

Letter from Mabel 12.12.73

Since writing to you, I have been doing a good bit of research on the family and actually went down to "Fancroft" one Saturday. It is only about 2½ hrs by train from Dublin! The day I posted the letter to you with the death notices, that evening I saw a lorry in a very unrequested part of Dublin and the name on the side was THOS F. WHITTEN, Clareen Bin. I got off my bike and spoke to a youngish man who evidently had loaded it. He told me he was the J F Whitten referred to and when I mentioned about the Whitten deaths he said they were his Mother and Father. He also said "Fancroft" was about 2 miles outside Roscrea and that it could be reached by train and back in the one day. So I wrote to him after a few days, giving him my address and I fixed to go to Roscrea for the day. He said his Aunt Marjorie hadn't been well but was all right! She had had shingles and didn't look very well when I saw her, but she made me very welcome. Frances' and her son met me at Roscrea station and you would never guess who else was there. Robert from Vancouver (who was on leave in 1955 when I stayed at Fancroft PAH) He had arrived the day before on a Wardair Charter Flight non-stop from Vancouver and was staying 5 weeks. The four of us went to the hotel for lunch as Marjorie wasn't well enough to cope. Frances then brought me round the town of Roscrea as I hadn't been before. We saw the Round Tower and the Church of Ireland Chancel and ...

... as I hadn't been before.
We saw the Round Tower and the Church of Ireland
Church which was very nice. It was quite
large I thought for a country church and
well kept. It was most interesting.

We then went to "Fancroft" and I saw the sheaf of wheat etc which you mention in your letter. Marjorie said the house was built about 300 years ago which means it must have been about Cromwell's time. I was very taken with the tree trunk right across the kitchen ceiling. Marjorie had the lullie open at the place where all the lullies were recorded but I couldn't get any connection. She also showed me the paintings of the Talbots and I saw some snaps of you when you were there. Frances said the Whittens had married a good deal with the Haslam family and there is a R WHITTEN HASLAM in the phone book, living in Burr.

In your letter you mention meeting John Whitten when you were in Roscrea in 1955. You also mention his daughter by his first marriage. Well she married a man named Roe and I have met their daughter who is a lovely girl, tall, fair & soft-spoken. Her name is Stephanie and she is staying in the YWCA where I go for my lunch. Stephanie has a brother who has just finished training at Tuistein (?) Agricultural College and he is helping his father on the farm. There is another young girl about 8. Stephanie is doing English Irish and History at University College Dublin. She couldn't get into Trinity, apparently the courses were full. I live in a small flat near the YWCA, so Stephanie and a friend Valerie are coming to me for an evening after Christmas.

up to Christmas.

I have my widowed sister
living across town about 4 miles away
and I visit her periodically. I was telling
her about meeting your husband in Vienna

and also the letters I'd had from you. She was quite interested and when I was gone suddenly remembered a parcel of papers being sent to her 30 years ago by a cousin after our Aunt died in 1940. She had never opened the parcel and she had to search for it. However she found it all right and spent the next three evenings looking through all the papers.

There were copies of wills and receipts for funerals for various members of the family. The next time I was there she gave them to me and the attached copies may be of interest to you. You will note a Robert Whitten married Amelia Shaw and the strange thing is that my grandfather also married a Shaw but I don't know whether or not she was any connection of Amelia's. You will also see that the 3rd & 4th children were girls how one or both of these went to America and which one married a Brown I don't know but if the man that flew the Atlantic was born in 1886 of U.S. parents, one of these was probably his grandmother.

My grandfather was in America with his wife but came back. They must have stayed some time as they buried 2 children out there. It was awful the way each generation seemed to use the same Christian names. It is nearly impossible to sort them out. You mentioned your relative Anthony had 2 brothers Edward & Robert. The Edward who became a bankrupt would be my great great grandfather.

The Edward who became a bankrupt
would be my great great grandfather.
However looking through it all I
imagine we are cousins fifteen times
removed.

4

I am also wondering about
Edward Whitten whose marriage certificate
was with the papers. If he was married
in 1776, he could have been the bankrupt
but his address on the certificate is
Exchequer St Dublin. As the girl Ann
Parks attended St Ann's Church in
Dawson St, he may have come up from
Tiffinery & only stayed in a hostelry
in Exchequer St. However I know Dr
Payatz the present Vicar of St Anns & he
may be able to tell me if another address
was recorded.

