

"Autumn"
leaves from
a campus
barberry bush. 10:15 P.M. Jan. 10, 1966
Dearest Patricia: near the bookstore.

The picture was marvellous! You would have loved it! And I suspect, you would have left concert hall with a yen to go to Alaska as I did and as many did. The film in many ways was the most distinctive nature film I have ever seen; not only because of the excellent movies of animals that are rarely seen on film and only inadequately shown in even our best books, but because of the views of Alaska's remarkable mountains and because of the film's organization. Maps showed us where "we went" on each section of the movie and all else was linked in significant association.

Some of the animals rarely or not at all shown as a rule or shown much better & more intimately: Alaskan moose up to 7 ft high of both sexes and in all stages of growth, the moose cow's "devices" for protecting her calves from bear & wolves; the huge Alaskan grizzlies - males competing for claim to a female, attempts to kill (for food) a moose calf, or a caribou calf, or one of a

Dall sheep (the far north's variety of a
bighorn sheep, but a trimmer & more
beautiful animal; Arctic foxes in winter
& summer pelage, the same of hoary mar-
mots (= woodchucks), & two species of ground
squirrels of the far north, one of which ranges
as far south as the states of Washington &
Wyoming; the varying or snowshoe hare,
(a large rabbit that changes color with
the seasons); a wolverine (We have them in
the Sierra Nevada but few biologists with
many years of experience in the field have
ever seen a live one - I haven't though I've
hoped, year after year to have the expe-
rience.) the Alaskan porcupine and numerous
kinds of birds from our common white
crowned sparrow that migrates up & down
western N. Am.; to golden plover whose
young care for themselves from the moment
they are born; whooping cranes; about 5
kinds of ptarmigans (quail-like birds)
all of whom change color with the season
by molting their feathers; horned larks
(We have them here); a gyrfalcon (a large
hawk) actually striking & killing a
plover in the air and then leisurely
feeding on it; etc, etc; through the length

2
of two superb films.

Many of the mammals were shown with young in ~~very~~ very early stages and with all the appeal and fascination that baby animals universally show. A baby Dall sheep ~~too~~ (or a mountain goat) looks as cuddly as any lamb ever did, and the baby foxes were just cute little puppies in an unusual form. —

Will you can sense that the film was remarkable & made more so by the speaker's running commentary. I looked hard for you as well as for me and I thought of you all through the performance, and of how much you would have enjoyed it. Still I know that you are wise in saying no to diverting extras, with the end of the semester and finals so imminent. And once again I had reason to feel proud of you for holding steadfastly to your determination to put your studies first. I felt almost guilty at being able to indulge my desire to see the film, though I know it was proper so to do.

Dinner I had with the speaker, Mr. Walter H. Berlet (home - Casper, Wyoming) and about eight faculty members and their wives (Ron - but not Phyllis - Stecker, Dr. + Mrs. Robertson, Dr. + Mrs. Galen Bull, Gordon Edwards, Shellhammer, Dr. + Mrs. Thaw). Thaw and Bull were the official hosts and as a treat from Thaw we had a cocktail to start with and Kahala to end with! The speaker + Dr. Robertson declined.

Altogether it was a most enjoyable evening.

And now, I'll have to make a beginning on figuring out my estimation of my 1965 income tax. This is a new wrinkle that was instituted last year. It may be that I'll not have a tax at all on my 1965 salary as the figure for it was so low, but there will be a tax on the few hundred dollars of royalty on my more recent publications. - my "income, apart from salaries". And I just tumbled to the realization that I'll have to count in the \$100. monthly rental on 457 Lost Padres!

And now here's a wish for a restful night for you, sweet dreams and lovely days all the rest of the week. And I'll share part of one of them with you on Thursday. My love - as always. Carl.