

Don't you think we ought eventually to give
Curson a Masonic job or something personal?



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LONDON, W.C.1

Telephone: Museum 8621

22/3/46

Dear Noel,

I am really writing from
Conway. The Castle is a good
pub. Last night I fell among
thieves & stayed up arguing
about religion & politics & similar
subjects until 2 am, but
Aberdeen is a peaceful place.

I went to Ten-yr all-
yesterday & saw Massey &
Wartski, who is doing the
negotiation. Wartski is a
well-known shark who is
just the right man for the
job, as he operates on a grand
scale in his own business,
& will take a poor view of

Thank you all treasures. I
know him as a dealer, & am
very glad he is doing this job.

I have told Massey
that I am now prepared
to sign out of my office to
buy the house, but that I
want to buy the entire
contents, less the mentioned
bequests. This will greatly
simplify Whiski's job. I
have suggested that the 'outside'
contents - gardening, tools etc -
be valued ^{en bloc} separately, & I will
leave them to be sold with the
house. Unless you want them?

The worst snag at the moment
is the high priority choice
of furniture & china possessed
by Phil & Helen. Massey thinks



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Douglas may not play up, &
I have suggested that
Massey cable Phil. He could
possibly appoint his sister
Peggy to act for both of them,
or he might ask me, as he
did tell me once the sort
of things he wanted. If he
doesn't act soon, your Mary
will be held up, & the whole
business of the 'contracts' will be
made very difficult.

Massey is really, as you
say, an extraordinarily able & in-
sufficient person. He says
we can count the house as
ours - which it goes on - alive.

5 or 6 bedrooms, it is obviously
very difficult for 'em-yo-all-
to-wisap' putting up two people,
but we might persevere.

I think taking in Helen &
Pollie ought to go down. They
will know much better than
us about the furniture &
even china worth keeping.

I told Pursey we should
have to be carefully posted
about the sale of the house,
as it will be very difficult
to move out the stuff at
short notice.

The mystery letter came from
Eva Juretti's husband - who is
more or less a loony. As Eva
is my oldest friend in the
world - the Jurettis were at



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Iland House when I was born,
I felt I ought to enquire about
her position. She gets no legacy
except the 6 months wages;
but Massey investigated the
position, & we both agreed that
no action need be taken.

I suppose by the way, you
don't want 'Can you sell?' I
have asked on the assumption
that neither of us wanted it,
but I hope you will say at once
if you - or Mary or anyone -
could be interested.

Massey told Mary to send
in any personal correspondence to

me. I will pass on to you
any thing that seems to call
for two trains, but I don't
suppose there will be much,
except possibly a belated letter
from Phil & some thing of that
sort. I had one letter of
condolence from a Mrs Papsley
- who writes to me once a
year as though she were an
intimate family friend -
I have answered briefly. I
don't know who she is, but
Ann & da disliked her. I hope
I am not wrong, Mrs P, but
I think she is overdoing the
'old family friend' stuff.

Garvey & I both picked
some eggs, but otherwise we
didn't visit the estate.

The real miracle is that Ann & da had such a successful
stay. The garden is in splendid order - considering, the present
difficultly of repairs - & every thing inside outside the house - is better
than with recent care.

Yours
John