

March 4th, 1936

Dear John:

I have your recent letters and your cablegram. In accordance with your request \$220. has been sent to Open Road. Owing to my longish absence from the office there has been some delay in sending out your letters, but they have all been distributed now.

My trip included: Princeton, where I talked with Dean Eisenhart of Princeton, and with Dr. Riefer of the School for Advanced Studies about getting a statistician to work in Russia; then to the University of Pennsylvania; then to Baltimore where I talked with President Bowman and with Dean Freeman of the School of Hygiene and Public Health in regard to a young epidemiologist who wishes first to work with Dr. Rumreich and then with Russian doctors; then to Washington where Moulton and I discussed investments; then to the University of North Carolina where I talked with the Dean of the Medical School (the young epidemiologist had studied there for two years) and with the head of the University of North Carolina Press, which is publishing Simpson's book; then to the University of South Carolina; then to Sarasota, Florida, for a visit with Bickel (see below); then to Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida, for a visit with Victor Clark and Ray Stannard Baker and a general look-around; then back to Washington and here.

In my recent cable to you I asked about Schools of Journalism. Bickel and I have developed an interest in the idea of sending abroad a few young American journalists who wish to equip themselves for work in the foreign field. A couple of the news organizations are looking over their personnel with a view to making recommendations. Already several young men have been called to my attention and next week I start off on a tour to get acquainted with them.

In my cable I stated that John and I plan to make a trip together. I now expect to sail about April 15th and go directly to Vienna where John will meet me. From there we go to Turkey and perhaps Syria and Palestine. We hope to enter Russia by way of the Crimea and end up sometime or other in Moscow. I will keep you posted.

John N. Hazard - - - -

2.

I am glad to learn that you are planning a trip. During the next few years you should visit most of the country.

Cordial greetings,

WSR/fc

Moscow,USSR.,  
March 4, 1935.

Dear Mr. Rogers;

Culture is one of the favorite subjects of editorial writers and slogan painters. It is undoubtedly attracting more and more attention from the government and the press.

Few words have such a variety of meanings. Some Americans seem to limit its use to cover an indefinable refinement coupled with New England or Virginia traditions. Some Russians seem to go to the other extreme and use it to refer to an ability to use and understand the amenities of the later nineteenth, to say nothing of the twentieth century. For them culture means familiarity with the toothbrush, the safety razor, and the method of playing the victrola.

But neither of these definitions of culture would apply to the present campaign. Now the drive is to improve education and knowledge, whether it be of history, music, art, or literature. The time has come when the teaching of the political doctrines is sufficiently well assured and attention can be turned to the filling in of the cracks around the firm core, which has already been built in the average Russian. Added to this is another factor. The Stakhanovites have already proved that workers can earn far more money than they need for food and shelter. Now they have leisure to learn to appreciate whole fields of knowledge which were formerly behind closed doors and they also have the money to satisfy their newly developed tastes.

Guidance is essential for a people who have never before known more than their task in field or factory. It is no exaggeration to say that if left to their own resources they would not know where to begin. Groups are organized in every producing unit--education or industrial or agricultural-- to provide this guidance. Not long ago I attended a reading given in the beautiful House of the Red Army in which a Red Army Commander began the evening with a talk on the need for culture in the Red Army. He was followed by two unusual hours of recitation of Russian classical literature by an actor formerly with the First Art Theater, who has recently resigned to do just this type of educational work.

But this informal guidance along cultural paths is no longer to be the sole method employed in raising the workers above their narrow horizon. The government is now taking a hand in directing the course. There is the decree of January 27th setting forth new principles to be used in the teaching of history as a picture of world development and not just the growth of Russia and the Soviet Union. Only today comes announcement of a great contest to find the best history

book for use in the schools with children around the age of twelve. Prizes ranging from 100,000 rubles down will be given for a short history of the Soviet Union to be based on the lines of the January decree.

