SHORT SKETCH OF B & C's ACTIVITIES DURING A TRIP BY CAR TO NORTHERN ITALY 19th MAY to 14th JUNE, 1956.

DAY 1 London - Dover 2 hours. Dover - Boulogne - Millpond. Boulogne at 11.0 a.m. Paris 6.0 p.m. Latin quarter with pernod at Cafe de Chiny. Room and bath for 1700 frs. sans bath. Dinner at Cafe de Madeline - fruits de mer and peche melba. All Place de la Concord lighted up. Very tired so to bed at 11.0 p.m. after walk up Champs Elysees. (This car is constipated, it hasn't passed anything in months). Poujadist tractor blockades all the way to Paris. Bath 300 frs.

DAY 2 Paris - Avignon (475 miles). Pictures on Seine bridge before leaving Paris in early hours - on back roads to Vienne - arrived at 1.30. Sumptuous repast. Stopped for snooze on plateau. Drove to Avignon - camped out. Pope's Palace lighted - historical pageant. Handbrake fixed contrary to Sunday law.

DAY 3 From Avignon to Nice through interesting and typically Mediterranean countryside. Sun disappointed as did evening. Troubled night in orchard in the hills behind Nice

DAY 4 Wash up and shave at Eno. Coupons at Consulate - feel much better - coffee at sidewalk cafe then set out for border. Perfume fields picture - still no sunshine. Drinking water. San Remo - smart sophisticated large seaside town - lovely things in shops to buy. Picture of Russian church. Opera on juke box. No sun so on to Alassio after lunch - averted gastronomic crisis by taking 6 sodamints. Evenings activities - poor sport in Alassio. Delightful night in hills overlooking sea. Initially dubious of adjacent shed. Awakened to noise of cow chewing cud.

DAY 5 Attempted shave on beach after cold beans for breakfast. Lovely sun - returned Alassio and beach all day. Lunch of lassagna for B and spaghetti for C. ? lost key. Left Alassio and travelled along coast to Genoa. Surprisingly modern and interesting city - explored at night. Picture of Ducal Palace - B. Tortuous agonising search for sleeping ground - at last found niche blasted in mountainside. Awakened at 4.30 by inevitable rain. Rest of morning B in car, C under cliff. C heaved pear core into cavern and rewarded by explosion. Breakfast on pear and fig newton.

DAY 6 Washed at Eno and shaved on corner - on to Rapallo. Scenery change - more rugged and winding. Less built up. Lovely sights of Santa Margherita and Rapallo. Arrived at 10.0 - market with flowers, fish and food - loquots - free cheese. Met Italian T.V. actress and conversed with difficulty in French. Lovely long walk along shore with lunch at La Pergola - boiled fish (delicious) with Portofino white wine (fragrant). Picked up Betty and drove to Portofino. Boat ride (return 1 hour) to San Fruthrosa. Once convent now resort (reached only by sea). Tea and long walk and place where Christ's statue was sunk. Returned Rapallo - back to Portofino and changed clothes in square. Argument about parking ticket. Compari in Bohemian walk up - Beethoven and Chopin. Dinner at La Lina in rain. B. had shrimps in butter, tossed salad and olive oil. Met Liz and Moira by fescuing from Italians. Drink and then up on hill to abandoned house after dropping them at hotel. Evicted timid tenants.

DAY 7 Wash up at Eno - met girls and after cafe set out for morning at Portofino. Long walk up to Castle and met American ladies. Didn't buy linens. After purchasing food picnic above beach in

sunshine - courtesy of private land owner. Rest in sun after lunch, swim and washed dishes. Kicked off by owners - refused to pay 300 L. each. Dressed in car in full view of road and returned to Rapallo for tea. Shore walk while car washed and greased. Returned Portofino and La Potiniere for Compari and music. Accordion player in piazza after - waves lapping shore. Returned luncheon site for chianti, cheese and bread bought by girls, before retiring. Beautiful warm windy night. Wakened to hot sun.

