

April 26, 1925

{Letterhead:}

“Hotel Fashion”  
Àntes “Hotel Plaza”

Teléfono 179-4  
Rooms With Modern Improvements, Drumer’s Sample Department  
Hot and Cold Baths

Àp. Postal 146  
El más céntrico y cómodo de la Ciudad, para  
Hombres de Negocios  
Cuartos Elegantemente Àmueblados  
Baños Fríos y Calientes

{The most central and comfortable in the city, for businessmen elegantly furnished rooms, hot and cold baths.}

CANANEA SON., MEXI, 4/26 Sunday noon 1925

Dear Ann:----

**Becky** gave me your little note you left for me at her desk. Thanks for your fine attention. Never mind that record. I am sorry I could not get for you in San Francisco the sheet music I wanted to. I’ll try in Hermosillo, then. – In compliance with your wish I am writing you. I am now in that famous Cananea, where fire devoured 150 homes and all the business section together with our good customers stock. It seems that we will get our money – Just how easy and how soon of course cannot be foreseen right now. – Cananea is a little mining town and just looks like one. “Give me, mister, whatever you can share – can’t you see my hand is burned – we lost everything we had in that fire.” Thus addressed me a little musician boy when wandering on the hills, called Cananea – He got his share – of course. Money is gathered all over the state for the benefit of the homeless – I attended yesterday a dance given for the same benefit in the border town together with some Jewish friends – I had to stay with them until 3 o’clock in the morning, although I am not dancing, you know - --There is nowhere to go for the only theater also is in ruins. I wish I am out of this ugly thing and back – where ? Who knows?

While you are wishing me lots of luck, I will wish you lots of good luck - -

My best regards to you and your folks tell **Bev?** And **Rosie** that I appreciate highly their kindness, demonstrated to me during my short visit in S.F. I shall try to reciprocate wherever

and whenever I can – I am sorry I was not at your sister Lea's {Lea Licht Lanfeld} home as per invitation accepted, but then she will forgive me - - would-not she?

Your friend Sam

## **MEXICAN TOWN FIRE-SWEPT.**

**One Dead, 300 Homeless, \$200,000  
Loss in Cananea, Sonora.**

DOUGLAS, Ariz., April 21.—The mining town of Cananea, Sonora, about fifty miles south of the international boundary, tonight took toll of a disastrous fire which left the major portion of the community a charred mass of debris and smouldering ruins.

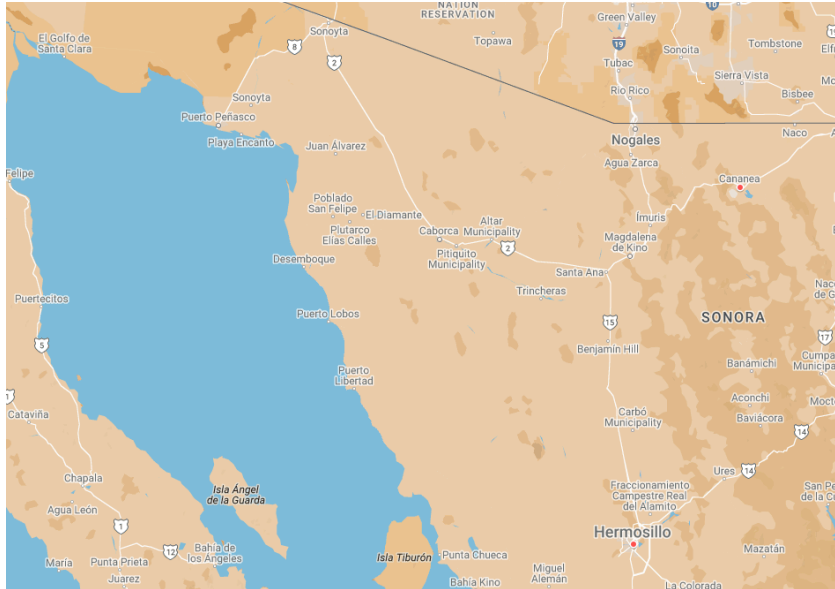
The flames, which started in the business district early today, were brought under control tonight after destroying property valued at about \$200,000. One Chinese merchant was burned to death.

The homeless were estimated at 2,000. Their homes were caught in the path of the fire when the wind carried flaming embers from the business section to the residential camps. Relief work is being conducted under the direction of the Red Cross and the Cananea-American Methodist Church. More than 300 families, made destitute by the conflagration, were housed in churches, schools, public buildings and a few residences which escaped the fire.

**The New York Times**

Published: April 22, 1925

Copyright © The New York Times



Hermosillo to Cananea

June 16, 1925

Hermosillo, Sonora

June 16 – 1925

Dear Ann:-

I know I have sinned against you by not writing you any sooner and in order that my punishment is much mitigated I will plead "guilty" and may God tender your heart and your sentence is not unbearable.

Of course could I tell you all I went through during the last few weeks – you'd probably forgive and absolve me altogether, but then I do not master the English well enough and nor is it conventional to tell your troubles to a girlfriend. Long preface may bore you so I'll better "go to it" at once.

You want to know what I am doing – practically nothing. Somebody would say I take life easy and yet how forcefully do I hate it and would be delighted could I run away and forget it. You are complaining that life in San Francisco is dull and far not exciting – How hard then would it be for you to bear life in this desert. Thank the Almighty you need not be here and I also will thank Him as soon he delivers me out of here. How soon will it be? We hope it may happen sometime next September.

It seems that this time – all the roads lead, not to Rome as usual, but to Jerusalem – Yet before we will be gone we shall pay our tribute to old U.S. by visiting as many places as would be

possible. How are the J.B. Do they know already who your boy-friend was? I am sending you with this mail music for three Spanish popular songs Tell me if you learn to like them. I thank you for your attention and awaiting your news remain with best regards to Everybody – Sam

Remember me especially to Benny and Rose – How is Jay? What is about Moris and Becky – I wrote them once and never got any word from them. Mazel Tov to your brother Myer and Mazel Tov to you all – I expect you to tell me all about Myer's and Sarah's wedding – I am sorry I could not be present – My brother also sends you and everybody his best regards; his name in English? Well – how is "Sol" – "Sidney" which sounds more gentile – like?

I enclose herewith a poor translation of some of the words of the song La Casita. If I could I would have made it much better. I am also? sending you the complete song in Spanish.

Adios.

## July 22, 1925

July 22 – 1925

Dear Ann:-

Arriving back home from my vacation in the near-by town Guaymas where I had my thrice a day wonderful swim in the open Sea – I found your little letter waiting for me. I sincerely thank you for your attention as well as for having sustained my appeal and forgiven my old sins. Which song I like best? I really can not tell you – While "Loca" is undoubtedly better music, I like "La Casita" for its sweet naïve words it expresses and for its queer popular Mexican tone.

Sometimes when I am in that particularly required mood I shall try to translate the rest of the words of that song. We had the news of Myers marriage on June the 14<sup>th</sup> and we wish them good luck and many happy days.

When back in San Francisco I will bring with me a little, expressly Mexican, present for them. Hermosillo is the same old drowsy little town – You have probably heard that the Chinaman in Cananea paid us in full that money he owed us for the carload of soap so congratulate us. Next came the sad news that all our efforts to come in to the U. States to stay permanently were in vain and there is no hope for us of ever getting in there legally except for a visit and we shall have to turn our eyes to some other inviting country if we can find one. Tell Jay her regards are highly appreciated and that a little letter from her personally would be more than welcome....- S and Sydney both send you our best regards as well as to all your folks and awaiting some good news from you remain yours truly

Sam

## May 1, 1926 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
May 1<sup>st</sup> 1926  
Dear Ann:-

I am sending you today by mail "Little Ships". I thank you for this book as well as for all the good things you had to tell me in your little note. To be frank I do not think much of "Little Ships" myself – you raved so much about it and I find it too sad – drowsy anyway and very little color. Of course a "Kate" like John's is soothing alright but do not you think they are as scarce as are Saints.

Since I left San Francisco I do not feel well at all – I got a nasty cold I could not get rid of for some time – and even now I have a sore throat and life is not what I would want it to be – To make it stronger; we are having here kind of gloomy days lately and with nothing to do but wait for that "Permit" it looks awfully uninteresting.

We live very near the library and am reading quite a bit. They have here in the libraries some good Jewish books too. This shows you that LA is the big town and not S.F. as you wanted me to believe. Now don't get mad...learn to face facts. How is every body? Give my best regards to your folks – Ben, Mayer, Lea and their respective families – I hope Everybody is alright. Do you work? – what do you do if not – Welfare marx is it? Now is San Francisco – Cold as usual or is it changing lately? Solman joins me in sending his best regard to you and if you aint very busy I hope you will drop us a line or two from time to time. I thank you for your attention and remain

your friend Sam

Our address is:  
2200 Michigan Ave  
Los Angeles, Cal

June 28, 1927

Los Angeles, Cal.  
June 28 – 1927

Dear Anne:-

The latest latest is that we have safely arrived to the glorious city of "Aimee" and Julian<sup>1</sup>. For the short time we are here we managed to take advantage of quite a few events. We have been to a party where nothing serious has happened, we attended to (two?) Sabbath services in shul and met quite a few old ladies and we have been to a "regular" picnic in the Zelig-Zoo park<sup>2</sup> given by the Jewish Consumptive Relief Organization<sup>3</sup> – I am sorry we did not win the chandler they raffled and as to the portable Radio the winning number was 530 and my number was too

far out – 1329 I believe it was – Sad – too sad \_ Don't you agree with me. Late last night we walked over to the "Old home" where a gathering or a banquet of orthodox Jews took place in honor of the "Slobodker<sup>4</sup> Go-oin" (a Dean at a famous Orthodox Yeshiva) and we heard Yosel sing – (not much though – for we were late) and then a few "honey-sweet" speeches – We called it a day and went to bed – As for today – the day is not over yet and may bring yet a lot of excitement or as Yitzic claims "lots of fun". – Sister and her babies are well<sup>5</sup>– Clara<sup>6</sup> went to pay a visit to her curious? "Benefactor". Everybody else is at work but me.

I hope you are all well too and thanking you again for all the courtesy extended to us during our stay over in Frisco – I am, your friend

Sam

Regards to everybody and to Gella?Bella?Ella?, if "everybody" does not include her.

#### Footnotes

1. Possibly refers to items in the news: Aimee McPherson and some sort of petroleum scandal Julian Petroleum Corporation.
2. Possibly the Selig Zoo which closed in the 1920s – evolved from one of Las first motion picture studios.
3. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish\\_Consumptives%27\\_Relief\\_Society](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish_Consumptives%27_Relief_Society)
4. <http://en.hebron.org.il/history/671> - history of the Slobodka Yeshiva
5. Probably Anya Friedman Spector with Albert b 1920 and Lea b 1926
6. Clara Friedman

## March 26, 1928 – Clara to Anne

Los Angeles Cal. 3-26-28

Dear Anne

I received all your letters and I suppose you must be pretty angry at me for not having answered them. I will now explain to you why I did not reply.

My mother had a very serious operation on appendicitis. After the operation an abscess formed, as a result she has been in the hospital a pretty long time now. She is getting better I have had to stop working in order to take care of my family. I am very busy all the time and hardly have any time to go out for a minute I visit Mother twice a day. Your letters have given me very much pleasure as I have a little time now, I am writing you this letter so that you will not think I do not care for you any more I care very much dear.

Give my best regards to your parents and the rest of the family. Please tell me when you are coming for your vacation.

Your loving friend

Clara

July 9, 1928 – Sam to Anne

San Francisco, Cal.  
July 9-th 1928

Dear Ann:-

In reading this and obliging me with an immediate reply, please remember that I did not come here "to torment you some more" as someone wants it and I happened to overhear.

Behold – a new problem has arisen and I hope you will not refuse cooperating with me in solving said problem.

"Are we really that different that we can see the very same thing one white and black the other."? I must admit that I have discussed with you matters in the past at different occasions and I do not remember having found the difference as great.

I understand, for instance that the "party" – whatever it was like should have ended differently. I did not believe it needed so bad to be peppered with bits of that "collegiate sport" or any other spice, not this particular night, not when the "party" ends as late as 1:30 and you expect to leave early in the morning. While I would call it wild and shamefully thoughtless you should consider a ride in an open maimed? Ford in night like that at least improper.

At least it was below any man's or woman's dignity to consider even another minutes waiting for some Kid's car to be fixed after 3 ocl. In the morning and how calmly you have changed seats from one car to the other and not a whisper of dissatisfaction.

("Kid", by the way, was your own definition – I personally do not know one or the other well enough).

I have made my way home, after I left your party in about 20 minutes I haven't stopped for a moment to think what I was doing, I was prompted by an inner voice of self-respect and one may be self-preservance as well, (for I was cold and freezing) to flee home. I have invited you too, but you chose to assure me that there were no street cars that late and when I walked off

you did not care. Please explain me give me your point of view on this subject. Was I right and you had no courage to admit it or we really differ that much. Of course I can hear the names the ultra-moderns would call me but God knows I cannot be that modern and what I did was not to hurt you or anybody: I was simply ashamed of being led that aimlessly; everything in me protested and I left automatically. I could not do otherwise. I could not order one or the other to go here or there without your ladyship's help. Let this therefore not interfere with your vacation. Be happy and have the best of times but please spare first a little time to answer me this letter so I get it here as soon as possible. I thank you and with best regards to you – mother and Ella. I remain, Your friend Sam

## July 16, 1927 – Sam to Anne

This letter is typed except for the line in Yiddish which is hand written.

Letterhead:  
S. Friedman Prop.  
Phone: Angelus 0509

FRIEDMAN BAG CO.  
DEALERS IN  
BAGS BURLAP AND TWINE  
138 NORTH CLARENCE STREET  
(BETWEEN 1400 AND 1500 BLOCK OF EAST FIRST STREET)

Los Angeles Calif July 16 1927

Dear Anne:-

I thank you for your rather long letter; you sure have patience and a lot of it, I may say. I can not state that much about myself. Yet, I shall try to answer most of your questions, if possible.

