Bréfa- og málasafn, fyrri hluti

Bjarni Benediktsson – Stjórnmál – Forsætisráðherra – Agnar Kl. Jónsson – D. Cren de Iongh – d. Miller – E.R. Meyer – P.H. Müller – Eggert (?) – Erik Brüel – Ernest A. Schmidt – Grettir Eggertsson – John W. Spurdle – Jóhann Hafstein – Jón Ragnar Johnson – Leif Wisén – Luther H. Repogle – Michael J. McMorrow – Ingimundur Sigfússon – Níels P. Sigurðsson – Ólafur Egilsson – Sigríður Peterson – Yngve Kristensson – Arne F. Andersen – Tage Erlander – Thomas J. Lennon – Tönnes Andnæs – *In the House of Representatives – Atlantic Union Resolution*

Tekið af vef Borgarskjalasafnsins

bjarnibenediktsson.is

Einkaskjalasafn nr. 360
Stjórnmálamaðurinn
Askja 2-36, Örk 2

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E.A. SCHMIDT

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ROTTERDAM, 31st March, 1969
SCHEEPMAKERSHAVEN 25
POSTBUS 776

Bjarni Benediktsson, Esq.,
Háuhlid 14,
REYKJAVIK.-

Dear Bjarni,

With reference to your letter of 6th April, 1968 and mine of 9th April, I am pleased to inform you that today I received from your Ambassador in London my official appointment as Honorary Consul for Iceland in Rotterdam, together with copy of a note from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, recognising and admitting me as such.

May I once more thank you for your kind assistance in this matter.

For good order's sake I wish to advise you that I am in correspondence with Ottarr Möller to try and arrange a visit to Iceland, together with Jeanette, approximately in the middle of June next.

I have promised to approach him again at the end of April/early May in order to fix a date for a visit of abt. five days, preferably in a period when you and Sigridur and my other goods friends in Iceland are present so that we can see all of you as far as possible in that short period.

I am sure that Ottarr Möller will in due course approach you on this subject.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Ernst Schmidt

Al onze werkzaamheden geschieden op grond van de Rotterdamse Cargadoorscondities, gedeponeerd ter Griffie van de Arrondissements-Rechtbank te Rotterdam op 20 October 1952.

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My dear Mrs. Benediktsson,

What a very pleasant and informative hour my husband, Hale, and I were privileged to share with you, your husband and the Gíslasons! It was the high point of our two days in Iceland. We fell under the spell of your fascinating country and its charming people.

My thanks to you and your husband for your hospitality.

Sincerely,
Scooter Miller

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VIA AIR MAIL

Frú Bjarna Benediktsson
Reykjavík, Iceland

ICELAND

Einkaskjalasafn Bjarna Benediktssonar © Borgarskjalasafn Reykjavíkur

Mrs. Dan Meeker
4000 Reno Rd. N.W.
Washington, D.C.
20008

Einkaskjalasafn Bjarna Benediktssonar © Borgarskjalasafn Reykjavíkur

October 31st 1969

My dear Mr. Senator,

I enjoyed very much my visit with you and our interesting talk. Enclosed is the picture you sent me, with my best wishes for you and your country.

May we soon meet again preferably in Iceland.

Yours sincerely,

Bjarni Benediktsson
Prime Minister of Iceland

The Honorable
Charles McC. Mathias Jr.
United States Senator
Committee on the Judiciary
Washington D. C. 20510

Einkaskjalasafn Bjarna Benediktssonar © Borgarskjalasafn Reykjavíkur

August 29, 1969

Mr. Johann Hafstein
Minister of Industry
Reykjavik, Iceland

Dear Mr. Hafstein:

I have just returned from a rather long summer vacation. I hope that you had a similar opportunity although with your several responsibilities, I realize that it may have been difficult for you to get away for any extended period of time.

It seems to me that it is about time to pursue the matter of our pleasant discussion in Iceland two months ago. At that time we mutually agreed that a working arrangement between the Government and Dominick & Dominick should be weighed carefully and deliberately. In the meanwhile, I hope that you have had an opportunity to explore with U. S. financial and other sources the substance of our firm and its capability to perform the functions which we discussed.

As some time has elapsed since our conversations, it would seem proper to review briefly the highlights of the discussions and out proposed activities.