The copy of the letter from J. F
Dwyer is only put in because of the address
"Edmuelle" Clonmel. It looks as though
someone was asking my Aunt about
her pedigree. I have no further correspondence
along this line.

WHITTEN Aug 6th 1973 at her residence, Matilda, beloved wife of John Whitten, The Glebe Ballybritt, Roscrea, deeply regretted by her sorrowing sons, daughters, sister brother, stepson, stepdaughter, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, brother-in-law, sister's-in-law grandchildren and relatives.

Funeral leaving house at 2 o'clock to-morrow (Wed) to Ettagh Church (via Fancroft) Interment in adjoining cemetery immediately after Service. No wreaths please. American and Canadian papers please copy.

"Peace, perfect, peace."

WHITTEN, Aug. 14th 1973 at the County Hospital Tullamore, after a short illness, John Whitten, "The Glebe Ballybritt Roscrea; deeply regretted by his sorrowing sons, daughters, sister, step-sisters, sisters-in-law, son-in-law, grandchildren and relatives. Funeral arrived in Aghancon Church yesterday (Wed) evening. Service at 2.30 o'clock to-day (Thurs)

Funeral afterwards to Ettagh Cemetery via Ballybritt and Fancroft. No wreaths please. American and Canadian papers please copy.

(PAH)
I visited this family in 1955 with Marjorie. -
See Diary.

Copy of papers from Mabel Whitten
Dublin.

ROBERT WHITTEN m AMELIA SHAW

(Written on a tornout page of the Apocrypha) April 1808

EDWARD WHITTEN 19th July 1809

ROBERT RICHARD WHITTEN 8th Feb 1812

Mary Anne 18th Aug 1814

JANE 27th April 1817

WILLIAM 12th May 1819

GEORGE WHITTEN 14th Sept 1821 d Dec 1821

(buried Bride's church^c Kildare

GEORGE FREDERICK 6th Jan 1923.

(Grandfather of Mabel Whitten)

The following information seems to indicate that my part of the family had land in Tipperary which was sold. Unfortunately there is no date and no actual name given to the holding except that it was in Tipperary and King's County (Now Offaly)

"Edward Whitten eldest son divided the Co Tipperary and King's County holding with his brother Robert. Some time after said Ed. levied fines on his part before the said Robert was of age. and in the course of some years afterwards the said Edward became bankrupt and then died leaving Male issue. Said Edwards creditors sold his, the said Edward's part. Robert Whitten second eldest son has died within this last year without issue. There are now surviving Male issue from the said Edward. and also Male issue from WILLIAM WHITTEN A younger brother of the said Edward & Roberts. Said William is also dead.

Query- had said Robert a power to will his late divide to whomsoever he pleased?

Query: Which issue are entitled to said Robert's late divide?

D. 18th Oct 1821 Robert died ... H ... 14 ... "

query - had said ROBERT a power to will his late
divide to whomsoever he pleased.?

Query: Which issue are entitled to said Robert's
late divide?

Query - If said Robert died without making a will
which issue are entitled to said Robert's
divide as heir at law.

Query. Had said Edward a power of levying fines, the property being Freehold and had said creditors a power of disposing of said Freehold property for a longer term than until said Edward's eldest son became of age?

My Aunt copied this document in May 1911. She probably got it in George Frederick Whitten's papers. He died in 1908.

On her copy she wrote:-

The above mentioned Edward Whitten was Grandfather of the late George Whitten, (who was Mabel's grandfather.) So it looks as though there is definitely a connection.

The Robert Whitten mentioned at the top of this page must have been one of the male issue of Edward Whitten.

Copy of letter written by Mabel's Aunt to Mr T F Dwyer Elmville Clonmel 25th May 1911.

"Since you called here I have been speaking to some of my relatives who appear to know about my pedigree etc, but they have asked me to ascertain from you, the exact nature of the information you require so that you can be able to look into the matter fully. Will you therefore kindly let me know the exact nature of the particulars and information etc you want and I shall be happy to make further inquiries etc, and will afterwards write to you again.

Signed E. J. Whitten.

