

# 1933

- Prohibition ends
- Roosevelt inaugurated
- US recognizes USSR
- Hitler assumes power
- Willard and Ellen are in Foochow, China
- Kathleen and Hugh are living in New Castle, Pennsylvania
- Marjorie leaves for Canada again in August
- Dorothy and Harold are teaching in Saginaw
- Geraldine is in Long Island, New York
- Willard Frederick Beard is born December 7, 1933 to Gould and Virginia and they are living in Memphis, Tennessee
- Willard is 68, Ellen- 65, Gould- 37, Geraldine- 35, Dorothy- 32, Marjorie- 27, Kathleen- 25.

[This letter, dated **June 25, 1933**, was written from Memphis, Tennessee by Gould to the folks all. He tells about their vacation to Michigan and the World's Fair. They bought a new car while in Michigan. Letter from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]

Memphis, Tennessee

1641 Netherwood Ave.

June 25, 1933.

Dear Folks All:

We're back from a two weeks vacation and we benefited by it all the way around. I'm sending this to the Space home first and they will advance it.

I got in off the last run at 4:00 a.m. June 11<sup>th</sup>, went home and slept till 11: a.m. then helped Ginny get ready to leave. We got off at 3:00 p.m. and drove as far as convenient that evening. We arrived at Paducah on the Ohio R. at 8:30 p.m. and put off in a little old fashioned but reasonable and clean hotel. (Hotel Knox)

The next morning we were off by 7:30 a.m. They asked us \$1.00 to cross the river on their new bridge. We could have gone west 10 miles and crossed to Metropolis for \$.50. At Metropolis we had to wait 10 min for the telegraph office to open so we could wire Dot and Bill Littlewood our plan of arrival. Ginny and I took turns at the driving. The car was full inside about as it looked when we came west but we had nothing on the running boards. The previous afternoon we had a little thunder shower to drive thru, but from Paducah to Chicago it was perfect weather. It got colder as we approached the lakes until it was positively cold when we arrived at La Grange at 8:00 p.m. just one hour late. We had taken about 30 min to drive around Urbanna and the Univ. of Illinois campus.

The car still had that rasping noise which came from the clutch throughout [the] day at a speed of 52 m.p.h. I had'nt had time to fix it myself and did'nt want to spend the money to do so. We kept our speed at 50 or below. It took us 17 ½ hrs. to make Chicago from Memphis. The distance is 598 miles.

Babe rode as nicely as before with just the same arrangement except that she used the little seat more and would get in it of her own will and sit there till she got tired. In fact she did this throughout the whole trip which made it no trouble at all to take care of her or to keep her interested and happy. Ginny brought along a pillow which Hazel would put under her head and sleep whenever she desired and she spent nearly 4 hrs during the day sleeping while we were driving.

The Fair should be a letter in itself. I went one whole day alone while Ginny was being entertained by "the girls". In the evening Dot, Bill and Ginny met me at Old Heidelberg Inn at the Fair and we did the amusements. Ginny would like to tell about them. As for my prowlings, I did all the auto shows, the domestic animal show (very poor), one of the Indian Village (fair), five of the model houses of the future (interesting and novel but not so practical with some exceptions), the transportation building was not complete but the exhibits that were there were most interesting. The Mayan Temple was good but rather colorless because of the lack of objects to exhibit in it. Most of the amusements I passed off to be with Ginny in the evening. The Horticultural Building I figured on seeing with the folks in the evening, but there was'nt time so I missed it altogether. I heard several people say it was among the best of the fair. The electrical group was very good especially a 20 min lecture by Gen. Elect. Engineers on the electric ?? I also saw the social science group which was very good in parts. The Agricultural group was fair; mostly commercial advertising of canned and preserved goods with one big exhibit of farm machinery by Int. Harvester. That's as far as I got, except for the States Building which was a group of local wood screens[?] or products exhibits.

The next day Ginny and I tried to do the Science Bldg. together without much success since we were each interested in different kids of exhibits. We went up onto one of the Skyway towers and saw the Chinese temple and Japanese Bldg. together then split and went separately. I saw the planetarium alone and she looked at the Model houses. I think the planetarium was the most interesting thing I saw at the fair.

There were many things worth seeing that I did not get a chance to see, but I went over better than ¾ of the fair in the day and a half I was there. Dot and Bill Littlewood were royal with their hospitality and we are much indebted to them for making our visit to the fair possible.

We got off for an 8:30 start for the drive to Saginaw on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Progress was slow until we got past Gary, Ind. The drive along the tip of the lake was very nice. It is a four track concrete road from Gary to Benton Harbor and one sees the lake in many little glimpses.

Ginny got a good education in geography and a good idea of the size of the cities in the middle west. Easterners somehow think that the East has all the big towns and are somewhat surprised when they see the size, beauty and civic pride of these mid western communities.

We stopped in pausing long enough to say hello to Dave Bishop and his father. Mrs. Bishop and the baby could'nt be found. Dave was a house mate of mine at Ann Arbor. We pulled into Saginaw just 10 min late much to the surprise of Dot and Harold. Fluffy made a great fuss over us and Hazel was delighted with her.

