

1328 Forest Court,
Ann Arbor, Mich.,
April 23, 1958

Dear Magda:

You are long since convinced that your old friends, the Leonards, have forgotten you in these years of silence that have continued despite the reminders of your friendship which you have given in annual greetings at Christmas time. We have always been grateful for these and fully intended to reciprocate but the art as well as the duty of letter-writing seems to have vanished in our culture during these hectic times, and good epistolary intentions are seldom given material form. But it has been good to hear from you, though we should have welcomed some detail concerning your life and work these days since your return to Chile. Apparently, you are well, busy, and, we hope, contented.

Life for us moves along with the years advancing much too rapidly. We have fallen into a pleasant routine of living in Ann Arbor during the academic year, of spending summer months at our little farm in New Hampshire, and a visit of a couple of weeks in Florida during the winter. In the latter place we have acquired a small orange-grove by the edge of a lake and look forward to a retirement there and in New Hampshire according to the seasons. David, our son, is an assistant professor of history at Mt. Holyoke College for women at South Hadley, Mass., where he has a wife and two children nearly ten years old. Dottie has had a long period of being a "bachelor girl," with a long string of engagements and near engagements which never seemed able to culminate in marriage. They have been years of emotional difficulties and strain, causing us considerable worry. She gave up her artistic efforts and worked at different kinds of jobs, none of which seemed to give her satisfaction. Finally, she decided to become a teacher -- the fact that her brother and father were in that profession had made her resolve not to enter it -- and she is now interested in her work as a teacher of sub-kindergarten age. Last summer she met a young man, a doctoral candidate in the department of astronomy here at the University, and in December, quite to our surprise, they were married. It seems a very successful union and the one for which she had so long been waiting. Her name now is: Mrs Beth Tuttle.

I regret to say that, in all the years that they have been living in nearby Detroit, I have never seen the Livingstons. When they first came west there was some tentative correspondence and plans to meet, but they never materialized. That is because we never care to go into the vast and ugly city of Detroit, and we only go through it hurriedly on the way to New Hampshire in the early summer. But I understand that Dr. Livingston is very successful in his work at Wayne University and enjoys the high respect to his colleagues because of his exceptional linguistic and intellectual attainments.

As for our former associates in Berkeley I have ceased to hear from any of them and that chapter seems closed. Simpson and Spaulding have retired, and probably other contemporaries, though I believe that Torres-Rioseco is still active. With new personnel and great changes in the city I am sure that I would no longer feel at home in Berkeley.

Well, I will close this belated letter with the best wishes and affectionate regards of all the Leonards.

Ever sincerely,

Irving Leonard

Ann Arbor, Michigan [a] Magda Arce, Chile [manuscrito]

Irving Albert Leonard.

AUTORÍA

Leonard, Irving Albert, 1896-

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Manuscrito

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