

**Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers**

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**Series: I. Correspondence**

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**Folder label: ESH and LLH to/from Alice Hildreth Ballou (their daughter),  
from the United States**

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REPLY CARD  
THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Miss Alice Hildreth  
South Royalton  
Vermont

I didn't realize that this  
post card was blotted when  
I addressed it to you.  
Please excuse.

The weather is nice and  
warm now, not too warm  
but very comfortable and  
easy in these light pleasant  
rooms of Cousin Jennie's.

We went to church again at  
Aunt Benson's ... (Baptist?)  
and Jimmie and Mrs. Melies  
went with us. Russ had  
the big Sunday papers and  
magazines to keep him  
busy. I rested and then  
wrote to Carol (for the 1st time  
since here to answer some  
questions). Then I had a slight  
headachy feeling and didn't  
write any more. Wish that  
Mrs. Melies is going with her  
car (used). and we shall  
miss her and its company.

Oct 23, 52  
Thurs.

Dear folks

Monday I took Jim to the doctors in White River. He has been having a swollen spot on the under side of his tongue. I don't know whether he showed it to you or not but it has been swelling & then receding for quite some time ever since school started. Well Monday it was swollen way up so we went to White River & Dr Whitney burnt it off with electric needle - Cyst he said. He was a brave boy not a whimper out of him when he pumped 2 needles full of novacaine into either side of his tongue. He was an awful looking specimen with that tongue hanging out swollen on the end about twice its size from the novacaine & then bleeding underneath from the burning. I was proud of him though and Dad said it would be sore but he wasn't minded at all. He goes back to-morrow afternoon for a check up.

While we were there I got a nice

Big stainless steel step on can <sup>for flour</sup> to put  
flour in ~~and~~ with green stamps  
and also a sturdy metal chair  
for kitchen with arms (with green  
stamps). So we are all set for  
seating capacity again with this  
one & the one I brought up. The  
metal chair is <sup>funny colored</sup> green but I got it  
just the same although it doesn't  
match anything now sometime it can  
be painted and its comfortable too.  
Majorie bought Barbara a ski suit  
& Ray's mother had another shot of  
penicillin.

That night Gerald, Matt, Ray & Star took  
our La Stone out & brought Mabels  
up and its a dandy. You can  
shut it up tight as can be and it  
throws off a pile of heat got a wonderful  
draft too. Its a comfort because it  
was mighty cold there for a couple  
of days. Kids were mad cause we  
didn't get any snow! Nice & warm  
now though.

We have had one heifer calf & one

bull calf that makes 2+2 since  
June.

The meter man has come & left  
his tag on the spot where the meter  
is to be & left a round jiggen for  
Bowen so things are under motion  
somewhere.

Nearly supportive must stop

Lots of love

Alice

Oct 30 Thurs

Dear father

I hope you had a lovely trip to Rockport and got home before the storm. We had snow but probably you didn't. Tuesday night Ray couldn't get up to the barn the snow was so greasy. His walks are starting early this year. We had our bull butchered <sup>week</sup> Mon. and got it back last night so will have a job wrapping and packing in boxes to-day.

They're having a Halloween party for kids to-night and a big dance to-morrow night, object being to stop "trick or treat." All costume affairs. So I have been busy making an Indian (Bill) a pirate Jim & a ballerina (Judy)

Jim helped sew on his own  
patches & Bill & Judy cut the  
fringes for the Indian & Judy  
helped do the yards & yards  
of crepe paper ruffling  
for the ballroom (pink). Jim  
is all done & Bill's all done  
except for a place to hang his  
tomahawk. but Judy's still  
has to be sewed together up  
the back.

They have a new correspondent  
for the paper Marion Button  
used to be Marion Wood niece  
to Ruth Wood - who used to do  
your wash, I think. so maybe  
the subscriptions will pick  
up now.  
Jim bought himself a new  
hat and gloves. and Judy new



shoes + blouse.