COPY OF A MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

John, by Divine Providence Archbishop of Dublin, Primate and Metropolitan of Ireland. To our beloved Christ, the Rev. Thomas Ireland Clerk D D, Vicar of the Parish of St Ann or to his licensed curate Assistant, Greeting;

Whereas Edward Whitten of Exchequer St in the city of Dublin, gentleman, and Ann Parks of the Parish aforesaid Spinster are contracted in lawful marriage (as is alleged) and are desirous of having the said marriage solemnized in the Face of the Church. We therefore do grant our licence and whole authority to you, in whose fidelity we confide, to solemnize the said marriage in the Canonical hours, time and place between the said Edward Whitten and Ann Parks, provided they have obtained the express consent of their parents or guardians, and by reason of any pre-contract, consanguinity or affinity, there is no lawful impediment in this behalf in testimony whereof we have caused the seal of our Consistorial and Metropolitan Court of Dublin to be hereunto affixed.

Signed James Lyndon

I certify that I married Mr Edward Whitten to Miss Ann Parks 17th Oct 1776.
Signed Irvine Whitty.

Letter from Mabel Undated 1973 or 4.

Just a note to let you know your crest is on its way. The small sailing ship at the top means that the first recipient did some act of bravery at sea, so there must have been at least one seafaring man somewhere in the ancestry. The Latin motto means "Bravery in the Storm". The black chevron on the yellow shield denotes generosity & the white gules on the chevron mean extreme generosity.

I was in a bookshop in town & saw a paperback "Origins of Irish names". I had a look at it & found a chapter on the origin of English names. Needless to say I had to look through and found the name WHITTEN - sometimes spelt WHITTON.

The name was known in Dublin from 1577 & then in Co Armagh & the North of Ireland. Actually there is a Herbert (or Hubert) Whitten on the Unionist Political scene in the north at the moment.

12th Dec 1974.

Some months ago I rang my cousin Margery Whitten and found out some details about the Lord Mayor's Coach which was made in Dublin in about 1781 by William Whitten. She says he was an ancestor of ours. She had permission to inspect it & I went with her. It certainly was a wonderful piece of coach building and in a very good state of preservation. Now the authorities have worked on it & it is going to be shown in the Industrial Parade through the streets of Dublin on 17th March. I have an idea it was used by Queen Victoria.

WHITTEN — August 6, 1973, at her residence, Matilda, beloved wife of John Whitten, The Glebe, Ballybritt, Roscrea; deeply regretted by her sorrowing sons, daughters, sister, brother, stepson, stepdaughter, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, brother-in-law, sisters-in-law, grandchildren and relatives. Funeral leaving house at 2 o'clock to-morrow (Wednesday) to Ettagh Church (via Fancroft). Interment in adjoining cemetery immediately after Service. No wreaths, please. American and Canadian papers please copy.
"Peace, perfect peace."

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"Peace, perfect Peace."

48 Apr Mount St.

Dublin 2.

R. of Ireland.

21st Aug. 1973

Dear Phyllis. Many thanks for your letter received recently.

I wasn't altogether surprised as your husband said you would write. I was more surprised to hear of a Whitten in Australia. I hope you won't mind I have called you Phyllis as I feel it is more than likely we are related, although so far in spite of some research I cannot trace the link between us. The information in your letter or any of the names mentioned do not convey anything to me, so I'll give you some details of what I know about my family.

As far as I understand the Whittens were friends of Cromwell & he gave them land in Co Tipperary, but as Cromwell is a "dirty" name over here because of his butchery of the Irish I don't say much about it. However the Whittens came from the Isle of Wight (Southern England) & as the Isle of Wight is near France there is a possibility of a Huguenot connection. Cromwell came to Ireland in 1642 & left about 1648, so we must have come in between those years. I don't know when my family came to Dublin but in a Dublin Directory for 1790 there are two Whittens mentioned, one an Edward Whitten living at 16 York St (York St is now flattened). He was an Agent in Dublin Castle. What that means I'm not sure. The other was a coach builder ~~named~~ his name named William Whittton (Spelling the surname with an 'o') & he lived at 26 Dominick St. He got an order from the then Dublin Corporation to make a Lord Mayor's coach & no expense was to be spared, so he built a beautiful coach very ornamental & the Dublin coat of arms is (Three Castles) in several places. I have seen this coach & it is in a wonderful state of

2.
Preservation. Actually they are working on it now as well as
some others & will be on view again. York St & Dominick St
in those days were where the elite of Dublin lived so I think
they must have been comfortably off. although I have heard of a
Whitten who lost his money in the French Revolution & became
a beggar overnight. This was around 1789, so Whittens were in Dublin
then.

