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June 22nd
1956

Mr. Grote Reber
G.P.O., Hobart
Tasmania, Australia

Dear Grote:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter. I note that you are in Tasmania, which to me has always been a name of the most remote spot on the earth. It really frightened me to think that you were subjected to the dangers which I have always considered inherent in that far away spot. The fact that you write home, however, would indicate that you have not been overcome by them.

I am enclosing herewith forms of contract for proposed sale of the land of the home place to the telephone company.

As to the house, it is my feeling that the two of you could join in the moving of it and place it on a new location. Personally my experience in moving houses has not been a happy one and I find that, when everything is paid for, there is very little left over, but I still think there would be enough to pay to move it. If you are to proceed with the sale, I would certainly let Schuyler find a location and move it either as a joint venture, or as yours alone, or his alone. That, however, is a matter you might prefer to take up with Schuyler rather than through me.

I never like to have people tell me what I should do and I accord the same privilege to other people, that is I do not tell them that they should or should not do this or that. Particularly since, if what I tell them to do turns out to be not so good, they never hesitate to jump down my throat. However, I feel that, before this deal is completely upset, you should be apprised of the situation. The telephone company is, I believe, paying more for the place than you could get from anybody else; at least within the next twenty years. The telephone company is very aware that they are the only customer who would pay that much. I believe that they came up to Schuyler's figure with the idea of getting the matter settled, and for no other particular reason. I think that, if the signing of the contract is unduly delayed, it will not help the situation, as I see it. If we go into a waiting program, they may do so also; and it is for sure that they can wait just as long as we can and possibly longer. You have not asked, in your letter, for my

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recommendation but, if you did, I would most certainly suggest the signing of the contract and completion of the deal while the company is of a mind to go through with it. I am morally certain myself that the signing of the contract would be advantageous for you and Schuyler both.

I trust everything is going well with you, and with kind personal regards, I am

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul Elstner". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed closing "Yours very truly,".

ber;lk

encl.