Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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From: Harriette Wetherby, Elia Whitman. Fanny Wickes, Prudence Worley, regarding YMCA in Russia

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Jan 7, 1940

Dear Caroline Lottie,

I am sitting in my sunny window this very
cold day listening to "Wings
over Jordan" and writing to
Thank you for the very nice
little braid of mat. It is very
wonderfully done, so fine and
even - I can't decide whether
to have it on the back of
my rocking chair or tie
the seat - it looks well in
both places. You were very
kind to think of me with
your multitude of friends
and duties at Christmas.

Mrs. Barber & I were invited
to the home of a friend to
Christmas dinner - they came for us at eleven - brought us home about three. There were two very lively little girls whose constant activity tired me very much. We were shown over the greenhouses where thousands of cacti were blossoming. There were eleven at dinner - it was a very delicious dinner and we enjoyed going into a family to eat our Christmas dinner for Mrs. B. & I very rarely go out to meals and there are only the two of us here -

With all love happiness.

of the Christmas season - there has been much anxiety and sorrow -

My very dear friends of more than forty years had a stroke while visiting her daughter in Philadelphia and has lain in a hospital there - her left side paralyzed for many weeks - she has two beautiful houses in N.Y., and at the beach - a husband and five children all married but one - and she has to be separated from them all - she is one of the most lovely
and gracious of women has been very prominent in women's clubs and many social organizations. Always thinking of others and doing generous kind deeds.

Then Marea's trouble has been a sorrow to us all. Poor Marea, she is so long suffering and forgiving and so ready to do for every body.

Now Louis feels there is a chance to help their brother and show a little kindness as Their Children.

Two days ago my niece wrote from California that my sister-in-law has had a stroke and her right side is paralyzed. Her heart has been bad for some time and is very weak now. Just nine years ago at the time I sent her my beloved sister's picture in the hospital for many weeks — she was paralyzed and suffered terribly. And since it be that such great
affliction must come at the closing time of life? My brother George passed on in 1917 and his widow, Rose, and three daughters moved to Calif. - all are married but the two oldest daughters are separated from their husbands. The mother has made her home with Rose and her two children, a daughter now Twenty-one years in High School. The oldest daughter, Joyce has been manager of a hotel for some years and has helped in the support of the sister's home & her mother. The Rose, Roy Sykes & wife live in Los Angeles; they have a boy of thirteen. Roy Sykes, Jr., the only brother, boy of that generation of all the descendants of Grandfather Mather's line.
Nancy Conant—the youngest daughter—lived near San Francisco, has two children same age as their cousins. The daughter Beverly is a Sotheby in College. I have seen this last niece & her family times since their father’s death in 1912.

I received cards from your brother Joe & John & your mother and Betty Lane at Christmas. I wrote telling her of the many friends & relatives who trained at the Newlin Hospital—our Augusta Dakota is a missionary in Africa. She tells me when she is on a sick claw eight years ago, and I have received word that she called from her is on her way home. She is in a hospital in central Africa and says she can return home for some times as now right round the clock. I
Miss Ruth Manfield, who was with me when I boarded at McWhorter, was married in Dec. on her wedding tour and visited in Philadelphia. She said Mrs. Whitemore expected a baby any day.

Miss Manfield, now Mrs. Smith, has taken her husband to her mother's house in Methuen, the factory is an invalid. Ruth is a nurse—both she
and Miss Leavitt have been very kind to me since we were at S. R. have visited me & brought fruit and jelly and flowers and sent many cards during my illness.

I have not been out since the severe cold it affects my breathing. I am getting very tired of our house & my room. Keep busy knitting, crocheting, hem stitch & making small things. Again thanking you & thanking you.
Cousin Harriette

Mrs. Ellen D. Hildreth
So. Royalton
Vermont
H.A. Wetherbee
56 Pancraft Ave.
Reading, Mass.
Ka-ying, China.
Jan. 21, 1919.

My dear Mrs. Hildreth,

It was very thoughtful of you to send these Christmas greetings. Thank you very much. I should have answered sooner but thought I'd wait until I could write you a letter of congratulations. I cannot tell you how happy I was when Mrs. Giffin showed me that little announcement card. In your former dispa-
pointments. I sympathized very deeply but hardly felt well enough acquainted to speak of it. When we were having that delightful visit with you over a year ago, I more than once wanted to let you know how my heart ached for you, but your nerves seemed not very strong; I thought it would probably be unwise to open a question on which your feelings must be very painful. Enough of that for now. A man child is born into the world and is no doubt filling your heart with joy and a new happiness. I rejoice with you, and trust the little one may be spared to a long life of usefulness and honor.

