

March 2, 1967

Here are some more of those crazy questions. If you catch me in some seeming repetitions, it just means I have not gone back over the old material recently.

(1)

Hemingway lived with the Connables when he first went to Toronto in 1920. Do you yourself think there was even any understanding between him and Dorothy, I mean even mildly, or that his coming under her influence cooled him to the absent member? Maybe unconsciously. He was quite a triumph in the Connable household I take it. And I think he was enough of a snob to be flattered by the attention Mrs. C. and Miss C. paid to him. Of course Dorothy would deny any relationship with vigor. She was quite a bit older than Hem, a graduate of Wellesley. You will be interested to know that Hem asked her opinion about a literary thing and she now (1965) recalls with embarrassment taking him literally. Apparently they enjoyed skating together. She recalls Hem buying her a copy of O'Henry short stories and signing it: From the negative to the positive (or was it the other way around?) She also recalls being invited to the wedding in Horton Bay and cannot remember why she didn't go. In 1923, the Hemingways stayed momentarily at the Connables and there was some thought Bumby might be born there; and it was while Hem was visiting the Connables in late 1923 that he received word that his story MY OLD MAN would be printed in O'Brien's Best Short Stories of 1923 and that O'Brien would dedicate the volume to him. This, apparently, was Hem's first real literary recognition and was certainly the first work of his to be printed in the states, aside from two rather amateur poetic offerings in the New Orleans Double Dealer. Dorothy said of Hem's good fortune in re O'Brien. "Wouldn't it be funny if they got your name wrong." And the funny thing is they did. The book was dedicated to Ernest Hemenway. Sorry about the length of this question but wanted to zero you in to that period directly *after* your own vital relationship with Hem.

I can't answer any of this from knowledge. I don't know Dorothy or any of the Connables personally. I truly believe that the clean slate letter came about from two facts. 1-My letters must have been disappointing. 2 Someone may well have passed on gossip that intimated a possible engagement understanding. Since that was far from the truth, perhaps it made him apprehensive. I am sure it would have me. *I feel very certain there was nothing between Ernest and Dorothy. He would have seemed too young for her in that way.*

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS



PLAINFIELD AND NORTH PLAINFIELD CHAPTER

PLAINWOOD AUXILIARY

(2)

Did you ever meet Hopkins and was he attractive? Who was it do you think referred to in CHOSEN COUNTRY as Jasper Milliron, apparently someone quite close to Hem?

I think I met the one called Hop-head. Was he dark and goodlooking? I have no memory of the others in Chosen Country. They may have been before my time.

(3)

At the Ormond Beach meeting with Hem, did Hem, by this time, feint as in boxing to illustrate his points? I don't suppose you had any more chance then, or possibly wish, to allude to the "slate clean" mystery? At Ormond Beach did he seem to be searching to find out if you were proud of him -- remember how you had predicted his success in 1919(I doubt many others did)

Don't remember. No, the clean slate was never mentioned. I was too proud to bring it up. No, he didn't seem to be searching. I had always told him I was proud of him, so he knew that.

(4)

I would love to have an ice cream parlor scene or the equivalent if you can evoke same.

special
Can't remember any ice cream scene. There must have been some, for we usually went for ice cream after every dance. We would sort of hors around. I was the listening type. I remember once being very shocked by a remark of Chuck Bailey. In those days our stockings were embroidered with what were called clocks. Chuck looked at them and said, "Follow the Arrow." (*not mine*)

(5)

Do you remember your first contact with Hem when he came back from the war? Had he written meanwhile in response to your Soldier boy letters -- or the gift of the handicapped sweater? Did I gather the Kay Baker memory could have occurred at some point after H's return?

It is very hazy. I used to drive my stepfather's Ford. Mother, Pudge and I drove out to the Bay one Sunday. We heard Ernest was at the Charles St. I wanted to see him, so we drove up there. They were out, so I left him a note. As we were leaving they all came home, so I saw Ernest, and we talked a little.

Yes, Ernest wrote occasionally and I was always thrilled to see a letter from him. We figured out later that we were both very sick at about the same time, he with wounds, *he* with the dreadful fever.

I think K's memory is something scrambled. Ernest never wore his uniform except the day he dressed up for me to take his picture. There were many copies of those pictures. *I never met any train when Ernest was arriving.*



Can you remember why you chose Hem as your soldier boy? What was the context of this custom? Did people divide up the available soldiers?