Perhaps this new awakening to the importance of the arts is the cause for the flood of criticism of composers, artists, and directors which is now filling the press. There is slowly being evolved a new method of approach to the arts which will be best suited to the needs of the Union. At present the line will fall somewhere between the criticized "formalism" of Shestakovich and the similarly criticized "naturalism" found in the beautiful filming of Pushkin's Dubrovsky. This campaign of criticism, new to the arts, seems to give every indication that now that production schedules and services are nearing the required norms, the higher government officials can turn their attention to bringing other fields of Soviet endeavor within desired bounds. To be sure literature has long been watched for deviations, but up to now the producers and composers and artists grew up as they pleased without guidance.

This campaign for culture reaches into our Law Institute. Lectures on the appreciation of music and of literature were given last year. Reading is recommended, not only from Russian classics but from foreign texts as well. I constantly see students with Hugo or Balzac, or Romain Rolland under their arm. When I asked one of my classmates how he got time to read, he replied that he crowded in his novels while riding on the trolley--a fact which any foreigner can testify if he has had to push his way around strap hangers lost in the pages of a tattered novel.

You may be interested in a list of reading recommended in our library. I reproduce only the non-Russian list, for the other is too long to give here. I should like to see my Yale or Harvard brothers check their reading against it. It is almost humiliating for me! Here it is:

Cervantes	-	Don Quixote
Shakespeare	-	Hamlet, Macbeth, Othello, King Lear
Byron	-	Don Juan, Child Harold
Molière	-	Tartufe, Miserly,
Schiller	-	Brigands, Craftiness and Love, William Tell
Dickens	-	Domby and Son, Oliver Twist, Hard Times, David Copperfield, Pickwick Papers.
Balzac	-	Father Gorlo, Shagreen Leather, Eugene Grande, Lost Dreams.
Zola	-	Colliers,
Beaumarché	-	Marriage of Figaro
Hugo	-	"1793", The Outcast.
Goethe	-	The Suffering of Young Werther, Faust.
Stendhal	-	Red and Black

Flaubert	-	Madame Beauvarry
Hauptmann	-	Weavers
Barbusse	-	Under Fire
Sinclair	-	Jungles, King Coal, Oil
R.Rolland	-	Jean Christophe, Cola Brunion
A.France	-	The Gods Are Thirsty
Jack London	-	The Iron Heel, Marten Eden, Moon Valley

The list proves interesting as a choice of reading suitable for students in proletarian schools. It is food for thought on why some well known classics were omitted, and why some less known ones are included. I wish I had time to dip into some of these myself, but don't we all!

Greetings to you all,

JNH.

P.S. I have translated these titles from the Russian. The English wording most commonly used may be other than that I have indicated. I hope you can guess which ones are meant and replace the faulty phrases with the usual ones.

March 4, 1936.

64 PERSONAL (regular letter mailed separately)

Dear Mr. Rogers;

I was delighted to receive your telegram telling me that there was some chance of our seeing you over here in May. I am today sending my plans to John Crane, and will send you a copy of the letter for your information. I can only add here that I strongly urge booking through the Open Road as outlined in my letter to him, because they provide that personal link with Intourist which is so essential for a happy trip--ask any of your friends who have come this way without it?

I shall, of course, want to be with you both, and will fit my plans to yours if at all possible. The one difficulty is that I must be in Moscow for some days (probably ten) before leaving to clear up visa matters which always demand personal attention due to the unusual rules regarding sponsorship etc. I therefore, hope that you will be able to come so as to do any travel in the provinces before the 4th of June and seeing of Moscow and Leningrad can be fitted into the ten remaining days making it possible to leave on June 14th to catch the Queen Mary on the 17th from Cherbourg. I hope we are all going to be able to sail home together. I have long wished for the opportunity of a quiet sea voyage for chatting, and may this unusual trip on the new Cunarder tempt you. If it does, since my reservations are tourist and you may want me in First Class, cable me in time to get the change made, as no doubt the second trip of the ship, which this is will be well filled.

Our offer of funds in Paris was very graciously refused for several reasons, one of which was health. I feel very pleased that it was made as a gesture of our feelings, and we have gained by the offer. I presume that you can attend to calling back the funds from the Carnegie agent.