Of course I drove about 200 or more miles, but that did not make me a bit better, for manipulating with one hand is still "highbrow stuff" for your humble servant, and if you still feel safe, as to vouching for me, why I shall proclaim you, world wide, as the most generous and big-hearted (walking or flying-?) creature on hearth. Yes, my hives are gone; I wonder where, but they are gone. I did see, once, Al Jolson; that was in the Alcazar in S.F., I believe, in the year of the Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventeen; my seat was way up in the galleries and my English scant, so I better not say anything of what I thought of that show, and, mind you, I had to pay all fifty cents piece for my entrance. I can still hum, I believe, one particular melody I heard that evening; that's the way it goes: hm—hm-him-him-him-he-he-he-hem-hem-him, et. Etc. How do you like it? Oh, you do not understand it, nor do I, nor does Clara<sup>1</sup> understand the music, you were kind to send us. You see, we are different types all together; we can not



understand each other. Now, that everything is so clear we'll let this go and start with vocal music; your Yiddish to it is excellent, and I shall not abrogate my doubt as to your real competence in that field; but, then, I never blame you or your's like , for not knowing certain things, which you should know. It's the environment, atmosphere and circumstances that make you. Yet, after you are you are your own boss already, you shall strive to learn what you think you must know. I thank you, for listening to my long letter this time. The name of the song you mention is:

{Here he inserts a line in Yiddish translated by Ken Blady as follows:}

*"Vos givain is givain, shoin nishtu*

*The past tense indicative "was" is missing in the sentence.*

So, I can translate it two ways:

"Whatever happened, happened, and it not here anymore."

or

"Let bygones be bygones, and it has faded away."

But I doubt as to whether you shall be able to get that music in California; you'd want to order that from the East. Now comes my apology for not writing you any sooner; we had trouble with the county assessor's office and I had a very hard job to straighten that up. I thank God- it's all over and I am at peace again. My best regards to you and all of yours. I hope you are all well – I know, we are \_ thanks God. I'll be soon going back to Mexico and that means ONE MORE GOOD TIME. I thank you again and remain,

Your friend

Sam

Footnotes:

1. Probably his sister Clara.

July 25, 1928 – Sam to Anne

El Paso, Texas

7/25 – 28

Dear Ann:-

And here I am back in the country of “pure gold” It is nice and warm in here, though I must admit that coming down here it was nicer and warmer yet, about 112 in the shade. You do not expect me to tell you any news. I hardly saw anybody yet and this ? is not an history making town anyway since Villa<sup>1</sup> is not around any more so I will let you have my correct address:

S. Friedman  
305 Ave Lerdo  
C.Juarez, Chh Mexico

And you will oblige me by telling me what’s going on in old San Francisco. – How are you \_ How is Rose \_ did she have her operation? How is the Stock Market? I thank you and with best regards to your folks and Ella, I am your friend  
Sam.

Footnotes:

1. Probably Poncho Villa: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pancho\\_Villa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pancho_Villa) who died in 1923.

## August 2, 1928 – Sam to Anne

August 2 1928  
C.Juarez, Chih Mexc  
9 a.m.

Dear Anne: -

I received your letter together with the snapshots from Yosemite. I thank you sincerely for both. It is a pleasure to get a lot of mail in his isolated place and from friends. I thank you also for announcing and recommending me to your friends as “especially nice” though we both know how far from “nice” I was to you or to myself. As to my ever pronounced opinion about you I am satisfied it has always been a good one and justly so. It is perfectly all right for you to type your letters to me since it is easier or more convenient for you to do so. I think the pictures are wonderfull and I wish you also let me have the rest of them as soon as the negatives are founde. Now that tiny little “head” is not that from one of you in your bathing suit?

I am glad to hear that Rose got over her operation. I congratulate her and wish a real speedy recovery. I hope she feels now good altogether. I am also glad of the fact that your stocks are going up – you may get rich quick and help out a friend in need.

All I have seen since I am here is the “Lion and the mouse”<sup>1</sup> I enjoyed Barrymore’s acting and expression of face immensely: it emphasized again that he was born for the stage rather than for the screen. At any rate this Vita phone<sup>2</sup> Is a promising thing and you see if you can get a hold of their stock buy all you can – it is about as good as Friedman Bag Co. – you see there is a tip for you.

Yes I shall let you have your flashlight as soon I get an adequate little box for shipping it.

As to my thinking – I do much more here than when in Los Angeles I admit, but I try to forget myself in reading which after all is also a sort of thinking. Is not it?

For the fun of it read “Without Dogma” by Henrick Sienkiewicz<sup>3</sup> and you may understand me a little better. Do not gloat it – read slow. I resemble much Ploszowski<sup>4</sup> and everything happened to him, could have happened or might happen to me. I would have probably acted just as he did or he would be just as “nice” as I am, if in my leasts?. So avoiding us you J.B.<sup>5</sup> avoid a lot of misery and unhappiness we Ploszowskis may cause. Of course I am not sure I have met my Aniela<sup>6</sup> yet which I am to philosophy away; but I am afraid I am just as hopeless, sceptical, extremely subtle, twisting one thing around the other, looping the loop and turning in that enchanted circle, dualistic and crooked as is a filoszowski. I am Your friend Sam

Footnotes:

1. Lost Silent Film of 1919:  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Lion\\_and\\_the\\_Mouse\\_\(1919\\_film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Lion_and_the_Mouse_(1919_film))
2. Vitaphone: a sound film system used between 1926 and 1931...soundtrack not on film itself but issued separately on phonograph records  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vitaphone#:~:text=Vitaphone%20was%20a%20sound%20film,widely%20used%20and%20commercially%20successful.>
3. A novel of manners by a Polish Nobel Prize winning writer, 1891, in diary format:  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Without\\_Dogma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Without_Dogma)
4. “the experiences of Leon Ploszowski, a man from a wealthy aristocratic family, who struggles to find the meaning of life in world without morality by trying to self-analyze his feelings towards the encountered women. The novel has been associated to [decadent movement](#), attacked for no clear condemnation of immoral acts and received as an attempt to picture the [fin de siècle](#) generation. Written in first person, the novel is the only one of Sienkiewicz's works that follows diary format.”
5. J.B. – I do not know what he means here
6. Aniela is a character in the “Without Dogma” novel: “ His relatives wish him to marry a beautiful young cousin, Aniela, who loves him with a whole-souled affection. Being sure of her love, he is disposed to delay his marriage, that he may have time to analyze his emotions in regard to her.”

August 10, 1928

Letterhead:

O'BRIEN, SPOTORNO, MITCHELL AND COMPAGNO BROS.  
Wholesale and Retail  
Poultry and Dairy Produce  
333 Clay Street  
San Francisco

August 10, 1928.

10:30 A.M.

Dear So and So:

I have a very important problem to solve. Will you help me? In order to come to my assistance you will have to listen to me closely and follow my conversation thread by thread. Are you ready? I want very much your advise in this case.

Her are the facts as they stand today.

I have a very dear friend of mine who is contemplating marriage. That in itself isn't strange, but the facts surrounding this marriage are. She is twenty-five years of age and he is 12 years older. They both realize the responsibility of marriage and would, if they should decide to enter into the Holy Bounds of Matrimony without doubt make a success of it, but here is where the trouble comes in.

The girl although of normal intelligence does not know if she is really in love with said man, but is willing to take a chance anyway and has admitted as much to him when questioned. He, on the other hand, likes her very much, likes to be with her and enjoys talking to her and discussing matters of interest to both of them by the hour. He considers her the ideal mate in every way, however there is one thing that won't let him commit the vital question. He does not feel that he has that certain feeling that a man should have towards the woman he asks to be his wife. He wants to be swept off his feet and as yet hasn't been. Now how to go about making him get that feeling! That is all that is worrying her in a nutshell.

Now you may ask, "What manner of a girl is this who is more than willing to enter into marriage with a man whom she is not sure of loving."? The answer is , "She hasn't the slightest doubt that she CAN and WILL learn to love him as soon as he acquires love for her. There's nothing in this world she would rather have than his love. Quite a problem, isn't it? How to solve it?? Will FATE manage this for her, or shall she make her own FATE?

Now then, there is another question that comes to your mind. "What does this certain young man think of her helping him to get that feeling?" This too is easily answered. "He has told her

repeatedly that if she could in anyway help him reach a decision she would be doing a great deal to end his quest for happiness, and as for the parents of both parties that goes without saying that they would give a great deal to have this union come about. So little in their way to complete happiness, but how far away they both are from acquiring it?

What will the answer be? Will TIME Tell? What methods should one emply in solving this case, or should one let well enough alone? Will prayers help? "God Alone is Wise In His Wisdom".

Have you anything to offer? Speak up, or for ever hold your peace.

11:30 AM

## August 14, 1928 – Sam to Anne

CC. Juarez. August 14, 1928

Dear Anne:-

I received your letter of August the 3<sup>rd</sup>. I am sorry I could not write you any sooner – I was busy all last week – with the renewing of my visa. They kept me going back and forth and I did not have any chance of staying home very long. This morning I got my permit for local crossing to El Paso for as I explained you it had expired the 10<sup>th</sup> of this month. I do congratulate you with your new privileges on Saturday's with your boss. – I have the same privilege nearly every day – Is not that grand? How was the wedding? I am sorry I could not attend. Did you have a chance to meet Mr. Ploszomsky?<sup>1</sup> Do you sympathize with him at least? I thank you for the last 2 pictures – They are unusually good. You have asked me about political affairs in Mexico the truth is I do not know any more than you – for I, as well as you, get my information from American newspapers. You have called my attention to some blots on page two in your last letter – I looked for them but could not discover them honestly – so there is no need of excusing you. I shall try to send you today your searchlight I am afraid they may confiscate it at the border – I'll take a chance though. How is everybody? How is the weather? I do receive letters from home every single day almost – All about business and I keep on writing them which does keep me a little busy. I have not read anything worth while commenting lately – I am returning today a book I had no patience to finish though the author is supposed to be "somebody" . Maybe you have heard about him Jacob Wassermann – translated from the German. I feel much at hom with Russian or Polish authors - with the good ones of course. I am going to El Paso in about an half hour – to mail my correspondence buy me some little things I need visit the library – mail your searchlight. Is there anything I can do for you there? Take notice ,please, of my new address:

S. Friedman

Lista du Corrios  
C. Juarez, Chih. Mexico

The word "Lista di Correus" stands for "General Delivery" in English. I may yet go to Mexico – I am waiting for some news from a friend of mine there. According to the latest developments in our business in Los Angeles I may have to go sooner yet to New York to buy some special equipment for our factory. – In the meantime I am doomed for a few weeks in C.Juarez – I thank you and hope you write me as often as you can.

I am yours very truly

Sam

Footnotes:

1. Probably here he is asking if she has read the book he recommended "Without Dogma".

August 20, 1928 – Sam to Anne

C.Juarez, Chih. Mexico  
August 20<sup>th</sup> 1928

Dear Anne:-

This is in reply to your hasty little note of Aug. the 17<sup>th</sup>. What's again disturbing your peace – I wonder? Just because I have not written any sooner? Did not you promise to be real "nice" or do not you know that you are spoiling me that way, or is it because you know that I cannot get any worsen. This also shows that you haven't read yet "without dogma" for you still do not know me. Though I know better yet I can not change myself for as Ploszowsky says it "In order to change myself I should have to order at an anatomist a new set of nerves and keep those I have for special occasions".

Remember also what's now said about us "In spite of all your good qualities it will come to this that you will always be a cause of suffering and anxiety to those who love you".  
I thank you and hope you get wise indeed and laugh at what ridiculous is.

I am your friend  
Sam

## August 22, 1928 – Sam to Anne

C.Juarez. Shih. Mexico  
August 22 – 1928

Good-morning-Good-morning! How do you do?

If you did not get that certain book<sup>3</sup> yet – I can try and get it for you in the El Paso library, if it is in. I would mail it to you and then you would have to promise to send it back sometime.

I am glad you have had a good time at the wedding<sup>4</sup>. I had in mind to telegraph my congratulations but it escaped my attention somehow and I am sorry. It is up to you now to make it good, for I sincerely wish them good luck.

My best regards to Mr. Schwartz<sup>1</sup> as well as to Sam Berenstein<sup>2</sup> if I happen to see them again.

As to my trip to N.Y. I did not decide yet. I personally do not care whether she<sup>5</sup> is Blond or Brunette – should she only satisfy the whimsical in me.

Nor have I heard yet as to my possible journey to Mexico City – I may though, this week.

I shall probably not go straight to Palestine from there, I do not remember having promised to say good bye in person before leaving – Have I really promised such thing?

If you ever go to N.Y. you will certainly be glad to be back in old San Francisco, yet you shall enjoy having seen it...for tht is something immense.

I am fine, though I am not feeling very good – How can one feel good in such a state of things when one is not here nor there.

My thoughts ? you would probably call them stubborn and if I knew it – would it help me?

The renewal of my visa was meant for my ?eal crossing only – I may not be able to go home as early as for Rosh-Ashono.

I really do not know what's wrong with your letter or whether something is wrong at all – I believe you are kidding me.

“Tell me something”. What shall I say? If what I should say can not be utterly pleasant, constructive, refreshing or promising, don't you think – I'd better keep my mouth shut...?

The weather here is not bad at all – nights especially are indescribably pleasant – Juarez is booming as usual. Pleasure seekers from the U.S. abound; beer though it's good did not get any cheaper, Mexicans did not want to bathe all of a sudden they still talk of revolutions, graft and corruption reigning everywhere – though Abregon is dead nor did I get any smarter though older I am.

Yours true,  
Sam

Footnotes:

1. I do not know who Mr. Schwartz is
2. I do not know who Sam Berenstein is
3. He means "Without Dogma" mentioned in previous letters.
4. Whose wedding?
5. Who is this?
- 6.

August 29, 1928

{this letter is from Clara Friedman, Sam's sister, to Anne Licht}

Aug 29 –1928

Los Angeles Cal

Dear Anna.

I'm very sorry that I didn't write you all this time. You see I was very busy at home. I'm now very busy at my work, and have scarcely time to write to anybody.

Eva<sup>5</sup> was very sick, but now she is much better. She is staying in her mother's house<sup>2</sup>. We certainly went through a terrible experience when she was sick.

I certainly would be delighted if you and Ella<sup>1</sup> would come out to Los Angeles for your vacation. I'm very sure that you would have a very nice time. Of course you wouldn't be cruel enough to put up at a hotel instead of staying over at my house. You know that you and Ella are both welcome at my house. About the pictures; Sam didn't send them to me yet, but he will probably send them soon.



I'm working at a different place now. I lost my job because I stayed home when my mother<sup>3</sup> was sick.