We've got our pullets in and they laid seven eggs yesterday so they'll pick up fast I think. I'm glad they aren't out in the snow. We cut it pretty fine keeping our layers so long but who expected snow ~~the~~ in Oct. I don't believe it can last though (I hope not.)

I've got to stop + get to work. Time for the kids to get up + house isn't even straightened up yet. papers litter the floor where they did some painting + cut but work last night (and costumes litter the l.r. + mind tracked all over but then

when I get it cleaned up I'll  
think I've accomplished  
something much more than  
a common clearing up!

Oh I forgot to tell you  
We had a rousing good  
anthem Sunday time up to  
scratch etc. 6 or 7 men  
I forgot which & 6 women  
& 65 in church. Mr. White  
extremely pleased.

Lots of love  
Alice

List of choir

Norrie Eaton soprano  
Ruth Caswell soprano

Gloria Birch  
Anna Eaton (Cliff Eaton wife) alto  
Lolly Ellis  
Mrs

soprano's look weak  
but when did they  
need any but N.E.  
because you have  
the volume she  
produces!

Del Wood } tenor  
Cliff Eaton }  
Webb } tenor

for { Walt Carpenter  
Austin Wood  
Walt Carpenter  
George Alimouth

Fri  
Oct 31

Dear folks

The great day has arrived. Yesterday Bowen  
man came & worked all day setting up  
the dryer & putting in the wiring. In  
fact he came before I got the kids made  
I'd just finished cleaning & mopping kit & he  
& left kids till last because whoever  
sees them anyhow! and then he had  
to go all over looking for where the  
wires came in so I wished I'd  
made them first! Well when he left  
last night everything was ready for the  
power co. to hitch up & he called  
them & asked them to come & they  
said they couldn't until Mon. Of  
course I was disappointed but I  
didn't kick any! Then this morning  
he was back again said Bowen had  
called them & they'd be here this  
morning. He had to wait about an  
hour for them but they did come &  
it was all going quarter to 12. I'm  
dying to use it but can't yet. perhaps  
in the morning.

The kids had a Halloween party

last night. Had a wonderful time  
Jan brought Carl down + David stayed  
down after school + he + Carl went with  
the kids. Jan + I had a nice  
visit.

Ray had a heifer go wild when  
he went up to get it in + he + Gerald  
+ Jack + Fat went up last night to  
get her if possible. Ned driven  
her into the barn + hitched her  
yesterday morning but didn't dare try  
to load her alone. Well it took  
4 of them + then they had a time.  
She kicked Ray right out over the  
high sideboards of the big truck  
He's got a broken shin mark on  
shoulder + various places on  
legs + thighs where she landed  
but he dodged most of them I guess.  
Anyhow she's home + seems tame but  
Ray walks pretty carefully around her  
Your letter came this noon telling  
of C. Helen. What a shame. I'm so sorry.  
Got to stop lots of love  
Alice

Am I  
doing well?

Raymond C. Ballou,  
South Roylston, Va.

Thurs.  
Nov. 6, 1952

Dear folks,

I could sit here and rave  
all night about how much I like  
the dryer. I washed Monday  
and I had a big washing  
because I've been saving it  
and I did half the ironing in  
the time it generally takes  
to hang the clothes out. I put  
the washing machine away did  
the dishes & mill pails & started  
ironing. It took nearly all day  
to finish drying all the clothes  
but they were dried & put away.  
and then I did a small  
wash Wed and the ironing  
was all done - everything else  
was dry & put away by noon.  
Miracle. Then to-day I

cleaned up the sweaters  
and things that have been  
piling up <sup>for months past</sup> mostly hand wash  
that I didn't dare put in the  
dryer but Ray's sweat shirts  
I put in and they came  
out all lint free & tumbled  
& sweet smelling no wrinkles  
at all. All the lint blows  
out the trap. I guess I do  
like the new model. I have  
lots of fun emptying the lint  
trap & seeing how much I've  
collected & it's so easy to  
get at I do it after every load  
even if there's only a few  
whisks. whereas if I had to  
lean way over back I might  
not do it so often.

