

CAMBRIDGE 1927! KING-HAMILTON & ELVIN, FRONT 45+5th homleft; FOOT, BACK, 4th from left



JUBGE ALAN KING-HAMILTON DEC. 9, 2002 AGE 98

005-05,1927)

That autumn I led the Union debating team on a tour of universities in the United States, finishing with one debate in Canada at McGill University. One of my team-mates was Lionel Elvin, an Athletic Blue and later also President of the Union. He gained First Classes in both History and English. To any ordinary person, a Blue, or a double first, or being President of the Union would have been glory enough. Lionel attained all three. Amongst his later appointments were Director of the Education Department of UNESCO in Paris and Director of the London Institute of Education. Not unexpectedly, he was a Fellow of Trinity Hall and is now an Hon. Fellow. His father, secretary of a trade union, had every reason to be very proud of him. The other member of the team was H. M. Foot (now Lord Caradon), one of the four distinguished sons of Isaac Foot, the former Liberal Mp.

It was an exciting and stimulating experience, but very exhausting. Mac Foot and I left England before Lionel, to represent Cambridge at the Centenary Celebrations of Toronto University, which lasted about a week. In the very early hours of one morning we were in the room of one Major Bickersteth (Warden of Hart House, a Toronto University Society) when Mackenzie King, the Prime Minister of Canada, suddenly came in, unannounced. He and Bickersteth were close friends, and he joined us with a cup of cocoa and talked until about 2 a.m. It isn't often that one has the opportunity to drink cocoa with a prime minister, let alone the longest serving premier in the Commonwealth.

When Mac Foot and I got back to New York in 1927 we met Lionel, the only Socialist member of our team (Mac was then a Liberal and I was Conservative), in a fur-lined overcoat, disembarking from the Majestic, the world's largest liner.

Our debating tour took us right down the Middle West, from North Dakota in the north to Texas in the south, up again to Colorado, then down to New Mexico, across Arizona and California and up the Pacific coast, then back across Canada in a four-day train journey to Montreal for our last debate at McGill University. The audiences were huge, by our standards. There were several debates attended by over 1,000, and the largest, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, had 3,300. As that was our first

debate it was a bit unnerving.

In some weeks, we had to debate each night, travelling each day and sometimes having to return to the station after the debate to travel overnight to the next place. The distances were vast, and we probably saw more of America than most citizens of the USA. Unfortunately, I found it very difficult to sleep on trains and became extremely tired. Moreover, each university was most hospitable, and we were treated as though we had crossed the Atlantic only to visit them, which made it all the more exhausting. But it was a wonderful experience and I wouldn't have missed it for anything.

Individually, most Americans had great charm and were very kind, and we made several lasting friendships. In the mass, however, I thought they sometimes behaved like a lot of children. The razzmatazz and ballyhoo every four years at the party conventions and presidential elections provide an illustration of what I mean. On a very much smaller scale it is noticeable in the fraternities and sororities at the universities, and with the 'cheer leaders' at varsity football games. On the other hand, the scenes which occasionally occur in the House of Commons, and all too frequently on the terraces at football grounds throughout this country, may well give a similar impression about us to American visitors.

I formed the impression that in the East they were mostly interested in your ancestors, in the Middle West they wanted to know who your God was, and in the far West how much money you had. I wonder if it is still the same now, more than fifty years later.

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We returned to England on the Majestic. We were originally booked to come home on a 14,000 ton ship of the Cunard Line. I am a very bad sailor. One of the biggest laughs I used to get in extempore speeches in America was when I said that on my way to America I would have preferred it if, instead of the Pilgrim Fathers landing on the Plymouth Rock, the Plymouth Rock could have landed on the Pilgrim Fathers. It was not an original remark (I wish it had been) but it worked, every time. In those days stabilisers had not been invented, and I did not relish the thought of crossing the Atlantic in such a small ship in midwinter. After I had discovered, at the offices of the White Star Company (this was before its merger with Cunard) that the Majestic had vacant berths, it took all the persuasion at my command to get Cunard to cancel our bookings and refund the fares. Even in the Majestic I was sea-sick for two days, but I managed to get up for Christmas Day and keep my Christmas dinner down.