How you must have been missing your dear husband! We hear he is coming back to New Orleans, but have not heard anything concerning his further plans. The Burketts have been with us about two months. They and Miss Withers were with us at Xmas time, so we had a merry party. Of course my heart was yearning utterly for my precious children so far away in the dear old homeland, but I have very much for which to be thankful even though I am separated from my children for a time.

I hope that sceintifica did not long trouble you. Your letter gave me a twinge of homesickness for a fall at home
in the beautiful Autumn woods. That is one thing we miss at home.
No! not here, I mean.
We are so hoping Mr. Beech can get off soon. Mrs. Beech is
brave, but I am sure it is hard for her.
Anna Foster is doing wonderfully well with the language.
I am enjoying her so very much.
Everything is very quiet here, but
poor old Chnia doesn't seem to
settle down very well. We are
praying God will raise up some
one to help her in her time of need.
I closed the Girls' School on Friday
for the month winter vacation.
I enjoy that work immensely. It
has been a good season thus far.

With much love,

Elias C. Whitman
American Board Mission

Liscang, Shantung
Feb 10th 1927

my dear Mrs. Hildreth,

I was glad to get your letter, and Alice was rejoiced to hear again from John. She sat right down and wrote to him, so I may as well write to you a few lines now instead of waiting a while. It is to her that you are indebted for this tremendous promptness.

Alice has talked much of John Hildreth to her other friends. One of the rest of these last year was John Whitaker. The Juliet tied for first place in her Liscang friendship, and tonia was also a good friend. This year the Whitakers are on furlough, and we plan to go in June.
Mr. Whitaker received a letter from Mr. Hildreth last year telling of trouble in the school. I did not know whether you were still there in Charlestown or not. I have thought of you often and wondered how you were. I am sorry that you have not been well, so many of you.

Except for various attacks for flu or grippe we have kept well enough, and there is now another member of our family, Eleanor, who was born on October 13th, and who is now working herself heard from upstairs.

Alice is muddling along in school work in about the third grade. I seem to have very little time or energy to give to her at present. But a little every day is better than none.

So far, we have been very undisturbed in this region and the schools and church work go on quietly enough. Bandits and soldiers trouble the people in some places not far away.

Cordially,

This is a scratchy note, but shows I think of you. Fanny S. Wickes
Feb. 9TH 1927

"You shall sit on a cushion
And sew a fine seam."

My Dear John

and Alice, I shall write to you about things
that happened later than that. I mean
than when you
wrote your letter and things that happened earlier.

April 18th I bought in our back yard two dear little kittens white with blue eyes, hunted and hunted we taught them to drink and finally found milk out of a medicine dropper because they him; and then were too going to lap the one who it.

After they grew bigger I had fun watching them. Once one went and hid in a box and the other he.
looked for the other one went and hid behind the scrub board and then the other went and found him. We are all well and I hope you are the same. With love Alice
Dear Lottie:

If you had a letter from me for every thought of you during this year you would have to set aside a pigeon hole for them. I am just saying it for the convenience you and I might use. I hope it is not too late for the Christmas. I sent you for a gift that evening. I am so glad I could have the Harris family with me that evening for Christmas dinner. It was the first time I had been out of the house (the...
Page house, since they had moved there in October. We walked from the front door to the dining-room, and back again after dinner, and said he thought it had done him good. It was indeed a shock when the word came that he was gone—and so soon. Mrs. Levi's letter giving me the details of his last days came two or three days after we had said Mr. Scheier away. There still paged as you can imagine. The doctor believed, up to within a few days of his death, that his trouble was dengue.

