rec'd Jan 12/22

Caparo,
2nd Dec., 1921

Dear Mr. Deane,

I must thank you for that fine little book St Fodrica's which just fits in with our thoughts on the World crisis things which we are passing. We both enjoyed it very much and will treasure it. Clarky also asks to thank you for her book and was much amused over the paper lion and kangaroo. She will write by the return boat. I am writing by the earliest opportunity to let you know of Fred's safe arrival on Wednesday last. I met him at the pier at 9.30 p.m., the landing being made in a disagreeable drizzling rain. Getting past the customs was a matter of a few minutes only, and in little over two hours we were on our way home by train, and by 2 p.m. mother, Dora and Don met, and much joy followed.

Fred looks well, and has developed considerably. How that has all explained by him, and since he really has hard work and seems to have made up his mind to stick to his line of work, it may be he has chosen well. Time will tell. Of course, and so long as he aims high he will be successful. He will doubtless have a hard road to walk and a steep hill to climb, but with his grit and perseverance there need be no fear of failure. Always of an independent spirit, he has imbibed more and more of the American brand, and he is now the genuine article. His letter to you will accompany this on tomorrow's boat, & I have no doubt he will have some news for you. He tells of the good times you have given him and also the interest shown him by the professors at Tufts who introduced him to nice people. All this is very pleasant to us, and much appreciated. He gave us your and Miss Deane's greetings and we feel as though we, too, know Miss Deane and wish to be remembered by her. He regrets having had to leave college, but due to the fact his health could not withstand the time, and he was forced to choose as he did. He seems to have learned

quite a lot, and I shall help him all I can. There is nothing he hates more than to be idle, and there is nothing I like in a young man more than straightforwardness, grit and independence.

Well, my dear old friend, another year has passed by the board and a new one has just appeared in its swaddling clothes; what it has in store for us, we shall only know when it shall have attained its majority. The opening hour is not at all bad, comparatively speaking; with the Irish question nearly settled & disarmament (already meeting with some measure of success) in the air, all eyes are turned toward Washington - may the great work now in progress there meet with God's blessing.

I have another bird story to give you. Having to be at my old home in Bronx Comp on Friday last, the nest of a hummingbird was pointed out to me, (with the guest sitting on it) attached to a bit of wire on which a lamp used to be suspended from the ceiling of the front gallery when we lived there. Perhaps in the quest for cobweb for nest-building the little visitor, Blanco hirsutus. (Brownbreast). Chapman, No 120. Vol. VI. 1894. Bulletin am. mus. Nat. History, finding a handy object on which to hang its nest, with lots of cobweb within easy reach, and to be in keeping with the times, thinking it just as well to shorten her hours of work, set to to build in this quiet and protected locality. This she and her mate accomplished in a few weeks about two years ago. The nest measures about 2 to 3 inches long, is funnel-shaped, the top being on the inside, but 1½ inches in diameter, and the bottom ½ of an inch. The nest proper is only 1¼ inches deep and is built almost vertically. The curious part of the matter is that family after family, of two each time, has been raised in this nest, and the keeper of the building, who has very little to do when not attending to the members of the Road Board, who have their office there & meetings once a month, believes that the original parents leave the nest to the new pair, and they to the next and so on. The nest is but 8 ft. from the floor and yet the bird will sit on the nest and allow one to approach within 1 ft. of it before it flies away. I was much taken with the doings of the lovely little creatures as they have come to my knowledge, nesting within human habitations, and am most grateful to them to have the home in which my two children were born and in which many happy years were spent.

With much love to you and dear Bessie from us all. Yours as ever affectionately

Carr, Albert Bonus. 1921. "Carr, Albert B Dec. 2, 1921." *Walter Deane correspondence*

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