

1930

- Depression
- Myron Gould Beard and Virginia Blatchley Space are married on July 15, 1930. Gould begins work with American Airways where he later becomes their chief test pilot until he retires in 1964.
- October/November -Willard and Ellen return from China so Willard can have an operation on an enlarged prostate gland
- Pluto is discovered by astronomers
- Kathleen is at Oberlin College
- Marjorie is working in Lorain, Ohio
- Geraldine and Gould are living together in Amityville, New York until Gould is married
- Dorothy and Harold are in Saginaw, Michigan
- Willard is 65, Ellen- 62, Gould- 34, Geraldine- 32, Dorothy- 29, Marjorie- 24, Kathleen- 22.

[This letter dated Jan. 2, 1930 was written from Oberlin, Ohio by Kathleen to Dot and Harold. She and Monnie had a quick train trip back to Ohio after visiting Dot and Harold for Christmas vacation. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]

Old Talcott Hall again
Jan. 2, 1930.

Dear Dot and Harold-

This is the first letter I have written this year- feel honored. And on this pink paper too. I'll give you a choice between pink paper or no paper because I've got to use this up on the family. Never mind, part of it is covered up by the ink anyway.

The trip back was so different from the one coming up and seemed so short. The 8:00 train was not the one for us for we had to change at Toledo but there was a thru train at 8:30 which gave us plenty of time to buy tickets. We just sailed thru on that train and made Elyria by noon where we had lunch together and I hopped right on an Oberlin bus. I don't know how long Monnie had to wait but not more than half an hour I think. We took turns sleeping on each others shoulders and got some rest made up. I hope you were able to go to sleep again easily.

I am all alone here now since all the other kids are out on dates- first right back you know. After my bag was unpacked and the room somewhat in order again I slept the rest of the afternoon and did it feel good! I am going down to Aunt Etta's for a little while to see if the boys have gone back yet. It is wet and rainy out and I sort of hate to go but I do want to see them.

It is just the same as ever getting back after a vacation. Everybody acts merry and puts on a forced gaiety to get back. Vacations are awfully nice but, oh! the aftermath. It isn't as bad as it sometimes is though because I can make myself snap out of it now.

Be sure to write us which radio you decide on (do I miss that ringing in my ears!) and tell us what the doctor said, Dotty.

I can hardly make it seem that we saw you just this morning and that two hundred miles lie between us now- but they do (aren't I right!)

Love and a heartfelt of thanks
Kathie.

P.S. WTAM Cleveland is broadcasting an Oberlin hour on Jan. 18 from 10:00- 11:00 a capella choir, string quartet and some solos are being broadcast. Tune in. -

[This letter dated Jan. 12, 1930 was written from Saginaw, Michigan by Dorothy to Jerry and Gould. She wonders if Aunt Grace (a Christian Scientist), is taking medical care for her illness. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]

2108 N. Bond St.,
Saginaw, Mich.,
Jan. 12, 1930.

Dear Jerry and Gould:

My, now we did enjoy Jerry's letter about all your doings, Gould, so let us hear a word from you once in a while.

I'm so sorry you couldn't have been here for Christmas. We had a grand time. You did have quite a different Christmas than you have had the last few years, didn't you, Jerry?

I have heard from both Aunt Phebe and Aunt Mary about their gifts. Have sent the letters on to the girls. Your gifts were all very good, we think- to the relatives, I mean.

I sent Mary Ann a compact and got the cutest letter from her. I am sending it to the girls and want them to send it on to you. It's so sweet.

Dorothy and Uncle Raymond both wrote of your being there, and how much they enjoyed your visit.

I'm so glad you wrote more about Aunt Grace and Uncle Oliver. I haven't heard the details of either case, until you wrote. Is Aunt Grace accepting medical care? How and where is she paralyzed? How is Uncle Oliver now? I am going to write to them.

No, you haven't said a word about what you got from China. What, in the way of linens? I may want to buy something from you. You're coming along splendidly, aren't you? Anything that you can't sell, send to me and I may be able to sell it here for you.

About our gifts to you two- everybody was out of the little nickel bug lights or else didn't carry them, and I just ran across that and thought it was cute. I shall send a refill as soon as they get them in. We are planning to get

you something else, but I just didn't seem to have time before Christmas. You must have thought that the cards and bug light was a rather small Christmas from us. Just be patient. Does Gould really like his robe? I tried to find a silk quilted robe such as you told me to get, but nobody seemed to be selling them for men, and those that we did find were terrifically high. If he wanted it to lounge around in the evening, a silk one would be more what he would want, wouldn't it? I forgot to tell you that Monnie went in on that with us, so your share is only \$3.00 instead of \$5.00. Be sure to write Monnie about her share in it, because I think she felt as tho she wasn't taken on gifts this year. She thought we were all going in on large gifts so didn't get anything herself. What would you say to all of us getting her a camera for her birthday. We have found the prettiest one of three colors overtown. It is a 12.50 camera. What do you say?

Don't forget to tell me about Gould's "progress toward a home" that you left out of your last letter.

I suppose the girls told you about the bridge party I had while they were here. It's the first bridge party I've ever given, and I was quite pleased with the results. I was so glad to have Alice Stapleton come. Monnie and Kathie both like her so much. I am enclosing her tally just to show you what they were. It was the night before New Year's Eve, so I guess the talkies were appropriate enough. I had Alice McKrage, Hazel Curran and her sister, Grace Bray-In fact, I guess I wrote you before, who the guests were.

Dr. Curtis has been very ill for a long time. His office has been closed.

Did you see in the last Alumni Magazine that Dorie Cunningham is engaged and is to be married this month? Don't we wish that she were becoming our sister-in-law!

Are you still getting many subbing positions?

Milo and Niva drove up from Youngstown for Christmas. I wanted to get down to see them, but we were too busy, and they were here only a day or so. Spent most of the time with Niva's folks I guess. Do you ever hear from the Youngstown folks?

I must stop and get rested up for another week.

Have you heard a word from Mother since she got back? What do you suppose is the matter with her?

What have you done about Pearl's wedding present?

Much love to both from both-

Dot.

I forgot to tell you we finally got a Spartan radio and like it ever so much.

[This letter dated Feb. 3, 1930 was written from Shanghai, China by Willard to Geraldine. He is in Shanghai to represent the mission at the meeting of delegates for the Church of Christ. Willard is sending Geraldine linens and tea for her to sell in the states. He thanks her for sending the diary for his use. Grace and Oliver's health is not good. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]

Navy Y.M.C.A.
Shanghai
China

Feb. 3rd 1930

Dear Geraldine:-

To day I have spent some time with Mrs. Frank Rawlinson selecting cross stitched linen for you. I am asking her to mail to you about \$125.00 worth of goods. She will number each piece and send you the key as you will be able to tell exactly what each piece costs you in mex. She will also write you about some of the linen- There are pieces that are to be had only here- no where else on earth. You may think it rather a samply lot- not many of each kind. I so intended it. Dr. and Mrs. Rawlinson are Am. Board missionaries- the only ones in Shanghai. Mrs. R. has a share in a room that sells this kind of goods. Phebe and I bought some of her in 1921 and sent home. I intended to select things that would sell and select so that if they did sell, you could order again direct from her and pay her direct.

She has a lot of tea= jasmine tea and hard. I told her to send you 70 or 80 boxes. She has in all some 900 boxes. She is selling it cheap. It is all in the lacquer cases. I am paying her for all the things she is sending tea and all.

I have this proposition to make to you regarding paying for the goods you are ordering and will order. The check which you sent I have in my pocket. Last Thursday it would have brought me \$280.00 mex. I looked up the account with you for the goods shipped in Oct. 1929 and the tea shipped at different times and it accounted in U.S. gold to \$100.28. If I remember correctly you thought that check would just about balance your account with me. We

will consider it balanced. But it will be better for you I think to send another check to Kathleen for \$100.00 to balance the account and let me call this check payment for the goods I am sending now. Exchange is very good for you just now and may not be as good in a month or more. At any rate I am using this check to purchase goods for you now. It is merely a matter of bookkeeping. The Banks here are closed today. I arrived yesterday=Sunday. I will sell as soon as the Banks open and keep the account with you in silver. This time you will have no financial dealings with Mrs. Rawlinson. I will pay her.

If you cannot use all the tea perhaps Aunt Molly and Aunt Mary will take some. Some of it does not have the jasmine flowers in it now. The tea was fired with the flowers in it and the flowers picked out. The flavor is the same either way. But I will send you a lb. of the flowers from Foochow and you can throw them in - a few with each box. I have friends in Foochow who raise the flowers for market.

Mother I hope is buying drawn work and embroidered linen in Foochow for you while I am here. We will send it when I get back- unless she should happen to take a notion to send it herself. We will also send lacquer as you indicated.

Please write me soon if you are sending Kathleen \$100.00

As far as I can now think this is the business.

Week before last the Mission Ad Interim Comm. voted to ask me to represent the mission at a meeting of delegates of the Ch. of Christ in China to be held in Shanghai Feb. 5-7. I asked to be relieved but they did not relieve, so last Thurs. I left Foochow and arrived yesterday Feb. 2 – Sunday. I may have to stay another 8 or 9 days. So you see I have plenty of time to do the business relating to getting the linen from Mrs. Rawlinson. Dr. Skinner was my room mate on the steamer and is my room mate here at the Navy Y.M.C.A. The Miss'y Home has deteriorated. We are very nicely situated here. Shanghai becomes more and more like an American, hustling, driving city. It's harder to cross the street here and not get hit by an auto than it is in New York City.

The last home mail brought your diary. THANK YOU. It brought a good letter from Aunt Emma. It is very pleasing to me that she and Uncle Elbert could visit you in Amityville. Say did you or Gould receive a letter addressed to Comityville. I am almost sure that I wrote that on an envelope and mailed it one time when I was away from home and did not have your address.

The last news about Aunt Grace seemed to indicate that she was about the same. She hardly realizes Uncle Oliver's serious condition. He was doing well- improving and getting fit for his operation. I hope he is over that now and back home.

A letter from Monnie is full of interest in the work she enjoys and in which I judge she is making good in all ways. I have written already about the pride I take in being the owner of that swade jacket. I miss the desk set that Gould and Virginia sent a year ago- when I am away from home. That is the best pen that I ever used. But I cannot take it away from home.

It is a great pleasure to me also to know that the Jewetts have visited you in your new home. My! but wouldn't Mother and I like to do so too?

The Communists that threatened Kienning hsien just as I left the week after Thanksgiving got so near the last of Jan that the Shepherds left and were at Ciong lok Jan 28. May God take care of us all and use us all in helping him make the world good. Love to you- Gould and Virginia. Father



George W. Shepherd

MR. Shepherd is our authority on Communism as one finds it in the hinterland of Fukien and is working on projects for rural reconstruction and the re-establishment of the church in devastated areas. His fame has even reached Nanking



Mrs. G. W. Shepherd

MRS. Shepherd furthering her husband's projects is busy preparing courses in hygiene and simple remedies for the use of country people and is supervising the work of a nurse in a model village.



Glee and Mary Shepherd

WHEN asked if they were Methodists and going to the picnic, Glee, aged 10, answered "I thought I was until th's afternoon."



Beau and Delia Shepherd

THEIR mother calls them the "Compound Imps" but even so they are much beloved.

*[This letter dated **Feb. 9, 1930** was written from Lorain, Ohio by Monnie (Marjorie) to Jerry (Geraldine). She sends a quick note along with a letter from Mary Ann that she is forwarding. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]*

1612 E. 30th St.
Lorain, Ohio.
Feb. 9, 1930.

Dear Jerry,

Just a note to accompany this letter from Mary Ann. Isn't it a dear? How I wish we could take advantage of her offer of a vacation in Virginia! Is it really true that you are going down some time this summer? What are your plans for after May 1? Don't you wish that your land lady would change her mind about the date of returning?

I wrote a letter to Kathie, telling all about our doings last week which was particularly full. She is sending it to Dot and they to you.

Do keep up your welcome correspondence. It's so good to hear so often. Tell Gould that we'd love to see a specimen of his handwriting. Love to you both – Monnie.

*[This letter dated **Feb. 16, 1930** was written from Saginaw, Michigan by Dorothy to Jerry and Gould. Dorothy is not impressed with the principal of her school. Her ladies gym class is growing. The Ames teams are doing well in sports. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]*

2108 No. Bond St.,
Saginaw, Mich.
Feb., 16, 1930.

Dear Jerry and Gould:-

We haven't heard so much from you since all that aviation excitement. You must be as busy as we are, for I fear I haven't held up my end very well.

We were very much interested in the clippings and the news you sent. What is the latest news from Mr. Deckard in Alaska?

Two weeks ago our second semester began. Of course, the first week is always hectic. There are so many shifts and changes, new students, etc. Mr. Case doesn't seem capable of arranging a decent schedule. He's got just a mess of a schedule now, and can't do anything to fix it. Our first two morning classes are O.K. - small and all sixth and seventh graders. The third is our free hour, and the poor teachers that take that class are swamped- 98 boys and over 100 girls- 7th and 8th and 9th graders. The hour after dinner is the best of all. Not so large but an aggregation of all four grades- 6, 7, 8, 9. What is one to do with such an assortment. My 5th hr. is huge, and the last, so small that we haven't enough for games hardly. Our poor school is running down terribly- just simply because Mr. Case is not big enough for the job. There's no discipline, no school spirit, no assemblies, no school organization, and no cooperation between the office force and the teachers.

My ladies gym class is growing to such an extent that it is almost crowded, too. For a long time we could get no more than 28 or 30 out, and now there are over 40 almost every Mon. They all like Volleyball so well that we play nothing but that, after about 10 or 10 [20?]min of exercises. I took my ladies over to play against the Central Junior ladies and they beat us 3 games to 2. Tomorrow they come to our gym. My ladies are all set to trim them this time.

Last night I went to a bridge party at Irene Gelinis! She had the cutest score cards. I am enclosing mine.

We're getting terribly tired of winter here. We are due a long and warm spring, because we've had so much winter. If spring doesn't arrive pretty soon I shall be absolutely destitute of clothes. I got a new sport dress this winter, and just a bit ago I got a new purple or plum shade dress and felt hat to match.

Next Fri. is the big Masonic Ball that I've been trying to get Harold enthused over since Christmas. I haven't been to a formal since I was married. Kathie says I may wear her new "flaming glory" if I go. I suppose Harold will have to rent a suit. He says he'll take me if I want to go, but I can see he's not "dying" to go.

Mother wrote that she was sending each of us girls a Chinese necklace for Christmas. I've seen nothing of mine yet. Have you got yours?

I've been going regularly to the doctors until last week when I was so busy and so all in that I came right home after school instead of going to her. She sees improvement each time she says. I had hoped it wouldn't take so long to clear up, altho at this rate I can easily finish teaching the year out.

We have no spring vacation this year, but do have Good Fri. and Easter Mon. We'll drive to Oberlin for that much of a vacation, I guess. I wish you could manage to get out here, too, then.

Our Spartan radio is performing beautifully and gives us just heaps of pleasure. It is lots of company when I am alone.

Our Ames teams are doing very well this year. My girls have played ten or eleven games and haven't lost yet. The High School boys team won their 28th straight game last Wed. That's counting last year and this year both. The older boys come in for a loss now and then.

I was rather happy to hear Harold say the other day that this will be his last year for that work at the Ames. In a way, I hate to give it up, for I love the contact with the girls, but it really is too much, and every year more and more is expected of us. They don't seem to realize how much time we both spend down there on the athletic work itself, without asking us to do all sorts of extras, that others could do just as well.

How are Uncle Oliver and Aunt Grace? I am ashamed of myself for not writing them yet. I shall try to soon.

Are you doing anything with your cello yet? And how are your sales coming?

I am enclosing lots of letters that have accumulated. I should have sent them on long before.

Do write soon.

I am getting the camera for Monnie. If you have already sent something, never mind, but if you want to go in with us, we'd be glad to have you-

Much love to you both from us both.

Dot.

*[This letter dated **March 5, 1930** was written from Foochow, China by Willard to Gould, Virginia and Geraldine. Willard, Henry Lacy, Miss Plumb and two Chinese students went to Mintsing up the Min River for a preacher's retreat. While on the way a village fired a shot across the bow of the boat for money. Bandits have even taken people off Foochow streets and held them for ransom. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]*

Foochow, China.
March 5th 1930.