A School of Journalism opened in January. As yet I can get little information, except that it will have good men and will limit itself to Soviet journalism. That means, in the opinion of the correspondents, the training of men for the field of newspaper investigation and propaganda, which is their biggest task here. Publishing of a daily news sheet is a small part of the main job which involves scouring around to uncover inefficiency, maladministration, injustice and the like. Those with whom I have talked think it would hardly be worth while for a man to study Russian for two years to be able to understand the course as it would not have any relation to the work he would face in the American journalist world. Of that I cannot say, although I am inclined to think that these correspondents know what an American journalist needs, and they seem to think that this school would not apply it. I personally think the work would be interesting for some one who wanted to use it as a springboard for a specialization in Soviet affairs. If that is what you have in mind, there is a possibility that the idea would work out well. There would be the added question of

64 PERSONAL (2)

whether a foreigner would be welcome in such a place. That would be something for you to take up with Skvirsky if he has not already left Washington. His successor, Umansky, who was head of the Press department of the Comm. of Foreign Affairs has not probably yet arrived.

All goes well with me, although I do say that this year has been a busy one, and I am going to heave quite a sigh when vacation is in sight. I never recall running about so much and working so early and so late before, even in law school, but maybe it is good for me. Those summer months look like heaven, and let's hope that next year I don't get myself in for so much and start more reasonably.

Best of good wishes, and let me hear in detail of your plans.

J.H.A.

( COPY )

American Consulate,  
Moscow, U.S.S.R.,  
March 4, 1936.

Mr. John Crane,  
Via XXIV Maggio 43  
Rome, Italy.

Dear Mr. Crane;

Mr Rogers has cabled me, suggesting that I send you an outline of plans I had made for a spring trip. He informs me that you and he are expecting to come in to see us in May. I shall, of course, wish to be in Moscow at the time, and hope that we may all go out together when I leave for my summer vacation June 14th.

In connection with your own trip I suggest that you would find it most comfortable if you booked through the Open Road in New York since they have a permanent agent here who adds that personal touch so necessary in handling things with Intourist. Booking in New York for persons in other countries is often done as several of my friends have booked in England and one booked last year from Switzerland. The procedure is to communicate with Miss Katherine Woodruff, Open Road, New York. She will forward visa applications which when returned will make possible the granting of the visa in Rome or at any other point where there is a Consulate. She will plan any trip desired, forwarding vouchers and coupons to you in Rome or Mr. Rogers could bring them over when he comes. Inconvenience of this method is pretty largely offset, if not more than offset in my opinion by the advantages in the Soviet Union.

You are no doubt aware that the Soviet Steamer, Cruzia, leaves Istanbul May 9th and 23rd at noon, arriving in Odessa at 2 P.M. the day following. Embarkation on this same ship can be made at Jaffa or Port Said May 5th and 19th, as she makes the through trip from Jaffa to Odessa via Port Said and Stanbul.

My program as it now stands is as follows:

May 17 (eve)	Lv. Moscow by sleeper
May 18 (mor)	Ar. Gorki (Nizhni Novgorod)
May 18 (noon)	Lv. Gorki by Volga River steamer
May 19-31	On Volga via Samara and Kazan
May 22	Ar. Stalingrad leaving that night by train
May 23 (eve)	Ar. Rostov on Don
May 24-25	Rostov - center for soviet farms leaving night of 25th by train
May 26 (mor)	Ar. Ordzhonikidze leave immediately for trip across Georgian Military Highway

*Mr. Rogers - do not give  
this itinerary to Open Road for  
my ticket. Just have them give  
my visa as they agree to  
already instructed them!*



May 26 (eve) Ar. Tiflis (time on highway--8 hrs)  
May 27-28 In Tiflis leaving by train night of 28th  
May 29 Ar. Batum  
May 30 Lv. Batum (by Black Sea Soviet Steamer)  
May 31-  
June 1 On Black Sea, via Sukhum, and Sochi ports  
June 2 Ar. Yalta  
June 3 Lv. Yalta by train  
June 5th Ar. Moscow  
  
June 5-14 Moscow, getting visas and arranging end of  
year matters.  
June 14 (eve) Lv. Moscow  
June 15 Thru Warsaw  
June 16 (eve) Ar. Paris  
June 17 Lv. Paris on Queen Mary boat train  
June 23 Ar. New York

Nothing would please more than if you could come in through Warsaw, which is, by the way, far more comfortable and convenient than through southern ports and could join me right from the start on what I have picked out as the trip covering most of the interesting country which I have not seen, and which all agree is the most attractive part of the Union.