Taking into consideration its economic reliance on a single major industry - fishing - and weighing its relatively untapped natural resources, as well as its excellent strategic geographic location, the Government, as we learned in our conversations, has decided to undertake a program of industrial development. Wisely, after study of the situation by the National Research Council and others, it has been decided that the industrialization program will emphasize utilization of the natural resources, particularly hydro sites for low-cost electricity, geo-thermal heat, power steam and brine and the sea chemicals. To this end studies have been made of construction of a salt manufacturing plant at Reykjanes as well as other utilization of sea chemicals, particularly extraction of magnesium and other light metals. More recently, a broader

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study entitled "Some Possibilities of Major New Industries in Iceland" was prepared which covered the foregoing and other prospects, including petroleum refining, petrochemical and metallic smelting and refining operations utilizing low-cost hydroelectric power and geo-thermal energy. With regard to petroleum, the giant ice-breaker tanker "Manhattan" has already set sail.

The work done to date has been excellent and promises exciting opportunities for economic development. A primary concept in the industrialization program is enlistment of major corporations in the United States and other parts of the world to participate in specific undertakings, bringing with them their experience and capabilities in the specific fields of activity and their access to markets for the products. This already has been done in the case of the arrangements with Johns-Manville to produce diatomaceous earth and with Swiss Aluminium Limited to establish an aluminium reduction plant.

It is our feeling that work on the industrialization program has progressed to a point at which we can provide considerable assistance. We have immediate access to the management of all major U. S. companies and many in foreign countries. Through our Research Department we are knowledgeable as to the development programs and aspirations of major companies both as to lines of products and geographic market expansion. We know how to prepare a presentation for effective consideration by the executive management of such companies. The plan of procedure which we would like to pursue would be initiated by a visit to Iceland by a working team of our experts who would sit down with the appropriate Government executives to develop an orderly pattern of procedure and effectively activate the industrialization program. The approximate order of attack would be:

1. Review of the research and analysis work which had been accomplished to date and determine an order of priority among products to be developed. At present there is a strong indication that the salt manufacturing plant and the magnesium plant would receive first consideration, but the program still should be studied as a whole.

2. Determination of the method of approach to financing and exploitation. For example, it might mutually be agreed that Iceland should construct the salt manufacturing plant itself both as a demonstration model and a retained supplier of raw materials, etc., for other undertakings. On the other hand, it might be preferable to have a major American company interested primarily in magnesium production undertake the total responsibility for both the salt manufacturing plant and a magnesium plant using the good work already accomplished by the National Research Council for these areas.

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3. Referring to participation by U. S. companies, analysis of arrangements, including proportionate ownership, under specific circumstances which would entice the American company to enter the undertaking yet would be wholly satisfactory to Iceland as a participating partner. In this case financial aspects would have to be considered.

4. Related to the previous point, determination of the extent to which Iceland would move in giving the American partner operating and land holding rights now restricted under Icelandic law and other concessions of this nature which might be attractive to the American partner and justifiable in the circumstances.

5. Upon refinement of the program under the foregoing points and related steps of procedure and assuming that it is decided to move strongly in the direction of bringing United States corporate partners into the picture, the working staff of Dominick & Dominick would assist in preparation of effective presentations which would be expected to lead to active negotiation in specific undertakings. A brief explanation is in order on this point. If the material now in hand were presented to the most appropriate candidate for development of a magnesium plant, it would not necessarily receive the attentive consideration desired on the part of the appropriate top executive of that company. It probably would be relegated to the engineering staff and unfortunately, the principal characteristic of such people is to study the things interminably primarily to see what is wrong with the proposal. The engineer characteristically receives no credit for approval of an outside proposal and carries all responsibility if he does approve it and the program is unsuccessful. The foregoing is based on experience, not theory. As a consequence, it is essential that the matter be prepared in a thoughtful and soundly ordered report, written particularly to intrigue the top management of the corporation and convince them that the matter ought to be pursued and that they should enter direct discussions with the Government.

If our total program is to be successful, the analytical work and related determinations should be a continuing matter. The presentations would be developed in the order of selection of targets. This would involve periodic meetings between the Dominick staff and the Government.

6. In the light of the information obtained and our own knowledge of the characteristics of American companies in appropriate fields of activities, we would make, with the Government, a selection of specific targets, primary and secondary. Upon agreement that a particular company should be approached for a specific undertaking, we would make the approach directly with the prepared presentation in hand and arrange for introduction of appropriate persons in the Government to pursue the matter. It might prove to be desirable for the latter to come to the United States and talk with company executives or hold themselves ready to do so when

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representatives of the American company visited Iceland.