Dot and Harold just gave their time over to being our hostess and host. School was out and aside from some Eastern Star rehearsals Dot had nothing pressing. We had a most pleasant and enjoyable visit with them. They took us swimming at Bay City almost every evening and we made a trip to Traverse City to try the fishing. I had the experience of seeing carp 2 ½ to 3 ft long swimming about my legs and not being able to offer them the right kind of bait. We tried pork rind, bread balls, potatoes and all my box full of artificial lures without success. The carp either drove away the pike or the season was too early. Anyway we didn't get a strike all day over fishing grounds that always deliver the fish. I would have been thrilled to get just one strike. I still have to think of seeing a fish walk on water with his tail and shake the jangles. The old fishermen all tell of it but it's a myth to me.

The same evening we landed in Saginaw the auto agents began calling up. I had written Harold and asked him to see what kind of a proposition they would make me since that was pretty close to Detroit and Pontiac. Two of the agents bid each other down until the price got ridiculously low, even better than the best offer Ginny got in Seymour. Of course there were no freight charges to pay on the car. The price being much lower than the point I had decided to buy at, I bought a Pontiac Coach, black with cream stripes. The touring sedan with trunk on the rear was \$40 more and the rear seat is uncomfortable because of lack of room. The two door coach suited our needs better. The improvement over the old car is something to shout about.

Babe enjoyed Fluffy hugely although Fluffy was very jealous of babes usurpation of Dot's affections and took every opportunity to let us know about it. Much to babe's dislike I took her on a merry go round. I think she would enjoy it again if she had the chance. The first swim she wouldn't have much to do with the water. The next time we went she saw her daddy walk out into the water and decided she would do too. I let her walk out till the water was up to her chin while holding my hands, then took her back into shallow water and showed her how to play and splash and roll. The next time we went swimming it was a job to get her out of the water. Her Uncle Harold introduced her to ice cream cones, and after that it cost him a nickel each time we went riding. It was a real pleasure to see and be with Dot and Harold. They took things easily and made no fuss and we felt at home and enjoyed our visit.

We had hoped that the folks in Oberlin would drive up and planned to stay an extra day if they would. They all had their plans laid however so we stayed the extra day anyway. On our way back to Memphis I stopped in Pontiac and called up the Am. Airways overhaul depot and found Billy Lester there. We drove out to see him and he gave us the address of the Townsands[?]. We took lunch with the Krishners[?] in Wayne and I went to the Stinson factory for an hour with Otto. After that we drove to Detroit City Airport where the head offices of the Am. Airways Northern Div. are. I saw the Div. Sup. and several others there. Then we drove to Harold Beatties home and had supper with them. We started for Ann Arbor at 9:00 p.m. and arrived there about 10:45. I had reserved a room at the Michigan Union and we spent a comfortable nite there.

About 11:30 Harold Beattie phoned from Detroit that we had left our thermos bottle and that they could drive out with them the next morning to take a little air themselves.

We were late getting up that morning and so we just drove around Ann Arbor and saw the buildings. There have been a lot of improvements and additions since I was there. The campus is not as pretty as some of the other state universities, but the compactness of the lay out makes it more practical for a large university where the students have only 5 min. to get from building to building. My third story cubby hole at 50 S. Hill St. where I lived 4 years was still there. I didn't take time to hunt up Dad Rosey. Ann Arbor with all its shade trees and pretty homes renewed old sentiments and memories. The only thing that was lacking was the student body. We were there between commencement and summer school and the campus was deserted.

I had intended to make Louisville that nite, but with the late start from Ann Arbor, about 11:30 a.m. it would have been stretching it a little far. Ginny was driving about 7:45 p.m. north of Westfield, 26 miles N. of Indianapolis when the engine quit cold. After 20 min of investigation I found that the distributor shaft was not turning. A half mile tramp took me to a telephone while Ginny and the baby sat in the car. The farmer prevailed upon a friend mechanic who had a small garage to give us a lift. In due time he arrived and took us 4 miles to his shop. The two of us got busy and between us we got the engine going perfectly by 11:00 p.m. The distributor shaft had run dry and frozen in its bearing. The little spring coupling did as it was intended to do under such circumstances and sheared off. We inserted a new spring made for a tunpered[?] back saw blade.

We got to bed in Indianapolis about 12:30. The next morning we got started about 9:00 a.m. I inquired as to the price of gas before leaving Indiana to cross the river into Kentucky and saved 2 cents a gal. by filling up in Indiana. The road from Louisville to Mammoth Cave was mostly asphalt and we would have been hammered[?] badly in the old Pontiac. This new car just "Terraplaned" over this stuff at 60.

We arrived at Mammoth Cave at 4.00 p.m. One can't miss it; can hardly get by it without stopping. At least 20 miles down the line the natives and agents begin stopping the car to direct you to the Old Cave, the Onyx Cave, the New Crystal Niagara Entrance etc. We went to the New Entrance which is a State parks and State owned.

