

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

ITHACA, NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

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Dear Max

I know Williams. Save for one conversation, I should say slightly; but that one talk I had with ^{him} in the dining room of the University Club here, sent me away saying to myself, The man is a kindred spirit! We didn't talk about anything but maps, but we had the same passion for them, and, although you may not know it, a man who cares for maps per se is a saved soul. I liked him through and through.

I have enquired of others about him, and I get nothing but superlatives in response. One of his mathematical colleagues told that Williams is a thorough scholar, a splendid teacher, a wholly dependable committeeman, whose loss would fill the department with consternation. Another man not in that department called him, "A fine man, a fine fellow all through."

The upshot is that ^everybody here likes him and admires him. There aren't any reservations. The college that gets him will be lucky, and I hope it won't get him.

Happy New Year to you, Max old fellow, and to your admirable family.

Affectionately

Martin