If there can be no variation from the Odessa route, I shall plan to meet you there if it is after May 17th which is my last examination and we can all come up through Kiev or via the up-river Volga route as you may prefer.

Do let me hear your plans when they become crystallized. Until then I will count on your joining me for the tour as outlined above.

All good wishes to Mrs. Crane and your daughter, and may you have a pleasant spring. Would that ours were as near!

Very sincerely yours,

CRM CCC 9-NY

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Moscow, USSR.,  
 March 13, 1936.

Dear Mr. Rogers;

Sitting here and writing my last letters on art and law and daily events while all of Europe and the Far East seem to be popping makes me look very much like the editor of Tokio's Asahi who turned to the care of Japanese children's eyes for his leading article the morning after the putsch. To be sure the political situation in other countries is in the back of every one's minds-- we know every day just how the Japanese cabinet is shaping up and what Germany's most recent step has been-- but we, who live here right in the center of the pot, go on living our normal lives, planning for the immediate as well as the distant future, hoping against hope that somehow trouble will be avoided but not being too certain that it can be for many months longer.

The issues are daily being more distinctly clarified. While listening to the powerful radio station of the Comintern the other morning as I dressed I heard the announcer reading the Chief's conversation with Roy Howard. That conversation has made Roy Howard's name a household word for that part of 170 million people who can understand the spoken word. On every hand people are talking of it, and in my school they organized discussion groups after class to work it over as the latest expression of policies and programs long familiar to any one who has followed the development of this country from day to day. Except for an out and out statement that invasion of Outer Mongolia would call for action on the part of the Union there was nothing which came as material expressed for the first time. The rest was a very clear statement of principles often previously stated and filling the press and Stalin's two volume edition of works called "Leninism".

Long ago when the American protest to the activity of the Comintern was filed it seemed logical that a rejoinder would be that old Russian refugee organizations had been allowed to continue in the United States. This argument was not used, however, in the original reply to Mr. Bullitt's note. It now crops up in this present conversation, but used in a new way from the one which seemed originally possible. Instead of arguing that since there exist these organizations ~~that~~ therefore there has been a breaking of the pledge on the American side; an argument which would of course lay open to

the United States a similar argument from its angle, the fact is now being used to show that such organizations, being of a private nature and the intriguing of refugees who are deserving of protection in themselves, could not have been meant in the original letter written by the President. From this premise the conclusion follows that no such activities by communist refugees on this side could have been meant, and so there has been no violation of the agreement on either side.

The reaction to the publication of the conversations has been fully commented upon in our press. Using their usual method of quoting at length from editorials instead of news columns the press has been able to give us a broad picture of the impressions of the world, and there has been a real mirror held up by which one can judge how things abroad are shaping up. The fact that the Berliner Tagenblatt published only a dispatch to the effect that such a conversation had occurred and even this meager bit was removed in the second edition, so that Germany had only this scanty knowledge of the event, as well as the fact that Poland's press limited itself to printing a reference to this German slip have not been overlooked. Likewise the fact that comment was withheld in Japan although the dispatch was published is stated in those simple terms.

American, British, and French reaction is found to be gratifying and indicative of the growing uniformity of purpose between these countries as opposed to the other camp of Germany, Japan, Poland, and perhaps Italy. Their position identified with an effort to preserve the status quo and avoid war is lauded by a country which wants nothing so much as peace.

The general public is anything but afraid or panicky. They are now quite confident of their strength. They decry war scares abroad, primarily because it means cutting into funds which would otherwise be used for industrial development and satisfaction of consumers' needs. They go on living their own lives and hoping that they may continue to do so, but there is little faith left in peaceful policies either in the countries to the east or to the west. The beclouded future cannot be far from any one's thoughts.

All good wishes to you all,

Very sincerely,

JNH.

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American Consulate,  
Moscow, USSR.,  
March 21, 1936.