Dear Gould and Virginia and Geraldine:

For I expect you will all read it. The other sheet was business with Geraldine. This is just a little chat.

Last week I spend in Minchiang or Mintsing 45 miles up the Min river. Henry Lacy asked me to go up to help in a preacher's retreat. We left Sunday evening Feb 23rd. I went over and had supper with Henry and his wife and we took the launch just after supper. Miss Plumb and a Chinese girl and a Chinese boy= students made a party of five. We found a very crowded launch and really had to shove four soldiers back about four feet to get a seat on the edge of the shelf that was to be our reservations for the night. Henry hung his feet on a wire that was attached to the beam above us. A little after midnight two of the soldiers crawled out and we were more comfortable.

Monday forenoon about 10:30 a shot went across our bow and the launch turned toward shore. The passengers ducked their heads and were panicky. But no damage was done. This village wanted a little money and they got it. We reached Mintsing about noon, - had a good lunch got up by Henry and a watchman at the foreign house in which we stayed. After lunch I rubbed down and as the temperature was up in the 80 degrees I put off winter underwear and put on B.V.D.s. The next morning my left eye was swollen. Wed. morning all about the eye was perceptible swollen and on Thursday morning, I could not see out of the eye. The eye itself was not effected, so I kept on with my work- got some boracic acid and washed it and about midnight Wed. night I put on a cold pack made from a handkerchief and a towel and after breakfast I put on a hot pack. Either this or the boracic acid wash was effective and when I got home Saturday afternoon Mother did not notice it. I had an hour in the forenoon and an hour in the afternoon for four days running. This is not so heavy for a man who had written out his lecture and reads it. But I had done no such preparing and it was rather a heavy schedule.

Last night a letter from Aunt Phebe said that Uncle Oliver was improving with one or two drawbacks. Aunt Grace was much the same- not right mentally some of the time.

I am writing this with the pen Gould and Virginia sent me a year ago last Christmas. I never had a pen that I liked so well. At times I almost think that with this pen my writing is more legible. I wore the swade jacket to Mintsing. Why did they not have these years ago when I was doing so much touring. I thought sure the diary Geraldine sent me was gone the other morning. Sunday Mother and I went to the funeral of Miss Barker down at the Anchorage. I shut up my hens after getting home- after dark. In one of the houses I bent over the roost to look for the eggs. The next morning when I let this house of hens out I noticed two of my cards on the floor which is well covered with sand. I picked them up and wondered how they came there. I carry them in the diary. After dressing I wanted my diary and it was not there. I thought back and concluded it must have dropped out on the launch= private

motor boat #20. I had decided to go over to the river and try for it because that book is very useful to me in several ways. While eating breakfast the query came to me- how did those cards get on the chicken house floor? I ran out and found the diary slightly covered with sand which the hens had scratched over it. I was one happy man.

When I was home in 1928 Uncle Oliver gave me two big long pink cotton flannel night gowns. I have greatly enjoyed them in cold weather. When I got home from my Shaowu trip I found Mother wearing one. This is pretty good proof that they are good gowns. You would have to look twice to see whether it was Mother or I.

Uncle Stanley sent a check this last Christmas and I bought an electric heater for the bath room. This past winter has been very cold- the longest period of continued cold weather that I remember in Foochow. With the humidity of Foochow and the mer. around 40 degrees above it is pretty cold to take a cold bath. But the little electric heater raises the temperature just enough to make it comfortable.

Another term of teaching has begun. This is the third week. Our work is much the same as last term. Teaching in Foochow College and in the Union Kindergarten Training School- I teach 5 periods in F.C. and 2 in the N.K.T.S. Mother is doing twice as much and recently has become organist for F.C. - at prayers twice a week.

Bandits are continually seizing people and demanding ransom. A fine young doctor - a church member at Deng Chio was taken on the pretext that they wanted him to go to see a sick man. His family did not hear from him for nearly a week. Then \$6000 was demanded. Price was talked till \$800 was accepted. He was well cared for while with the bandits. One of the students of F.C. was taken during vacation. He and three other boys managed to give the bandits the slip and by walking nights got back to Foochow, barefooted and very hungry. The bandits take some men right off the streets of Foochow.

The Sentinels tell me of the finding of the Fairchild plane and the aviators. I should not have known Gould's connection with this accident if the Aunts had not written of it from Century Farm. [*On January 10, 1930, two aviators were conducting an altitude test (10,000 feet) in a Fairchild plane. While gone, a heavy fog had set in and the aviators crashed and died near Amston Lake, CT (Northeast of Hartford). About a dozen airplanes conducted a search for the plane. Possibly, Gould helped in this search.*]

My hens furnish both Mother and me much recreation- all the nice fresh eggs we want and a good dinner with a party once in a while. But I'm having great luck with setters- two hens were set two weeks ago-both are standing up now. I have found another to set on one of the nests. I'm going to put 40 or more eggs into an incubator next week- not my incubator but one belonging to the Union Middle School. I have thus far sold all the eggs I could spare. If it were not for setting I should be able to sell some now to the others in the compound for eating.

Dr. George Butler, from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace is lecturing this week at the University. I hope to hear him tomorrow and again Sunday afternoon when Mother and I are to take dinner after Vespers, at Pres. Lin's with Dr. and Mrs. Butcher. With a prayer for the highest good for each of -

Very lovingly

Father

[*This typewritten letter dated **March 30, 1930** was written from Foochow, China by Willard to Gould, Geraldine, and Virginia. Ellen is not feeling well and has not been able to attend church or teach her classes. Willard traveled through the village of Ma Ang and came across 32 bandits. He thanks those at home for the Christmas presents. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.*]

Foochow, China,
March 30th, 1930. Sunday

Dear Gould, Geraldine and Virginia:

This is another letter to a lot of you, - all the children and all the sisters and brothers and the Jewetts.

It is a dark, cold, dismal day. I am not in church. The first time in- I do not remember how long. Mother is in bed and I am the whole thing in this house today. A week ago today was fine and warm. I went out on the plain about five miles to a nice, clean chapel that Mother always goes with me to, and that Phebe always liked to go with me to. The preacher has one of the most attractive families that I know in Foochow. We always stay for dinner with the family. And it is always a good dinner. In the afternoon I went out the Water Gate to a unique service. A man who is a paralytic heard the Gospel twenty or more years ago. Then he got out of touch with it and a year ago evangelistic bands found him and have called on him more or less regularly. Some months ago he asked to unite with the church. So a dozen Chinese with a pastor and four of us foreigners went and held a communion service and received him into church membership. He seemed very happy.

Mother did not go with me either in the morning or the afternoon. She was not feeling well and had not eaten for two days. You all know that her cure for all ills is fasting. I noticed that she was not as lively as usual on Monday. Tuesday I was away all day. On Wednesdays we have been lunching with Miss Allen. That evening the

Station was to have a meeting and a picnic lunch at the McClure house. Mother had been asked to make some forty gems [muffins] for the supper. She said she would not go to Miss Allen's as she was not eating, but would stay and make the gems. She was due to teach at the Union Kindergarten, where Miss Allen is, at 1:30 p.m. I made up my mind that she ought not to go and while at lunch I told Miss Allen so and she at once said that she would take Mother's class. I met Mother just starting for her class as I reached home. It did not take a word of persuasion to have her turn back and stay at home. I tried to get her to let me make the gems. But she has earned a big reputation as cook in Foochow and I could not persuade her. That night I noticed she had a fever. But she would not let me speak to the doctor nor tell anyone that she was sick. She cautioned me specially not to tell any one. But on Thursday the fever kept up and she was weak. It was not until Friday that she allowed me to speak with Dr. Dyer. She found a temperature of 103.6. Last night it was 103. There is not much difference today. Dr. Dyer has got her to eating and I hope this will start her on the mend. In two or three days Dr. Dyer will make a test to see if it is typhoid.

In the above paragraph I wrote that last Tuesday I went away from home. Pastor Kiu and I went out the north gate to a place two miles from the city gate, Ma Ang (Horse's Saddle). We went to talk with people about the Truth and to sell copies of the Gospels. On the way out we sold some seven Gospels and talked with several people. When we reached Ma Ang we found things very quiet. Most of the children and most of the valuables of the village had been taken away. Bandits had been operating in the hills three or four miles away and the people of Ma Ang had been told that they must give the bandits \$1500. As we were going from one house to another a young man of the village who was with us stopped suddenly and pointed to a group of men at the end of the village. Who are those men? Are they bandits? Soon the men filed thru the village, single file. We counted thirty two. They were bandits. They left a small piece of red paper telling the people that they had served notice a few days before that they wanted \$1500. They had not heard anything from the people of Ma Ang, it would be well for them to get into touch with the bandits. We took lunch and as we stepped out of the little chapel one of the villagers said that the bandits had gone on to a place one mile away and had set fire to a house. You could see it burning. We urged the people to go at once to the city and ask the military to send soldiers to protect the village. This they did the next day but the first appeal was answered by saying that a new general had come to Foochow and they must go to welcome him. There was not time to go out to protect villages. But they did send soldiers the next day after the bandits had burned a house in Ma Ang. This is really the nearest I have been to bandits. When one begins to write on the political situation there is no end. The six heads of the Fukien government that were taken up country by the bandit chief are still up there. They were brought down three weeks ago, supposedly to go to Nanking for trial. But something has taken place in political circles that led to their return to the hills. This bandit chief who is responsible for the arrest, is an old wizened, illiterate, with a lot of money and a lot of sharp younger rascals, who can fool the old fellow into doing anything they want him to. The Central government is filling Foochow with soldiers from the south. Perhaps 20,000 have come in during the past fortnight.

The numbers of students in all schools are greater this year than for the past four or five years. The character of the students of today seems to be higher than that of the students of five years ago. All mission schools are very careful in selecting only those who seem to want an education. Many are turned away because the faculty cannot trust them.

I never have seen such opportunities for talking with people anywhere on Christianity. And it is a common thing for one or two to sell 100 Gospels in a few hours. The other day I was out in a small village. The others of the group were talking with some people. I saw up an alley a group of women and children. I walked up to them and in about ten minutes sold 17 Gospels. I just stood still and the people came to me with the money.

The hens are doing well. And I have thus far had sale for all the eggs I have. This month they have produced 214 eggs. I have 14 hens. Tomorrow 41 eggs should produce chickens. 32 are in an incubator, and I have 9 under a hen here.

The garden is getting ahead of me, with Ellen's help we could not keep up with it so I am delivering vegetables to the neighbors.

The Christmas presents that you all sent are giving us a lot of pleasure and profit. The Suade jacket is just the thing for the country and the hikes we take. Its warm and the cold piercing winds do not get thru it. The handkerchiefs- - well you know how useful and sometimes ornamental they are. That box of candy is delicious. It is already almost half gone, what do you think of that, in three months? "Thought of a Dean", (I have left out the "Lay") I have greatly enjoyed. Dean Inge is very refreshing. I had the book with me when I went to Shanghai. On the ship coming home was a Mr. Fu, returned student from England who knew the Dean. The Book gave a good point of contact. We take the "Laugh a Day" somewhat as we do the candy. The coat flower and the safety pins I guess are all right. I have not worn them yet. The gloves are very useful, and just what I wanted. Mother's are too. The bloomers and the silk slip, I have not yet worn so I cannot say much about them. My, only the family and close ups must read this. The cookies are the most delicious, since that first box that came in '22 or '23. The Coffee is

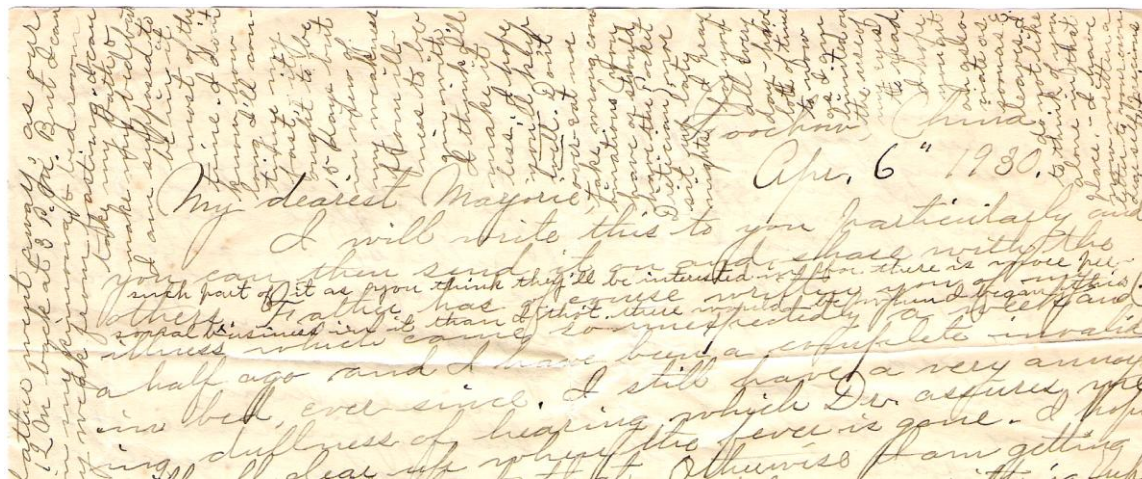
most gone. Ellen will let me drink the "Hag". I am making my own since she is in bed and I make the real stuff. The postum is low and she drinks that. You should see me use face powder. Every morning I put it on. I also think of you home people when I lather my face for shaving. "Whither Mankind is a book I have wanted ever since it came out. The introduction by Beard is stimulating. As I digest it there is much material in it for the various addresses I have to prepare in both Chinese and English. Here's a big capitalized THANK YOU for each. I hope I have covered all.

Tuesday, April 1st.

Mother seems better this beautiful morning. She says she feels better. The doctor has not been in yet.

With love to each of you,

Father



[This letter dated **April 6, 1930** was written by Ellen Kinney Beard to her daughter Marjorie. It discusses extensively about the vases and silk pieces that were purchased for Marjorie and the difficulty in finding just the right colors. She talks some of her illness. Letter in Jill Jackson's collection.]

Foochow, China
Apr. 6th 1930.

My dearest Marjorie,

I will write this to you particularly and you can then send it on and share with the others such part of it as you think they'll be interested in for there is more personal business in it than I tho't there would be when I began this. Father has of course written you of my illness which came so unexpectedly a week and a half ago and I have been a complete invalid in bed ever since. I still have a very annoying dullness of hearing which Dr. assures me will all clear up when the fever is gone. I hope she is right about that. Otherwise I am getting on nicely and gaining steadily, and sitting up for the second time, today and am trying to start a letter to you. Father takes all the care of me and with his classes, and other mission business, his chickens, garden and other things, it keeps him pretty busy. I have got to make long strides in recovery in the next ten days to be well enough to take care of myself and stay alone while he goes to Ing Hok to help them in a Student Conference. That conference was postponed because I was ill and father couldn't go.

Your letters have been very interesting and I have longed to respond to them but could not seem to find the time; now I am forced to rest and perhaps some of my wishes in that line may be realized.

Apr. 30th - At this point, I got tired and went back to bed, was duly reprimanded by the Dr. for getting up at all, and told not to try it again until the fever had all gone and I had been normal for at least one whole day. So I've been just waiting for that thermometer to say 98.6 degrees normal. But it just won't report that figure. 98.8 degrees is the nearest it has deigned to register so now I'm going to try to finish this letter in bed anyway or you'll receive the parcels we sent before you get the explanation of them. Father probably sent a letter with them but I want to explain more fully. So I am sitting up in bed writing and I guess I'll be none the worse for it.

