Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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Dear Dad,

Happy birthday to you! And may it be the happiest yet. 80 years have blessed you! And you have blessed us! May there be many more. The children long to get acquainted with you, and to hear some of the old tales which you have told to us.

Now we wish we could look in on you and mother at this time! Please do take care of yourselves - to have good food, and to keep warm, and don't go out in the worst storms.

You would have liked to be with me yesterday when I visited a Confucian temple, the Buddhist temples, one of which was 1500 years old, and a big school formerly the home of a great military official.
In the oldest temple we gilded Buddhas forty feet high sitting in lotus buds. We had to climb a hundred steps to reach the school and then travel from one building to another over the rocky pictures on another hill. We had to climb equally high to reach the other temple. Part of the shrines are in the rocks themselves and there are stairs between great boulders and roofed by boulders.

We saw men and women bowing ten times in succession to the idols.
I am sending you a Tibetan bell for your birthday. I bought it in Peking but they said it came from Tibet. I thought that you would like it.

May your birthday be very happy and each day be richly blessed and may you have only joy from your children.

With love to you and Mother.

Lottie.
Dear Dad,

Your birthday is just beginning at home, although it is evening here. The children have remembered it, and you may be sure that we have.

Let me see, I sent you an old five hundred cash coin—a Manchurian coin—I think, which I hope arrived in time to carry our love on this great day. Mother asked about the jade I sent. The ring I suppose could be worn, but the larger piece is valuable only as a curious item. Aunt Cele said that you wanted a piece of jade, and I thought it very fitting that it should come on your fiftieth anniversary!

That reminds me of John, and
Calls to mind that I saw a Harley Davidson with a sidecar on the streets of Swaton last week! - It is the first one I have ever seen there.

I hope that you will not have too bad weather this month of March! (It will be all over, and you will be having April showers when this reaches you.) We are having the April showers just now ourselves! The river has been running muddy, swift and yellow all day! Everything has been wet and weary now and then there has been a heavy fall of rain - for which my coolie is very thankful, I am sure.

The people who are about to harvest
What are not quite so thankful? I have spent the morning teaching John and Alice, and cooking a little as our cook was ill. This afternoon I have been writing an important letter. While Aunt Cele keeps J. Y. A. happy and contented in her room. I wish they could come in and see you this summer, but I see no prospect of it at present.

I went to Switzerland last week and found that most of the beggars had been arrested and put into an institution. The next day when I came home, I saw that new beggars had arrived. Quite hooky-looking. It is a lucrative occupation.
for Chinese whose business is poor—especially women.
I'll all send love to you.
I am putting in a small check for five dollars for you to buy something for your own dear self. Please let it be something you really want. Don't work too hard, and don't go out when the weather is too bad!
Much love to Mother. Hope she received the writing paper I sent.

Much, much love,

Lottie.
Cabot, Vt.
Nov. 22, 1928.

Dearest Mother and Aunt Cele,

Thank you so much for your good letters. I was very grateful!

I have only about 10 minutes to write in before the last mail closes. I keep so busy - but have not had any headaches or indigestion! The change of air and simple food that the whole family is taking while we are unpacking and settling seems to help, too.

John and Alice love their...
school! They have only one hour at noon, and get out at 3:40 p.m. — but they have all of next week for vacation, and a long vacation in the spring several weeks.

We plan to go to Holyoke next Tuesday, by car, if possible, and come back on Saturday.

Our rooms are partly settled; parks, d.r. and kitchen are fair — but the trunks are not yet entirely unpacked. So much time goes to food and clothing!
Then besides, I went to the Woman's Club on Tues. P.M. They had a small little lunch there, too.

Last evening I got a woman to stay in the house, while I went to the Young People's supper and meeting following. So you see that I do not work all the time.

We love our breakfast nook.