DAY 8 Imposed on poor Esso again after snack breakfast. Set out for La Spezia over Passa del Braceo - bought food in Spezia and lunched in olive grove above Lerici. Crumbly cheese, salmon, ripe olives, bread and cherries, chianti. Slept - said goodbye to girls and soon to Pisa. Passed through gate, saw leaning tower, cathedral and baptistry, bathed in evening sun. Too late to climb tower but looked through Cathedral. Ornate interior. Set out and reached Florence. Dinner near duomo - rice soup, tortellini, salad and wine. Slept in field - beautiful night - wakened by brilliant sun.

DAY 9 Vigourous wash and change at Esso. Coffee and sweet brioche then set out sightseeing. Accidentally joined American Express tour in Baptistry - 2400 L. Lunch at Renzo on advise of Ricci.

TOUR Population of Florence 400,000. Saw Chiberti - Paradise doors at Baptistry and last of Michaelangelo in Cathedral (Descent from the Cross). Up to Michaelangelo Square overlooking city and then down via the Vialli de Colli, through old southern gate that was way to Rome, past Elizabeth Browning's house to the Pitti Palace erected in the 15th Century by the family Pitti - contempories and rivals of Medicis who bought it in 16th Century and finished it. Completed in 18th Century - built by Brunellini. 1865 King lived on first floor for five years till 1870 while Florence was the capital. Now owned by State. Collection started by Medici, Boboli Gardens - Florentine or Tuscan of the 15th and 16th Centuries.

Room of the Iliad - Andrea del Santo - Assumption of Virgin - Last Supper second only to Leonardo's.

Room of Saturn - Raphael - Umbrian School then Florentine. Influence of Michaelangelo in Rome. His Maddonna and of the Grand Duke - magnificent. Portrait of a Secretary of the Republic. Husband and Wife portraits. Vision of Ezekial by pupils after Fra Angelico on borderline between ideologists and humanists.

Salle Giore - Baker's daughter by Raphael.

Salle Marte - Murillo - Madonna and Child. Rubens - four portraits which are golden, colourful and warm - of War by Titian - no detail, Van Dyck - great detail, Tintoretto.

Salle Apollo - Titian. Three great pieces of art - lovely flesh tones (Mary Magdalen). Portrait of an unknown gentleman. Greatest Renaissance period.

Salle Venese - Titian - his beauty (probably woman who posed for reclining Venus at Uffizi. Portrait of Colman, The Concert, Portrait of St. Julian II (probably copy.

Royal apartments. Next to the Piazza Signoria - city chambers (old leaders kept from public). Arcade for public speaking.

Rape of Sabine Women, copy of David, Hercules and Giant, Equestrian statue of Neptune - all copies. Perseus with the head of Medusa by Benvenuto Cellini 16th Century - cast bronze from Casina de Medici.

Uffizi (Offices) Gallery - part incorporated in new building though mostly still offices - 50 rooms and over 2,000 paintings. Ceilings original decoration - grotesque - Pompeian style. Painted in tempera - pigment and egg-white. Frescoe (flesh) painted on fresh plaster. Only painted in tempera till 1440 - oil painting then from Belgium.

Tempera - primitive paintings. Giotto and Cimabue. Giotto first to give form to person but still simple and formless - gold background representing firmament. Last follower of Giotto's style - Fra Angelico who was profoundly relighous which inspired his works.

Fillipo Lippi (1406-69) - more worldly paintings. Inspired Browning to write about him. He was human and not a monk. Profile of his mistress (a nun) - mother of Fillipino Lippi. Botticelli - pupil of Fillipo Lippi. Painted for Medicis - included portraits of family. Birth of Venus - allegory of Spring, Madonna of the Magnificat (like Mount picture). Leonardo da Vinci - son of Florentie lawyer - lived in Vinci (good wine). Put in workshop of Verocchio (jeweller and sculptor). Baptism of Lord (Painted Angel) his first work. Attempted everything. 3 paintings of his in Florence - Angel (above), unfinished painting of the Adoration of the Magi, and the Annunciation. Painted Last Supper in Milan. The Annunciation is the only complete Leonardo in Florence. Paintings not religious but angel was rich, voluptuous young Florentine lady. Background could only have been done by a botanist. Wings anatomically perfect - those of others merely symbolical. Buried at Chateau d'Amour.