7. Assuming that we had reached an agreement of mutual interest, final negotiations of terms still would remain to be done. We feel that we can be of material assistance in this regard in our experience in such activities and our knowledge of the ways that American companies do business.

The foregoing is a general review of what we discussed with you in Iceland. There will be room, of course, for flexibility and many things not covered above surely will arise as the work progresses.

As to compensation, our basic profession is investment banking and our principal interest is in raising money for useful undertakings, receiving an appropriate fee for the work and risk involved. The plan outlined above promises opportunities for such activities and thus is interesting to us. Our investment banking work also includes assistance in acquisitions, mergers and generation of corporate transactions between companies and from this work we also expect to be paid on completion of a transaction.

As we explained when we were in Iceland, we do not think it appropriate for our firm to be paid any retainer or similar fee for the initial work in developing the program as we feel that this is an investment which we are willing to make in the opportunities afforded. There would, however, be out of pocket expenses for which we should be reimbursed. If we are successful in arranging an undertaking by an American company in development in Iceland, we would expect to be paid a reasonable fee which would be mutually determined between Dominick & Dominick and Iceland. If any financing arises in connection with such a development, we would expect to have the opportunity to handle this financing as investment bankers.

I sincerely hope that the foregoing meets with your recollection of our previous discussions. If there are any questions, please let us know.

Sincerely yours,

John W. Spurdle,
Vice President

JWS/t

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Jón Ragnar Johnson

August 17th. 1969

Dear Bjarni -

Your letter was received in late May and it is always good to hear from you.

We have been deeply saddened by the passing of your brother Pétur. I recently talked to Ragnhildur Skeoch - frænka okkar - and she told me. Pétur was a fine man and served his country and employers not only with diligence and competence, but with dignity and personal charm. Marion and I as well as Patsy and Jón extend our deepest sympathy.

Various interesting things have happened here. On June 13th I had a prostate operation but have been making a satisfactory recovery. Shortly after my return from hospital Oddny Ragnarsdóttir (ömmu frænka) visited us for a few days and we were all glad to see her.

Far more exciting than my physical repairs was the arrival of our grandson Jón Ragnar (hinn fríði) on July 16th. Mother and child

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have done very well and the new addition brings much joy not only to his parents but also to his four admiring grandparents.

Jón has just completed his term of articles in a large Toronto law office and will enter the final phase of his legal education in early September in what is called the Bar admission Course. It consists of lectures and examinations on the practical aspects of law practice. This should end in March 1970 and in the meantime he and Patsy and their newly acquired son have left on a vacation in a not too remote area of Northern Ontario.

We all continue to have fond memories of Ireland and Patsy and Jón have given several accounts of their travels there. We all hope to have the opportunity to go there again.

Við biðjum kærlega og ástsamlega að heilsa þér og fjölskyldu þinni og vonum að þið haldi áfram að hafa góða heilsu. Með bestu kveðjum.

Þinn frandi og vinur

— Ragnar J.

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TORONTO
6.30 PM
AUG 18
1969
ONTARIO

NUMBER

Hon. Bjarni Benediktsson,
Háuhlíð 14,
Reykjavík,
ICELAND.

AIR MAIL PAR AVION

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from - 584 Briar Hill Avenue - Toronto 12, Ontario,
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TMT/kl

den 1. september 1969.

PAR AVION

Hr. statsminister Bjarni Benediktsson,
Hauhlid 14,
Reykjavik,
Island.

Kære Bjarni,

Jeg skriver disse linier til dig for at takke dig og Sigridur for gæstfrihed i Thingvellir og i Jeres smukke hjem i Reykjavik. Det er altid en oplevelse at vandre med dig ad ukendte stier, og i dit hjem i Reykjavik traf jeg mange interessante mennesker.

Med venlig hilsen til Jer begge

din hengivne

Vilhelm

p.s. Det glæder mig at se i dag, at typografstrejken nu slutter. Jeg har sendt Matthias noget materiale om vore overvejelser mht. bladenes arbejdsforhold

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UTANRÍKISRÁÐUNEYTIÐ

Reykjavík, 28. júlí 1969.

Db. 8.C.820.a.
(óskast tilgreint í svari)

Hér með sendist yður til athugunar samrit af bréfi sendiráðsins í París, dags. 18. þ.m. viðvíkjandi fiskimálum í Evrópuráðinu ásamt skýrslu þeirri, sem þar er nefnd.

F. r.

Agnar Kl. Jónsson

Hr. forsætisráðherra
dr. Bjarni Benediktsson,
Reykjavík.