Tomorrow a woman comes to wash clothes, and to wash windows before and Mr. Barr put on the double glazing windows. The plumbers also comes to fix up pipes for winter & repair faucets.
We have not yet touched Aunt Celie's room, and shall not be able to, until we come back after Thanksgiving. I have been out shopping twice—had almost no kitchen utensils and it was funny to see how we got on! Last evening they asked me to make scalloped potatoes for the supper and I had to use my chafing dish. I bought a very nice egg beater for so. Today we must go out to get an ironing board, and try to pay a billion two. This is very inadequate. Sothie.
CABOT, VERMONT
NOV. 25, 1925

DEAREST MOTHER,

Here I sit in the kitchen with a large cardboard on my knee, my writing materials on a shelf (shellacked) that corresponds to Ruth's nice kitchen shelf. John and Alice are out walking with E. After a week of rain and light snow, the thermometer has decided to go down and it is already 24 at 5:20 P.M. I have rice in cooking for supper.

I have been wonderfully well so far, but on Friday I had a staphylococcus infection in the arm and it was also tried to get all the storm windows ready and I evidently overdid, for I had indigestion pain in the afternoon and again on Saturday.
I feel all right to-day however. The woman scrubbed my big floor beautifully. She sprinkled Rice in them and scrubbed them with an old broom! Quite a scheme to clean them!

He had boiler tongue, beets, parsnips, and potatoes, orange custard for dinner. I prepared most of it yesterday.

I have been thinking of you and Aunt Cell so much, but have not found a minute to write. Ellison had a wedding yesterday, and got $5.00 I think. I was invited but didn’t go.

There was a little school play on Friday P.M., too, which I wanted to attend as John and Alice were in it, but I could not.
get away. Goodness knows I haven't spent much time cooking. Sometimes they have only cereal for supper—without a few 'accessories' which are always on hand! Then come now, and so I'll get supper.

Later.

Bairns in bed. E. at meeting. I surely have plenty of blankets on their bed and they are between gray blankets instead of sheets. All the windows upstairs are beginning to freeze over.

E. had engagements three or four evenings last week. There is surely plenty going on. Met Mrs. Rogers president of the Women's Club who said that her sister married Mr. Bolster.
who used to teach with Ruth at Bakersfield Academy. John had a wonderful birthday.

Thank you so much, mother, for sending the quarter in its case, and dear Kehrie, for your thought and gift, and dear Marion for your labor and gift.

Ellie and I bought him a big full high of ears of pop corn, overshoes, a thermometer for his room, tooth paste, tooth brush, chocolates, gum, and I can’t remember all— but a good many things. Ruth sent him 20 toward skies which is far too much.

She also sent a box in which was a milk box of chocolates—a musical instrument, a tiny movie, etc. I can’t remember all of that—oh a red necktie— and a candy dog in a shed— Lots of things!

John thought it a great celebration because school closed at 11:00 in the morning and began late in the P.M. and they gave a little playlet in which he was the...
grocer's toy and Alice also took part.

Now he is all enthusastic to give an Xmas play.

Lots of people came over a mile to church this A.M. in the light snow. E. has quite a big class of men and boys. Two long seats full. We is going to become a Tenderfoot Scout.

We all love it. Wood fire seems fairly simple. They have only potatoes so far, but the oven seems good. Sitting room fire we have had only two days. E. has taken tons of coal.
children have enjoyed the snow.
Calot.

June 3 '29.

Dear Mother and Aunt Belle,

I am so thankful for letters. Don't be afraid to tell me frankly—It is much easier that way. Fears and uncertain anxieties are awfully hard.

When I had put the lights out the other night, I stood just a second or two in the dark to pray for Ruth and I hardly had the words out, when I seemed to hear,—

"I have answered, before you prayed."

