

BOOK B.

FRANCE

BELGIUM

DENMARK

SWEDEN

NORWAY

ENGLAND

IRELAND

IN BOOK
B.



Cunard RMS Queen Elizabeth

1955



Photographed on board.
RMS QUEEN ELIZABETH

1955-



Looking for the ring of fire



Departure. On Queen Elizabeth. At Noon, July 18, 1955.
We got on board about 10. Harriet had stayed in Greenwich over night so went in town with us. Wm drove the station wagon with our bags. Very cleverly selected as we had two suit cases each and a "bottle bag and the typewriter-plus a very unhealthy looking green duffle bag (reserved for purchases). THIS folded up on the bottom of a suit case for future use!

State room gay with flowers and champagne. We had a send off party. Billy was hiding behind a curtain and was a HUGE surprise. Caryl had arranged it this way Gail's mother and a friend- Dale and Kissy got to the dock just after 10.30 and were not allowed to come on board. Too bad.

Huge ship. Like a section of the Waldorf- the Peacock Alley plus several of the dining rooms- afloat streams of PEOPLE mulling about.

We had a table in the dining room with 5 other female ladies. Thought it would divert us. The one man looked us over and next meal he wasn't there. So we drew another lady. It all proved to be amusing. We exchange addresses and were photographed together.

Voyage very smooth all way over. We took in the movies and pools. I won a few dollars on a pool.

A Mr and Mrs Anderson, very nice friends of H. and Caryls asked us for cocktails one evening. Then there were the parties of the Captain and the Purser. Also Esther Boyer was on board with a party of eight in cabin class, she was to steer boat over Europe. She came up and had tea with us one day.

The Captain and Purser both were on the Franconia about years ago- as under officers- on a world cruise we were on. Both extremely cordial.

Took train around noon for Paris. Hot as blazes. and stuffy besides. Had lunch en route. Quite good.

Paris and piled our belongings into a cab and landed at Le Bristol- a rather smallish hotel where diplomats go- white marble and mirrors. We had an oval white panneled bedroom and an adjoining white panelled round sitting room. (which we didn't need and later gave up.)

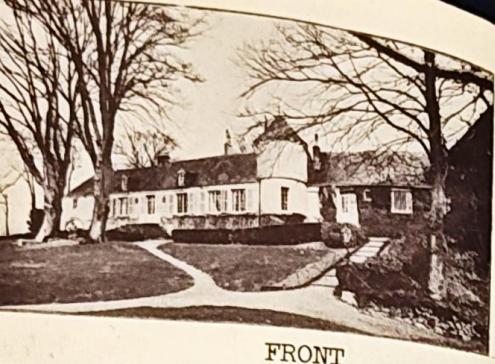
Very weary and after some refreshing tub baths went over to the Crennalliere (nearby) where we had a very delicious dinner.

Paris July 19th.

1955-

Took a motor from a travel agency - after breakfast in our fancy round sitting room. Drove all around Paris the driver named Harvey had a daughter named at Waycross Georgia. Went to Lubin's for perfume (had the pink flannel affair that Harriet had given me - REsented!) Walked around the circle-Place de Vendome To Caron, The Ritz Hotel, and a jewellers where I was intregued by a jewelled bird. But did NOT get it! To a very nice restaurant in the Bois for lunch Le Pre Catalan. Went thento both sides of the Siene and got some little prints of Paris. R.R. station and Tourist Agency reg. tickets. We had our evening meal at the Bristol and then set out for the Casion de Paris. Very amusing show - we stayed thro' half of it but felt we needed sleep. Gail got a cab by her shrill whistle!





Phone: Azay-le-Rideau 46

MANOIR DE BÉCHERON

Saché

Indre-et-Loire

FRONT



DINING ROOM



SALON



STUDIO



COURT

The Manoir de Bécheron is a private home which welcomes a few paying guests. It is a rambling 15th-16th Century house situated in the peaceful valley of the Indre in the heart of the Chateaux de la Loire region. The furniture is authentic Renaissance and 18th Century. The Manoir has an air of Old World charm with modern comfort. The cuisine is French, meals are 'en famille', except for breakfast, which is served in your room or, if you choose, in the gardens.

You are one of us when we go visiting our French and American neighbors. Among them are such famous artists as Alexander Calder, Max Ernst and A. Ozenfant.

Bécheron is 25 kilometers from Tours, which can be reached by rail from Paris in about two and half hours. Of course we meet you at the station.

The rate in high-season (June 15-August 31) is \$15 a day or \$100 a week per person all inclusive (room, bath, 3 meals, wines, liqueurs, coffee and service). This includes the local excursions around Bécheron such as Saché, Azay-le-Rideau, Tours, Langeais. The Saché Museum now houses a permanent exhibit of the sculpture of my father, Jo Davidson. The off-season rate (March 1-June 14; Sept. 1-October 31) is \$10 a day or \$65 a week per person. Contrary to the usual continental practice there are no extra charges at Bécheron.

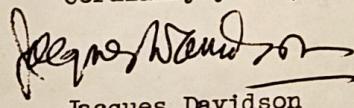
My French wife and I have two children, Eva age 12 and Laurent who is 5; we can and do care for children, and you will find they are never underfoot. If you should want a place where you can safely leave yours while touring Europe, Bécheron is the place you are looking for. Our children were born in the United States and speak French and English as of course we do.

A week in Bécheron is over before you realize it! You won't want to miss the thrilling sight of the illuminated chateaux; they alone are worth the trip. The 'Sleeping Beauty' castle of Ussé, Azay-le-Rideau, famous Chenonceau and Chambord are but a few of the fabulous palaces which surround us.

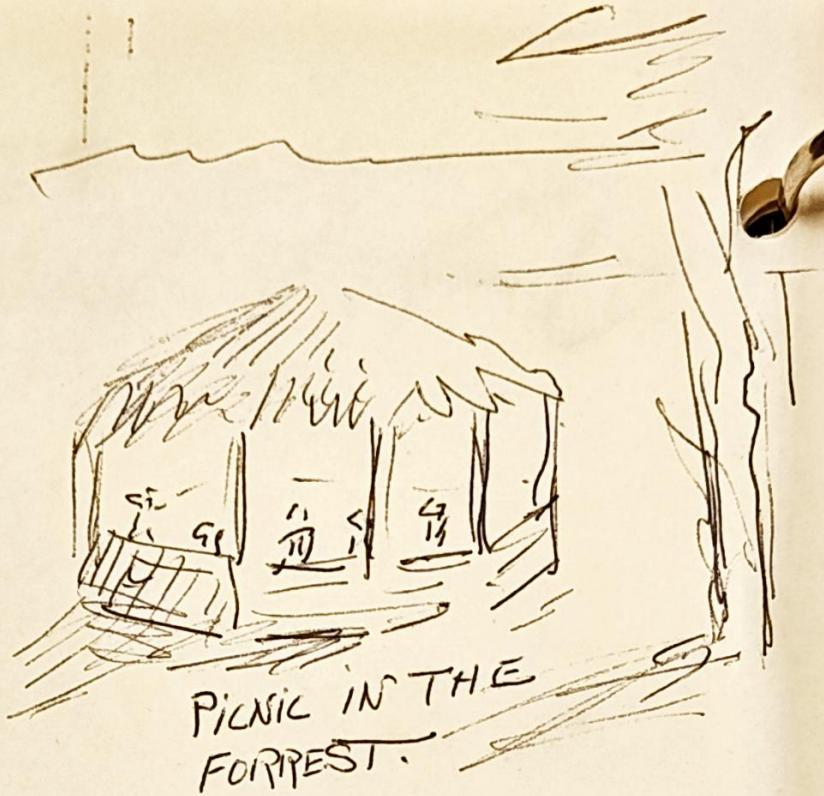
During one of your outings we will picnic in the Forêt de Loches near a circular 12th Century chapel, or on the banks of the Loire across from Mme. de Pompadour's palace at Ménars. We will also take you to one of the outstanding restaurants of Tours on a picturesque medieval square.

We are looking forward with pleasure to meeting you, with or without your children. We'll be glad to answer any specific question you may have. Write to us.