I felt it would be better to write someone I knew than to some name out of a hat. The Red Cross asked school girls to write some soldier, and knit a sweater.

(7)

Did Hem talk about Indians much? Do you yourself remember your childhood scene with Indians in it?

No. I used to see Indians on the street, but they always looked dirty, with sore eyes.

(8)

Why do you think Hem was so absorbed in writing? I mean were there allusions to his success and acclaim in high school or on his cub reporter's job in Kansas City, or do you think people had told Hem what great letters he wrote? What I am getting at is whether Hem gave you the impression of being annointed in some way, or whether, on the other hand, it was simply something he wanted to do (and that his parents didn't want him to do)?

I truly believe that Ernest's compulsion to write was similar but more real than the one that hit me later. I truly believe that he had to write. He was quite humble about it, but very determined.

I could say more but I am afraid you would quote me.

(9)

Would you say this rough sked is about correct:

- 1915 - you 13, Hem 16, fish incident.
- 1916(17) you start H.S.
- 1918 - you knit sweater, write to Hem.
- Jan. 1919 - Hem returns to Oak Park, limping.
- June - Hem possibly comes to Walloon-Horton Bay
- July - Possibly lunch incident involving Bill
- Aug. - Possibly the mosquito netting incident
- Sept. - Hem starts seeing you reg. in Petoskey
- Nov. - sledding, church services
- Dec. - Petoskey writing being read to you, possible talk of Hem leaving
- Jan. 1920 - leaves with Pailthorp for Toronto
- Fall of 1920 - you go to movies with hem.
- Fall of 1920 - last time you see him
- Sept. 1921 - are you in Petoskey at time of marriage?

This is about it, but I was a little older. I was born August 24th, 1901. I wasn't sent to school until I was seven. I was very small for my age. *Made up half a grade along the way. I was also out of school a part of two winters that one I spent in Alabama before my father died.*

Yes I was in Petoskey at time of his marriage, but had gone to St Louis before he called on Grandmother.

as someplace.



(10)

Any comment on Bill's version of the light shooting incident: He recalls about five of them coming back from Boyne Falls after a hunting trip, in the Smith ford. They were all ~~in~~ dressed very roughly in hunting clothes and heavily armed with rifles. He remembers that their luck had been poor and that they were restless and that Hem had used a 22 caliber automatic pistol that Hopkins had given him to shoot out a ~~st~~ street light (in Boyne City? not clear) Soon a policeman in a little car caught up with them but when he saw their numbers and their armament he was somewhat taken aback. He said, "You didn't shoot out that light back there did you?" And ~~they~~ ^{they} said, "of course not," which is what the policeman wanted ~~to say~~ ^{to say}. Bill's story ends here. He thinks Hem, Hopkins, himself were in party; possibly Ted Brumback; he doesn't remember the rest.

This all sounds right. Think it was Bill, Ernest and Hopkins in the picture.

yes it was Boyne

(11)

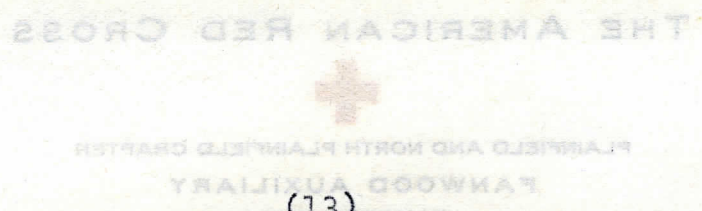
Do you recall any references by Hemingway (or allusions) to either Pauline or Martha Gellhorn during his Ormond Beach visit? (Did you know that Hadley, his first, came down with her present husband, Paul Scott Mowrer, to see Hemingway and Pauline off for his first Africa trip? Chummy?

No, he didn't mention them. He wrote a little about them later.

(12)

You said your mother was a puritan but not a victorian. Of course these terms are not the same but they are very much alike and I wondered if you could distinguish between them for me. (Re comparing to Mrs. Hem.)

Did I say that? It doesn't sound like me. Mother was quite modern for her time. I think she had a lip stick before most. She went to Grand Rapids twice a year to buy our clothes. She was definitely not small town. However she had strict rules of conduct for herself and for us. No possible comparison between her and Mrs Hemingway.