The furthest back I can go is to my grandfather
George Frederick Whitten who was born in 1823 & died in
1908. I thought I might be able to get a look at his birth
certificate which would have told me who his father & mother
were. but the Custom House had no records before 1864 so I
was stuck there & don't know where he was baptized.

My grandfather had 6 children living that I remember
(Edward who lived in ^(Kingsstown Co. Dublin) Deonlaoghaire & he had 6 children all dead
now. Elizabeth or Lillie as she was called, born in 1854.

Margaret Sophia & John Samuel (my father) born in 1860 & died
in 1925. The two females were not ~~married~~ married.)

I suppose there were other children who didn't live or died young.

This George Frederick was also in America - where or when
I don't know but I don't think my father was born there.
However he ^(Grandpa) came back to Ireland, but he had a sister
who stayed in America & she married someone called Brown
then & called herself Whitten-Brown. The interesting thing
about this is that an Alcock & Whitten-Brown made the first
West-East Atlantic crossing by air & landed in either Salway
or Bonnermass & there is a monument there to them. I haven't
seen it but may do some day. I think it is safe to assume
that the Whitten-Brown man is a relation.

My father John Samuel married an English girl from
Manchester & had 2 daughters - one called Elsie Victoria Whitten
& me called Mabel ^{born} 1900. There is 7 years between us. Elsie married

a Cranston of Scottish origin² but has been a widow for a long time. There are not many Whittens as far as I know in Ireland. I never heard of my grandfather having brothers or sisters except the Whitten-Brown I have already mentioned, so maybe if he had any they went to America & are connected with the ones you speak of in Maine USA.

The morning I received your letter I was looking at the "Irish Times" & saw the announcement of a Whitten death in Rosrea. It was the "Fancroft" which made me look at it as I had just seen the word in your letter. In another few days there was another announcement of a Whitten death & the same word "Fancroft" was mentioned. These two people (husband & wife I presume) are probably connected to you. I enclose the two cuttings out of the paper. It seems strange that Australian papers weren't asked to copy, only American & Canadian. There was also a Whitten death in the paper a few months ago but I didn't connect it with me & don't remember now where it was.

By the way there is a family crest for Whittens. It has a sailing ship at the top & the first holder of the crest did some brave deed at sea. Generosity is also denoted on the crest & the motto is "Braving the storm". If you would like one of these I can easily get it sent to you. The shop mails to any part of the world.

I have been twice to New York & last year went by car on the lower road from New York to Quebec, but never thought of looking for relations. I have travelled a lot in Europe on holidays & have been several times to Canada, which I like very much. I have been in Vancouver 3 or 4 times but of course didn't know anything about the Robert Whitten you mention in your letter (Margouis brother).

Actually I was at the (FOFSAG) General Assembly in Melbourne 1971. I don't remember seeing your husband, but there were so many I don't think I could remember everybody. 4 of us went from Dublin & 2 from Belfast. We joined the English Party at London Airport & then linked up with the Europeans in Copenhagen. There were 52 in the European Party (including us) & we had a wonderful trip. We spent 1 night in Copenhagen 1 night in Teheran 3 nights in Delhi, visited the Taj Mahal which is really beautiful, 4 nights in Bangkok & then arrived in Sydney via Manila in the Philippines & went on to Melbourne for the assembly. When the assembly was over most of us did the Couch trip to Sydney. We panned for gold & looked for precious stones. Went up the Snowy Mountains through Cooma where we cooked steaks on charcoal ovens in the open air then on to Canberra. We had a reception with the Governor-General & shook hands with him. We stayed the night in a motel at Queanbeyan. It was very comfortable. Unfortunately I didn't get much time in Canberra. I would have liked a few hours on my own to browse around. I thought it was a lovely place. The man I work for here has 2 daughters married ^{there} - one living in Wannan Wannan. I don't know where the other one is but I think it is near Canberra. The next day we arrived in Sydney had a night & day there & ~~saw~~ saw quite a lot of it. We were put up for the night in various houses & then went to the airport for the trip to Hong Kong where we spent 3 days. I see the Opera House in Sydney is nearly finished & that the Queen will be out to open it. A big crowd saw us off at Sydney Airport. The whole trip was wonderful & the VIP treatment & hospitality everywhere, especially Australia, was marvellous.