Your letter asking for the vases and the silk came a number of days before I was taken really ill but I was not really well, had been fasting and was very busy with classes and a good many things going on just then, and tho't of course I had plenty of time ahead when I should be feeling better and have more time to select and not do it hurriedly (for which there seemed no need as you had written so early) so I just hadn't bought any of the things when the collapse came and I was laid low and utterly unable to go out to select the things. Father did the best he could and was very patient with my fastidiousness. I am not satisfied with any of the things we finally had to send in order to get them there in time. If I could have gone to the shops my self I am sure I could have given you and myself a little better satisfaction. But you will understand that one can't ask others to run many times and bring samples for one to look at, - as one's self could go to more shops and look, with a personal interest. I should really have enjoyed doing all that shopping myself as you well know, Marjorie, and it wouldn't have been a bit of a burden for I never tire of looking at beautiful things. And don't think for a minute that any one but himself doing the purchasing for it was done fairly easily, the lacquer man bringing the things to the house for me to see and the work was divided up. I thought some of the ladies of the mission who are used to buying Chinese silks would probably make a better selection than a man could do, so instead of asking father to buy that, I asked Mrs. Shrader and Miss Armstrong to act as a purchasing committee thinking the judgment of two would be better than one as I wasn't quite sure of the tastes and judgment of either, but tho't them the best in the mission. They bought the pale blue piece with the round figures on it; altho they had come up to my room and I had shown them your letter with specific directions that it should be bright sky blue and flower pattern rather than geometric design and I had verbally emphasized these points while they were here. Imagine my disappointment then when they unwrapped that piece! Of course I quickly noted all its good points, - quality, Chineseness, etc. and profusely thanked them for their favor and kindness and didn't show my inner feeling at all I think. But when father asked me if it was satisfactory I had to tell the truth that it simply wouldn't do. So he kindly offered to try. At first he bro't home a sample of the darker, heavier piece thinking he had found just the thing; but because I hesitated and didn't exclaim over it, he said "well, I'll try again". And asked me to explain just how I wanted the next selection different. I told him the color seemed a little too deep, heavy, solid. That a blue that was brighter, livelier, more vivid, shading just a bit toward the greens, or robin's-egg blue possibly would be more nearly what you wanted. But he said that did not mean anything to him was no guide because he couldn't understand those terms as applied to colors. Men, generally, do not deal enough in dainty colors to be conversant with those terms in that application. Well, next time he went he tho't he had it sure, so bo't the silk without sampling- the lighter colored bright blue and lighter weight one. As soon as I looked at it he said "well, I see that won't do so now I'll go back and get the other for these two are all I found of the right color". I said "Yes I guess you'd better for it is better in every way and Marjorie can send the others to Geraldine to sell". Or you may be able to sell them yourself right there if you girls don't want to use them. We didn't hesitate about buying the three pieces as we tho't it would be so easy to dispose of them in America. The piece that is at the bottom of the box is the one I think you'll choose. It is much heavier better quality, the color is better (as I understand you wish) and the color will probably hold i.e. wear better than the other, and the figure is more pleasing. The other deep blue one (the middle piece in the box) has too large, sprawly, loosely- rambling a figure that isn't specially pretty as I look at it. The figures are all Chinese in their character, idea, - or could we say spirit? but I think the undesirably colored one, - the pale one, rather beats the other two in Chineseness. Well, now you've heard all I've got to say on the subject, you just make your own choice just to suit your own taste and Ronnie's complexion and dispose of the others in any way you want to. I suppose Father has written you the respective prices already but I'll repeat here if I can get them from him. Later-Father is away and I can't get the prices for you in this letter but I am sure he has sent them to you. I'll repeat them in next letter. I'll use this space to say a word about myself. I've been lying here 5 1/2 wks. but have not been seriously ill have not suffered at all, no pain have eaten regular meals all the time by Dr's. orders so as not to lose strength. I was weak, however, from the fever and from lying in bed and not exercising. I went to the bathroom every day with fathers help. Now I have been fasting 5 days on my own initiative, to finish things up and my Dr. has left the case in my hands.

Now about the vases. Neither am I at all satisfied with what we are sending you in those; but it seemed to be the best we could do under the circumstances.

Father went over to Tai Mei's, where we usually trade in lacquer and he had nothing in blue except little ones. He had a pair of medium sized ones in that beautiful green which would be dry enough for him to bring over and let me see in a day or two, - which he did and as the color was so good we decided to send you the pair and look for others in blue to send too, and let you make a choice and send to Geraldine to sell, what you did not want yourself, or sell them right there in Lorain if you can and want to. But be sure if you sell them yourself, to add the postage, the duty, and a little profit, - a dollar or so, more if you think the customer will stand it. The profit is your own. Well, then Father went up on Curio St. in the city where there are many lacquer shops and couldn't find anything nearer to what I had in my eye for you than the two blue pairs we are sending you. I think it passing

strange that they didn't seem to have anything in stock in those blue vases that was just right in size, shape, color and finish. There must have been a steamer in I fancy, whose passengers bought out Curio St.! No one of the three pairs is entirely satisfactory to me and I am so sorry not to be able to send you just the right thing and I know you will be disappointed in them. First, the green ones are a little too small but I tho't their color was good. The larger blue pair is a little too deep a blue and is not polished smooth enough; possibly too, is a bit too large. The other blue pair is too pale a color, not a lively enough blue altho that may change to a deeper shade as it ages; for the mfg'rs. say that the color "qui", that means opens out (like a flower, I suppose the idea in their minds is) as it gets older. I have seen vases that were just lacquered only a few days before and they were a light gray; those that were a few weeks older, the gray had changed to a slightly blue color; older ones were more blue, etc. So perhaps by the time they get to you they will be prettier than when we last saw them. Also another dissatisfaction about all three pairs was that the mouth and throat of the vases was not finished in gold. Possibly the green ones were, -I'm not sure for I did not see them after they were finished. We asked the other dealer to put the gold on the two blue pairs but he said it would take three weeks and we couldn't wait so long for them. I don't believe that, however, for I have seen gold leaf put on myself and it is done very rapidly. I think he did not want to throw that finishing touch in to the price already given for the vases and he feared we would not take them if he asked extra for doing it; so he put the time for accomplishing it what he knew would be prohibitively long; father had probably told him before, that we wanted them right away. If I could have gone to the shops myself, I feel sure I could have done better but it was impossible as I was flat on my back in bed and I had to do the next best way. Don't get discouraged by this failure but try us again when you want something more; I hope I'll not be sick again and will be in condition to function efficiently.

When I began this letter I intended to give you the exact cost of each pair of vases and each piece of silk; but I did not get the prices from father before he went to Diong Loh to the "Retreat" (for ministers and missionaries, a three day's meeting) and I want to mail it before he returns. But father, in his letter to you, has probably given you all the prices. However, I'll repeat them in my next letter to you. Please write and tell me all about the things, - in what condition they arrived, how you liked them, which silk and which vases you finally presented to Eleanor and how she liked both, and what you did with the rest. Didn't you say you were asked to be bride's maid for E. at her wedding? I shall be interested to hear what you wore and all about the wedding. I hope you begin to prepare your outfit in time so as to be all ready without being rushed. I would gladly have sent you silk for your bride's maid's dress had I thought I could get any thing here that would be at all suitable for such an occasion. But styles change; such an occasion requires particular materials; and again, the Chinese silks are mostly so large figured, and figured material is rarely if ever used for brides dresses or bride's maids. This in confidence; -I just saved Father from sending Virginia a piece of white Chinese silk for a wedding dress! Men do not realize that every bride has her own particular choice for this most particular occasion of her life and that she would not want to use a material widely different from that being used generally by bride. If he sent it she might feel obliged to use it, even to her lifelong disappointment. To my thinking, any thing that belongs to a bride's trousseau, particularly the wedding attire for the marriage ceremony, or the go away togs, is the last thing that any one else ought to attempt to select for a bride. Her own choice ought always to prevail on that one great occasion- wedding gifts excepted, of course.

As soon as I get up I will try to get the rings you have wanted so long. Four or five, I think you said.

I have a Pekin necklace which I bo't of a man who came to the Mt. last summer selling such things; he came from Pekin and was at Kuliang only a short time. I am sending you this neck-lace as a gift as soon as I can get up around again so be on the look-out for it. You may call it a Christmas gift or a birthday present just as you like. It was intended for the former but didn't get sent. I have one for each of you girls, - all different, which I am sending too. Yours is not delicate and fine enough to wear to the wedding even if it gets there in time. But I think you'll enjoy wearing it sometimes. I'm not sure it will not stain your neck if you wear it in "juicy weather". Metal mountings that are not strictly pure gold or silver or platinum are apt to do this. If you send your left over silk and vases to Geraldine to sell be sure to insure them and be sure to keep safely your insurance slip from the P.O. and, be sure to follow it up and ascertain whether or not they do arrive safely. Also you would better find out first to what address Geraldine wants them sent for she will be breaking up house-keeping at Amityville about that time will she not? Perhaps it will be easier and cheaper all around to sell them right there in Lorain if you can get the word out to wealthy people thru your callers or thru the ladies who are backing your work and you see them. Don't let your Bulgarians or Mexicans know you have them or they'll steal them from you; and keep them packed away out of sight. I guess it would be cheaper to insert an ad in the local paper than to pay postage and insurance on them to get them to Geraldine unless - she really wants them. You should write at once to ask her if she wants them requesting an immediate reply. Your ad might read; "2 Prs. Chinese Lacquer Vases and 2 Pcs. Chinese Silk (Blue) for sale. M. Beard 1012 E. So. St. At home 4-6 P.M.". (22 words) Of course you will change the hours to suit facts.

If among you four girls you want to make exchanges from preference or because it fits your complexions or your costumes feel perfectly free to do so as it will make no difference to me. The necklaces I mean.

When I came to address this envelope and looked at your last letter to get the address I noticed the new address. It had not come when we sent the parcels so the old address is on all of them and the letter from father that goes with them. So be on the look out for them. The P.O. probably has been duly notified of your change of address.

I have been all alone in the house for 3 nights since father went away, as our one servant goes home at 6 P.M. and comes at 9 A.M. home at 12 on back at 3 P.M. but I can walk around the house slowly and do things for myself in my kimona and bed room slippers taking care not to be up too long for I am now very weak from fasting. I can take my bath and make my bed but I am supposed to be in it most of the time. I don't know how long I'll continue my fast,- it ought to be 15 days but in view of my weakness from illness to begin with I think I'll make it less. I hope you'll keep well. Don't over-eat nor take wrong combinations (you have or should have the Pocket Dietician) nor sit up late nights. I pray for you all every day- have lots of time to now as I am limited on the use of my eyes to read. I hope you get an associate as soon as E. leaves. I do not like to think of you alone in that place. - I have now written a letter to your own dear self precious daughter!

With very much love to you all, Mother.

[This typewritten letter dated April 6, 1930 was written from Foochow, China by Willard to Gould, Virginia and Geraldine. Ellen is still ill with fever and the doctor conducted some blood tests to determine what the illness is. Willard is doing some cooking. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]

Foochow, China.
April 6th. 1930.

Dear Gould, Virginia and Geraldine-

Here is another general letter. It was a week ago that I wrote, and sent the letter on Tuesday. This is Sunday. Mother has improved very slightly each day. Her fever hangs around 101. Yesterday the doctor said she might sit up half an hour. This she did and it tired her so she slept all the afternoon. Today she has walked about very little, and sat up a short time. She has tried to write a little, but she has slept much of the afternoon. She is resting well since about last Thursday. She is now eating well. Doctor tells me to let her have anything that she wants. I can manage all very well except the desserts. Mrs. Shrader has very kindly taken to sending us down a dessert each noon and with this we are getting on all right. Mother had not eaten anything in the bread line for a long time. Friday I made a loaf (if that is what you call it) of Boston Brown Bread. It pleased me much to have Mother eat a slice and then call for seconds. She did the same yesterday when I toasted a piece. With her directions I made some scrambled egg that she said,- "This is fit for a king." She is also taking a lot of milk, Cocoa and postum. I have found a place where they sell fine mackerel and she eats that and calls for a second slice. One of Stanley's Christmas presents was a box of American dried apples that I found in Shanghai. They are nice and sour. I soaked out some the other day and boiled them. She said she would take "just a little". When I came in later her remark was,- "You are awful stingy with your dried apples. I guess you like them pretty well don't you." It looks to me however as if this was going to be a long pull. If she gets back to normalcy by May first she will be doing well.

Sunday evening:-

Doctor Dyer was in about 7:30 and said Mother's temperature was just 100. This is the lowest yet. Drs. Dyer and Campbell took some blood to make a test last Friday. We hope to hear tomorrow. The mail closes tomorrow and I am afraid that I cannot get the report in time to put it in this.

Last Wednesday a hen brought off nine chickens for me. 2 P and K Minorcas, 3 R.I. Reds and four white ones. The same day ten were hatched in an incubator up at the Union Middle School. 2 Minorcas, and four Reds and four whites. We are getting about 7 or 8 eggs a day from 15 hens. Last month the hens produced 221 eggs. I sold a 7 lb. rooster yesterday for 50 cents a lb.

A few weeks ago I sent to Tientsin for 100 lbs. of corn and 100 lbs. of millet. I told them that I did not want to rob the starving, but the grain came all right this last week, and it was cheaper than it was last year. I have planted Yellow Bantum and also field corn. Until today the weather has been too cold for it to germinate, but it will come on soon.

The stairs and landing to our little flat have become unstable so some people are afraid to visit us, we are having a concrete landing put in.

How I should enjoy getting on the farm these days and plowing and help generally. I can smell the steam that rises as the ground dries out, and also the fresh plowed earth. It is just time to plow Flora's garden. How are Major and Colonel? Before this gets an answer you will all have made your vacation plans. Mrs. Rinden of Ing Hok

wrote asking if we could take her and her two children this summer. Ellen dictated the reply last week saying yes. Mr. Rinden is going north for the study of Mandarin and to study methods and observe the work in North China.

I must close and get this in the mail tomorrow morning. I teach all the afternoon. I am afraid I cannot get the little personal notes in this time. But both Mother and I think of you all and talk with God about you daily. He has been very good to us all.

Very lovingly,
Father

*[This note dated **about April 1930** was written from Foochow, China by Willard to Kathleen. He mentions the school term coming to an end and refers to next fall's finishing term. Donated to Yale by family in 2006.]*

[About April 1930]

Dear Kathleen-

Soon after this reaches you the class with which you graduate "as with" will be leaving the classic halls of Oberlin. I hope you will be able to enjoy next fall's finishing term as much as Monnie apparently enjoyed hers. Don't plan to take too much work.

We are waiting to hear what your plans for the summer are. Tell us how you found In Hao or Im Go. He'll be leaving soon after this reaches you.

May God guide you in all decisions, keep you self-controlled and always master of the situation.

Lovingly Father

*[This letter dated **April 11, 1930** was written from Oberlin, Ohio by Kathleen to her brother and sister, Gould and Geraldine. Kathleen visited her friend, Gidge, in Chicago and had an enjoyable time. She may work at Silver Bay again this summer. Dorothy and Harold are coming down to Ohio for Easter. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]*

Talcott Hall
April 11, 1930

Dear Brother and Sister-

That long epistle of yours, Gould, certainly merits a quicker response than this for it really was a masterpiece- and laugh- I thought I'd die. But between the bits of dry humor the story of the week was quite tracable and now we have a well rounded survey of the entire week. Do forego your evening nap again sometime- just one- to write again.

Since I wrote last history in my autobiography has been accumulating fast. For the spring vacation I went out to Chicago again with Gidge and had one of the happiest weeks of the year. It is so stimulating and refreshing to go into a new environment and forget all the worries of every day life with people who are so congenial. Gidge and I were going on the bus to save money but that big blizzard came along just in the right time to block all the roads near Chicago so we were forced to go by train. For the first couple of days we took it easy staying around the house and resting. The family is [a] lot like ours as to principle and ideals etc. so it was very easy to fit into their home life. Chuck, Gidge's older sister, works in the city in an office so she was gone all day. I like her a lot, for she is so spontaneous and has bundles of enthusiasm. I think you would like her, Jerry, because she is much interested in things that you are. She is very much dissatisfied with her present work and is trying to locate something more interesting in the line of social work. It is her desire to go abroad this summer if possible and perhaps study in Brinmore school of social science next year. She is the life of the home when she is there and I see her in Gidge quite distinctly when they are together.