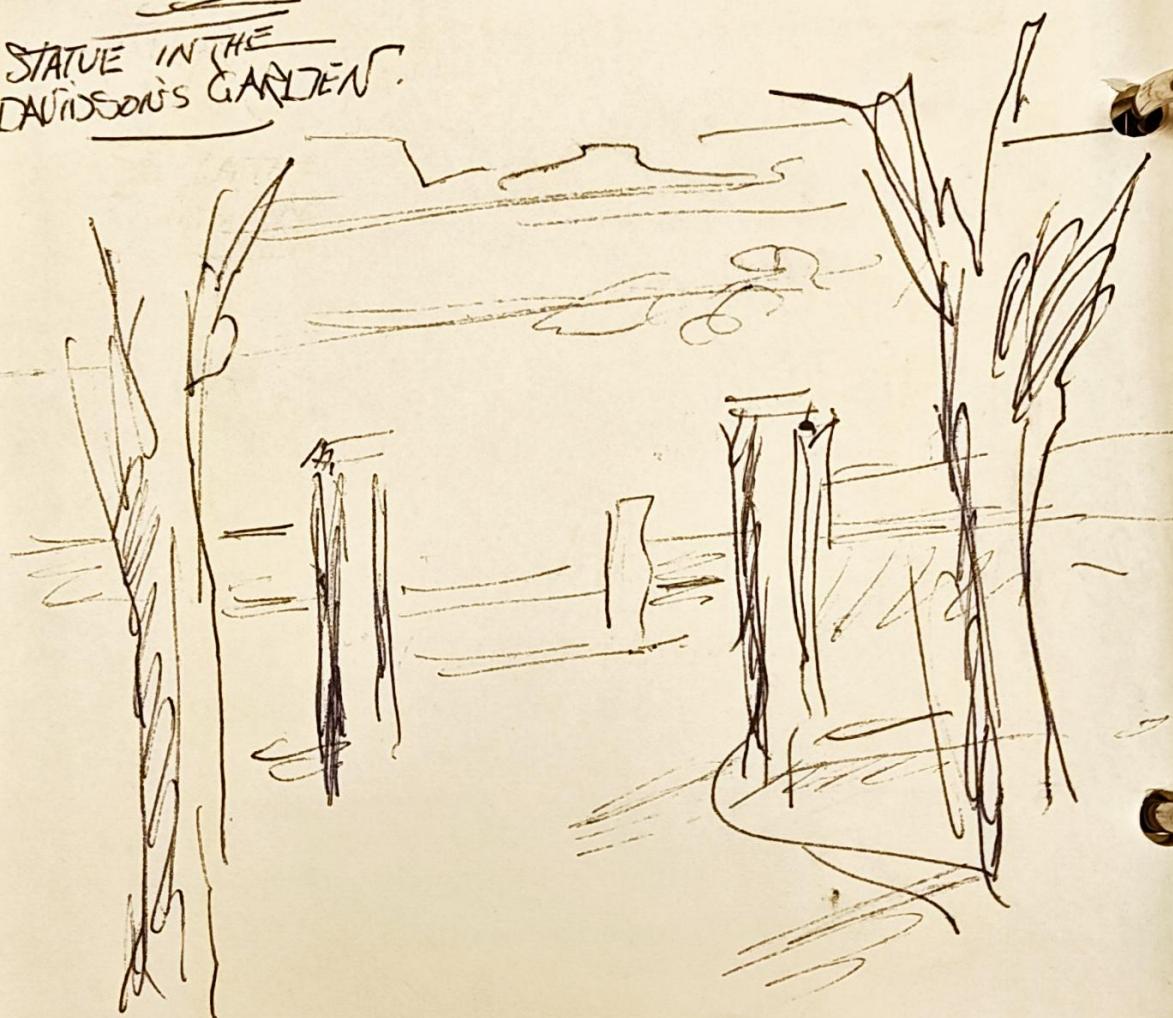
Cordially yours,



Jacques Davidson



STATUE IN THE
DAVIDSON'S GARDEN.