What a pleasure it was to be home again. Earl

1927 Ve	enues			
Date	Place	Subject	Attendance	Result
Oct 17	Marquette, Milwaukee WI	Power of the Press	3300	Won
Oct 20	UofND, Grand Forks	Business Ethics	600	No Dec
Oct 21	ND Ag College, Fargo ¹	Business Ethics	400	No Dec
Oct 24	Uof Iowa, Iowa City	Power of the Press	800	Lost
* Oct 25	Iowa State, Ames	Power of the Press	250	Lost
► Oct 27	Cornell Coll, Mt. Vernon IA	Power of the Press	300	Lost
▶ Oct 28	Drake U, Des Moines IA	Business Ethics	400	Won
- Oct 31	UofNE, Lincoln	Business Ethics	700	Won
► Nov 1(?) Washington U, St. Louis	Business Ethics	900	Won
Nov 2	Westminster Coll, Fulton MO	Power of the Press	400	Won Motion
				Lost Debating
Nov 3	UofMO, Columbia	Power of the Press	1500	Lost Motion
THE STREET	FIRST ASSOCIATION INC. N. M.			Won Debating
Nov 7	UofKS, Lawrence	Power of the I	Press	800 Won
Nov 9(?) OK A&M, Stillwater ²	Power of the Press	1200	Won
V Nov 10	City of Enid OK	Compulsory Mil trng	400	No Dec
Nov 11	Uof OK, Norman	Compulsory Mil trng	1600	Won
Nov 14	Baylor U Waco TX	Compulsory Mil trng	1400	Won
> Nov 15	UofTX, Austin	Power of the Press	500	Lost
Nov 16	St Edward's Coll (Austin)	Compulsory Mil trng	300	Lost
	At San Antonio			
Nov 17	?) TX Christian, Ft Worth	Business Ethics	800	Won
Nov 18	Simmons U, Abilene ³	Compulsory Mil trng	1200	Lost
	TX Tech, Lubbock	Power of the Press	700	Won
Nov 21	Uof CO, Boulder	Business Ethics	300	Won
Nov 23	Uof NM, Albuquerque	Compulsory Mil trng	400	Won
	Pomona College, Claremont CA	Power of the Press	700	Won
✓ Nov 30	Loyola College, Los Angeles	Power of the Press	500	Lost
Dec 1	UofCA, Berkeley	Disapproval of Woman	1700	No dec
Dec 2	Stanford U, Stanford CA	Easier Divorce	900	Split Teams
vDec 3	Coll of Pacific, Stockton	Power of the Press	900	No dec
V Dec 5	Uof OR, Eugene	Power of the Press	700	Won
Dec 7	Whitman Coll, Walla Walla WA	Disapproval of Woman	1000	No dec
V Dec 13	McGill Univ, Montreal	Business Ethics	800	Won

Now North Dakota State University
 Now Oklahoma State University
 Now Hardin-Simmons University

Competing Debaters¹ against England's Cambridge University Team Of

Alan King-Hamilton, Hugh Mackintosh Foot and Lionel Elvin Fall, 1927

Source: University or Local Newspaper accounts of each debate Listed in Chronological Order of Debate

Marquette U Major Younce, Herbert Steffes, William Leonard Robert Birdzell, Bennie A. Johnson, Alden Squires U of No Dakota Leonard Rygg, Leif Erickson, Victor Lindgren No Dakota A. C.* George Anderson, Burton Miller, Herschel C. Langdon U of Iowa Paul Goeser, Craig Eagleson, Floyd Kurtz Iowa State (Ames) Louis Wilson, Russell Cooper, Binford Arney Cornell College Laurence Bleasdale, Irving Grossman, Dillon Hamilton Drake U David Fellman, Robert Baldwin, George Johnson U of Nebraska George Dyer, Aytchmonde Stone, Merle Fainsod Washington U. St Louis -J.R.Clagett, J. Ransom Comfort, G.F. Lamkin Jr. Westminster College -Marion Dry, Ralph Graves, W. Wimmell U of Missouri U of Kansas George Chumos, Burton Kingsbury, David Evans Quentin Williams, Horace Ballaine, Wayne Miller Oklahoma A&M** Jim Williams, A.G. Crowe, H.H. Anderson City of Enid OK John Prett, Earl Pierce, Robert Shelton U of Oklahoma Philip Hyatt, Phillip Teeling, Francis Guittard Baylor Warren Collins, Raymond Gerhardt, William Ryan U of Texas Elmore Borchers, James McClosky, Joseph Koegler St. Edwards San Antonio -Lloyd Armstrong, Fred Erisman, Lester Boone Texas Christian Simmons*** Lawrence Fitzgerald, Zollie Steakley, Bernard Buie Hal Lary, Alston Hutson, Clarence Whiteside Texas Tech U Moses Lasky, Earle Wright, Edward Hubman U of Colorado U of New Mexico Barney Burns, Bob Ruoff, Garnett Burks Patterson French, James Whyte, Herbert Tay Pomona College Loyola-Marymount Donald Dunne, James Hookstratten, Robert Sullivan UC Berkeley Louis Heilbron, George Moncharsh, Garff Wilson Stanford U George Crocker, John Truman, Frederick Cambellack College of Pacific**** -Leonard McKaig, Hazel Kelley, Elliott Taylor U of Oregon Donald Beeler, Hugh Biggs