Hazel went down with us. We made the mistake of bundling up too much as they told us it was 54 degrees F. all the time. It was, but with the constant climbing and descending of steep stairs one keeps active enough for ordinary clothing. A thunder shower put out all the lights just before we went into the cave so the guides used gasoline lanterns to light up the cave. I think we did not get quite the views that the electric lights would have given.

Little Hazel quite took the eye of some senators and other people in another party that we met down there. Everything would have been O.K. with her if daddy had brought along a cracker or two. She got hungry during the 2 ½ hrs below and cried a little toward the end. Otherwise she exclaimed and painted[?] more than the others. She walked whenever the cave bed was smooth enough. On the whole I was a little disappointed. A party from Georgia told us that Endless Caverns in Virginia are much grander and have more beautiful formations and colors. We arrived in Knoxville at 11:30 p.m. It was hot all day. At Mammoth Cave it was 110 degrees at 2.00 p.m.

The next morning we took a fairly early start and got off at 8:00 a.m. and arrived in Memphis at 1:15 p.m., just 5 hrs and 15 min. It took us over 7:00 hrs. the last time. I have a day and a half before I go out on a run so I'll have time to get rested from my vacation. Really though it was a good vacation and a change for Ginny and the baby and the whole family profited by it.

The heat was getting on Ginny's nerves and Hazel was shrinking. The cool weather of the north set Ginny right and she saw people she knew and liked and Hazel developed in weight, strength, words and activity on the trip.

I hope you have struggled thru this.  
We send out love to you all,  
Lovingly Gould.

\*\*\*\*\*

*[This letter, dated Aug. 13, 1933, was written from Memphis, Tenn. by Gould and Ginny to Willard and Ellen. He talks more about their vacation and visiting with his siblings. Hazel is growing. They may get an apartment this winter since Gould will be travelling and she hopes an apartment will be less lonely. They look forward to Willard and Ellen returning from China in 1935. Letter from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]*

1641 Netherwood Ave.  
Memphis, Tenn.  
Aug 13, 1933.

Dear Father and Mother:

This is one of those quiet, sunny, drowsy Sunday afternoons, very similar to some we used to have in China during late June or early Fall. I happen to be home today and it's a good thing because I have a good summer cold and swollen tonsils and I need the rest to get ready for another trip to Cleveland and back. I go out tomorrow A.M. at 2:56.

I believe you will have gotten my round robin letter telling of the trip to the Fair by now and of our little jaunt to Mussel Shoals in Alabama. That was really a most interesting trip to me because I saw the project that has been a political football ever since the war. It has been under the Army Engineers Corps. ever since and has been perfectly preserved. The people in that part of the Tennessee Valley are really looking happy about the prospects of good times and better business. In flying over this country I have often thought of the use the Chinese would make of all the rivers which are allowed to flow on quietly without a boat on them. I have only seen three boats on the Tenn. R. since Jan. when I began flying this route. The river is navigable well beyond Florence, Ala. and the locks at Mussel Shoals dam are a fine piece of engineering.

About the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July we got a special del. letter from Monny written from Chicago saying that she would be thru Cleveland soon on her way east with Jerry and that if I would tell her what day I was in Cleveland they would plan to meet me there. I wired them the dates and on the 27<sup>th</sup> Dot, Harold, Kathleen and Hugh, Monny and Jerry and Fluff all appeared at the hotel Westlake just as I was at lunch. We had a good party together. They had driven down to Oberlin the nite before, plopped in on Uncle Willis (who was watching it) and slept till 10 a.m., then drove on to Lakewood. We had a nice visit after lunch till Kathleen and Hugh had to leave to catch the last bus for New Castle. Then the rest of us went down to the river and took two boats and rowed out onto the lake for a couple of hours while we visited.

Dot and Harold have had the pleasure this summer of entertaining the folks from the East. They seemed quite pleased that it turned out that way since they knew they would not get East this year. Monny seemed glad that

she was at last starting back to Labrador although not as enthusiastic as she was the first time she went. It seems the station at N.W. River had a lot of personal squabbles among the staff last winter and all her old friends left this summer so she is going up into a new set of workers. She is looking fine and healthy though.

Jerry seems rather lost. She doesn't know whether she will keep the apartment with a friend or go back to L.I. in Mineola where she was while we were there. Her job will last another year and that's all so she feels that that good thing is coming to an end. She looks well and not all tired out as she often does.

Kathleen and Hugh show the effects of lying around with nothing to do and a very limited sum of money to exist on. They both look physically healthy and not at all lean, but Kathleen looks very serious and has a little worried expression on her face.