Room of Statues - 5 of Greek and Greek and Roman period. Greatest 3rd and 4th century B.C. at Hadrians Villa. (1) Venus of the Medici - like Venus de Milo she is very beautiful; (2) Young Apollo; (3) Saturn; (4) The Wrestlers; (5) A Wrestler.

Andrea del Santo - Madonna of the Harpies. Best work of his is Last Supper - outside of city.

Titian - 3 great masterpieces. Assumption, Reclining Venus for flesh tones and portrait at Pitto. Flora - Goddess of Flowers - Titian's daughter - very beautiful. Died at nearly 100 and then only of the plague.

Raphael - Leo X - hands and material, the Madonna of the Goldfinch (1506-8) - painted for Florentine friend.

Michaelangelo - 3 paintings - Crucifixion - London's National Gallery, The Sistine Chapel and Holy Family - figures are very real and not holy - "I love the human body because in it I see God in the image he has made as people."

Flemish tapestries for Catherine de Medici - all figures were courtiers. Four tapestries made in Florence - few and therefore rare - Four seasons showing each of the 12 months.

On to Fiesole - suburb of Florence for patrician homes - old Etruscan town. Next the Mosaic factory of the Medici and the Church of the Holy Cross - paintings covered by whitewash and now restored. Ceiling of original basilica. Windows designed by Chiberti. Tomb of Galileo and monument to Michaelangelo (it should have been The Descent from The Cross in the Cathedral).

Tomb next to it - he died at 89 in Rome. Memorial to Dante - divine poet - founder of Italian language - died at Ravenna. Tomb of Mocchianelli - sceptic and cynic. Also tomb to Rossino - born at Pesaro and died in Paris. Puccini lived and wrote in Florence. Frescoes by Giotto - best of kind are at Assisi. Altar Piece by Giotto. Glazed medallions by Lucca. Leather work at monastery of Santa Croce.

Happy, but foot-weary, so sat in Piazza de Santa Maria and had drink. Dinner in small restaurant for 550 L. - good. Walk, then coffee in del Republica Square and heard operatic arias (Oh Paradiso). Usual search for squatting place in hills behind Fiesole. Best place yet. Warm night - awoke cool.

Day 10 - Awoke in shade of cyprus trees - lay late in bed - Esso - American Express - laundry - then Ponte Vecchio. Carried away by leather and jewels. B. bought leather jewel box, album and cuff links. Pasta lunch then Pitti Palace - very satisfied with latter. Beautiful hot day. Drink at cafe - wrote cards etc. Bath and teeth at Baglioni hotel with Levy's. Special fixed price dinner - 550 L. Coffee in Piazza de Republica and walk. Slight indication of rain, but beautiful warm night. Awoke to cuckoo again. B. disappeared for one hour.

Day 11 - Coffee at camping site - then to supposed Medici Chapel which contained tombs of some of the Medicis. Lovely Renaissance Library (like Oxford's) with number of interesting original manuscripts. Prior to this, we went to the Academy and saw The David - entranced for ½ hour. Took several illegal photographs. Also saw Michaelangelo's 3rd pieta - Descent from The Cross. Shaved at American Express and shopped at Alinari's - picture prints. Bought one of frescoe in Medici Chapel by Benozzo Gozzolli. Picked up cuff links and leather, and C. bought 2 card boxes and went to Renzo's for lunch. Came back to car and horror of horrors found luggage gone. Completely depressed. Report to police through American Consulate interpreter. We lost most of our clothes and $410 of Sheldon's money. Tried to find police - nearly panicked. Consoled each other in restaurant - Bing Crosby - singing and candle light. Told troubles to nice American-Italian lady sitting next - pressed 5,000 L. note into pocket - couldn't stop. Filled thermos from corporation water truck. To bed - awoke feeling better.