It was very vivid and kept repeating itself in my mind over and over again. It comforted me—For even the God cannot always avert terrible things, he can do all that he can be done. It is so hard to trust—but we can receive
help— I mean by that “in”— Patti, for our troubles are nothing, except as she is helped. I almost
— This I go partly expressed it will give
— Time to send it up to you in fear it will then

When you spoke as you did here
in Cabot, Aunt Cele, I did not
care answer you, for I feared
that my fears were worse than
yours. And I dared not talk
to you about it, for fear I should
disturb you.

It is nearly 3:00 and I must
mail this.

I am so glad mother found
lawn mowers, and that as many
men with her that weekend.

I’ll only send on this letter?
John’s and write more when
there time.

Mrs. Brother is cleaning
kitchen.

2.22 out at church.

Yesterday — Baccalaurnate.

3rd will love to all.

Lottie.
Nov. 3, 1929.

Dear Mother and Aunt Cele,

I know that you will want to hear of the past two days. Ev took me to the train in So. Station on Friday night, and helped me a lot in getting on the train. I got almost straight to bed on the boat after we arrived. I believe I did write a few letters. My state room was an inside...
one, but had a small window opening outside, through which a lot of cinders entered.

In the morning I woke up with a wicked left temple headache, and I didn't know whether I could get dressed and off the boat or not, but I did, and got across the Hudson by the old Barclay Street ferry, which I used to use so often in the old days.

I wanted to call up Mary Alice and Claire, and one or two of my friends, but I just didn't have any energy to do it then.
Finally in the Lackawanna Station at Hoboken, I drank half a cup of strong coffee, and lay down in the rest room, and felt better when it came time to take my train at 10:52.

I found Mother dressed in white crepe de chine with a pretty lace collar which she had given her. She looked very sweet, and not at all different from what she looked ten years ago it seemed to me. She gets around with two crutches—having to almost fall into a church chair and to almost swing herself up again, because her knees are
bad, I lay down on the bed with her and rested, and we talked after a little. I saw both her sisters, Aunt Minnie and Aunt Annie. When I started from the station, in front of the school where I used to teach, I saw a beautiful war memorial, with the names of three boys whom I used to teach on it. Jim Mooney was a 1st lieutenant and received the cross for distinguished service. He was a Yale student, and later his brother Nicholas, I learned, married the daughter of the President of Yale, Laura Angell. I called on his mother for a few minutes. She was very kind, but told me many lovely things of Jim—without a tear.
She talks of nothing else, they say.

Mother served a delicious and dainty lunch of vegetable soup, lamb, potatoes, creamed celery, her own grape jelly, and pudding and tea.

She was very sweet and thoughtful too, and so anxious to hear about you all.

My headache disappeared by afternoon, and I walked to the P.O. returning to find Azalea with her wee Jimmie (1yr. old) at the house. She looked lovely in a violet-colored jersey suit, with
darker shade of hat to match, and her little boy was in a white knitted suit. She had a new light-blue Chevrolet car to drive and took me out to call on more than old friends, Beth Little's mother, and father, and Estes Carol with her husband and two lovely children. They returned to a supper of cereal and peas and tea. We talked much of Ruth during the day, and also of Bob and the Betty. Mrs. B. told me of the death of her older brother Joe from a backing auto. This over by a backing auto. This uncle Joe (private) left each of the children $5000 and a goodly
sum(?) to Mother B. which helps her to feel independent. It also helps Bob and Helen immensely.

After breakfast in bed and another rest, I dressed to meet Theo Hurst who married Ellaunts Doane (both my pupils) and her two children who came down in a driving rain. I had a most interesting talk with them about many of the other pupils whom I had not met or heard of in many a day--and learned many interesting things about the school when I used to teach. It is nearly twice as large now as it used to be.

Raymond Darland (Alice's husband) came for Mother B.
and me at 12:30 and took us to their house, to meet the children and have a delicious dinner of honey dew melon, baked stuffed chicken, mashed potato, sliced beets, creamed mints, pumpkin pie, blanc mange, and after dinner coffee.

