

August 30, 1939

Dear Wak:

My, My My, what a long letter from you. It must have been pretty tiring. try a shorter one next time. Not that I don't like to have a long letter. A shorter letter might be more pleasant to write. Don't worry, I am happy to get any letter from you. I am all right though. Nothing is the matter with me. I was in the kitchen last week again. It isn't as bad now as it was the first two times that I was in the kitchen. I really enjoyed myself. That is one place where I can get enough to eat---more than enough to eat. I had a good time there. I am learning how to cook a little too. Maybe another thing, I am getting to know the fellows better. I will write more often. You see I work on my drawings at night or look at other people's drawing. Sometimes a group of us goes to a show or something like that. Like we went to Madison to see Wuthering Heights and Beachcomber. This is supposed to be heaven, but we like to get down to earth once in a while. My judgment of what is good about the buildings that the senior apprentices are designing and such seem pretty good. I ask them about this and the other and if some part is a little weak, I ask them if such is the case. Sure enough it is. It helps out quite a bit. I better watch my step though, because some of them kiddingly call me 'know it all'. Well you see I keep my eyes open and see the tools and such lying around and I can tell anybody where something is when they ask about it. Another thing I don't do what they say to do until I can judge for myself. They are wrong most of the time or I can think of a better way of doing it. Yep some of them are saying that I am always right. Those are the not so bright ones. Others that don't say that at least respect me. I hope that I don't sound too conceited but, I can do a better job at most things than most of the fellows. At least I think more or think faster on what to do next. Maybe some of them don't like it so much??? Mr. Wright seems to like it though. Mr. Rebhuhn, the man in New York who showed me his house talked to Mr. Wright about a Nursery and landscaping. We had a long talk on that before. Today Mr. Wright said he wanted to talk to me about some projects he had in mind about planting native trees and raising them too. He wants to plant some of them on large scale and in a mass for the landscaping of Taliesin. He has his ideas set more or less. I wouldn't be able to stick much of my idea into the thing. I wouldn't enjoy that do much. I probably would do most of the work. He has set ideas about some things but I am going to show him that it can be done. He wouldn't know about it until it has been done though. He doesn't seem to like Japanese dwarfed trees. It is too bad because they will fit into his house very well. If he lets me go ahead with the nursery, I am going to do some dwarfing. I won't tell him that but I bet he will like the sort I will do to fit his house. Mrs. Wright was speaking to me about that too. You see we have all the labor that we want here in the way of apprentices. As long as I can study in the evenings and work in the day time on things that I rather do than work in the Kitchen I feel pretty good. Some of this so called culture will sink in pretty fast. At Xmas and at Mr. Wright's birthday, the apprentices design something for me to show to Mr. Wright. I am going to design a house for him this Xmas if I can, just to see what I have in that line. I will find out. I think I will stay anyhow until they go to Arizona. I am getting to like the place more now. Although I am certainly glad to have the Pegasus to take me to towns and such when I feel like I want to get away from the spot of Heaven.



I haven't fixed my room yet. Yesterday we went to gather some choke cherries. Do you know how we go about it? Well, the first thing to do is to get a canvas and enough people to hold the corners of the canvas. Oh, yes, we must have one extra besides the four who holds the canvas. That one extra man goes up the tree and shakes the branches. It takes quite a few trees to make a bushel basket. We had a couple of little kids to hold one corner. They wanted to stop by a field to pick Sorghum which taste likes sugar cane when chewed. Well, Fred, the driver stopped and let them out. As soon as they were over the fence, he started the machine and left them behind. He parked on the other side of the rise in the ground and waited for development. (They called the rise in the ground a 'hill', but I couldn't see it. The kids must have been used to being played tricks on because they came over the rise in a little while. We just sat there and waited for them, wasting a lot of time. Other time I would have been pretty sore, but I just let it go. If I am going to have any helpers, I'd know who to choose.

Gosh it must have been some gala affair to have all the people in the house for Kaech's sailing away. You certainly must have had a house full. I guess Kaech is well on her way now. Did she mention anything about me. I wrote her a letter. I was just wondering if she will ever write to me from Japan. It must be some experience for the children to go to Japan. Say by the way, how much is steamship ticket prices to Japan? Some of the fellows here are interested. Don't make any special investigation but if you ever find out, will you let me know?... I can imagine Kaech on the floor trying to bow down. 'You got to bend down sister, You got to bend down sister, to keep on the right side of the road. Kaoru must have a soul of an artist. Just like Mr. Wright. He goes out to buy some groceries or parts of necessary machinery and comes home with an art object. Isn't green and a little bit of yellow a definite Filipino color?