We sure had excitement  
here Monday night. We had

Raymond C. Balton,  
South Royallton, Va.

a small fire in the chicken  
pen. <sup>no damage</sup> The chicken pen has an  
extension cord for a light  
a trouble cord really with  
a cage over it latched up  
with rubber but I guess  
the rubber broke & let the  
light drop into the shavings.

That night Marion & Gerald  
came down & we all wanted  
to see how the wild heifer  
was coming so we went up  
with Ray to do chores R. & I  
& Marion & Gerald leaving J. & J.  
& Bill & Marilyn & Bobby Lee.  
And I must say that I'm  
downright proud of the  
way your grandchildren  
laddled themselves in an

emergency. They were playing in the kitchen when they smelled smoke and went out to investigate no sign outdoors or in woodshed but finally outdoors Jim saw some smoke coming out of the upstairs chicken pen so he went carefully ~~up~~ to investigate saw the shavings on fire around the light and chickens huddling + nervous from smoke + he + Marilyn + Bill lugged water up + put out the fire + kept the chickens quiet while Judy telephoned for help. She called Ray Mother + we had just come in to leave the mill + when I heard her say "fire in the chicken



Raymond C. Bellon,  
South Roylton, Vt.

pen I dropped the phone  
+ we all rushed down  
but the fire was out when  
we got there. Ray + Gerald  
put more water on, made  
sure everything was okay  
+ aired out the chicken  
pen. But the kids probably  
saved some really serious  
damage - as it was only  
a few shavings burned. Ray  
said all he could think  
of on that wild ride from  
Majorie's down was that I'd  
lose the new dryer that I  
was so crazy about. Later Judy  
said that after she ~~talked~~  
talked to me she heard the  
receiver go bang + then she  
hung up + looked out the  
window + we were driving



Thurs  
Nov. 13, '52

Dear folks

I slipped up on my 2nd letter  
this week but I had to give Judy  
a toni Tuesday & Monday the  
milk inspector was here -  
(Wed) yesterday I was too lazy. Judy's  
hair came out nice & curly. Hope  
it lasts (Thurs)

<sup>hair</sup>  
<sup>Nov.</sup> 14 Last night we had our choir supper  
and the SE teachers & the choir. Elizabeth  
Barnes was there in her wheel chair.  
Turned good to see her. We had chicken  
pie mashed potatoes squash cabbage  
salad pickle cranberry sauce rolls &  
cake & coffee. very delicious but not  
as many there as I had hoped.

Dick Ellis is going to direct us I  
guess not official yet but I'm sure  
it will be splendid I think he will be  
very good. He has a hard job ahead  
of him. Last Sunday we sang without  
Norma Eaton & survived the shock  
very nicely.

Ray is out hunting to-day but probably  
won't go all week.

Your music came - both sets. I  
think we'll use the sheet music but  
the books aren't as much help because  
of the men; as long as they're still  
coming we've got to have something  
for them to sing. Dick doesn't  
approve of the choir singing their  
Kiddie up. Lot of love  
Alice



Jay has heard  
this.  
South Royalton, Vt.  
A PRETTY VERMONT VILLAGE

Feb 7. '53

Dear folks

I must hurry because all  
I've got is about 10 minutes  
but thank you for all the  
lovely things you sent Ray  
for his birthday. The socks  
are lovely and so many of  
them. They sure will be  
wonderful. The shaving lotion  
was nice & such a lovely scent

Ray was so pleased with  
the letter heads & the envelopes  
too. and stamped ones at that.  
Thank you ever so much.  
He got a great big

unexpected birthday present that  
he was very glad to undertake  
but has kept him mighty  
busy since. You see <sup>on</sup> ~~at~~ <sup>early</sup> ~~for~~ <sup>got</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~the~~  
his birthday morning, his brother  
Len's wife called up & said  
would he please come down  
right away. Seems Len was  
close to nervous breakdown  
and Dr. paroled him to  
us instead of sending him  
to hospital. Ray had great  
influence over him & were  
keeping him busy and in  
different environment and he  
is apparently okay now for  
which we are very thankful  
Ray has to stay with him  
all the time and they get  
along fine but Len kept  
him mighty busy last Friday



South Royalton, Vt.  
A PRETTY VERMONT VILLAGE

+ Sat. All okay now though.  
Sen get up & makes coffee  
for us every morning helps  
Ray with chores. Very  
accommodating & handy to  
have around.

