

February
16
1931

Mr. Joy Morton
c/o Laster, Silbermann & Co.
Galata Hovaghimian Han. 49-60.
Istanbul, Turkey.

Dear Mr. Morton:

Nothing very exciting has happened since I wrote you last. The only real excitement was that Van Gemerts' roof caught fire from a spark from his chimney. It was noticed right away and with the assistance of the Lisle Fire Dep't. the flames were extinguished at once. The damage is slight and the insurance company are paying for it.

Since writing you last, we have had but two nights cold enough to freeze the evergreens which are dug. They are not all planted but we are doing it now, as lack of freezing weather for just the planting operation does not matter.

I am very much enthused with the prospect of having some exceptionally fast growing walnuts in forestry plot this year. We received the seed a few days ago from Mr. Bixby. These seeds are from the Thomas variety of black walnut and are supposed to be the fastest growing of all walnuts. Out of these seeds (46 lbs.), we are hoping to get some that are exceptionally faster growers than the average Thomas. If we do have that luck we shall propagate that particular one to get more plants of it.

I am also looking forward to the fertilizer experiments we are going to try with a few trees. I saw a record of a test tried last year at Hills Nursery with "Vigoro" on some beds of small Douglas Fir. The increase in growth, color and density was splendid. In our test we shall try a dozen or more kinds of fertilizers on the same kinds of plants using unfertilized plants to check against. In addition we want to try some fertilizer on a variety of plants to see how much difference there is in

the way various species respond. The cost of the fertilizer will be figured in comparison to the increased rate of growth produced by the fertilizer and see if it pays to apply it in nurseries during the years small stock is being made for market.

Things in general are going along splendidly. We are very much disappointed that our milk base has been cut some, but will endeavor to make the dairy pay in spite of it. There is certainly nothing about the dairy business to encourage farmers to continue in it.

Prices are terribly low this year in the poultry business but I believe there is much more profit in a well managed poultry establishment than there is in the dairy.

I am enclosing a letter written by Margaret to be enclosed with my last letter to you. When I mailed the letter I failed to enclose it so am sending it with this letter. She'll never know the difference. You know if I was to mention it I might get put on the carpet.

I can assure you we are with you in thoughts each day and hope you are all well having a glorious trip.

Sincerely,

CEG:FL
Encl.