WILLIAM L. FINLEY

46 letters (1)

AMERICAN NATURE ASSOCIATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
~~XXXXXXXXXXX~~
Ghost Ranch
Abiquiu, New Mexico

July 28, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley
Route #10
Portland 2, Oregon

Dear Bill:

This album is dedicated to you on your 70th birthday by your daughter and son-in-law, as the most fitting token which our thoughts of you might contrive. It is but an indication of the high regard extended to you and your lifetime of work for the cause of Conservation by those who have known you either intimately or through the thunder roll of your deeds and words as these have echoed through the hills and lecture halls of your native land.

I have thought often of the days when you and I travelled the mountains together and sat tired and thirsty upon some crag to share the last refreshing orange from the tail pocket of your cruiser's shirt. And I recall once when the tempting morsel slipped from your fingers and bounded a thousand feet into space before either of us had a single bite. It was you who made the only perfect remark. "That," you said, "is why oranges won't grow in the Rockies. They won't stay put." Such was the sportsmanship for which I have known you and the happy spirit of the trips we shared.

Then, too, there is the picture of Bill Finley dressed in the horns and whiskers of a mountain billy, concealing his camera within the wind-whipped folds of a white flannel costume and disputing the knife-edge trail against any real goat in all of Glacier Park. That was the same Bill who has quite as stubbornly disputed every trail with the despoilers of wildlife throughout the years. That was the true picture of you.

I can see you again, Bill, behind a flimsy blind of baby evergreens with an angry bull moose almost sticking his horns in from the other side, while my hands clattered in the film-changing bag, You used the last bit of film and then bluffed the bull off by walking the tall tripod straight at him. And who drank that whole bottle of rum, anyway?

You have had always a partner in your enterprise, Bill, who has never failed you. There has always been a by-line on your pictures, "By William L. and Irene Finley", and I know you would wish her to share with you this token of appreciation from your fellow leaders in the cause to which both of you have dedicated your years. Your deeds are hers, and hers are yours.

46 letters

(1)

AMERICAN NATURE ASSOCIATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
XXXXXXXXXXXX

So, Bill, I have said my say. It will be the others who have sent you their own tributes on the pages which follow. They and their successors will carry on the fight and perhaps do better work than you or I. I know how much you hope that they will. Congratulations, Bill, from

Your onetime partner and alltime son-in-law.

Arthur

Arthur N. Pack
President Emeritus

(2)

AMERICAN NATURE ASSOCIATION
PUBLISHERS OF
NATURE MAGAZINE
1214 SIXTEENTH STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON 6, D.C.

June 19th, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley,
Route #10
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Bill:

According to Who's Who, and other volumes that record the vital statistics of famous people, August will find you achieving the famous three score and ten. That is an event that certainly calls for congratulations, and a bit more of these than is customary on just ordinary birthday anniversaries. So, as one who treasures the many years of our friendship, I would like to add my hand clasp to the many that will be extended to you on this occasion.

Not many people can look back on a lifetime of contribution of everything that is in them in behalf of others. Yet such fortunate individuals erect a monument that cannot be razed by any act of man. It is given to those who have fought the good fight to have left the ineradicable imprint of their blows. You have certainly done that, as many exploiters can ruefully testify. From the vantage point of seventy summers, and an equal number of winters, you truly have a lot to look back upon, and with satisfaction.

So, Bill, congratulations upon a three-score and ten achieved with success and distinction, and may you go on to add many more years of the same.

Cordially, as always,

Dick

(Richad W. Westwood)
President.

rww;md

(3)

AMERICAN NATURE ASSOCIATION

PUBLISHERS OF

NATURE MAGAZINE

1214 SIXTEENTH STREET, N.W.

WASHINGTON 6, D.C.

June 19, 1946

Dear Bill:-

The late Justice Holmes once said, "To be seventy years young is sometimes far more cheerful and hopeful than to be forty years old". I understand that shortly you will become 70 years young, and I wish to add my congratulations to the many you undoubtedly will receive on that occasion.

From the vantage point of the years, you can look back on a career of accomplishment in your chosen field. The chief reason for your success, as I see it Bill, has been your ability to maintain a daily interest in your work; to develop and hold a chronic enthusiasm and to regard each project undertaken as important. This you have done, frequently under trying circumstances.

Despite the fact that bringing about major changes in national thought takes infinite time, it still is true that "what is within the realm of thought is within the realm of accomplishment", and the ideas planted throughout the years by you and other pioneers in the field of conservation and wildlife protection, daily continue to bear fruit.

It would be difficult to measure the contribution you have made to the general welfare. Policies and actions are determined by public opinion. What public opinion demands usually is eventually done. If public opinion on any issue is active, sound, and well-informed, the resulting action is wholesome. You can take pleasure in the knowledge that you have made a contribution toward an active, sound, and well-informed public opinion on the conservation of natural resources and protection of wildlife. Your reward, Bill, is a host of friends and a sense of service to fellow-men.

Best wishes for many more years of health and happiness, in which to enjoy the things in nature for which you have worked to protect and to preserve.

Sincerely yours,

Harry

Harry E. Radcliffe
Vice-President

Her;af

Mr. Bill Finley
R. #2
Portland, Oregon

(4) (4)

AMERICAN NATURE ASSOCIATION

PUBLISHERS OF

NATURE MAGAZINE

1214 SIXTEENTH STREET, N.W.

WASHINGTON 6, D.C.

July 1st, 1946

Ossipee, New Hampshire

Mr. William L. Finley,
Route #10
Portland, Oregon

Dear Bill:

To all of us who live long enough, there comes the time when we are seventy. There being no known way to avoid this, except to die younger, it seems well that one reaching three score and ten shall have gathered by the way some other useful accomplishment. Thus has it been in your case, for as long as the word conservation bears its true connotation, your name will stand in the front rank of those whose labors have been worthy.

At an early age you joined the Conservation cause, and the good results that have accrued in Oregon through the pioneer work on Three Arch Rocks, and in the Harney-Malheur and the Klamath regions, where your friendly efforts for the persecuted game and plumage birds set a pattern for the West Coast.

In all this work your skill as a photographer, shared in earlier years by your friend and co-worker Bohlmann, has been of marked service in general conservation work over much of the United States, Canada and the Coast of Alaska.

Later, as your fame as a worker and writer on the home life of birds spread, you worked creditably for several years on the Advisory Board, Migratory Bird Tready Act, where the true friends of the Imperilled birds were never in a majority. Thus your considered vote was often needed.

With sincere wishes that you may see many further years of service in your self-imposed but happy task as a worker for perpetuation of America's wild creatures, I remain

Sincerely, your friend,

Edward A. Preble

Edward A. Preble
Associate Editor

eap;md

(5)

AMERICAN FORESTS
919 SEVENTEENTH STREET, NORTHWEST
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

July 31, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley
Portland, Oregon

Dear Bill:

Our mutual good friend, Dick Westwood, tells me that you have an event of some moment to yourself and to your friends coming up on August 9. On that date, he reminds me, you will cross the river and enter the fair and salubrious LAND OF SEVENTY.

My congratulations and best wishes to you. I hope that in this LAND OF SEVENTY the birds will be singing more cheerfully, the animals will play more playfully and that your camera will click no less sharply and often.

In the LAND BELOW SEVENTY you have left many trails that will lead generations to come to greater happiness and keener appreciation of the beauty that is in our land and of the birds and wild animals that symbolize its freedom and the vibrant life that flows from unwrecked nature.

Those of us who have known you, who have thrilled at your pictures and who have heard your calls to action will, I am sure, be thinking of you as one ageless conservationist whose contributions grow with the years and whose punches are never pulled. At least those are my thoughts.

And so, Bill Finley, I salute you. Keep your ammunition dry and may your skies be clear and blue.

Cordially yours,

 Owen Britton

OB/h

(6)

SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS
MILLS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dr. William L. Finley
R. F. D. 10
Portland, Oregon

Dear Dr. Finley:

On behalf of the Society of American Foresters, I send you best wishes on your 70th birthday.