(13)

Who owns the original Ernest Ohle property in Horton Bay (across from Dilworths)? Getting back to Chosen Country, I guess the steamers that came in in that story came up from Chicago to Charlevoix? I wonder if that channel at Charlevoix, connecting Michigan and Lake Charlevoix was in there then? Probably you wouldn't know that.

My cousin Bill Ohle, who is now an Advertising executive in Chicago. He often urges me to use the cottage, and I may some day. So far I have been too busy in other places.

(over)

(14)

Do you remember if it was the summer of 1919 that Hem was interviewed by Balmer at Dilworths and told he had promise? How would you know this? Did Hem talk about it, rather jubilantly and was it important to him? *Didn't I say it was Mac Harg not Balmer? I remember Balmer's name.*

As you must realize by now, there was very little that I didn't know. It was probably 1919. It may have been that interview that persuaded Dr Hemingway to let Ernest try his hand at writing. I remember all that incident very well. Ernest was not jubilant, only interested and concerned. There were some other guests there at the time who also talked with Ernest about writing. I can't remember their names, but I do remember they started both Ernest and me on our first game of bridge.

None may have been in a Mrs Barnes.

(Re above: Your memory is remarkable.) Upon looking into this Balmer story, I found that he had written "Indian Drum", in collaboration with MacHarg. You remembered Balmer's first name as Edwin, and I'd bet that's what it is. It is because you remembered this exotic fact, which could have been of no personal interest to you, that I think it must have meant a great deal to Hem and that he must have talked about it with you; that's why I hoped, maybe, for a little scene. I wonder if you waited table on Balmer and remember him?

the MacHarg I am almost certain of this. any way to check?

It was of interest to me, for everything was of interest to me. I seldom waited on table for the regular guests, but I ate three meals a day with ~~the MacHarg~~ and had my ears open. Everyone ate at a long table, or two long tables. *only big dinner parties (only big dinner parties)*

MacHarg had a room at the Strand house. (over) (15) yes - it was important to Ernest - very important.

I forget the circumstances under which Hem said: "I think I have been good for you."

That was in the letter he wrote me at college, telling about his engagement. I didn't like the letter for it sounded patronizing. I wrote back a rather nasty one (always regretted)

(16)

Also I forget the context in which Hem said or wrote that he did not wish to spoil you for others.

I was the one that said knowing him had spoiled me for liking ordinary people.

the between

(17)

What relationship was Ernest Ohle ~~and~~ Congressman Stroud, and why did he dislike Ernest? Did you believe the Chosen Country bit that Bill Smith's mother's father was a U.S. senator or political luminary. (Awnty Charles' father, Merrill, I would think.)

(over)

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PLAINFIELD AND NORTH PLAINFIELD CHAPTER
FANWOOD AUXILIARY
FANWOOD, N. J.

I3-

Yachts were still able to come in to the Bay as long as the large dock remained. The channel dug for lumber boats was, and probably still is there. An occasional Ferry boat would come in when we were there.

Yes, the channel between the two lakes in Charlevoix has been there a long time. I knew Charlevoix fairly well, for mother had friends there. Sometimes I would visit.

*yes the big boats
came into Charlevoix -*

I7.

Uncle Lon Stroud was the Uncle or Great uncle of my mother and Uncle Ernest. Their mother (my grandmother) was either his niece or sister. Probably sister. I remember uncle Don and aunt Delia quite well.

Don't know why Uncle Ernest didn't like E.H. It was more something I felt rather than knew.

I don't know anything about the Charles/ relatives.

I didn't spend any time at the Bay until after their deaths, when Uncle Ernest and his family started coming to the Bay. Before they built their cottage they had part of the Fox's house.

(14)

I am stretching my memory, but didn't I tell you it was the man who wrote with E. Balmer? Balmer was the name I remembered but I feel quite certain it was Mr Mac Harg. I remember him but also remember he wrote most of the time and didn't mingle. Ernest had a regular appointment with him for an interview - arranged by some guest who knew Mac Harg. There was quite a bit of conversation about this - but not with me. I was still too much small fry to have something that important discussed with me. I believe Mr & Mrs Mac Harg were both there. I remembered the Mac Harg Indian Drum because I read and enjoyed it. had a room at the Stroud house where they could be more quiet.