We are all well and hope to hear the same from you. Give my regards to everybody. I hope to have you and Ella at my house in the near future. Please don't disappoint me. Your loving friend

Clara<sup>4</sup>

Footnotes:

1. Ella is most likely Ella Sylvia Licht (1908-1956) – Anne's sister
2. Eva's mother would be Peske (Pauline) Levy Lipson (1880-1952)
3. Clara's mother would be Dina Shulman Friedman (1872-1952)
4. Clara is Clara Friedman (1904-1985), Sam Friedman's sister
5. Eva is Clara's sister-in-law, Eva (Libe) Lipson Friedman (1905-1977)...the wife of Solman Friedman, Sam's brother

## August 31, 1928 – Sam to Anne

C.Juarez Chih Mexido

August 31 – 1928

Dear Anne:-

From between the lines of your last letter I read that you got that certain book<sup>1</sup> already or, at least, you are about to get it soon. To tell you the facts about the plot would therefore be entirely unnecessary. Why then do you ask me to narrate you all that, you betray yourself by adding a little further "that you are anxious to know where exactly do I sympathize with the hero and in what sense do I cauchan? myself with him".

Whether my presumptions are correct or not I shall grant your request and say all I deem necessary – namely I shall quote you some of the main passages that appealed to me as utter truths so far as psychology is concerned or love and its doubts.

(Quotations are to follow)

The sentence you came across "When one is contented there is nothing more to be desired and when there is no more to be desired there is an end of it" ought not to interest us, for none of us is contented, I believe and we both expect yet something out of life – no matter how skeptically we may at times express ourselves about life – and its value to us. Otherwise "I could agree with the idea that for him who is contented and desires nothing more there is no more interest in life and his curtain falls.

The word, "chih " is the abbreviation of "Chihaha" and it is pronounced Chivava – the name of the state the city of Juarez belongs to.

Juarez is between Mexico and Los Angeles, not exactly halfway – from Juarez to Mexico is a 2.5 day journey – while from Los Angeles to El Paso or Juarez it takes only 24 hours. I should probably get my mail even if you would not say "lista di Correos" for they know me already in the Post office but it is not advisable to omit that indication.

I have a funny feeling that "you do not care to correspond" How am I to know what your feelings are ? and besides if your definition is right how would you expect a man in my age to entertain funny ideas or feelings. There is only one way to make yourself intelligible and that is to be real candid, utterly outspoken and of course you would also be then more consignment; for your last letter, Anne, is full of incongruities, as far as I can comprehend things. When corresponding with me starts in any way to interfere with your plans, happiness or state of mind, curb it right then. It may hurt my vanity, but so does it deserve. Now comes the second half of your letter. I believe you that you meant good and am also aware that you had in your mind to hit my conceitedness right over the head but I wonder whether you succeeded at all. I always knew, for instance, and even warned you against that fancy of yours and therefor I was not a bit even surprised to hear of this here new discovery of yours that you never really and truly cared, and this, proving that I understood well that I was right in my theory, only adds to my conceit probably.

(How would it feel anyway if you make such a discovery the very first month you got married.) Further. If my behavior towards you was that mean as of one under the impression, unjustly acquired that you are only waiting for him to say the word – I humbly beg your pardon. I personally do not remember having paraded? off that sordidly; at least I never should have done so intentionally or of my own initiative.

I have no time to type for you this morning the "annotations " I promised you – I shall do it these days – maybe yet today or tomorrow. I know I haven't covered all the ground, but I'll leave it for some other time. I am

Yours truly

Sam

Footnotes:

1. "Without Dogma" mentioned previously.

September 14, 1928 – Sam to Anne



March 12, 1929 - Sam to Anne

March 12, 1929  
Los Angeles, Cal

Dear Anne: -

The only benefit I have derived from reading "[Without Dogma](#)" is the satisfaction that I am not the only funny man on earth. I have also enjoyed seeing my twisted way of thinking reflected in that beautifully written diary. Yes, Anne, I can get this back any time I wish and if there is anything you want to say, discuss or throw at me – you are entirely welcome. I am glad I am back home. I was overbrimming with dullness while in San Francisco and here I have done away with all that. I find here plenty at what to keep busy and that is a perfect cure. My poor country is in flames and if things do not change I shall have no where to go. We shall see about that later.

I wanted to say goodbye to you before I left and have phoned you on Saturday evening but you were not there to say one thing or another. Now, is that nice?

Come on write I really am interested in the impression the book in question has made on you. Of course it will be hard to change views in correspondence but we can try any way – I thank you beforehand and awaiting your letter, I am

Your friend Sam

Your funny friend anyway, or how would you tease me “the whimsical one.”

I thank you.

March 18, 1929 – Anne to Sam

{letter is typewritten}

San Francisco, Calif

March 18, 1929.

Dear Sam:

I am going to heartily agree with you when you say it is beautifully written. In the beginning of the book I had no sympathy with our hero, but as the narration of the story progressed, I found myself liking him more and more and in due time I was feeling just a little bit sorry for him. That doesn't say that he isn't to blame for wrecking his own happiness as well as that of his loved one. He could have made his own life a happy one, and she would have been doubly as happy. What did all his crooked thinking net him, but on the other hand see what it cost him. Didn't that make you stop and think that here is an instance wherein the reader might profit by the hero's blunders. I know that it taught me that from now on I will have to do my thinking in a straighter line.

I know that we can't have everything, so I'm going to find out what it is, that I, as an individual, need to make me happy, and then I'm not going to give up until I get it. Some want fame, some require love, some want understanding, and some want knowledge, but no matter what it is, once you find what you would rather have, go after it and don't rest until you reach that goal. We mustn't lose sight of this though, that it is impossible that one person will be able to give us all we want. Sam, don't philosophy your life away as he did. I think that it is by far better to grasp at even the slightest bit of happiness, than to let it all go by you while you are sitting still and analyzing everything. I wish I knew how to express myself more clearly to you, because I sure would enjoy seeing you aiming at a definite goal. Above all, don't feel sorry for yourself, because Life is just what one makes it. This probably sounds like a lot of applesauce and silly nonsense, but I really mean it all, and I am aiming all this talk at myself, even more than at you. I'm just as much in the dark.

Let me know when you get the book please. I want you to read of couple of paragraphs. I am going to say at this time, "Thank you very much for the book." I enjoyed it as much as you did, even though I was impressed it with differently.

Sam, will the revolution affect you in any way? Aren't you supposed to be there now? Will you be able to be with your folks for Pesach if you stay so long in L.A. now? When you haven't anywhere to go, just let me know.

So you were dull in San Francisco. Well, at least you can say that it was your own fault. I would have been glad to drive the dullness away, but too much pride! Anyway you have everyone fooled here, as they are all under the impression that you had an unusually good time this trip, and I'm not going to dispel their illusion.

I'm sorry that I wasn't home to receive your call, as I would have liked to say goodbye to you. I thought that you would phone Friday to see how my headache and cold was, but you didn't, so I surely couldn't expect you to call Saturday.

How is everyone in your home-town? How is Clara and the rest of the family? Did they move?

{The rest of the letter is handwritten}

I'm awfully glad that they are keeping you so busy. I'm doing rather well myself.

I'm going to stop now to catch my breath. I sure have talked enough for one time. I hope I've said at least a few logical things. If I haven't, please point out to me where I failed, as I can learn okay if I am shown where I'm wrong.

(my reply to letter dated march 12<sup>th</sup>.)

{I think the typed story from "The Forsyte Saga" was folded up and inserted with this letter, on the back of that it says: "Jon's father is relating the story." And elsewhere it says "The Forsyte Saga". Both notes are written in pencil.}

{She didn't sign the letter.}

March 29, 1929 – Sam to Anne

El Paso, Texas

March 29 – 1929

Dear Anne:-

I am in the library now in El Paso and wishing to remind you of me I am writing. I received yours of March the 18<sup>th</sup> in its due time. I thank you and again I must say that it is hard to change one's nature and it is doubly hard when experimenting you and with no right whatever risking the life and happiness of another person. I have the book and you can at any time cite or indicate any paragraph you wish me to read or study.



I am trying to renew my permits and if I succeed, I shall be soon back to Los Angeles.

I am here since last Monday and hope not to stay too long.

Your last letter is very logical indeed and I am glad you had enjoyed reading "W.D" from your first remarks on that Masha Elman evening one would devise that you did not get thru another at all, for sympathy is Understanding and you had no sympathy for him whatever then – Did you?

I am far from having a good time, even being that close to my "hometown". I do not know. I feel out of place wherever I am. Work is my only "Cure" for only then I forget myself. It is awfully bad to understand and yet not have the will power required to live your own life and now, I remember a name that a friend of mine would always call me, a friend that knew my good – it seems. He would call me in Russian "Gamaida" in English it may read "Hamaida"<sup>1</sup> I shall look it up what the encyclopedia says, but before I do it, I feel the meaning of the word and that is unfitness to realize a single thought or wish. Always musing – dreaming – fighting with yourself but what better action.

I thank you.

Yours truly

Sam.

P.S. Write if you please to Los Angeles.

Footnote:

1. Hamaida is a muslim boy's name meaning Talented, or lucky or "no meaning"...

April 10, 1929 – Sam to Anne

Letterhead:

Plant Phone

668-333

Office Phone

668-333

Iowa Creamery Company, Inc.

Manufacturers, Wholesalers and Retailers of

BUTTER AND ICE CREAM

ALSO MILK AND CREAM

STORE AND PLANT: 144 AMERICAN AVENUE

LONG BEACH, CALIF.

Los Angeles, Cal

4/10 – 29

Dear Anne:-

I recently came from El Paso, but no letters on the address of 138 N. Clarence were received. I wonder how could my mail get lost and what was that letter about. I also wonder why did you suspect that this particular letter would get lost? I hope you write me soon. With best regards I am – yours t-y

Sam

I got my permit up to August the 1<sup>st</sup>.

May 22, 1929 – Sam to Anne

Letterhead:

FRIEDMAN BAG CO.

Wholesale Dealers in all Kinds of Burlap and Cotton Sacks  
138 North Clarence Street

(Between 1400 and 1500 Block of East First Street)

Telephone: Angelus 0509

Los Angeles Calif.....5/22 1929

Dear Anne: -

I have written you previously c/o your residence address 527 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue and should I have made any mistake that letter or letters would have come back – I have not seen any back yet. It is funny and suspicious. I am therefore addressing this to what I think is your place of business. I am quite busy lately we have bought that certain property I have been talking about in my previous letters, and it will be quite a task arranging things properly.

We are all well and expect to celebrate the acquisition of this three story building for our business thru a party that we are going to throw. Would not you come to the party?

Clare was not feeling well – she thought she was very grave but the doctors appeased her and she is satisfied that she is not. “Msikon” I was surprised to hear that you have not received any letters from me and was going to answer you the very minute I received your note, but blame it all on the building we are all pleasantly excited over same, for we needed it badly and bout it very reasonably.

Among other things that I have bought reasonably lately are a lot of books – Hebrew and English that I have gotten from Mr. J. M? Alkon an important figure a scholar in this city that is leaving for Palestine. This shall be the beginning of my collection of books for my own library. What do you know – what is going on in San Francisco – How are your folks and everybody else. I thank you and hope to hear from you soon – Your friend  
Sam

June 5, 1929 – Sam to Anne

Friedman Bag Co. Letterhead



Los Angeles Calif 6/5 1929

Dear Anne: -

I received your letter of May 31<sup>st</sup> and thank you for your attention. The Party in question is to be held somewhere and sometime but it has not been decided yet. We are very busy moving our " Biliches" and will not be ready before two weeks from today.

The proper thing to wear would be "overalls" for it is strictly formal do. I have seen "the strange Interlude" and I also thought it interesting on account its being original but it seemed to me I must admit, monotonous somehow; there was a bit of Philosophy and truth too but very little "peppy" life. I did read the book before I have seen it and may be this was the reason I fell asleep many a time during the performance. I did enjoy immensely " Cognetti" I admit I did not think Mary Could do as well. You say that the weather is one of the finest in your city and Yllzick writes just the contrary, so I do not know who is the " ligger" this time. I certainly pity your having that little to do attending to shows, dances, parties and business. Why one would feel awfully ? with that little on hand.

Affairs of the heart and social are kind of undeveloped with me – No one to play the strings on my harp and at times I think that no more "Marishkaiten" for me. I hate to say so and I would not believe it but still it is so almost. I shall call this a letter and say good bye – for there are duties and a lot of them.

You know there is a P.O. Box right in the front of our new location and that makes it quite easier to keep up correspondence. In other times I would keep a letter in my pocket for days before I would mail it.

My best regards to you and everybody else that wants to know where and how I am.

The shriners are here but I have not time to spare for them – If they are "nobles" they will forgive me – write often for I have a P.O. box right in front of my office –  
Sam

June 15, 1929 – Sam to Anne

Friedman Bag Co. Letterhead

Los Angeles Calif 6/15 -1929

Dear Anne: -

I do not think there is any necessity for me to declare myself as a friend. By doing so I would only emphasize that there is something dubious about it and I do not want you to doubt in my friendship.

I knew you had miserable weather and I therefore invited you for the party, so that you can see for yourself what a glorious sunshine we are having in this Angels town. You can come in rags or in de luxe gowns. You shall be free to dance or yawn, eat or gluttonize and the drinking too shall be as the democratic laws provide no compelling It will take place on Sunday the 30<sup>th</sup> of June in the year of the Lord One thousand nine hundred twenty and nine.

As to my promise about album inscription I did not forget. I am simply busy and do not think lately at all.

I have not seen "showboat" but I shall try to look it over. As much as to Joseph Schileradt's art I am somewhat skeptical about it. I do not believe at least I do not see any greatness in any of his pictures He is just a son of a great father (may he forgive me).

To hold a letter over until next week for one or another reason is a crime and you shall be punished severely unless you repent sincerely and promise not to do that again never never never. No see: how much better I am than you – you would let me have once a week only one single sheet letter and I am not generous - --- am writing at least four pages letters and am mailing them the very minute they leave the press. I mean the very minute they are born unless it happens I put them in one of my hidden pockets and do not discover them until the next day or so, well I am only human. What can I do.

Good-bye – be a good girl. I must do today a lot yet though it is Sunday – Regards to everyone – yours truly

Sam

## July 8, 1929 – Sam to Anne

July 8<sup>th</sup> 1929

Dear Anne:-

I received yours of July 5<sup>th</sup>. The "Party" has not taken place yet and how could it without you. I could have broken many hearts, could I ?

If you really are having your vacation now I would suggest that you come over to L.A. I shall try to entertain you to the best of my abilities. I mean it. I have not read a thing for months. Nor have I seen any particularly good show worth while talking about. We are having a funny season in our business and it keeps us all busy guessing and trying.