Your yeoman service in the cause of American conservation has been helpful to forestry as it has been to the preservation of all our renewable natural resources.

With cordial wishes for your continuing good health, I am

Sincerely yours,

Henry Clepper

HENRY CLEPPER
Executive Secretary

hec:bw

(7)

THE LOUISVILLE TIMES

LOUISVILLE 2, KY.

Office of the Editor

June 20th, 1946

Dr. William L. Finley
Jennings Lodge
Portland, Oregon

My dear Dr. Finley:

I hear you are going to have a seventieth birthday, and as I always take an interest in young people and wish them well I am writing to congratulate you on being a vigorous and unreconstructed rebel against people who know exactly what they want; a fighter for the public which will be composed of generations yet unborn.

Some day, maybe, those who were called conservationists; or cranks, in the first decade of this century; who were tolerated as dreamers or considered intolerable as nuisances, will get their due as persons more practical, from the point of view of 150,000,000 or 200,000,000 Americans, than the practical business men who scoffed at them, or squirmed or stormed when they interfered.

If any among the crowd now rated as pioneers of conservation will be remembered in 2046 you will be among the remembered. If those who inherit benefits of such work as yours don't make out a Don't Forget list and keep it alive they will be at fault.

Sincerely,

Tom Wallace

TOM WALLACE,
President, Izaak Walton League
of America, Inc.

(8)

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June 14,1946

Dr. William L. Finley
Route 10
Portland, Oregon

Dear Bill,

On the occasion of your birthday, August 9, it is my pleasure to address to you, as one of the nation's foremost conservationists, a letter of sincere appreciation for the grand work you have done in the conservation field these many years. You have pioneered the way in sound land and water management for the benefit of the whole American public.

As I came up in this field nearly twenty years your junior, Bill Finley was one of a mere handful of courageous leaders to whom I looked for guidance and advice and whose blazed trails I followed.

It was my pleasure and privilege, in the ensuing years, to know and work with you in the Izaak Walton League and elsewhere. I admire your fighting spirit and will do my best to carry on.

Like you, I have been criticized by some of the selfish interests, both private and governmental, who often under the guise of conservation work put their own financial or political advantage ahead of the public welfare. But someone must speak out against those forces of greed and selfishness that continually sap America's vital natural resource base. You have done it beautifully. I shall try to keep up the good work through the constantly growing strength of the Izaak Walton League of America.

I have not forgotten the plain speaking you did at one of our national conventions nearly a decade ago in predicting the doom of the salmon runs of the Columbia River unless the elaborate plans of the great dam builders were curbed. History is already recording the accuracy of your prediction and we're going to keep up the good fight to save what is left. With my very best wishes to a real conservationist and a grand fellow.

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Reid

kar/rca

Kenneth A. Reid, Executive Director

(9)

FREDERIC C. WALCOTT
President

F. B. DAVIS, JR.
Vice-President

AMERICAN WILDLIFE INSTITUTE

Incorporated in District of Columbia, July 22, 1935
INVESTMENT BUILDING, WASHINGTON 5, D. C.

T. E. DOREMUS
Treasurer

C. R. GUTERMUTH
Secretary

April 23, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley
Route 10, Box 910
Portland 2, Oregon

Dear Bill:

I understand that you will be seventy years young in a short time and I am taking this occasion to send you my greetings and best wishes and the hope that you will have a long time to enjoy the lovely place that you have there on the banks of the Willamette.

As you know by this time, I am also a retired citizen although I am going to work with a somewhat enlarged version of the American Wildlife Institute.

I hope occasionally to get to Portland and you may be sure that whenever I do that I shall try to see you if I can catch you at home. You have been in this conservation game for a long time and have contributed a great deal to it and at a time when the going was rough and tough. I therefore feel that you have earned a right to enjoy the out-of-doors without working too much in the future.

With best personal wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Ira N. Gabrielson

ING:a

(10)

IRA N. GABRIELSON
President
C. R. GUTERMUTH
Vice-President

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

Dedicated to Wildlife Restoration
INVESTMENT BUILDING, WASHINGTON 5, D. C.

C. STEWART COMEAUX
Treasurer
ETHEL M. QUEE
Secretary

June 24, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley
Portland
Oregon

Dear Bill;

There are a lot of friendly comments going on around Washington about your coming 70th birthday, and I want to add my congratulations to the well wishing of all the others. You have made a host of friends during your long battle to conserve the natural resources of this glorious land, and there must be a lot of satisfaction in knowing that you have taught a staunch army to carry on your fight for posterity.

I am working every day with Fred Walcott and he is 78 years young which leads me to believe that you are nothing but a young man with many good battles ahead. The Senator keeps telling me that you cannot judge life in years and I am doing my best to live up to his philosophy.

Dr. Gabrielson is in Alaska on another jaunt and he may be able to drop in for a visit on his return trip. Weather permitting, he will be coming through Oregon about the middle of August.

I keep up regular correspondence with "Ding" and despite doctor's orders, he is in there pitching all the time. There is never a dull moment with him and he is still full of new ideas. That's the sort of thing that keeps us all going toward that grand day when we can all lean back and say, "Well, there's a job well done."

Hoping to see you again soon and with kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

"Pink"

C. R. Gutermuth
Vice-President

CRG:ka

(11)

IRA N. GABRIELSON
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C. R. GUTERMUTH
Vice-President

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

Dedicated to Wildlife Restoration
INVESTMENT BUILDING, WASHINGTON 5, D. C.

C. STEWART COMEAUX
Treasurer
ETHEL M. QUEE
Secretary

July 11, 1946

Mr. William Finley
Portland
Oregon

My dear Bill:

I hear that you are about to swallow a 70th birthday thereby reaching middle age. You seem young to me, but I recall every time we have met and compared notes from the New York conferences to the Hoover house here in Washington and many other occasions.

I remember your pictures taking the speed of the antelope from an automobile. I think you estimated that they ran at top speed about forty miles an hour. I remember you in Alaska off Admiralty Island as well, and now I want to congratulate you on reaching an age of discretion.

My affectionate greetings to you and to your wife. If you can derive enough morale from the letters that you have received on the occasion of your 70th birthday, you will live to be a hundred.

Affectionately yours,

F. C. Walcott

FCW:ka

(12)

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United States Senate
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON
CONSERVATION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

August 9, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley
Portland
Oregon

Dear Bill:

Today is your birthday and it gives me real and genuine pleasure in extending felicitations and the wish that you may live to enjoy many more happy returns of the day.

Of all your friends in conservation, with only a few exceptions, I have been associated with you longer than any of the others. I well remember the day, back in June 1915, when we met for the first time in the Governor's office in Salem. You had, at the previous meeting, been appointed educational director of the Fish and Game Commission. The man appointed State game warden declined the appointment, which left a vacancy which was filled at the June meeting by my appointment. That was a little more than thirty-one years ago.

During those years there has been considerable progress made in the conservation of wildlife resources and both of us have entered the larger field of national conservation, you as director and officer of most of the nation-wide conservation organizations, and I as secretary of the Senate Wildlife Committee and one of the founders and first secretary of the National Wildlife Federation. Our paths have been parallel during these years and we have directed our activities in the same conservation channels.

We have had some differences, none of them serious, and all ironed out in the common understanding and unity of purpose. It has been a real pleasure to work with you and to follow your lead. You have always had a singleness of purpose in your desire to do the right thing in the right way for our wildlife. You have never compromised with principle and have always challenged those movements which threatened to exploit our natural resources.

I hope you will live long to carry on your fight against those forces which inevitably would lead to a diminishing supply of wildlife within forests and waters and upon the lands.

Here's wishing you again many more happy returns of the day.

From your friend,

Carl

Carl D. Shoemaker

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KARL MUNDT
1ST DIST. SOUTH DAKOTA

HOME ADDRESS:
MADISON, S. DAK.

MEMBER COMMITTEES:
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
INDIAN AFFAIRS
UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

June 20, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley
Portland
Oregon

Dear Bill:

It is a real pleasure for me to be among those joining in extending you my heartiest congratulations on having reached your seventieth birthday.