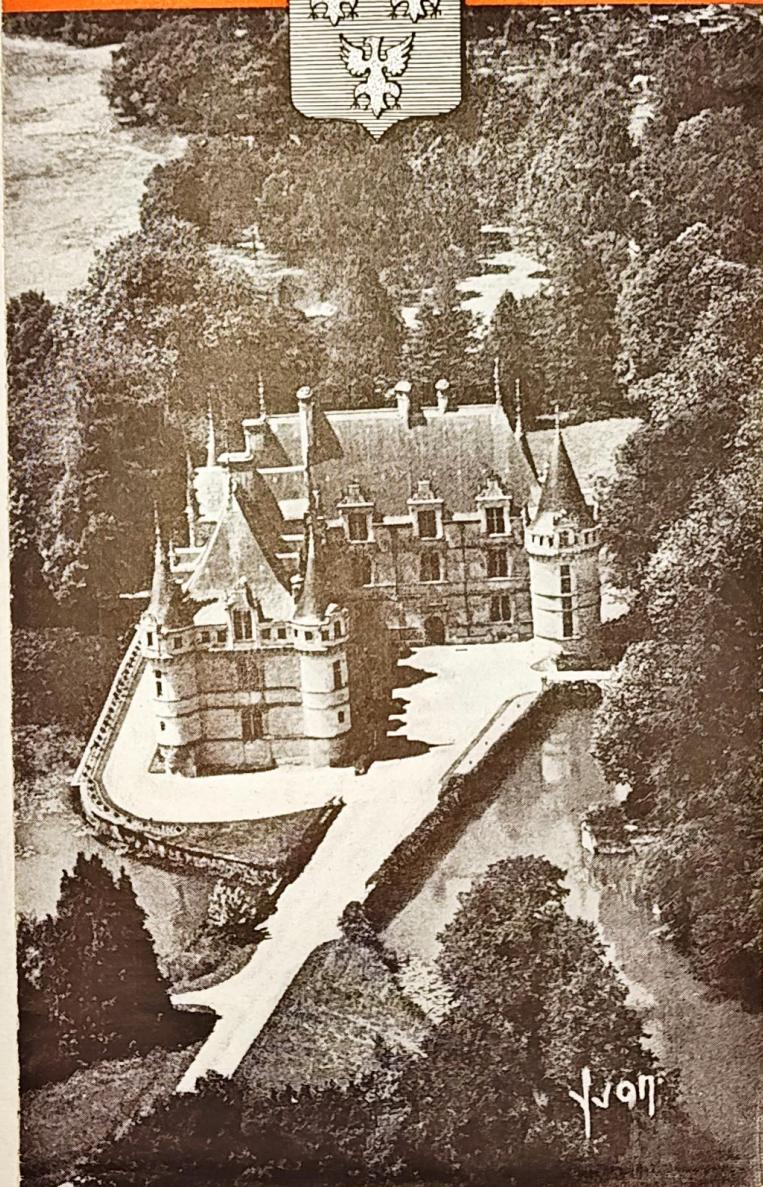


VOUS NE CONNAISSEZ PAS LA
FRANCE

SI VOUS N'AVEZ PAS VISITÉ LES
CHATEAUX DE LA LOIRE

AZAY-LE-RIDEAU

JOYAU DE LA TOURAIN



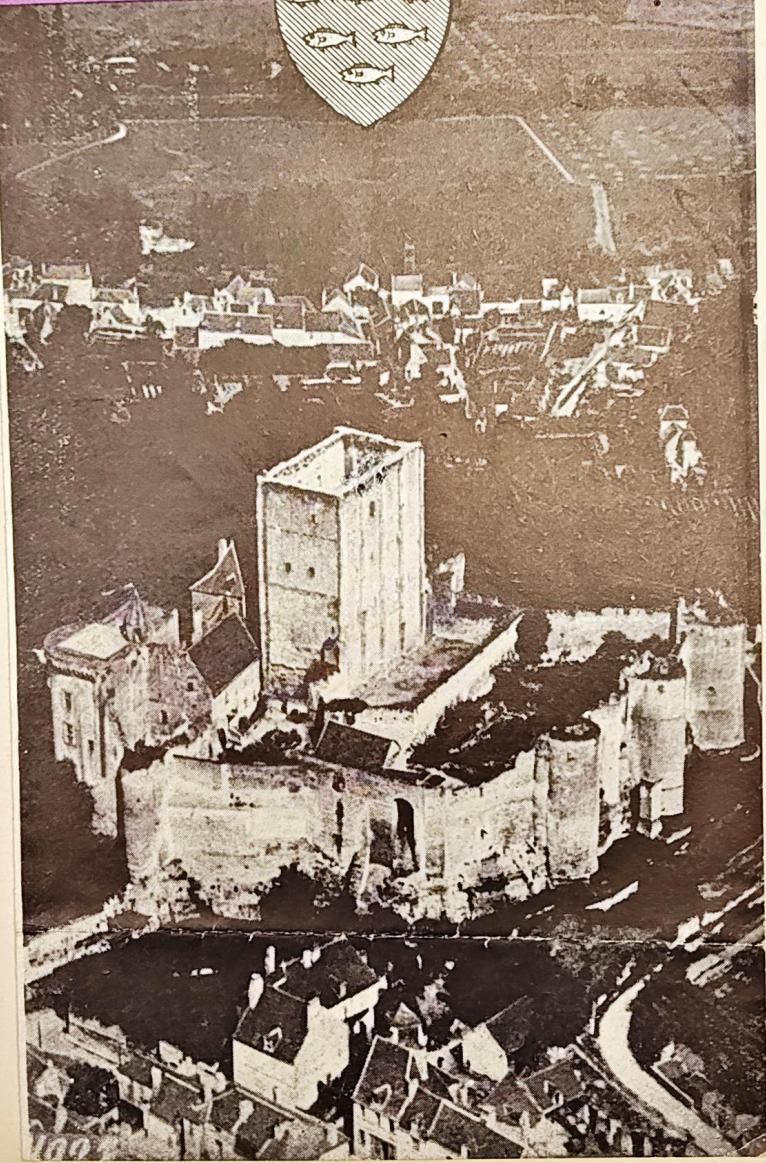
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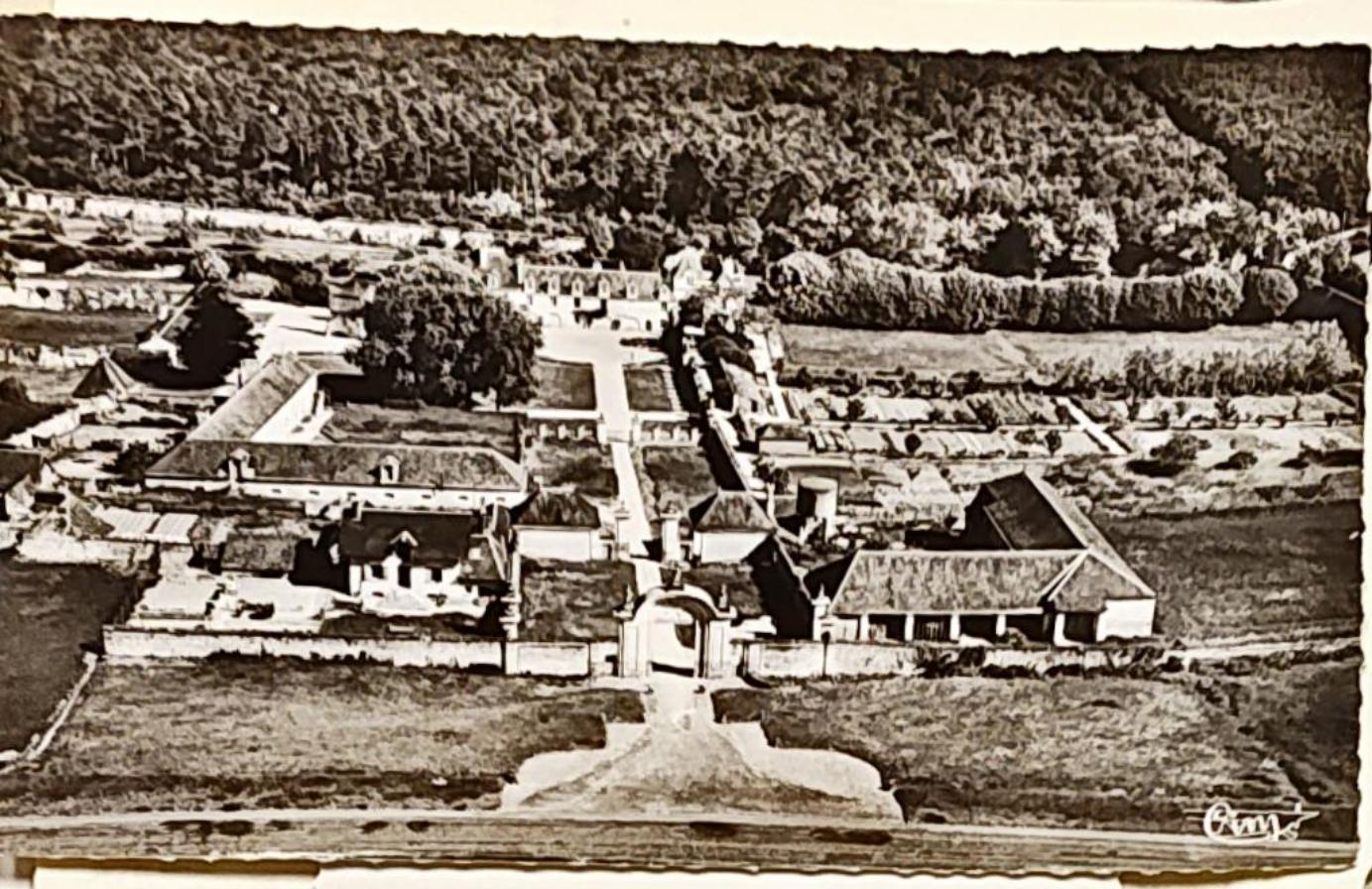
FRANCE

SI VOUS N'AVEZ PAS VISITÉ LES
CHATEAUX DE LA LOIRE

LOCHES

VILLE MÉDIÉVALE





Emm



FRANCE
Musée Archéologique d'AZAY-LE-RIDEAU
Musée de l'Etat

Les Faunes Nocturnes
d'Azay-le-Rideau

• MAGICAL NIGHTS •



Propriétaire : M. Epoca. Tél. 46-09

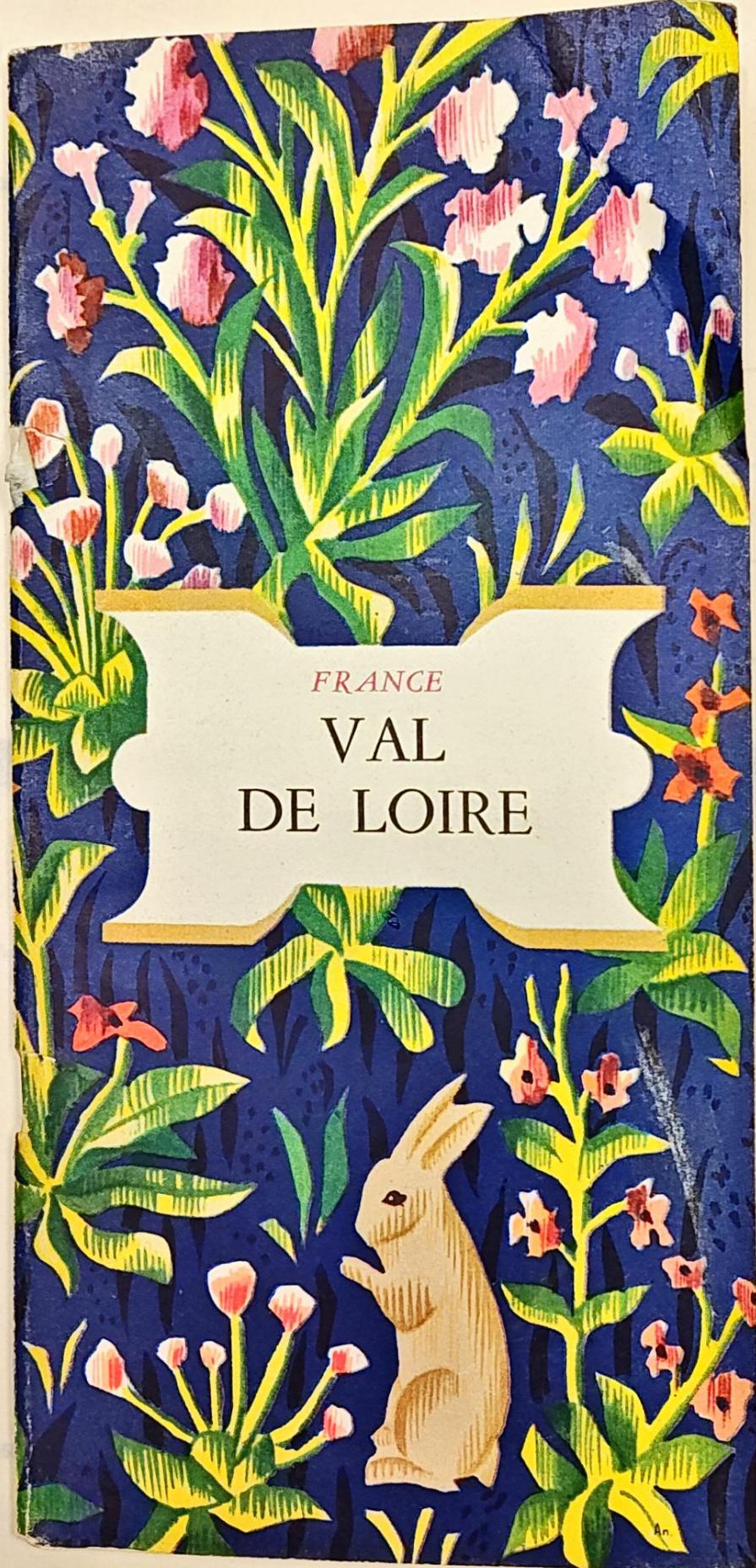
Distances en kilomètres de AZAY à :