Must stop.

I loved my letter heads too  
& thanks for all the other  
things you sent which I  
haven't mentioned the nice  
bag with red lining & shoes  
& the kids candy & <sup>five</sup> bottle tops

Love

February 12, 1953

Dear Grandma,

Dear Grandma,

Have you got snow down there we have up here. Here is Grandpa and you. Billy and I went by street this morning and I went by twice this afternoon. Tomorrow Jimmy and I are having a Valentines Party at school. I'm going to take Billy. Mom is going to the basketball game down in Winsor tonight and Betty Fuller is taking care of us. Uncle Leonard was sick and Aunt Hani is working and he was so sad off he had to come up here. Nancy his daughter was sick too but she is better and is going to school. Dobby is helping Leonard on his potato chip route. My cousin Wayne is coming home Friday or Saturday. He has been overseas you know. He is in Fort Devens now. Wayne doesn't know whether he is coming home Friday or Saturday because 2,000 others have to get home too. Wayne called Tuesday night from Fort Devens. How is Kate and Jay boys there now. I just got done reading Ginny Horwood and the missing Hinkley. It is good I'm reading the Little colonys now. We have 53 cottagers now counting 2 correspondents. I'm supposed to get a red bike pretty soon. My grade is going to give Mrs. Boardman a surprise birthday party next Friday.

I'll be seeing you. Hope you have a nice  
Valentines day

Judy



new deal no. 3-2274

Dear folks,      Vacation Feb 15 - 21

Will Low is back to work  
and doing fine. Wayne

Ballou came home from Germany  
last Sunday night. <sup>20/15</sup> He has been  
in the army 3 years + over in  
Germany 2 years and a little  
over. He looks fine but

nobody will get the chance  
to free him around for  
awhile.

Judy has been cheer leader  
for the town team basket  
ball team. 6 little girls  
all dressed alike in green  
skirts and white blouses  
and they do as good a

job as the big girls do. I never  
saw any girls that could  
make any more noise than  
those kids. John Alexander  
furnished transportation so  
they can go to the important  
games.

The kids bicycle is  
ordered but not delivered  
yet. Next week the kids  
have an unexpected vacation  
They've changed it to one  
every 6 weeks and no one knew  
until yesterday but they're  
supposed to get another one  
the third week in April.  
Would that be convenient?

Lots of love  
Alice

Raymond C. Ballou,  
South Royalton, Va.

Apr 30 or 4

Dear folks

Hope you all have a happy  
Easter to gether. Lovely sunshine  
today after all our rain. No  
real flood up here. The kids  
were sent home from school  
the at noon last Friday because  
the water was over the road  
at the flat below The 1<sup>st</sup>  
underpass & at Shepherd's corner  
but it was down by evening.  
We have a big flood control  
dam at Bane you know & on  
the Conn at Wilder that helped  
that Montpelier & Bane. Lebanon  
had some damage because  
the emergency boards went out  
at the top of the Mascoma  
lake dam and let a lot of ~~the~~ water

through. I guess the town of  
Leb thought they had ground for  
suing the (Hite) company that  
owns the dam but found  
out that they couldn't because  
those flash boards were put  
there for just emergency purpose  
& built to go out whenever  
the pressure of the water  
got to the point where it might  
undermine the dam.

Judy has a bright red new  
Columbia bicycle from the  
paper co. A beauty <sup>May 31</sup> came Jan.