I hope to hear from you soon.

Your friend

Sam

## July 12, 1929 – Sam to Anne

July 12, 1929

Dear Anne:-

If the letter you refer to is written with a pencil, addressed to 527 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue and has something whimsical in it – it is mine.

My handwriting may have looked to you somewhat different due to a short pencil I have used. I am sorry then I shall use no more pencils in writing to you.

Are you satisfied? What now? Tell me something....

Yours truly and respectfully

Sam

When are you coming over?

## August 1, 1929 – Sam to Anne

August 1<sup>st</sup> 1929

C. Juarez, Chi. Mexico

Dear Anne: -

I received your letter of July 19 in Los Angeles yet, but the fact that it was not signed and that I was pretty busy getting things straightened out before leaving – had something to do with my not answering any sooner.

And now I am back in old Mexico with plenty of time and patience to act? Dig and analyze, what enables me to answer even unsigned correspondences.

I have read in this morning's paper as to how "liberal" your San Francisco is and I thought that it may do you San Franciscan's good if you learn what the world thinks of you. Fox? Sox? May have added to your city beauty and all that....but we free and sovereign Mexican's do not fall for that stuff....

Now, now let's not get funny ourselves – Being too serious is not becoming for a member of a "young folks league". Young folks you know must play a little more. And that is how the whimsical play: they spend their vacations working and killing hours of their best time in reciprocating. "How do you do "courtesies, they call "Play".

If it was whimsical of me to invite you to spend your vacation in our encity?, how much more would it be if I wished my "Goluth"<sup>1</sup> now should happen to be somewhere in your region (instead of El Paso), where I could freely study myself without embarrassing you in the least. You see I believe that the worst I may have done to you during my capricious eruptions wa to embarrass you in the eyes of onlookers. The spectators thought your pride was hurt but I know it was not; it could not have been hurt for I always was more than frank with you. I have always almost turned my inside out for you, no matter how hard it was for me to do so and wishing thus today I commenced serving my \_\_\_\_\_ days sentence here in C.Juarez Chih. Mexico.

I am yours truly

Sam

My address is  
S. Friedman  
Lista de correas  
C.Juarez, Chih. Mex.

August 5, 1929 – Anne to Sam?

{I do not know who this letter is from – it is typewritten on brown paper, much folded and torn across the middle from use – I suspect it is from Anne Licht}

August 5, 1929  
10\*30 A.M.

Dear Sam:

Well here I am back again at work, and let me tell you that I sure am glad to be here too. I had a lovely time during those two weeks, but believe you me, there's nothing like work to drive worry away. See what power you have over women? I received your letter at 9:30 and it is now 10:30.

I'm most awfully sorry, but I'll have to ask you to go into greater detail concerning the last paragraph in your letter. I don't understand what you're trying to tell me, and I would be very grateful to you for explaining. I didn't know in the first place, that I had any spectators to be so vitally interested in my doings, and in the second place Sam, I haven't any pride where my real friends are concerned. Can you be frank enough with me to tell me what made you speak on this subject? Another thin, I'm very seldom embarrassed either by or through, people whom I like.

I don't feel any different now that I've read the enclosed article, as I've never lost any sleep over what the world in general thinks of San Francisco. Good or bad, it doesn't matter to me no-how. One city is just as good as another as long as you're happy there.

I went to see Maurice Schwartz<sup>1</sup> in "Lower Depths"<sup>2</sup>. I thought if {her error} excellent. The make-up was wonderful and the players were in good form. Have you seen them in that? There were some Gentiles in front of us, who, after each act, would turn around and ask me, "Would I please interpret what they had just said?" I think they enjoyed the play as much as I did. Would you go to a play that was being produced in a language that you were unfamiliar with?

How is everything with you? Do you stay in the same place as before? How long are you going to be gone? How is the weather? Have you read anything good lately? What do you do with yourself, and why????? You may answer one question at a t time. As to my not signing my last letter, I assure you that it was unintentional. Hoping that you accept my very humble apology, and assuring you that it shan't happen again, I am,

{no signature present!}

August 13, 1929 – Sam to Anne

C. Juarez, Chih. Mexico  
August 13 – 1929

Dear Anne: -

Received at 9:30 and answered within an hour at 10: 30 the very day is more than I have ever wished and I thank you sincerely for your attention. It is great news to me and good news too, that I possess somehow extraordinary power over the fair sex. I shall try it out and see for myself whether it really is a fact.

I do not remember, Anne, what my last paragraph was in my previous letter. I do not believe it worth while chewing? Anyway.

I do stay in the same place 309 Avenida a Lerdo a very neat clean room in Mexico. I do not intend to stay here very long though I thought at first that this was going to be a long stay. When this letter reaches you I may be back in Los Angeles or on my way thru. In these days of Dirigibles and Zeps one can hardly afford to spend in a city like Juarez more than a week or two. I can not say that I dislike this little vacation but nor can I say I am enjoying it. The beer is excellent and so are the chicken livers...  
Sh sh do not talk of it aloud.

The weather here is beautiful. In fact I like it here better than in Los Angeles. I is somewhat warmer but I just love the air here. I am reading now a very good book " Jean Cristophe" by Romain Rolland, but as the speed of 15 or 20 pages per day I do not see when I can ever finish it, but I do not care if it lasts me a long long time. Good books as good things one wishes they never end.

No, dear one, that party never took place and all on account of you.

"Talk to me"

During my short stay here I have seen

River Romance

Dangerous curves

The Man and the Moment

And one more "shmate". None is worth while talking about with the exception may be of "River Romance" which is half decent.

I have visited my friends here, they are all progressing materially but no great changes occurred in their spiritual life – it's quite dull. Mexico is enjoying peace today and I presume it would be interesting to take a trip to the Capital but here I am – they renewed my passport so eagerly that I dare not go elsewhere but to Los Angeles, I dodge being laughed at probably...How is San Francisco? And how are you – your folks? Benny and his family? I thank you again for your attention and awaiting your further saying – I am

Yours truly Sam

September 15, 1929 – Sam to Anne

Sep. 15 – 1929

Dear Anna: -

I am sorry I could not write you any sooner. This is due to my secretary's indulging in vacations and consequently I am all "Business" I was certainly glad to hear that the Jolly Banathanes turned to serious work such as the "Madasaks" I congratulate you with your new and worthy promotion.

Better suggestions than I can give you as to how and what to do you can probably take from your Seniors Madasaks for they have their places? Plans? Constitution and rules to go by, while I an outsider know only of their glorious work they have done in the past. I would love of course to attend your meetings.

As to Opera's I would not mind to hear one or two but nobody invites me and to go by myself is rather selfish, so I talk it into myself most of the time that I am tired and am staying home.

I am going to stay here another five months, but I am not sure I'll stay all this time in L. A. I am too lonesome. I can not make friends as fast as I would want to. I am as handicapped as a girl almost and maybe more

Your friend

Sam

How are you? And how is everybody else?

Our new address is 2325 E. Second str.

I thank you

October 7, 1929

October 7 - 1929

Dear Anne: -

The following is a letter I have written to you on 9/22 – but failed to mail due to criminal negligence on my part:

I received your little note which starts with "Smatter" in reply to same I beg to state that I did receive the letter you are referring to and even answered it. Somewhat later than I should have but it did not remain unanswered . And as to the word "smatter" I do not know what did I ever

do to you that you are calling me “names”? I am fine – Working as usual. Nothing exciting is happening; it is drifting along...

Our new address is 2325 E. Second str. And no letter even bearing an old address should get lost unless the Post man happens to be very very naughty. How are you? Your work how is that? I mean in the “Hadasah” is it progressing and bearing fruit? I am yours truly

And now I am adding. Since then I have received your Communication of Sep 21<sup>st</sup> I sincerely thank you for your invitation but believe me I can not go I congratulate your sister with her new born Baby {Anne’s sister Leah Licht Lanfeld had a baby on Sept 15, 1929...Sylvia Lanfeld} may she raise it in good health and in comfort.

Our family is fine – We prayed for a good year and we had all our friends in mind.

No, Anne, I have not heard of Eileen Hubbard’s books. Tell me is it worth while reading.

I do very little reading or none at all except daily papers of course if there is something interesting.

I wish you a happy and dream fulfilling year. May all your wishes come true –  
Your friend

Sam

## November 30, 1929 – Sam to Anne

11/30 – 29

{Envelope: to Miss Anne Licht/333 Clay Str./ San Francisco, Cal; from S. Friedman 2325 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Los Angeles, Cal}

Dear Anne:-

Who owes whom a greeting? I have not heard from you since some time. Who or what is to blame. I have heard of the misfortune... {he may be speaking of Anne’s aunt Rebecca Maltzer Friedman, her mother’s sister who was married to Morris Friedman SF} and with you together I am mourning her death. I hope you are getting over it, by now. Nothing new or good has developed in my little world. The stock market has affected our business, though we did not speculate on the open market and things do not look as bright as I would want them to.



How are you? Have you lost money – how much? Do not worry – Better times are coming – they say – so let's hope – No use feeling blue about a few coppers.

My address is still 600 Aliso Street or 2325 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> so do not forget and don't you take me off your mailing list.

I thank you and with kind regards I am,

Your friend  
Sam

January 25, 1930 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
January 25 1930

Dear Anne: -

One of our competitors who visited us in our plant recently, when he heard us dissatisfied with the business, exclaimed: "You, too? Please Mr. Friedman – Don't you complain things turn real disgusting and it seems there is no more hope for the bag business if all one hears is of complaints, dissatisfactions, and hopeless S.O.S. outcries." This remark impressed me greatly – there was frankness and truth. Therefore, when I read your little note of how happy you were both and wished me to be as happy when I met my girl, I felt wonderful strengthened in my beliefs that fate must have somewhere a little happiness for me too.

I was getting ready to send you the conventional greetings congratulations and sincere wishes when there came the news that your engagement broke off all of a sudden.

I am all mixed up again and I am wondering again: is happiness that short day-d; what is standing in your way? Could it be old folks "yichus" {a Yiddish word that means lineage, or bragging rights based on respected family history} prejudice? Will you let little things interfere with the realization of your dreams? Or is there no happiness at all? I would love to know if I only may, what has really happened. As to news in my corner, I will submit the following. Simon is fine – almost well. The little boy's name is "Efraim" {this would be Eva and Sol's son Ephraim, born Jan 1, 1930}. I have not seen nor heard anything out of the ordinary. Though every little thing impresses me one way or another, I do not think I can discuss it successfully in a letter; less so in a language somewhat foreign to me. I am leaving Los Angeles in one of these days and you can write to me c/o:

S. Friedman  
Lista de correos  
Cindad de Mexico.

Thanking you for your listening to as long a “Megillah” {a Yiddish word meaning a lengthy, detailed explanation or account}. I am

Your friend “Sam”

{on the back of page 3 of this letter is a penciled note that says “I wrote no answer.”}

## February 24, 1930 – Sam to Anne

Postcard {in an envelope to: Miss Anne Licht c/o 333 Clay str, San Francisco, Cal, EUA; from S. Friedman Lista de Correos, Mexico D. F.}

Hugo Brehme, propiedad Asegurada, Av. Madero No. 1, México, D.F.

Velvet Green Kodak/ Place Stamp Here  
Correspondence Address

Feb. 24 – 1930

Greetings from Mexico City

This is “our” Post-office when one comes more than once daily to see what with do his better friends remember him today. Expect to leve for C. Juarez on about the 9<sup>th</sup> of March. In the meantime I am killing time most successfully

Sam

## April 21, 1930 – Clara to Anne

Los Angeles Cal.

April 21, 1930

Dear Anne<sup>1</sup>:

I know you are angry at me for not writing to you but I really did not have a chance to. When I first arrived **Anne** {Anya Friedman Spector?} and the baby<sup>2</sup> weren't feeling well and I had to help out. Then after that came Pasach and I certainly had my hands full. I had to stop working in the shop for a couple of days and then lost my 8 ? but anyway I got another one.

Please don't think that because I didn't write to you that I didn't have you in mind all the time.

I thank you very much but I really can't get away for a vacation but as for you stopping off here you certainly are welcome and I'm sure we could have a lovely time together.

Everyone is ok here. Give my regards to everyone there. Don't forget to answer

P.S. give my regards to the boys and tell me when you see **Sydney** {I don't know who this is}.

Love and kisses.

Clara<sup>3</sup>

1. Anne Licht – married Clara's brother Sam on 8 March 1931...about a year after this letter.
2. The baby is probably Ephraim Friedman, Clara's nephew born Jan 1 1930
3. Clara Friedman

## 1931 – no date – Bassya to Anne

Handmade card on pink paper with a raised metal monogrammed B on the front

On the front is typewritten diagonally: Congratulations to Sam and Ann

Inside it says:

Dear Cousin Ann:

Somebody's been a-whispering,  
Secrets out this way,  
Guess it was about some wedding bells  
Going to ring someday.  
Didn't mention any names  
Honest I confess---  
But here is Congratulations,  
How is that for a guess.

Bassya

{I am guessing this is Bassya (Betty) Maltzer Friedman Bibel (1908-1980). She married Sol Friedman (not Sam's brother...the other Friedman family) in 1927 and married Philip Bibel in 1932.}

January 6, 1931 – Sam to Anne

{Envelope addressed to: Miss Anne Licht/ 527 14<sup>th</sup> Ave./ San Francisco, Cal; and from: S. Friedman 600 Aliso str./ Los Angeles, Cal; postmarked Jan 6 12 pm 1931 Arcade Sta. 9 Los Angeles, Calif.; with a 2 cent stamp.}

Los Angeles, Cal  
January 6 – 1931

Good day my bashful Bay-e-bee.

By the time this letter of mine reaches you, I hope you will have arrived safely home and straightened out accounts with Mr. Morpheus. I went home to bed immediately after you left and believe me I got even...I slept until about 11.30 and I felt wonderful getting up. I sang as usual while dressing and washing but this time it was a singing full of hope and joy as I never sang before. I am happy, dear, and if they can't see it it is their own fault. I love everything and forgive everybody. – It is a beautiful day and it harmonizes with everything in me; but even if it rained I would love it.

While washing I heard some boys holler on the street something like "Extra – Extra" and the first thought that flashed my mind was you and I prayed it does not announce any accident. It turned out to be peddlers announcing their wares, and I was happy again.

I can not get over, dear, your great confidence in yourself and in me, your great love which inspires me and fills my heart with a joy, I am afraid, no man has ever experienced.