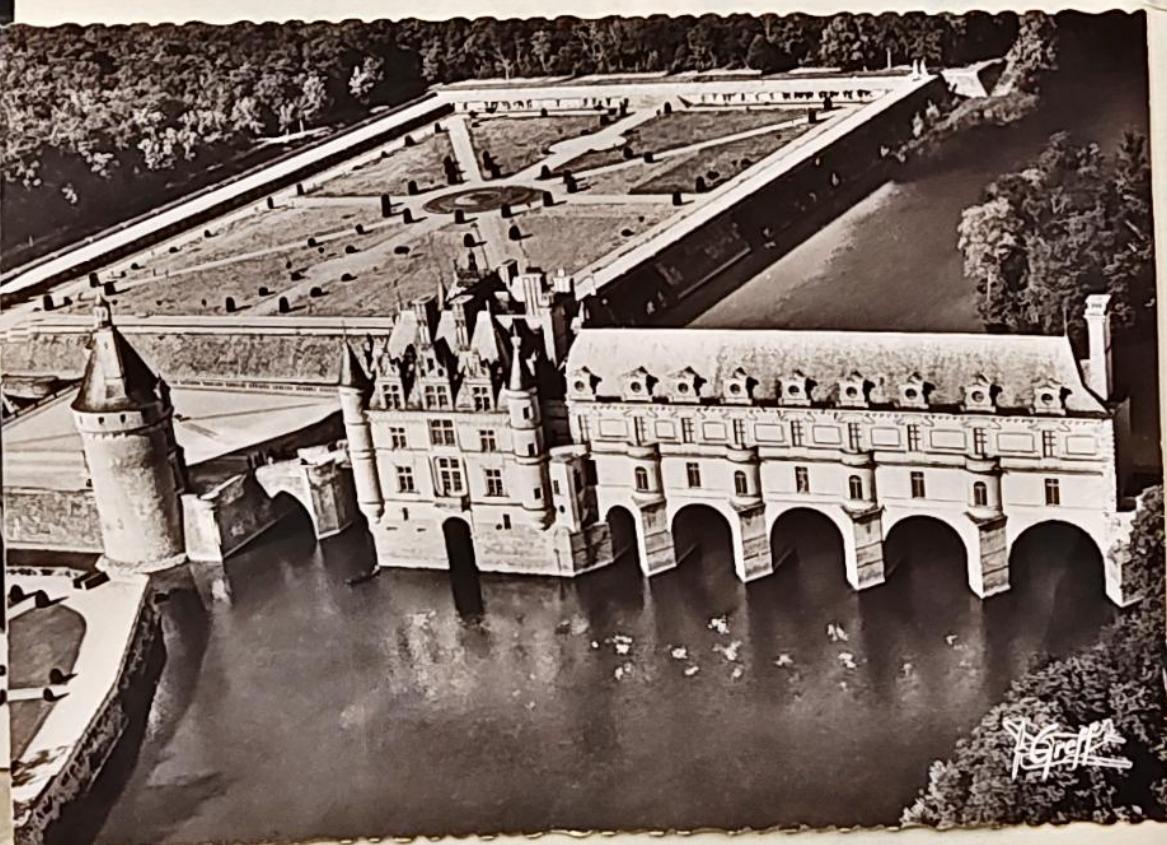
Paris	213	Couëtre	170	Nantes	150
Angers	261	Châteaubriant	115	Orléans	145
Bordeaux	270	Le Mans	140	Poitiers	100
Brive	280	La Roche-Bernard	170	Rennes	195

Azay-le-Rideau, a unique French jewel in the world of Art buildings
An architectural gem built during the middle ages