Snow is all gone except  
perhaps deep in the woods.

Variation date is still set  
for the week of the 19<sup>th</sup> to 25  
regardless of the road because  
roads have reached their peak  
of mud & are on the mend not too  
bad this year. Love  
Alice

apr 90

Dear folks,

just got home from choir rehearsal. Dick Ellis wife is in the hospital. Had a gallbladder operation Monday.

You should have seen the church last Sunday. It looked like bacalaureate. ~~It~~ Every pew was full & I mean full and they brought in about 50 chairs in back & they were all full too. We sang part of the Massiah ~~in the~~  
~~the~~ ~~rehearsal~~ "Open the gates of the City"

with I know that my redeemer liveth at the end of it.

We had 40 odd people join the Church Palom Sunday including Matt &

every day concerned with mind. I wrote the letter & got  
Ruth from next door & Marion  
(Gould's wife) & there were  
2 or 14 kids joined last  
Sunday. I guess Mr. White  
is really encouraged. In  
our every member canvass  
we had \$3.50 pledged which  
is about 1500 more than they  
expected. and the part  
that pleased me the  
most was that 74% was  
pledged to "The United Church"  
instead of to either one  
individually.

I must be sleepy I keep  
making mistakes.

July ~~is~~ square  
dances at Northfield  
Sat. Jim has got baseball  
glove already & marble from  
he comes home from school

Thank you very much for the check. flowers were  
only 4.

Wm

Raymond C. Ballou,  
South Royalton, Vt.

april '53

Dear folks,

Everyone is fine. Judy has written  
you so I will include a note. Glad  
you had such a nice visit with  
Aunt Alice. What a shame about  
Mr. Coughge. I hope he progresses  
nicely.

Rain & then sunshine. regular  
April weather but Sunday was a  
beautiful day for the festival. It was  
held at Mr. Bohannons at 2 o'clock  
Mr White officiating, and he had a  
lovely service. He is apt to  
ramble on; ideas keep occurring  
to him but this time he kept  
strictly to business in hard  
comforting and reassuring words  
in a reasonable length of time  
like Daddy does and I was  
most grateful. Mr. Bohannon  
was sick fighting pneumonia and

They had to call in another undertaker  
but he was very good. Your flowers  
were lovely jonquils & iris. After the  
funeral <sup>at 10:30</sup> Mabel had most of us down  
for salad and chicken hot biscuits  
and new syrup. Harold's folks had to  
leave & Pinks folks had to leave but  
everyone else was there. All the  
children were taken to the cemetery  
around 5 so they could see the  
flowers and then taken to the  
movies so we could eat in peace  
and harmony. and they could enjoy  
themselves too. We didn't think it  
was necessary for them to go to the  
funeral just Harold's eldest & boy -  
Hazel went. We shall miss her very  
much. She always treated me exactly  
as her own daughter and in every  
argument Ray. I never had she never  
failed to take my part which is unusual  
in a mother-in-law.

But Dumville called - said as far as  
he knew vacation was scheduled for the  
week of the 20<sup>th</sup> but it still depends on the  
roads - the way they're going they'll never  
last that long. I wouldn't be surprised at  
the 13<sup>th</sup> at all. Well try to let you know.  
Busypart time now.

Lt of love  
Alice



Dear March 5 <sup>What is wonderful and</sup>  
<sup>just right. Sorry I didn't</sup>  
<sup>mention. Thanks</sup>

It looks like a beautiful spring morning today but the weekend was awfully cold up until yesterday. There's not too much snow in the woods so they're not looking for too good a sugar year.

Now lets see if I can tell you all that happened.