Dear Mr. Crane;

I was delighted to receive your letter of March 18th and am heartily in accord with your plans. I shall plan therefore to meet you and Mr. Rogers at Novorossiisk on May 28th.

I have conferred with the Open Road representative here and others as to the relative merits of a trip to Baku and the trip across the Georgian Military Highway. He tells me that from point of view of scenery the latter is far better, but from point of view of the unusual Baku would be better. I personally have seen many oil fields and therefore am not as much interested in Baku, particularly when it means some very long rail journeys to go that way. I also have so long heard about the unusual mountain trip that it appeals to me at this time. I am, however, only too willing to go either way you wish, as my likes are not strong enough to make it worth while to hold out for the Highway.

If we cross the Highway, a stop at Kislovodsk would seem to be superfluous as its chief interest aside from the cure, which I presume none of us is to take, is in its scenery. It also has the problem of inaccessibility in its disfavor, as it is on a branch line requiring a whole day's stop-over. If we went by Baku, it might be well to include it so that we might have a glimpse of the mountain country.

I agree with you that a stop-over at Dnieperstoy (or Dniep~~er~~ge's as it is now called) would be well worth while. It is sometimes hard to visit, and no one can ever be sure whether it will be on view. Letters of introduction from Colonel Cooper or others might facilitate matters, should such be possible of attainment by you. The unusual train hours for arrival and departure are discomfoting, but not unusual over here.

As to your arrival at Odessa. I note that your Gruzia arrives at 2 P.M., while the Black Sea steamer sails at 5 P.M. Should there be a delay, you would have to wait over for two days. In any event telegraph me at Intourist, Novorossiisk when you land as to whether you will come through on schedule or two days later, so that I can get my reservations on your boat. I understand that they are sometimes difficult from way ports. Your drive across from Sevastopol to Yalta is recommended.

I have cabled Mr. Rogers approving the itinerary you set forth in your letter. He will be sent a copy of this letter.

The itinerary will be something like this if no further changes are made, according to my calculations.

May 24	{ 2 P.M. }	Ar. Odessa on S.S. Grāzia
	{ 5 P.M. }	Lv. Odessa on Black Sea Boat
May 25		Sevastopol-Yalta
May 26	{ 1 P.M. }	Ar. Novorossiisk --Pick up Hazard
	{ 4 P.M. }	Lv. Novorossiisk
28	{ morn. }	Ar. Batum
29	{ morn. }	Ar. T flis
		(variation thru Baku would mean leaving Tiflis for overnight trip to Baku, and from there for 36 hrs ride to Rostov)
31	{ morn. }	Lv. Tiflis for Georgian Military Highway to Ordzhonikidze
	{ eve. }	Ar. Ordzhonikidze
June 1		Ar. Rostov
3		Lv. Rostov for Kharkov (16 hr. ride)
4	{ 1.44 PM }	Ar. Kharkov
6	{ 3.05 AM }	Lv. Kharkov
8	{ 10.25 AM }	Ar. Dnieproges
7	{ 3.57 AM }	Lv. Dnieproges
8	{ 5.13 AM }	Ar. Moscow

It is apparent that the run down to Dnieproges is not convenient due to train times. The other train leaves Kharkov at 2.29 PM and arrives Dnieproges at 11.00 P.M. The disadvantage is that the only trains out to Moscow leave at 3.57 AM and 3.28 AM, so that in arriving on the later train one must spend 36hrs at the dam. If you wished to do that, I could come on up here from Kharkov and attend to my visas meeting you here. Such a plan would give you a more leisurely trip in that region.

It looks like a great trip, and I most certainly shall be anxious to hear whether you have made definite plans. I recommend that you bring all letters of introduction possible. They always help. I also suggest a money belt for passport etc when on the trains in the south. I will have a canteen for boiled water. On trains etc. bottled water can be purchased, of course.

Very sincerely yours,

J. P. A.

Moscow, USSR.,  
March 22, 1936.

Dear Mr. Rogers;

Children have been the subject of many of my letters, although to be sure most of the references to them occur in last year's notes. Perhaps that is because when I first arrived I was still subject to marked impressions, whereas I have now become so accustomed to the way they look and act that I scarcely notice how they differ from those with whom I grew up.