I am back at my work in the office, expediting the most urgent work and whatever I do I remember the wonderful friend I have now and am looking forward to the day when things will permit me to join you again.

The girl has not come back yet and I am wondering whether I should get another one or wait.

How is my bashful Bayebee?

How is she? What does she do. How has the San Francisco world greeted her. Enclosed you will find another telegram received from some Meyers people. Who are they? God bless them and you too. How is everybody? My best regards to father, mother! Ella, Benny, Lea and Meyer and Co. and the finest of love to my understanding and sweetest of girls. Just a little kiss and smell and I am off to my duties again.

Your narisher {means foolish one in Yiddish} but lucky

Sam.

Please write a lot and often.

January 7, 1931 – ? to Anne

1/7/31

Dear Anne:

Excuse the note, but I want to tell you how happy I am, and also want to say that Sam will worship you to the end.

May you both be very happy,

Love

Will? Mil? ???? {not sure who is writing this}

{Written in pen on an unlined yellow memo pad with perforations at the top}

January 8, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
January 8 – 1931

Dearest: -

I received your lovely letter announcing your safe arrival. I thank you. I shall do as you ask me to, dear – and will start towards San Francisco, sometime next year. – say Wednesday. Will that be alright. All I want you to allow me to come in my own machine, as I would not feel very well using someone elses. I will have mine cleaned and polished and it must look not bad at all.

What do you say – Yasci?Jasci?

You are a darling the way you have put those few words for my folks. You have certainly won their love and finest of sympathy and let me tell you they are the most happy parents one can imagine. I wish your folks think of me as much as my all family is wild about you. Of course you

can call them Father and Mother; they will love it. If your folks do not mind I will too call them and consider them as such. – And may be it is too early yet?

Dear I am overflowing with Joy when I consider what a mench {Yiddish word that means a person of integrity, morality, dignity with a sense of what is right and responsible} I am getting for a friend. I am lying awake nights and just can not make out how wonderfully good I have made. I am Jealous of my own happiness and I pray to God that he may watch our same with the same Jealousy I would.

We have guests, dear, and I can't close myself up for much longer – and I want this to leave by air mail, so forgive me – I shall do better next time.

My sincerest and best regards to your folks and the loftiest of loves to you my own.

Your Sam

## January 9, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
January 9 – 1931

Sweetheart: -

It is Shabath eve almost and I just came from the down town and found the shop closed already. I will not be able to write from home, I know that. I shall do all I can right now. Then may be a letter waiting for me home who knows. It all depends how much she cares – eh?

I received a few lines from our Betty {Bassya Maltzer Friedman Bibel, Anne's first cousin thru Betty's father-Ben Tzion Maltzer and Sam's first cousin thru Betty's mother – Malka Spector} and this is what she says among others

“There is nothing like having a real friend in your life and what can be nearer or dearer than the one you are marrying.”

She also says she anticipated this end to the story.

And here is how she helps spoiling me

“You possess one of those rare treasures which I can appreciate. May Anne see it understand, and live up to it. I am sure she loves you and when one loves, one tries to understand where above everything else”

What does my Baby say? Are you missing me really? How bad? Also last night I was awake for hours thinking of you. I asked you for one more little kiss and you so charmingly sent me away with “beat it – beat it-come on – that will be enough for tonight – “

Good night friend

Good night.

Your Sam

## January 10, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
January 10 – 1931

Dear friend of mine: -

You are all mistaken – Your letters did not come all at once; they just came in time.

When I came home yesterday I did find a letter waiting for me and this morning coming home for lunch I was pleasantly surprised again with a special delivery one. I thank you dear for your attention!

As I said in a previous letter, I am about to leave L.A. on Wednesday and all I am waiting for you to allow me to come in my machine {this means by car} instead of by train.

We all sincerely thank you for your invitation extended to me and my folks to stay over at yours over Pesach. I most gratefully accept and so would probably, my mother be delighted to join you but as to my father it is quite dubious – he loves his own corner and would not consider spending his Pesach away from home as a treat. {Pesach in 1931 started on the evening of April 1.} Still, there is plenty of time yet left to discuss this.

Annie and Lily are fine, so is everybody else. None of our folks can so easy get over the excitement and they still love to get together and just discuss how could this all have happened and how did it happen.

Come here Baby – Just one little kiss....

I shall try to draw a list of all our friends we think should get your announcements.

How I am? I am fine. How are you? - I am trying to dispose of as much work as possible – I have not failed yet to have my malteds and I am all the time thinking of you – How wonderfully good

you are to me and how much happiness is waiting for us. Do I want you to buy me anything – No, really I do not – I am happy and will be, I hope, without any presents. Do you believe me? But you are a darling just the same, when you think of me in such terms. You are wonderful and I shall know how to appreciate you.

I have nothing against the date of March 15 – and you can plan accordingly. I forgot to ask you to thank in my name all those that congratulated me – Ring up Betty and tell her that I thank her very much so for the lovely few words. I do not think that highly of myself but I appreciate her enthusiasm and am sure that her wishes come from the depth of her heart. And so – with lots of love for you and your folks, I am (are you still bashful BAYEBEE)

Your Sam

## January 10, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal

January 10 – 1931

Dear Anne: - Allow me to make just a little correction to my letter I have just mailed a few hours ago and which you are to get together with this note probably. Father thinks that the 15<sup>th</sup> is not the proper date, for it is the 26<sup>th</sup> day of the Jewish month - "Adar" – and it is not customary to wed the last days of the month. He recommends therefore either the 8<sup>th</sup> of March which is the 19<sup>th</sup> day in "Adar" or the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March which is the 4<sup>th</sup> day in the month of "Nissan."

I hope this does not interfere with your other plans – If it does – say so, dear, ana we shall think of other dates, more appropriate. Good night, friend – forgive me for not chatting somewhat longer which I would love of course – I have to go far to mail this – I am sleepy – Brucha<sup>1</sup> is waiting for me to take her home – Three reasons for not being nice enough – Am I forgiven? But, a little bite I must get anyway – eh? That's a good girl --- Thanks – Pretty soon I am going to dream of ----- a lot of pleasant things, believe me.

G-night – g.night –

Your Sam

Footnotes:

1. Brucha – I think he means Brucha Friedman Kanefsky (1883-1937), his aunt, sister to his father Israel Friedman



January 11, 1931

Los Angeles, Cal  
January 11 – 1931  
10. P.M.

Dearest: -

I tore away from the party given in honour of Harry's engagement to be with you even just for a few moments. You are too good to be forgotten even for a single moment, for if I do not write and mail before 11.00 P.M. you would have no letter from me tomorrow; and that shall not be, of course.

Sweetheart, I received today your fourth letter special delivery. Why – your remark about my car being good enough for you even if it was falling apart indebted me to you with a gratitude and love sublime, almost super – Why I am dying to see you and show you how grateful I can be. Why – honest – I do not deserve all this – I am too happy – I am, really I am overflowing . . . Tell me indeed who's Baby is yours? What with have I ingratiated myself with you that strongly? What have I done? What makes you think that your folks care for me that much?

For the time being – let me have just a little smack a tiny one – and I will close – I could go on for hours and tell you how my love for you grows hourly – but ...there is the party waiting and then you may not believe me anyway – Just one real tiny one and I am off –

Prunes

Gnight – thanks  
A lot

Your Sam

January 12, 1931

Los Angeles, Cal  
January 12 – 1931

Dear Anne: -

First I wish to correct myself for mistake that fell in on my last night's, in a hurry, written letter. Please scratch out the words "almost superb" and have instead "and most superb". Almost everything I write is impressed in my memory and I can think of a lot of other mistakes I have

made in my recent letters to you, like the word “won” I have spelled with a V instead of a W and other little things that leave you uneasy. Did you correct everything wrong you have noticed – you did thank you dear.

Well how have you been? You must have been pretty busy yesterday if you could not provide on with a word or two. I am not judging you though. I know there may be more than one good and justified reason for your not writing, but still it is not pleasant. I must admit.

The party at the Waxes {see below} was something exquisite, and I was pleasantly surprised at their fine taste. I shall tell you all about it, of course, when I see you. Everybody there seemed to know that I was engaged and I had to extend a world of thanks for the many congratulations and good wishes hurled at me one after the other – Would not one be the happiest on earth if all these wishes came true?

Dear, your present for Harry and Fannie {Harry is Harry Friedman, Sam’s brother, who married Fannie Wax on June 7, 1931 in L.A.} was one of the most outstanding ones and Fannie thanked me (mind you) and asked me to grant you one extra kiss for that. Will you ever distinguish that extra one, tell me? If you will you can count with a dozen now; is it agreed upon?

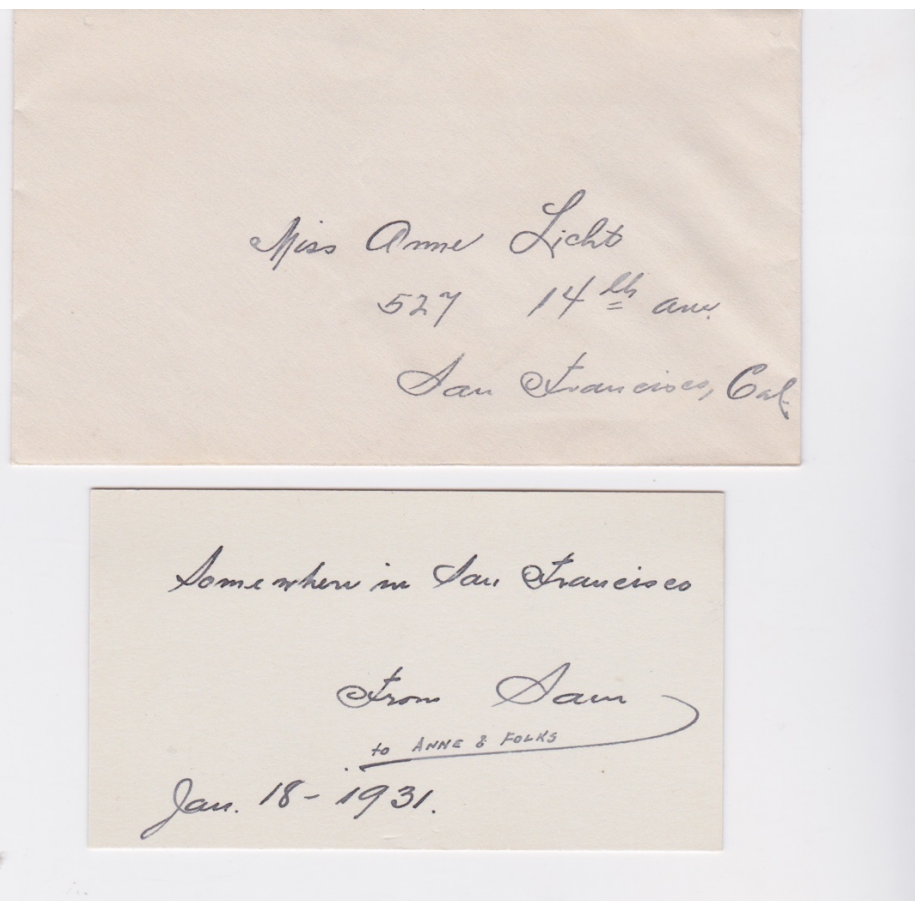
That’s a good girl. I thank you for your attention and will close. I probably shall not write anymore because I have a lot of things to attend tomorrow and if I can I would love to leave tomorrow and stay overnight somewhere half way between L.A. and S. F. –

Good night, friend. I hope you still like me even though you have not written to me yesterday –

Just a little tiny kiss and I’ll let you go.

Your Sam

January 18, 1931 – Sam to Anne



January 29, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
January 29, 1931

Sweetheart: -

It certainly was a pleasure to hear your voice from hundred miles away as clear as that. Why – it seemed you were standing next to me and everything you had to say was so much caressing. You are wonderful, dear, and I am proud of you. I got up this morning with a head ache which came from smoke that invaded the room from a neighbor burning rubbish; this I must admit, I dislike in Los Angeles and when I am elected Mayor I shall seek to remedy this evil. I feel a little better now but not as good as in the City, I mean in San Francisco. I am wondering whether there is a letter from you waiting for me home. I am afraid not, for mother just talked to me and has not mentioned a thing about a letter. I took yesterday Mr. Verdi to his hotel, sat then a while and after making him to see that he too is tired and a rest will do him good I left him and went home. When I lied down listening to sweet music. I got up in time to call you and happy to hear that everything was well I went to bed.

Mr. Verdi, dear, turned out not exactly what I had expected him to be – he has all the bad features I have but lacks a few, of what I consider, the best. Why – he has no ear for music: It is outrageous and of course I had no audience, which was perfectly disgusting and then....but why talk about others?

What is new in your little world? So you really miss me? How much, show me how much? But, are you still angry, eh? Are you really? Oh, do not be like that. You have no reason whatever to be angry or worry. Even though I am less flattering than others – I am just as good as they are and certainly deserve a little more confidence – so cheer up and give me a little bite? And don't you worry or dig into things. Are you still bashful, Baby? How is your dress? How much have you progressed in arranging things. I sincerely thank you for your deciding to come for Clara's wedding, but I would not want to think that you or your father are coming against your will and only to please me or our family. My mother asked to thank your mother for the little things she has sent her. It is not the present of course but the thought. She may write yet separately. I thank you for your attention, dear and snuggling? Smiggling? up I am

Your Sam

Does Sniggling spell with two "g"s?

P.S. Here I am again – I did find a letter from you and I thank you for all the sweet things you have then for me. I shall see that I do not lose any of the weight you have given me and don't you forget to do as well. Give my best regards and love to your folks whom I have learned to love during the short stay. Prunes – Peaches and Pe-Pe-Pe? Pi-Pi-Pi? amts.

Your Sam

## January 31, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal

January 31 – 31

Dearest: -

I received your lovely letter of yesterday and thank you sincerely for same. The package from Max Kibrick contained a family picture sent for you especially to meet his wife and baby – You shall have it when you get over here – How is my baby tonight? You say you will tell my mother how much you liked her present when you see her in person. Don't you think you may change your mind and smile instead.

I was pretty busy today – I thought I will hop over to the Broadway Dep. Store and see about your stationery and other little thing I had in mind to attend to, but I could not leave this place – Yes I will have to get a new girl, though I would not like to do it. We shall see next week –

Annie {probably his sister Anya Friedman Spector} did not feel very good a couple of days ago but does feel much better today; so does Morris {either of two Morris Friedman's, Clara's husband or Sam's brother} feel much better. Everybody else is fine and ask me to remind them in my letters to you.

