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OFFICE OF
BENNINGTON COLLEGE

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January 15, 1954

Dear Mr. Burkhardt:

I am so distressed that I cannot come to Bennington for commencement. While I feel singularly ill equipped to make a commencement speech anywhere, I have been deluged with propositions which are dangerously flattering to a politician's ego--and, of course, I capitulated to an extent far beyond my capacity. I shall live to regret it--and so would you if I came!

You were good to think of me and I wish somehow I could tell the Senior Class girls that they have exhilarated me.

Cordially yours,

Adlai E. Stevenson

Dr. Frederick Burkhardt, President
Bennington College
Bennington, Vermont