After the boat ride at the Westlake we= Jerry, Monny, Dot, Harold and myself went out to the Cleveland Airfield for Jerry and Monny to fly Am. Airways to Newark Airport, N.J. on the 5:30 a.m. the following morning. They probably have written you about it. I had difficulty in getting reservations for both clear thru and the ok had not come thru when our trip left at 9:30 p.m. for Memphis. However the boys at the station took care of them nicely and kept working on the stations down the line till finally the two reservations came thru and they were both fixed clear thru to Newark. Monny was so excited she just could'nt contain herself at dinner at times. She had to be persuaded hard by Jerry to take the ride and it was two hours after it was first suggested before Monny gave her consent. After I got permission for half fare and they knew they could go part way at least she really got excited. You know how she is at such times- apparently perfectly calm for a speck, then she clutches her fists to her shoulder and shakes them and lets out a little squeal all out of a clear sky and then perfectly sober and calm (apparently) for another stretch. They all went out on the ramp to see me off, then the two girls went to the airport hotel and Dot and Harold back to Oberlin. From the letters the two girls wrote Jerry enjoyed it intensely and Monny thought "It was'nt any fun at all."

It may not be as hot here as it is in the valley in Foochow, but some of the days might near approach it. Ginny has stood the heat better than I thought she would, but poor little baby has looked rather forlorn at times. The prickly heat breaks out on her in perfectly raw patches around her neck and the backs of her head in her hair if we have two hot days in succession. She has been a very good little girl thru it all never the less. I tried the cold water soaking we used to give Monny, but that did'nt work at all. Plain starch put on in a thick paste was the best of all, but that did'nt do for the spots that sweated the most and washed it away as fast as we could put it on. Ginny got a medicine for her to take internally which she thinks helped some.

Babe has grown some since she was born. She is now 34 1/16" tall and weighs 23# 7 oz. She apparently will be tall and slender in her younger girlhood. She is taller than the average but not as heavy. She is very steady on her feet now and has lost all the baby toddle. The little words are beginning to come out of the little mouth very rapidly. She attempts several new ones each day. They come best when not coaxed. Dogs are still "wo-woos", cows= "moo", donkeys, horses and mules = hahrsch.

We gave her a nice little girl doll with closing eyes and a cry to it for her birthday. The closing eyes and cry were worth the extra price. She thinks the doll almost human and loves it dearly, much more than the three inanimate dolls she has had. Her little teddy bear which cries also is still her favorite. She sleeps with it and whenever she rolls over on it or shoves it it cries out at nite and she seems to feel that it has life to it. That is the only explanation I can make as to why she likes the teddy and the doll better than the other nice animal toys and dolls she has.

Her chief diversion when daddy is home is to sit in his lap and have him show her the pictures in the National Geographic. She will pick out all the animals and birds, boats, bridges and any children also any airplanes. Her next favorite fun is to have either mother or daddy draw her a picture on her pad, then she sits down and marks it all up in an attempt to copy it.

I go out for Cleveland at 3:31 a.m. tomorrow and it is now 10:00 p.m. so I must get to bed. Ginny is adding a letter. We enjoy immensely your letters.

May God bless you both.

Lovingly your son.

Gould.

[The following is in Ginny's handwriting:]

Aug 14th Monday P.M.

Dear Ones-

You must be mind readers. Gould and I have been wishing for some tea ever since we got back into a home of our own so we're just doubly tickled with that portion of Hazel Ellen's birthday. That little jade pin is so cute and such a good size. You were Dears to send it to her. She had several lovely things. The little dress she has on in the

enclosed pictures, Dot and Harold sent her. Then she had another darling little blue dress with hat to match, four lovely little sunsuits of the dress up type. Her Daddy or Mother gave her a doll that cries and opens and closes its eyes which she just loves and then put a few dollars into her bank account in Derby. Great Grandpa Van Namee gave her a dandy little drop leaf table and two chairs which she uses for every thing, including all her meals. Century farm sent her a scrap book of animals that she has a grand time talking to.

August 15<sup>th</sup>- Tuesday-

This is a gorgeous bright sunny morning with a nice little breeze to make it comfortable. I'm sitting on our front terrace under a fine awning the owners had put up attempting to finish this and at the same time keep an eye on Baby while she plays with a couple of youngsters in the yard next door. It makes it so nice that she can have play mates close to her own age even if they do nearly pull each others hair out at times. The other kiddies are all only children also; so it is the best thing in the world to help them develop a little "give and take" and we Mothers can see a good 75 % improvement in the past four months.

Our lease on this house is up the first of November and we are going to try an apartment next. In the Winter once in a while the boys get stuck away from the home station for as much as a week at a time. I just don't want to be all alone for such long stretches. The winter nites are just twice as long nearly, as the summer ones and we both think we'll try an apartment for once. Neither of us having ever lived in one before.

By degrees I'm getting to like the section of the country a little better. I seem to have acclimated myself (physically) at last and Babe seems to be so much better now that I really begin to feel encouraged. It nearly broke my heart when we first came down here because she was sick or half sick for nearly three months and she had had just two sick days in her life up to that time and she had made such strides during her five months in Seymour and Shelton. I am so tickled that we had that time there, especially when we came so far away when we finally left. My family had a glorious time with Babe and I think the Aunties on the Farm enjoyed her hugely, particularly when I left her in their charge for three days. And did I enjoy the time spent on the Farm? I'm just terribly fond of that place. Someday Gould and I want most awfully to own it. Especially if there is a chance of it's ever going out of the family.