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SENDIRÁÐ ÍSLANDS

Paris, 18. júlí 1969

54.E.5.i

RÁÐHERRA

Nr. 186
Evrópuráðið:

Fiskimál
Br.rn.nr. 45, 11.7.68
Db. 8.C.820.a.

Ráðuneytinu sendist hér með í 12 eintökum skýrsla um fiskimál, "Report on Fishery Policies in Europe,(Doc.2563)", sem ætlað er að verða grundvöllur umræðna um þau efni á fundum 21. Ráðgjafarþingsins um mánaðamótin september/október n.k. þegar utanríkisráðherra Íslands flytur ávarp sitt. Skýrslan er samin af franska öldungadeildarþingmanninum Joseph Yvon, en hann er framsögumaður landbúnaðarnefndar þingsins um þessi mál. Skýrslan er gerð fyrir forgöngu undirnefndar þeirrar um fiskimál, sem landbúnaðarnefndin ákvað árið 1966 að setja á fót. Er byggt á svörum við sérstakri spurningaskrá nefndarinnar, sem aðildaríkin, þ.á m. Ísland hafa látið í té.

Í skýrslunni er m.a. fjallað um nauðsyn á frekari verndun fiskstofna, bæði að því er snertir veiðiaðferðir og friðun hrygningar- og uppeldisstöðva. Í ályktunartillögu þeirri, sem ráðgjafarþingið mun taka til meðferðar og birt er á undan sjálfri skýrslunni á hinu hjálagða skjali, er m.a. ráðgerð hvatning til ríkisstjórna aðildaríkjanna

> "to enforce respect of existing international conventions regulating fishing practices and fishing grounds, and, if need be, to complete these conventions by stricter regulations."

Þá er í skýrslunni lögð megináherzla á félagsleg atriði sjávar-

Utanríkisráðuneytið,
R e y k j a v í k

Utanríkisráðuneytið
Db. 8.C.820.a dags. 22/7'69

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útvegsmála, sem fram til þessa hafi ekki verið sinnt sem skyldi.

Í upprifjun skýrslunnar á því, sem gerzt hefur í fiskimálum á vettvangi Ráðgjafarþingsins, er m.a. vikið að greinargerð Rannveigar Þorsteinsdóttur árið 1961 (sjá bls. 4).

Ráðgert er að síðar verði lögð fram skýrsla um stefnu fiskimála í álfunni almennt.

Að því er framangreint efni að öðru leyti varðar skal þess getið, að sendinefndinni er eigi kunnugt um, hvort íslenzka þingmannanefndin hefur tekið ákvörðun um, hverjir úr hennar hópi skuli vera fulltrúi og varafulltrú Íslands í landbúnaðarnefndinni (og þar með einnig fiskimála-undirnefndinni) á 21. Ráðgjafarþinginu, sem eins og kunnugt er kom saman til fyrstu funda sinna í maí s.l. Á síðasta þingi var Eysteinn Jónsson fulltrúi í umræddri nefnd.

F. h. s.

Ólafur Egilsson.

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D. CRENA de IONGH

WHITHERTON, SHADOW LANE 30
WILTON, CONNECTICUT 06897
U. S. A.

TELEPHONE 762-7209
AREA CODE 203

March 3rd. 1969.

Dear Bjarni,

I am sorry to have to report that we shall not come to Iceland after all this year. Polly had some difficulty with her left leg and the doctors have informed us that the trouble is arthritis of the hip. Luckily she has little pain but she has great difficulty in getting around and so we shall go straight to Holland by the end of March and a month later to the island of Ischia hoping that the mud-cures will do Polly good, let us hope for the best. We are extremely sorry not to see Sigridur and you this year nor our other good friends in Iceland we love so much. Lets hope that next year the situation will be better.

With warmest regards from Polly and me to Sigridur and yourself.

Yours

Daan.

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FORSÆTISRÁÐHERRA

March 28th. 1969

Dear Daniel,

We were very sorry to read in your letter, that Polly has trouble with her leg, and hope indeed that she may recover soon. You do not mention your own health so we conclude, that it is good again, as else you would not have planned so long a trip. Of course we understand that you did not think it wise to stop in Iceland this time, but we sincerely

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miss you and hope we shall meet you somewhere soon again. We are invited to Washington to a NATO-meeting about the 10th of April, but then you shall be in Holland. This has been a rather difficult winter in Iceland. The difficulties are not over, but somehow I feel more optimistic now, although I know I may be mistaken! Personally we are all-right and so is our family; we have therefore no reason to complain.