We spent two whole days in the city shopping and sight seeing. About the only products of our long searches were a dress a piece, a hat apiece and sundrae hose, underwear and accessories. One afternoon we spent in the art museum but did not nearly cover it. I should like to live there for about a week spending a day in each department, for it is just fascinating, especially the paintings. That night we were invited to dinner by one of Georgia's friends who is married and lives in the city. Her whole high school bunch was there and they spent the evening reminiscing on their good times together. The husband and I were a little on the outside of the ring, but it was all very interesting not to say enlightening. The two whole days in the city were so tiring that they required two days of rest at home afterwards, and even then we didn't get "slept up". Saturday we went in to see the magician, Thurston, with his daughter. He was very entertaining and did some tricks that would baffle the keenest of minds.

He sawed a lady in two with such deceptive tactics that we are almost ready to believe that the poor girl was actually severed. We- that is the whole family- went to a swell place to dinner and were good and ready for bed when we reached Lombard. Sunday was one of those lovely family days at their home when we all did what we wanted to at our leisure. We took our dinner out into the woods hot! (that is the dinner was hot) spending the largest part of the afternoon roaming over the rolling country. That was about the best part of the whole visit and most remembered because it was our last day of grace. Monday Gidge and I started at six o'clock to get the bus from Chicago riding all day long until 10:30 that night. Nothing but work looms before us now until June.

By the way Jerry – has Edith applied at Silver Bay and does she intend to go? Or has Katherine (Mary Ames's sister) expressed any intention of going? I would like to know real soon because I have my contract here all ready to sign but don't want to go alone. Gidge isn't going and the girl who wrote in with me got no contract. If Edith decides to go maybe I will go anyway. Hugh is going with one of his friends but I'm not just sure that I want to be there with him since we're together during the year. Let me know about Edith soon.

Dot and Harold are coming down at Easter time for three days. Monnie and I are so excited and are planning all sorts of things to do. It will be good to see some of the family again for I haven't even seen Monnie for ever so long. Wish you could fly out and make it a family reunion.

Mrs. Margaret Sauger spoke here several weeks ago on birth control. You can imagine what a big turn-out she got just on her name. I guess most people who hear her were rather disappointed in the content of her talk for it was not informational but merely a well organized convincing argument for its need. Since most of the hearers were already convinced of this they naturally learned nothing new. She is a remarkable woman, though, and a very good speaker.

Do you know where you are going to move when your land lord and lady return? It is only a few weeks now isn't it? I bet you hate to leave the place don't you?

I must get to bed. It's late and I'm sleepy.

Love and then some

Kathie

[This letter dated April 14, 1930 was written from Foochow, China by Willard to Gould, Virginia and Geraldine. Ellen is feeling better each day and the tests came back that she had typhoid fever. Willard enjoys taking care of his hens. He is glad to hear of the good work that Marjorie is doing. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]

Foochow, China

April 14th, 1930.

Dear Gould, Virginia and Geraldine

This is the third general letter. Mother has continued to grow better very slowly every day. I can see her strength increase very slowly. Last Tuesday we knew for sure that she had the straight typhoid fever. This put my own mind at rest some what for she developed a deafness that disturbed me and her speech changed so that she talked just like Aunt Ann Paul. Then she said it seemed as if she was two persons and other strange sensations she spoke of. When it was said to be typhoid all week now she has eaten normally, - much more normally than for some years. Our lunch this noon was beef hash, swiss chard, cabbage, beets, peas, one gem and an egg nog. She kept up with me in it all. This evening we had scrambled egg, peas, carrots, turnip (ruta begas) beets, and Boston Brown Bread. And she again kept her end up. She eats with a relish that is good to see. Milk and cream she devours. Sunday mornings she takes waffles made on the iron Dot and Harold sent us. In the morning the current is good, in the evening there are too many lights used in the city for the plant to do good work and the current is too light for waffles. When I am too old to be acceptable in this work I am going to find a job as cook, with Mother's help. I can make brown bread, scrambled eggs, waffles, gems, fish chowder etc. I feel quite elated that she with her rep [reputation] as cook, eats my concoctions and pronounces them good.

I've dropped all other work except my teaching two half days a week and am just taking care of Mother and of the house. Of course I can't get out of seeing people when they come in and of doing a certain amount of work but my first job [is] right here in the home. I had promised to go to Ing Hok for a Conference April [page torn] 27th. That means start next week Tuesday. We are considering whether she will [page torn] enough for me to leave then.

In the modern parlance I should speak of my work as projects. Just now I have more projects than I should carry, if I were consulted beforehand. The garden is a source of pleasure and profit. I have not bought any vegetables since I have been keeping house. And I have supplied many to the other people in the mission. The hens are doing well. From fifteen I get over two hundred eggs a month. Several of these are old hens that I am getting rid

of and some are Chinese hens that I bought to set and that I will get rid of, - except one that is a real setter. She is better than an incubator. I have now 9 with a hen, 10 from an incubator, and some more that are just hatching.

Wednesday April 16th.

This must go today. It has missed two mails already since I began it. Mother continues to mend. She has consented to see outside people. She has been so tired that she just wanted to lie and rest and does most of the time. The Ing Hok Conference is postponed so I am at rest on that. I was very much afraid that Mother would not be able for me to leave next week. The other hen has produced seven chicks from 11 eggs. So now I have three broods, 7, 9, and 10 a brood. Then I have 20 eggs in an incubator. I am still in my right mind- or at least I think I am.

Emma's letter enclosing Marjorie's report has come. Both are very interesting. Marjorie's report looks as if she and her associate were doing some work. It has a wide range too. I've a notion to write the Mayor of Lorain and ask him if the people of Lorain are actually so impoverished that they feel truly thankful to have two such young women working for them on the munificent salary of \$90 per month and giving a good slice of that for the running expenses of the work they are doing for the well to do people of the impoverished borough of Lorain. It might be a good idea to take up a penny collection among the ricksha coolies of Foochow to help that poor burgh. I'm proud of the two girls. They are getting a big kick out of the work and a lot of experience and real heart satisfaction.

Good bye with love to everybody

Father

Had a good letter from Virginia a few days ago- shall look interestingly for the next one.

[This letter dated April 20, 1930 was written from Foochow, China by Willard to Gould, Virginia and Geraldine. It is Easter and Willard is seeing more people attending church since 1927. The Anti-Christian movement seems to have subsided. Ellen is still ill from the Typhoid Fever. Seven missionaries are headed back to the states for their furloughs and two for good. The Board keeps cutting back on the funding to China. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]

Foochow, China

April 20th. 1930.

Dear Gould, Virginia and Geraldine.

This has been a beautiful Easter day. Very warm,- so warm that George Newell came out in a palm beach suit to conduct the Easter Praise service this afternoon. The church was full. The first time we have seen a full church since January 1927. This is one of the indices that the Christian movement is recovering. The Anti-Christian movement is not in evidence here now. I conducted the Communion service in the church at Sang Bo in the suburbs this morning. Four children were brought to be baptized.

Mother continues to gain very slowly. She fasted all day on Friday and it took just so much from her strength. She is back again now where she was Thursday. Her appetite keeps up and she relishes all kinds of food. It does me good to see her put the milk and cream down. If only something could be done to have her keep it up when she gets well. Her temperature stays at 99.2 or .4 or .6. The last few days have been very warm with April showers, which have brought out the flowers in great profusion, and Mother's room is a bower of roses, flox, sweet peas, marigold, pansies, pinks etc. She is seeing people now and wonders why they do not come more. For the first two weeks she refused to see any one even tho they were in the hall waiting. She was just tired and wanted to do nothing but rest and sleep. She reads now and writes in her diary. Today she has been about the house some. She still eats in bed and reclining.

Gould's letter came yesterday. Mother is having a great time filling the orders you children send. She is in bed and I am on the street bringing samples and other things. I hope you will be able to get something that will answer. I cannot hope that you will get what you want. I have four packages in the house now to mail. I must go over to the south side post office myself to do the mailing. I'll try to get there Tuesday. (I got there and mailed the four packages.)

My Ing Hok trip set for April 24th to 28th is fortunately postponed. I could not have left Mother. But another call comes for May 2nd to 5th only to Diong Loh, and only a Retreat with no addresses. I hope Mother will be about by that time.

Wednesday morning, the 23rd.

Mother keeps on an even keel,- a little stronger each day, but slowly as is characteristic of typhoid. Her temperature sticks at 99.2,4,6. This afternoon after the mission prayer meeting we are to meet to say good bye to Mr. and Mrs. Peet (who are likely going home for good) Mr. and Mrs. McClure, Miss Betty Cushman, Dr. Dyer,

and Mr. Guy Thelin. Mr. and Mrs. Peet have already gone, and Dr. Dyer is in Shanghai so it will be a show with the Principals away. Mrs. Oswald (Monnie and Kathleen will remember her) tried to give the Peets a farewell party but they were taking the launch at 10:30 that evening and did not get to the party.

It seems an age since we have heard from any of the brothers and sisters, but it has not been so long. While Oliver was in the hospital, the girls wrote every mail and spoiled us. Letters from Virginia and Gould hint at a near date for a wedding. We wait patiently for the next letters. My words do not express the desire I have to be home for the occasion. I cannot however complain. Very few people who have spent their lives on this side the world, away from home, have had the privilege of being present at so many of these functions. We have been greatly favored.

The Board sent us a cut of 10% on all the work of the mission for this year. Then about two weeks or more ago they wrote that we must make plans for another cut of 5% for 1931. This rather got the Chinese. They are getting under the load and they have for more than a year wanted to have direct communication with the Board in Boston. A few have carried the impression that if they had direct access to Boston they could get all kinds of money. Now just as they are attaining this desideratum the money decreases instead of increases. Some of them say openly that the Board's policy now is to decrease gradually year by year until the child is entirely weaned. Only a few are talking like this, however. The cold fact is that the Chinese church members have not been taught to give here in Foochow as they could, or as their means make it possible for them to give. At the same time this does not excuse the Christians at home from keeping up their help. One of the best things that the Americans have done from the standpoint of self help has been the assistance they have given to Belgium and Turkey and China in their distress. When we turn a deaf ear to other nations in their hard times we lose something that is vital to our own life.

Lovingly Father

*[This post card dated **May 11, 1930** was written by Willard Beard to Kathleen. Willard will be leaving for Ing Hok for a student conference. He talks about how mother is feeling better and how people brought them food. Letter in Jill Jackson's collection.]*

Miss Kathleen C. Beard
Talcott Hall
Oberlin
Ohio
U.S.A.

May 11th 1930

This week I am sending a P.C. only to the different addresses. I plan to leave for Ing Hok Tuesday morning early to be gone a week- a student conference.

Mother has had no fever for four or five days. She is beginning to eat and as she eats her strength is returning. She got along all right last week for three days when I was away. The others in the compound here are very good to us. Ice cream, cake, pie, puddings etc. come in frequently. I can make muffins and Boston Brown Bread but pie and cake- take too much time. Lovingly, Father.

Phebe sent me several cards like this from Korea.

*[This letter, dated **May 14, 1930**, was written from Copiague, NY by Gould to his mother. He hopes Ellen feels better. His wedding will be the last couple of weeks of July. Gould feels that airplanes will become an important factor in travel of the future. Letter from the collection of Virginia Van Andel]*

May 14, 1930
Copiague, LI., N.Y.

Dear Mother:

Fathers last letter told of your illness. It was rather startling because somehow it seems that we have had very little sickness among us for a long time. I think our family has been unusually blessed with good health, thanks to your and fathers care and intelligence in bringing us up.

Virginia has not yet set the wedding date but it will be in the last two weeks of July. I had hoped to be able to order a rather elaborate Chinese drawn linen set for you to give her for a wedding gift, but my money is all going

toward other things just now and I will be hard put to it to get enough together to make a good honeymoon. I do hope to realize a good profit from my money though sometime in the next year.

I have been looking up honeymoon places, but have not decided upon anything yet. A trip thru New England looks good as I have not seen much of the upper regions of that country. Maine is one state we both want to visit.

Sunday before last we (Jerry, Ginny and I) joined the Deckard and Somers families in a party at Montauk Point. We drove about 225 miles that day and had a good two[ten?] hours at the point. The scenery is not marvelous out there, but it made a nice picnic ground and the sea was very pretty. It happened to be the first good Sunday this year for picknicking. The roads are fine clear out to the point.

Memorial Day I will be in Seymour to finish the details of the wedding. I hope they are not planning for a big one.

About a month ago I made a nonstop flight to Dayton, O in 4 hrs. and 50 min. Last Sunday I flew a plane to Pittsburg in 3 hrs. and 15 min. These planes annihilate space. They just can't help but become an important factor in the travel of the future generations.

Our country house is pretty nice but not quite as good as the others are. We have a P.O.B. in Amityville #517, so continue addressing us at Amityville.

Here's hoping you are as you put ??,

Your loving son,

Gould.

*[This letter dated **June 8, 1930** was written from Foochow, China by Willard to Gould, Virginia and Geraldine. There has been fighting between bandit Lu Hing Bang and the Nanking government in Foochow for two days. The central government won and reports said there were 650 casualties. Willard talks about Lu Hing Bang and the trouble he causes. The Storrs, Shepherds and Mrs. Bliss have left Shaowu because of the fighting. Willard feels that China is in a worse condition than ever. Ellen is better from the typhoid fever. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]*

Foochow, China
June 8th. 1930.

Dear Gould, Virginia and Geraldine

Here is another letter for all of you. Since writing the last time I must have been to Ing Hok and to Nang Seu. At Ing Hok I was helping in the yearly Y.M.C.A. student conference. There were some 60 or 70 boys with their teachers. They came from about ten centers. Some of them walked forty miles to attend. They will never forget this visit to the metropolis of the Ing Hok country.

Yesterday some of the people in the compound heard firing about 5:00 a.m. Later we learned that there was a battle between Lu Hing Bank, a bandit who was held under his sway the Yeng Ping, Shaowu and Ming Chiang counties for some twelve years, and the forces of the Nanking Government. This morning I awoke just before 5:00 o'clock and soon I heard what I thought was a bird pecking at the tin water spout. But I at once realized that I was wrong and it was firing. The two armies were facing each other only about two miles in a straight line, away from us. They were only half a mile from the house where Mr. and Mrs. Newell are living. The firing continued for two hours pretty severe. Then it was heard at intervals all day. We also heard firing in the distance. The central government's forces were victorious both yesterday and today if reports are true. It is said that there were 600 casualties yesterday and 50 today.

Last evening we were at Miss Wiley's for supper and just as we got to her house we saw a fire. Then as we sat down another fire was reported. They proved to be incendiary. Today the police caught two of the bugs and took off their heads and hung them up in the street near the fires. Yesterday they also caught two spies of Lu Hing Bang and shot them.



Martha Wiley

HER sparkling wit and cheerful manner may deceive you into thinking that she has an easy job but we know that she carries the heavy burdens of many women on her heart as she tries to meet their needs thru' the Women's School.

Monday morning:-

Last night every time I was awake I heard firing, rifles, machine guns and canon. It began to rain about 7:30 a.m. and the firing has now ceased. An Admiral of the Chinese fleet came in two days ago and the report is that he has sided with the Central government. The navy here has been on the fence for a long time. Its men are nicely clothed but their reputation is that they do not fight. But with the navy on the right side, it has steadied the situation some.

This Lu Hing Bang is a most interesting character. He has held the mountainous region of the north Fukien for over ten years. He is illiterate, superstitious, utterly selfish, has no regard for people (except for what he can get out of them) ability to make men follow him and serve him. For over ten years he has been bleeding the people with out mercy, burning houses, seizing for the ransom, killing. The bandits of all that region are his emissaries. He defies the Central Government because he is so far away up in the mountains that it is difficult for a force of men to get to him to strike with any force. Then the men sent against him are used to level country, his men are like mountain goats. However it is now reported that the Central Government is after him out in the mountains. For a month it is said that he has been going the rounds of the temples imploring the gods to protect him. He is held responsible for the arrest of the six Fukien Commissioners in Foochow some months ago. He still has them up in the mountains with him. This makes the Central Government furious. This same bandit has given \$20,000.00 mex. as a subscription to the Fukien Christian University to rebuild the building that was burned.

Leon Gardner with his wife are in Foochow looking about on the scenes of his childhood. He has been in Manila for two or three years as doctor in the American army stationed there. Gould and Geraldine will remember him.