Though I do not suppose it would have made any difference in the issue had she known sooner. Pneumonia set in and at his age and with a constitution none too strong he was not able to combat both. Mr. Scheier was brave but, of course, it is terrible hard to do. She has gone to Bago and I have they both intended going to the summer with Ray Bohn. Mr. and Mrs. Bohn and Miss Culler and Northcott are already there. Helen in the summer the Mission has so much illness it seems to me. The Roberts are with me and for several days Vesta, Eleanor, and I went down and up and down with some fever, probably cold & diarrhea.
Now George Keil, the two year old, has developed amebic dysentery and Mrs. Wattle has just gone to Matteila hospital with the same trouble. Ellen was there as soon as school closed. She has to be very careful if her heart you know. Mrs. Wattle has gone to Shanghai for medical treatment and Mr. Giffin is down with typhoid - though he seems to be getting on well - for which fact we are most grateful! We have a nurse from Hongkong on the case and the Baker family - who should be at the island - are keeping house for themselves, the sick man and the nurse, Mr. Baker also helping with the nursing. Mr. Giffin had gone to Shanghai early in June and Mr. Guss to follow their convention in July. Our one lone family doctor is having his hands full! The first time in years he has a real patient to attend. Marguerite has left for her furlough and so only Sylvia Brown is here. Dr. Brown is studying in Shanghai.

Have you heard of the India new arrival - another toy - came July 3rd? They are at the Post House. Everybody seems better now. Miss Sollman goes to Long Island with Dr. and Mrs. Haye in August and the rest of us here will come time in August at the island. Sylvia will go to Bogota later probably. I am teaching in summer school so is Miss Sollman.

Edwin was well after the winter - is working this summer for the San Diego Power & Light Co. - oring this summer for the San Diego Power & Light Co. - oring this summer for the San Diego Power & Light Co. - oring this summer for the San Diego Power & Light Co. - oring this summer for the San Diego Power & Light Co. - oring this summer for the San Diego Power & Light Co. - oring this summer for the San Diego Power & Light Co. - oring this summer for the San Diego Power & Light Co. - oring this summer for the San Diego Power & Light Co. - oring this summer for the San Diego Power & Light Co.
Mr. Earnest Moses,
Vladivostok.

Dear Sir,

A few words in regard to your assignment at Habarovsky.

In undertaking your assignment I wish to make clear the following responsibilities which we will expect you to assume as a representative of the Supply Department.

1st. You are to have responsibility over all goods taken over by you in the warehouse at Habarovsky, and over all goods sent to you from future shipments made from the Vladivostok warehouse, and for all goods purchased by you in Habarovsky as a representative of the Supply Department. In keeping with this responsibility you are instructed:

1st. To make a complete inventory of all the goods in the Habarovsky warehouse prior to your taking over responsibility of the same, and to give a signed receipt for these goods, and these only, to whomever you supplant.

2nd. You are instructed to give out goods from the Habarovsky warehouse only upon the presentation of the proper requisition blanks, and you or your representative, should file, in accordance with these blanks, proper delivery orders, in order to keep your warehouse records complete. These instructions you are to understand to be full and complete, and in no case are they to be modified or departed from. You will frequently find pressure upon you to modify this rule, but such modifications not only lead to demoralization in your work and records, but also that of the staff whom you are serving. You will have the complete support of the Vladivostok headquarters in enforcing this rule.

2nd. You will understand that in case of requisitions being made upon you for supplies, and these goods not being in your warehouse, you have authority to purchase them, if such purchase can be made advantageously in the local market, otherwise you will be expected to requisition such supplies from Vladivostok. You are hereby authorized to concentrate in your hands the entire matter of purchase, except for petty administrative requirements of the Habarovsky district. I am writing Mr Simmons to this effect.
Going with you to Habarovsk is a gentleman who is to act as your assistant or helper in any capacity for which you may find him fitted.

3rd. You have secured from Mr. Fleshner the information and data which is necessary for you to correlate the books and records of the Habarovsk district with those of the Vladivostok office. I am instructing Mr. Simmons that all records and accounts are to be placed under your administration. It is not expected that you become responsible for anything prior to the date which you arrange for taking over the records. You will, therefore, please give a receipt to Mr. Simmons for the cash received, and institute your accounts as per your instructions from Mr. Fleshner. In the matter of accounting and bookkeeping, and in the handling of cash, you are instructed and authorized to adopt such office hours and practices as may be necessary to safeguard the interests of the Association.

4th. I am asking Mr. Simmons that you have such opportunities for personal work with the troops as your other duties and desires permit.

You will, of course, appreciate the necessity of keeping the canteen capital flowing in this direction. Secretaries have an operating budget for their work, and are not to exceed that through drafts upon the canteen supplies or the proceeds of sales for any augmentation of the amounts assigned them. Rapid turnovers are essential to a steady stream of supplies from the Vladivostok end.