McGill U - J. Alex Edmison, R,C,M, Cammell, B.M. Alexander

* - North Dakota State University

** - Oklahoma State University

*** - Hardin-Simmons University

*** - University of the Pacific

Walt Whitman Coll

¹ It would be a most interesting project for someone to research a "what happened to them" local story. The three Englishmen went on to prominent careers in Law, Education and Government. I'd be personally delighted to learn the later career paths of the competing debaters.

Harry Rothrock, Henry Tayor, Mark Bradford

An American Odyssey - 1927©

By Dick Bernard

6905 Romeo Road

Woodbury MN 55125-2421

dick@chez-nous.net

http://www.chez-nous.net

In a train enroute from Montreal to New York City on December 14, 1927, a young Englishman, Alan King-Hamilton, put pen to paper in his diary: "We are due in New York City at 9:16 p.m. - twelve hours journey in which to reflect upon 2 1/2 months tour - 17,000 miles - 32 colleges - 55 speeches to more than 30,000 people. I have developed an American passion for statistics."

651-730-4849

King-Hamilton, 22, a 1927 graduate of Trinity Hall, Cambridge University, began his diary on Sunday, October 2, 1927, two days after Babe Ruth hit his 60th home run: "First glimpse of U.S.A. - the lights of Coney Island on starboard bow and those of an advertisement, "Wrigley's Here, There, Everywhere", on port bow. In spite of this, one cannot help experiencing the thrill."

Between these figurative slices of bread, Mr. King-Hamilton and two colleague Cambridge debaters, H.L Elvin, and H.M. Foot both made and experienced a delectable sandwich of people and events, which began, in the U.S., at Marquette University in Milwaukee, and ended nearly two months later at Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington.

(From the Diary: November 19, at Texas Tech in Lubbock, "Having changed, we swallow a sandwich (Americans can make sandwiches!)".)

The tour called for the three Cambridge men to debate teams from 32 places (listed at the end of this article.) Included in the sandwich was a debate at [your university] on [date], 1927.

(Debate was a "spectator sport" in those days, and it was not unknown for debate squads to have cheerleaders, and to attract large crowds. In most places, the audience judged winners and losers; in some places judges (who were suspected of being less than neutral!) made the ruling. The Cambridge style of debate used wit to great

advantage.)

A harbinger of what was ahead came when 3300 people came to watch the first debate in Milwaukee on October 17; three nights later, such an outpouring of interest occurred at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, that "there are twice as many people trying to get into the Hall as it will hold, and the debate has to be adjourned while the audience transfers to a larger hall." At UCBerkeley, December 1, the crowds were so great that they agreed to do two debates simultaneously in two campus halls. "When I arrived in the second hall, I find that their first speaker and Elvin (who spoke first for us) have already finished, and Elvin has been filling in time by entertaining the audience with his views on America. I have to dash back again to the first hall and reply to three speeches, two of which I haven't heard! However, it is a very successful and amusing evening, and we were all in good form."

At Fargo, North Dakota (then-North Dakota Agricultural College) on Saturday, October 21, the debaters signed the "Visitors Register immediately below the name of C.A. Lindbergh of St. Louis MO." ("Lucky Lindy" grew up perhaps three hours east of Fargo at Little Falls MN, and of course had done his solo from New York to Paris just a few short months earlier.)

