



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
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Sept. 13th 1968.

Dear Alan,  
Just a line to let you know that I have reached the woolly west. Firstly, it was a very pleasant surprise to meet your mother on the Q.E! Such famous people travel by sea nowadays. I was sorry not to see you in NYC - things were pretty hectic getting off the boat, but I scanned the crowd greeting arrivals. I suspect you had already met your mother by then and left. I was in no mood to delay in NYC, & decided to speed things up after the five days at sea; I managed to get a flight down to Dallas that evening, & flew on to Austin the next morning.

I thoroughly enjoyed travelling by sea - more than I thought I would. I kept in training by winning one of the General Knowledge quizzes - believe you did the same thing!

I arrived in Austin about ten days before my appointment officially started, so had time for apartment - hunting. Jim Douglas, the R.A. Prof., is on vacation & very kindly left me the key to his house. I have a spacious self-contained

apartment which is luxurious compared with my Cambridge hotel!

One welcome find is Austin is a classical music radio station (non-commercial), plus the University station. It's likewise non-commercial, although when they relay programmes from other networks they sometimes let part of the commercial through, as the other day, relaying "Secrets of Scotland Yard", brought to you by Ex-Lax. (I've heard of criminals on the run, but -!).

I had time to finish off one paper & write another for John S. approval, & now start thinking about the 40 lectures on radio sources, starting in 10 days time! The rest of the time is spent in farcical faculty meetings and, now and then, thoughts about astronomy! The 107" telescope is nearly finished (dedication in Nov.) & the Texas 2-mile radio telescope is scheduled to do great things in a year or two. Being in Texas it seems natural to fly out to the 50 sq. mile site each time ...

Sorry about this writing (typewriter somewhere on its 6000m. journey - I hope); thought I'd just let you know how things are, & will write more coherently later.

Please give my best regards to your mother if she is still in Kuipston.

Best wishes to you both (or y'all, Texaswise)

Sincerely, Derek