Alice has a cook and a darling butler, and a large and beautifully furnished house to care for.

Her oldest daughter Jeannette and Dorothea are in high school, while John is a little younger than Alice and the baby.

Is a year old — a very sweet and lovely family. Zella herself was very sweet and charming.

Edith Doeland who lives next door came in for coffee, and then joined us with his little daughter Nancy when Alice drove us...
over to Scotch Plains to see Bob and Betty and their family. The children are lovely.

Alice - about 13 - I guess.
Ralph - about 9 - very smart.
Ruth
Martha
David - several months.

I was shocked to see Bob. I think I shouldn't have recognized him at all. He didn't look at all well or happy - and seemed keyed up - and repressed.

I told him to Ruth and he told me a little of himself, which
the other girls talked to Beth, who also looks thin and worn.

Mother B. is greatly distressed by the fact that Bob and Betty have cut themselves off from their families and will receive no gifts from them.

So now — my longer letter is nearly finished — and I am almost ready for bed.

I have been thinking if you all and wishing each one if you could have changed surroundings as completely
as I did.
With very much love,
Sottie.
I shall need to write a word of explanation. I accepted the Xmas regulations but have to ask for a special ruling because of several things:

Since the children will receive as much from relatives, I am asking permission to send a grown-up gift to them which the parents may use during their life. You see, it is difficult to get any suitable Xmas gifts for children in town. We are low in cash with salary farther behind than ever before, but we have these rugs on hand, and it will be a real convenience to us, if we can send a small chair rug to each family except Marion and Mother, for whom I ordered stationary a long time ago. When I ordered, I told them that I did not want it unless it could be delivered for Christmas, and so please let me know if it arrives on time from Peru Indiana, I think. Giving the rugs, will also help me to advertise them, you see. I have sold five or
six on this new shipment, but my duty was more than three times larger than the last shipment, 1700 for 34 sq. feet. That does not help my business.

Alice is doing dishes, and John is painting a little picture which he promised Ray Duquesne he would do when we were in Holyoke. He is slow in getting at things.

Snow has been falling nearly all day, but no wind.

Mother dear, would you like Aunt Celie's reading glass? It is here and very convenient for looking at photos etc., and I should think that you would enjoy it.

A nice gift for mother is coming from Sears, Roebuck. Intended to have it wrapped for Xmas but forgot to mention. Sorry! Maybe I ordered it to come here. If so, I fear it will be late.
2. Dec. 19

Did George find the deed to the Laurel Street property, and were they cutting wood on it?

Did I tell you that the Hildreths are sending us a radio? There will be great rejoicing.

George's work is very little now, isn't it? Is that enough for him to get along on? "My love to Inga and the children. Will you let George and Inga see the first sheet where I explain about the chair rug? I wish I could write each one, but must get Western cards off tonight. We bought 500 folders. Emil will probably send you one.

We were out until after 10 last evening, E at Masons, and I at C.W. A., and later at Club rooms for a parents' meeting. John and Alice did not fill tea-kettle or watch fire, and so there was no hot water for bottles, and soap stones and bricks were only lukewarm. The beds get very cold. It took me until after 2:00 AM to
got to sleep I was so cold! I'll surely see to fires after this even if I do go out! We had had Club meeting in P.M. The night before, our negro tenor had given a delightful concert to a good audience although a large percentage of them were children. In the P.M. eight or ten women had made twenty four wreaths to decorate the Church. They hung them on the green walls, with a bow of red, green, and white paper at bottom and a bunch of wire comes at the top, and they looked lovely!

Now we wish you all a very lovely Xmas, and only wish that we could come in and see you, dear mother, and Carol and her family too.

I has gone out to mail my parcels. I spent most of the P.M. doing work. Love to all especially to Bobbie and David who will be loaded with presents I expect, even if I send them an unsuitable one. Love.
So Royalton, VT.
Oct. 4, 1937.