In those seven score years and ten, you have achieved more for the noble cause of conservation than would most of our American citizens if they would live to be as old as Methuselah. You are really one of Nature's noblemen who, with your good wife, have done great things to make Nature's environment a nobler place in which to live.

This note not only congratulates you upon your seventieth birthday but extends my sincere wish that you and I will both be hanging around this universe looking for a convenient trout stream or an attractive duck pass ten years hence so I can congratulate you upon having become an octogenarian.

With best wishes and kindest personal regards, I am,

Cordially yours,

Karl E. Mundt
Member of Congress

(14)

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SELECT COMMITTEE ON

CONSERVATION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 20, 1946

Dear Dr. Finley:

It gives me pleasure to unite with friends and admirers of yours throughout the United States in wishing you a happy anniversary on your 70th birthday, and many more anniversaries in the years that lie ahead. Your able and unselfish leadership in the cause of wildlife conservation has been an inspiration to all lovers of the out-of-doors and to all who appreciate the vital importance to our future prosperity and happiness of preserving the natural resources with which a kind and gracious Providence has so richly endowed us.

The robins, which in Virginia are harbingers of spring, sing your praises. The ten thousand or more snow geese which pause each year on Back Bay, Virginia, on their southward flight are evidences of your handiwork. Our twenty-seven National Parks, in which we dedicate ourselves to the preservation of things as God made them, will be a lasting monument to your memory.

Personally, as well as on behalf of our House Select Committee on Conservation of Wildlife Resources, I salute you as a great American who has well served his day and generation.

Faithfully yours,

A. Willis Robertson

Dr. William L. Finley,
Portland, Oregon

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
Washington 25, D.C.

PRODUCE AND CONSERVE — SHARE AND PLAY SQUARE
FOOD FIGHTS for freedom

JUN 24 1946

Mr. William L. Finley
Portland, Oregon

Dear Mr. Finley:

I have just learned that you are about to reach your seventieth birthday, which is an event worth noting in a life spent so devotedly in the interests of American wildlife and conservation. Permit me to take this opportunity to congratulate you on what you have accomplished and to wish you the best of good fortune through many more years of activity in behalf of the cause you have so well championed.

Sincerely,

W. R. Chief

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
Washington 25, D.C.
June 21, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley
Portland, Oregon

Dear Mr. Finley:

Congratulations! Not on the birthday alone, but also on so many years so profitably spent in behalf of wildlife and conservation. And best of luck in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Edward H. Graham

Edward H. Graham
Chief
Biology Division

(17)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

54

August 9, 1946.

Mr. William L. Finley,
Route 10, Box 910,
Portland 2, Oregon.

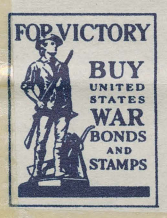
Dear Mr. Finley:

Congratulations on your 70th birthday! We in the National Park Service hope that there will be many more and that you will find time between them to carry on the fine work with which you have been associated so long. Your many writings on nature have been of material benefit to this Service and to the nation as a whole.

With very best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Newton B. Drury,
Director.



(18)

IN REPLY REFER TO

ADDRESS ONLY THE
DIRECTOR, FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
WASHINGTON
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

August 9, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley,

Portland, Oregon.

Dear Bill:

Happy Birthday, and I hope that this 9th of August finds you well and happy.

Certainly on your 70th birthday you can look back with deep gratification and pride on the long and effective record you have made in the cause of conservation. Many of the friends of our present National program can be attributed to the evangelistic enthusiasm of yourself and the others who pioneered our modern concept of the conservation of our natural resources. It is still tough going but certainly the American public appreciates the need more now than they ever had in the past, so I want to take this occasion to pay my respects for your long battle and to wish you many more years of health and happiness.

Sincerely,

Albert M. Day,
Director.

(19)

IN REPLY REFER TO

ADDRESS ONLY THE
DIRECTOR, FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Mr. William L. Finley,
Portland,
Oregon.

July 23, 1946.

Dear Bill:

It is a very real pleasure for me to add my bit to the acclaim on your attainment of your 70th birthday.

While the number of your friends is legion, I doubt if there are many in the East who go back very much beyond the time when you and I first became acquainted. I am reminded of the meetings of the old Advisory Board (M.B.T.A.) and of the interesting sessions at the Cosmos Club. Those were the days when the term "conservation" meant little more than "conversation" and you were one of the few voices "crying in the wilderness" for a sound management policy for our wildlife resources.

Although you and I know that much remains to be done, nevertheless, it must give you much satisfaction to look back over the years and note the progress that has been made. Mistakes? Of course! What great effort of man was ever made without them? But despite our errors we have forged steadily ahead and have, I believe, proved to the World that it is possible to manage wildlife for the benefit of all.

I hope that there may be many years ahead for you to watch the continued fruition of your early labors and with most cordial regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Frederick C. Lincoln

F. C. Lincoln, In Charge,
Distribution and Migration of Birds,
Division of Wildlife Research.

(20)

TELEPHONE:
VOLUNTEER 5-0535

Emergency Conservation Committee

767 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

IRVING BRANT, TREASURER MRS. C. N. EDGE, CHAIRMAN ELLSWORTH D. LUMLEY, SECRETARY

ACTIVELY CAMPAIGNING FOR
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- Virgin Forests
- Birds of Prey
- Bald Eagles
- Fish-Eating Birds
- Waterfowl
- Elk
- Alaska Brown Bear
- Fur-Bearing Mammals
- Antelope
- Mountain Sheep

OPPOSED TO:

- Poisoning, bounties, and other "control" operations against natural predators
- Steel-Trapping
- Hunting of any uncommon species
- Unscientific collecting of rare species
- Organized Crow-shoots
- Introduction of foreign species
- Oil pollution of rivers, harbors, and oceans
- Drainage of swamps
- Grazing in National Forests
- Construction of public highways through forest areas

20 June, 1946

Dr. William L. Finley,
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Dr. Finley,

Though my wish to meet you has never been granted, I am yet one of your ardent admirers, and beg that you will let me add my warm congratulations to those of closer friends on your seventieth birthday.

I bless you for your true love of animals and forests. In the long and happy years that lie ahead of you, I hope you will enjoy all the creatures for whom you have done so much; and for myself I hope that I may have the opportunity of meeting you.

Sincerely yours,

Rosalie Edge

Mrs. C. N. Edge, Chairman

21

Friends of The Land

A NON-PROFIT, NON-PARTISAN SOCIETY FOR THE CONSERVATION OF SOIL, RAIN AND MAN

THIRTY-FIVE EAST GAY STREET
COLUMBUS 15, OHIO

June 25, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley
Portland,
Oregon

Dear Bill:

One more letter of appreciation from one who has personally appreciated the outstanding contribution which you have made to the conservation movement. I have had the good fortune of hearing you speak on two or three occasions, of reading your contributions and of seeing some of the excellent films which you have produced. For many years I have devoted full time in a professional way to conservation education. Many of the conservation ideas and techniques which you have developed will be passed on from year to year through those engaged in conservation education, as I have been doing and shall continue to do.

I trust that our tentative plans for the development of Friends of the Land forum meetings in the Northwest will materialize next spring. I am looking forward to offering my personal congratulations to you at that time.

Sincerely yours,

Ollie E. Fink

Ollie E. Fink
Executive Secretary

OEF/hhh

22

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**National Executive Committee*

GIRL SCOUTS, INC.
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
155 EAST 44TH STREET
TELEPHONE MURRAY HILL 2-2505
New York · N.Y.

August 9th, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley
Portland, Oregon

Dear Mr. Finley:

First of all -- Happy Birthday!

I was one of the people whom you used to enchant and inspire when you gave lectures at the Park Museum in Providence. And your books have been a delight to me, and to the many children I have known. You have helped us all in our conservation work and conservation thoughts.

The above are words of thanks and appreciation from a human being, but I wish it were possible for the things of the wild to thank you, too! However, I am sure you must feel a great satisfaction in knowing that your years of effort have made it possible for more people to know and understand the ways of the wild. And made it possible for more wild creatures to live unmolested.

Not only my congratulations and thanks go to you, but those of this entire organization.

