

Bloomfield, N.J.
August 15th 1944

Mr. R. V. Harris
The Law Courts Bldg.
Halifax, N.S.

Dear Mr. Harris:

I had delayed answering your letter of July 6th in the hope that I might be able to include a substantial check in payment of taxes at this time but I find that it will still have to be delayed. I am very much concerned with the unfortunate situation as I am not familiar with the property tax laws of the Province and do not know what action may be taken. I shall have to leave it up to you to contact the collector and give my assurance that funds will be forwarded by September 15th. I had counted on the return from the cutting of lumber on the island last season and only very recently learned that no lumber was cut thereby producing no funds. Certain other difficulties of a local nature have seriously curtailed my available cash balance but I can assure you that I shall forward a substantial payment by the 15th and the balance shortly thereafter. Please advise me concerning the interest, if any, due on the Martin's Point School Tax. A date of August 1st 1943 is given as due date but no mention is made of interest or the rate of application. Incidentally it might be well to inform the collector that all bills for taxes due may now be mailed directly to my home address as the property is now wholly listed in my name.

I have no plans in respect to the island for this Summer nor has Hamilton as far as I know. The authorities will permit no work there until after duration and both Hamilton and myself are too busy down here to get away at all. I had hoped to get to Halifax this Fall for a short visit but recent events have made that hope impossible, and I shall now have to look forward to similar plans for next year.

I have heard nothing from Blair recently nor have I written him. As I recall it I believe that his Treasure Trove and Mines Act agreement expired in May of this year. I have given no particular thought to the question nor do I know what he intends to do and your advice would be very helpful. My one concern is to protect his interests and to prevent any litigation over conflicting claims if other parties should see fit to file any. I am sure that I control the situation as we rather definitely established the fact that expropriation did not apply in this case and any trespass for any purpose can be made only with my permission. As the claim is now open it might be well to ask Blair what his intentions are and also to advise the authorities that no claim is of any value without my permission to trespass. I have no intention of filing a claim myself at this time. If you have time, drop me a line and let me know what you think I should do in regard to both Blair and Hamilton.

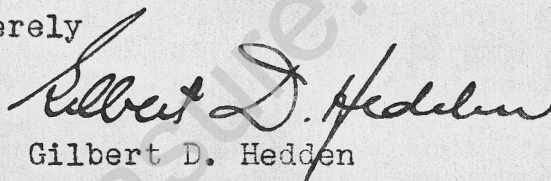
As you can see by the letter-head I am now very happily located near my home with the Development Division of Curtiss-Wright. My job and title are that of Controller of the Division and the duties are interesting and well paid though the nine hour day involved is not too restful. I expect that I shall be located here until the close of the War and if things continue as they have in the past few months my outlook should be very favorable when Peace arrives.

The family are quite scattered at the moment because of War

activities. Tony is in the Navy serving on a Destroyer Escort on convoy duty. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Barbara is a Lt. in the Army Nurse Corps. Norman is completing his training as an Aircraft Engine Maintenance Mechanic at Roosevelt Field and Harriet is working here with me while Gene keeps his mother company at home and does the chores around the house. We are all well and get together once in a while usually after several months separation.

I hope that you and your family are all well too and I look forward to seeing you in the not too far distant future when all of this unholy mess is over, or possibly before. I know that you must be very busy but I hope that you can find the time to drop me a line and let me know how things are with you and yours. My home address is still the same as given below.

Sincerely



Gilbert D. Hedden

Brooklake Road, RFD # 1
Madison, N.J.