One more little bit of information. There was a Robert Whitten apparently connected with Dublin Castle. He went across to London regularly with important documents (Of course we were under Britain at that time) backwards + forwards by stage coach. I remember seeing a ^{small} tin trunk under Aunt Lillie but with the name Robert Whitten on it. I don't know what became of it eventually. This Aunt Lillie (my father's sister) knew a lot about the family history + used to tell us various things but unfortunately no-one ever jotted it down as she was saying it.

Talk about the tangle in your letter I think this one is worse. However you may get some light from it. I hope your husband enjoyed his trip to Vienna + got home safely. Please remember me to him

With Best Wishes,
 Ison Mabel (Whitten)

48 Upper Mount Street
Dublin 2
R of Ireland
12th Dec 1974

Dear Phyllis I have a feeling I owe you a letter Anyway whether I do or not here it is. How are you all getting on "down under"? My employer is just back after 6 weeks in Canberra. From all he heard he thinks things are bad at the moment as regards the economy unemployment etc. but it is the same story the world over. He has two married daughters out there & this is his third visit to Australia. Inflation is rampant here; however there is no use being gloomy about it - everybody is in the same boat.

I had a lovely holiday in Vancouver although the weather over the four weeks was a bit mixed. I called to see Robert Whitten & he was pleased to see me. I met him at Jancroft when I went to Rosere. His wife & son were in Scotland & he was on his own. He produced a very nice meal & picked a bunch of flowers for me out of his garden. The garden is his pride & joy - Vegetables, strawberries flowers etc & not a weed to be seen. He is really wonderful considering he is over 80. He is retired from the Canadian National Railway. He reads a lot & also looks at T.V. He gets the Seattle Programme very well.

I am retiring next year & seriously thinking of emigrating to Vancouver. I have an interview with the Canadian Embassy on Jan 13th 1975 & if that is all right there is a medical test. I would hope to work Part time out there & called to Office Overload when I was there in July last. They saw no problem but with the rate of emigration from the North of Ireland (I believe it is 1000 a month) things might be different now. However I have a very good friend living & working there (originally from Dublin) & she is encouraging me to go. She will be back in Dublin for Christmas & I expect to see her then with the latest news on the situation there.

I haven't done any more research into the family background since writing to you last. However some months ago

My cousin Margery Whitten found out some details about a Lord Mayo Coach which was made in Dublin about 1781 by a William Whitten. She says he is an ancestor of ours. ~~It~~ She got permission to inspect it + I went with her. It certainly was a wonderful piece of coach building + in a very good state of preservation. Now the authorities have worked on it + it is going to be shown in the Industrial Parade through the streets of Dublin on 17th March next (St Patrick's Day) so I'll probably go + see what it looks like now. I have an idea it was used by Queen

An dara filleadh anseo Second fold here

Victoria on one of her visits to Dublin.



POSTEARLY
FOR
CHRISTMAS

Miss M. Whitten
71 Empson Crescent
Forest
ACT Australia 2603

aerlitir
par avion

aérogran

Má bhíonn aon ní istigh leis an aerlitir seo is leis an ngráthphost a steofar i
If anything is enclosed this letter will be sent by ordinary mail

Ainm agus seoladh an tseoltóra
Sender's name and address

Miss M. Whitten
48 Upper Mount St.
Dublin 2
R of Ireland

Gearr anseo Cut here

An chéad thilleadh anseo First fold here

Well it will soon be Christmas. I envy you the fine weather you will probably have. I am going to a friend for the day + also ~~am~~ visiting other friends the next few days. We will have about 6 days break including the week-end. The winter here has been very cold + we also had a poor summer.

Kind Regards to you + Ross + Wishing you all a Very Happy Christmas + New Year.
Love Mabel (Whitten)

Ambassador Hotel
773 Seymour St
Vancouver B.C.
V6B 3L3
27th Feb 1976

Dear Phyllis

Your letter of the 10th February last addressed to me in Dublin has been forwarded to Vancouver by a very good friend of mine. As you see by the address I am now living here & liking it very well. I have all your previous letters out with me together with the family bulletins & realised to my horror that I never acknowledged the family photographs. Thanks for sending them. I hope you will forgive me for being so dilatory, but between getting ready to come out here & fixing up things after arrival, the time seemed to slip by very quickly.