With best wishes -

Sincerely,

Marie E. Gaudette

Marie E. Gaudette
Nature Adviser
Program Division

meg:tgc

23

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MUrray Hill 4-5753

CAMP FIRE GIRLS, Inc.

88 Lexington Ave. • New York 16, N. Y.

July 8, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley
Portland, Oregon

Dear Mr. Finley:

Congratulations on your 70th birthday!

It is, indeed, a pleasure to salute you on this occasion because your birthday signifies to the American people another milestone in your long and devoted career of service in the field of conservation.

I sincerely trust that you are enjoying good health and that your birthday this year will be the forerunner for many more.

Cordially,

Martha F. Allen

Martha F. Allen
National Executive

24

PUBLISHERS OF
THE CONDOR
A MAGAZINE OF ORNITHOLOGY
Established 1899
PACIFIC COAST AVIFAUNA
A SERIAL DEVOTED TO ORNITHOLOGICAL PAPERS OF UNUSUAL LENGTH
Established 1900

Incorporated December 6, 1934

For the observation and co-operative study of Birds, because of the resulting pleasure;

For the spread of interest in Bird Study, so that this pleasure may be shared by others;

For the conservation of Birds and Wild-life in general, for the sake of the future;

For the publication of Ornithological Knowledge, as being a contribution to Science.

W. LEE CHAMBERS, BUSINESS MANAGER
ROBINSON ROAD
TOPANGA, CALIFORNIA

April IO,I946.

Dear "Bill":-

Karl Koford dropped in on us for lunch the other day and gave me all his late dope on the Calif Condor.He is the young gentlemen that the Audubon Society hired some years ago to make a therough study of The Condor and he had worked two and a half years before the war broke out.He naturally was drawn into the war and has just been released.He came through without a scratch ,and a Captain's rank so you can see he is a good young fellow in every way. He has been on the Condor job now for about three months and has just had a chance to check up where he left off.Oh yes,I should add that this survey will give him a Ph.D. when he finishes up the affair.

He seems satisfied that there are just as many birds now as there was when he had to postpone his work.This part of his statement is logical for the reason that there has been no hunting during the war and the Condors have had a breathing spell.I told him that he could watch out for accidents from now on as rapidly as ammunition came back and the deer hunters and other types of shooters could again cover the territory and shoot up every thing that flys or walks.I wrote you once all ready that I hated to make the statement but I honestly beleive that the days of the Calif Condar are numbered and twenty years more will tell the tale,if not sooner.

There is one thing sure,and that is Karl Koford will give us a fine report and one filled with correct information.Grinnell told me once that Karl was one of the best students that had ever come under his notice.

24

PUBLISHERS OF
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For the publication of Ornithological Knowledge, as being a contribution to Science.

W. LEE CHAMBERS, BUSINESS MANAGER
ROBINSON ROAD
TOPANGA, CALIFORNIA

Irene writes,that your Hummingbird feeders are not entirely satisfactory I had a lot of trouble with the bees and finally gave up the feeders.Tell Irene to hang up bunches of cotton and then she will have a chance of seeing where they fly.I have found three nests so far this year and I am satisfied there are about six more nests that I could not follow.We have too many oak trees to follow the birds very far.

I am awfully glad to hear Stanley Jewett is able to get around again and he and you can have a lot of fun on your adjoining places.I wish you were not so far away.

The news you gave me about"Gabe" was not so good and I was very much surprised.The information of his probable working for the Wild Life Institute is fine.Those people will be nice to work for and they realy need "Gabe" to help keep them lined up on the right course.In the all around it will be a good move for wild life. I do hope they find what is wrong and fix "Gabe" up so that he will enjoy working where there is no politics .

This is the longest letter I have written on my typewriter. and I honestly feel encouraged.

Best of luck,and a happy birthday to you and my very best to Irene.

Sincerely,

W Lee Chambers

25

7751 Hillside Dr
La Jolla – Calif.

april 13 1946

THE ARIZONA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

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Arizona State Junior Chamber of Commerce
Arizona Wool Growers Association
Boy Scouts of America
Junior Wildlife Federation
Junior Women Game Conservationists
Tucson Natural History Society
Yuma Rod and Gun Club

Dear Bill:-

If a Quaker could envy any man his three score years and ten, I would envy you for I know of few men who have brought the beauty, the atmosphere and the spirit of the wilderness to so many people. Ever since, years ago, I first heard you lecture before the Geographic Society of Chicago I have followed your work. It has been our great pleasure to have known you more intimately during our Tucson days. The interest from your investment in wild life conservation, will bring rich returns for the rest of your life. Of our home your colored photograph is framed and hangs beside our fireplace and daily calls to mind memories of our hikes and picnics as we watched the desert sunset. We hope we will see you in La Jolla before another year rolls around.

Very Sincerely,
Joseph S. Wright

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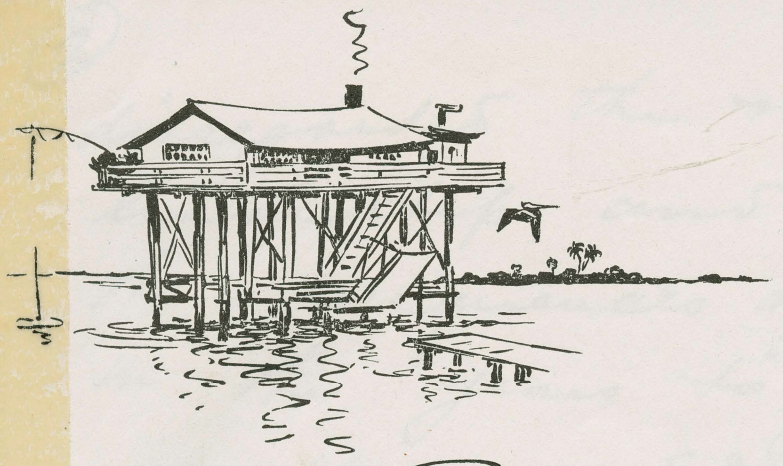

Home 2320 Terrace Rd.
Des Moines, Ia.
Iowa.

FROM J. N. DARLING, CAPTIVA, FLORIDA

Dear Bill —

The years roll by and memories pile up. Among my richest treasures accumulated over a rather liberal allottment of years are the pleasant recollections of happy associations with you in the great & common cause of Conservation over many years.

Among all the friends with whom we have worked you have been the only one who was militant enough to suit me. Your vigor of statement and your vision matched the great objectives for which we fought. We both have regrets I know over the battles which we lost but no regrets for the efforts we put forth. Rather it will be for those to regret who have

(2)

disregarded the wisdom of your leadership and who must reap the consequences of diminished resources in the years to come.

You and I approach our seventieth birthdays together neck and neck. I think you probably feel as I do, that the most important things we have done in our lives were the years we spent in unselfish devotion to conservation of our country's natural resources and it is rather consoling that we are a little too old now to be expected to carry the torch and lead the procession.

I hope that some of the seeds you have sown may have fallen on fertile ground and that new leaders will arise to take your place and carry on. They will have to be good to equal your record.

With affectionate Regards and best wishes on your seventieth birthday ——

April 10" 46
Captiva, Fla.

Ding Darling

27

ALBERT W. ATWOOD
65 OBSERVATORY CIRCLE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 22, 1946

Dear Mr Finley,

While we have not met often and I do not believe I have seen you in a long time I am naturally familiar with your many years in the field of conservation.

It is a splendid thing to have an interest such as yours for as long as you have had it. In fact I wonder if it is not more to the point to envy you than to pile eulogies on your head on your 70th birthday! For it is a real privilege to be able to devote most of ouer adult life to the protection of birds and to other great features of nature. You have been a fortunate man.

I am such a short time behind you in the matter of years that it would be dissembling on my part to write as if I thought you could do nothing more. In fact I trust you will have at least another decade of activity.

With the best of wishes I hope your birthday will bring only pleasant thoughts.