Some times if I don't reply to some things that you have in the letter, do don't think that I missed it. Most probably, I agree with you on that point or I have no definite comment to make or my comments were similar. I will write to Tok very soon. This week anyhow. I guess there will be enough crazy things happening around here to write a amusing letter to her. We even have babies born in 'Heaven'. And talking about pancakes. Some of the cooks can't cook them at all, but Mrs. Wright showed one of the cooks how. Boy, she sure can cook. And talking about Min, we have a little vineyard here. I help pick some grapes the other day. I went with a happy go lucky fellow who don't like to work much. He showed me all the different varieties and where they were and especially how they tasted. Boy, did I eat a lot of grapes. We went sampling all the different kind and even a few out of every bunch we picked. You can imagine the amount of grapes that we had picked. They never get much done here except when the boss is standing over them and staying on the job. They have a habit of doing a little and going away when they are tired. There are exceptions though.

Here is hoping for a baby Boy for Tok.

Is Yuri registering at Cal this semester make things harder for you. I guess it will. Well I wish she find what she wants too. I often wonder about you. You always hear our ambition and things and help us out but never have you expressed very much your desires. I hope that I can help you out some times, Wak.



And about Mr. Wright's preference to receiving apprentices. He prefers to have them not knowing anything about architecture at all. Although I think three or four years in a regular college to make yourself a good renderer is a distinct advantage. Thank you for the address of Mr. Goto. I just have to write him a letter now. I will too. We worked in the soy bean field yesterday too. I have a little hay fever from it. I wanted to save some of the soy bean to boil and eat. These that they cut down if or hay isn't quite old enough to eat though. They should be a little longer. I guess Yuri is well settled in school by now. I hope the household can adjust itself again well. It would be interesting to hear how her conversation might turn collegiate again---- It might not too.////??? The fellows over here are pretty interested in the news too. They think that War will come. I haven't seen much of the news paper, so I tell them that there won't be any war. Pap a must be having a swell time, especially if he gets a chance to say, I told you soe. When I get home for this Xmas, I certainly will like to help you with the furniture and such. I 'just love to splash around in the paint '... And I certainly miss my chinese dinner. Some of these days, I will have to take a day off to go to Madison and eat two chinese dinners there. I just crave for some of that stuff just now. The fellows go there in about an hour in the station wagon, but I will take almost two hours to get there. The Pegasus is better and will go for quite a while I hope.

I am really all right. I don't need anything at all just at the present. pretty soon when I get a chance to do my own laundry, it won't cost anything to live here. Except maybe my gas and oil and a few times to go away from Usonia.

This place is really run pretty slipshod. but One gets used to it. I've talked with several fellows and they all agree that if it wasn't for Mr. Wright they wouldn't be in the fellowship now.

Come to think about it, you really did write a long letter last time. Boy, it is good to get one too.

Today, we worked remodeling one of the rooms at Hillside to make it into a dining room for the apprentices. The wood is Oak and it is plenty hard to drive a nail into it. I guess I am picking up a lot of things unconsciously. But I still can show these guys how to do things better. A fellow named David and I put roofing paper above my roof to try to keep the room dry. We had a swell time. Most of the fellows here have a good sense of humor. Most of it are all individual to every one has his own brand. If you are not trying to get too much done, it is all right to listen to them.

The Wright's have a beautiful Solly Dog. I like him pretty much. He has the habit of coming to meet my Pegasus when I am near Taliesin and race with me. I fooled him one day. He was waiting for me to come at his usual spot and I came by, but I disappointed him. I was walking. I didn't even run. Pegasus is the only machine I have seen him chase. He must have a sense of humor too. Maybe the machine sounds good to him.. They have a lot of these Bantam machines around here. When they are loaded with four or five people, the machine can hardly make the two hills necessary to get back to Hillside. Then it is necessary for the one that is hanging on to get out and push..



I sometime wonder what Pa thinks of me. Well i want to get settled down o and go place, but right now I think I can afford to spend a year or two. There is one consolation. I can make a living out of Nursery. Something that a lot of people can't rely on. If this thing don't turn out just right, I know that I will stick to law and not change from it at all. sometimes I get impatient. Seeing other great man, makes me appreciate Pa a whole lot more. He is really great too. He hasn't the publicity these others have. Why don't you slowly get data on him and write his biography. As if you don't have enough to do as you are now. I've told some of the guys here that My Father was just as great as Mr. Wright is in his own field. Maybe after I write a letter to Goto in Japanese, I better write one to Pa. Wont he be surprised though.

How is Nick getting along. Since September is beginning, he wont have any more Sundays off. I will write to him pretty soon too.

Well Good Night until thenext time.

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