Interruption- 8:30 p.m.

Well I have my Darling home again. He still has a good share of his cold so I put him to bed until supper time and he got some good sleep. Naughty Boy, he played 3 good sets of tennis and only got about 6 ½ hours sleep last nite there in Cleveland and such things are not conducive to the clearing up of a cold.

It has been too hot here for active sports so Gould has been taking his tennis racket to Cleveland with him and getting in some dandy games with some of the boys in from the Eastern run there and I have been glad of it up until the last time for the exercise is good for him for he gets practically none in his present job.

You know I really don't enjoy the present arrangement of things as far as his hours of work are concerned but when he does get home I'm so glad to see him and he is so very very Dear that it's a little bit of heaven that seems to make every thing else worth while. They just couldn't make a Sweetheart husband and Daddy any finer and any Dearer than he is and I am persistently realizing it. I really think our little Love Flower senses her Daddy and Mothers feeling for each other too, for she's one mighty happy little girl most of the time.

I've tried to keep my mind off of the intense heat this summer by keeping my hands busy while the main part of the torso has remained almost motionless. So I have made two birthday gifts and have eight Christmas presents all done and two more well in the works. I just can't bear to cut down on our Christmas gifts for we get such fun out of giving to the various ones so I have been making very gay little bridge sets and breakfast sets out of 'everfast percale' and putting an inch deep fringe on the cloths and napkins with rounded corners and you'd be surprised how very effective it is. Some are made out of very fine red and white check others out of a fine check that has a little pattern worked into the check by use of 3 or 4 colors on the one piece. You see with our very much reduced salary it simply means cut down the cost materially or cut out the gifts entirely and thus far I'm getting 12 gifts for the total of \$3.28 plus some ambition on my part. Then I want to make 4 or 5 cross stitch doggie pillows and some hand hemstitched handkerchiefs for some of the men. Here's hoping I don't weaken before the last is completed.

We sent Monnie a couple of pairs of silk stockings, a silk slip and a gay little washable scarf to take North with her also sent St. Nicks gift to be tucked away in the corner of her trunk until next December 25<sup>th</sup>.

My how we are looking forward to that date 2 years from 1933 for we expect you two back here in the states and Monnie back and will just have to have a grand little family reunion if it is humanly possible. I wonder what corner of the globe we'll be in by that time? This time last year we were in the wide world supposed we'd be 1300 miles away from our home and families in Connecticut.

We would have loved to have gotten back there during our vacation but we figured that while we were in this section of the country that we should take advantage of its possibilities so by now the Round Robin of our trip has surely reached you and you know quite minutely what we did and we did so enjoy every minute of it. For we did things we had always wanted to do but some how just were never able to.

Father we are so glad you seem to feel so well. Be careful and make it last a long long time for you've got a lot of living to do with your children and grandchildren after your work is completed there in China. Maybe if you both are real good we'll see what can be done about a small grandson for you to watch develop from infancy. It will be about time for another to keep Hazel from being too spoiled.

Well Dears it's time we tumbled into bed so until another time goodnite and sweet dreams.

Much much love

Ginny.

\*\*\*\*\*

*[This letter dated Aug. 18, 1933 was written from New Castle, Pa. by Kathleen to mother and father. She talks about the Centennial celebration of Oberlin and Monnie is home temporarily from her teaching job in Labrador, Canada. Kathleen talks about the 1933 Chicago World's Fair and about employment for Hugh and herself during the depression. Letter in Jill Jackson's collection.]*

31 N. Liberty St.

New Castle Pa.

Aug. 18, 1933

Dear Mother and Father:

Our address is still the same as you see and promises to be for at least six weeks more. The summer has nearly gone- and gone fast too, for we have done quite a bit since I wrote last.

Marjorie starts for Labrador day after tomorrow, as she has perhaps written you, going by train part of the way and by boat from northern Newfoundland. It hardly seems as if we were not to see her for two years again but we have had her quite a bit this summer. She stopped here on her way to commencement in June and we saw her later in Oberlin too.

The Centennial was a little disappointing for there was nothing so very special, just a greatly enlarged commencement. I suppose the depression curtailed their plans considerably. The town, however, looked lovely, all painted up and more luxuriant than ever with strubbery. We saw many of our friends, the Christians among them. It was good to see Foochow friends again especially since they are going back so soon. Uncle Willis went to one of the Alumni meetings which we didn't attend and told us that Pres. Wilkins read aloud part of your message from Foochow. It was one of the three out of many which he read. All of Aunt Etta's family were in Oberlin, and Uncle Elbert, but they left for the Fair before commencement was over. We drove Monnie down to Canton, where she was to speak, in Rollin's car and then came back here. When her duties were over in Canton Monnie came here for a stay of two weeks. We did have lots of fun swimming, picnicing and hiking around here and she grew very fond of Enid's children. They are darling and I love them too. All Rollin's and Enid's friends were much interested in hearing Monnie talk of Labrador and seeing the skins and other things she had brought with her. Once while she was here Rollin's Uncle who is an Engineer on the B. + O. Railroad took us all down to the New Castle Round House and showed us the mighty engines there. We mounted into the cab of one which was fired up ready to start and peered into the fire box. My! those monsters made an awesome sight and with all the explanation he gave I fear I still know very little about the action of those machines.