Reports of the announcement of THE engagement have reached us [*Gould Beard and Virginia Space*]. I looked for something in the Sentinel but did not see it. The only date suggested thus far for the wedding is July 19th. We shall watch carefully for the real definite day. And we'll likely be doing some eastward thinking that day. It will be in the night here, while we are in bed.

Last Wednesday I went up to Kuliang and arranged for a few repairs to be made on the cottage to make it pleasant this summer. The mountain is as lovely as ever.

This is Friday morning.

The firing has kept up intermittently all the week. On Wed. the report was that the opposing force had been routed and had withdrawn up river. This has much truth in it, and we think the firing is to let the enemy know that they are still on the job.

Last Sunday a telegram came from Shaowu from Dr. Judd saying, - Storrs, Shepherds, Mrs. Bliss left Saturday. On Tuesday the Consul received in reply to a telegram he sent on Sunday to Yeng Ping, Shaowu folks, Shepherds arrived safely Tuesday. River traffic inadvisable. Yeng Ping quiet. So we suppose the Shaowu people are all at Yeng Ping, in safety and comfortable. Mr. Shepherd had come down and gone to Shanghai to get a little bunch on his lip, looked at. It proved to be only a surface bunch and not important. He is here and of course anxious to get his wife and family down to Foochow. Drs. Bliss and Judd are in Shaowu.

Mrs. Dr. Gillette went to Shanghai for an examination by the doctors. They telegraphed for Dr. Gillette to come up. She has a serious operation. We do not know the exact trouble. Dr. Gillette expected to return on the steamer coming in this week.

Riggs family got off a week ago. McClures got off two days ago. Scotts, Dr. Dyer, Miss Cushman, Guy Thelin leave next week via Siberia. Margaret Smith goes with them.

It looks as if Kuliang might be fuller this year than any time since 1926. Kuling is out of the question and many from the south are getting houses on Kuliang. Mr. and Mrs. McCann are to spend at least part of the summer at the University in the President's house. This house is on the high point where it gets a big breeze. Mr. McCann is a big help at a time like this. He has seen many such in the north and he is calm and steady.

Kathleen is to be in Silver Bay again this summer. I do not like to think of her not going to THE wedding. If it is a matter of money some of you get her there if possible. I will furnish the money. Marjorie, I am not quite sure of. So I am addressing this to her Lorain address. I have to address Gould still at 23 Barberry Court.

I see that Mrs. Lewis Shelton died at the age of 92. As far as I can think she is the last of that generation. I always held her in high esteem.

People are asking us all the time when we are going to the mountain. I tell them "Not yet." I do not think of the date. I have to go to Hok Chiang (Futsing) for a week before there is any Kuliang for me. To day Mrs. Wiant and her two boys and Mrs. Havighurst and her children went up, if they did as they planned.

China was never in a worse plight than she is in today. Many of those in the government positions high and low are worse grafters than the old time officials. Two different persons told me the other day, "Chiang Kai Shek has bled the people worse than any other man ever did." Communists and bandits and those against the present government are making things almost and quite unbearable. Famine is reducing the population by tens of thousands daily. Many returned students are as bad or worse than the old officials. But God has a lot of men and women who are living quiet lives and developing strong Christian characters. Many others are watching and thinking. Some day these level heads will get together and China will be saved.

With love to all

Father

Mother gains strength as fast as what she eats will give it to her. She does not do as much as before, otherwise she is much the same as before the typhoid.

[This note dated about June 1930 was written from Foochow, China by Willard to Kathleen. He sends her some money after her graduation from college. Original note is in the archives of Oberlin College.]

[About June 1930]

Dear Kathleen

This \$100 check you may use in any way you like. I'd like to feel that \$50 went toward the various expenditures incidental to graduation. That is what I have done for the others.

Tell us more about the young men who are attune to you that poor fellow – I do not lay up his name- is not worth a moment of your anxiety. You have done right and now do as near as you can to forgetting it-

Where are you to be in the summer

Lovingly

Father

[This letter dated June 23, 1930 was written from Foochow, China by Willard to Gould, Virginia and Geraldine. The fighting has moved up the river. Some of the missionaries are stuck in Yeng Ping and can not get to Foochow because the armies have taken over the river. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]

Foochow, China.

June, 23rd. 1930.

Dear Gould, Virginia and Geraldine

On the eve of going off into the country for a week I am sending another general letter. I promise it shall be all on one sheet. This time I am off for Hok Chiang (Futsing) to help with eight hours in a Retreat for the one hundred workers in the field of the Methodist mission in that district. It must be nearly fifteen years since I have been in that region. I went there as American Consul nearly twenty years ago, deputied by the Consul here to judge six cases of alleged persecution. It is interesting that the persecution cases have ceased since the government has ceased to take the testimony of missionaries as the last word in court.

The local war has moved up river so we have not heard firing for a week or more. Report says that the general in charge of Foochow is victorious and has driven the bandits from thirty to seventy miles up river. Airplanes (hydroplanes) have been in the sky for nearly a week. Report says that they have been flying over Yeng Ping where the bandit Lu Hing Bang has his headquarters, when he does not withdraw into his mountain cave at Iu Ka.

Our people are still in Yeng Ping. They telegraph us that they are comfortable but have no prospect of getting down to Foochow. You see the river is the highway for both armies. This bandit has sealed for his use all the

launches on the upper river and not one can stir. There seems to be nothing any of us can do, - except be patient and hope and pray that the strife may cease.

Ned Smith in Ing Hok wrote me on June 20th. "Ing Tai is still in the limboes. Yesterday city surrendered to Liong Ca Ching and Uong Bing Hu was due here for magistrate. But this morning everybody has decamped and we are left alone by both sides. Who will come to fill the vacuum nobody knows. Yamen is occupied by a lonely forlorn ass to bray, in the midst of loot, also one yellow cat to help keep him company, which thing is a fact and not an allegory. Lucy (Lanktree) and all well. Schools dismissed. Don't expect me just yet, too much fun. "



Lucy B. Lanktree

HER ideal of perfection is far from easy to obtain in the country station of Ing-tai but she works with such devotion that even a furlo seems unimportant.

The weather has been not so bad. There is a shower once in a few days and the nights are so we can sleep. If one can sleep at night he can get along with most any kind of weather in the daytime.

Phebe's letter brought the news of the fire on White Hills. The Newtown Bee clipping amplified it a little- or rather her letter amplified the Bee's account. I did not get how about the insurance. I suppose the dwelling was entirely covered i.e. the Insurance Co. would put in good order again. But how about the barns? It was interesting to me that the fire companies got there so soon. Good work.

I'm glad to hear the good news of the dairy. 300 qts a day is going some. Rye is a good milk food, evidently. But you must have some fairly good cows even at that. The cows here have greatly changed for the better in the last ten years. As I look at them as I pass along the roads, there are two or three that must hit close to ten quarts a day when fresh. I'm writing of yellow cows.

For the past three weeks I have climbed the mountains once a week. I went to look after other people's houses. There are some ten families up there now. If the thirty odd at Yeng Ping should be released they would materially increase the population of Kuliang.

We have had green corn and string beans for two weeks. The Kentucky Wonder are just starting to bear. Carrots and kohlrabi and beets are still on the menu. I have quite a patch of field corn that is glazed. It will be ready to pick in ten days or so.

Did I write that Mrs. Gillette had gone to Shanghai for a serious operation? She is doing well and is expected back in a few days.

Mother is picking up all the time. The children write that we have been remarkably free from illness as a family. God has been very good to us. Are we making the best use of our health and our ability in the service of our fellows?

We still have to practice patience about the date for The WEDDING [*Gould and Virginia*]. We are holding the date!!

With lots of love to you each
Father

[This letter dated **July 5, 1930** was written from Foochow, China by Willard to Gould and Virginia. He tells about the fighting and everyone is watching the war between Chiang and Feng and Yen. He had a good trip to Hok Chiang. He asks Gould and Virginia when their wedding is scheduled for. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]

Foochow, China,
July 5th. 1930.

Dear Gould and Virginia:

Another rather long silence has elapsed since I last wrote. The local war drags on. Thus far the government forces have kept the rebels out of Foochow. Several airplanes hum over us daily. It is said that they go up to the home of the bandit rebel each day and terrify the people all thru the countryside. We are in daily communication with people in Yengping, Iong Kau and Shaowu. That is we get letter, telegrams and radios, we are not so sure that

they get our communications. They write that it looks as if they were being held by the bandit (who has been appointed governor of the province by his government) with the thought that they would restrict the area that the airplanes could or would work in. The bandit has promised them all kinds of protection. Everyone seems to be watching the results of the war between Chiang and Feng and Yen. If Chiang wins they think we are all right. If he fails in the north there is almost sure to be a turn over here with Lu Hing Bang in power. It is reported that he has promised his soldiers one day of looting in Foochow when they get into the city.

Sunday afternoon.

The report is that there has been heavy loss on both sides. I saw a man who lives in the village of Ma Ang, where I saw the 32 bandits some weeks ago, this morning and he said the people in that village do not stay there at night. They leave some of the old women or men and the able bodied come into the city. The men go out in the day and work a little. Harvest is almost ready for reaping and the people are wondering what they will do. But it may all be over by the day they must reap. It is very evident that the bandit Lu wants to get into the city badly.

Ellen and I had made all arrangements to go to Kuliang last Friday in the afternoon. I was to attend the reception given by the American Consul in the morning- 11:30 to 12:30. Go home and get into walking togs and snatch a bite to eat and we would be off at once and get there about 4:30. (Fourth Celebration on Kuliang 4:30 – 9 p.m.) The Am. Consul had promised to give the address of welcome and the British Consul had promised to make the reply. As President of the American Association I had interviewed both these men. I was to preside. But on the way over to the Consulate there was a very heavy shower and while there it rained again very hard. Consul Muccio said to me “What do you think the people of Kuliang would say if I telegraphed that there was so much water on the plain that I could not get up?” I replied that they would say he was very wise and that I would like to sign the telegram with him. So we sent the word. It rained hard much of the afternoon. The British Consul laughingly said to me that he would make my speech for me. Ellen and I are here and have decided to stay till the weather changes. It is not unbearable hot here while it rains so much. We sent up fruit and bread and some other food but Mrs. Leger is there and will take care of it.

I had to be here Tuesday anyway so we will not now plan to go before Thursday morning. Mr. and Mrs. McCann (Treasurer) are still here and Mr. Shepherd is with them. Mrs. Smith and Helen come from Shanghai Friday and on Saturday morning the sky was not dropping much and they with Ned went up to the mountain. They had a good day. But last night it rained hard much of the time and today is rainy with a terrific shower at 3 p.m. We have all the delicious sweet corn we can eat and carrots, Kentucky Wonders, beets, salisify cucumbers, etc.

When I returned from Hok Chiang a week ago yesterday some of my little chicks were ailing. From 32 twelve have dropped off. That week was very warm and dry. I think it was too hot for them. The 20 remaining seem to be husky. The Rhode Island Reds stand up the best. The Black Minorcas are the most frail. I think I shall not try to raise any more of them.

My trip to Hok Chiang was successful. This is we had a good trip down, a good trip home and there was a good attendance and attention all thru. There were some 75 men in attendance. Rev. Hu Ing Kuang went down with me. He is the Executive Sec'y of the Methodist mission here. He is a fine man of good physique and has a good heard on him and is a man of spiritual depth. He is a good travelling companion. A decided change has taken place in the ten years past in the relations of Chinese and foreigners as they travel together. At least this is true when I travel with the Chinese now. Formerly the foreigner had to make all arrangements and pay all the bills. Now I go as a guest. And the Chinese take thought for my comfort. When we reached the end of our launch ride we found chairs waiting for us. I had eaten breakfast at 4:45 a.m. It was a little after 9:00. Mr. Hu suggested that we have a bowl of vermicelli. This we had and also a cup of tea. When I was about to pay he said “I have seen to that.” On the launch he also arranged and paid for tea. You will recall my pleasure at being so well provided on the Shaowu trip last fall. At Hok Chiang I gave eight Bible talks, or rather Bible Studies two hours each for four days. At the second hour there were about 100 present. Many of the young men from the Anglican church had come in. It seems they were holding some kind of a conference at the same time. These young men came loaded. I guess they are not allowed much freedom in asking questions of either the Chinese or foreigners among the higher ups. “Why did God create man if he knew that man would go wrong and bring so much misery in the world?” “Where is Heaven?” Where do we go when we die?” Can we know now whether we are going To Heaven or Hell? If Heaven is here and now, what takes place when we die? WHERE do we go? How do we know we have souls? What is the Soul? If an infant only a few days old dies what becomes of its soul? If Jesus had not died for us would there have been some other means of salvation provided? Was Judas a bad man? Well these are some of the questions that were fired at me. I talked with them about all but the one about supposing Jesus had not died. I told them I had no interest in talking on a proposition contrary to the fact. It was an interesting hour all right.

Harry Caldwell was with me at Hok Chiang. We were the only foreigners there, except a Miss Oatway of the C.M.S. Harry is a very interesting man. He is Natural Scientist of very high grade. He has a son in his teens that is way ahead of his father in some lines of natural science. Together they are publishing a book on the birds of Fukien. Other scientists in China have published such books and one was just about to publish a book, but when he saw what the Caldwells were planning he backed out saying that his work was not in the same class. A Chinese saw that blue tiger anoly [*anomaly*?] a few weeks ago in the Hok Chiang region. So he is still waiting for the hunter to get him as a rare specimen.

When is THE WEDDING? The time approaches, - it is near and we do not know the date for sure. We are sending Kathleen's letters to Silver Bay, Gould's and Geraldine's to Amityville, Marjorie's to Lorain. I guess they will be forwarded all right. Dorothy has not written a word about where they planned to spend the summer.

It looks as if I should not get homesick for want of things to do. The Union Middle School has asked me to act as treasurer. I told them I would take the name but they must find some one to do all the bookeeping. I will write checks and see to the general business. I have just audited the mission books with Mr. and Mrs. Christian to help and am told that I must again audit the University books. I did it last year and I thought that as it was a union institution some one else would do it this year. Mr. McCann is here as treasurere in Mr. McClure's place. But Mr. McCann cannot do much of the business agent's work and that is coming my way. Then there are a lot of details that he wants consultation over regarding the accounts and the banking etc. I had hoped to do more of the direct evangelistic work, perhaps I can still get it in. During the past year I have been away in the country for Retreats, Conferences and Annual Meetings five times, this does not count week ends for communion in the nearer churches.

Have I said above that I am harvesting my field corn today, - big crop, - 250 lb cobs and all.

Lovingly
Father



Gould and Virginia Beard - July 15, 1930
[Photo from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]

July 15, 1930



Written on back of photo: "Stanley took this on our porch after we all came down from the wedding. I think Pearl's husband is the only one you do not know."

[Photo from the collection of John and Nancy Butte.]

This was probably taken at Century Farm after Gould and Virginia's wedding. There are relatives from the Beard and Kinney side, so it would make sense that it was a wedding of one of Willard and Ellen's children.

L to R front: Monnie with arms around unidentified girl (possibly Ruth Beard), possibly Nancy Beard (Stanley and Myra's daughter), Geraldine Beard, Dorothy Beard Newberg

Middle: Behind Monnie is Stephen Beard and the woman in glasses might be Myra Beard.

L to R standing: Unidentified man, Flora Beard, Unidentified woman, Mary Beard, Elbert Kinney, Kathleen Beard, probably Phebe M. Beard, Harold Newberg, possibly Pearle Chamberlain Tayler and William Tayler.

*[This letter, dated **July 20, 1930**, was written from Costine, Maine by Virginia (Ginny) and Gould to Willard and Ellen. They are married now and on their honeymoon in Maine. Letter from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]*

Sunday 7:00 A.M.

7/20/30

Dear Dear Daddy and Mother-

The Wedding itself is past but what fun we're having talking and laughing over this incident and that. Dears everything was perfect except for your absence. But you made us so happy when Mother brought us your cablegram. We just nearly wept in front of all our guests. It was so very Dear and thoughtful of you.