FRANCE

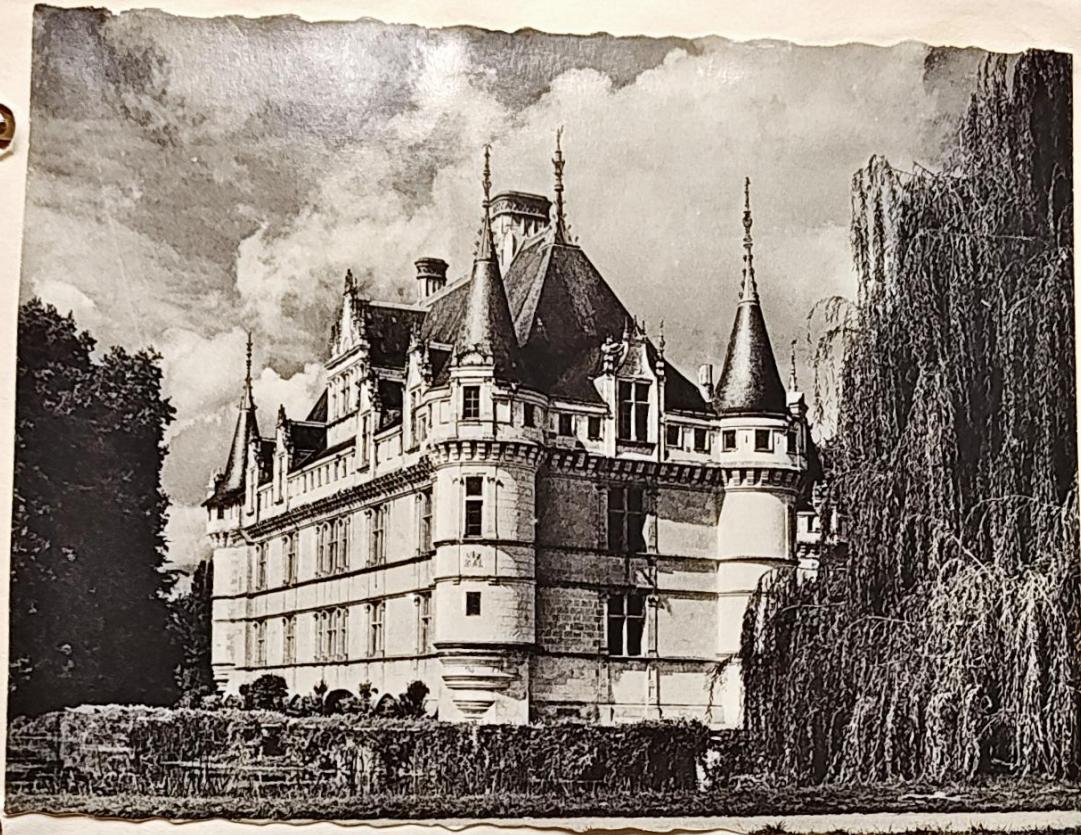
VAL
DE LOIRE



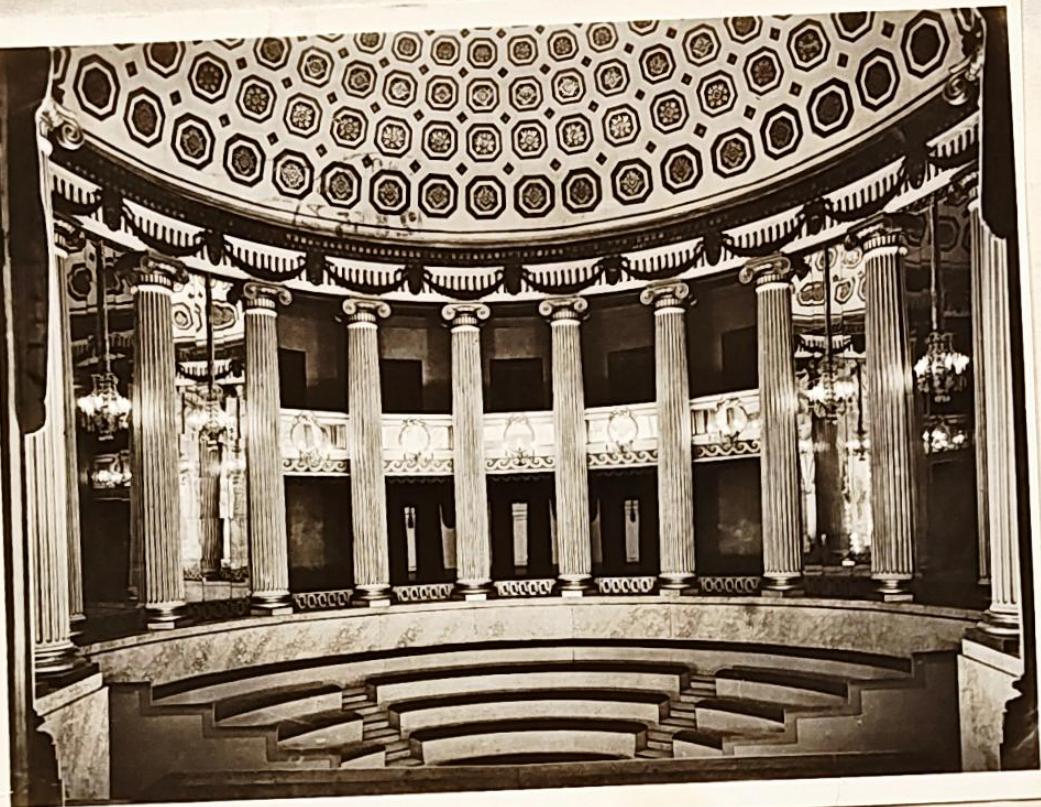








Azay-le-Rideau



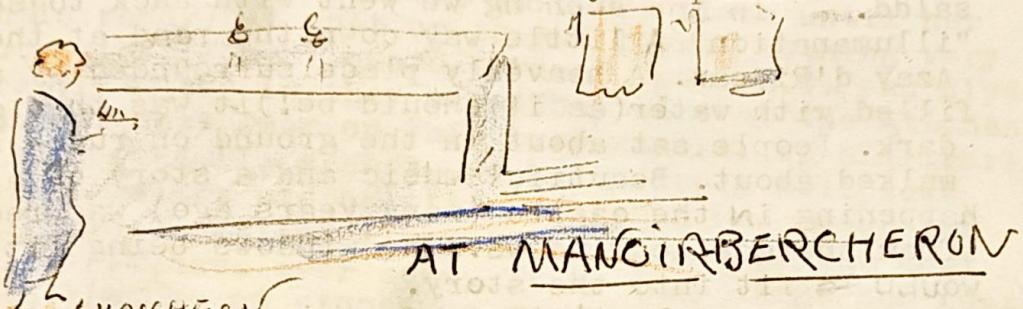
Gripsbølle Cartte theatre

LEAVING PARIS FOR SEVERAL DAYS IN THE COUNTRY -

Wednesday July 20th.

Breakfast in our round white sitting room. Very smartly we packed into ONE suit case, leaving all the rest at Le Bristol for our return from the country ~~a few days later~~.

Took the noisy little morning train for Tours-about 2 1/2 hours. We could see several huge chateaux up on the hillsides. Ambroise for one. Just before we reached Tour Mr Dickenson met us. His father was Jo Davidson the famous sculptor- and the Davidsons live in the old farm manor-house that was his.. We drove to Brechon their farm, where we had a very substantial lunch- as Mrs D. explained we would need it as we had a busy afternoon before us. Sorrel soup, steak and a salad. We had a pleasant room on the ground floor a tiny dressing room and a HUGE bath room with a tub large enough for a baby elephant!



AT MANOIR BERCHERON

LUNCHEON

After breakfast we started out with Jack Davidson in his cosy little car for the "afternoon tour".

Went first to Chenonceaux- this chateau we went inside of. Loft hall and rooms with paintings of people belonging to the various families connected with the chateau, ~~many years ago~~. One of the interesting parts of this particular mansion was the covered bridge from the further end of the building to the shore on the other side. This was built up over the river by a series of arches. An important building was to have been erected on the further side of the river connected with the bridge. It reminded us of the bridge in Florence- Ponte Vecchio.

From here we drove thro the lovely river valleys of three of these rivers. Ambroise we saw from below and above.

The round tower from the river side was the one the riders went up to the stables- on a ramp into the huge tower. The large tower on the other side was that used by royalty, etc; carriages went in this one up to an important court. We went inside parts of the castle- absolutely bare rooms- being repaired. In the church and a tomb. Saw a chateau or two and various churches outside. Then visited Sache, Balkac old home- now a museum. An interesting rather tall building- not especially large. The medium sized living

was furnished exactly as Balkac left it. Wall paper in imitation of heavy folds of material with borders and rosettes in a mustard shade. Ratyer gay flower chitz on the chairs and sofa. The view from all windows very lovely. The floor above was his bedroom. A very small bed fitted into an alcove. (such a steep narrow stairway to get up to this room) Across the + little hall was rather a spacious room which contained a large collection of Jo Davidson's work. Almost entirely busts of famous people. A life size figure of Gertrude Stien. The busts were all arranged on tall square pedestals of varying The likenesses being startlingly fine. We could see from these high windows far over the beautiful rolling hills country-and ~~over~~ the tiny villages scattered over the fields. Supper Mrs Davidson explained was a very light meal - it was excellant Sorrell soup poufle and a saldd. In the evenong we went with Jack to see the "illumanation" A little way down the road at the chateau Azay d'Rideau. A heavenly place surrounded by a moat filled with water(as it should be!) It was then quite dark. People sat about in the ground on rugs- some walked about. Beautiful music and a story of a tragic happening in the castle (many years ago) was recited from the castle windows. The windows being lit as it would fit into the story.

Thursday July 21st Breakfast in our room. About 10 we started the Davidsons and their little boy plus a picnic First to a monestry- Loches - the original walls enclosing it. Large wheat fields were within the enclosure. The buiodings were of the century. We then drove thro' what was the royal forrest-came to a pretty round thached summer house. As it rained a little we ate our excellent lunch at this place.

Went back to Loche, the chateau and church. Visited the tomb of Agnes Sorel and went thro' many barren rooms in the chateau- one of which Joan of Arc was supposed to have had her second audience with the King. At this time she was said to have selected him from the large gathering (she never having seen him before) Rained light showers. Then to Chinon- where we had tea and walked thro' the old vallage. This particular town is held by the government as to building and changes of any sort. (Like Chester in England and Rothenburg in Germany) In the evening a couple came for over night. We could have managed very nicely without HIM. Very noisy and disagreed with everybody and every thing!

July 22nd. Day of departure. Drove to St. Pierre de Cloches just outside of Tour- where we took the II.20 train fro Paris. Mrs Davidsons' Mother drove over with us. Her sister lives in the U.S.A. at Hanover. The car acted up on the way over- but we got there!!