During the past few weeks the subject has once again been brought to our attention with the opening of a Central Children's Theater on Theater Square. It is under the directorship of the same Natalie Sacks who opened the first theater right after the revolution some seventeen years ago. I have never driven myself to hunting out the up-town location of the first children's theater, but with the opening of this new important house I realized that the time had come for me to see what was being done in this particular branch of theater art which has long been the talk of the theater world. I wanted to see for myself why it was being given such prominence and why it had such popularity.

Earning a living is enough of a reason in most countries for starting a new venture. One need not and does not ask further questions as to motives. But one of the curious changes <sup>to which</sup> one has to become <sup>accustomed</sup> used to over here is the complete absence of that motive in the opening of anything bigger than a cobbler's shop or soda water wagon, which happen to be still private ventures in most cases. Consequently when the new theater opened we all wanted to know the basic reason.

You will recall that last spring I wrote several letters about the newly published laws relating to children, making youngsters above the age of 14 subject to the criminal laws and subjecting their parents and guardians to criminal penalties if they failed to take care of their children and keep them out of mischief. It was emphasized at that time that a very real crisis had developed as a result of the years of carefree uncontrolled life lived during the Civil War and NEP. When murders and hold-ups committed by youths were a matter of almost daily occurrence, the only possible means which could provide immediate protection of the public was the criminal law. But at the same time it was pointed out that the Union did not look upon such repressive measures as the ideal for the future. The law was a temporary measure to aid in a temporary crisis. It has now had its effect, and today the case is rare when a youth commits murder or some lesser crime of violence.



The press emphasized at the time of the publication of the law that the only real solution of such problems was through education, involving the teaching of children how to behave and the giving to them of things to do which would keep them out of trouble and occupied during their leisure time. But education is a slow method, without immediate results. The government must provide educational colonies for those who are already in jail, such as that at Bolshevo, and at the same time the government must attend to the still greater task of working with the great mass of children who have not yet become criminal elements. This involves various types of enterprises, not the least of which is now recognized as being the children's theater.

Consumed with a desire to see just how this medium of education was being used I braved the ticket line and bought a seat in the first row in which adults were allowed to sit (the sixth). This new theater is showing plays for children ranging in age from 14 to 17. As such they are making a departure from the first theater which confined itself to plays for much younger children. Feeling pretty near the 'teens myself it was not hard to slip back and enjoy every minute of the performance, surrounded as I was by an unattended group of hilarious youngsters having the time of their lives.

In a curtain speech we were told that plays for adolescents were a new experiment and that the children were invited to submit their criticisms after the performance. This was announced as being a play of every day life, showing us that there is art and beauty in our every day routine. The curtain rose on a schoolroom scene and from that moment we were led through four hilarious stages in the week of the Soviet school-boy and girl. If you were waiting for it, you could find plenty of morals: respecting parents, using knives, forks, and napkins, playing on the piano and developing a rounded artistic life, obeying in school not only just because it should be done but because it is a patriotic duty when professors give of their crowded time and the government provides the means to improve the level of education in the children. Perhaps the biggest lesson was that for the parents. The play's plot had been built around the mental tortures the hero went through because his home had been broken up and his mother had run off with another man.

To recite these lessons would be to damn it if they stood out and poked you in the face. I doubt, however, that a single child realized that he was being taught. Their reactions were only to the story which was developing, showing the life they knew so well, but also showing the other side of the medal in the reflection on their teachers, parents, and comrades of their actions and roidyism. When the curtain dropped and the actors came out the house resounded with lengthy applause. These actors looked just like boys and girls of the same age as those

around me, although I am told that they are adults trained to act like the boys and girls whose parts they play.

Entr<sup>3</sup>acts were filled with supervised singing in the foyer, or playing in the games room. A buffet supplied the usual Russian zakuski. Walls were painted with dolls and characters from Russian children's stories so that the theater which I had known as that of the Second Art troupe looked like new.

I left feeling that there could be no doubt as to why the government supports this children's theater movement, for they have indeed found a most palatable and delightful form of education, which will sweep the city, and probably in time stretch out into the other cities of the country. Time alone can tell whether it will fulfill its mission of making better citizens and cutting into crime.