Dear Ones,

Last week seemed very full from the Monday when two separate parties came to see the stores and fix them for the winter - to this Monday, when Mother and Marion surprised me. They had planned to come after the 12th, because Polly was to come home from Maine then, but when Polly's plans were changed so that she planned to come the 29th, Marion and Mother, knowing that I preferred to have them come while the leaves were in their prime, came at once after telephoning from White River. Their train arrived only about an hour after their telephone message. They had just come in when one of the Oxford Group people came to call. She helped me all the AM. changing the water for the beautiful flowers (asters and large pansies) which were given us Saturday when we were calling, and peeling apples...
for a large kettle of apple sauce. I mended sex while she worked, oh she washed the dishes after we (all five) had tea, too. I was so glad to have her stay and later she told me some difficulties which she was having, and I was thankful for that too.

My other surprise last week was then Mrs. Fallow, the girl who represents the N. E. Fellowship (in teaching Religious Education to thirty rural schools here) arrived at noon in time for dinner, when I expected her for supper. She also stayed until nearly supper the next day. The poor girl needed some headquarters for she had to do her washing, and pressing, and shampooing etc. But when they asked if she could come, it was for the night! She is a
lovely girl, a graduate of Wheaton College, and I was glad to know her.

I am enclosing two more letters from John.

Ellison has been very very busy. To-day in addition to everything else, he tried to wash and put on double windows, and he succeeded, too.

Alice wants to have her tonsils out, and so she will go to Hanover Hospital Wednesday morning, planning to come home Thursday. I shall plan to go with her, of course. She has gone to Bethel to "The Good Earth" to-night. I wanted to go, but foolishly planned a Committee meeting whose duty was to examine Hymn Books for the Sunday School—and as we have Christian League tomorrow. I shall not see it now.

Mother and Marion seemed well and happy. It will be nice to have them here, when E has to be away Thursday to Saturday.
How time flies! It will soon be Thanksgiving at this rate!
We all send much much love, and wish that we could see you oftener.

Lottie

Hope that all is well with both of you.
We started on a damp overcast Sunday afternoon, driving over mountainous winding roads, by flowing brooks, and past delightful little waterfalls that came upon our vision with delightful surprise. After a few hours, we had a little rain and a light lunch, and then hurried on to Saratoga Springs - (not beautiful and wooded as I had expected) to Amsterdam, N.Y. When we reached New York, the character of the scenery changed, and it seemed more like Massachusetts near Sonett, Hadley and along the Connecticut River.

June 20, 1938.

Charles Pillebury (29), a Vermont young man, Charles Pillebury (29), the nephew of Dr. Claud Leach of Kityang, China, went with us in the trip. We used Mrs. Russell's car, and she went, too. We are allowed money to cover expenses.

On Sunday night we stayed at Amsterdam at the luxurious home of a friend, Dorothy Russell, had met at during her four years at Art School. The husband had been in health, business and evidently had grown wealthy. I did not want to stay there and had refused, but she insisted on it a second time to the woman about our coming, and she had made all arrangements to take us all in, and so we stayed - the real Vermont youth, the person and his wife, and Dorothy - who treated the hostess very cordial. She certainly treated us well - made a lunch at 10:00 P.M. after we had eaten, gave us their own personal rooms, and served a lovely breakfast. By the way we had gone to Saratoga Springs - full of hotels.
but not a place of beauty as I supposed.) I was glad to go into Syracuse and also the Utica where Jenny used to live: Genoa, etc., under "The Bones." We reached Magara Falls at the most beautiful time of day. Well, we had to go fifty miles out of our way to get there, and after a very refreshing meal at the Y.W.C.A.,

The weather uninvitingly, walked on to Goat Island and Dorothy walked so slowly that it was almost dark before we started for East Aurora (Ellen Hubbard's home) — where Marion Bos Ward lived. Once getting off the road cost us more time and it was ten o'clock before we arrived.