Day 12

Morning spent between Br. Consul, American Express, Banco Commerciale Italiano and letter writing. B. had good haircut from Italian barber. Wrote in Savoy writing room - lunch at nasty little restaurant after searching for Specials Gelati store. Set out for Rome, but stopped and sunned at river outside Florence. Washed clothes. Lovely rolling Tuscan hills. Tempted to take many pictures. Leisurely trip to San Gimignano - almost unspoilt Mediaeval town with steep inclines and winding streets - large piazza at top - 13 towers - some lighted at night. Delicious dinner with best spaghetti yet (butto), lamb, local cheese (helped self) and wine. Difficult hunt for camp site - ended in vineyard. Heavenly night - awoke to brilliant sun.

Day 13 - Breakfast of cafe complot at Albergo Cisterna high overlooking chianti valley. Corpus Christi parade - flower petals strewn in path - chanting. Bought food for lunch and on to Siena. Stopped long enough to go through highly Baroque Cathedral - look around Piazza de Campo (sea-shell). Found stream past Siena - stole onions - lunched - B. sunned - washed after. Next stop Rome. (Siena was hilly with narrow winding streets - poor man's Florence. Countryside less prosperious. Into city for dinner and out to camp. Rain at 2:00 a.m. - later B. in car, C. outdoors.

Day 14 - Heated pea soup for breakfast and went to American Express after shaving at Esso. 2 hours to get insurance and letters. Pouring rain - lunch at "La Toscana" - lovely steak. Started sightseeing, but difficult after heavy lunch. Walked through Villa Borghese and down Via Veneto. Returned to Casino (Museum) Borghese at 4:00 and spent pleasant 2 hours looking at Bernini masterpieces - (Plato and Prosperine, Apollo and Daphne, Pauline Borghese reclining, David, Rubens "Diana and the Elders," etc.). Shopped for tie - uninspired, but finally successful. Went West of city looking for site, but in slums so returned for dinner "Gastronomique" near Piazza Venezia. Parade on Via Veneto and coffee before retiring to Les Etoiles - good site, but a little public. Up and ready early.

Day 15 - Set out for St. Peters with excellent cafe complet on the way. Milling people in square. Took pictures and tried to get "oodienza" - directed in and found selves amidst large expectant crowd. Waited 2 hours. Pope borne on litter - screaming crowd. Once around then throne. Spoke in 5 languages. Saw Michaelangelo's 1st Piata - too high - Papal treasury - lunch (B. had torpes). St. Mary Maggiore (Confessional with relics of cradle). Inside Coliseum - badly preserved. Palatine hill and Roman Forum. Scaffolding on Constantine Arch - down into Mamertine prison - then to baths of Coracalla. B. watched athletics. Wash up at Excelsior - met Joan and Marie - drinks and dinner (dutch) at La Toscana. Drive down Appian Way past Catacombs and back to Via Veneto for coffee - late night. (Trevi fountain at night with tourists "con" men). Wakened by former at 5:00.

Day 16 - Washed Esso - went to Vatican which was closed so saw fortress of St. Angelo - (Hadrian's tomb). Pleasant lunch - drugged to sleep in Villa Borghese - chased by cop - moved to another spot and continued sleep. Random wanderings in car - ended at public baths to shower and dress after suits pressed there in the morning. Pande on Via Veneto and then to Colonel Fullertons for more Compari. (Military attache in Rome). Extremely pleasant evening and then to restaurant off Veneto and back into parade. Girls not there. Retired to same spot by midnight for good sleep.

Day 17 - In to American Express and Embassy - wangled PX and then to Vatican Museum. Overwhelmed by incredible collection and closed at 1:45. Few statues of outstanding beauty. Tone and colour of Sistine poor but marvellous spectacle. Raphael rooms exquisite. Michaelangelo's Last Judgement. Ended at Fra Angelico Chapel (Benozzo Gozzoli pupil of his). Lunch at Trattoria of previous day (came up and spoke to us in Venice) and into town to shop - Cassa d'Auria for gloves- approached by black market racketeers. Narrow scrape. B. bought ties while I wrote and watched car. Changed clothes in park - then promenade. Excellent meal 3 blocks from Veneto and after coffee to bed in pine grove in field.