All good wishes to you all,

Very sincerely yours,

JNH

I was interested in your letter telling of your trip through the south, and particularly in the section referring to possible students for work in this field. I had only two days before talked with Dr. Rumrecht about a young public health man who was asking about work over here. The description so nearly fits the one of whom you wrote that we both think it must be the same man. If it is not, you may also hear from this other man, for I gave him your name and a brief outline of what the Institute does, at least insofar as it is concerned with my case.

Statistics is a difficult subject and it may be that openings for a student of that in this country would be distinctly limited. I mentioned the idea to Neyman when I saw him the other day, and he seemed to think that there was a great difference between my work and that work. It is my opinion that an application of that nature would not receive favorable action, although if the problem ever came up for an official decision, there might be a different result.

In my letter to Mr. John Crane I made an error in the train times from Kharkov to Dnieproges. They do not leave at the hours I stated but rather at 3.05 P.M., reaching Dnieproges at 11.00 P.M. This means that one must stay at the dam the next day and into the morning of the second day to leave on the 3.57 A.M. train for Moscow. It adds one more day to the schedule than I recorded. I question whether the dam is worth the shunting around, but it may be.

I am certainly delighted at the thought of your coming. It is going to be a great trip. It has occurred to me that in your absence, it might be wise if you would make it possible for Mr. Barrett to have access to some \$200.00 which he could pay Intourist, should the rules on purchase of steamer tickets change before the time for departure, as it may be that by then they will take payment only in New York. One never knows what can happen, and in a hurry.

Again greetings, and a Happy Easter,

JNH

*Are you returning with me on the Queen Mary, Jan. 17th,  
or some other ship at the same time? So hope we can  
do the crossing together!*

Moscow, USSR.,  
March 31, 1936.

Dear Mr. Rogers;

An accordian and fiddle grinding away in one corner of the Professors' Dining Room; couples twirling 'round and 'round in the heavy smoke-filled air; tables laden with zakuski and vodka:-- all went to make up the spring party of our seminar group closing the social season at our Institute. April will be one last drive to prepare for the May examinations, after which students will be assigned for a month's service as legal clerks in courts, prosecutors' offices, and industrial enterprises. Then they will scatter for the summer vacation.

American school and college years always ended with a round of banquets. Still firm in mind are evenings at the Country Club at The Hill and those sultry sessions dimmed with cigar smoke at the Taft Hotel and Lawn Club in New Haven. Soviet students differ little, and the end of the year means for them a good party with zakuski, vodka, sweet wine, and an accordian. Co-educational classes make possible the added entertainment of informal dancing, followed by typical Russian retelling of funny stories.

Three years together in the same seminar group for all courses cannot help but make the best of friends. Even in my one and a half years with this group I feel as if I were a part. Would that it were my own language so that this feeling could be really complete! And what a group it is with Russians, Jews, Caucasians, Georgians, Armenians, and an Uzbek. All speak a common international language, Russian; for many it being just as strange as it is for me.

By now we know our good qualities and our faults, our characters and our tempers, but classrooms can never add that touch of friendship which an evening of fun can bring. Had I just arrived it would have been hard to realize that I too was a part of the evening, but now my contacts with the students are so common that it is difficult to believe that anything out of the usual is happening when an American student takes part in a final party in a Soviet school.

Not the smallest test of my knowledge was to be found in the humorous stories to which the crowd turned as the clock passed midnight. Russians have a custom of memorizing short stories much like those in Clarence Day's Life With Father, repeating these anecdotes in the popular

language of the day amid howls of laughter from the students, most of whom have already heard or read the skit many times. But there is something about the happy glow and firm voice of a raconteur warmed by a couple of glasses of vodka which adds new zest to his retelling of the tale, be it of a day in school, or on the trolleys, or fighting with neighbors in the apartment kitchen.