Sincerely,

albert W Atwood

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

THE LIFE SCIENCES GROUP
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The Right Honorable and Honored Bill Finley,
Citizen at Large in the Realm of Nature

Dear Bill:—

I understand that you have been bearing down on the foot throttle of late and are about to overhaul me on the grade. Come on! It's a great trail. That "three score and ten" marker seems to have made the headlines 4,000 yrs. ago and worked its publicity agent ever since. It takes unto itself a lot more importance than it really merits. I've been thumbing my nose at it over my shoulder for some time. Come on along with me. I'll wait for you at the next turn and we'll travel together for a while.

I'm ten years younger than I was five years ago. That gives me 15 yrs. to the good. Suppose you try "growing up" in reverse. It's great sport.

All joshing aside - you've done a wonderful work in the last 70 yrs.. You should be good and proud and proud of it. Your friends are anyway. So here's to your good health and renewed strength!

Carry on - and on!

Ging ho!

Joyce Miller.

Apl 1946.

29

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, LITERATURE, AND THE ARTS
MINNEAPOLIS 14

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

June 15, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley
Route 10
Portland, Oregon

My dear Mr. Finley:

I think we have never met, and perhaps you do not even know who I am. At any rate, I am one of a very large number who have long followed with admiration your work in science and your efforts in behalf of sound and sane conservation. I am very glad to have this opportunity to greet you on the occasion of your seventieth birthday and to be one of the many who are expressing to you their gratitude for your unselfish and devoted efforts.

Sincerely yours,

William S. Cooper

William S. Cooper
Professor of Botany

WSC/jm

EARL SNELL
SALEM, OREGON

April 27, 1946

Dear Bill:

On this seventieth anniversary of your birth, it gives me much pleasure to extend felicitations and the very best of wishes to you. I hope that the day will be a pleasant one for you and that the coming year will bring you much happiness. On such an occasion as this, with another milestone achieved, it gives your friends added incentive to review the great contribution that you have made to Oregon and the entire Pacific Coast through the years that you have devoted to the cause of wild-life protection and natural resources conservation. It is a great record and one of which you should be proud.

My heartiest congratulations on the anniversary, Bill, and all of the best always to you.

Sincerely yours,

Earl Snell

Mr. William Finley
care J. P. Finley & Son
Fifth and Montgomery
Portland, Oregon

WILLIAM P. WHARTON

GROTON, MASS.

June 22, 1946.

Mr. William L. Finley
Portland, Oregon

Dear Bill Finley:

Although it is many years since we have met, it has come to my attention that you will observe your Seventieth Birthday in August, and I want to send you my very best wishes. Most of those seventy years have been spent effectively in the cause of conservation. You have been building for the future, while many others have been destroying the basis of our whole civilization. It is a record of which you may well be proud.

With all good wishes to Mrs. Finley and you.

Sincerely yours,

Wm P. Wharton.

THORNTON W. BURGESS
61 WASHINGTON ROAD
SPRINGFIELD 8, MASSACHUSETTS

On a 70th Birthday, 1946.

Dear Bill:

This day is important, perhaps less so to you than to your friends. They are the ones to be congratulated because of the continued enjoyment of your friendship. Birthdays are not a measure of time; they are a record of achievement. So on this day congratulations are due you, and herewith I proffer mine with the utmost heartiness and sincerity. Fannie joins me in these.

Whst's a birthday? Just a marker
'Long the pathway of the years
To remind us we are richer
For the laughter and the tears;
For the sunshine and the shadows;
For the losses and the gain;
For the love that sweetens sorrow;
For the triumphs we attain.

What's a birthday? Just a marker
On the great eternal way
Where to time there is no ending
And a year is but a day.
Just a milestone to remind us
Of our progress toward the goal
Where will be surcease of struggle
In the freedom of the soul.

I have been negligent of friendship, Bill, yet not intentionally so. I fully intended to reply at once to your fine letter after the appearance of Fannie and myself in Life Magazine. I was swamped with letters from completely around the world - all over the U.S. and Canada, Honolulu, the South Pacific, Australia, South Africa, the fighting front in France. I never have fully caught up with acknowledgements. Keeping up the daily newspaper column , getting out a couple of books, doing all the work in a big Victory garden and taking care of two places interfered with doing things I wanted to do, writing my friends among them. All this is by way of explanation, not excuse.

The truth is I don't work as fast as I used to. I'm slowing up. That is toll to the years of course. Physically I am fine save that I am getting hard of hearing and can't walk as I used to because of bursitis in one knee. Nor can I climb as I once could. Otherwise I find it difficult to believe the record of my birthdays.

I once set 65 as the age at which I would retire. When I reached that I moved it up to 70. Now I've set it at 100. I can see such a whale of a lot to do that I am sure it can't be accomplished in less time.

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Spent a couple of days at the Wildlife convention in New York recently. Got a real kick out of meeting Capt. Bob Bartlett. Had been told that he was one of my fans but had found it difficult to believe that an old salt would be interested in my stuff until he assured me that he had religously read my column since World War 1. Can you beat it? I am now on my 27th year with the New York Herald Tribune, which features the "Nature Story" double column and did right through the war. And I am on my 35th year with the Montreal Star.

Under seperate cover I have sent you my latest book, "The Crooked Little Path." Publication date was April 2. Before that date a second printing was ordered. Not bad for an old fellow in a highly competitive field. Am now preparing the fourth and last in the series, "The Old Briar-patch". Then I will tackle a job that as yet I somehow cannot see - my autobiography. For a year my publishers have been hammering at me to do this. But gosh, what will I write about? I dunno. I just ain't done nothin' but write. If I had behind me the field work and adventures in doing it that you and Irene have there would be something to write about. Bill, why don't you do a book on Adventures in Making Wildlife Portraits ? That may not be a good title but it suggets what I have in mind. You've had a lot of thrills in your work. Why not get together an acoount of the most thrilling thrills? It would make good reading.

My Canadian publishers are considering getting out some of my books in French for the French-Canadian trade. My English publishers in London send word that because of paper and production difficulties during the war most of my books were out of print from time to time, but now they are reprinting 16 titles, will follow these with others that they have, and plan to take on some of my later books including "On the Green Meadows" and "At the Smiling Pool".

But this is supposed to be a birthday letter, not a life history. Wish we could look in on you and wish you "Happy birthday" in person. Anyway we'll drink a toast to you as you renew your youth. Give our love to Irene.

Happy birthday and many more!

Faithfully,

Florence

Not answered

33

Superior Court
State of California
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
A. J. WOOLSEY, JUDGE

April 8, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley,
Care of J. P. Finley & Son.
5th and Montgomery Sts.,
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Bill:

I have just learned that you are about to mark another mile stone in your fine, eventful and interesting life.

Many, many congratulations, and am hoping that you will have many returns of the day.

Mrs. Woolsey joins me in sending this message, and we both send our best wishes to Mrs. Finley also.

Very truly yours,

A. J. Woolsey

(Bon Woolsley)

HOWARD ROBERTSON
ATTORNEY AT LAW
411 CHAPMAN BUILDING
LOS ANGELES
14

April 12, 1946

My dear William L. Finley:

Lee Chambers tells me you have a birthday very shortly and will reach your three score years and ten. It must be a great satisfaction to you to be able to look back on the active and well spent years.

All of us interested in Natural History fully realize and appreciate the many fine things you have done in the interest thereof and I, among all the others, sincerely hope that you will continue for many years hereafter.

With the most cordial wishes for a happy celebration, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Howard Robertson

HR/js

35

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Allan Matthew
Dorg 11

SAN FRANCISCO 4

April 15, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley,
Route 10,
Portland 2, Oregon.

Dear Bill:

I have a suspicion that you are not far from another birthday - your fiftieth, or something like that - and that reminds me of our Maytime fishing trip on the Deschutes River about ten or twelve years ago. Not only did I find the sport excellent and the company most agreeable, but it was a great satisfaction to be able to identify many wild birds for you. In particular, I remember an Osprey, alighting on a rocky pinnacle, and I recall suggesting to you that probably it would have a nest at that point. We also saw two or three specimens of the Lewis woodpecker, the Harlequin duck and other rare birds. Still more particularly, I recall that I was able to enlighten you respecting various members of the insect world. Surely you have in mind the controversy between the caddis fly on the one hand and the salmon fly or stone fly, on the other hand. I was happy to be of this small service to you, although I must confess to a feeling of some resentment when I picked up the Sunday edition of the Portland Journal a few weeks later and found a learned article by an alleged naturalist named Finley telling all about caddis flies and salmon flies, and stressing the importance of protecting them in their natural bushy haunts on the Deschutes River. It was an exceedingly good paper, and conforming with all scientific requirements, although it failed to list the present writer as an authority on the subject. The intervening years have somewhat dulled my initial critical reactions.