Day 18 - Into day hotel for shower, shave and shine and then to American Embassy pizza and coffee 150 L. Cashed cheque at American Express and so to Vatican museum. Picked up where we oeft off. Fra Angelico Chapel and Loggia of Raphael - artgallery with 3 of Raphael's greatest - the Ascension, Coronation of the Virgin Mary, 2nd greatest work there - Somenichinos Last Communion of St. Jerome. Offered lift to English girls on leaving and took to Veneto for drink - dull and uninspired - late lunch at restaurant of previous evening. Looked at ties, then set out for Perugia - sorry to leave after most enjoyable stay. Country became more lush as we passed into Umbria and rose 1,000 ft. to Perugia. While looking for site - examined castle and scared to death (poor B.) by slops from window. Left quickly. Excellent meal in hotel court yard and short walk before bed in best place yet.

Day 19 - Slow getting up - read Times while clothes dried. Anxious about results, but correct issue not available. Breakfast of cheffies and biscuits. Shave and wash at Esso - changed oil, car washed and spring fixed. Clothes to laundry - tour of Perugia - steep, quaint - not especially noteworthy. Lunch (price fixed) under vines overlooking Umbrian valley - Restaurant Sole with lamb, chicken and strawberries. Waited for car and clothes - down to Assisi. Basilica of St. Claire - veiled Nun behind barred window - blackened body of Saint (600 years). Crucifix that spoke to St. Francis - also relics of his. Basilica of St. Francis. Upper - frescoes by Giotto, Lower - tomb of Saint and lovely frescoe by Lorenzetti (Mary, Jesus and St. Francis). Church below was crypt-like and

monastic. Pizza, wine (cassata for 15) at snack bar and set out for North. Drove well into night, but trouble finding site - car struck crossways on terrible hill (in ruts) great despair, but finally extricated - nearby to pleasant sleeping place.

Day 20 - Woke with old lady working - flock of turkeys - down to river to sun, wash, shave etc. Bought 2 saucepans of cherries from old lady in black (in tree) for 180 L. Through Cesena Ferrara - couldn't find Times - lunch in apple orchard of cold corned beef hash, but rather good. On to Padua, but stopped for mid-afternoon sleep. Next stop Venice - crossed Adriatic and finally decided on proper camping ground. Steamboat ride up Grand Canal to San Marco. Orchestra in Piazza - narrow streets full of people, but no motors. Bough Times and read of C's triumph in newstand. Dinner on C. Coffee later in Piazza - met 3 American girls - hopeless crew. Back to camp, but awakened at 5:30 to rain - one hour in car, but back outside till 9:00 - felt fine.

Day 21 - Motoscafo to San Marco - wandered - St. Mark's Church - lovely mosaics - into Doge's Palace - Tintoretto, Titian Veronese and into prisons across the bridge of sighs (met girls) - lunch. Pouring rain - Motoscafo to Academia and glass-making demonstration. Back to San Marco and Olga Arts - lace and linen. B. bought beautiful handkerchiefs with hand-woven monogram - also bargain napkins. Returned to camp - rented tent then washed and changed. Drink in Harry's Bar. Dinner in small restaurant and uneventful evening in Piazza San Mario - good sleep.

Day 22 - Stand-up breakfast of Pizza and coffee - took photos and up into Camponile. Saw bridge of sighs and then met 4 girls from McGill. Treated to coffee 1680 L. - pleasant interlude and immediately after met previous 3 girls in Gondola - argument over money - we won. Lunch with girls of Pizza (dutch) and long conversation after. Vaporetto to Lido - short walk - beach deserted - touristy. Returned after seeing darkening clouds. Thunder and rainstorm while on ferry - cold, tired and hungry. Left girls and dinner before changing at garage - B. briefly unconscious. Kept waiting for hour then to Harry's. Expensive drinks 3800 L. - pleasant evening, but total loss - C. bewildered and disappointed, B. sullen and disgruntled. No thanks. Snack and then bed in tent - excellent night - awoke to beautiful sun, well rested.

