

Friday 2 July 1993

B. McLaren Corvallis OR 97333

Greetings ===

More phone calls and some mail and so more new information that I did not anticipate.

- As recently as this Spring, I had assumed along with a number of other people that Larry Hanson had given up on the promotion of the 53 system which he was so actively pursuing in the Eighties. Now he is back at it and also got the new idea of using 34 for the guitar and some other applications.

Around the time that I was moving out of Glendale, Erv Wilson was so sure that the 53 project of his was dormant, that he removed a dozen tubes from the 53-tube set for some special purpose and let me have the remaining tubes, which have been here, in storage. I was thinking of re-tuning them to something else, every now and then since I moved to this house. But always something else happened to prevent me. How embarrassing it would be now if I had done that! Ouch.

Hanson will send somebody to get them during the summer. And Ervin will have to replace those deleted tubes.

Think of the trouble I would now be in, if I had presumed to recut and retune those aluminum tubes!

Yesterday I just received Hanson's 34-tone guitar charts with several alternative ways to tune a guitar in 34, much as there are several possible tunings for 22-tone and some other retunings of guitars.

Then he called me and--amazing coincidence!--Chalmers at the door, so Chalmers had a chance to converse with him about 34 and other matters.

And I had oodles of papers spread around the house, deciding what to xerox next.

So Chalmers got to see the score of 30-year-old IN LIMBO and how much better it looks as xerox, instead of the faded ozalid copies I had to make in years past. Now I can seek the dramatic or video or other people who might use the suite or one of its ten pieces.

Good for my blood pressure, not to have to expose myself to those ammonia fumes.

Lots of things got settled yesterday. Great relief. Less Pressure. Also, the pile of boxes and junk on top of the Theremin in the garage removed, so that I can use it once more, and new visitors will be able to try it.

Tit for Tat Dept.: Perlowin had spelt my name wrong in his article. Well, yesterday Messrs. Hanson and Chalmers mispronounced it in several ways. Perlowin

I didn't say a thing. I let them mispronounce him.

If there will be a Xenharmonic Bulletin # 13, and I'm not sure, there will have to be a discussion of 34, and based on what I will be experimenting on with the keyboards and my 34-tone guitar, which now has to have pickups inserted. All kinds of things unanticipated till yesterday.

"Lullaby For a Baby Computer" improvised on my elastic tuning organ in 17, was written out in such a way that it can be performed in 34. (This was back in 1964-65.)

Pages 21-22-23 of EXCURSION INTO THE ENHARMONIC,

Humongous Rubbish Wagon outside picking up my and my neighbors' contributions to the Recycling Movement.

Had to put my neighbor's can back inside the fence without getting bitten by her new dog. (She leaves for work very early on certain days.) Had to drop it over the fence.

I still remember dog-bites of 65 years ago. I was in an exclusive neighborhood where certain neighbors did not like my mother, and my father did not care that I had been bitten several times.

This sudden new emphasis on 17 and 34 means I will have to delay further the Xenharmonic Bulletin Revision No. 6 bis. It would be very unfair to Y Hanson and others if I were to permit the old No. 6 to be republished at this time. Several pages of 6 bis were already done a couple of years ago.

There are still other notation questions that I have to discuss over a year or more with Tom Reed in Missouri, and with still other persons who recently sent me new notation materials.

This makes that Book affair very inappropriate at this time! If you want to make things available on computer disk or some kind of data-base or whatever that is called now, that is all right, but getting out a book of writings now is something I never contemplated. Fifteen and thirteen years ago I thrashed all that out with Glen Prior who wanted to have the Bulletins published as a Book. It still is not time to print a regular book!

I can't have that added pressure. The reason I consented to move to San Diego was the laid-back attitude here, in my last years. Too much hassle on me in Los Angeles and Glendale. I have had no chance to tell you what my plans to reissue my writings and publicize new writings and put my affairs in order and keep certain items always available were.

Some 60 copies of Xenharmonic Bulletin Number Twelve have been sent out. This was done just a few at a time; then halfway through, Andy Carlos supplied the New Mast-Heads. Recently sent me more printouts that will permit putting new mast-heads on all the back issues and up to three future issues if I should live so long. Neither you nor I could have anticipated that.

That couldn't be in a book if the Bulletins were to be combined into a book now. I would look very peculiar if I had spurned Andy Carlos at this time. I would have been in a number of dog-houses. During the months that you were traveling around the country seeking a new place to live, I had no way of preventing your premature book proposal. The last chapter of my life is in progress, but not yet finalized.

You apparently, have to go into retreat for a while in a small town. But I was isolated by illness and lack of resources and other problems for years, and must make up for that by now doing extraverted things such as lecture/recitals and building a network of live real people locally in San Diego so I will not be abandoned in loneliness in my last years. I have seen this happen to other persons and must not let it happen to me. It's as though I just won the lottery--in this case not money, but health such as I never had in 72 years. It may not last. I might get sick again or have an accident. I have to co-ordinate what Kneifel, Frick, the McAuley's, and several other people not used to working together, are trying to do for me and add in the beneficial effect of that Instrument Exhibit in Hollywood. I have to keep those several opportunities from cancelling each other out. A book at the present time would not fit in with that.

that you have now stored in your computer(s) can be continually supplemented and up-dated. A Book would be obsolete before the copies got printed! Another new advantage I enjoyed for only three months or so, is that I can now afford Photo-Xeroxes and can ILLUSTRATE many of my publications. This makes them come to life. I just met two more more photographers. This will save THOUSANDS of words.