

Tuesday July 22.

24/7/41

AT Phillips House - Boston.

My ever so dear Twin -

Your heart warming telegram has just come, Max is getting on well, the surgeon is pleased & the nurses are satisfied. It has of course been a heavier nervous shock than he at first thought, but now sees that he has had a knock for which he must take time to recover. Fortunately again we twins are lucky enough to have sensible & patient companions, so Max will adjust himself to a slow pace, with thankfulness that the strain of the last threatening two or three years is over. Surgically he is getting on well & the nurses look after him so carefully & yet with such discretion that he is cared for in the best way & yet not bored by over

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fussing - It seems to me almost
unbelievable that last Saturday, on
the first day after the operation, he
was allowed to get out of bed
for a few seconds, & for the last two
mornings he has wanted to get up
& shave & scrub, & has been allowed
to do so. I have just seen Dr. Smith,
& while he says there is danger every-
where in life, that he thinks the
chances of anything untoward hap-
pening are becoming hourly more
remote, & he thinks it probably
wise for me to go home to-morrow,
which I may do, as oddly enough
his week has hit me also! Dr.
Smith seems to think it quite probable
that Mr. Will be well enough to take
the night train for home next
Tuesday, & he has very kindly said
that he would see himself that
Max was put in the train, &
settled for the night.

At this moment, Max is sitting
up in bed, looking quite pink &
rosy & well & happily puckering
his brows over one of the much
loved Times cross word puzzles which
he finds an excellent anodyne.
They are giving him all he wants to
eat of every kind, & the food & ser-
vice are excellent here, so as soon
as the "shock" is over he ought to
gain smoothly.

You don't know (yet of
course you do) what a relief
your Sweeney generosity has meant
to me as well as to her. Your cata-
logue house seems to me so real &
vital a gift to the whole of Deer-
barn that I was turning over in my
mind whether I could manage to
carry Sweeney myself for this trial
marriage year. One can't tell in
advance whether or not she is the
person who will prove herself the

essential cog in the machinery, &
but she does seem the most obvious
one with whom to start. Then too,
she may not like it, or may find
she isn't valid for the necessary
amount of ambulant "guiding".

A nice note has come from Mr.
Thacher, for D.O. saying the work
seemed to him to be well started,
& the plans he showed me at R.P.
(very hasty sketches & unfinished) look-
ed quite O.K.ish in their possi-
bilities, the long, panelled library
room, with the assistants' rooms
nearby all promise, not only to
work well, but to be a attractive.

Quite frankly I individually
far prefer having your room &
boudoir & my room, vanish into
a library than to have them per-
haps tenanted by people who
could not possibly know what
they have meant to Thibault & your
Trix.

The main, less intimately living & rooms will stay as they are, & relieved of the need of finding a desk in the library for the sessions, & a perch somewhere else for some body else, they can settle down into their old beauty & charm.

The carpentry will take on the new job, as a little assembly-lecture room for Mrs. Sweeney, with some of her pictures & chairs, & the "black boards" can be tucked away in between meetings, & perhaps the obvious by in appropriate stage. Fine tables may refine also. All these details must be worked out by the slow process of trial & experiment, & fortunately for D.O. Mr. Thacher's mind is elastic & willing to adapt itself to variations in the theme set.

So often in the last days, you seem to have been as close to me as though within hand hold, both