(18)

Had Hemingway ever dated Liz Shoemaker do you think, say in 1920, when he was around for the summer, when he had dates, I take it, with another Jewess, Irene Goldstein? Why would he ask about her? Was she pretty? Intellectual?

Liz Shoemaker was my sister's best friend. She was at our house a lot. She went steady with a football player, named Harold Ruggles, and so was always in our group at High School and other dances. I don't believe Ernest ever dated her, though he liked her and danced with her. In those days we didn't dance with only one person as they do now. Being Jewish made no difference in those days. *She was attractive and popular. (over)*

(19)

In a related area, do you believe the Dos Passos story in which "Ernie Hemingway" was pictured as leading a rather bigoted attack on "furriner" Dos Passos (an Italian in the story)? Hem was always so catholic (small C) in his tastes that I cannot believe he would be anything but interested in a stranger within the midst. He took the trouble to learn Italian, Spanish and French and live most of his adult life on the outskirts of America. Wondered what your reaction to this nasty little scene was?

This all felt false to me.

(20)

Also related. How do you happen to know French and Spanish? And yes, I would like to practice a little Italian on you, especially when I write from Italy, if that is permitted. I am going over a little vocabulary each day and listening to 15 minutes a day of a record. But oh how slow it all comes. Capite?

In high school I had two years of French, and went on with two more in college. I took two years of Spanish in college and have followed it up on several occasions since. I don't believe Ernest had anything to do with it, but he may have. I loved mathematics, an exact science. For the same reason I enjoyed languages. You could be sure to get a right answer with study. In literature and English it so often depended on whether your instructor ⁽²¹⁾ agreed with you.

My what wonderful sequence I am demonstrating to you. In a question related to two others not far above: what was the context of Hem's line: "There are going to be a lot of people in love with you?"

Think I told you this. It was after I had said I was sorry for something, and he said not to be humble.

(over)

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PLAINFIELD AND NORTH PLAINFIELD CHAPTER

FANWOOD AUXILIARY

FANWOOD, N. J.

(18)

Ernest was ~~not~~ in Petersburg much that summer. The time he came into Petersburg and took Drew & I to a dance and played some tennis - I was actually the one to drive home in from the Bay and he stayed at grandmother's house. ^{Think he always felt free to come to grandmother's - like a second home.} I had a date for this dance ~~at~~ with Heber Curtis (cousin of the Bankers - brother of Connie). The dance was at one of the Hotels. When I look back on it - it was a funny situation. Ernest was with an older group and didn't dance with me once - tho he was guest at my house. Our communication was truly all jumbled up - still that same ~~old~~ letter, making me miserable - aloof and unreachable. I also believe he truly felt he had outgrown me. My youngness must have seemed augmented after Toronto. Then there was still that unbusiness thing that had caused him to write the letter.

Think I should add here that when I saw him for the last time he kissed me good-bye sadly, as one does when going on a long journey. It was a long journey.

(22)

Can you put me in the Ormond Beach setting that Hemingway visited in 1939 or 40? The kind of house it was (I didn't, darn it, get to see it), its relation to the sea and whether it had a view that would have moved Hemingway or reminded him of anything? A line or two about the living room where you spent most of your time, something about book cases, mementoes, any Hem books, fishing pictures, trophies, other lars and penates or memorablie, general mood, by which I don't necessarily mean a Salinger inventory but something to set the scene. Did Hem squint ~~into~~ the bookcases looking for his own? And find them? Did he move about with a glass in his big right hand? Was he wearing glasses, the steel rimmed kind, if you remember? I do believe you said he was beardless at the time but hirsute looking. I gather he was in a genial, benevolent, feeling good mood. Was there a copy of In Our Time in your library or any other collection of stoires that would have contain the END OF SOMETHING? Did he sign any books at the time? And if so do you have them, or give them away. Hem's most recent book at that time would have been TO HAVE AN D HAVE NOT and he would have looked for that, I guess. Was Hem nice to your kids? (Do you remember in THREE DAY BLOW where Hem is suddenly cheered that his break with Marge is not irrevocable and that the possibility of resuming the relationship was nice to have "in reserve?" I have thought about that in terms of his seeing you again, somehow. In a sense the story left the situation ^{OPEN} and it remained that way for 20 years. You must understand that even though I seem to hammer away at these stories in which ~~you~~ figured, you have become important to the Hemingway picture on a much broader basis, than simply as a character in fiction brought to life. I think you make your biggest co ntribution as a contemporary of Hem's who has much to say toward filling out a short but very important part of his life. (Pax)

