Friday, Nov 2, 1962

Hi, Bette!

I had a talk with the customs appraiser here and didn't get any definite information regarding duty on the old microphone. He said it would have to be appraised by the Post Office if it came by mail and suggested that it would be cheaper to list it as telephone apparatus which is 17%. This would be cheaper than items of "metal manufacture." He said he couldn't tell the hour it would be appraised until he saw it. I pointed out to him that it only had an antique value and was of no value as a piece of telephonic apparatus, as it couldn't possibly be used in a communication network. He says the customs office only recognizes antique value on items made before 1830! I asked him if setting a value for insurance would establish a value for customs duty and he said not necessarily. If you possibly insured it for $75 it would have too much duty.
I called at the Fair at the Science Building and got the name of our obliging guide. I didn't see her personally, but the office gave me the information you asked.

Nancy Harvey
10776 Marine View Drive, S.W.
Seattle, Washington

We were glad to hear that you had arrived back home and envy you going into spring and summer while we face the rigors of winter. Jack Tolkien and I were out to the museum last night to the opening of the New Natural History Wing and learned that the local zoo here has a fine specimen of a "Tasmanian devil" which you were telling us about when you were here. We will have to make a visit to the zoo and become acquainted with the beastie!

We were glad to have the fine visit with you that we had and will be looking forward to seeing you again. Loretta sends her best wishes.

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P.S. I picked up a rare receiver specimen drive you were here. An F.B.T. National in fine condition.
1910 Arc Wireless Telephone
built by Mr. Dublerin and
used at Seattle. Newspaper
display shows front page of
The Seattle Times, dated Oct 30, 1910
and giving a story of the
experiments.