

16th June 1961

Jennie:

The envelope with enclosures arrived some time ago. Thanks.

Things progress slowly here. The fellow contracting for the poles had an accident and broke a leg. He is now recovering and should be in good working order soon. This delay is of no particular importance because I will not have all the special hardware for some weeks. I had hoped to use standard pole line hardware. However the type of fittings made for 60 cycles are not suitable for two million cycles.

I have been following the ionosphere data here. As you know, we are on the down grade of a solar activity cycle. Unfortunately we have not gotten very far down yet. Thus the ionosphere is still quite opaque to 2mc radiation. Consequently, even if I had the whole affair in working order; there would be little, if any results forthcoming.

One of the enclosures you sent says there will be somekind of stock rights issued by Northern Illinois Gas Co. about the 22nd. I don't think it is worth much. When it comes, please have it sold and any funds sent to Harris Trust in Chicago.

The news coverage of things in U.S.A. is quite cursory here and tends toward the sensational. Please see if the New York Times will send to me by air mail copies twice a week, say Wednesday and Saturday. Maybe I can keep up better on what is going on there.

The charcoal samples went off recently. I have been making a number of inquiries about the Tasmanian blacks and who knows what. There seems to be quite a lot of material on hand plus a huge amount of speculation. The actual concrete information in organized form is practically nil. It looks to me that there could be a fine opening for a first class anthropologist here to get order out of chaos. Perhaps the matter could be brought up by Hap Schauer. He may know someone at Rockefeller or elsewhere that is interested. The climate is good and the natives are not hostile.

Soon winter will be upon us. However it rarely touches freezing in Hobart and while snow is often seen atop the mountains, it only falls in town once in about five years. We are as far south as Ottawa is north, so the maritime climate is quite temperate.

Best regards,

*R. B.*