A LINE ON 1946

HELEN AND FRANCIS LINE - 5475 EAGLE ROCK VIEW - LOS ANGELES,41,CAL.- DEC. 29, 1946

THRILLS

After a six-year void, hearing from Hellin Heskela in Finland.... Receiving a long distance phone call from Edna Hill in London.. Being asked by the National Geographic Magazine to do an article on the Arizona Sheep Trail.....Studying the moon, and the distant views from our hill, with our new 42-power telescope....Attending the Sunday evening summer "Symphonies Under the Stars" in Hollywood Bowl....And (right now) aftera long lecture trip, just staying home evenings-- the three of us-- playing games on the floor in front of the fireplace while it rains outside.....

And if all goes well we shall end off the year with an airplane trip north to visit Karl Robinson and his family, returning just in time for the Pasadena Rose Parade on New Years.

Dear Friends:

After thirteen years of issuing these annual "Letters from the Lines" we were considering suspending publication, feeling that they might become a bore. Then, in November, I visited 79 year-old Mrs. Fishbeck in Michigan. She lives alone in a large house. Mr. Fishbeck is gone, and so are many of her other old-time friends. Mrs. Fishbeck went to a box in her living room and from it brought out back copies of all these letters- the whole 13 if I recall correctly.

If they mean something to Mrs. Fishbeck, and those like her, that is excuse enough to continue. And the rest of you- who are younger- will have to suffer.

So here is our thirteenth annual letter. And with it come our wishes for a lucky- and a sincerely happy- year for all of you everywhere.

Cordially yours,
THE LINES.

NAMES IN OUR GUEST BOOK

ERNEST THOMPSON SETON. He visited us this summer and planted a tree in our memorial group at the Eagle Rock. At 86 he was vigorous and looking ahead to new work. This grand old man passed away in October.

MR AND MRS BURTON HOLMES. We have benefited much from knowing these two fine persons of the lecture world. They also live on a hilltop-- over Hollywood way. Everyone knows what a great trouper Mr. Holmes is, but it should also be told that Mrs Holmes is just as gracious and filled with the same zest for living.

MR AND MRS JAMES POND. He is editor of PROGRAM magazine and a booster for Florida. California treated him to rain and fog throughout his stay.

Many lecture friend s have made our Eagle Rock a rendezvous this year: WALTER and ALOHA BAKER (the world's most traveled woman); KARL ROBINSON (on his way to China and also after returning); the MARK HASS'S of Detroit World Adventure Series; the WENDELL CHAPMANS who film nature subjects; BRUCE THOMAS heading for the Bikini bomb tests; CLifford Kamen, Winifred Walker, and others.

MAYNARD DIXON

The sixth annual Chaffey Art Show- which we directed- was dedicated to Maynard Dixon, the "old master" of western art. It is Dixon's cabin that we have been occupying up in Utah; we saw him for the last time on a trip we made to Tucson, Arizona last spring. Ten days after the close of this art exhibit dedicated to him Maynard Dixon passed away. He was probably the greatest painter in and of the West; he had lived in the shadow of the mountains and within sight of deserts nearly all his life. And his was a great personality; refreshing, unforgetable. This year we are giving up direction of the Chaffey art show and we are glad that this last exhibit which we assembled, was dedicated to Maynard. Here was the message, written by himself, which came after his passing:

"At last I shall give myself to the desert again, that I, in its golden dust, may be blown from a barren peak broadcast over the sunlands. If you should desire news of me, go ask the little horned toad whose home is the dust, or seek it among the fragrant sage, or question the mountain juniper, and, by their silence, they will truly inform you."

NEIGHBORS

Several California friends shared the Dixon cabin in Utah with us this summer; Mr and Mrs Richardson (she was Adrienne's 4th grade teacher); the Ejnar Hansens, artists (he did some fine canvasses in Utah; and Ursula and Jan de Swart. He is a plastic sculptor and is also working on some exciting new inventions in plastics.

A new book by our close neighbors and friends, Mary and Conrad Buff, is now on the stands. "BIG TREE". It is written by Mary, illustrated by Conrad. Their book on Utah, which they did when we were with them up there a year ago, will be the next one off the press. So many of us from here have been in Utah lately that we have an annual Utah picnic.