Day 23 - Long time to prepare breakfast of cold beans, milk, coffee, cheese - washed car and delightful cold shower. Back to Venice - Rialto bridge and stroll down narrow streets to Piazza San Rocco and Scuola San Rocco (whole room of Tintoretto - new and vigorous conception). Lunch under vine-covered patio - full of Italians - maccaroni with cheese and meat sauce, wine and mixed salad - delicious. Back to Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari - tomb of Canova - sculptor-18th Century revivalist. Assumption of Virgin by Titian (wonderful setting over Altar). Good lighting. Church light, airy - carved wood choir. Madonna and 4 Saints by Bellini. Stroll to Academia de Belli Arti - crowded narrow streets, light and shadow, quiet and serene canals. No charge for Academia - number of primitives by Veneziano. Then overwhelming collection of Veronese, Tintoretto, Bellini, Titian and Giorgione - developed from late primitive to excellent, rich height of Renaissance. Huge Veronese painting of Christ dining with the Levite. Titian's last at 99 (unfinished because of bubonic plague). Also Tiepolo. Titian - Il Battista. Last ride on motoscafo to Piazzole Roma and off at 3:50 to Padua and Vicenza - reminded by signs that it was the home of Palladio - stopped to see some of work; Basilica Palladiana, City Hall (Maffei Exhibition) and Teatro Olympico - closed, but talked way in. Met by English speaking guide - saw theatre. To Palladio Service Club to change money for tickets to evening performance - Piccolo Scala. Heard 3, one-act musical plays - Monteverdi to story by Tossa from Jerusalem liberated;

Mozart's Bastian and Bastiana; and Saliere's Piccolo Harlequinade (Queer - B.) - fashionable cultured audience. Short drive before bedding in peach orchard - wakened at 6:3- by rain - dozed for hour in car.

Day 24 - After good breakfast in c fe, drove on Autostrada to Lago Maggiore and had lunch (expensive) in Stressa. Talked with Barb Pumfrey - secretary at W.H.O. Started into mountains - Simplon Pass - rain, fog, snow and bad roads - 6578 ft. Down to Brig and on to Sion. Cooked pleasant dinner - coffee in town - deserted - sprinkled, so slept in partly constructed building - out by 6:45 to beat workmen.

Day 25 - Down valley till we found rushing mountain stream - stopped and cooked breakfast - washed dishes, shaved and cleaned up. Set out refreshed along Lac Leman (Southern shore) towards Geneva. Drove through Geneva to U.N.O. (Palais des Nations) and took tour - Council and Assembly Rooms. Good meat and salad lunch at cafeteria and horrors B. couldn't find camera. Futile search rest of afternoon - saw insurance representative. Rang Barbara and arranged drink at 7:--. Went to Youth Hostel and changed clothes in old city and to Margot for drink. Tried Martini sec and Barb rang roommate. Excellent dinner at Francis' - steak and all chips ad lib - 2 helpings meat. Met Audrey and danced at Casino overlooking Lake Geneva. Accepted hospitality of friends floor following interlude - English breakfast.

Day 26 - Geneva - Paris, steady drive all day - arrived tired at 7:00 and straight to Hotel de la Place, Place Bienvenue (Double 660 F.). Walk around Paris in evening and so to bed. B. talked with Law Student and had huge bowl of inion soup.

Day 27 - Plugged sink with debris of yesterday's dirty dishes - frantic struggle to remove evidence. Letters at American Express and back roads out of Paris after cafe complet. Fast drive to Boulogne - pleasant lunch on roadside. Got rid of last of coupons near Boulogne. Little trouble getting on ship. Left Dover at 7:-- and arrived back at flat at 8:45 after completing 3,300 miles (plus 50 for Channel).

F I N I S