

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, May 10, 1917, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. 1331 Connecticut Avenue. (Postmarked May 10, 1917) Dear Alec:

David was much pleased at your writing him, but he wants something practical right away because the time for its use is almost here. Already some of the surplus vegetables of the South are being wasted, wasted when the need for them is so great. There are problems about the ordinary method of canning too, there is a shortage of tin and will be a shortage of transportation. David already has a beautiful light paraffin container that will keep dried vegetables clean and free from insects, all he needs is the drier for farm houses.

About my telegram tonight David says he found when experimenting with his twenty foot camera that he only got confused light, but adding his lens the light beams were concentrated and he could see clearly. He wants you to try the effect of your pocket lens inserted between your mirror and your eyes, perhaps this is not right, but anyway he helped me write the telegram so it comes from him.

It's awfully cold here.

Much love, Mabel. The tax bill is out. You have to have three millions before you lose half your income.