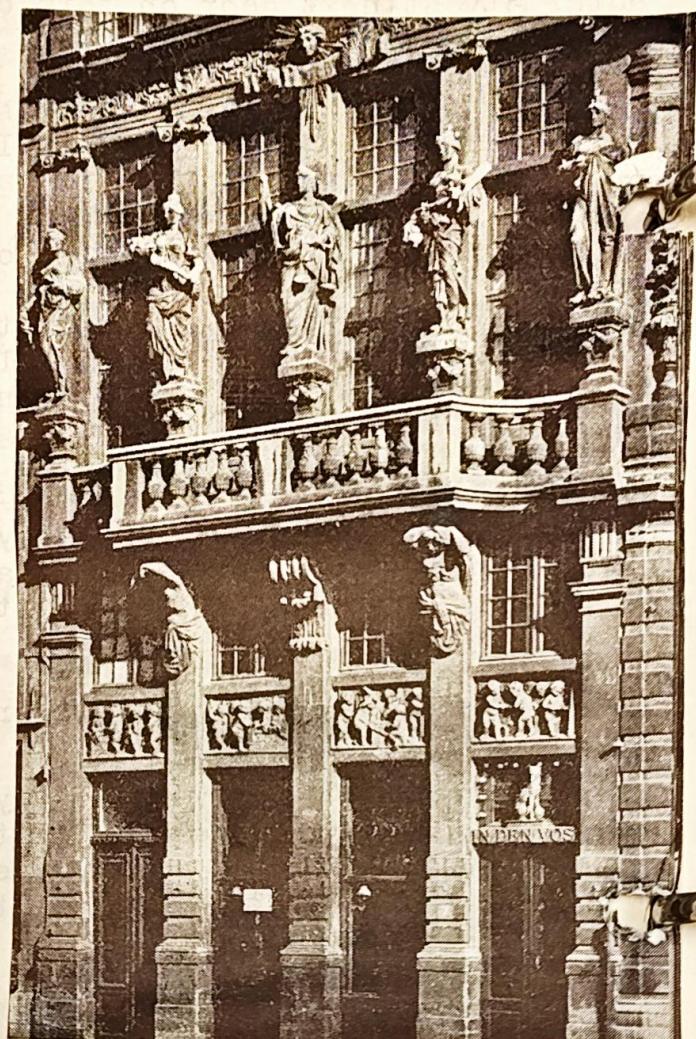
Saturday July 23rd. Now we leave Paris - not very much of a visit but there is much to see in Europe - and many places we may never get around to again. However, Paris I hope to visit again.

We left Le Bristol for the Airways a little before 9 and stopped enroute at Hermes to collect a scarf-decorated with all the famous chateaux of France - a few of which we visited during our recent little stay in Tours. This scarf a souv~~in~~ner for Gail. Then on to the air port. A two-motor plane awaited us (this did not ent~~ance~~ ME) Not many passengers. We paid about \$6.00 over weight - but expected this anyway. About 3/4 hour's flight among the clouds. A bit bumpy. But we GOT there O.K.

Mercedes B~~ucher~~ met us at the Brussels terminal with her new grey Ford Sedan. It was good to see her! We always have fun. She drove us to Brussels and thro the lovely parks. Landing at the Metropole (where M. also lives until her apartment is ready) we went up to our rooms. Nothing very fancy but quiet. Some flowers arrived from M.G. and Clyde and directly after, in they came! They were at the Atlanta hotel almost next door on this busy street. We all traile over to the Grand Place. Where we had a truly delicious meal of steak potoes etc on little table placed out on the sidewalk. This beautiful Place is to me one of the most beautiful sights I have ever seen. It is very large and neatly paved with blocks of stone - as are most of the streets in Brussels. The distinguished Town Hall (Hotel de Ville) occupies practically the end, facing the lovely group of Guild houses or Corporation Houses. All around the square are these very beautiful structures, darkened with age, the carvings and cornices etc decorated with gold. The facades are surmounted by irregular roofs topped with the emblems of the guilds. A basket, a lamb, The effect at night when the buildings are wonderfully illuminated, is something never to be forgotten.

We drove with M. in her cosy grey Ford all thro the lovely parks. Huge trees, lakes, pleasant rolling meadows, flowers in many spots. We drove past many famous buildings

Palias de Justice etc. After a rest period we set forth again for our beloved Square where we had a delicious dinner - so good and so cheap. In a charming little restaurant approached thru a tiny paved alley. IN the Flemish style. Carved panels and old Delft plates pewter and all the brass most beautifully polished. Le Bon Vondieu Temps. Be SURE to visit this if you go to Brussels!



LE RENARD

7, GRAND'PLACE, BRUXELLES
RESTAURANT



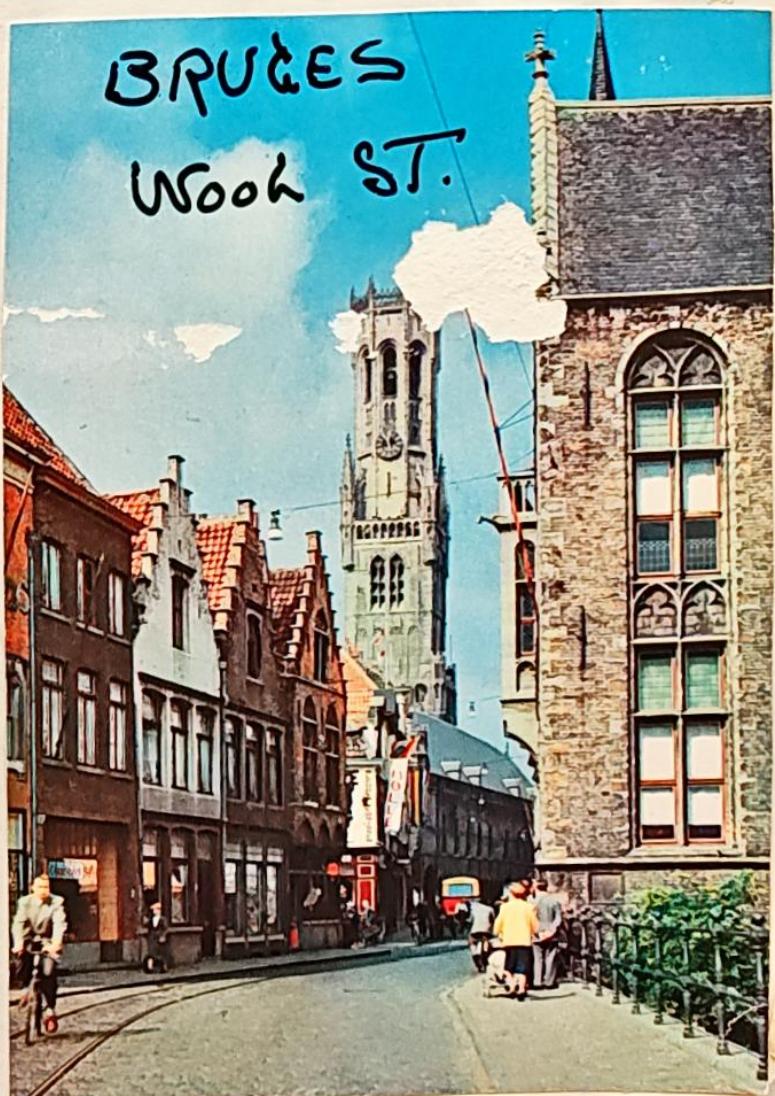
Joches - le château
Oratoire de la Ruelle

BRUGES

TOWN HALL
SQUARE



BRUGES
Wool ST.