Monnie finally left in July going thru Oberlin to Saginaw and then Gerry stopped here over the week-end on her way to join them. They spent a week at Dot's before we went up to go to the Fair with them. Uncle Elbert and Uncle Stanley very thoughtfully gave us all money enabling us to go, as Hugh and I otherwise could not have. We took the night boat from Cleveland to Detroit where Harold met us and started for Chicago the next day. My! that was a great trip and I do so wish that you could have been with us. We spent three days there staying near to the grounds so that we could walk to and from. There is too much to describe and we saw not a half of it. The buildings were very colorful and modernistically angular, but when they were lighted up at night they were really beautiful. From the 600- and - some foot towers we could look over the whole grounds with searchlights playing over the buildings and spotlights showing up the brilliant colors everywhere. We went through the Chinese village where we found a shop of Foochow lacquers and jade and talked Chinese with the clerk. My speaking ability has gone pitifully but I recognized a familiar word here and there. Gerry did the best in conversation. We also went to the Chinese theatre where they did some of the most wonderful acrobatics I ever saw. The Hall of Science was full of wonderful things but we could only skim most of them for lack of time. The Aquarium and Planetarium were marvelous but indescribable. Hugh and I went to the miniature Hollywood and saw scenes being taken for a movie.

The Lama Temple brought over in twenty-eight thousand pieces was very beautiful but of course not so new to us. What was perhaps the most engrossing was the industrial exhibits showing ties, stockings, dresses etc. in the making, but those too we didn't see so much as we wanted to. One display showed all kinds of mechanical machinery working in miniature. Gear shift, piano action, a combustion engine and others were very elucidating to me. Many European nations built up little villages there and several tribes of American Indians were living right there as in their native habitats.

One day I came upon three of my Logan [*Utah*] friends most unexpectedly and we had a little visit there while we rested. Amid those hundreds of thousands of people I was fortunate to run into them.

The weather was awfully hot while we were there and of course our feet got dreadfully tired with so much walking. They did have rickshaw and wheel chair transportation around the ground but American coolies are high class and charged seventy cents the half hour to pull people around. It was too much for our famished purses. I got a cane to help me around and it was some support. By the end of the third day, though, our poor legs just about rebelled. That last night we began our drive back to Saginaw immediately to save room rent, and got there about nine o'clock the next morning. Then we had three days together just to visit, shop, and play tennis. It was good to be all together again but the time was so short. Dot and Harold drove us all down to Cleveland where we met Gould by an arrangement and had a few hours visit with him in his hotel. Monnie and Gerry flew by plane to New York which they have probably written about, Hugh and I took bus for New Castle, and Dot and Harold started their drive back home. And now we are all apart again. I hope the others tell the particulars which I have left out for I know this is too brief and undetailed for you, Mother.

You will be wondering what is on the horizon for us this year. Our sun has not risen yet, so to speak, but the dawn is breaking and hopes are higher. Hugh is making application to take a civil service examination for social work which comes in September. If he makes good in this exam it means a good position for him. Of course it is still an "if" but that is better than nothing. As for me, I have a temporary position as Church organist in one of the small Presbyterian churches here which is giving me good experience and a pipe organ to practice on. My year of organ lessons stood me in a better stead than I thought and I do enjoy playing.

We are still staying in our little cottage and will stay out here as long as the weather permits. Rollin's relatives often come out to visit us and we go into town nearly every day for mail and supplies. Our financial supply is running rather low since our Reading Bank is still withholding our savings but it ought to open almost any time now. The railroad is picking up a great deal and is putting men back to work who have been idle three years. But there still seems to be no room to absorb the younger men who have never had jobs. The uphill climb is slow and often makes us impatient but as long as we keep trying we are at least busy.

The Kuliang season is nearly over out there and before this reaches you, you will probably be down in Foochow again. Do write us all about your summer at Kuliang, for it is months since we have heard from you.

With lots of love from both of us  
Kathleen

\*\*\*\*\*

*[This letter, dated Oct. 15, 1933, was written from Memphis, Tenn. by Gould to Willard and Ellen. Ginny is pregnant again and they are being transferred probably to Cincinnati. He talks about the economic situation in the U.S. Letter from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]*

1641 Netherwood Ave.  
Memphis, Tenn.  
Oct 15, 1933.

Dear Father and Mother:

Two good letters and the roll of Kuliang Messengers have come from you since I wrote last. We have really been very delinquent in writing everyone lately and our mail box shows the results.

With the departure of the hot weather Hazel is picking up in weight. That may also be because we have her under a different baby specialist who seems to be doing better by her. She is still a little underweight, but her little legs are filling out and her ribs are disappearing from sight. She is progressing in words slowly, we think. She is still quite babyish, not backwardly- but she is not as grown up for her age as some of these children here in Memphis.