The livingroom was the length of the south exposure. It has windows on three sides. They are casement windows. Off from that is a porch, but that would have been closed in Dec. There is a large fire-place. I then had a Steinway grand piano. ^{after a period} There were ~~few~~ book cases. Those were in another room at the back and in bedrooms. Had he looked in the book shelves he would have found nothing by Hemingway. I had a thing about not wanting any of his books. H ad he sent me any, those I would have kept, but he never did. I went upstairs and brought out my kodak book. I also still had the old insignia from the green tam. He was interested in all of it. It was then the picture of him with me disappeared. He remarked that he was looking at me like a sick calf. I had never noticed that. ^{or stammering}

Thru the center of the house is a long hall. On the north is the diningroom and kitchen. Off that another porch and laundry. Upstairs are four bedrooms and two baths plus a sun deck porch.

There was nothing then between us and the river. We had beautiful oak trees hung with moss. I never wanted it taken off.

No he didn't walk around with a glass in his hand. He mostly sat. I remember no glasses.

You forget that I have not read Hemingway, except a very few. I rather hope I never will. ^{I never asked him to sign anything.}

Ernest was very nice to the children. He wrote how nice they were. As I remember it, he said they couldn't be better. Th ey were attractive children, well trained, and well behaved, if I do say so myself. They would have had to be in Sidney's house.

(23)

flotsam: Was there something about Hemingway being amazed that a maid in his house didn't know how to cook? (Errant thought)

No, that didn't seem to amaze him. Perhaps he remembered me as helpless in a kitchen. Nearly everyone in my generation was helpless in a kitchen. Sidney never expected me to know anything useful. There were always plenty of available cooks. Our daughter Bobbie went on in the same pattern when she married. Scott always said he was successful because he had to be with a wife like Bobbie. (24)

When Hemingway said about FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS, I think it is a story you'll like, what was the import of that? I think I know but am not sure.

I truly don't know.

(25)

My notes indicate you're recalling the working title of BELL as something like NOT LOVE BUT A SWORD, which sounds like a very good library title. Does this still sound something like the trial effort you remember? Did you gather Hem had finished the writing of the book?

Actually, I can't remember much of his conversation. He talked more to Sidney. He batted around several titles in a humorous way. Much of the conversation was humorous and senseless. He probably was more uneasy about it all than I was. He might have expected recriminations, but I honestly didn't feel any. Perhaps it was easy because I hadn't read much of what he had written. I had truly blocked off everything after the last time I saw him. Strange, but true.

(26)

You sometimes seem to criticize yourself for naivete in the presence of Hemingway's sophistication and possible needs but isn't it possible he liked you just as you were. Otherwise why would he have said, at some point, that he was glad he had you as a friend rather than as someone he had to mush around with (make love to)? etc.

Right. He truly didn't seem sophisticated to me. I assumed he was. He knew so much more than I about everything.

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(27)

I see by my notes and letters that you thought of Hemingway as a kind of puritan, at least in his relation^{ship} with girls; was he honestly and truly this impeccable in his conduct?

He was with me.

(28)

Incidentally, did you ever detect any overtones of his romance with Red Cross nurse Agnes Von Kurowsky in the Italian hospital where he was recuperating from his wounds? The story goes that he got the bad news that she would marry another, while he was still in Oak Park early in 1919 and that it threw him for a real emotional loop. Can I take it that he'd gotten over the bruises to his pride and heart by the time he began seeing you a great deal that fall?

I was never aware of any deep emotional involvement in his past, but then I would not have recognized something foreign to my experience.

(29)

Did you gather that Hemingway took the snaps he showed at the h.s. auditorium himself, and with a vest pocket camera, and that he took them under pain of summary shooting if caught? I take it this one was a "tall tale" he told George O'Neal who ran the Parker House in Petoskey and was his friend and admirer that first year back. I saw George, now almost 80, in Ann Arbor, Mich. last summer and while he was an awfully nice man some of his stories were completely without foundation and so I found it necessary to check them. His wild stories have been distorted by the erosion of memory over the years, I think; he is not the sort who would wilfully make them up; although it may be that Hem was pulling his leg a bit. I do think Hem sought to impress men sometimes. He told George his father had sent him to northern Michigan to get over malaria for one thing. *I don't know.*

Ernest could easily have told all sorts of tall stories to anyone who would listen. We "rabbits" would sit around and listen by the hour. I probably don't remember them because there was nothing to tie them to in my knowledge of places and people. I am sure he told as personal experiences the things he had heard about others.