July 12, 1938.

Marion Bos Ward was off giving a lecture as she had told us she would be if we arrived late, and so we went over to the Episcopal Church which we had passed on the way to her house, and found her just packing up her curios. She gave us a cordial welcome. Someone served us fruit punch, which was much appreciated, and we returned to her home where, after we had ventured Vermont I go to a neighbor's house to sleep, we saw Marion's pictures of China. There was a talk, Ellen's teacher as large as life on the screen, and the houses where we lived, the bridge where we had crossed the Nan River so many times! It was all very satisfying and Marion's long-suffering husband (whose work is in child welfare) sad and listened.
to us until after 1:00 p.m. I think when we went to bed, Ed and I in the bed of our host and hostess, 90%, as we were every time that we stayed with friends.

In the morning Mrs. Ward had departed when we arose, and Marian’s 10 yr. old son came to wake us with a glass of grape fruit juice. He is a lovely boy greatly interested in nature and Chemistry (at that tender age). After a chatty breakfast, we started about 10 or 10:30 for our Tuesday ride along the shore of Lake Erie. Although it was warm, there was a good breeze from the lake. We passed the Erie where Nena used to live, then Ashtabula where 1903 Vice President, now lives, then Cleveland and then turned south to Oberlin where she lives, now lives, and Mother B was with her, Mother Blakely now lives, and Mother B was with her. Then she took me into the house to the huge kitchen to get a drink. Nena’s home was a large old one with a very large and sociable living room when I found Nena at her desk, she took me into the dining room to the huge kitchen to get a drink. A white woman was getting the supper, and in the corner of the long kitchen was a long table with a huge settle! on one side which shut out the view of the kitchen and made a lovely breakfast nook.

Then she took me out to her lawn in back of the house where she had nice chairs and a lovely flower garden. Her daughter Kathleen was there with her. She was also there. Helen, Kathleen’s sister, who attended Oberlin was also there. After almost an hour in Oberlin,
we drove past the college and on beyond Fremont where we
were in tourist camps for the night.
On Wednesday we left the tourist place at 8:30 and could easily
have made Beloit late that evening but while we were eating
lunch a truck carelessly backed into our empty car and
dented the mud guard. The truck driver had no license and
there was some delay before we got to a welding place where
an experienced workman fixed us up just like new. I
set in the library and beguiled the three to four hours spent
in this business. Thro Indiana we were mostly on the Lincoln
Highway - country level, roads straight for miles and miles
and miles, this corn and wheat fields. In Ohio cherries
were ripe and we enjoyed them immensely - not so many in
Indiana. Because of that little accident we spent the
night in a tourist home in Elgin and arrived at Beloit about
9:30 the next morning Thursday - altho the conference began
on Wednesday evening and that was when President Wooley
spoke - The Young People's Conference was at Rockford, Ill. only a few
miles away and the president of that college is Mary Ashley Cheek
a Mount Holyoke girl.

On June 22 after nearly a week's rest we took the car again
and started for Evanston Ill. and I forgot to say that on the
way out in Indiana on Wednesday P.M. we went through the
edge of a heavy thunder storm when the rain came down in
such sheets that we had to park the car because we could
not see the road at all! A little hail also!

We left Beloit at 2:30 on Wednesday June 22, and
arrived at David's home without any difficulty about
5:10 P.M. David had stayed home all the P.M. not having
received my note saying that we should arrive in late P.M.
The weather was very hot. Their home is an apartment in
a lovely region - It makes a lovely home - large living room, two bedrooms and bath, dining room, kitchen, hall. Mayme looked lovely in a black and white dress and David looked as I expected them to. He was mending the wire a good deal - and they go to northern shores of Lake Michigan for two months in the summer. One son, Kenneth, was at home, and one boy, Junior, was off on night duty on a newspaper. He came in at daylight, and we did not see him for he was sound asleep! Poor Roger, the one who is attending North Western, which is situated in Evanston near the lake, had gone just that afternoon to take a job in Elgin where we had spent the night a week before.