In Los Angeles, on November 27, the debaters toured "the houses of the stars. Amongst those we see are Doug & Mary [Fairbanks], the

late Valentino's, Tom Mix's, Jack Holt's, Marion Davies', Ronald Coleman's, Clara Bow's, etc. The latter herself was on the lawn entertaining two friends."

Also in LA they saw the famed evangelist Sister Aimee Semple McPherson in person: "Sister is no mean story-teller. She is a great showwoman and understands how "to get it across.""

Before the debate tour began, two of the trio spent several days in Toronto, participating as Canada celebrated its Centenary. At a late night gathering with their University of Toronto host, after a banquet where "Prime Ministers, Ambassadors and learned Professors are as common as peas", Canadian Premier Mackenzie King dropped in: "... we all four take cocoa and chat till the early hours".

Scarcely a stop passed, without some piece of Americana being noted in the diary. The grandeur of the Grand Canyon was noted; the spectacular scenery of the Rocky Mountains near Boulder; the magnificent campus of Stanford and on and on. Not all notations were positive: "Chicago has no attractions for me, in spite of the fact that it lived up to its reputation by staging two murders and one suicide...." The U.S. in 1927 was in the midst of prohibition (at least by Law), and Al Capone held sway in the Windy City. Individual Americans were viewed fondly... and sometimes less so... by the 22-year old English observer.

At Iowa City and Norman OK, the debate was broadcast by the still-new medium, radio, which had its very first broadcast in November, 1920 (KDKA-Pittsburgh). In Norman, OK, the Englishmen marveled at "A gramophone, in which are placed 12 records, with a contrivance which automatically removes one record when it has been played and places another in position. Quite ingenious."

Travel was basically by train, but sometimes by car, and even by Greyhound bus ("Very good going, and very comfortable"). Neither Chevy's nor Ford's merited kudos. Nor did the road from Perry to Stillwater OK, and Oklahoma A&M: "Perry is in the middle of nowhere, and, of course, there are no lights in the roads. Oklahoma is not a wealthy state, and all but the national roads are not much better than beaten tracks." A train ride from New York City to Toronto was described thusly: "The jolting, due to the absence of buffers, and the engine's whistle - a cross between a ship's siren and the moo of an asthmatic cow - prevent sleep at first but fatigue eventually triumphs."

The debaters had to be prepared - sometime on very short notice - to argue either the affirmative or the negative of one of five subjects: "That the power of the Press has increased, is increasing, and ought to be diminished"; "That the ethics of the business world are not compatible with sound morality."; That compulsory military training should form a part of the education in all schools, colleges and universities"; "that this House regrets the tendencies towards easier divorce"; "That this House disapproves of Woman."

The last topic is particularly tantalizing. The issue was not women, per se, but co-education in American colleges and universities, about which the Englishmen seem to have held a dim view. Still, at least one debater, at the University of Pacific at Stockton CA, was a woman, and she was well received as an opponent: "In the evening... the debate - with a girl against us. She is very good in spite of a somewhat obvious nervousness, and makes a great impression." (By this point, the Cambridge-men were highly seasoned, having already appeared at 27 places before thousands of people, and one would expect they had become

extraordinarily confident debaters before all variety of audiences and opponents).

Even in 1927, college football was the rage. In the continents mid-section, the debaters saw Iowa State defeat the Kansas Aggies at Ames; and spent homecoming weekend at the University of Oklahoma: "I shall never forget Norman, Oklahoma", King-Hamilton's diary reports. There, once again, the debaters watch the Kansas Aggies as they lose to Oklahoma - "A really good game". At the University of Missouri, they saw West Virginia fall. Of course, this football, was not their football... their view perhaps similar to Americans' view of Baseball... and Cricket.

On November 16, the debaters reached the most southerly point on their tour, San Antonio TX: "this is the second oldest city in the whole of the United States and the most beautiful that we have yet visited."

At each stop, the trio was regaled as celebrities, which was not always a pleasure. Almost always there were social events and gatherings to be attended. Often a dance was part of the social milieu. At a dance at the University of Missouri, King-Hamilton said "the "cutting-in" system is used, and, to put it mildly, is not only damn silly but very undignified. An amusing incident occurred at the second of these: Elvin, having exchanged the usual pleasantries with his partner, lapsed into silence, whereat she came out with "Oh, don't stop - I just love your accent!"