(30)

Just for fun: Are you a size ten; two ladies I spoke to about you in the Ormond Beach area while you were in Cal. remembered you as being that size; the female mind works that way, I guess. One postal employe remembered your old box as being 204; non e vero?

^{106 lbs.}
I am a size eight. Our box was 204, and this was the address Ernest had. *Had he ever written me then, I wouldn't have gotten it. They only forward for a period of time. I didn't know this. That was why I didn't get Urs's Christmas letters.*

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PLAINFIELD AND NORTH PLAINFIELD CHAPTER

AUXILIARY (31)

How long did Dr. Main practice after the crash?

Until 1957. During that time he was very successful in the market. He lost a good bit after his mind got fuzzy and before we could get him to close out his trading account. That was a tough time for me. I didn't know about business and I wouldn't do anything to discredit him.

(32)

What about your wedding to Dr. Main? Was it a big church wedding and were there people there from Petoskey or Michigan and in what church did it take place? Did Hem write to congratulate you? I can't remember.

We were married at the Winter Park home of a friend of Sidney's. My step father was very ill, so mother couldn't come. It was a small wedding, but very nice. We decided to marry in Fla. rather than wait to have a larger wedding in Michigan. It was an Episcopal ceremony. No, Ernest didn't write to congratulate me, and I didn't send him an announcement. *To have the boat trip together.*

(33)

Does young Sidney like the idea of Hemingway; *does* ~~or~~ did he like his work?

Yes, Sid is very interested in Ernest. I have never dwelled on the subject of his stories, *about me* and so none of the children have resented them. They may never have read them, tho with Bobbie's wide reading and searching mind I am pretty sure she did. It is typical of our family not to mention anything that might hurt someone. I am sure they knew I liked him very much, but it was no threat to them or Sidney. Bobbie even laughed about looking like a Hemingway. *Ernest + Sid Jr. would have been very comfortable. Yes.*

George (34) I suppose Georgiana was named after Pudge. I mean the names are the same aren't they? How is Pudge now and do you ever see her? *Tell her about her namesake in Chosen Country.* *(over)*

Yes, G. was named for Pudge. I haven't seen Pudge for some time, but Sid often sees her and family on his business trips to Detroit. Pudge's mind is quite childish since her stroke, but she has done mighty well to teach until this year. It is hard for Pudge to write, but she does occasionally. I prefer to forget the Georgie in Chosen Country. For Ernest and his father to have been made so ineffectual and such nin-com-poops is nauseating. (35)

What is the occupation of Sir Walter Scott? I mean was he an ad man or writer?

Scott got his masters at Harvard Business School. He was also (Duke) Phi Beta. He is brilliant, interesting and difficult. We have a mutual admiration that keeps our relationship above water. I believe he is called Vice president in charge of merchandising for the Filbert Margerine Co but his responsibilities go beyond that. He makes a great deal of money and spends more. He was in advertising in N.Y. Also with Quaker Oats in Chicago.

(36)

In THREE DAY BLOW, Nick talks of having planned to get married and take Marge to Italy. Was there any talk about your ever seeing the Italy that Hem spoke of, either direct or indirect? I gather it was not until Hem met Sherwood Anderson in Chicago in the winter of 1920-21 that he changed from wanting to go back to Italy to wishing to live in Paris.

We may have takled around in dreams, but there was never anything for reality.

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PLAINFIELD AND NORTH PLAINFIELD CHAPTER

FANWOOD AUXILIARY

FANWOOD, N. J.

Once when Sid was a teen ager
he said there was one thing he would
love to do more than any thing - and that
was to go fishing with Ernest Hemmingway.
Sid was always off in some swamp, duck
hunting - or out fishing. The things
he got into gave me many gray hairs
and his scrapes are still legend.

PLANNED AND NORTH PLAINFIELD CHAPTER
FAIRWOOD AUXILIARY

(37)

Did Hem talk about Italy much, about the war; about his wound? Did he show you his serious injuries?