Mayme put us in her own bedroom with its beautiful furniture and comfortable mattress. Windows had sashes catches and could be opened only about eight inches!! David talked a good deal to Elleson about his life, and we had some general conversation about old days. He has an enlarged heart, and his forehead was covered with perspiration most of the time.

We (at Mayme's wise suggestion) tried to telephone our many friends in Chicago before leaving them up. My classmate, Margaret MoreBi (an authority on song papers) was in Vienne visiting some noted person. Hazel Hunter who has some important position in a broadcasting station had been married on May 27 of this year, and was out of town.

We could not get any response from my doctor, classmate, Mary Swan. I'm from Margerine Ewhicham and from China. Latter was out of town. I learned later by letter. Twould we make connection with Newton Gomney of China or Beavie Baker?!

So we went by way of the lovely Lake Shore drive
I've been to Butteville also.

Everywhere that we went,

and by North Western University to the Planetarium in Chicago. It is right on the edge of the lake on made land. The time of opening was 3:00 P.M. and so we looked around the very interesting Museum of Natural History where we had lunch, and the adjoining Aquarium until time to go to the Planetarium. There we saw the procession of the stars. I have longed to see it for years and years. The building was air-conditioned, and that rested and cooled us after the hot, tiring day.

Urchins were in bathing in the lake, the breezes were strong and we were ready to start again after our hour in the planetarium. We drove on to Winona Lake, Ind. where we had lodging in tourist cabins — not scrupulously clean — if it had been light we could have found very comfortable lodgings nearby where the Presbyterians have a summer camp! But Mrs. Russell and I went in bathing the next morning and that was nice and convenient.

John was awaiting our arrival at Antioch at 8:30 A.M. He looked well, the thin, and having some dark medicine for poison ivy dabbed on his arms. We had secured rooms for us in the large brick house which was the Presbyterian minister's parsonage. A lovely bath room gave us a chance for the three baths which made the hot day bearable for me. We were fortunate in being able to see the Senior play — an outdoor performance of Hamlet which used the entrance to the turreted administration building for a stage. This furnished a balcony for the ghost and a turret for the guards.
and steps for the stage. The lighting arrangements managed by a Senior, David Sarvis, who in the Summer of 1924 (as a little boy) lived next to us at Kentish Town China) were very clever and made the scene seem very real. I had never seen Hamlet, nor even read it thoroughly, but I who had a reserved seat, and Eliea and John who had unreserved ones at the back heard every word. Hamlet was superb. (The same play was given a year ago) and all who acted were good. I was pleased to recognize several well known quotations.

The next morning we attended Commencement, and there met Guy Sarvis and Maude Taylor Sarvis, the parents of David mentioned above. We made a date to call on them at their home in Delaware that evening - but we could not make it. Maude Taylor Sarvis is quite an author - having written many short stories and several articles for the Christian Century and Pilgrim Highroad etc.

He intended to pack and leave that PM - but John insisted on our hearing a little modern music from records borrowed from the Carnegie Library music before we packed, and then when we went to his room we found chaos. Joe had attempted to pack a suitcase; and the room was littered with his own and his room mates' things. Finally after E had gone downtown twice for boxes and string etc. and I had gone to the hot attic and got my trunk, and I had packed a laundry parcel of things which the roommate had left behind, I succeeded in packing the trunk and
a box of things to leave there, and a suitcase and a box and a bag of things to bring home. While we were there we ate in John's Co-operative Hall and enjoyed it a lot. It is in the residence where Arthur Morgan used to live and the house is lovely - although the eating place is in the basement.

John played for us a little piece which he had composed, modern style. At the Commencement in the morning, we had seen the president, Algo Henderson, and the former president, Arthur Morgan.

