

6 June 1951

Dear Ron:

I wonder too sometimes if I might have made a mistake in not going to the Bureau of Standards - particularly when I feel restrained in my activities because of the long trek to Annapolis! I appreciate your thinking of that too. The worst part is the fact that my time at home is so limited that I don't get done the things I wish to do, for instance getting that proposed book written - also a couple of papers.

I spend too much time in the garden. Wish you could have seen my first crop of roses. The Paul Scarlett on the board fence outdid itself. A couple of coats of white paint, <sup>on the board fence</sup> earlier added to its loveliness. The hybrids did nicely too. By the time the next blooming is ready the Japanese beetles will have arrived! A garden can be fun tho.

Your plum tree sounded lovely. - This has been one of our very best Springs. No sudden hot spells to force the buds so both the cherry trees and dogwood were particularly luxuriant.

Jack promised to send you a table of contents of his new book. I like your proposed title for mine except it is very similar to Tippett's latest - "Technological Applications of Statistics". How do you like it? I have reviewed it for ASA Journal, *coming out in the September issue*

To give you a complete story on my friend's reactions to the MacArthur affair would fill many pages - they were so varied. I was much surprised and disturbed the way some were so completely bowled over by his speech in Congress - persons who usually have good judgment. Others though felt just as strongly that the country was in the throes of an emotional jag. One person said "Well the Republicans have done it again- and I had really planned to vote for them next time. Can't they ever learn!" Fortunately for my

peace of mind the paper I read daily, The Washington Post, took a sane view (my opinion of course).<sup>1</sup> It was downright sickening to hear elderly statesmen (?) like Hoover say MacArthur was the reincarnation of St. Paul, a leading Republican senator call him God and Taft say the Joint Chiefs of Staff were tools of the Administration. But the disease has about run its course and there seem to be a lot of disillusioned, red-faced, disappointed persons over the results of the hearings. Communiqués from the Supreme Commander's Headquarters at the Waldorf-Astoria through his spokesman have almost altogether ceased. At first they appeared daily. After reading all the preceding, you know the reactions of this friend of yours to the MacArthur affair.

I had wanted to tell you much about the ASQC annual meeting in Cleveland but already this letter is too long. It was tremendously successful, both in numbers attending (roughly 2000) and technical program. Jack's paper went over very well. Brownlee gave a good one too on the same program. I am delighted with the interest among the engineers in design of experiments, tests of significance, etc. I met several engineering professors who are "sold" and of course that is where it will do the most good.

I suppose you have heard of Shewhart's tragic accident driving home from work at about 35 miles per hour. He evidently blacked-out for a second, went off the road, hit a tree and was badly injured. The last news I had was that he had gained consciousness.

Did you like the papers on your 25th celebration<sup>t</sup> of Statistical Methods for Research Workers?

Sincerely yours,

*Beese.*