You and Irene will be envious when I tell you that we are looking forward to something of a family reunion in the near future. Our daughter Helen Marion is scheduled to arrive shortly from the Hawaiian Islands after an absence of nearly six years. She will bring with her her two sons, whose acquaintance we are eager to make. Our son Morton and his wife will be out here

early in July. We had expected that Ronald would also be with us but he tells us in a recent letter that he has accepted a teaching position in the Woodstock School in the foothills of the Himalaya Mountains in India. He is very keen about this new assignment. Probably you know that Norman is teaching at the Merchant Marine Cadet School at San Mateo. He has a fine young son, Ronald Scott, a little over a year old. We had a nice visit with Norman's little family yesterday.

In the early part of July we plan something in the nature of a family pack trip in the upper Merced River country. Helen Marion, Morton and his wife and I are probably the only members of the family who will be able to make the trip. We shall pack in from the Yosemite Valley and shall probably make a more or less permanent camp at a spot which I think is particularly beautiful. We shall make hiking trips in various directions and you may be certain that we shall get our full share of rainbow trout, eastern brook, lochleven and golden trout. We are looking forward eagerly to this summer outing. If you and Irene could find it possible to make common cause with us we shall promise you a royal welcome. I would be most happy to take you on various excursions and do my best to add to your knowledge of birds and insects.

I am stealing time in the office to write this letter to my old pal but my conscience does not disturb me in the slightest. As you know, I have always been in favor of more and bigger and better vacations and this is about the season of the year when I find myself fully justified in taking thought of the approaching summer season.

Please drop me a line when you find time. I always enjoy hearing from you.

With best wishes for a Happy Birthday and affectionate regards to Irene and you from Daisy and myself,

Sincerely, your friend,

Allan. Matthews

36

ALDERGLADE
7034 CHABOT ROAD
OAKLAND 11, CALIFORNIA

April 12, 1946

Dear Will;

It seems to me that you are going to have a birthday pretty soon. I do not remember just the date; but does that make any difference. Here is congratulations or should it be, here are?. So you are seventy years old. Well that is only four ahead of me, so don't feel so smug about it.

For some years past, I have been advertising the fact that"I am going to have a birthday and it is on February 2nd". Well a group in which we belong, took it seriously or shall I say, jocously. They gave me a party and each one brought me cashew nuts, of which I am very fond - and they knew it.

We had such a good time that all began to tell when their birthdays were. Their were eight in the group. The birthdays so happened to come in eight separate months. The crowd usually meets once a month at somebody's home, so we name the party after the one whose birthday is in that month. He or she gets the kind of desert he is fondest of and presents. These are low in cash value but of special interest to the recipient. For instance, I had remarked how embarrassing it was to drop the soap, when in the shower. This was remembered. I received a highly scented bar with a cord through it, so it could be hung around my neck.

These fine spring days, I get the wanderlust. Vic recognizes the symptoms. The other day she said, "Go get the picnic basket". I did and she filled it with sandwiches, fruit and coffee. I put in the car and she got in beside me.

I do not like the highways, so we took the byways. We cut across the hills to Orinda, then took the Bear Creek Road , crossing the upper ends of Pinole and San Pablo Valleys, went down the Alhambra Valley to Martinez. There we took the ferry to Benicia. The Solano County hills were beautifully green. Purple lupines mixed with golden poppies were growing along the roadside. White faced cattle grazed in the meadows. It was truly beautiful.

On getting near to Vacaville,we turned left, going through Pleasants Valley and came out on the Monticello Road about a mile from our intended lunch destination. This was 'Swallow Rock' as I call it. You probably know the place. It is a State Bird Refuge. There is a big lava formation on the edge of Putah Creek. It has a sheer side about twenty feet high and as wide, overhanging the creek. In the water is a smaller boulder, maybe ten feet across. In nesting time I have counted some two hundred cliff swallwos nests hanging

The air is filled with the adult birds bringing food for the young. As a parent approaches a nest, the young stick out their heads with mouths wide open. Occassioaly their is a miss, and the morsel drops into the pool below. Immediately it is snatched by an expectant fish, a pike or possibly atrout. (I promised myself some years ago, when I saw this happen in mid-May, that I would come back on June first and find out whether it was a trout or not). This would be the year to do it, would'nt it? Well, I will make a note on my calendar to do it. * ---* It is so noted.

This time we were too early for the swallows. The winter rains had washed off all of the old nests and all was ready for new ones.

We ate our lunch on the creek bank and then journied on to Monticello. The red bud was in bloom and at its best. The drive through the Napa Mountains, down Steele and Wooden Valleys was charming. We saw a sign by the sideeof the road 'Friers for Sale'. We bought a roaster instead and had it for dinner the next day. It was a good one.

We were interested in a little roadside quarry where they were taking out flat paving stones. We enquired as to the owner and hunted him up in Napa. He quoted us a price and told us of a truckman who would haul it for us.

We do not like our driveway. It is made of asphalt. Oil from the cars of our friends, relatives and our own eight year old Studebaker, drips on to it. Theeoil contains gasoline which dissolves the asphalt and as a result, the driveway is now in bad shape. We have been investigating all types of driveways and can find none that we would like better than one made of flat rock slabs with cement mortar between.

So we have ordered six tons of stepping stones, as a starter. This will pave about half of it. I am going to do the work myself. If you want to come and help me, it will be free room and board.

Our quarry man wrote that the rock is ready for inspection, so tomorrow we are again going to take our lunch and go to beautiful Napa County.

We believe that we are going to have a bush tits nest in our yard. We have noticed a pair of them around and this morning saw one of them trying to pull some lint from off of the clothes line. We have not located it yet.

I have been working in the garden all day. Part of the time in mine, putting in some Whip Cross corn and part of the day in Vic's. She went to her D A R meeting this afternoon. Now she is at her desk 'Bucking the Chinamen'.

She joins me, Bill, in wishing you 'Many happy returns of the Day'.

Yours as ever,

Herb

Herb Kimball

Rich Lane - Victoria

37

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E. MINI
2035 NAPA ROAD
PHONE 2-1395

VALLEJO, CALIFORNIA

April 25, 1946

Dear Bill:

I have just heard that you have had or are going to have your seventieth birthday. How anybody as ornery as you who will clip birds' feathers off women's hats can live to be seventy is beyond my understanding.

However there must be something good about you because Irene would not have lived as long with you as she has and so far as the common public knows uncomplainingly.

I knew you had a couple of hitches on me but I didn't think you had five. I hope you have many more as happy, pleasant and fulsome as both you and Irene have had.

With lots of love,

Your old pal,

Little Mini

CAPITAL STOCK COMPANY INSURANCE
Standard protection

38

ABBY WHITESIDE
205 WEST 57TH STREET
NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

Aug 2, 1946

Dear Billie-

From my little castle down in the garden at Ghost Ranch, I send you birthday greetings and congratulations. It is very pleasant to review all the happy times I am had with you and your family, and this summer with Chuck and Arthur is an unadulterated delight.

I wish I could join the friends who will help you celebrate your seventieth birthday. May you be gay and festive; and may the results of your life long contributions, in your chosen work of preserving the wild life of this our beloved country, help on growing nations the framework of [illegible] that you have helped to establish.

All hail!

With affectionate greetings

Abby Whiteside

39

Shelton, Washington

Mr.W.L.Finley
Riverby
Jennings Lodge,Oregon.

Dear Bill: So you are having another birthday. Its been more than forty years since I first saw you and much water has gone under the bridge since that time. I count it a great privilege to be considered one of your friends, as you stand out as one of the great naturalists of the country.