Yes, he talked a lot about it. No, he never showed me his wounds or injuries. *we talked about the silver cup in his home.*

(38)

The theory among critics is that Hem made one or more trips to the Two Headed River (or the Fox, or even possibly some other river in the upper peninsula) to try and get his bearings after his war experiences. After the war there was a period in which he couldn't sleep nights without a light, and later, his mind "worked" by itself, and this scared him, and it helped for him to be very tired and to be in the familiar scenes of his happy youthful period. Can you orient any of this to the time that you spent with Hem. Of course he likely made his long trip during the summer ¹⁹¹⁹ sometime, and he didn't write it for two or three more years, and so the story may very well be amorphous in its origin. I guess what I am getting at is whether you could detect intuitively or in some more specific way that Hem at this time of his postwar life had periods of mental unease, or that he had had such periods in the immediate past. *of 1919*

All of this seems to ring a little bell. I don't remember a trip, but then there was a lot of going and coming of Ernest, and I never thought much about where he went. I would have thought anything about him was normal and O.K. I suppose sometimes I was adult in my deductions so you expect me to be in others. But most of the time I accepted whatever was, without speculation or thought.

(39)

Did Hem ever tell you, as he allegedly told George O'Neal about learning to throw a knife with much accuracy while with the Arditi troops in Italy? That he was so good he could hit a crack in a tree from a respectable distance? That the Arditi killed their austrian prisoners by tying them together and setting of a handgrendade inside of them; that Hem was offered living targets for knife throwing but turned them down?

No.

(40)

Is there any glimmer at all in your mind (This is important) that might tend to show a dissatisfaction in young Hemingway for the way most people wrote in those days, writing "The way they were supposed to write instead of the way it really was."? (He was really an early existentialist in scorning the accepted way. He repudiated following the rules laid down by the English teachers and made up his own rules for getting at the essentiality of things)

I am sure the answer to this is yes, but my memory and lack of maturity at that time would make me feel inadequate to express an opinion.

(41)

During the period you saw Hemingway most did he ever disappear for a few days or a week presumably on camping trips? I mean in the fall, since I guess you wouldn't have been aware of such activity in the summer.

No.

(42)

Do you have any theories or special knowledge as to the actual places or any of the circumstances behind such other Hemingway stories of Michigan as:

THE BATTLER (about world champion fighter Ad Wolgast after he had gone on the bum. Wolgast came from Cadillac; the action is presumably along the tracks between Kalkaska and Mancelona. Wolgast died in the insane asylum in California in the 50's. He beat Battling Nelson *for his title.*)

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD: Presumably in r.r. station at Boyne City, or maybe Petoskey. Nick (Hem) ¹⁷ has an older boy, Tom, ¹⁹ with him, and they engage in conversation with a very tough crowd at the station. It is a tannery town and there is a big tart in the story named Alice. Many years later, Hem mentions this Alice on the lp record that ~~Saedmon~~ *Stanley* Records put out. *Ketchell, another actor, from Cadillac, Mich., plays a part in this story.*

Please don't make me read these. or even think about them.

(43)

Indian Camp (an actual place near the Hem cottage)

THE DOCTOR AND THE DOCTOR'S WIFE (about a row with an Indian ~~by Dr. Hemingway~~ *(Dr. Hemingway) less*
Bolton, both in the story and in real life.

Fathers and Sons: nostalgia for happy boyhood. *appearance of Truly Selman, Indian girls.*

Ten Indians: *as* same ~~above~~ in which the actual Bacon farm family is portrayed as the Garners. *Indian girl is Prudence Mitchell in this one, but is apparently the same girl as above. Dick Bolton actually had daughter same age named Prudence. She died, aged 16, in 1918.*

(Marge, don't worry about these; they are probably foreign ~~to~~ *to* your area of knowledge. I simply included them on the chance you might think of something.)

(44)

Someone in Ormond Beach told me you never, repeat never, lost your temper. Could this be true? And was it always thus?

I learned early in life that to control ones self was better than to control an army. (Grandmother)

I had a temper that might have gotten out of control, but no one could ~~lose~~ a temper with Sidney around. I did my share of yelling at the children when he was out of the house. Have you ever gone abroad? Or seen a bullfight?

No. Sidney wanted to take me to Europe when we were married but I didn't want to go. Again I can't know why. I have never seen a bullfight and hope I never have to.

