

The United States Printing & Lithograph Co.

85 to 101 North Third Street

Brooklyn, N.Y.

WILLIAM OTTMANN
VICE PRESIDENT

PHONE - GREENPOINT 4400

Feb. 21st, 1929.

Dear Dr. Penfield:--

Mrs. Ottmann's plans are very definite, and will only be changed through some contingency of health or some other emergency beyond control. I have secured for her transportations from New York to Montreal, arriving at the latter city on Tuesday, March 19th. She will at once get in touch with you, in order that all the necessary details may be arranged. I shall tell her that you have made a tentative reservation at the hospital. I have reserved rooms for her at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel.

I might say to you confidentially that I do not know whether it is Mrs. Ottmann's desire to have me present at the preliminary operation, but it surely is my desire to be there. From my conversation with you, I took for granted that you would like to have me present, and if so, this can be easily arranged. Unfortunately, I have an important military duty on Tuesday, March 19th, which I could not postpone except in the event of a great emergency. However, I could leave New York on Wednesday night, March 20th, arriving in Montreal on Thursday, the 21st.

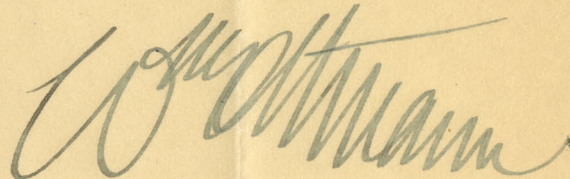
It seems to me that it would not be very difficult for you to require 48 hours after the arrival of Mrs. Ottmann and William to arrange for the preliminary operation, which would mean that you would perform it on Thursday, the 21st. It is barely possible that you may not be ready then, and will want to put it off a few days. Nevertheless, I can be in Montreal any day beginning with Thursday, March 21st, and would greatly appreciate if you would find a way to make arrangements that would enable me to be present. It might even be necessary for you to suggest to Mrs. Ottmann the advisability of my being present for a number of reasons. In that case, I don't think she would have any objections.

As a matter of fact, I am at a loss to know why she does not insist on my being present, but seems to take a casual view of the preliminary operation, declaring that it will probably be unnecessary for me to be there, but that she wants me present at the major operation. It goes without

*Sweet
Room
Reserved
for Mch 19*

saying that I want to be there at both, and I believe I am perfectly safe in leaving the matter in your hands.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Wm. Ottmann". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial "W" and a long, sweeping underline.

Wm. Ottmann.

Dr. Wilder Penfield,
431 Pine Ave., West,
Montreal, Canada.

WO-G.

P. S. Just after signing this letter, Mrs. Ottmann called me up on the telephone from Lake Placid. She told me that the night before last, William had a very severe spell, falling at his desk while studying and cutting his forehead. Mrs. Ottmann seems almost prostrated over this occurrence, which must have been one of the most severe spells he has ever had. She tells me that the reports about the reactions before, during and after the spell are very conflicting and contradictory. Perhaps it would be best to let her tell her own story when you see her on March 19th.

A handwritten set of initials, "WO", in a cursive script. The letters are connected, with a large "W" and a smaller "O".