I'm not going to tell you all about the wedding itself because onlookers can, to a better advantage. However that is as far as they can tell at all. We made a grand get away in Dan's car (he at the wheel) after running over several back lawns with one man trying to push crepe paper ?? down my neck, which he did not finally succeed in doing. Dan drove us into New Haven where we had left the car in a garage packed with all our big luggage. We each had a small bag with us on the get away. We left Seymour at 4.45 and spent the first night in Springfield and it was here that we gave each other our Love Rings and we were both most surprised for neither had any idea the other had one. Every where we turn we seem to find some product of your thoughtfulness. Wednesday we made Portland stopping enroute at Old Orchard Beach where several of the Atlantic flight take offs have been made. Thursday afternoon we arrived at our destination a small summer hotel at Costine, Maine. It's way down on the tip of a peninsula in Penobscott Bay and our room looks right out over part of the Bay. Right now it looks like millions of little diamonds sparkling on it with the morning sun. Yesterday was the only poor day we've had thus

far. We'll leave here either Wed. or Thurs. Plan to spend one nite in Putnam, get to Sey. on Saturday and go on home Sunday after packing everything. We had perfectly beautiful gifts.

Much love

Ginny and Gould

[Added by Gould]

Ginny forgot to say that Harold Newberg assisted in the get-away by closing the ?? on a small bridge. Ginny was the prettiest bride I ever saw. She wore her mother's wedding gown slightly altered. We'll write more fully later.

Love Ginny and Gould



Written on back of photo: "7/15/30 Myron Gould Beard and Virginia Blatchley Space Beard making their get away to start their honeymoon up in Castine, Maine from the Space's back door while Lillian Space (Ginny's twin) along with Gould's cousin Wells Beard of Shelton, Conn. made a false get away from the front door and down the front 22 steps to the street and a waiting car."

[Photo from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]

Taken the day after Gould and Virginia's wedding at Lordship Beach, south of Shelton on the Connecticut coast.



Lordship July 16, 1930 [Lordship Beach, CT -south of Shelton on the coast of Connecticut]
 Left to right sitting at left: Probably Oliver Gould Beard, Jr., probably Nancy Beard, Geraldine Beard, possibly Phebe M. Beard.
 Standing left to right: Possibly Anna Beardsley (Oliver's 2nd wife to be), Dorothy, Harold, possibly Phebe M. Beard, unknown lady,
 Sitting middle of photo left to right: Mary Beard with niece, Ruth Beard in her lap, unknown woman in hat, Stephen Beard lying in front of Monnie Beard and Flora Beard.
 [Photo from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]

[This typewritten letter dated **July 20, 1930** was written from Kuliang, Foochow, China by Willard to Century Farm, Geraldine, Marjorie, Oliver, Grace, Ben and Abbie. They are on Kuliang now. Hu Ling Bang decided to let the missionaries who are stuck in Yeng Ping to come on down to Foochow. Mr. Shepherd is to go up and bring them back. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]

[Kuliang] Foochow, China
 July 20th. 1930.

Dear Century Farm, Geraldine, Marjorie, Oliver, Grace, Ben, Abbie:-

This is Kuliang instead of Foochow. Since I wrote last, Mother and I have moved up to Kuliang. We came up July 10th, Thursday. On July 14th, Monday I went down again. When Mr. Thelin went home the middle of June it left the Union High School with no treasurer. They have elected me to that position. The teachers are paid on the 15th of the month and I had to go down for that. On Wednesday while in Foochow I went to the Consulate. The Consul had just received a telegram from Yeng Ping to the effect that the bandit Lu Hing Bang was willing to let the foreigners come to Foochow. Mr. Shepherd was asked to come up with a launch to bring them down. Then followed a long list of surgical dressings and drugs that they were in need of. I rather had to stay to see what the result was to be. Mr. Shepherd arrived from Kuliang that evening. After three days of negotiations the American Consul, the British Consul and Shepherd left Foochow on two launches to bring the people down from Yeng Ping. A postal came to me an hour ago saying that they were leaving Upper Bridge (five miles above Foochow) at 11 a.m. Saturday, "With military approval." That is not very swift progress. They were supposed to have all military approval on Thursday.

I came up to the mountain on Friday morning. This is the fifth time I have climbed this mountain this year. The weather in Foochow was not bad last week. I could sleep nights and when I can do that all goes well. Thus far this year here it has been pretty wet. Not as bad as last year. When I went down last Monday p.m. I left the house here at 3:00 p.m. walked leisurely down the mountain with a very threatening cloud in my face. It sprinkled a little when I got near the foot. Just as I reached the temple at the foot rain and wind burst at the same moment as if to tear the universe to shreds. For fifteen minutes it was almost a tornado. Water fell in sheets – half an inch in less than an hour. The yard of the temple had a foot of water on it. The road was a small river rushing like a will race. In the temple with me were two chair coolies. I asked what they would take me across the plain to the next village for. They said one dollar. I finally got them for sixty cents. I figured that there would be much water on the road as far as the next village and from there on to Foochow not much. The coolies waded in water on the road as far as the next village and from there on to Foochow not much. The coolies waded in water half to their knees much of the way. I then walked dry to Foochow city, got a ricksha just outside the East gate, found water under the gate so got home dry. If I had not found the ricksha outside the gate I would have got wet feet wading under the gate.

Ellen had an engagement to practice for a sing at the Club at 4:00 p.m. She started and got about three minutes on the way when the storm struck her. She was wet to the skin in half a minute. She tried to get under Mr. Sills house but the wind blew so there was no protection. She of course went home as soon as the storm abated so she could get home. The wind blew the rain into the rooms so Mr. Mobb's bed was wet thru. It is only a little damage to the house.

Friday at about noon two launches started for Yeng Ping as I wrote about. A telegram received this morning says they reached Yeng Ping yesterday afternoon. I plan to go down tomorrow and wait till they come down with the Storrs and the Shepherds and Mrs. Bliss and I do not know how many more. I shall see them up to the mountain if possible.

Foochow College has received a gift of over \$5000.00 gold from a woman in Cala. thru her will I believe. I am glad this has come just at this time for the man now Principal of Foochow College is inclined to say that the Board is not as generous with the Chinese at the head of institutions as it was when missionaries were at the head. The school has not had as large a gift as this in twenty years or more.

The cable telling us that THE WEDDING was over that two people had been made one, came through in about eight hours. It was good of them to send it. But how we do want to hear all about THE WEDDING. And we want the account from different ones. It was most fortunate that some one wrote that they had heard that the wedding was to be on the 15th for we had in mind the 19th all the time. I do hope that our cable reached them.

There are only four houses now for rent on Kuliang. Communists hold Kuling and Mokansang, and the people are coming here.

I would enjoy riding the mowing machine over the farm these days, and seeing the barns fill with hay, but I'll have to wait about three years. We had new corn meal mush for breakfast the other morning. When I think of the misery all about us here and then reflect on the pleasant paths in which we are walking, I try to do justice, love, mercy and walk humbly with my God.

Very lovingly
Father and brother Will

*[This letter, dated **July 29, 1930**, was written from Copiague, NY by Gould and Ginny to Willard and Ellen. Gould and Ginny are back from their honeymoon. They were able to visit Dot, Harold, Monny, Uncle Elbert, Aunt Emma. They hope Ellen is over her sickness (typhoid fever). Letter from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]*

July 29, 1930
Copiague, NY.

Dear Father and Mother:

This is our first letter to you after getting back into our home. We have been home keepers for two days now. Virginia is making just the nicest little home here. We aren't really settled down yet, but we are not rushing that.

We stayed in Costine, M. until the 24th, then made Putnam in one hop of 346 miles in 1 ½ hours [11 ½ hours is more likely]. It was pretty fast driving on the open roads, but we made it easier than I had anticipated.

It happened to be Uncle Elberts birthday on the day we arrived. Dot, Harold and Monny were there, having arrived that afternoon and we had a lot of fun with Uncle E. Aunt Emma looks very well and seems happier than I have seen her for a long time. Uncle E. gets younger in spirit every year.

As Ginny and I had to make Seymour that nite we took a picnic lunch to Mashpog, Union and Nit.Otuck[*Naugatuck?*], where we ate lunch with cousin Dede Lawson. At 8:00 P.M. we were at the Space home and at 9:00 we called on the Aunts at the farm. Saturday we packed what gifts Lillian and Bob had not gotten to during our honeymoon. Sunday A.M. we were off. Sunday P.M. we had all parcels unpacked and the glass ware all washed and put away.

In the evening in our bathing suits we went to the beach for a swim.

Wed. Morning.

I went to sleep trying to finish this letter and I guess it sounds rather sketchy.

We hav'nt been out on any dinners or parties yet but we have accepted an invitation to a bridge party tomorrow nite at Mrs. Jervis', our land lady's house.

Mothers two special delivery air mail letters and fathers letter was waiting for us when we arrived back from our honeymoon. The packages have'nt arrived yet but that's all right. I don't think the extra postage will do much good. We have US special delivery here at Amityville or rather Copiague. Our P.O. Box is in Amityville 517 and they will not deliver outside the town. As near as I can tell from Mothers minute description, the things will be just right. We are eagerly awaiting their arrival.

We both send love and hope by this time that Mother is strong and all over her sickness [*typhoid fever*].

Your son and daughter- Gould and Ginny.

[This letter, dated Aug. 15, 1930, was written from Amityville, NY by Gould and Ginny to Willard and Ellen. They write on their one month anniversary. They received a cablegram from Willard and Ellen on their wedding day and were touched by it. They wonder if Willard and Ellen will have to leave China before their term is out because of communism. Letter from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]

Aug 15, 1930
P.O.B. 517.
Amityville, L.I., N.Y.

Dear Father and Mother:

Tonite Ginny reminded me that it was our first month anniversary and I must write and tell you about our first month together.

To begin with, it has'nt been half as hard getting adjusted to married life as I had been given to think by talking with other married men. In fact is seemed rather naturel. Nothing this month has strained my mode of living on my inhibitions or created a hard thing for me to get accustomed to. Perhaps it is because I never have gotten into a set way of living and have been forced to adapt myself to frequent and great changes in my mode of living. I am almost surprised at the way things seem to pan out- namely very much as I had dreamed they would be.

During our honeymoon we just took things easy and did only as much as we wanted to do. We took plenty of time to get acquainted; got up reasonably late and to bed early. Most of our day was spent by ourselves swimming or in a boat or playing tennis or walked. We got plenty of sleep and we both needed it and profited by it.

Perhaps the reason we hav'nt found it hard to adapt ourselves to each other is that we were together so much last winter. Ginny was at our house almost every week end we learned to know each others ways and habits before we were married. Then too Ginny is a very optimistic and cheery little girlie and she has a way of making the best of every situation that comes along.

We have entertained twice already since establishing ourselves in this country home of ours, and I am real proud of the way Ginny does things up.

Our wedding gifts we carted down in two trips from Conn. and we had the car full each time. Most of them we have unpacked and have on display. The table cloth and runners came while we were away on our honeymoon, but Ginny is as tickled and proud of it as of any other thing she got. Everyone who has seen it thinks it is one beautiful piece.

We just have told you before that your cablegram came before the wedding but they kept it until the reception and presented it to us on a bible opened to the passages you designated. Uncle Stanley offered to send a reply immediately and we wrote it while eating the wedding cake and it was sent before we got away. We had planned to send the cable to you at our first nights destination.

Father's two letters have arrived this week. I must read them over again to get all there is in them and all that you want me to get for you.

The papers do not give us very encouraging news from China. Your letters bear out what we have read. We sometimes wonder whether the Communists will let you stay your term out. It seems too awfully bad that the Russians have been able to get such a hold of the ignorant Chinese peasants. I suppose that anything is better to the masses and peasant hords than the oppression they have been living under in recent years. When one grinds all the daylight hours for a mere stomach full of food and gets half of that taken away by his rulers there isn't much left to be loyal or law abiding for.

We think of you as enjoying the friends at the mountain. Monny leaves for Labrador in two weeks and paid us a visit the first of the week.

Our love to you – Gould and Ginny



Written on back: "Aug. 17, 1930"

Marjorie (left) pictured with three unidentified women shortly before she left for Labrador, Canada.

[Photo from the collection of John and Nancy Butte.]



Marjorie Aug. 24/1930

[Photo from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]

Beards at the beach



Written in album: "Jones's Beach L.I. 1930"

Left to right: Stephen, Myra, Ruth, Stanley, Nancy

Left to right: Myra, Ruth, Stanley, Nancy, Stephen, Gould

[Photo from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]

[This typewritten letter dated Oct. 12, 1930 was written from Saginaw, Michigan by Dorothy to Jerry. Dot has heard from the American Board that Willard and Ellen are on their way back to the states because Willard is ill. She and Harold bought a new Hupmobile car. Their cousin, Donald Hume, will be getting married in November. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]

2108 No. bond St.
Saginaw, Mich.
Oct. 12, 1930.

Dear Jerry;

I don't know whether I dare attempt a typewritten letter to you- an expert- or not. No, it isn't our machine, but one [of] our summer inmates left by mistake and are calling for it this week some time. I am just stealing a try at it while it is here. Naughty, eh?

What did you think of that letter from the Amer. Board? Wasn't it a shock to you? It certainly was to me. We'll all be most delighted to see them back in this country but it must be a great disappointment to them to have to leave before their term is up. I don't suppose they will go back, do you? Of course, it will all depend on how successful the operation is, I suppose. Have you heard anything about Father's being ill? Do you suppose that it is the same operation that Grandfather and Uncle Oliver had? He has had a little of that trouble, hasn't he? It just doesn't seem possible that they will be here in less than a month, does it? I wonder if they will consider stopping here and in Oberlin, or whether they are planning to go right straight through to the East and have the operation as soon as possible and if it is near enough to the week-end, we will drive them down to Oberlin. I suppose the stop-off would be more expensive than a through trip.

Myrtle and Chet Johnson are going down to Ann Arbor with us to the Mich.-Ill. game on the 25th of Oct. The Lappinems are teaching in Ypsilanti this year. They have invited all of us to come out to their house after the game to stay over Sat. night, so we will have a gala week-end. I wish you were out here so that we could repeat that week-end of two years ago, was it? I have written Kathleen to get Hugh to bring her up if she can. She wrote that she was so smart last semester that she got on the senior exemption list this year - - meaning that she can have as many class cuts as she wants. She would have to cut all of her Sat. Classes.

We are having such beautiful weather here now. I went to S.S. this morning without a coat. Girls were out to the H.S. football game yesterday with silk dresses and no coats. I hope it is like this for our game in Ann Arbor.

You can't possibly guess what we have gone and done!! Bought a new car!! The salesman came around with a most astounding offer of a brand new Hup 8 five passenger coupe. That is, it had been driven just 1000 miles and then was turned in and the owner bought a Packard. It surely is the smartest looking car I've seen. The only feature I don't like about it is that the back seat is a little too near to the front seat. There is a plenty of room, except when you want to stretch your feet out to rest them. We took a good long [time] to think it over before we got it, and while it is a bit "out of our class" we really didn't pay much more for it than we would have for a new six. I felt almost ashamed to ride in it at first. Harold was just so keen on getting it that I knew he'd always regret it if we didn't get it so I didn't have the heart to put my foot down on it. I surely admit that it was almost too good a bargain to let it slip by. It really won't cost us very much more to run it, either. We are getting about 13 miles on a gallon, and will get more after we have run it a little more. I'm crazy to have you see it. It drives like "nobody's business" and you feel like a million dollars when you ride in it.

Well, Monnie must be up there by this time, and nicely started in her work. I wonder if we will get any more letters from her. Those two letters to her from that girl were very interesting and I imagine must have been very helpful to Monnie.

Yesterday we got our davenport back from being all done over. It is beautiful - - looks just like new. How I wish you could come out here sometime soon to see our little house. It is all "fixed up" now. I do hope that Mother and Father will stop so that they can see it.

I had a letter from Ish this summer saying that she was expecting another little one sometime in Oct. The other day there came a cute little announcement of the birth of a little boy - - Richard Ripley- - on the 2nd of Oct. She is plain lucky to get just what she wanted - - a girl and a boy.

My school Volley-Ball games start this Tues. I think I have a fairly good team, but, of course, you never can tell until they come up against another team. We play a game every week for six weeks.

