

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78712  
DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY

Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> 1969.

Dear Alan,

Firstly - congratulations on your first wedding anniversary - I think! That is, I believe it is Feb 14<sup>th</sup> or am I confusing that with another romantic day?

I keep meaning to write a proper letter but doubt that this is it. Things are a little hectic right now although I recently had a couple of lazy weeks after a hernia operation (caused either by strenuous tree-chopping at Four Acres or lifting a heavy wallet. Actually neither true as I'd had it for ~2 yrs). I was very impressed by the efficiency of the natives. I saw a doctor about 4 weeks ago & was in hospital 4 days later. After a week there I spent ~10 days at home while kind friends brought soups & stews & got all my groceries in. I felt like delaying my return to work as it was so luxurious!

I told you that I believed the horoscopes in the calendar you sent and, indeed, the entry for the day of the operation was "This a.m. could prove to be your undoing".....

Thanks for the 10.03 MHz reprint, & I was also interested in your 10 GHz paper. Tomorrow I'm flying out to observe at 10<sup>6</sup> GHz, having a week's optical run.

It was going to be 2 weeks but Brian Warner et al are doing some useful work on the Crab pulsar so I can't complain.

I hope to be going to Parker at the end of April. At the A.A.S. meeting in December, John Bolton invited me to do some positional measurements on the 210 ft and it seemed a good opportunity of doing some radio observing again, & also of looking at the place with an eye to the future! It's amusing to compare this offer with the difficulty I had persuading MR. to let me observe even one morning with the O.M.T.

Did you know that Jenny is going to Australia in the summer? She may come via Texas although I may then be in Australia!.... I expect to be there ~ 7 or 8 weeks & may return in the opposite direction, stopping off at Bristol for a reminder of what real trees and grass looks like!

I'm giving a course on Advanced Gen'l Astr. this term so having to learn about variable stars, stellar atmospheres & all that stuff. The standard of the grad. students is pretty dismal although a few bright ones make it.

As I said, I'll write a proper letter one day, but this will have to do for now.

Best wishes to you both,

Derek