Feb 27 Friday morning Jay called & said they'd be up sometime Sat. Friday afternoon we left about three 15 for the tournament in Quincy Mass. That was sort of a foolish trip because we didn't have much of a chance of winning only wanted to see what it was like and have the honor of playing with all those big teams and see only a little two

✓ But spot on the map. We got  
down there around seven and  
had to wait until after nine for  
the game. The game was a  
buku. Their team was all fagged  
up and we weren't and their  
style of ball game was different  
and their way of calling fouls  
was radically different. Our  
official call a foul if you  
dribble into a guard. They  
call a foul on the guard  
if he blocks with his body  
that is moves his body against  
the ball carrier but if the  
guard is stationary & the  
ball carrier moves in and  
makes body contact, the foul  
is on the ball carrier. Not  
so down there. As long as  
the man has the ball in his  
hand dribbling or passing he  
could make any contact without

3 of manslaughter and the foul  
would be in the defense. We  
even set up stationary blocks  
in front of their dribbler (which  
consists of two men crouched down  
motionless in the path  
of the dribbler) and when he  
tries to go through his bound  
to hit one or both. Of course  
you can't get through a stationary  
block without fouling but down  
there they'd coast right through  
and the foul would be on one  
or both of the guards. Of  
course it worked both ways  
(in our favor too) but we are  
used to going round blocks  
and avoiding contact that we  
couldn't take advantage of it  
so well. In order to have a  
comparatively fresh team for  
the tournament down here Sat  
night they only played the  
first team a quarter and then the

\* 2nd team a quarter etc and they got way behind but the last quarter was really laughable. The 2nd team was in and at the 4 min mark (4 min left to play) they & the rest of the 1st team went downstairs to shower. The ball game was hopelessly lost 41 to 48 but in that last 4 minutes the guy that was left on the floor never made a shot and I don't think they even completed one pass. Al <sup>the</sup> Gardner Mass team did was intercept the ball and shoot and they ran the score up to 108 to 41 which is a mighty licking. We got home <sup>Kids slept right through</sup> about quarter past two <sup>2:15</sup> in the morning. and last week Fatty quit because his back has been bothering him

5 as Ray had to do chores + pick  
up milk in the morning, have a  
short nap in the afternoon and  
go down to White River in the  
evening for another game. Jay  
+ Kate arrived around 4:30 I  
think on Sat. We had a hurried  
supper + hurried departure for  
Hartford but managed to deliver  
Ray there in time, went up to  
Luis house to pick up Gene +  
then back to the gym to watch  
a wonderful ball game. They beat  
Lebanon 7.4 but I've forgotten  
what the score was as I remember  
10 or 12 points. This was a tough  
game + they had to work hard.  
I think Jay was surprised at  
what a good team we had.  
Then we went up to Luis + Gene's  
+ had coffee because you always  
have to relax awhile after the  
tension of a ball game + then

6 we came home + Ray had to change  
clothes + go up to the bank <sup>Sat night</sup> because  
there was a cow freshening. He  
was gone about an hour + we  
had more coffee + went to bed. I've  
<sup>W.B.</sup> gotten when around 3 I guess  
Ray could sleep until 7:30 because  
he asked Matt to run the milk  
route but I was a mad scramble  
for me to get to church. Jay +  
Kate were up when I got back  
thinking about breakfast. Jay ate  
some breakfast but poor Kate was  
afraid of upsetting my dinner plans  
so she didn't eat much of anything.  
and then Ray wasn't hungry and  
so we waited dinner and when  
we did eat it was hurried and  
not too good I'm afraid. Ray  
went with only an egg + he  
came later. We saw a corking  
good game in the <sup>sun</sup> afternoon against  
the Yellow Owl. <sup>where?</sup> They worked  
up a 14 pt. lead in the third

7 quarter but were ~~time~~ <sup>time</sup> in the  
last quarter & Ludlow caught up  
and went ahead and when Jay  
& Kate left with only a minute  
to play ~~they~~ <sup>Ludlow</sup> were ahead by 3 pts  
I think but ~~they~~ <sup>Ray + Woody</sup> put on a big  
surge & finally squeaked it out  
by one point just as the  
whistle blew. So that was a  
tough game and Woody passed  
out right afterward so they had  
to bring him to. We went up to  
Sen & Genie where she had a nice  
supper. lobster trout fish salad  
chicken rolls cake coffee. Ray &  
Woody lay down for an hour while  
we did out their clothes and then  
~~they~~ went at it again. But this  
time they were just too tired  
to make the extra split second  
tries. They played well & they  
played hard but they couldn't win.