Have you heard about THE WEDDING next month? Kathie wrote me about it. Donald is to be married the Sat. of Thanksgiving week. I guess it is to be quite an affair, with a hotel reception and dinner after the wedding. It is at five o'clock with reception at six, so the dress will be formal. Kathleen very much wants me to go down to go with her, as the rest of the family is going down for Thanksgiving and she doesn't want to go alone. I don't know about it. Harold very much wants to go the Galesburg for Th--. His mother is to have a minor operation tomorrow

morning - - some "female trouble", Grace says. Harold wants to go home and see how everything is. I may go to the wedding anyway. I wonder if Mother and Father will try to go. I suppose that by that time Father will have had his operation and will not be well enough to go.

Harold's sister, Grace, has been engaged since last Christmas and was married a few weeks ago. She is still working and they are living with the Newbergs.

What about the things we ordered from China? I suppose we will have to go without them. You said that you had some things that you were going to send - - some things that just came. I am anxious to get them and begin selling them.

Was I glad to get that box of linens from you!! Thanks you so much for sending them. I shall be careful of them and you send for them any time that you want them. I have already used some of them, and, judging from the compliments and praises on them, I ought to be able to sell lots like them

How is Aunt Grace now? I haven't heard anything about her since I left the East. At the time we left, she seemed to be failing pretty fast, mentally, at least. Does Uncle Oliver continue to improve?

Do you really think that you can use my old fur coat? It's yours if you can. I don't want to send it clear out there if you can't use it. I think there is enough good fur in it to make a short coat out of it if that is still what you want. I am not going to use it at all, but I shall wait for word from you to send it. Let me know right away if you want it.

How are you fixed for clothes for the winter. If I can help you at all, let me know. Do you need underwear? I can get some quite reasonable, I think, if the sale is still on.

If you are ever in New York and have any spare time, I wonder if you will go to Macy's and have them send me one of those vegetable grinders C.O.D. I sold mine to the folks at the farm and never did get another one. I would send for one, but I don't know just what to ask for. Maybe you can call them up from Aunt Molly's if you know the proper name for it. Thank you.

This is quite some letter for me to be writing on this thing. Now I'll have to look it over carefully for mistakes, since it is going to an "expert"!

Much love to all the folks there and much more for yourself. Tell Dorothy that I haven't forgotten that I owe her a letter. That was a nice letter that she wrote me.

Write again soon,

Dot.



BREAKFAST

: o :

Stewed Fruits

Orange Juice Apple Orange Figs
Watercress Spring Onion Garden Radish

1 Kelloggs Corn Flakes 2 National Zwieback Toast

3 Triscuits 4 Force

5 Snow Flake Oats 6 Cream Wheat

7 Fried Whiting with Lemon 8 Yarmouth Bloater

9 Chicken Liver and Bacon Brochette, Olive Sauce

10 Meat Curry and Rice

Potatoes, Boiled and Sauteed

11 Broiled Kamakura Ham 12 Breakfast Virginian Bacon

To Order from the Grill 5 or 10 minutes

13 Aitchbone Steak, Smothered Onion

14 Loin of Pork Chop, Apple Jelly

Scrambled Eggs:- 15 Fresh Tomato 16 Smoked Salmon

17 Chopped Ox Tongue 18 Mushroom 19 Green Peas

20 Lyonnaise and Plain

21 Poached Eggs in Fresh Milk and Plain

Omelets:- 22 Asparagus 23 Spinach 24 Striped Chicken

25 Shrimp 26 Cheese 27 Strawberry Jam and Plain

Eggs:- 28 Boiled 29 Fried 30 Turnover 31 Baked Eggs

32 Black Butter 33 Opera 34 Marengo and Eggs To Order

COLD MEAT

35 Roast Leg of Lamb 36 Corned Ox Tongue

(EXTRA) Misoshiru and Kazunoko

SWEET

37 Semolina Cakes with Honey or Maple Syrup

38 Ginger Snap 39 Hot Rolls

Brown Bread Toast Dry and Buttered

Jam Marmalade

Cracker Biscuits

Teas:- Green, China, Oolong, Lipton, Coffee, Cocoa, Chocolate,
Kaffee Hag, Instant Postum and Ovaltine

M. S. "CHICHIBU MARU" Meridian Day, October 22nd, 1930.

Willard and Ellen returned to the U.S. on the Chichibu Maru in October of 1930.



M.S. "Chichibu Maru",
Suki-yaki Party.

[Photo from the collection of Virginia Beard Van Andel.]



M.S. "Chichibu Maru",
Suki-yaki Party.

[Photo from the collection of Virginia Beard Van Andel.]

[This letter, dated Nov. 4, 1930, was written by Ginny to Darling (Gould or Willard?). She refers to Willard's upcoming operation. Gould and Ginny are going to Cambridge, Mass. for the Harvard-Michigan football game. Letter from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]

Tuesday nite
11/4/30

Dear Darling-

You had better start right now to take a good long and deep breath for I am going to squeeze every bit of it out when I'm able to put my arms around you. For it is a long stored up hug,

Daddy your very welcome letter came to nite and we are so glad that you are as comfortable as your letter makes us feel you are. But we don't blame you a particle for wanting to get the operation over with as soon as possible and get rid of the nuisance.

We expect to see you for 15 min, Friday nite about 9 o'clock then we'll have to go on to Seymour and pick up my Dad and Mother and beat it for Putnam where we are staying over nite and then we are all going on to Cambridge the next morning for the Michigan-Harvard game. It is our one splurge this fall and we have looked toward it all fall. Then we'll be back in Shelton Sunday afternoon.

My Dears the Lacquer finally came through from the customs the first part of lat week and they certainly are beautiful and we re absolutely crazy about them. They came in perfect condition. There wasn't even a chip on a single piece.

Now we must slip into bed now for we're trying to get to bed before 10 every nite this week.

Until Friday nite.

Much Much Love
Ginny

[This letter, dated Nov. 4, 1930, was written by Gould to Willard and Ellen. Willard and Ellen are back in the U.S. for Willard's operation in New Haven. The airplane business is slow. Letter from the collection of Virginia Van Andel, daughter of Willard F. Beard.]

[November 4, 1930]

Dear Father and Mother:

Your letter mailed from Frisco came tonite. Tomorrow we hope to talk to you in Shelton and Friday nite we will see you for a few minutes. We will be on our way to the Michigan –Harvard game at Cambridge.

I really have felt useless about helping you make plans for your operation. I supposed rightly that you would want it done in New Haven. Probably you will make arrangements thru Dr. ?? Smith or Uncle Stanley.

After you get on your feet again you and Mother must come down and spend some time with Ginny and me. We have a lovely little cottage rite by the side of the canal. We have it all settled and ready now for guests and the family. Ginny knows how to make a home a real little love nest. She's a little dear sweetheart.

The lacquer came a couple of weeks ago and we have admired it and had it admired ever since. We don't quite know whether the two sets of table[?] were most p?? or not. We think if you don't mind we will keep the round tray, the black bowl and the small blue vases as part of the wedding present.

The airplane business is as slow if not slower than the other manufacturing industries. I hardly have enough to keep me busy right now. We have one experimental plane that requires a little attention when the shop is not making changes on it.

Mother Dear, I don't know whether I have followed all your advice, but I'm quite sure I hav'nt made a complete mess of being a loving husband.

We'll see your soon,

Our love to you.

Gould.

[This letter dated Nov. 9, 1930 was written from Saginaw, Michigan by Dorothy to Jerry. Dorothy and Kathleen were able to see Willard and Ellen in Toledo and found them to be looking in good health. Dot talks about getting Ellen a fur coat from everyone. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]

2108 No. Bond St.,
Saginaw, Mich.
Nov., 9, 1930.

Dear Jerry:-

By this time you have heard all about the very exciting reunion at Toledo, and have had yours at Shelton. Isn't it grand to see Father and Mother again, and to see them both so well- (compared to what I expected to see.) I was afraid they'd both look very much thinner and a little older, so it was a happy surprise to see them both so happy and well.

I'm terribly ashamed of myself for not getting that coat to you for this week-end when you were in Shelton. I sent it yesterday. I put a battery, for the little bug light I gave you last Christmas, in the pocket of the coat. You may not even have the rest of the light by now. How long does that little thing last? I don't want anything for the coat. I got my money's worth out of it alright. I certainly gave it lots of wear. I only hope that you find enough good fur in it to get a coat out of it. Let it be part of my Christmas present to you.

The new Hup performs to perfection and is very comfortable to ride in.

I haven't heard, before Kathie told me in Toledo, that you were playing cello in that trio with Dorothy. It must be heaps of fun.

I'll be glad to sell your linens and lacquers for you- that is, try to. Did Mother show you all that she brought to you? Aren't they pretty? Aren't you doing any selling at all now? If you aren't, I might be able to sell those that she brought. She told me that those linens that Gould thought might be his are the ones she sent you. Are you going to keep those, or send them to me, too? I was glad to get the tea, and have sold all but one of the medium boxes and the big boxes already. I think I can sell it all, so will wait and send the money altogether, or would you rather have me send some along now?

I would really love to go to Oberlin and to Don's wedding for Thanksgiving, but Harold is so anxious to go to Galesburg and I'm afraid will feel rather hurt if I don't go, too. The more I think of it, the more I want to go East for Christmas, since most of the family is going to be there. I'm game to try it in the car, but Harold is a little leery about that. Well, we'll see.

I thought of Gould and Ginney Sat. at the Howard game. I guess Gould was happy over the victory. We drove down to see the Mich.-Ill. game, and want to see Notre Dame play in Chicago on our way back from Galesburg on the Sat. of Thanks- week.

Thank you for sending Pearl's letter. It was interesting.

Kathie and I were talking about Don's wedding gift [*Etta Kinney Hume's son, Donald married Helen Mitchell on November 30, 1930.*]. What would you say to you two and us two giving them a pair of lacquer vases all together? Mother gave them Chinese linen. Would that be enough for them? I think so. If you have already sent all of your lacquers to me, I'll send it from here. If you haven't, you send it from there- from us four- providing you think that is O.K.

Also- how about us four giving something, together, to Leolyn [*Leolyn 2nd*]. Did you get an announcement? I don't know what Mother gave her- probably linen.

When I was in Toledo with Mother, I asked her if she'd like a fur coat. She intimated that she would. Do you suppose that it would be possible to interest enough of the family and relatives there in the East so that we could get Mother about a \$100 fur coat, and Father a good heavy winter coat for Christmas. Fur coats are so low now, especially if you can find one that is a last year's coat and cut on straight lines rather than fitted. Mine is a really good coat for just \$100. Ask Gould about it, and the Aunts. You and Kathie ought not to go in so heavy. If we could get enough, I'll like to get them as soon as possible, so that they can have them for all winter. Father whispered in my ear "If you get Mother a fur coat, I'll go in to the extent of \$50. for both of them- not each- but both."

I'm trying to think about what Dorothy would like for her college room next year- for Christmas. What did she think of the towels? Were they a dumb gift? Last Christmas when Kathleen and Monnie were here, Kathie saw a cute little tea set with a tea-pot and six little cups (straight without handles) in a little gift shop, and was delighted with them. She got them for Gidge, for she said that they had nothing in the room to entertain with when they wanted to serve anything. I was in a cute little Japanese gift shop last night and saw a set very much like the one Kathie bought and wondered whether or not Dotty would use a think like that in her college room. Is there any way you could find out without her suspecting, or could you advise me by what you already know. Or is there anything that you know she wants? Please let me know as soon as you can.

How are we going to divide up the relatives this year? You ought not to take very many. I don't know how Kathie is fixed. Maybe we could get Mother and Father to help us out this year. I'm going to be able to do a little bit more this year because of my Christmas Club money. I just paid my last payment this week and now have \$100. Altho if we go east and if we get those coats for Mother and Father, it will reduce that \$100 considerably. Harold has \$100, too and we won't be very likely to use all of it on his family, because there aren't so many.

Answer this P.D.Q. and very thoroughly please.

Love – Dot.

[*This letter dated Nov. 20, 1930 was written from New Haven, Conn. hospital by Willard to Geraldine. Willard is undergoing bladder tests in the hospital. He will be operated on in the morning. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.*]

New Haven Hospital
N. 2- Room 202
New Haven, Conn. Nov. 20th 1930

Dear Geraldine:-

Last evening I wrote you a postal- the nurse said she would see that it was mailed this morning. I can write with a pencil and write postals with little trouble. The letters I give to Mother when she comes in and she mails them. Your letter of yesterday was waiting for me as I came up from the Photograph Gallery. Dr. Denning sure is going to find out all there is to be known about my bladder and the adjacent organs. I put a sentence on the postal to the effect that he looked into the bladder yesterday. He put an electric light bulb right down into it. With mirrors he is able to see much of it. But he wanted to know if there were what are called pockets, pushed out by the distension caused by the obstructing prostrate. So this morning he had an X-ray taken.

You write that you will send a draft to Ling Dai Mi. It will be better for him and for you to allow me to send him my private check- I agreed with him to do this. I shall send my private check made out to order and crossed so as one can get the cash on it and only the one to whom I make it out can deposit it and he must deposit in the H & S Bank in Foochow. So it is safe as anything can be in this world. I shall likely send it to Mr. McCann. Then Dai Mi will call on Mr. McCann and get his money. If you get a draft you will have to pay for Exchange. Instead of sending him a draft just send me your private check.

Please thank Uncle Raymond and Aunt Molly for their love. I'll sure be down to see them sometime if all goes well. I imagine that the operation will come sometime next week. I do not have any hope of being with you all at Century Farm for Thanksgiving in person. I'll be there in thought and spirit all right.

A good letter came from Dr. Mark H. Ward of the Board in Boston this morning. This is the fourth or fifth received from different ones there since getting home. Since we went to Foochow in 1894 there has been two turnovers (three turnovers) in the Board Rooms. When we went Dr. Nathaniel B. Clarke was the senior Secretary, with Dr. Judson Smith. Both those went. Mr. Langdon S. Ward was Treasurer and Mr. Swett business agent, both went then came Dr. Jas. L. Barton, Dr. Wm. E. Strong, Dr. Cornetius Patton Secretary. They have just been superannuated. Frank H. Wiggin Treasurer and John Hosmer business agent are gone. Now it is Fred Field Goodsall Executive Vice President and no Secretaries. Harvey L. Meeken Bus. Agent and Frederick A. Gaskins- so I am now corresponding with the third set of officers, since we were connected with the Board.

Last night was a beauty. Every time I awoke the stars twinkled to me telling me they were awake and watching over the world. I note that people are more warmly dressed as they walk along the street this morning.

11:45 a.m. Dr. Denning has just been in to say that with all his tests he can find nothing wrong with bladder and kidneys and he will operate tomorrow morning. As he left, his last words were "Everything is in your favor." It is just two months ago that I began to realize that this operation was necessary- and since then all our plans have been made looking forward to this. Looked at from one point- it is a tremendous expenditure of time, strength and money. Looked at from another point. What wonderful achievements men have been able to make under God's guidance in repairing the human body. Another fact has greatly impressed me- when one is in such a condition as I am, how it draws out the good will- the friendliness of everyone. Perhaps this is one of the ways that people keep good and kind and friendly, and it helps us when it is we that are laid up for repairs, to know that we are helping draw out the pent up good in others.

Yesterday afternoon Mother bro't in Gould's and Virginia's letter. My but it helps lots to get these letters and the calls. Will you forward this to Gould and Virginia please.

Lots of love to you and all
Father.

[This letter, dated Nov. 21, 1930, was written by Ginny (Virginia) to Ellen. Ginny is glad to hear that Willard is doing well and is looking forward to Thanksgiving. She refers to being happy over the prospects (she is pregnant). Letter from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]

Friday nite
11/21/30

Dearest Mother-

I'm spending my first evening alone since we've been married. Pretty good I think. Honey has gone to a Masonic Banquet and meeting, so I am trying desperately to catch up on some of my long over due correspondence.

I wonder if you have even a fraction of an idea how thrilled, fascinated, and delighted I am with the tablecloth. It's just simply marvelous, and nothing less. I certainly will be one proud hostess when the occasion arises for me to grace my table with that beautiful cloth.

My but I'm glad to hear the good news about Daddy. He just has to come through with flying colors for he has so much to look forward to.