Yes, dear, what do the initials on the back of some of your envelopes stand for – Come on tell me. I have ordered this morning 150 wedding announcement for Clara to be printed in Yiddish and mind you only \$10.00 dls. 250 would only cost 12.00 and good stationary too – Monday I shall let you have a sample I don't know then why they make you to pay twenty and four or five dollars. See what you can do – then or let me have them made here.

Give me a little kiss will your – eh – That's a good girl – So when are you coming over – eh? What about your license? Did you get it? What does it look like to you? I am feeling fine and hope you do too – Give my best regards to Father {Louis Eliezer Licht}, mother {Eda Maltzer Licht} and Ella {Ella Licht Bordin, sister of Anne} – How is everybody else – How does Lea {Lea Spector Kadish Hellner} feel lately?

I will close and bid you good night Baby. It is only 7:45 P.M. and how early we must part Who is fault is that? The cuckoo clock aint there to denounce us neither and still we behave.

Just one little bite and I snuggle up into my corner again – Hasta Mañana  
Until tomorrow

Your Sam

## February 1, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
January Pardon me its February 1<sup>st</sup> 1931

Dear Anne: -

I know you don't like the work "cheat" but you have cheated me out of a letter today – I did mind you and have not opened your letter until today – but then I missed your letter of yesterday. Now if you continue to practice this – you know what's going to happen – Don't blame me then – I am only human and we all like or **bound** to pay with the same coin. I am fine thanks – I was humming this morning more than a dozen tunes and of course I don't know which you would like best. We were all invited today to Brucha's {most likely Brucha Friedman Kanefsky, sister of Sam's father Israel Friedman} to Hollywood – Classy – She made "varenikis"

{Russian or Ukrainian half-moon shaped dumplings, boiled in salt water} for us and weren't they the most delicious nosh – You don't have to take my word for it – Ask Mr. Golden – I mean **Nathan Golden**. He was over with us too. Just before we left the house he called up – so I picked him up from the hotel and we spent the afternoon together – he is staying over with us for the rest of the evening – He is still here. When we came from Brucha's I heard some news about your folks plans for our wedding but I have put all this away in the "fireless cooker" **Mr. Linfield** {does he mean Lanfeld?} was talking about. This will not only give me time to think things over but it will also give me a chance of hearing your opinion of the new plan of your fathers – (Your opinion in no way influenced by any outsider). There are a lot of friends over and I can not make this a long letter – I hope you will forgive me – Won't you dear? I really feel fine and if no aggravations com along I probably will gain weight at least I will not lose the weight gained already.

For your information I will say that with a "Special Delivery" stamp your letters would be delivered even on Sundays just as mine was probably delivered to you today. I hope you are fair and do not worry – If I happen to think of something else I shall tell you about it in my letter to you tomorrow – Good night Baby – P r u n e s and lots of them for you –

Your Sam

## February 2, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
February 2 – 1931

Dear Anne: -

I received this morning to the shop a letter you have written on Friday {Feb 2 was a Monday} and as it had only a plain two cent stamp it traveled slowly of course and that was the reason for my not getting anything from you on Saturday except the little note for Sunday "to be opened under no circumstances". Well, well and what happened yesterday to my girl friend, I mean Sunday. – You did not write – you bad girl, just because I was anxious to hear from you today.

But, let's forget that for awhile I better try to answer some of your questions – **Rose** is still sick and the poor girl asks us to keep this job for her, by having another girl temporarily only. I shall see what I can do! Paragraph spells with only one "H" and at the end of it. As to sending over things to our warehouse I am sure The Friedman Bag will have nothing against it, for they as well as you are not above receiving. There are about a dozen people around the table when I am writing, discussing different topics and of course I can't write very well – You will forgive me therefore – Give me a little kiss before they notice us – **Pauline** is peeping overtrying to catch

me with some “narishkeit” {Yiddish word meaning foolishness} but I won’t let her. Good night – dear and do write in time, as you promised

Your Sam

My best regards to Father and Mother and everybody else.

S F

February 2, 1931 – Anne to Sam

{Letterhead}

Phone Kearny 6564

M. Kaplan

Manufacturers of

“Better Made”

Ladies and Misses Coats

49 Fourth Street

San Francisco, February 2, 1931

Dear Sam:

Yes, You’re right, I hate the word Cheat. I didn’t cheat you out of anything, so you won’t have to pay me back in my own coin. I wrote you two letters last Friday. One letter I mailed to 600 Aliso Street, and the other, I mailed to your house. I can’t understand why you didn’t get the letter mailed to your factory, but I’m not to be blamed for that.

Now, as for my father’s letter. When I came back from the City Hall and told them at the store that you would have to make another trip here before February 26<sup>th</sup>, Bennie suggested writing a letter and getting your opinion on the question. Of course, I will say this, if they had stopped to consider the inconvenience your family would be put to, they would never have sent the letter, however, they meant well and you were uppermost in their minds at the time. We all do and say things at some time or other without spending much time to consider the pro’s and con’s of the question. I already wrote you once today and told you that March 8<sup>th</sup> is alright, so if it is alright with you, we’ll figure on that date. {That is the date they ended up getting married.} As far as the size of the wedding goes, I never did care for a big wedding so I don’t have to take a definite stand on this question. If I really and truly gave my opinion, in no way influenced by any outsiders, I would say that I prefer a family wedding in my own home. That’s my idea. What’s yours?

The mail-man was late in delivering the letters this morning, so that is the reason why I stated in my earlier letter that I hadn’t heard from you today. I didn’t make up my mind that you were trying to put one over on me, I just took it for granted that something had come up that you

couldn't drop me a line. Sam, I'll say again, "I'll never try to chat you even in fun, so don't pay me back in my own coin.

Just,

Anne.

Two letter in one day. See how you rate with me.

{The above letter is typewritten. On the back there is a letter handwritten but crossed out, as follows:}

Hello Dear

This is the way I would rather write you, but your letter called for a different answer.

My opinion, in no way influenced by any outsider, is that I prefer a home-wedding. I never did care for a lot of fuss and that is the only reason why I don't take a definite stand on the subject.

Sam, are you cross with me for any special reason? Your letters of late aren't at all what I would expect from you.

## February 3, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal

Feb. 3 – 1931

Dear Anne: -

Doing away with the word "cheat" for a while we shall go back to the irregularity of your correspondence which is due, I believe, to your depositing your letters in different times during the day, at different places and at different speeds, sometimes plain, sometimes air mail and sometimes airmail and special delivery. If you would not have promised to write me every day, I would not have felt as I did at all. I therefore suggest that you write me only when you have something to tell me or when you feel like talking to me and not just for the sake of complying with a promise. This may also be the reason of your not liking my last letters; they probably sound too mechanical as during the day I hardly have time to write and in the evening with quite a few around me I am always hurrying to make the airmail and hence my awkward



writing. Do not expect therefor, dear, from now on any daily mail. I shall write only when I am positive that my writing is apt to please you. When you say that you are hurt, dear, I am more than insulted I am terribly worried and frightened. I know I am trying my best to please you and am badly failing again and again. Why, what crossness to you have I demonstrated. Is it the emphasizing of my little dissatisfaction with your father's plans which seemed to me so hasty and not a little degrading. Would you really want me to be that dumb and sheepishly impartial to welcome ever and all suggestions. If I invited your opinion, dear, it was because I could not believe that you too knew and approved of these hurry-up plans.

Dearest, I want you not to misunderstand me I am wholly and heartily supporting you and wish you do have a small wedding. Why the idea of parading and preforming is perfectly disgusting to me, but I thought that inwardly you wanted a somewhat bigger wedding, and I did not think it wise to insist in having it my way. But, nevertheless those plans shocked me; the reasons your folks gave for hurrying this thing up, thinking that even invitations or announcements of their daughter's marriage was a superfluous thing, not necessary at all, as if really nothing but convenience mattered I don't know, dear, but I was ashamed of having something like this suggested to me and all because I would have to come a day or two earlier. It is possible dear Anne, that I am not at all justified in my indignation and I therefore ask you – Please do not say a word about this to your folks. I can understand them and understanding means forgiving, though they may not need my mildness at all. It is therefore that I had all this stored away in the fireless cooker and if it would not be for your bringing this up I would never have thought of discussing it with you.

The date of March the 8<sup>th</sup> if you or your folks have really nothing against it – is ideal and since we both wish our wedding to be as little pompous and parading as possible, I hope it will take place in your home and thus save a lot of trouble for all of us, and it would be a lot nicer – I think. Of course we must have a few invitations and some announcements mailed. I am therefore not only sorry, dear, but terribly worried over your dissatisfaction with me and my letters. I would love to please you. Please teach me how. Though you are not extra friendly to me in your last letter you still have something especially nice for me – What is it, dear and how much?

Thanks – I need you and I can not afford to doubt in your great love and friendship – Good night sweet friend – I am

Your Sam

February 4, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
Feb. 4 – 1931

Dearest: - I received today the fountain pen, which is satisfactory this time, but you know – they had to send it C.O.D. again for 45 cents – Terrible people to deal with aren't they?

How are you dear? Do you still feel hurt? When? Can I be of any help – Can I kiss it away?

The letter you have written Monday morning I only received today {Wednesday}, while the letter you have mailed much later in the day I received yesterday morning.

As to our license I will see what your lawyer has to say and if he has no way of going around it – I will be glad to hop over a day before Morris {probably Morris Friedman SF, husband of Clara Friedman, their wedding was in LA on 25 Feb 1931} is leaving. It will be a good excuse would not it? I am missing you dear and I am looking forward to our meeting; but you are coming for the Wedding anyway – aren't you? Give me a little tiny bite....

Your Sam

## February 5, 1931 – Sam to Anne

{side 1}

{small note with writing in English – Sam Friedman's handwriting - and Yiddish}

English:

Father's date would not be so good for our planned trip. How did you like the invitations 250 like these I can get for about 12.00 so why pay twenty four?

Yiddish – translated by Ken Blady

Dear one, I heard that someone gave you a candelabra [the word looks like lakhter], so if it is a good one then alright. And if it is swiss[?] write to me and I will write up \_\_\_ real silver, and they can be \_real silver, because I am writing \_ for Clara and for \_\_. I included you, too. Shmuel tells me that you have \_\_\_. If a stranger gives \_\_\_. I am requesting that you reply to me\_.

From me, your mother, Dina

[side 2]

2/5 – 31

L.A. California

Dear Anne: -

I am sending you my father's little note for your father – He would rather have March the 22<sup>nd</sup> for reason's of his own – See what you can do – He is not insisting though. So that you can still have the day more convenient for yourself either the 8<sup>th</sup> or the 22<sup>nd</sup>

Your  
Sam

{They got married on March 8, 1931, in San Francisco}

## February 5, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
Feb. 5 – 1931

Sweetheart: -

This is the invitation how do you like it? Since our wedding is to be a family affair only - we would have to have these in the form of an announcement, saying Mr. and Mrs. Licht announce the marriage of their daughter. Etc. etc.

As to exactly how it should read we can look up some promotion samples. Whatever you decide you let me know and I can have them made for you here. Listen dear I need a San Francisco telephone book to gather the addresses of our landsleit {Yiddish word meaning people from the same place}. If you are not too busy you can save me a lot of trouble by sending me the addresses of the following: -

L. Abrams {the man that helped Sol and Sam come from Kopaigorod to SF}  
J. Abrams  
D. Castles?  
A. Whites?  
S. Peaks  
L. Kornfields  
J. Stern  
Myerke Berman – S

And everyone else that you can think of I mean of our landsleit. Don't worry Baby about the February letter not being as nice as the January ones. First that is not everything and second no one in particular is to blame. Why am I not complaining? It is enough that I know I have someone worth while having – worth while worrying about and even worth while listening to her complaints. I am a little **worried**? For that but at the same time I am cognizant of the fact that even she does complain she inwardly seeks the causes for my being or acting the way I am not in myself only but in herself and circumstances as well. I know I have a wonderful girl and I feel it – but is it necessary to say it and repeat it – I am not cross – I do not remember – Was I really – Forgive me if I was.

Thanks –  
I am yours forever  
Sam

## February 7, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
Feb 7 – 1931

Dearest:- {This letter is to Sam's fiancé Anne Licht}

So it is March the 8<sup>th</sup> – Good, may this be our lucky day – Do not worry dear, my father is forgiving you though there will be some inconvenience for him. I thank you for the addresses you have looked up for me; but are these all I want? What about the Stern's and Chaika from Oakland and Mr. Abrams from Maywood? Haywood? Hayward? {probably this is the Mr. Abrams that helped Sol and Sam come from Kopaigorod to San Francisco via Galveston} I would also love to get Josika's {I don't know who this is}d address but how can you get that for me? Your new stationary, baby, is lovely, the green "Anne's" on the corners and very neat. I was today down town and forgot all about your stationery in the Broadway – won't you forgive me? I shall send you the list of our friends sometime next week – I have it in the office almost complete. I see you are pretty busy arranging things and I am keeping myself pretty busy in the office, trying to straighten out things and thus getting ready for inventory. I have not been out since I came from S.F. except this Thursday to a Herzl {Theodore Herzl Zionist from England} meeting, when I received a lot of congratulations and good wishes. I bought today a few new records, among them "Estrellita" {little star} and if they let me, I am going to stay home all day tomorrow and play them, so I can learn those sweet melodies and sing them to you sometime. I tried to get the words of "My man" for Ella and have failed again. I did get the words for "I am much of a man" which is a parody on "My man". Would she want these words in the meantime? I did not like two remarks you have innocently made in your last two letters – first where you admit that my letters are mechanical and the second is your apology "at least I think so" which comes right after "you are darling".

Though I know I am far from being darling it was lovely to hear you say that but the remark "at least" spoiled it all. Am I right or am I just crabby? Everything and everybody is fine and all they talk is "chasines", {means bridegroom} which does not sound bad at all. As to our trip I hope it will be lovely the way I am planning if the weather and everything else is favorable. I am listening to a wonderful program coming from the Russian American Art club and I promise myself to pay them a visit sometime when you come over here – remind me. How is your mother dear? I hope she is perfectly well. I and all our meshpocha heartily approve of having Sol {Sam's brother, Solman Friedman} as the best man and Lea {Lea Licht Lanfeld, sister of Anne} as the matron of honor, just as you planned. I have not seen Annie {Anya Friedman Spector, his sister} yet, but don't you worry – she won't feel insulted. She knows better. All my folks are sending you and yours their best regards and a lot of love, and so does

Your Sam

## February 9, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
Feb 9 – 1931

Dearest:

After what I have gone through the last 24 hours I expected that Providence will at least favor me with an appeasing and consoling letter from my sweet friend but I have cried again. No letters yesterday nor today. What happened? The poor old Mr. Liberman died suddenly last night 9:30 pm and I had to witness a lot of grief and to help them bear this heavy blow.