I was very sorry indeed to hear of Ross's misfortune. It must have been a traumatic experience for you all but I am glad to know that he seems to be getting about all right. Has he to use crutches or was an artificial limb fitted? I asked one of the Dublin contingent going to the IFOESAC Assembly in Denmark to look out for you & Ross ~~there~~ but she said on her card from there that there was no sign of you. I wondered then had anything happened but just thought that you didn't manage to make it, which of course was what really happened.

I retired from my office job in Dublin on the 31st May 1975 & got quite by ~~Irish~~ a good Pension by Irish standards. I didn't know how much it would be & so was agreeably surprised. I also wanted to qualify for the Irish State Pension & these both come out to me every month. They will be sent anywhere in the world, provided I let them know my change of address of course. Unfortunately the £ sterling is dropping so much that every time I change one of these cheques it is less than

the previous time. The weather was lovely for some weeks after I got here & to me it was a lovely summer & fall. - long days of sunshine & blue skies. Vancouver is a lovely city in beautiful surroundings, but like everywhere else in the world it's far from perfect. I even noticed a change within the year. I have an idea you said you had been here for a few days. I met lots of Australians & New Zealanders passing through on holidays.

I have been doing temporary office jobs since Sept as I am better being occupied. Office Overload are sending me plenty of work & the offices & people I meet are very pleasant especially the younger ones. I have been in an Accountants Office, a Bank & at the moment am working in an Insurance Co. as well as other Offices. The rate per hour is very high & I feel I am being too well paid for what I do especially after Dublin. However the dollars are very useful & I am getting on well.

X I had a letter before Christmas from Stephanie Roe. I think you met her mother who was a daughter by his first marriage of the John Whitten who died in 1973. Sounds a bit complicated but I hope you know who I mean. You mentioned that she was fair & softly spoken. Well Stephanie is a lovely girl - tall fair & softly spoken like her mother I imagine. She is in University in Dublin & hopes to do her final next June. She is going in for teaching English & History I think & has already been looking out for something suitable in September. She told me in the letter that Margone has been keeping better recently & they have now got electricity installed in "Fancroft". I don't know what form of lighting was in the house but the electricity will improve matters I'm sure.

Before leaving Dublin, the Irish International Trade Commissioner took my name & address in Vancouver in as she knew

I wanted to contact the Treford Guild, if any, out here, so in September I had a phone call from the Secretary of the one Guild here. I went to the first meeting & have joined. It is only in its infancy, going about a year & a half & has approximately 26 members. There are two Treford Guilds in Victoria on Vancouver Island also some Scout Guilds & they are all in touch. Actually they are hoping to join the International Fellowship & have had some correspondence with Aida Cornis the Treford secretary in Brussels. Two members of the Scout Guilds were in Denmark last year as observers. Some of the Guild members went to the Thinking Day service on Sunday 22nd. It was held in a big school in Burnaby & I think there must have been at least 1000 at it. The ^{various} uniforms were very colourful & a bit different to my guiding ~~days~~ days. Guiding & Scouting are quite strong numerically out here. There is an area dinner followed by the Annual General Meeting, which I have arranged to attend. It also is in a school in Burnaby, which is some distance away from my hotel but between the Guild & office work. I am finding my way round Vancouver reasonably well. I still have lots of places to discover.

I have booked a holiday for two weeks in Hawaii & am going with a friend I have made here. ^{We leave Vancouver on} She is a ^{that's not} ~~about~~ living-in housekeeper, originally from Wales & she invited me to her apartment on Christmas Day. I met the family she works for & they are very pleasant. The head of the house has a very high up job in Canadian Pacific Pkwy. I believe. Any amount of people from here go across to Hawaii all the year round - it is about 5 1/6 hours by air & from all the descriptions it seems to be a lovely place. Over commercialized I expect but I am not too worried about that.

There is an IFOFSPC Regional Conference in Dublin next July & I have looked in for that. It is from the 17th to 21st July, but I will be in Dublin before that. It includes Britain & the Benelux countries. I was on the Committee for this before I left as we had to start making our Plans early. The Conference is being held in Trinity College Dublin (I'm sure you know it) & being the summer the students are all away, so they will accommodate us, feed us & provide a bilingual interpreter. It will be nice for me meeting some of the people I met at the Assemblies.