We're just counting the time till Thursday when we can see him and when we can all be together. It's going to be just loads of fun all sitting around one table for one great big very Thankful Thanksgiving.

We are picking Lillian up in Jamaica and Jerry in Mt. Vernon and bringing them both along. Will drop Jerry in Shelton but will spend the nite in Seymour for you will surely have a house full and then we'll be back sometime in the late morning. I have got to go see the Doctor sometime that morning, for I haven't seen him since we've discovered our secret.

Oh Mother, Honey and I are so Happy over the prospects. The more we think and talk about it the more delighted we are.

Goodnite and Sweet dreams.

Much Love
Ginny

[This letter dated Dec. 8, 1930 was written from the New Haven, Conn. hospital by Willard to Geraldine. Willard would like Geraldine to send him a Chinese jade breastpin for his caring nurse. He is pleased with all the visitors and letters and cablegrams he has received. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]

N. 2. Room 202
New Haven Hospital
New Haven, Conn.
Dec. 8th 1930

Dear Geraldine-

If you still have those jade breastpins, will you select the least expensive one and get it to me- I want to remember Mrs. Meagher my nurse with some little token. She has been very faithful and her first tho't has been for me- since first she came. If she does not get all things ready to leave me for the night when 7 p.m. arrives, she stays till they are ready. She has been specially good about my meals.

All goes well as far as I can make out from doctors and nurses. I have a little faint hope of spending next Sunday at Shelton- I have not dared express it.

I hope you are at work on your new job and that you like it. Where will you live?

I suppose the simplest way to get that little pin to me is to put it in a little box and mail it.

Tuesday a.m.

Who do you suppose called Sunday? - Mr. and Mrs. Space. And who yesterday? Cousin Vinnie and Lu Turner and Mrs. Taintor, but its nice to have these surprises. People are good and kind and thoughtful.

Aunt Phebe and Aunt Mary are taking turns staying with Uncle Oliver. I marvel at the way those two girls get around to help people and bring sunshine into so many lives. That is a very real way of expressing Jesus to people. *[Oliver's wife, Grace Gilbert Beard, has probably died by this time.]*

Yesterday I received two cablegrams from Foochow- from former students. On Dec. 6 a new cable was opened between China and the U.S. and the Chinese had the privilege of sending 25 words free. Three of my former students availed themselves of the opportunity. Mother replied to the first one and I know the young man was tickled pink to get the answer. Mother got a lot of information about me into it- the first information about me to reach Foochow since we got to San Francisco.

I'm doing finely tell everybody

Lovingly

Father

[This letter, dated Dec. 10, 1930, was written from Amityville, NY by Gould and Ginny to Ellen. He tells Ellen when radio broadcasts are made to Canada for Monnie. He says that their secret is not a secret anymore (the pregnancy). Letter from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]

P.O.B. 517.
Amityville, L.I., N.Y.
Dec 10, 1930.

Dear Mother:

We wrote to find out when the Xmas messages are broadcasted to the north. Send a short message to Canadian Westinghouse Co. Ltd., P.O.B. 390, Montreal, Canada. It should be there not later than the 21st as they have to pick their time, usually 11-12 p.m. Saturday nite or Xmas nite. They send it gratis.

You forgot to send fathers glove size. Could you please just drop us a card with it on as Ginny wants to shop Monday. We have divided the families as follows.

Gould and Ginny- Aunt Flora, Uncle Stanley and Aunt Myra, Edith, Uncle Oliver and Aunt Grace, Leolyn and Fred.

Harold and Dot- Aunt Phebe, Uncle Elbert, Stephen, Wells, Uncle Ben and Aunt Abbie

Gerry and Kathleen- Aunt Mary, Nancy, Ruth, Dan, Aunt Emma

I will send either you or Uncle Stanley a check for our share of Aunt Floras quilt. Dot and Harold we are getting a piece of table silver in their pattern. For Kathleen we are putting in with Gerry and the rest in the suit case. Gerry we are getting underwear or we think she needs clothes.

Last year Aunt Etta asked us not to give to their family so they would not feel obliged to return any gifts. Unless we hear different we will do the same this year.

You may tell the little secret now for it is no longer a secret. How is father now? Do you think he can come home soon? Ginny feels a little better these days and I hope the rest of the time won't bother her so much.

Give our love to Father and all our love to you-
Gould and Ginny.

[This letter dated Dec. 10, 1930 was written from Saginaw, Michigan by Dorothy to Jerry. She mentions Jerry's new job at the New York library. She and Harold enclose an accounting of the Chinese things that were sold and not sold. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]

Saginaw, Mich.
Dec., 10, '30

Dear Jerry:-

Kathleen did send on your letter about your new job. It sounds very interesting. The New York Library sounds like about as attractive a place to work in, as you could find.

This letter will have to be short as I haven't much time, so I'll get right to "business".

Enclosed you'll find a list of all the things you sent and what is sold and what is not sold. Harold is my secretary-treasurer and I'm the sales-lady. He has it all down in black and white, and has written a check for what we have collected. We thought you might be able to use the money at this season of the year. We are still trying to sell as much as we can before Xmas. I know I can sell more tea. About the tea- I have always sold the small boxes for 50 cents. Some of your small boxes came marked 40 cents. Aunt Mary's came marked 65 cents. What's the idea? Is there more tea in some of the boxes than in others, or is it the difference in lacquered and plain boxes or what? I'm selling them all for 50 cents and making up the difference, for fear the people won't understand the change of price- since I don't understand it myself. I'll hold the tea and sell it as I can.

Lillian Ryman said that she and her sister would be interested in the big grass linen dinner cloth and napkins at \$35. From the way she said it, I took it that she was pretty sure of taking, so will you please send it.

I'll wait to hear from you as to whether or not I shall send the lavender flower bowl to Leolyn. I'll send you the money for both gifts together soon.

Let's get Mother a cloth coat with real pretty fur trimming for Xmas. Do you think she could get a good one for \$50? If so, I'll put in \$20. I guess Father would put in that much. Or I'll go \$15., Father \$15, and each of you and Gould and Punk \$5. Is that O.K.? If we aren't getting a fur coat, we can keep it in the immediate family, can't we? I just don't know what to get for Father. I guess I'll write Mother, and you write Aunt Phebe. Yes, you get K.'s suit-case.

Is it surely settled that Mother and Father are going to take care of all of the Aunts and Uncles?- with us? That is, do we include their names on our cards for the children, and vice versa? If we are taking just the children, we'll let Gould take Uncle Stanley's children, Dan and Wells, you take Uncle Raymond, Aunt Molly, and Roger, (you take Edith Louise, too.) since you are staying there. Kathleen wants to take Aunt Etta, Uncle W. and Millie. I'll take Don, Myron and Fulton and Dotty. I think I shall give something to the Farm Aunts for being so kind to us in the summer. I feel, too, as if I still owed them lots for our wedding. Enclosed is a list of the above.

I told you that the dress was your last year's Xmas present. Isn't there any big thing you want this Christmas.

If Gould and Ginny are really thinking of getting an electric washer, let's give them money toward that.

I'm afraid you'd better not count on us for Christmas. We don't want to drive so far at such an uncertain time of the year- for weather. I don't know that I'd feel at all safe on the bus either, and the train is too expensive- so I guess we'd better stay home and save money to pay for the car. It'll be a lonely Christmas. I wonder if Punk will go East anyway, or whether she'll come up here. Our Christmas party is dwindling down- from five- to four- to three. Next year it'll probably be just us two, unless perhaps we have a new-comer in our family.

I went to hear Commander Byrd [*Richard E. Byrd, who flew over the North Pole in 1926*] lecture last night. His talk and the movies he showed- together with the other picture we saw in the summer time gave quite a complete account of the whole trip.

Much love-
Dot.



Written in album: "Fred 1929 Leolyn" [*Leolyn 2nd will be marrying Fred Griffiths*]
[*Photo from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.*]



This photo may be of Geraldine while she was working at the New York Library. It is on a piece of photo paper that
is in the shape of a bookmark.
[*From the collection of John and Nancy Butte.*]

[This letter, dated **Dec. 14, 1930**, was written from Amityville, NY by Gould to Ellen. He asks what his father's glove size is. Ginny is feeling nausea from the pregnancy. Letter from the collection of Virginia Van Andel.]

P.O.B. 517

Amityville, L.I. N.Y.

Dec 14, 1930

Dear Mother:

Just a short note to ask you again whether we are to send you or Uncle Stanley the money for Aunt Flora's quilt. We are still waiting for Father's glove size, but Ginny is going into N.Y. tomorrow and will get size 8 and will change them if necessary. Dot and Harold, Gerry, Kathleen and ourselves have got all the relatives- aunts, uncles, cousins and adopted relatives divided up for Xmas. We have had quite a time doing it.

Lillian spent the week end with us as our first week end guest in this house. She survived sleeping in our attic so I guess it is not so bad after all.

It snowed here for the first time this winter. It was wonderful for duck hunting today. In a light snow the ducks can't see so well as they fly. We rested all day today getting over a very strenuous week and Ginny needs the rest.

Ginny sleeps plenty these days. She is still bothered by nausea a little and her stomach doesn't feel so good any time, but she doesn't complain at all. She's a dear little one.

My love to you and father

Lovingly, Gould

[This letter dated **about Dec. 15, 1930** was written from Saginaw, Michigan by Dorothy to Jerry. She talks about Christmas gifts and wedding gifts. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]

[About Dec 15, 1930]

Dear Jerry:-

I'm so glad you sent a set just like the lantern one I sold before. Now my next door neighbor is happy. She hated to see the other one go. The other set was snapped up just as quickly. For the rest, I think I shall wait till after Christmas, because everybody is so busy and so poor.

About your note- please don't feel that you have to hurry about paying it. It's my own loan, and I have enough so that I can wait a year or so more. I'd much rather see you get up on your feet again and get something to live on. Furthermore, I don't want you to pay interest on that money.

I'm not going to take any commission on these things until I find some set or piece of lacquer that I especially want. I'll put my commission on that, if it's ok with you that way.

I'm anxiously awaiting tomorrow and Fri. to come to see if the grass linen set comes. I'm quite sure the Ryman girls will take it.

I'm sending a check for our share of Don's and Leolyn's gifts. Now, are we square on all the gifts.

I am getting and sending Mother's bag from you, Kath. and us. We'd better let the coat go. I see you said for me to cancel what I owe on the gifts (\$4.00) and what you are sending on Gould's gift that I owe you. I haven't got Mother's bag yet, but will take your share of that out of the \$5. and send you the rest later- O.K.? That ought to make us square.

Gould wrote me that they wanted money for a silver set, so I'll tell them that our gift is for either a washer or silver.

I'm glad you're so nicely located both as to work and as to room. I'm so sorry about the coat, altho I was afraid it wouldn't be much good. They say some places give very good trade in values on old coats for new fur coats. How I wish we could be with you for Xmas.

Love - Dot.

[This letter dated **Dec. 28, 1930** was written from Saginaw, Michigan by Dorothy to Jerry. Kathleen spent Christmas at Dot and Harold's house. Dot thanks Jerry for the Christmas money and tells what other gifts they received. Radio station KDKA broadcasted messages to Monnie in Canada over the Christmas holidays. Letter donated to Yale by family in 2006.]

2108 No. Bond St.,

Saginaw, Mich.
Dec. 28, 1930.

Dear Jerry:-

I don't know why, but somehow this year it didn't seem like Christmas at all. I generally begin to feel Christmasy when I start out to buy presents, but this year even when we opened our presents none of us felt as tho it were really Christmas. Poor Kathleen had opened most of her presents in Oberlin, so she had only a couple of three to open here.

We all were in Shelton in spirit, I guess, more than here. You must have had a really jolly time all together. We can't wait to hear all about it. It's too bad that you couldn't stay more than the one day.

We had our usual large tree in the same corner of our front room. I don't believe I could ever get along without a tree. Roast duck was on our menu for the Christmas dinner. We finished him in soup tonight.

Our gift from you and Kathleen couldn't have pleased us more. With the \$5 and the six dollars that came from Galesburg, and the \$15 extra that Uncle Elbert gave using the summer to add to our wedding gift, we are going to get salad forks and two more knives and forks for our set, so we'll have eight of everything. My, I'm real tickled about that. Gould and Ginny gave us a pie knife in our set- the very "extra piece" that I wanted. Now when I get the butter spreaders and the soup spoons, I think I'll have all I care for in the set. One or two more extra pieces like the carving set and the little sugar tongs are all the extras that I'd make much use of. Gould said something about wanting money for silver. What set are they starting, and how much have they?

Harold and I are both much pleased with our special little gifts from you- the writing equipment. Harold wonders if his is a hint. Just now he's being a very good boy and doing the Sunday night dishes so that Kathleen and I can write letters. We were all so tired today that we lay down and slept for almost three hours. It seems so good to be able to sleep in the mornings. Poor Jerry isn't getting that luxury this year, are you?

Did yours and Gould's gift arrive at the farm in time for Christmas?

Harold and I got for gifts- a sofa cushion, nuts from Uncle Elbert, a Chinese copper dish from Mother and Father; Harold got one tie; I got a Roseville pottery vase from my Parent's gym class, a "press-pad" - (one of those pads you write on then press a button and it vanishes) - and two paper doilee luncheon sets from Aunt Molly, six handkerchiefs, a pair of little knitted socks to go over shoes when you're travelling, from Eleanor Carpenter, a little glass dish with a pewter tray from the farm (Harold got canned fruit last summer for his gift from the farm.), a box of Christmas cookies from the same girl who brings them every year, a box of fancy soap, and a pair of green silk set-ins. Both Aunt Emma and Dottie Bodman wrote that their gifts would be late.

We didn't hear that K.D.K.A. [*Pittsburgh radio station*] was going to broadcast messages to the North on Christmas Eve instead of Christmas night, so we didn't even tune in on Christmas Eve and sat up till they said "Good Night" on Christmas night- so- we missed it. But - last night- (Sat.) Kathleen and I stayed up and listened for messages. We were thrilled to pieces when we heard two messages read to our Monnie- one from Virginia and the other from Aunt Mary and Uncle Oliver. We also heard two to Dr. and Mrs. Paddon. I hope the message that we three sent gets in on the New Year's night broadcast. Isn't that a wonderful thing! I should think those people up there would just be so thrilled to get those messages. We ought to plan to have a message from somebody to Monnie in every broadcast.

We went to see Jackie Coogan in "Tom Sawyer" the other day. It was good, but Jackie isn't half as cute, of course, as he was in his little boy pictures.

Harold says to tell you that "business is slack" right now. You see pocket-books are pretty slim right after Christmas, and, too, people have other things to think about during the holiday season. We'll "get going" again as soon as everybody gets back into their regular routines again. Mr. and Mrs. Lappinem were in to lunch yesterday, and she took that small lunch set with the big bunch of flowers in the corners. It was an \$8.00 set, but I took \$.50 off for her, for she wanted it very much and felt as tho she couldn't afford it. I'll take that out of my commission. She wanted it on "time payment", so I told her I'd forward the money to you, and she could pay me anytime between now and the time school closes. The other large lunch set with the pagoda pattern came minus a price tag. We found the little thread that held a tag once, but the tag was gone. Do you remember, or do you have it down, so that you know how much it is? If you do know, please let me know right away, because everybody loves that set, and some are really interested in buying it.

I'm planning to have a bridge party, and invite some of the teachers and other girls that Kathleen knows. That comes this week some time. I wish you were here. All the girls have asked about you and Monnie.

Many more thanks for the silver dollars and the correspondence cards and letter paper, and much love.

Harold and Dot.

Write us soon, and let us know all about your Christmas.

Let's even up our debts. I paid \$12.50 for Mother's bag. (Did she like it? And did you?) K. says she will pay \$4 on it. Can you pay \$4 and I'll pay \$4.50. I sent Gould a ten dollar gold piece. I'll go \$4 on that. Can you give \$3 and K \$3. That makes \$4 you owe me. Now, what do I owe you on Father's and K's bag? I also owe you for the wedding gifts. You make out your bill and cancel my bill and tell me how much I owe you. Also how much Kathleen owes you. Let's straighten this out right away.

Dot.