It is, of course, understood that our whole enterprise is based upon the spirit of mutual service and cooperation, and your department, while necessarily following good business principles, is none the less to be thoroughly imbued with this spirit of service and cooperation.

With every good wish for your successful and effective sojourn in the northern wilds, I am

Sincerely yours,

R. M. Story
Copy for E.S.Hildreth Esq.

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
IN RUSSIA.

November 4th 1918.

Earnest Moses Esq.
Habarovsk.

Dear Mr. Moses,

I have your letter of the 2nd, and have made enquiries of the consul with respect to the extension of your passport. I will let you know as to the possibilities of having it done without your presence.

Mr. F.W. Heekleman is being placed in charge of the administrative work of the Army Department in the Habarovsky district: you will continue as the representative of the Supply Department. I feel sure that the administrative relations between the two of you can be happily worked out in the interests of the work which we are seeking to do.

In view of the assignment of Mr. Heekleman as the administrative secretary for the army work in the Habarovsky district, there will be some modification of the duties imposed upon you in my letter of October 26th.

Paragraphs one and two remain as originally arranged. With respect to paragraph three, the following modification is made:

The books and accounts of the Army Department, including the operating budget of the department, are to be placed in the hands of Mr. Heekleman, and the money which is transferred to his hands for the maintenance and conduct of the Association activities, he will have to account for.

For the supply and purchasing capital for the stock, records and accounts, you will continue to have full responsibility.

Mr. Heekleman will account for all funds received from the sale of canteen receipts, for all funds committed to his care for operating services, including
exchange.

In addition I am going to ask you to fill requisitions upon your warehouse supplies, only when they have been approved by Mr. Heckleman. This does not imply that you are necessarily to fill these orders as approved by him, for, as elsewhere, the responsibility for the distribution of the supplies will rest with yourself as the representative of the Supply Department, but it does mean that no requisitions which have not been approved by him are to be filled either in whole or in part. This division of responsibility follows the lines of responsibility already worked out in the central office.

I am asking Mr. Heckleman to take up the matter of providing you with such invoices as you may need.

May I suggest that if Mr. Hildreth feels it is necessary for his records that he have the records of goods consigned to him, that he in turn invoice to you what prices are invoiced to him.

Sincerely yours,

R. M. Story
THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
IN RUSSIA.

November 4th 1918.

A.A. Simmons Esq.
Vladivostok.

My dear Simmons,

At your suggestion we are asking Mr. Heckleman to proceed to Habarovsk, and take over the administration of the work in the Habarovsk district. With some persuading, Mr. Heckleman has consented to do this, being assured that he can count on your cooperation and support.

Such an arrangement naturally involves something of a reorganization of the work at Habarovsk, and the details of this reorganization will be left to Mr. Iglehart and Mr. Heckleman, but I thought it well to acquaint you with the general outlines, inasmuch as you have the burden of the administration up to this time.

It is my understanding that you are put in charge of the Cossack Club already established, and will give that work the good attention which it deserves. It is the policy of the Siberian Organization, fully approved by Mr. Phelps, as well as myself, that a first-class piece of work must be done among the Russians. Your genius for making friends will enable you to continue the work that has already been commenced.

One word of caution, however, just at this time. Until after my visit to New York we will not know here to what extent it is possible to inaugurate permanent work in Siberia, and it is quite possible that the New York Office would not approve the establishment of a permanent work at Habarovsk, as such a development would involve an after war liability. I am, therefore, asking Mr. Heckleman, as representative of the Army Department, in cooperation with yourself, to go no further than to make a survey of the community, getting together the information which would be necessary to a decision to establish permanent work, should New York approve the opening up of permanent work in a number of Siberian cities. But until such approval comes, our activities cannot be o
of a promoting or a promissory character in the local field.

I hope, however, you will make the Russian Club work an intense piece of work, and leave the mark of the Association so deeply impressed that there can be no question of the message which the Association, as an American and as a Christian organization brings to them.

Allow me to express the hearty satisfaction and pleasure that I personally have had in the privileges which have been yours on the Ussuri line and in Habarovsk, and my appreciation of the faithful and devoted service you have given. We are more than pleased over the work that has been done, and are quite happy in the knowledge that you will be with the Russian work in that district.

With cordial and personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

R. M. Story

RMS/HJH