

13th February 1962

Greetings Jennie:

The main news this month is the installation at Bethwell now operates. Continuous records have been secured since the 4th. So far, the ionospheric hole has not opened properly. Instead the ionosphere acts leaky like a sieve. Small electron holes appear at random in a transient way. These will congeal into a true hole as the nights get longer. During 1955 the hole appeared early in April. This year good observations may be available a month sooner.

When in NYC, the Driver Harris Co., Harrison, N.J. sent to me at RC a sample strip of NILVAR. This was 0.001" thick, 4" wide, 22'10" long, weighed $\frac{1}{4}$ lb, shipment F105087, Sept. 7th, 1962. I have tried the sample and find it much too thin and flimsy. Please have them send to RC for reposting to me another sample of NILVAR strip 4" to 6" wide, 0.003" to 0.005" thick, about 25 feet long weighing approximately one pound. No special rolling is desired; just something they have on hand.

Your note of the 11th January; reprints on Lava Flows and Reversed Bean Vines all arrived in good order. Thanks for the quick transmittal of tax forms. I filled them out and had appropriate funds sent from Chicago to NYC tax office well in advance of 31st January. We'll see if the tax office has same interpretation as your note of the 11th.

In Time Magazine, December 14th, 1962 on page 44 appears a good photo of my radio telescope as installed at Wheaton, Illinois. I do not have this picture as it was made by others. I am informed that it is the property of World Wide Photos, located at 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, N.Y. They will supply prints at a nominal sum. Please have a few made up for file records. One could be added to my things at RC office and two copies sent to me here. I don't know the sizes available but would suggest something about 5" x 7" or 6" x 8".

Further investigation discloses that my twining cactus *Brodiaea Velubilis* is really a Lily. Also I've learned of a similar twining plant *Bowiea velubilis*, another Lily. Its home is Cape Town. By good fortune, Don Martin has secured for me a specimen. It came from South Africa via West Germany via Sydney.

The particular scarlet runner beans I've been working with have red and white flowers. Recently, I've learned these are a hybrid of two other types. Inbreeding makes them break down to their ancestors.

Please don't forget the microbarograph charts as only a few more weeks blanks are on hand.

The summer here has been abnormally cool with many days several degrees below average. This probably corresponds to the cold winter in the northern hemisphere I learn about on the radio. Perhaps the cold spell will soon be over so that we will have a mild winter and you have a warm summer.

Best regards,

Grote
Grote Reber