T



Hotel Svendborg
DENMARK

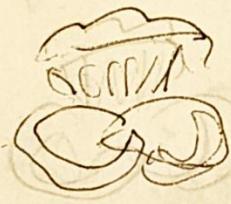
Left Svendborg Aug 11
10.30

Thursday

Svendborg, den
Tlf. 1700

It was a nice cool
brass new light - cigar down
trays on beds. half of bed
placed toward window
cigar

Some bats mechanism gas
trees 100 yds apart -
Vesterværnning - check design
tragedy
houses - KRO (see)



Bobby
sign

Bent ERS

Lulu 1 - year

Dublin
h. Wind
O'Leary's
J. Morris

Hedge
at Clapham
at 8 West

guitar
jumper

Sabria cat rock
2nd ||
balcony of plants

W. wall -
Court garden -
Ziaabqóna wall -
bakery -
brew works -
Roses -

Grotto
Rolling wreath -
Red rope wreath -
Spahaliv
Spahaliv
pears

Tulipan yellow grain corn

Cultivated with all kinds

Lady Beebe frost
islands - clipped black hedges
veau

Wednesday

Le Bristol Hotel 9.30

HOTEL ET RESTAURANT

112. Faubourg St Honore

PARIS (VIII)

Télégr. Bristonoré-Paris
Téléph. Ely. 23-15 et la suite

in the city, suddenly got
onto the highway, we
encountered a 'Spiral'
Spiral - a Swedish

interpretation of a curved

We drove round & round
finally emerged on
a main street - at

Grieg's Long drive 1½
hours - on highway - this freight
of wheat fields - Bristol
Mariefield under the stars -

✓ Macarons Chantilly
Mellusio 20 years
old or half
Lettuce 90% -

carrots
lunch "ste
straw sauce
cherries washed
children eat
at first Broth

Lie. Baegs - far out
After going to Z. Nla.
Places Stockholme
Rath & hut Curved
But in a days walk
to Greenland re
wh. Copenhagen is for all
is Ingrist of the North
500 island comprised
in this y. December
Suzza very dead
indeed

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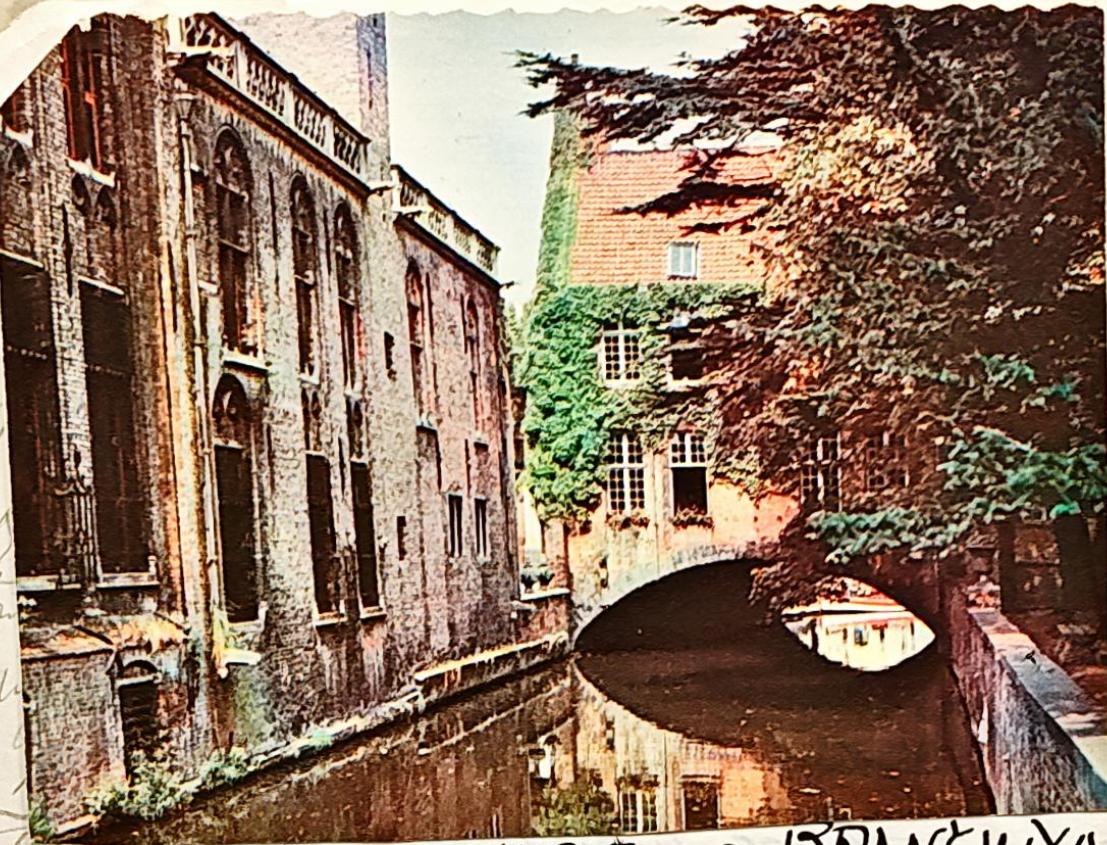
everywhere
in the place
of the
old fort
in X



THE TANNERS CORPORATION HOUSE



ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL



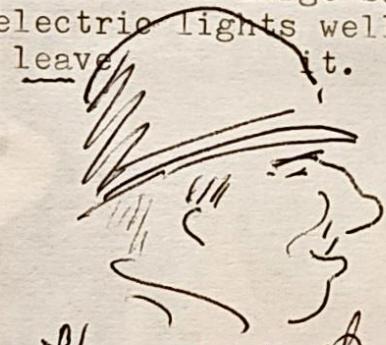
THE GROOTHUSET & BRANGWYN
MUSEUMS

JULY 1980 H. S. H. 72

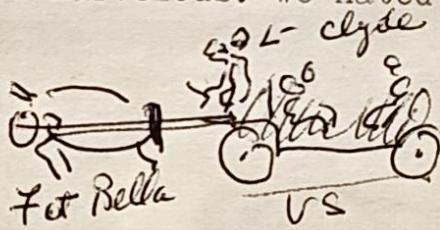
Sunday. To Bruges - with Mercedes & the Wilsons

THIS was a DAY! M.G. and Clyde, plus Gail and myself all in Mercedes' Ford, travelled over the Motor Highway. First lookked up the Flea Market which was just next to nothing. Then on to Bruges passing cultivated fields and neat little houses. M. drove us all around by the canals etc. A truly wonderful and unspoiled little city of the past. Many hundreds of years old. We had lunch on the square. Got a Victoria with a horse named Bella. A very FAT horse but she didn't have to go very fast. M.G. got very conversational with Bella's owner. IN French. Visited enclosure of the Beguinage & the chapel where the sisters of the nursing order were chanting. Being sunday almost all the shops were closed. But we saw the women making the bobbin lace and bought a few pieces. The buildings around the enclosure called the Beguinage were used in olden times for wives and widows, and women of some standing when the men were at war or had been killed etc.

We had dinner in Brussels again on our beloved Place- the large square. The buildings with the electric lights well placed were marvelous. We hated to leave it.