Your activity in the interests of wild life conservation that took you so many thousands of miles throughout America, and your incomparable thousands of photos and hundreds of thous ands feet of movie film,especially of bird life,is unsurpassed among naturalists of America. And another thing,your ability to watch and photograph the life history of one bird,with 50 to 100 slides,and to give an exceedingly interesting lecture with them, is,I think,unsurpassed by any one in the country.

Mrs.Eliot joins me in wishing you many happy returns of the day and rewards for the work you have done.

Cordially yours,

W A Eliot

Willard Ayers Eliot
Route 2 Box 241A
Shelton Washington

418 No. Hudson Ave.,
Pasadena 4, Calif.

On Your Seventieth Birthday.

Dear Mr. Finley,

During and since our college days we have, as it were, circulated on the outskirts of your large group of personal friends and have been acquainted with much of the splendid work that you have been doing, although it has never been our privilege to be well acquainted personally with you. For these reasons we cannot refrain from joining with your many friends, on this your seventieth birthday, in wishing you many happy returns.

You have had outstanding success in giving to millions of your contemporaries an understanding and an appreciation of the wild things that share this world with us, and that influence will go on and on to the coming generations.

In closing, let us say, as we know you would want us to do, that our

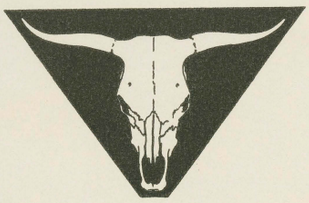
recognize the wonderful help that Mrs. Finley has been in your work, and we wish you both included joy in the celebration of this day.

Sincerely

Harold Michener

Josephine R. Michener

41



GHOST RANCH

ABIQUIU, NEW MEXICO

Telegraph: Espanola, N. M.

July 29, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley,
Route 10, Box 910,
Portland 2, Oregon.

Dear Uncle Bill,

Congratulations upon your promotion to Seventy! Not everyone can make it that far. How I wish it were possible for me to visit you again soon, but that doesn't seem feasible since I'll be attending college in Ohio.

I was afforded much enjoyment in reading the various letters to you enclosed within this book. You must realize how very much I respect you and that I have spoken of your accomplishments frequently to friends in the Service as well as to many in civilian attire.

May you find supreme joy in reaching another milestone in the cycle of life. My best wishes are extended, equally, to your most fortunate life-long companion, Aunt Irene, who has helped you achieve your high goal.

Your admiring grandson,

Vernon

Vernon Lathrop Pack

Palms, Calif. April 12, 1946

My dear Bill;

Happy Birth Day to you old pal. They come pretty often these days to us old timers, but what the heck, they cant dim the good times and the happy life we have led in the past, something of our own choosing in the game we loved so well.

We were not only a success in our care free existence, but left our mark for the future in the written word, and picture records for the coming generations of naturalists. Good luck to these kids, and I hope they can have as much enjoyment in the game as we did.

Our days spent togather in the clean outdoors will always remain a bright spot in my memory, and here's hoping that you still have a long and useful life ahead of you.

With best wishes for you and your family on this occasion, I am

Sincerely yours

Geo. G. Cantwell

Jackson, Wyoming
April 10, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley
Route 10
Portland, Oregon

Dear Bill:

Recently I attended the annual convention of the Izaak Walton League in Chicago and met a good friend of yours from Grants Pass. Your ears should have been burning as we talked about you and Irene, and I know it gave me a warm glowing feeling to find someone in a place like that with whom I could discuss a mutual friend like Bill Finley. I learned that soon you will have a birthday, your 70th, and I want to send you my sincere congratulations, and my sincere appreciation of all the good you have already accomplished. Many of us are not going to soon forget the determined fights you have put up during conservation crises in the past, and the rest of us should derive inspiration from that

to more effectively put our energies into the struggle for a better world.

We still have snow in Jackson Hole, but the meadowlarks are singing, and the redwings are here, and the skies are blue between snow flurries, reminding us that this is a pretty good world. If I remember correctly, the service berry should be in bloom about now around Portland, and there should be plenty of birds, and real spring.

Mardy joins me in all good wishes to a valued friend on his birthday. Hope Irene has a swell cake for you, and we shall be having a good wish as you blow out the candles in the good old fashioned way.

Sincerely

Olaus J. Murie

Dear Will Finley.

This is indeed a pleasure to wish you a Happy Birthday.

Thirty years ago I came to Oregon to visit the Youngsons. At that time I met Anna and later you and your family. At that time, also, we had some picnics - grand picnics to me who came from New Jersey and who was accustomed to wonderful bonfires on the banks of rushing streams. The Auditon Society leader was visiting you that summer and such pranks as you and Anna and Josie Farrell and Ida played, and such interesting stories were told around the fireside, and at the picnic table, under the trees. You and your wife are very definite parts of that memory time and it was a wonderful experience. I was thrilled with the west and so glad when Robert Paterson asked me to stay and be a part of it.

You have had a most unusual and interesting life with your contacts with nature and your friends in wild life. I am sure you look back on it as a very happy and useful one.

My best wishes to you for continued happiness with your family and memories of many happy years gone by.

Greetings to Irene.

Sincerely

Edna L. Paterson.

Portland, Or.

45

2303 PLEASANT AVENUE MINNEAPOLIS - MINNESOTA

Son of Dr. Thomas Roberts

April 30, 1946

My dear Mrs. Finley -

I took the liberty of opening your letter addressed to my father.

I am very sorry to advise you that he died on April 19th. He had been confined to the house for four months, and the end came suddenly but quietly.

I am sorry to hear that Mr. Finley is no longer active.

Very sincerely

J. Carroll Roberts

Ghost Ranch
Abiquiu N. M.
July 28, 1946

Dear Kiki,

I wish you a happy birthday. I hope you have lots of fun and get many presants. Will you have seventy candles on your birthday cake?

What are you doing this summer?

I worked and earned money and Mama ordered me a set of toys for a dollar and ninty-eight cents.

I earned that much money, but Mr. Byas gave me the dollar.

We have a very pretty garden, and we are growing many foods in it.

Love from me,
Charlie.

Charles Lathrop Pack II
Ghost Ranch Abiquiu N. M.

45

Capital Journal

Salem, Oregon

GEORGE PUTNAM
Editor and Publisher

Aug 8/46

Dear Bill.

Have recently returned from the best fishing + camping trip I ever had - along the lakes and rivers of the "Big Circle" in Tweedsmuir Park - about 200 miles west of Prince George B.C. a place you ought to go with the next summer for there is ideal photographs in a wild + wooded country. Amid the mountains of the west range - mostly snow-capped. We went by plane to Prince George via Vancouver, thence by train to Burns Lake [illegible] auto to Lake Babine. We saw moose, caribou, deer [illegible] lots of black bear within Kodak range, either for [illegible] more shots.

Am enclosing enlargement of two you took of moose that swam towards our camp - and I only had one film in the camera.

With regards to Irene

Sincerely

G. Putnam

George Putnam
Editor + Pub'r

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August 5, 1946

Mr. William L. Finley
R. F. D. #10
Portland, Oregon

Dear Mr. Finley:

It is indeed a privilege to extend congratulations to you on your 70th birthday. What a satisfaction you must have in looking back over the years at the progress that has been made in the field of Conservation, a progress in which you have had a large share during your lifetime of service. Through the many organizations and periodicals to which you have contributed your work will continue to be of value to generations of children yet unborn.

I cannot refrain from telling you of an instance in the case of a young man's life in which he thinks you played a very important part. This young man is now a member of our National Camping and Special Events Service. He was a Scout in the Portland Council where you live and you were his Merit Badge Counselor in Bird Study. As this young man tells the story you evidently functioned very efficiently for it took three visits with you before you certified him for his Merit Badge. He says that the experience was most valuable to him and he is now giving his life to the service of other boys through Scouting. Thousands of boys who have come under your influence in Scouting must have had similar experiences as a result of your leadership. I think this little story is something that will make you very happy to know.

With congratulations and all good wishes.

