told the Meetings Committee of your generous offer to give the lecture free of charge and they were most appreciative, but agreed with me that it was only fair that we should pay, as usual, our nominal fee of twenty-five dollars.

I will hope to see you soon.

Very best regards,

George Holt

P.S. Since I am going away for a few days, will you send your reply to Miss Agnes V. Marr, here at the College, as we are now in the process of getting our General Meetings schedule in shape.

5 August 1946.

To the Secretary to the President,
Bennington College, Bennington, Vt.

Prof. George Holt wrote me last
week that your lecture committee
has invited me to speak on
"Adolf Hitler's Art Collection" on Thursday
October 10, for a fee of \$25.
I shall be very glad to do this.
The talk will be illustrated with
standard size black & white slides.

Sincerely yours,

J. W. Mason, Jr.

October 1, 1946

Mr. S. Lane Faison, Jr.
Williams College
Williamstown, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Faison,

We are now making arrangements for your lecture here on Thursday, October tenth, and I wonder if you would send me a brief biographical sketch which we might use in announcing your talk. We would also be interested in any list of suggested reading which you think the community might be familiar with in connection with your lecture. If possible, I should appreciate having this information by Monday morning, October 7th, so that it can be included in our weekly news sheet.

Sincerely yours,

Marjorie Beebe, Secretary
General Meetings Committee

WILLIAMS COLLEGE
WILLIAMSTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

4 October 1946.

Miss Marjorie Beebe
Bennington College
Bennington, Vt.

Dear Miss Beebe:

This is in reply to your letter requesting biographical information in connection with my lecture on October 10th.

Here at Williams I am Chairman of the Fine Arts Dept. During the war I was in the Navy, ending up as Lt. Cmdr., USNR. After serving in Naval Aviation training activities during 1943 and 1944, I switched to the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) as part of a small outfit which became known as the OSS Art Looting Investigation Unit. (I was in Europe from 1 June 1945 to 1 February 1946.) The summer of '45 was spent in a Special Detention Center at Alt Aussee, Austria (near the great salt mines where the greatest cache of German looted art was located), interrogating German personnel who were involved in the official art looting and art collecting activities for Adolf Hitler, Hermann Goering, and others. *delete*

The lecture, illustrated by slides made from official photographs, is called "Adolf Hitler's Art Collection". It is primarily a study of Nazi taste, Nazi efficiency, and Nazi duplicity. It touches on collections from all the occupied territories. It discloses Hitler's cultural dream of establishing a kind of Nazi Acropolis at Linz, Austria, in the heart of the region in which Hitler originated. *1946*

In the September and October Atlantic Monthly there are two articles by J.S. Plaut, "Loot for the Master Race", which would make excellent preparatory reading. Mr. Plaut directed our outfit, and the Hitler story is based on my report, of which I will give you a fuller account Thursday.

Very sincerely yours,

S. Lane Faison

October 3, 1946

Mrs. Kaiser

Marjorie Beebe

party for Mr. Faison

I should like to get out invitations to your party for Mr. Faison by next Monday. The Entertainment Committee has suggested the following people to be invited, but they wanted me to check with you to see if you had any additions or changes:

Faison, Czajas, Feeleys, Holts, Penney, Moselsios, Hill, Bales, Tuckers, Hasenclevers.

Will you please let me know about this and also what sort of refreshments you would like the dining halls to provide? At recent parties Mrs. Cooke has furnished wine punch and crackers, but if you would prefer whisky or beer, please let me know. Mrs. Cooke might be able to furnish sandwiches if you prefer.

MB

Bennington College
October 7, 1946

To: Mr. and Mrs. Czaja
Mr. and Mrs. Feeley
Mr. and Mrs. Holt
Mr. Penney
Mr. and Mrs. Moselsio
Miss Hill
Mr. and Mrs. Bales
Mr. and Mrs. Tucker
Miss Nora Hasenclever
Miss Irene Hasenclever

From: Entertainment Committee

You are cordially invited to meet Mr. Faison at the Kaiser's
apartment on Thursday evening, October 10th, after his lecture.

Will you please let Miss Beebe know if you are not able to
accept.