

EDW
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FELLOWSHIPS

Helsingfors
June 23, 1939

Dear Mr. Paty:

Having not written since Christmas I think it's quite time that I should send another informal report of the ups and downs of life in Europe on a Rosenwald fellowship. B
RPT

You may recall that with my family I settled down to work in Munich, and after being reassured by the "Peace of Munich" made the Danube trip to the Baltic Sea.

After my return I settled down to reading, which I kept at regularly and steadily. I must admit to falling out occasionally over a stein or two of the wonderful Munich beer.

The spring passed without notable event, except for occasional week-end trips to points of interest.

On the first of April I went to Bodensee and attended a conference of German and Swiss geographers. It was both a pleasant and profitable occasion. I met the usual number of old friends and made a number of new ones, gathered numerous separates, and after a week went on my way rejoicing toward Switzerland, the Riviera, and Italy. Went as far south as Naples, travelling only by day, making lots of notes on house types, settlement forms, etc. Returned to Munich and the family, only to be greatly saddened by the loss of our youngest son, who passed away very suddenly.

This caused a change in plans. Took the family away from Munich and we stayed in the Bavarian Alps for a period until we could somewhat adjust ourselves.

The family finally remained in the mountains while I made this Scandinavian tour. We shall meet in Hamburg to sail from there for New York on August 3, arriving in New York August 11.

I can only say that the period has been of very great value to me. I feel that my capabilities both as teacher and research man have been greatly augmented by this year. That the financial strain has not been too great is due entirely to the generosity of the Foundation in so kindly assisting me. My appreciation can best be expressed in increased service to the South.

Life in Bavaria was exceedingly pleasant. The kindness of the people, the music, the beer, the festivals, the food, the beauty

FISK
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of the country and villages, the excellence of the museums, have all contributed to make it my "zweite Heimat." All over Germany I have met with the utmost courtesy and kindness. Of all the countries I've visited it's easily my favorite as a place to live and travel.

With regard to other matters: political, etc., I'll say not a single word. Such must await a long evening, lots of beer and tobacco, and an empty mind. Until such an occasion and combination can be attained, I'll do my best to hold it all in.

I am headed now for Lappland, after a profitable study of old log cabins in this vicinity. I think I have some new clues to the origin of our southern double-log-pen. I want to see the Lapps operate in their native haunts, then I'll come down the coast of Norway, cross to Stockholm, and head to Hamburg.

Shall write again after the conclusion of this jaunt.

Sincerely yours,

FRED B. KNIFFEN

FISK

UNIVERSITY

Helmingfors,
June 23, 1939.

Dear Dr. Patey,

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You may recall that with my family I settled down to work in Munich, and, after being reassured by the Peace of Munich, made the Danube trip to the Black Sea.

After my return I settled down to reading, which I kept at regularly + steadily. I must admit to falling out occasionally over a stein or two of the wonderful Munich beer.

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Sincerely yours,

And B. Kriffen.