Ingibjörg and I send Polly and you, my dear friend, our heartfelt wishes for good health and happiness

Sincerely yours
Bjarni.

Einkaskjalasafn Bjarna Benediktssonar © Borgarskjalasafn Reykjavíkur

10894 - 133A Street
North Surrey, B.C.,
January 19, 1969.

Dr. Bjarni Benediktsson,
Prime Minister of Iceland,
Háahlíð #14,
Reykjavík,
Iceland.

Dear Dr. Benediktsson,

I should like to thank you and your good wife for the impressive Christmas card you sent me, and the warm-hearted wishes written thereon.

I left for Eastern Canada, Nov. 2 and did not return till two weeks ago today. I stayed mostly in Ottawa, with my daughter-in-law there and two grandchildren, a girl 14, and a boy 10. They are children belonging to my younger son, David. There was a break-down

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in the marriage two years ago; and at present I am not sure where my David is. This is one of my big sorrows. He had a passport and spoke of going to Australia.

The reason I went to Ottawa was because Ena, David's wife had been sick in bed for nearly 6 months with rheumatic fever. I got her a referral to a specialist, visited the children's schools, and helped Thera, the girl with her studies. She is bright, but had fallen far behind in her work. Small wonder!

I went to see Eggert and his family on two occasions during my sojourn in the East. They were all well; and so was the

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mother and two children in Ottawa, when I left.

In your note you asked me when Eggert intended to go to Iceland. I received a letter from him just two days ago, and here he gives an explicit detail of his plans. I wrote to him today and asked him to forgive me, but that I intended to write to you a few lines and enclose his letter. I am doing just that. There are no secrets in it — just the kind of a letter a loyal son would write to his mother.

I saw by our Icelandic paper that the economic situation is not good in Iceland at the present time. This must make your position difficult. Where has the herring gone? Nobody knows! We have faith in the Icelandic fisherman. The fishing grounds will

Einkaskjalasafn Bjarna Benediktssonar © Borgarskjalasafn Reykjavíkur

be located ere long, we hope.

I am so full of travel at present, but I should like to fly to Montreal to see Eggert before he goes to Iceland. We shall see. Life is so uncertain at times.

We have had a most unusual winter in this Pacific's Paradise. We have had over 40 inches of snow, and today it is still snowing. In the beautiful Okanagan Valley (Kelowna) the temperature went down to 0°F. Many fear for the safety of the fruit crop.

Eggert may have written to you and your brother Swinn, before this letter arrives; yet I doubt if he will take off time until he comes back to Montreal, which should be this coming Tuesday or Wednesday.

Again my heartfelt thanks to you and your good wife for your kindness and graciousness.

Bin einlag frandkana,

Sigríður Peterson.

P.S. Hope you got the calendar I sent you.

Einkaskjalasafn Bjarna Benediktssonar © Borgarskjalasafn Reykjavíkur

80 Willow Rd., Nahant
11 Jan 1969

Dear Mom,

Many thanks for your letter which arrived today - glad to hear you got back to Vancouver safely, & I do hope the School Board gives you a bit of rest!

I am hoping to write to the men in Iceland very soon, to let them know of my plans. I now expect to leave for there right after Easter - early in April. Lar will be home at Easter, & it will give me a chance to see him then. Also I may get involved in some consulting with the CN during February, so that I will need to have a little extra time to do my preliminary research on this side. I got back my math exam - I hadn't been very happy with it when I wrote it but it turns out I got a B, and at that a better mark than Doug Lowry, who prides himself on his math. However, we were both in the bottom half of the class. Still, I am satisfied. I also wrote one of my law exams yesterday - Ancient Chinese & Japanese law, and I'm satisfied I will get a respectable pass. Next Wednesday I write on French & German law, and on Tuesday Jan 21 I head back to Montreal for 3 or 4 weeks. I will be coming back to Boston the week of 17 Feb. & will write my Generals on the 18th & 20th, & take my oral exam on the 21st. I will also have to make arrangements for my Icelandic exam, likely some time that same week.

It also appears that I will have to come back to Boston to give some sort of presentation before a faculty committee on the proposed design of my thesis research - I'll want to have some preliminary work under my belt before I tackle that, so likely we'll try to schedule that for around 10-15 March. The trip will be worth it, tho', as the faculty will then decide whether the project is worth their paying some additional money towards my expenses of going to Iceland, etc.

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Note These are two high ranking officials of the Canadian National Railways.