Sincerely yours,
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

James E. West
Chief Scout

JEW:APW

4 P

RAY CARR ORGANIZATION
advertising
Citizens Bank Bldg., Portland 14, Oregon
VErmont 2177

June 12,1946.

Mr. & Mrs.Wm.L.Finley
Jennings Lodge, Oregon.

Dear Bill & Irene Finley:

This morning I have received a letter from the Izaak Walton League telling of their meeting to honor "two of America's foremost naturalists" and I most sincerely regret that we have received and accepted a conflicting invitation quite some time ago.

Both Mrs.Carr and myself would like very much to be among those who will come to pay well earned tribute to you very fine people.

I know this will be a grand affair and that both of you will enjoy the long delayed tributes. Good wishes for your continued good health and many more explorations to you both.

Sincerely,

Ray Carr

rc-d

50

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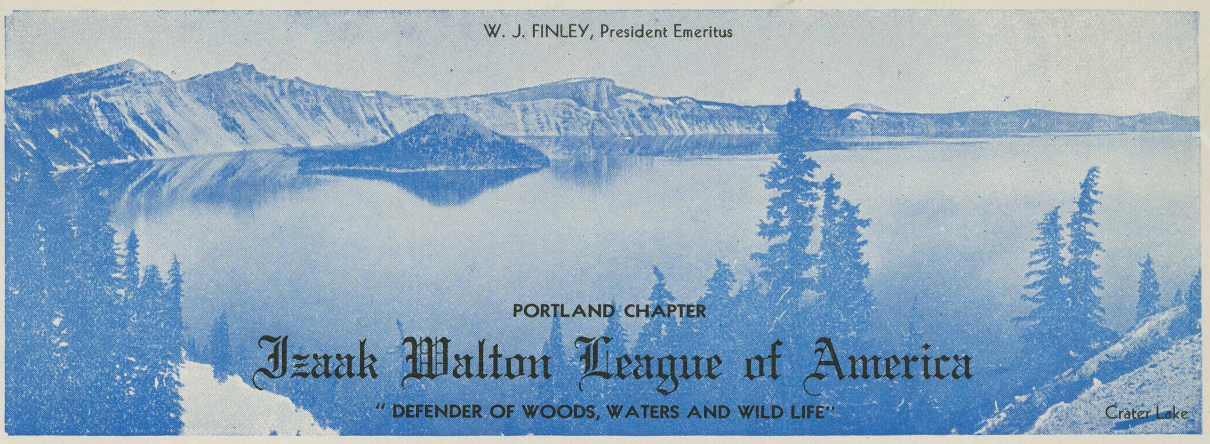

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ONE MORE FRIEND

On your journey of life through the passing years,
You've had much joy, and you've had some tears;
Your lives have been laid with devious bends
But at every turn you've found new friends.

There is nothing better to cheer life's way,
Than to form new friendships every day;
And somehow I feel when you turn the last bend
That waiting for you will be one more friend.

These few lines are dedicated to
William L. and Irene Finley in honor
of their lifelong devotion to the cause
of Conservation. Given at the banquet
held in Benson Hotel, Portland, Oregon,
June 19, 1946.

By: Merle Brown

IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

51

LEW WALLACE
COMMITTEEMAN
FOR OREGON

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE

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PORTLAND 4, OREGON

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E. P. IVORY
LAKE
JOHN A. C. KING
LANE
LEE STUART
LINCOLN
ED STOCKER
LINN
J. FRANCYL HOWARD
MALHEUR
MRS. CHLOE CARLSON
MARION
KENNETH BAYNE
MORROW
D. M. WARD
MULTNOMAH
GEORGE G. LAVEY
POLK
ANDREW CAMPBELL
SHERMAN
GEORGE A. POTTER
TILLAMOOK
MARGARET COATES
UMATILLA
EVA NELSON SHOLD
UNION
MRS. C. J. SHORB
WALLOWA
U. P. MC GINNIS
WASCO
WILLIS F. DARNIELLE
WASHINGTON
MRS. MARY L. ROBERTS
WHEELER
JOHN SIMMONS
YAMHILL
IRWIN WISECARVER

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Mr. William L. and Irene Finley
Oak Grove, Oregon

My dear Friends:

I received an invitation to the dinner in honor of you at the Benson Hotel but I did not receive it until after I had returned from the East and the dinner was over.

I certainly want to express my regrets at not having been there to congratulate you folks on the fine things you have done for Wildlife.

I hope there will be another dinner some of these days which I can personally attend.

Cordially and sincerely yours,

LEW WALLACE

LW vr

Ed Averill
Yeon Building,
Portland, Oregon

Please reserve 3 plates for me at the Izaak Walton League Banquet honoring William L. and Irene Finley. Benson Hotel at 7:00 P.M., June 19, 1946.

Signed Marshall N. Dana
The Journal

Ed Averill
Yeon Building,
Portland, Oregon

Please reserve 2 plates for me at the Izaak Walton League Banquet honoring William L. and Irene Finley. Benson Hotel at 7:00 P.M., June 19, 1946.

Signed Mrs Walter S. Babson

Ed Averill
Yeon Building,
Portland, Oregon

Please reserve 2 plates for me at the Izaak Walton League Banquet honoring William L. and Irene Finley. Benson Hotel at 7:00 P.M., June 19, 1946.

Signed William L. Finley, Jr.

Ed Averill
Yeon Building,
Portland, Oregon

Please reserve 2 plates for me at the Izaak Walton League Banquet honoring William L. and Irene Finley. Benson Hotel at 7:00 P.M., June 19, 1946.

Signed Mr + Mrs C. E. Grelle
4048 SW Greenleaf Drive
Portland Ore.

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Ed Averill
Yeon Building,
Portland, Oregon

Please reserve 2 plates for me at the Izaak Walton League Banquet honoring William L. and Irene Finley. Benson Hotel at 7:00 P.M., June 19, 1946.

Signed Frank Wire

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Ed Averill
Yeon Building,
Portland, Oregon

Please reserve 1 plates for me at the Izaak Walton League Banquet honoring William L. and Irene Finley. Benson Hotel at 7:00 P.M., June 19, 1946.

Signed Ralph A. Stewart

Ed Averill
Yeon Building,
Portland, Oregon

Please reserve 1 plates for me at the Izaak Walton League Banquet honoring William L. and Irene Finley. Benson Hotel at 7:00 P.M., June 19, 1946.

Signed Arthur M. Greenhall

ARTHUR M. GREENHALL, DIRECTOR
PORTLAND ZOOLOGICAL PARK
115 CITY HALL
PORTLAND 4, OREGON

Ed. - Frances will have to act for me, as I have an important appointment 2 weeks standing and hotel reservations in Eugene for 18th

Ed Averill
Yeon Building,
Portland, Oregon

$2

Please reserve ~~2~~ 1 plates for me at the Izaak Walton League Banquet honoring William L. and Irene Finley. Benson Hotel at 7:00 P.M., June 19, 1946.

Bill.

Signed W. J. Smith

Am trying to change appointment.

d5

Ed Averill
Yeon Building,
Portland, Oregon

Please reserve ___ plates for me at the Izaak Walton League Banquet honoring William L. and Irene Finley. Benson Hotel at 7:00 P.M., June 19, 1946.

Sorry that I can't make it. Will be in San Francisco.

Signed Lucas W Bales

Ed Averill
Yeon Building,
Portland, Oregon

Please reserve ___ plates for me at the Izaak Walton League Banquet honoring William L. and Irene Finley. Benson Hotel at 7:00 P.M., June 19, 1946.

Sorry, I can not be with you.

Signed J W Maloney

Ed Averill
Yeon Building,
Portland, Oregon

Please reserve 2 plates for me at the Izaak Walton League Banquet honoring William L. and Irene Finley. Benson Hotel at 7:00 P.M., June 19, 1946.

Signed E. F. Averill

Ed Averill
Yeon Building,
Portland, Oregon

Please reserve 2 plates for me at the Izaak Walton League Banquet honoring William L. and Irene Finley. Benson Hotel at 7:00 P.M., June 19, 1946.

Signed Dave Charlton