The other day we took a couple of our films (movie films) down to the camera store and had them demonstrate the projector to us. They are all of Hazel and her playing and are very good. They will be all safe and ready for you when you get home. We have no projector as yet because we just could'nt afford one on my present salary.

The Kuliang Messengers were very interesting although I didn't remember more than three or four persons mentioned in them other than you. It gave me an idea of how organized the mountain colony now is. From your two last letters we gain that you somehow think we got East on our vacation. No- Detroit and Saginaw were the farthest East we got. Aside from the one trip to Mussel Shoals the summer was spent very quietly, mostly at home. You see you are to have a new little grandchild in about five or six weeks. It should arrive about the last of November or the first of December.

We had planned to write you just a little later than the present date so you would get the letter just about the time of the birth and we were going to keep it a secret from all the folks in the east until we announced the birth. However, we are to be moved to another station- we don't yet know where or just when, but suspect in a couple of weeks.

That upset our arrangements we had made here, and we will have to call upon someone to care for Hazel until Virginia gets out of the hospital. We are writing Kathleen first. If she doesn't feel like coming we will ask Lillian. If she can't help us we have several friends who we feel sure would come and visit us for the three or four weeks Ginny would be laid up.

I feel rather certain that we will be located at Cincinnati; if not there, then Chicago, Newark, or Boston in the order given. I shall hate to move Ginny after Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> and might make arrangements to keep her here until she is strong after the child comes if the move comes in November. I should like to keep her under Dr. Pride here if possible. He has followed her thru thus far and we like him.

When I took this job I rather thought that I would get a first pilot's job within 6 months. However, all they have done thus far is reduce the mileage flown so that they have had to lay off pilots until now there are about 10 first pilots waiting to take up jobs. These will all be placed before any co-pilot gets a promotion. Next spring should see an opening out of the lines considerable if business continues on the up trend and I most certainly shall expect to see better pay by then or else I shall look for another job.

The United States are going thru an economic or social and business revolution. The life of the people does not seem to be much affected as yet. There are reports of thousands being put to work at various places in the country but there are still over 2,000,000 men unemployed and there seems to be no likelihood that these can be put to work this winter. The government is making huge plans to feed the hungry this winter. The N.B.A. codes are in operation, but business is skeptical about the actual increase in purchasing power of the people. Usually where more men have been put to work, each working fewer hours, the individual pay envelope is less than it was before the code went into effect. It actually spreads about the same amount of pay over more workers.

Also it is the heavy or basic industries that are. Feeling the lack of business the most, i.e. steel, heavy machinery, building and construction, etc. these industries are little effected by the laborers pay envelope and what he spends out of it. The groceries and dry good and notion stores have been running along pretty well since last spring.

The administration is certainly catering to the labor vote to the detriment of the earnings of the various corporations and the next congress will probably have some fierce battles directly and indirectly centered around this policy. However the outcome may be, the tendency is toward evening up the individual wealth of the country. I see no way for the country to make up the debts it is incurring none other than taxation, and the taxes will fall heaviest on the rich. Therefore I feel sure that in the coming years the national tax will go up instead of down until we may be taxed as heavily as England and France are today.

Today's papers tell of the withdrawal of Germany from the League and on the same ?? is an item that Lloyds is betting 2-1 that there will be war in Europe within 18 months. What that may bring for the U.S. is a puzzle, but I feel certain that we have enough men in this country who know what they went thru in Europe's last war to keep our boys over here this time. Also I believe America will be a little cautious about loaning huge sums of money to Europe to be burned up in powder.

Ginny is taking this pregnancy a little easier than her former one. She has not had as much time to sleep and rest as she did, but she has not been bothered as much by nausea or pains. Ginny says to tell you that Hazel's little brother will arrive shortly after Nov. 20.

Dear Grandpa and Grandma: Mother says I will have a little boy brother. How do you like that?  
Here's all my love and a hug and kiss for both of you. XX Love Hazel.

Lovingly your son

Gould.

\*\*\*\*\*

[This letter, dated **December 8, 1933**, was written from Foochow, China by Willard and Ellen to Willard Frederick Beard. They send congratulations on the birth of Willard Frederick. Letter from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]

Foochow, China, December 8<sup>th</sup> 1933

Dear Willard-Frederick:-

As Grandmother and I were at lunch today a man in the front door shouted Dieng Bo. The result proved to be your Dads announcement that you had arrived.

Well now your Grandmother is happy, - and I'll risk a guess that another woman is happy. It seems to have been a normal trait of woman from the beginning- to experience rapturous joy when told that she has given birth to a man child. God must have meant it so. This helps her to forget the pain she endured to bring him into the world. How we shall look forward to the letter that tells us all about you- how many pounds and ounces- color of eyes, how much hair, who you look like- grown ups still like to talk about who a baby a few hours old looks like- my impression is that most of them could do as well to speak their ideas on this subject a year in advance as to wait until the child arrives- but it makes conversation and gives a chance for women to show their wisdom (???)

We're filled with joy at your arrival. Both Grandmother and I agreed that you should have a nest egg laid beside your venerable sister's in the Derby Savings Bank. So I enclose a check for \$100.00.