During homecoming festivities at the University of Oklahoma, another aspect of dances is described: "To see the "stag-line" where the men wait, an imaginary enclosure in the middle of the room around which the couples dance; to see the women, no sooner seized by one partner than they immediately vamp another; to see the latter rush off the "stag line" across the room, brush away the girls' partners and carry on the dance; and to watch

the ousted partners endeavour to restrain their tempers, their hatred, and their almost insane jealousy, is positively nauseating... And they call it dancing! A University dance! We think of Cambridge and the comparative dignity and serenity of the May-Week Balls - but comparisons are odious."

By the time the tour was finished, the debaters had come to some conclusions about America: "It is a curious thing that all down through the Middle West, from North Dakota to Texas, we have encountered religious curiosity which develops into something like intolerance upon the information being given to them. In the East they want to know who your father is, in the Middle West who your God is, and in the far West how much money you've got!" (In his 1982 book, "And Nothing But the Truth", Judge King-Hamilton recalls this same question, and asks "I wonder if it is still the same now, more than fifty years later." (p.14)

On December 9, Mr. King-Hamilton's 23rd birthday, the debaters entered Canada in northern Washington state. "Just behind me is a flagstaff with the Stars and Stripes floating above the American station. Just in front flies the Union Jack over the Canadian station. And between the two, and running right up into the mountains in the distance, is the boundary - marked by the cutting down of a belt of trees. I know its only prejudice, but one can't help feeling more at home - and more free. Like actually returning home after a visit where one has had to be on one's best behavior all the time. And this - without in the slightest detracting from the very great kindness, consideration and hospitality shown to us by so many charming people in the U.S."

ADDITIONAL QUOTES FROM THE DIARY WHICH SOME MIGHT FIND OF INTEREST. In addition, each University doubtless has archival newspaper accounts of the debaters visit.

Sunday, October 23 "We arrive at Iowa City [from Fargo] all hot and bothered after a tiring journey of nearly 24 hours...."

Wednesday, October 26 "We watch Cornell in a secret football practice for their match against Coe, and are suspected of being Coe scouts."

Wednesday, November 2 [in a reception line at University of Missouri] "at 5:30 p.m. we are still there, over 200 people having gripped us firmly by the paw, asked us what we think of U.S.A., of Missouri, of Lindbergh, if he is as popular as the Prince of Wales, of Prohibition, and of the American constitution...."

Monday, November 7, at Lawrence KS "After tea we are driven to an Indian Settlement School about 10 miles distant, we having expressed a desire to see it. Lack of time prevents our seeing much, but it is interesting seeing the boys and girls and talking to them. Many of them are very fine in appearance, and look intelligent; the boys are handsome and the girls really beautiful. Others look dull and coarse."

Tuesday, November 8, at Stillwater OK "During a discussion [with our host, Mr. Anderson], on literature, poetry, and life in general with particular reference to evolution, Darwin, and Dayton, Tennessee, we are astonished to see Mr. Anderson stealthily approach a bookcase, and withdraw from the innermost extremities thereof, a small volume of Fitzgerald's Omar Khayyam - preserved in

secrecy. We elucidated the fact that were it known that he possessed such a book he would probably be "flunked out"! Oh America! Land of the Free! Where one may drink what one likes, read what one wishes, and say what one thinks - provided one does not offend the law, the influential, or the bigoted conceptions of a hypocritical class - a wonderful country and a wonderful people!"... On the way to a nearby Pawnee Village "we pass the ranch of the famous "Pawnee Bill" and see some of his buffalo."

Friday, November 11, at Norman, OK "The debate is to be broadcast, and before it commences we are each asked to say a few words over the microphone behind the scenes while the band entertains the assembly. Then the debate commences - the situation is somewhat tense because it is November 11, Armistice Day - and there is trouble over the border - and further afield U.S. Marines are fighting in Nicaragua. They advocate compulsory military training and their first speaker, a man of about 35, and who has fought in the war - the best of his kind that we have yet encountered - has the audience hanging on to every word. He has a most fascinating voice, and, conscious of it, uses it to its full effect. He "puts across" national sob-stuff by the ton, arouses their emotions and concludes by making "the Eagle screech," in talking of America's part in the war, of Grant, and of President Wilson - and resumes his seat amidst a positive thunder of applause. It is a difficult speech to follow at the best of times, but feeling as I do, I know that I've got my work cut out. As I rise to advance to the rostrum, Elvin and Foot whisper to me, "Go for him." So I go for him, and in as light a vein as possible and succeed in getting the audience to laugh with me - at him. I make the best speech I have yet made on the tour...to our delight we beat

them - delight because they had indulged in some weeks training for the debate whilst our own efforts were the product of twenty minutes that evening whilst we changed."