I had lunch with Alex Hart & Bob Bandeen while I was in Montreal & discussed going back to the CN. I am also expecting to hear from another company before the end of January, as to whether they are interested in me. I have heard nothing further from Laval, however, nor have I had any further word from Queens. But I expect to have my job decision out of the way by early next month. If I go into industry rather than teaching, I think I shall aim for a first of July starting date. The thesis won't be in final form, but I should have all the preliminary work done, so that it will just be a matter of final drafts & proof reading & retyping & printing – and I can sure put my secretary to work on that! Also, first of July means some salary starting to roll in, which will be helpful.

Mercedes-Benz car belongs to me. My husband had ordered it from Germany less than a year before he died.

As I told you, Mom, I spent quite a bit of money on the Mercedes over Xmas, but it simply is not reliable – three mornings out of 5 this week I have had to call the garage. It goes like a charm, once it's going, but I'm truly at my wits end at what to check on it this time. I suppose we will have to re-register it for 1969, but if the insurance runs through to April or May, don't be in any hurry to renew the insurance. I will be away thru most of April May & June, and once I'm working perhaps we can then afford to replace it.

My library. Wilfred Buxton, Ins. Agent in Winnipeg, valued it at $4351. I'll have to devaluate it! Do not feel like giving money to Laurie.

I spoke to the lawyer last week regarding transfer of title to the books. There is no system of registering title to moveable property in Quebec (except automobiles) so that really all that is required is ~~perhaps~~ to write down on a piece of paper that you ~~give~~ hereby give them to me. The lawyer also brought up one other point – there are taxes on gifts over $1000.00 in value, so perhaps the least formalities about this the better.

Einkaskjalasafn Bjarna Benediktssonar © Borgarskjalasafn Reykjavíkur

We filled up the book shelves in the playroom, but three of Uncle Barney's book cases are still full. However, we have moved them around, & the piano, & will put my desk back downstairs when I get back so that it will be a proper study plus music room. The TV is now up in the sun room. Joe & Nelly came over & had a good visit just before I left. Irene is doing very well. She has been appointed an instructor in psychiatric nursing at one of the hospitals in Toronto, even though she has not got full qualifications. However, she will be taking night courses to catch up. Joe is keeping very well, stays on his diet & is really enjoying life.

These people are fine loyal friends from Manitoba

I have had a bit of flu this past week, but am feeling much better today. I spent most of the day today working with Doug Lowry on a moot paper we have to get out next week. ~~Three~~ I am also involved in getting out a law paper. We gave a presentation in class last Thursday, and I think it went over fairly well. But that needs to be polished up & got out before the end of next week, too.

I have worn my white turtle neck quite a bit - the children tell me I look like a movie star with it on! Thank you very much, Mom.

And so to bed,

Much love,
Eggert

P.S. What's the story on your 1000 shares of North West Venture?

Note: This had been entered into my account with Richardson Securities of Canada — Stock brokers. The computers must have made a mistake, for this entry was not mine. I am not a gambler by nature However I enquired into this stock and bought 500 shares.

Einkaskjalasafn Bjarna Benediktssonar © Borgarskjalasafn Reykjavíkur

BRITISH EMBASSY,
GLENCAIRN,
SANDYFORD,
CO. DUBLIN.
DUBLIN 906397

8th January 1969.

Dear Sigrithur,

Many thanks for your most attractive Christmas card and good wishes. All the best to you and Bjarni and the family for the New Year.

We had all the family home for Christmas which was most agreeable. We gave a dance for young people which was very gay and cheerful. Now, they are all gone again except Jeremy. Janet is back in Edinburgh in her final year, and Christopher to Cambridge. Jeremy will go to Oxford in the autumn and we are now in process of deciding what to do with him for the next nine months. We would like him to go to Australia if this is possible.

You certainly must have gone through a very hard and difficult time recently. Don't you both need a holiday? I would like to take you up on the suggestion that you might suddenly appear to seek us. Seriously, if you are travelling anywhere in Europe, it is easy to take in Dublin. You can, I believe, get a round ticket which takes in Ireland. All you need do is change planes in Glasgow and in one hour you are in Dublin and we shall be waiting for you at the airport. Do consider it.

Einkaskjalasafn Bjarna Benediktssonar © Borgarskjalasafn Reykjavíkur

All greetings from us both
and we hope to see you in 1969.

Yours

Freda.

Einkaskjalasafn Bjarna Benediktssonar © Borgarskjalasafn Reykjavíkur