Just a few minutes ago I was relieved from a 24 hour watch over their oldest daughter who is sick in bed and due to her weak heart needed a special careful attention which none of their own could give her, and I cared? To read a letter from you, but no mail for me they advised me. Is this really all the attention I deserve not even a letter in two days? Or you had some good reason not to write?

Please resume your writing daily as before even though they are not {Sam writes a little underlined "2" over "you" and a "1" over had for some reason} January like S=ll rather have those than worry and wonder. I am pretty sleepy and down hearted and I can't write much. Give my best regards to your folks Ella lea and all others. I shall write more tomorrow if I can.

With love and kisses I am –

Yours - Sam

February 10, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
Feb 10, 1931

Sweetheart: I am sorry, dear, I accused you of being to me as rude as forgetting for two full days. You did write on the 8<sup>th</sup> as well as the 9<sup>th</sup> and both letters came today. I thought I taught you once how to regulate your mail. Do like the **Baliy**: find out when does the air mail leave for L.A. and make it your business to deposit your mail, let's say four hours before in a box that is being emptied in between those hours. Of course this will mean an expense of 3 more cents on each letter but it pays in the long run. Dearest, your last two letters left a delicious savor in my mouth, that almost means they ? January like and you shall get for these a lot a lot of love. Eva, Sol's wife objects to Sol being the best man and our Morris will probably have to live up to that standard – As to giving the honor to Harry Fannie might object and may be not we have plenty of time to fight this out. The names of the songs, I am learning dear an "Estrellita" and "Una mas" both very lovely and sweet melodies which you will like I am sure. I learned "Estrelita" already melody and words both are beautiful. I thank you sweetheart for enriching my letter exchange by Bubkies and Joseph's ? to it, but it is a job to keep it up, eh"

I thank you for the few new addresses you were kind enough to send me. If near me I would show you how much I appreciate this little service.

I did not do a thing yet about my hat, nor have I seen to my tweeds but I assure you that if God wants of course, I shall get them in time. No, Baby my father wants an orthodox Rabbi, a two in one, someone like our Rabbi Neches wich {which?} could preform in Hebrew as well as in English or if impossible to get an orthodox Rabbi together with a Reformed one.

Mr. Verdi, dear, left the very next day for S.F. and you need not worry about him misleading me. But how comes that you do remember Verdi and never remember to touch the subject. I have mentioned about 3 or 4 times in my letters to you and that is the extravagance of paying 24 dills. For irritations – Are you ashamed of my littleness? Say the truth. I would not get offended.

I did stay home Sunday almost all day – about 4.30 we left for Brucha's when we spent a couple of hours. Later in the evening S. and Clara went over to visit Eleanor's sister who was ill in bed and as a thunder that misfortune fell upon that family.

I thank you again for your two lovely letters. I shall write tomorrow and send you my complete list for the invitations.

Give my best regards to father and mother, and everybody else.  
I am

Your Sam

Do not forget - write often and send your letters by Air mail and mail them regularly, so I get them regularly. Please.

## February 11, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
Feb 11 – 1931

Dearest: -

I am sending you herewith the list of names I promised you for today. If I think of a few more names that may have escaped my memory of the present I will let you have them later. Morris has asked me in his little note to me last week how my father spells his name – “Israel” of course but then I am afraid this information is somewhat late is not it? Dave? advises me that Community Silverware is much better than 1847 Rogers and has much prettier patterns: a set of 26 pieces will cost me 17.96 – The same set with hollow handles \$21.00 – 1847 Rogers would cost 1.50 less per set. There is another kind called Alvin; it is only made with hollow handles and costs 20.00 per set.

One cannot tell much from the paper, but the design “Noblese” looks very nice and neat. Try to see some Community Silverware they say it has a world of patterns and tell me what price can this be gotten per set and what patterns do you like best.

I have found no letter from you today and I don't think it's a bit nice! How is my baby tonight? Does she really miss me? - How much. I heard a two year old baby answer this question by saying “ a billion oceans” – It is not half bad – How much do you care How many oceans? Wait a minute! Wait a minute! Don't run Just one little bite in your ear and you can go – What's the hurry anyway it is not 3.00 o'clock yet, the cuckoo would not tell – Mama would not hear What's the matter – Bashful? Still? Gei Shain Gei {go away}– Just one more, Baby \_ That's all \_ good night – gnight

Your Sam

## February 12, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
Feb. 12- 1931

Sweetheart: -

Last night after I came from down town when I went to deposit my daily letter to you, everybody in the front room, ours and visitors all exclaimed as one, "there is a special delivery for you right here on the table – And sure enough – there was one. I thank you dear for your thoughtfulness. It was very sweet of you. Of course a special Delivery Stamp means you my getting the letter the very next morning or afternoon, but an air mail stamp as explained to you already, will do just as well. I got today my Tweeds, tres piedras, and another suit kind of light and grayish, double breasted, which I think is becoming, though I never wore anything of the sort. You should see me – Something new for you to look forward to, eh?

I am listening to a wonderful program which is being played somewhere, I understand in honor of Abraham Lincoln and I am sorry you are not with me in the front room first I would not have to write I would be whispering your ears all this and a lot of more truths and semi truths and maybe I'd be reforming or turning sleeve some dresses into sleeveless ones – may be – Who knows?

But then I am too far and probably have to behave like all helpless things.

Do you ever practice dear "Fanchin?" You should play this good by this time see that you really do. Tomorrow I shall let you have a few more names whom to I would want you to send invitations – How are you dear? How is your mother – Has she recovered completely from her cold or what was it? Give her and father my best regards and take for yourself a billion oceans of love –

Your Sam

February 14, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
Feb 14 – 1931

Sweetheart: -

I almost thought I will not have time to write tonight, as I came home late, tired and promised yet to come over to the **Schwartzes**, where Clara {his sister} is spending her weekend. I thank you dear, for your compliment as to my writing; there is nothing wrong with your writing neither. I heard, dear, what you had to say about my littleness and though it is not convincing I am temporarily satisfied for I was insulted not by your having your invitations done the way you thought better, but by your completely ignoring my remark about it, which I have made in my letters to you about four or five times at least. But then I am whimsical and I blame myself a little too.



Thanks, dear, for remembering me on Valentine day and I also thank you for writing me from the dentists. As a token of appreciation I will let you have some of the best of my kisses in your right and left pretty eyes and then....  
Unless you don't care for more.

Your Sam

## February 15, 1931 – Anne to Sam

Anne {monogram}

Isle of ?

February 15, 1931

Good-morning Sweetheart.-

How does my boy-friend feel this morning? Happy and well, I hope! I'm very busy these days and very, very happy. Moma feels better now and that makes everything hotsy-totsy.

There is no mail-box for air-mail anywhere's near us, so my letter will have to continue going the same way they have here-to-fore. As soon as I'll get your letter, I'll answer then. Is that K.O.

How is everyone home? What kind of weather are you having there? It rained here in the morning, but it turned out to be beautiful in the afternoon. (I'm talking about yesterday's weather) This morning it rains and stops, but I think we'll see a change for the better by this afternoon. What am I doing today? Well, this morning I'm going down town, and after I'm through there, I'm going out the mission. Have you any errands you want done? Just say the word, and I'll do what you ask me to do. What is that power you have over me?

Gee, I can hardly wait to see you in your new suits. I bet you look s-w-e-l-l. Now, I guess, it's up to me to go and buy me a new dress, so as to keep up with you. It's too bad, isn't it, that I don't need any more new clothes. No more dresses for me for the present.

No, I haven't practiced the piano even once since you left. I don't seem to have the leisure these days. I guess I'll have more time later on. I'm really going to buckle down to work soon. Are you practicing the violin? I'm looking forward to hearing you play.

Do I miss you? Is that what you're trying to ask me, or did I guess wrong again? I miss you alright, and how, is nobody's business. You miss me just a teeny, weeny bit? Now, tell the truth!

As Ever,  
Anne

## February 15, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
Feb. 15 – 1931

Dearest: -

Thanks a billion oceans for your Special Delivery – How I feel? Grand – dear – Happy and well just as you guessed it and more so when I hear that everything in your kingdom is well and your mama feels fine again. I did not say, baby, that you deposit your mail in a special air mail box, I know there is no such thing yet and you probably misunderstood me – oh let it go. Everybody is fine and we are enjoying fine weather – today it is kind of windy but its nice. I received your letter in the morning and I was please d with it, very much so. I left immediately to visit the mourning folks when I spent a couple of hours and now everybody is getting ready to go to Brucha's – where the young couples are invited for supper. Simon Clara's Morris and my Anne are far away – I=ll {he is writing this instead of I'll for some reason} be going with Clara Harry with Fannie and Morris with Pauline probably and Sol with Eva; the rest will be for after supper – I think. Thanks, sweetheart for your readiness to do things for me I shall try to be to you as nice and if possible even nicer – it all depends on things – circumstances, your attitude my whims and a thousand other little things = Oh don't worry – I am not bad and with you near me it will not be heard to be better. If I pass the shop before mailing this I shall enclose a little list of a few more names I'd want you to send invitations. I thank you again for writing to me as often and as nice. I am planning to come over to S.F. Thursday morning by leaving Wenesday evening – is it allright or must I come a day earlier – Plese say so in your Monday letter. They are calling me and off I go –

Good by – dear – be good and I'll be better –

Your Sam

## February 16, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
Feb. 16 – 1931

Sweetheart: -

I will not have time to write you tonight, as I am planning to attend the banquet given in honour of our Prof. Einstein this evening by the Jewish Community of L.A. If it turns out an interesting event I shall report it to you when I see you a day after tomorrow or so.

I am enclosing herewith two letters for my nephews and cousins. I just phoned home – No letters yet they say your girl friend is still writing – May be later in the afternoon – May be – Soon.

Everything and everybody is fine – Mother's work is in full swing and in the house Shmekt a mejaie {a Yiddish phrase meaning "tastes delicious"}.

Let me have a teeny weeny bite and I will bother you no more tonight.

Good afternoon and Good night – Sweet dreams dear –

Your Sam

# BANQUET FOR PROF. EINSTEIN

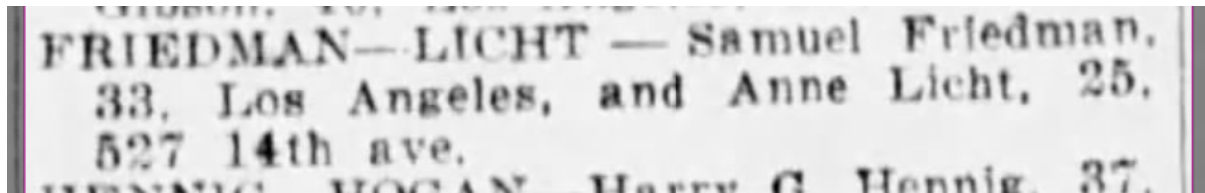
## Jewish Group Will Honor Scientist Tonight

Plans for the banquet to be tendered Professor Albert Einstein this evening by the Jewish community at the Ambassador, have been completed by the Einstein banquet committee, according to an announcement made by Ludwig Schiff, chairman of the committee.

All elements of the Jewish community will be present to pay tribute to the distinguished scientist. Plans have been completed to make this occasion a lasting tribute, which will take the form of a huge reforestation project in Palestine, which will be known as the Einstein forest.

Professor Einstein and his wife are ardent advocates of a Jewish homeland in Palestine, and at the suggestion of Frau Einstein, the proceeds of this evening's banquet will be given to the Jewish national fund. That fund is an auxiliary of the Zionist organization and the money raised for it is devoted to the purchase and rehabilitation of land in Palestine, the development work including the draining of swamps, building of roads, planting of trees,

February 19, 1931



Announcement in the February 19, 1931 San Francisco Examiner, p 11.

February 23, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal

Feb. 23 – 1931 8 p.m.

Dear Anne: -

I hope that by this time you are home already – and are preparing to hit the hay. I am really sorry for your having to lose so much sleep and all on account of me. I slept late and except that about 3 ish in the afternoon right after leaving my machine {car} with the Dodge people I felt I can not go on much longer and I had to hurry home and lay down again.

Of course I feel better now. How are you, dear – tell me the truth and promise that you won't worry. I want you, dear, to do me a favor, call up the Dodge people in your city – the firms name is something like J.D. French {actually it is J.E. French} I am not sure about the J.D. , but I do remember the firm's name is French and try to talk to "Dick" Remind him about the machine from L.A. he has ground the valves and done some other work, and ask him to explain you clearly in what consisted that other trouble he was talking about "trouble in the blocks" and whether what he has done will do for some time (what time for instance), or must it be taken care of immediately if I attempt to make a long trip. From what I remember he explained me that with what he has done I won't have to do any thing more to the machine, but you have heard what Sol and Morris had to tell me and of course I want to make sure. I hope you will get for me this information as accurately as possible – I thank you. What's new in San Francisco. How has your sweetheart Marcia received you – I think she is spoiling you for me and I don't like it a bit. How are your folks? How does Ella feel? Mother has worked all day long together with a lady help restoring things to order and only now is about to go to bed – and so is Morris and Harry – something unusual in our house. The radio is bringing the most sweetest of music and I am listening while writing. Give everybody my best regards and take for yourself a bit of love – Your Sam

# LOW CENTER OF GRAVITY

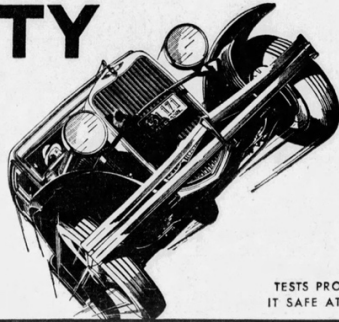
You can now buy the new Dodge Six

at \$19<sup>21</sup> per month

the new Dodge Eight

at \$25<sup>86</sup> per month

Lowest Monthly Payments Ever Offered In This Price Class



TESTS PROVE IT SAFE AT 47°

## ACCEPT NO CAR WITHOUT IT

The whole trend in motor cars is toward low center of gravity—in the achievement of which Dodge stands squarely in the forefront of progress.