Dublin is on the map next July. There is a medical conference there also in July & I have just got a seat on a charter flight direct from Vancouver to Dublin on the 27th June. There are two CO air charters going but the first one is booked up, so I am on the second one. It suits me better as the first one was a bit early for me, as well as these two conferences the Jehovah Witnesses are having a big meeting in July ^{in Dublin} & have booked the Royal Dublin Society's Place at Ballsbridge. You probably know that too. I hope it all goes off peacefully without any bombs. The news is not very good. I hear it on the radio here. I heard recently that the foyer of the Shelbourne Hotel was damaged ^{by a bomb}. It is on St Stephens Green & is now one of the Shelton Hotels. Maybe you know it too.

X I hope your cousins daughter Libby Gleason has a nice trip. I suppose she will be away for a couple of months touring round. Has she been to Britain & Europe before? My sister's address in Dublin is - Mrs Elsie Cranston, 11 ^{MOBHI} Mobhi Drive Glasnevin Dublin 9. She lives very near the Botanic Gardens, so Libby might like to do the Gardens & then call on Elsie, or she might like to contact Elsie first & they could both do the Gardens. I'll also give you my friend's address. It is - Mrs Evelyn Tinsley 15 Lomond Ave Fairview Dublin 3. She is a very out-going kind of person much more than Elsie & gets on well

with people. She is Secretary to Her Grace the Duchess of Westminster, but doesn't work every day in the week. Her Grace's estate is in Maynooth, about 18 miles out of Dublin. Her home Phone No is 375513. Elsie is not on the Phone, at least she wasn't up to the time I left but maybe is now.

Elsie is the same age as Margorie Whitten I think (Born in 1900) so she is now 76 + is not particularly active. I suggested she might come out here for a holiday but she hasn't travelled much + wouldn't go in a Plane, so she declined. However she has the Whitten Papers so if Libby wasn't too ^{bored} ~~bored~~, they could discuss that a bit. X

It hasn't been a particularly cold winter in Vancouver although we had two falls of snow in early December + it has been snowing on + off the last 2 or 3 days. However the central heating everywhere is great. No underdowns needed, electric blankets, hot water bottles or warm nighties. Indeed in some places the heat is overpowering. There has been plenty of rain.

I see the Vienna Boys Choir are giving a Concert in the Queen Elizabeth Theatre, on March 19th so I hope to go to that. I heard them some years ago in Dublin + saw the film. St Patrick's Day Cards are on sale for some weeks now. I think they celebrate it much more here + in other parts of the world ~~more~~ than we do in Ireland. I understand there is some sort of a Parade in Vancouver on the previous Sunday.

I hope Alys has now recovered from her "knock" + is enjoying life. She looks like you in the photograph or should I say she is like her Dad.

Clothing prices here are fairly high, but nearly every letter I get from Ireland, it seems that prices have gone up a lot since I left + then the salaries there are only about $\frac{1}{2}$ of what they are here. Inflation is rampant everywhere + like the Irish Problem, there doesn't seem to be a solution.

I go to the United Church & have made some friends there. They have a big congregation & at the beginning of the year the service was televised. Someone told me they saw me in it but I didn't see myself. An assistant minister was appointed recently & he had been working in Japan. All these places like Japan ~~USA~~ the States Australia New Zealand etc seem so much nearer to me now, which of course they are. I had a card to-day from a Dublin friend who has been here 10 years. The card was from Phoenix Arizona & she is on a 3 weeks trailer holiday, having been to Sacramento Palm Springs Las Vegas etc. Some of the places I hadn't even heard of.

Well that is about all the news I have at the moment & here is wishing you Ross & family all the best in 1976.

Love
Mabel

P.S. you will need plenty of time to read this epistle.



Girl Guides Guides
of Canada du Canada

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL

1462 West 8th Avenue
Vancouver, British Columbia
V6H 1E1
(604) 734-4877

July 11, 1985

Mrs. Phyllis Hohnen,
71 Empire Circuit,
Forrest,
ACT 2603
AUSTRALIA

Dear Mrs. Hohnen,

With reference to your letter dated June 22nd, 1985, regarding Mabel Whitten - we phoned the Buchan Hotel to enquire as to her whereabouts and we are very sorry to have to advise you that we were told that Mrs. Whitten had passed away some time ago.

It was so nice to receive a letter from Australia. Your letter proves again that Guiding is the link which connects each of us across our countries and round the world.

Yours truly,

Joan E Taylor

Mrs. G. M. Taylor,
Administrative Secretary