Sunday, November 13, on a train into Texas: "We awake in Texas, and on pulling up the blind I get a real thrill - I see a real live cow-puncher and a swarthy Mexican with a huge straw sombrero and drooping moustachios... If one plays cards in a train in Texas one is summarily cast into gaol without a trial, and gaols the amenities of which baffle description...."

Wednesday, November 16 in San Antonio: "I notice a youth in the audience who seems particularly interested in us. Afterwards he introduces himself - a lad of about 18, and English. He is out for two or three years learning this side of a business and has been here nearly a year. Seeing three of his fellow countrymen and hearing them speak his native tongue with more or less his native accent makes him homesick again and he visibly swallows lumps in his throat when we take our leave...."

Thursday, November 17 in Ft Worth: "Our opponents are very jolly and we are given a tremendous reception (organised by cheer leaders!)... On the way to the station two of the men admit that co-education is a failure, and we are inclined to agree...."

Saturday, November 19 in Lubbock: "[a porter] informs us that he can get us some ginger ale if we need it. Declining his kind offer we ponder for a bit and then it dawns on us - "Ginger Ale" is euphemism for "bootleg"...."

Monday, November 21 in Boulder CO: "... we learn disquieting news. The mining dispute is more serious than one has been given to understand. Apparently martial law is imminent, and there was actually a pitched battle in the early hours of this morning between the strikers and the National Guard in which at least 10 people were killed and over 60 wounded. This was at a mine about 9 miles from Boulder... There is an air of restlessness about the city; little groups of men stand about on street corners; business does not seem to be as active as it should be, and the atmosphere is tense...."

Wednesday, November 23, Albuquerque: "They take us to a Mexican-Indian village where the houses are built of mud. We go into one and buy clay pipes etc., are shown over the church by an Indian "priest" - all very weird - and examine, from the outside, the men's meeting house. This is a circular building in the middle of the village, and it has no door; access is obtained by climbing a ladder and dropping into it. The men meet periodically to discuss village politics; the women are not allowed in except to take food for their husbands, as they sometimes stay for several days. No white men go in; if they did they would never come out again!... [we] are informed that the subject for debate (compulsory military training) is to be debated only from the U.S. standpoint and not as a question of universal application. This would be giving to our opponents an enormous advantage... We endeavour, therefore, to succeed by contrast - informal, light, humerous, a little "leg-pulling" and yet with plenty of argumentative force and matter. To our especial pleasure we win by a majority of about 2-1...."

Saturday, November 26, Los Angeles: "A long journey through Arizona and California, across

desert, through small canyons, thence to more fertile regions through valleys where oranges, lemons, grape-fruit and eucalyptus grow in abundance, finally brings us to Los Angeles. Not having seen a sign of human existence (save on the train in which we were traveling) for mile upon mile is soon made up for by Los Angeles. In this city 1 in every 3 of the population possesses a car and crossing the road is not merely an adventure as in London - it is serious business. One must not cross until the police blow their whistles, when bells will ring, and red lights will turn green. Should one attempt to cross (as Elvin did) before this series of signals has been given, one is summarily seized by the scruff of the neck (as Elvin was) and deposited upon the side-walk by a policeman with a strong arm and a vicious gleam in his eye."

Monday, November 28, Los Angeles: "Being together continuously for nearly three months - sleeping together, eating together, traveling together - the sudden re-action of having no hosts to whom to be polite, no debate to keep us together, and nothing needing our joint endeavours, our tempers get a little short, and we all go our different ways."

Tuesday, November 29, Claremont CA: "A beautiful drive concludes in a small town (really only the college) the beauty of which beggars description. We are "put up" at the Pomona Inn - a logwood bungalow in the most ideal surroundings. The college buildings are magnificent and the gardens and flowers are beautiful - the whole providing a natural tonic for our jaded spirits."

Friday, December 2, San Francisco: "We take the ferry across the bay into San Francisco. There is a wonderful natural harbour - one of the finest in the world - the Golden Gate; and Frisco is, I think, one of the finest cities we have so far seen."