Very lovingly Grandfather and Grandmother

Dear proud parents-

We wanted to cable a welcome to the dear boy, but to direct at \$2.00 per word would eat up a big check, so we are just writing at once. We thank God and rejoice with you. Lovingly Father

All's well with us- no matter what the papers may be saying. Father

I hope you'll have no trouble in depositing this check. Mary will put it thru to you with hers. Father

\*\*\*\*\*

[The following is an article in the one of the Shelton local newspapers dated February 3, 1934. It tells about the bombing of Foochow on December 25, 1933. Newspaper article from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]

City of Shelton, Saturday Evening, February 3, 1934  
Local Missionary Escapes Bombing Raid at Foochow

Dr. Willard L. Beard Writes Interesting Letter of Air Raid at Foochow, China, Christmas Day

An interesting letter has been received by relatives of Dr. Willard L. Beard, describing the bombing raid at Foochow, China, by forces of Chiang Kai Shek on Christmas day last year. Although Dr. Beard escaped being hurt, he was not far from places where bombs fell. Dr. Beard is a native of Shelton, and has been in the foreign mission field in China since 1894. At one time he was president of Foochow College, but since no foreigners are allowed to hold such offices in China, he has been engaged in the missionary field in Foochow by the American board of foreign missions. He is the oldest missionary in China and is called by many as the "bishop" of the missionaries. Two years ago Dr. Beard visited in this city, but he returned to China. In two more years he will have reached the age limit for missionary work and will be eligible for retirement. Whether he will retire and come back to his native home is doubtful.

Dr. Beard is a graduate of Oberlin College and also the Hartford Theological Seminary. About two years ago Oberlin College conferred upon him the degree of doctor of divinity.

Dr. Beard's Letter.

The letter dated December 25, 1933, is as follows:

"This morning I awoke 15 miles from Foochow at the village of Chong Ha, where I had spent Sunday with the Christians of the village in a Christmas celebration and the Holy Communion. A motor boat brought me 10 miles on my way home. When I climbed up the bank from the boat I found the village street crowded with people, old men and women, little children and what baggage they could carry, all fleeing from Foochow. I could learn only that Chiang Kai Shek had sent bombing planes and they had bombed the city.

"The five miles of road into Foochow was lined with people leaving the city. I must have met 4,000 and when I reached the city the streets were crowded. I passed Wenshan on my way to the city and there was Mrs. Beard

looking for me. I stopped there and found the McClures (6) and Miss Armstrong and Miss Burr. We stayed for lunch.

“Yesterday the city was the center of a bombing raid, from about 1 to 2 p.m. Some said 24 bombs fell. One struck the Lau Memorial church. It went through the roof and through the gallery floor. It broke most of the glass in the windows in front of the church. In the yard in front of the church were more than 100 children waiting for the doors to open, when they could enter for Christmas exercises. The newly-ordained pastor, Mr. Lu, had been in the church only five minutes before putting the finishing touches on the decorations. So fortunately no one was in the building when the bomb struck it.

#### Church Bombed.

“Since I began this letter I have been over to see the church. Only a part of a shell struck the church. The pastor said he saw it. It was a big ball of fire, and it divided into three parts up in the air. One went over the church, through the roof on the farther side and landed on the gallery floor. Within five minutes the police were in and took it away. Another part went into a paint shop and killed two people. I engage this paint shop to do any painting I have done. The third struck another house near the church.

“Another bomb struck across the street, killed a person and badly wrecked a house. Another knocked a partition over on a poor man lying in bed and killed him. Others struck at least two of the official headquarters.

“After lunch at Ponasang we stood on the steps and watched nine planes for half an hour as they bombed the airport in Foochow and the military governor’s yamen (headquarters). The report is that a bomb struck a corner of a hangar and two or more struck the yamen, killing several soldiers.

“There seems no danger now the raid is over. The planes came either from Nanchang or Kieningfu. The latter place is about 200 miles northwest of Foochow and the former twice as far. Both have airdromes belonging to the central government. As I got to Wenshan this morning one of the men in the new government knocked at the gate and was admitted. He was here in October. He was once principal of our American board school in Shansi. He is now representing Feng Yu Hsiang (Christian general) and holds some office in the new government. As he entered I nodded to him and said, ‘This is the way your are treating us?’ He grinned sheepishly. He was there at lunch with the principal. After the raid I passed the veranda where they sat and stopped to ask, ‘Do you think it is safer here than in the city?’ He looked at me again with a grin and said, ‘I don’t know.’

“The raiders were evidently after the headquarters of the new government and they landed shells in three of their yamens. The raid was unannounced and very severe. Shells struck within 20 rods of our house. A few shells dropped on Saturday afternoon.

“December 26, I am leaving now at 10:15 a.m., to attend Christmas exercises at Ciu Ciu in the suburbs. No shells have been dropped over there and there are no soldier camps or official yamens near. Some of us will stay here all the time, going under the three story houses if the raid comes.”

\*\*\*\*\*

