

Recd June 2 /27



COAST GUARD CUTTER

Modoc

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Halifax, N.S.

31 May 1927.

Dear Friend Deane -

We have finished our second patrol and we are now busily engaged in preparing for the third Cruise.

The last trip was notable for several things. First we were to be of service to the Trans Atlantic fliers by taking a designated position on the Ocean on the track to be followed by the fliers and make smoke signals by day or search light signals if they passed after dark. Needless to say at this time that the Bellanca plane never started and that Lindbergh took the shortest route which passed well to the north of the Modoc. The second thing of note was the peculiar as well as unusual behavior of the ice bergs this season. To date none has endangered by its presence the Trans Atlantic steamer lanes between New York and Europe. In fact the ice - lots of it too - is remaining around 45° and 46° North latitude and above. We determined the reason for this unlooked for phenomenon by a running survey of the waters along the East slope of the Grand Banks. It developed after spending a week to ten days recording sea temperatures at various depths that the ocean currents were running contrary to the usual trend at this season of the year. A body of warmer water impinged itself across the south flowing Cold Labrador Current in which the ice bergs

float from the Arctic regions. The Labrador current ordinarily has a current with a strength of one half knot an hour but this has been interrupted by the warm water from the South and thus causing the icebergs to remain practically stationary as stated.

Sunday I was fortunate in getting an auto ride to Evangeline Road made famous by Longfellow's poem. Passing into the Annapolis Valley we motored through many apple orchards. The country is favorable to the growth of fine apples. Thousands of trees were on the eve of bursting into blossom. I saw a large number of our old friends the plants you pointed out to me in Shelburne when first we met. There was *Clethra* in abundance though not in bloom, pointed willow, wild rose, false Solomon's seal - the small variety, arbutus and many others. I also saw some unusual looking moss and lichen which I gathered and is now in press which I will send to you later on. The country was just awakening to spring and of course at an interesting time for a lover of nature.

We leave again for the cold and stormy region on Monday next to be gone another three weeks.

I hope this letter finds you in good health. Hope Miss Brown is well. Please give her my regards. I would love dearly to visit you at Shelburne. It was such a pleasant meeting last summer. With best wishes for yourself

I am sincerely yours,
W. A. M. Parker



Munter, William H. 1927. "Munter, William H. May 31, 1927." *Walter Deane correspondence*

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