By the time we had eaten, a big thunder storm was starting, and we decided to spend another night in Yellow Springs rather than start out then. It was a wise plan, for the shower was heavy and long and we had a good nights rest. Early Sunday morning, we started out with John and his bag and suitcase, added to our six suitcases (counting Mrs Russell's where we were using).

I have probably told you how we made Granville P.O. in time for the eleven A.M. service, and how everyone there behind Mr. and Mrs. Waters was speaking to them in Chinese and how surprised and cordial they were, insisting on our coming home to dinner with them. The thunder storm of last night had changed the atmosphere and it was cool and comfortable. At Granville we saw many reminders from life in China and learned much about friends American, British, and Chinese. I trained again after dinner and we did not start out until almost 4:00 P.M.
On the return trip we saw much wheat being harvested, and the smell of clover and hay was in our nostrils. I forgot to say that in Indiana much of the way was dual-pavement with grassy space in between the four lanes. (Grassy space had two lanes in each side.) It was wonderful driving.

In approaching Yellow Springs we went thru Bellefontaine near the highest point in Ohio. And after leaving Granville we went thru lovely rolling country which surprised all of us who had thought that Ohio was all flat. We reached Wheeling, W. Va., Sunday night in the rain, and were glad to go into a spotless tourist home for the night. The scenery for miles approaching Wheeling and leaving it was wonderful.

The mountains seem to dip right into the Ohio river there.

On Monday June 22nd we continued thru S. Pa. over high onto som

early 3000 feet high into Maryland. The coal nearly 3000 feet high into Maryland. The coal
country showed the most poverty of anything we
country showed the most poverty of anything we
had seen. One place, said land subsidence "Drin
carefully." And we did for we saw a hole that
had caved in by the side of the road. We saw
many "amoldeling" heaps of coal refuse.

At the highest mountains we would stop to see
the lovely views.

In spent Monday night near Gettysburg,
and part of Tuesday Am. We looked over the huge battle.
field. Then we moved on toward Harrisburg, Pa. Where again we saw scenery quite equal to the Delaware Water Gap which we passed later in the afternoon. We kept going on and on because we did not see a suitable place to stop until we were so close to Newburgh, that we decided to push on, reach Beacon that night, and go on to Holyoke for Wednesday night. Across the ferry at Newburgh we went and hunted up camps in Beacon as it was 10:00 P.M. Jackie was graduating that night, but we did not know it — and glad I had moved to Beacon and we had not heard that.

The next morning we surprised John, saw glad in the new home, got acquainted with the boys and went on to Holyoke for the night, as you know. From Holyoke on Thursday we had a comfortable easy trip home — and we left John to come up with Fannie and Father on Saturday.

John altogether, we had a very lovely trip and saw a great many friends. gas and oil alone amounted to only about a cent a mile.
Dear Mother,

July 11, 1938.

It is Monday evening, but still light outside, where everything is wet from a very heavy shower of rain. But the rain did not come early enough to interfere with the circus which the shepherd boys (our neighbors) put on. They gave a circus last year, and it was so good that they want to make it an annual event. Admission is 10 cents, and there were many cute stunts as well as side shows. There was more music—and better—than we usually
hers at a circus. Two solos on the piano, accordion, and guitar played by the same person, and trios by trumpet, trombone, and clarinet on a guitar.

Popcorn and drinks were for sale, and everyone had a good time.

Alice and Daddy are busy at the vacation School every AM and go over at 9:00 AM for a little while; Elizabeth Barnes is the Principal.

Too bad that Polly had measles. I am glad that she is at home now.

Hope Carol has a happy day today.
I am sending check for Bengalow, so that you can hire someone to clean it, and not have the bother. We expect to come down about August 9, and hope we can have the Bengalow until about Aug 26, if that is agreeable to all concerned. I told glad that we would make other arrange-ments if she would come to see John. Much love to you & is going to P.O. and
so I'll send this -
Lottie.