(46)

Any Hemingway movies?

One.

(47)

What were you doing, where were you and what did you think when you first heard of Hem's death? *Did you write him in his hospital by any chance? He was there when he wrote that letter about you.*

I remember I wasn't surprised or shocked. No I never wrote him after 1939. Everything was O.K. between us and he left my consciousness.



(48)

Do you remember becoming aware of Hemingway's need to excell in everything he did, especially in such expertise ~~as applied to~~ fishing, woodlore, hunting, etc? When he says in THE END OF SOMETHING that he taught Marge all she knows is there any (at least) philosophical basis for this?

No. He was equally complimentary, I remember, in saying I had such good coordination. I could drive a car and he couldn't because of his stiff knee. Yes he did teach me much philosophically speaking, and I have tagged along in his philosophical footsteps ever since.

(49)

I've always been intrigued by that title THE END OF SOMETHING. Much of what you have said suggests that your relationship was not formalized, that it was hard to describe. In this sense am I right in concluding that in this respect at least the title touches to some extent on actuality? Whatever it was was ended - and yet it was not an irrevocable ending.

Yes, I think it is true. In feeling a need to stand on my own feet and not be only a tag along, but in some way to be more of an equal, I did spoil something. *I was growing up.*

(50)

I think you've touched on this, but let me put it this way. Did Hemingway show Catholic leanings when you knew him. If not actually, was there stuff in him that yearned for ritual, as there is in most of us I guess?

No. The only Catholic reference was to the priest in Italy.

(51)

Would you dare sketch an average day of Hem's in that winter of 1919?

I couldn't possibly. I knew only that he usually waited for me in the hall or outside the school. We would walk or go home. Sometimes he stayed for dinner, sometimes not. Sometimes he would leave while I did school work and then come back for a while. Sometimes he would talk to grandmother. I never thought of him as a date. He was just there. Sometimes we would get to talking and he would stay quite late. Grandmother was in bed in the next room and wouldn't go to sleep until he left. I was very unthoughtful. I think he wrote late and stayed in bed until noon.

There were many little school dances, and some big ones at the Elks club. After all it was only four months.

But it wasn't a Saturday night affair.



(52)

Can you remember what the immediate triggering factor was in causing Hemingway to stop off and see you in Ormond Beach? It was a great, great compliment, you know, because when he stopped off the one time in Petoskey he didn't really want to see anybody and more or less got caught up when he bumped into Pailthorp at the cafe near the bank. As you yourself have said, he was not a man for going back. He must have had an overpowering desire to see you again to get him to budge out of that north south chute that he was accustomed to. Of course it was one of the few times that he was between feminine engagements so to speak.

There was no triggering that I know of. I hadn't heard from him in several years as I remember. I think it was between wives that he used to write.

(53)

Did Les ever get in touch with you?

No. why?

(54)

Les Les told me Ursula had critisized Hem for committing suicide, that he was more or laying down a kind of family pattern, etc. Do you know whether she really said something like this or felt like this? I mean it sounds ironical in view of her own action. But I gather from the clip, and the scholarship she and her husband sponsored that she was a sincere friend of Ernest's, and an admirer. (I will return the Ursula clip as I presume you want it back; I have been waiting to copy it, actually.)

It would have hurt Ursula to think of suicide. I think she finally accepted the fact. I feel she loved Ernest dearly.

(55)

Les said Hem loved ice cream but would not be seen eating it because it would blur his image. Does this figure to you, and did you possibly have ice cream that night in Ormond Beach? I take it he liked the liver. Once again I would tax your memory to discover if you ever went to the ice cream parlor in Petoskey back in 1919.

No ice cream in Ormond Beach. I feel sure Ernest didn't like the liver, but he had no choice. I am sure we went to the ice cream parlor often. It was a sort of center and there wasn't any other place to go.



PLAINFIELD AND HORTONFIELD CHAPTER (56)

Here's an odd one. Had Hemingway acquired any of the old world courtliness while he was in Italy, would you say. I mean did he ever try to kiss your hand, anything like that, bowing, etc. I know he was inclined to be gallant anyway and that he subscribed to the code of the chevalier knight.

He was always polite but never excessively so.

No hand kissing, even in fun.

Zounds and enough already.

*And the final final questionnaire
(though not the last question I throw)*

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ALWAYS USE
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