But even story telling is short lived and back they swing into a swift Russian waltz, defying imitation, as the accordion player with hours of playing behind him speeds up the music to keep himself going. One of our boys used to be the high tenor in his regiment in the Red Army. All who have heard the singing of squads of Russian Red Army men have learned to love the high tenor voice, standing out over the deep bass growls of the squad. He struck up a favorite song in his powerful voice and the walls of the smallish room resounded to the chorus as all boomed in, clapping their hands and stamping their feet to keep time. He tells me that he wanted to go from the army to the Conservatory, but two years of singing in the open as the regiment marched along in sub-zero weather ruined his voice for opera work so that the less picturesque paths of the law attracted him instead of the career he had once desired.

One o'clock with the last trolley about the leave, and all rush for their coats to ~~prolongue the evening~~ the next day when all go to a "collective witnessing" of the latest film success, "We of Kronshtadt". Inasmuch as a class group at a movie at home would not let itself go unnoticed, I expected the worst, but on the contrary all was very quiet and well behaved as we watched the unfolding of this gruesome war picture, too horrifying to merit recommendation.

Thus the year draws to its close, and I realize that with this letter I conclude for another summer a long series of nearly weekly stories. You have, I hope, lived through with me my life in my new surroundings. I hope that I have succeeded in part in making it seem very real. From the other side of the Atlantic the Soviet Union seems so far away, and the political gulf makes the life of its people seem even more mysterious. I have engaged myself in trying to make it a living experience for others. Would that I could have shown how simple and ordinary the life of these people really is!

You will so soon be here to see it all for yourself that I need not write again. You may be sure that I am looking forward with the greatest enthusiasm to my trip down the Volga to meet you, and the following sunny spring days in Georgia, the Caucasus, and the Ukraine. After a winter like this it will be a rare treat.

This has been a great year, perhaps even busier and harder than any I have struggled through before, but nevertheless

thrilling and enervating and really productive. So much remains left undone, a too common feeling every spring. I rejoice, however, in the feeling that a lot of the mystery has fallen away, which formerly enwrapped both the law and my understanding of the Union. May my experience help me to tackle all that remains to be done!

Do remember me to all of my friends you see and tell them that I shall soon be back with them again when the ships come in towards the end of June.

Until we meet in May,

JNH

PERSONAL--Many thanks for the vocabulary of English words and the promise of the dictionary. By all means bring a money belt for use on the trip, some bedbug powder, and three Vest Pocket Kodak films for me. I wouldn't mind a bar of chocolate if you can pick one up before arrival as they cost  $7\frac{1}{2}$  rubles here for a ten cent bar, and lack the goodness of Swiss or American bars. I also suggest an aluminum canteen for carrying boiled water on trains and busses.

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April 13, 1936

LCO

**JOHN HAZARD**  
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Hazard

May 22<sup>nd</sup> '36

Dear Mr. Rogers -

I am told that you will not be able to catch a boat out of Odessa until the 24<sup>th</sup> which will put you in here on the 30<sup>th</sup>. I have asked Intourist to do everything they can for you, should you wish to hurry right across to Yalta & catch the same boat out for Odessa.

I shall wait in Yalta until you come along, & will be ready to sail on the 30<sup>th</sup>. I hope that you will have been able to telegraph me from Odessa, so that I can get myself a ticket - they are always piling up over here, so it is hard to get one at the last minute, altho' Intourist think they may be able to arrange it.

School indeed most successfully. A change in exam dates delayed my arrival here, but it lengthened the time between exams, making it possible for me to register one "good" & two "excellent" in the three exams, which were given. A commission of women heard the exams in which I received "good" - perhaps the

amused me, for it was the first time  
I had ever had a woman professor in  
any land.

This little town is a gem. I wish  
you were to have more time here. The  
history lurking in every place, & the  
beauty of some of the spots reachable  
on the suburban trolley beat anything  
I have seen, except perhaps in Devon.

Being able to speak with the people  
just about compensates for ~~three~~  
hours of work in Munich with my  
teacher & those old grammars. I  
rejoice now in having this language  
in my general equipment — ~~albeit~~  
it is still very unpolished.

So until we meet, & all good  
wishes to Mr. Crane —

~~The~~  
The boat is scheduled to leave Yalta after  
10 pm on May 30<sup>th</sup> so you will have ample  
time to make over to make it.