Low center of gravity means safety. It means beauty, expressed in low-swing sweeping lines. It means a steadier riding car. Easier control, easier steering at high speeds.

In the new Dodge Six and Eight, it means even greater strength of chassis than in the past. For the Dodge Double-Drop frame has a box-type center—so powerfully reinforced that the hardest

going at any speed cannot transmit destructive strain to the car.

Contributing still further to low center of gravity is the Dodge Mono-Piece Steel Body. Mounted without ribs, this body shares the strength and steadiness of the frame. Virtually a single piece of steel, it is squeak-proof, weave-proof and trouble-proof.

The low center of gravity typifies the modern character, the modern dependability of the new Dodge cars.

See them. Drive them. Learn how much in beauty,

how much in performance, how much in comfort and luxury they offer. You'll quickly realize why the country is united in the opinion that Dodge gives the great value of the year.

New Dodge Six . . . . . \$815 to \$845  
New Dodge Eight . . . . . \$1095 to \$1135  
Standard Six . . . . . \$735 to \$815  
Standard Eight . . . . . \$695 to \$1095

*Plus \$100 Weekly or No Down Cash. Insurance? Give us Right Additional Cash. All prices f. o. b. Dealer. . . . . Excludes Taxes.*

# DODGE 6 AND 8

DODGE TRUCKS . . . EVERY TYPE—STANDARD OR HEAVY DUTY (1½-TON STANDARD CHASSIS \$598)

EAST OAKLAND  
East 14th St. at 42nd Ave.  
AN Over 1400  
BERKELEY  
Oxford at Addison  
Berkeley 7500

**J. E. FRENCH CO., Ltd.**  
O'Farrell at Polk, ORdway 2121, San Francisco  
124 Grand Avenue—CLemont 3700—OAKLAND

SAN RAFAEL  
1640 Fourth Street  
San Rafael 61  
Mill Valley Garage  
Across from the Station  
Mill Valley 305

ASSOCIATE DEALERS

ALAMEDA—F. A. Wildman  
BURLINGAME—Frank C. Blev  
COLMA—D. Axala  
HAYWARD—Sterling B. Doughty

NEWARK—J. E. Paschke  
PITTSBURG—S. W. Kowalew  
REDWOOD CITY—James L. Chiapalone  
VALLEJO—George B. Dalwigk

SAN FRANCISCO  
NEIGHBORHOOD DEALERS  
Ocean Avenue Garage, 1655 Mission St.  
Jack Nelson, 655 Eddy St.

February 25, 1931

{Envelope addressed to: Miss Ann Licht/ 527 14<sup>th</sup> Ave./527 14<sup>th</sup> Ave./ San Francisco, Cal.; from: 2325 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St./ L.A. Cal; 5 cent stamp, postmarked Feb 25 10 pm 1931 Air Mail Los Angeles, Calif.}

Los Angeles, Cal  
Feb 25 – 1931

Dearest: -

I am hurrying again and this time to see [Moscovich](#) in Merchant of Venice. I had to buy a ticket and therefore have to go tonight – Please forgive me – I received your letters the 23 and 24 both together this afternoon and I will answer tomorrow early. My best regards to everybody and my love to you –

Sam

# Muscovitch Defends His Portrayal of Shylock

## DECLARES IT IS DEFENSE OF THE JEW

First Dickson Morgan Matinee Will Be Given Tuesday

By MONROE LATHROP

OBJECTION to the revival of "The Merchant of Venice" by several Jewish patrons of the Civic Repertory organization, on the ground that Shylock labelled their race, were answered by Maurice Muscovitch, star of the production with the argument that the shoe is on the other foot and that it is to gentle who really has cause to complain. "I subscribe to the opinion of H. Heine, the Jewish poet-philosopher, who wrote, 'Of all the characters in "The Merchant of Venice" the only gentleman is Shylock," Muscovitch said.

"Certainly the virtues of the Christians, as Shakespeare paints them, are not attractive, and they offer a vindication of Shylock's moral code—revenge for his wrongs. Yet so many Jewish patrons of the theater profess to see only a repulsive figure in Shylock.

The pound of flesh, Mr. Muscovitch thinks, was the hokum of Elizabethan times—a trick introduced for melodramatic effect—but it serves to emphasize the wrongs of the Jew, who, after being robbed of his worldly possessions is deprived of what he conceives to be his hope of salvation by being forced to espouse Christianity.

## La Traviata' Opens Grand Opera Season Here Tonight

### Music and Musicians

By BRUNO DAVID USSHER  
*Beethoven at His Best*

On a first violin part of the "Eroica" the composer wrote the following advice to conductors in Italian, suggesting: "As this symphony exceeds the usual length it should be played rather nearer the beginning than the end of a concert, after an overture for instance, an aria or a concerto. Otherwise it might lose some of its effect on an audience that is somewhat fatigued by what has gone before."

Dr. Arthur Rodzinski needed the counsel and commenced yesterday afternoon's Philharmonic Orchestra concert with the "William Tell" overture of Rossini. Then came the third Symphony of Beethoven and after the intermission the E flat major concerto by Liszt, Leo Podolsky, prominent Chicago pianist, as guest performer.

"La Valse" was planned as the final climax. While the director usually scores a signal interpretation with the French piece, on this occasion Ravel's harmonic and thematic juggling of a simple Viennese waltz melody left hearers tangibly indifferent. Perhaps the change from classic to contemporary repertoire was too abrupt.

In the "Eroica" Rodzinski again

### MUZIO AND SCHIPA SING LOVE DUET

Wagner Score With Eminent Cast Tomorrow

STRONG casts and resplendent settings have been vouchsafed by officials of the Chicago Civic Opera Company, which opens a week's engagement tonight at the Shrine with Verdi's "La Traviata."

Hardly a more possessing trio of principals could have been chosen for this deeply emotional Verdi opera than Claudia Muzio, the soprano title role, Tito Schipa, leading lyric tenor as Traviata's lover, and John Charles Thomas, the American idol, as the older lover, and John Charles Thomas, the American baritone idol, as the older German. Roberto Moranzoni conducts.

FAMED SINGERS  
Three of the foremost Wagnerian exponents from Europe will be introduced here tomorrow evening in "The Valkyrie." Leider is considered an outstanding interpreter, vocally and histrionically, of the name-part, Theodore Strack, premier tenor at the Vienna State Opera, portrays Siegmund, Alexander Kipnis, the Russian basso, as Wotan should stir Los Angeles tomorrow as he stirred Bayreuth last summer. Emil Cooper, in charge of German music-drama at the Moscow State Opera, likewise a

### HEROIC TENOR



Theodore Strack, appearing in grand opera here tomorrow night.

### DON'T TRUST THESE TIGERS: SHOEDSACK

Soldier of Fortune Cameraman Tells Of 'Rango'

SHOULD you ever travel in the jungle—don't trust any tiger you might chance to meet. Thus advises Ernest R. Schroedsack, the soldier-of-fortune cameraman who filmed "Rango," current United Artists Theater attraction, in the Sumatra Jungles. Schroedsack is qualified to speak since he has studied the habits of all big animals—elephants, hippopotami, rhinos, leopards, panthers and tigers in his picture making activities in "Chang," "Grass" and "The Four Feathers."

"The tiger is the supreme killer of all jungle beasts," asserts Schroedsack. "Unlike the lion, he does not kill only when he can eat, but murders for the sheer love of inflicting suffering and terror upon his fellow creatures.

"Fires are little if any protection from the attack of a hungry tiger, which is the only animal known to prowl beyond a blaze in search of food. Unless he is lazy from a recent feast, the striped cat does not try to avoid an encounter with men, but will stalk them through the tall grass awaiting an opportunity to spring."

March 2, 1931 – Anne to Sam

Anne {monogram}

Isle of ?  
March 2, 1931

Hello Sweet. –

How's the work in the office progressing? Still working as fast and furious? I wish I could help you. "Two heads are better than one."

Sam, I wish you could have been with me yesterday. You were all I needed to make the day a perfect one. There were thirty-five girls there and I had to kiss each one there twice, on arrival and then again upon their departure. Everyone there was, or had been at one time, a very close friend of mine. They surprised me by making the tea into a shower. I sure was surprised to see all the gifts. Clara confided in me that she thought I was a very lucky person to have such friends. Honestly Sam, it is talk of the town now. Everyone is asking each other, "Did you hear about the gorgeous shower that Anne was given?"

When are you planning to come here? How is the trip coming along? Morris and Clara {Morris Friedman and Clara Friedman Friedman – sister and brother-in-law of Sam} told me to be sure and tell you to plan spending a couple of days at Catalina Islands. I'd love to go there, if its alright with you. I understand it's the ideal place.

I'm going to eat dinner now. Do you want to join me?

I'm thinking of you all the time. I couldn't get you out of my mind if I wanted to, and I don't want to, so do me something!

Lots of love,

Anne.

March 2, 1931 – Anne to Sam

From  
Anne {monogram}

San Francisco, Calif.  
March 2, 1931

To.  
My Sweetheart. –

I'm awfully sorry dear but I can't do as you ask of me. If I had gotten this letter of yours last week, I might have been able to change my orders, but as it stands, there is nothing I can do. Mr. Levitin went with me last week, spoke to the manager of the hotel and made all arrangements. The order is given already and I can't take back what I once give. I wish I could do as you ask, but this is one time, I'm going to ask you to believe that I know what am I about, even though you can't follow my deductions. I don't assume I want to please you, I'll always try to. "You are just what I want even though you don't consider yourself up-to-date. We all have a little of both in us.

I'll be glad to get something for mama for you. I think it very sweet and thoughtful of you to remember her. Have you any suggestions. I honestly don't know what to buy, but I'll go in to conference and see what she wants most. Thank you, Sam.

Thanks for the lovely box of candy. I was very surprised to get it. I can thank you much more appropriately in person, so will wait with further thanks until I see you.



Sam, when are you starting out? How many are coming? Is Sol {Solman Friedman, brother of Sam} taking the car? I would like to know about how many are coming if you can possibly find out? Don't forget to put the license in the bag. How is everyone home?

I'm feeling fine and very happy. Clara and Morris came for lunch yesterday. They're both feeling fine. The first thing Clara said is "Anne, you look much better now than before." The reason for that is I've been doing a lot of sleeping. I feel much more rested and naturally it shows. The tea was wonderful. Everything was beautiful. It was the most beautiful affair that any of the people had ever been to. Was I thrilled, don't ask?

Rose just called for us. She's taking my mother down town and I'm going with them.

With oodles of love,  
I am,

Anne.

## March 3, 1931 – Sam to Anne

Los Angeles, Cal  
March 3 – 1931

Dearest: -

We figured to leave early Thursday morning but since I have yet a lot to do I can't tell exactly how I will come out. We will come about eleven people:

I

Father {Israel Friedman}

Mother {Dina Shulman Friedman}

Sol {Solman Friedman}

Eva {Sol's wife, Eva Libe Lipson Friedman}

Harry {Harry, or Gersh, Friedman}

Fannie {Fannya Wax Friedman, wife of Harry}

Auntie Bassia {Bassia Friedman Palatnick, sister of Israel Friedman}

Pauline {Pauline Palatnik, dau of Bassia}

Morris and {Morris Friedman, brother of Sam}

Albert {Albert Kibrick?, Albert Spector – probably the later as Spector lived in LA in 1930 and Kibrick was in NJ}

Brucha {Brucha Friedman Kanefsky – had two daughters, Bella and Ida Edith} chooses not to come because there is no place for her daughters, so she won't come neither. We are sorry but we can't help it. Of course should Shimon {Sam's brother, Shimon Friedman} decide to go the last minute he could accommodate quite a few more and then you could expect few more.

I am glad, dear, you have enjoyed your tea and I wish you are as happy and happier all your way thru life.

Say Hello for me to Clara {Clara Friedman Friedman, Sam's sister} and Morris {Clara's husband, Morris Friedman} and everybody else. So you are rested and feel fine – that's a good girl – I like you – I am not as rested but I will when we are away from this turmoil for a while.

Just a little kiss and in a little while I'll be with you dear, I only worry? And hope you like me always as well as you do now – You do not have to write me anymore, as we may leave Thursday – Goodnight, Sweet dreams – I am

Your Sam

## MISS A. LICHT, MR FRIEDMAN MARRIED

At a ceremony in the gold ballroom of the Fairmont Hotel last Sunday, Miss Ann Licht, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. Licht, became the bride of Mr. Sam Friedman, son of Mr. and Mrs. I. Friedman of Los Angeles.

The bride wore a gown of cream satin with long sleeves. She carried a bouquet of orchids, gardenias and lilies of the valley.

She was attended by Mrs. J. A. Lanfeld as matron of honor, Miss Ella Licht, maid of honor, and her bridesmaids: Misses Mildred Schneider, Thelma Feldstein, Marcia Levin and Ura Miller, with little Roselle Lanfeld as flower girl.

The bridal group wore gowns of pastel shades and carried shower bouquets to match their dresses. Mr. Sol Friedman, the groom's brother, was the best man.

Following the ceremony, a buffet supper was served for over four hundred friends and relatives.

The young couple motored south for their honeymoon and will make their home in Los Angeles.

\*\*\*



Clipped By:

dsfaec

Sat, Sep 24, 2022

March 28, 1931

Anne {monogram}

San Francisco, Calif.,  
March 28, 1931

Darling: -

How is everything with you? I feel like a million alright, alright! How is my boy-friend today?

I'm leaving the house early this morning, so I won't be able to wait for your letter. I want you to get this Sunday, so you won't think that I have forgotten you even for a day.

Tomorrow is the day the girls are giving me a tea. All four of them, are so busy and excited that there's no talking them. At least, that is what their mothers tell me. They sleep, talk and eat "tea". There will be about 40 girls there. I'm to be there at 1:15 pm to welcome the guests. Right after the tea, the family adjourns to Dina's {Dina Shulman Friedman, mother of Sam} house. All of us have a very full day ahead of us. We all wish you could join us, especially one person I know, who would like nothing better than to have you with her. It's hard guessing who that person is, isn't it?

Have you caught up on sleep yet? Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday found me asleep very early. All the coaxing and pleadings couldn't get me out of the house no matter what the arguments put to me were, I'd have the same answer. "I'm tired and I want to go to bed." I feel fine now and in a #1 condition. I haven't yawned even once today.

What are you doing today honey? Will you include me in your plans, if I promise to be a good girl and not bother you? I'll be good, hoest I will! Where do you want to go today? I'll do and go wherever you want.

Please go and write me a few lines will you, huh?

Your,

Anne