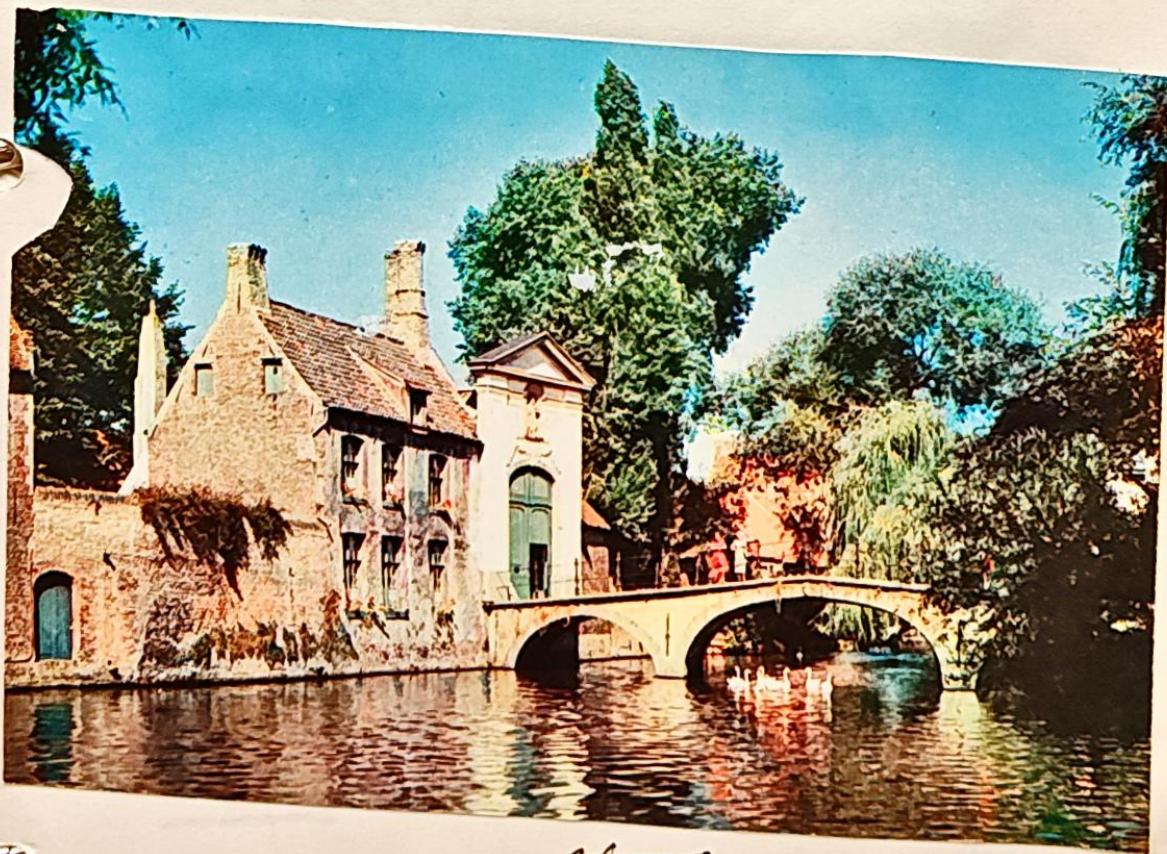
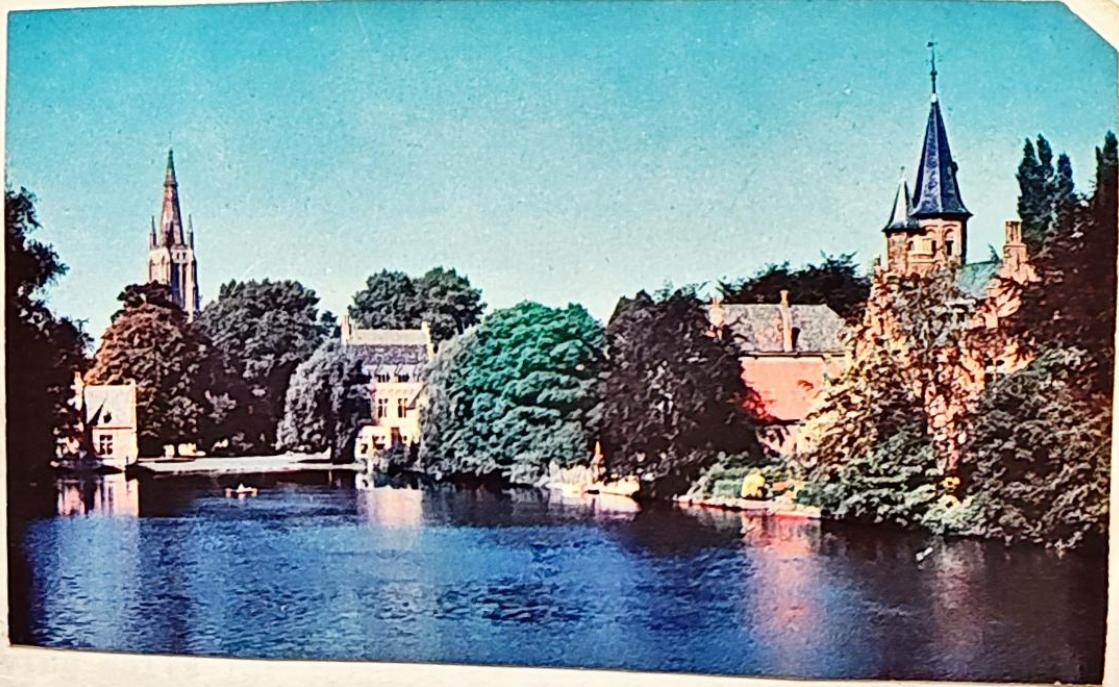


The owner of
"Bella" (the horse)



The Square is a breath taking spot. The buildings surrounding it are rather Dutch or Flemish in style. The tips of the irregular roofs being surmounted by the emblems of the various Guilds- as many of the buildings were old Guild Houses. The buildings are dark with age and carved richly and ornamented with gold. Further embellished with gold paint on the sills and carvings. The lights on the buildings at night create a truly beautiful and unreal effect. Like part of a fairy tale.

M.G. and Clyde have been with us three days and we have all had one grand time.

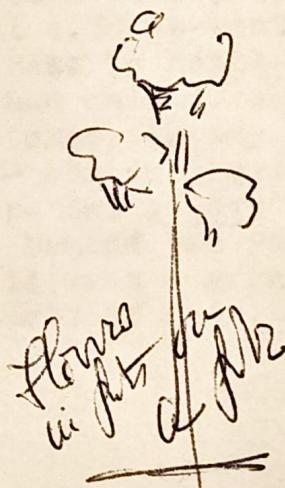


Bridge of the
"Princely Beguines" —

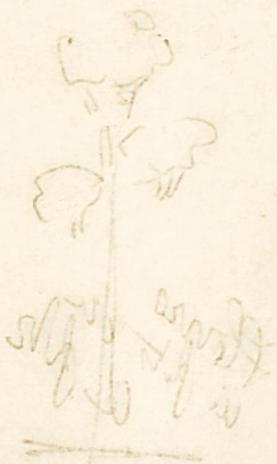
25

Monday. Mercedes busy with her work, so Gail and I started out to purchase paint things. Belgian CANVAS linens and Blockx oil colors. Ended up by getting \$62.00 worth of materials- excluding pallettes, brushes etc. Some for gifts. Then to Maria Roix' for lace. (Had to get some, being in Belgium.)

A woman in the shop doing bobbin lace. Her fingers flew like mad. She would only do it when a big lot of tourists came in! Got lace & very nice lace trimmed table cloth- about \$20.00 for the Alice's fancy country suppers- hope she'll be pleased with it. Some lace vest affairs about \$10. each for Frances (lauandessme others) Also mats at \$3.00 and so each. Went across street to St Gudule church. Not interesting- gaudy tapestries and not much else. We walked back down hill somewhat, buying dolls for Johnnie on the way. Later came M.G. and Clyde & M. with her Ford. We steered over again to the beautiful Place where we sat outside in the sun and had a very excellent meal very cheap. All the restaurants around the square seem to be good, only some more fancy than others. Some are very Flemish in style- with dark paneling and very fine brass, pewter and blue Delft plates. Brass plates and platters- all beautifully polished. Brass door knobs. ^{I BOUGHT TINY POTTERY BUTTER DISHES} ~~TWO ARE FOR ALICE~~ We had cocktails up in M.G.'s room and waited sometime for Mercedes after she finally arrived we went over to the square where we had one last meal, and look at fit.



*Pilgrim
Bush*



Denmark

Mercedes took us in her Ford July 26.
To our place. After which, in 9/4 Holland.
Hour we were in Amsterdam, Holland.
Had a very good time
in the Air Force Restaurant. Our
own remembrance of Holland.
Now there's Copenhagen. No one
there to meet us. So we finally
got a cab & drove to the Astoria
Hotel. Very near the R.R. station
house. Clean George but rather old
house. Went over to the Circular
a hotel.

Very gay place. Music and all sorts of
~~places~~ to spend cash for fun. Gail shot bears and bul-
eyes and smashed up plates. It is truly a nice place.
Everyone very orderly and enjoying it.

July 27th. Went to the TRAVEL Agency. Went over to the D'angleterre Hotel, and to an art and craft place next to it where I got some wonderful things! Lions made of rope, lunch doilies with designs of all nations. Things for Kissie, a beaded bracelet, gloves, etc. Had lunch the D'angleterre. Couldn't get rooms there- all full. Went to the Permente- a place that shows all sorts of things to buy. Got a skirt, linen table cloth, scarves, fish doilies, At 4.30 we went on the city tour In a bus. all around. Back to hotel- flowers from Mr and Mrs Dessau. They had called. Went to the Coc D'or and had a very fine dinner. On way back to hotel passed the Circus Schuman we couldn't get in- laws that prevent when it is full up- but a very nice attendant let us stand upstairs behind the rows of people. So we saw a lot of it and it was a grand show. Elephants, acrobats and all sorts of acts. W

BW