They got behind 10 point in the  
2nd quarter and though they  
matched them point for point  
the rest of the game they  
couldn't get those 5 baskets back  
so they got beaten by the Shitsh  
Indians (whom they have beaten  
twice during the regular season)  
However they still won \$100.00 for  
2nd place. Well that takes

care of Sunday. Monday morning  
Ray did chores + milk route  
and then came home + went to  
bed + he's been there ever since  
Sun - Mon Tues and Thurs <sup>his</sup>  
flu + high fever. Fred + Matt  
have done chores + Fatty + Wayne  
picked up the milk <sup>that's</sup> yesterday  
his temp finally went down to  
normal + I expect he'll be working  
again by <sup>Sat.</sup> Fri. night or to-morrow  
morning. He's still pretty weak so  
I hope he won't start too soon. Time for  
him to get the  
quadrant



Wed Mar 18

Dear folks

I'm sorry I haven't written before but things have been quite upset. Papa's mother had the flu a few days after Ray had it and apparently recovered but was weak & listless. Last Wed <sup>Mar. 11</sup> Marge & I took her to Wk River to Dr Whitney who takes care of her & he said she was tired & run down from the flu gave her penicillin & pills for cough & said she'd be better in a few days. Thurs she wasn't better & Friday not either & sat she was definitely worse mind not clear (etc) drowsy all the time. Whitney couldn't come until night so we called Turbidge dr. He gave her

injection to pass off fluid  
& ease her heart & said he'd  
be back Sun. Sun she was  
definitely worse & he said  
hospital at once so she went  
to Hanover and baffled  
them for a while until  
they found out that <sup>after many tests</sup> for years  
something hasn't been working  
right in her lungs & her blood  
has been making too many  
red blood corpuscles &  
gotter so sluggish it was  
too much for the heart. They  
said at 6 o'clock that they  
draw off blood & saw it  
but they couldn't draw it off  
until finally they got a  
surgeon & he drew off some

after 2 incisions & they've  
been drawing it off since &  
the color is back to normal  
& she was apparently better  
until yesterday we found  
out that this has been  
too much for her heart &  
they're keeping her under  
heavy sedatives and oxygen  
tent all the time. They  
describe her condition as  
heart failure and it may  
go either way at any time.  
There is no question about  
her being in good hands  
Hanover ranks with the  
three highest hospitals  
in the east and I don't  
know but what it is in the  
country, and they're doing

all they can so all we can  
do is wait tight & pray.

I couldn't find out from  
school come anything about  
vacation. The vacation  
depends on the roads.  
It will come when the  
roads are bad with mud  
and that looks like it  
may be early this year  
and of course until things  
change up here we won't  
be coming. So will you  
let Jay know theres nothing  
definite and I can't tell him  
even tentative dates.  
- much love - time to get  
downer -

Alice

will try to keep you posted

Fri Nov 21

Dear folks.

It doesn't seem possible that next week is Thanksgiving. This rain we've had off & on but still the birds & squirrels aren't full enough for winter yet.

Jim won a hunting knife and Judy a box of tricks for being a good paper carrier. One of her tricks is a spoon with the center gone so when you pick it up nothing's in it. The new paper reported doesn't seem to be much better than the old one so we don't get too much news yet but maybe she'll improve. Bill visited school with Marilyn yesterday and had a lovely time.

Mary Mother is singing a solo Sunday. She has a beautiful voice but she makes up the most awful faces. Terrible I can't bear to watch her but she's sure to listen to.

Ray has been cleaning out Hugh's hen house & they worked until 11:30 last night moving Hugh's pullets.

Must get the kids to school.  
Love

A.

Everyone has had colds but better now