

Bayff. Alberta

Tues. Jan 3, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

This is the first letter this year. What a week this last has been, so many holidays in a row, and no chance to recover from one before another began. I'm sure people in the cities love a long week end but here it meant two days of callers, each time. It's been snowing a little every day since Christmas and

was just right for driving
 then we had a Chinook.
 The warm wind from the
 west and it rained all
 New Years Day. and of
 course made a mess of
 the snow. though the ground
 X is covered.

We had New Years supper
 at Jackie's last night. Allen
 & Grace were there too. and
 now we hope to settle down
 again and get on with
 what we were doing before
 Christmas.

It was fun hearing all
 about Santa Claus at the
 farm. Was he Russell?
 They had one at the Rotary
 luncheon here. Each member
 took a child & a present for
 the child which was put on
 the tree. Bobby wanted to
 know why Santa Claus
 wore a mask?

I'm glad you weren't ~~alone~~
 alone Christmas Eve after all.
 If I had telephoned it only
 would have woken you up
 & probably scared you &
 kept you awake.

I finished the second
 book on Norway. I enjoyed

them both so much. And
 of course I meant so much
 having seen that sort of place.
 Now I'm reading "Listen, the
 Wind" by Anne Seaberg.
 Have you read it? It's awfully
 good. Pete gave it to me. They
 read it himself while I looked
 at the book I gave him.

The book on Mary Cassatt
 is awfully interesting and
 if you ever see the one on
 Robert Bevin in the same
 edition, wd love it next
 Christmas.

Frances is coming over
 any time now & so I'll have
 this ready to mail after she
 goes. Loads of love Catharine.

Bauff-
Wednesday -
Jan. 4, 1939.

Dearest Mother.

Though I wrote you yesterday, - there was no chance to mail it. Frances came down about two with Mrs McTargall. She is a young person, with two small boys and who's husband was drowned a year ago. She also came from Vancouver with the Heavis I guess, or at least at the same time. They came early in order to have good light for the pictures and it was nearly five I guess when they left after tea.

2.
It was great fun & they were interested in the photographs of Honolulu. Both having been there and also of China & Japan.

I'm going over to the Market Royal for supper tonight and they all leave on the train tomorrow morning.

We got LARRY about Christmas presents and really it was awfully funny. Poo Frances has quite a time every Christmas because her family in the east is large including the aunts & uncles etc. and when they each send

to each child here & Frances
you can imagine the amount
of presents. Then Frances has to
make trips to the Customs office in
Vancouver wait in a long line
& then get them cleared. I felt
real proud of my family for
being sensible. and its much
neer all round. She had the
same thing happen this summer
when two toy boats that had
been given the boys were sent
by express. The value was
marked \$50. and the Customs
man was sure there must
be some thing besides the boats
which were only worth about
five dollars & not new.

Another thing, books when mailed
should have a card in them, that
is when they are sent from a
book store especially. Otherwise
there is no way of the Customs
man knowing that we didn't
order them ourselves. They are
only duty free when a gift.
So if you do send books, just
put a card in. "To you with
love" or something!

Pete is so glad that you
like the picture. He and I was
duty to pay on any of
the Christmas presents to you
or Kitty etc.

Beeps of love
Catharine

P.S. just received your New Year's letter

Banff, Alberta,
Canada.

Sat. Jan 7, 1939

Dearest Mother,

Your letter about
New Years just arrived, it sounded
a nice quiet one and it was nice
Cousin Jane could be with you.

You didn't send us
Miss Cookes letter, but you
did the lovely one from Mrs
Mott. I think you should keep
it to read if you ever feel
discouraged. So I return it.

My writing I know
is very bad. Because of hurry.
I must ~~use~~ use the typewriter.

again. and you won't mind
 how I misspell things. The
 "Mrs Kate" I wrote about must
 have been "Mrs Mack" which
 is the way most people refer
 to Mrs MacDonald! The
 "Stockands" meant Lila, Cam
 + family. Peter's sister's
 family -

Frances stays at the Mt
 Royal, + so does "Mrs Mack"
 in winter + other Vancouver
 families when they come. It's
 nice in winter + comfortable
 excellent food. but noisy
 in summer. They had their
 Christmas tree and every thing.

Pete likes the pajamas ever
so much. He has one like
the red + grey strip which is
practically worn out. For he
wears it all the time it
isn't in the wash.

As the new house up the
road on the same side of the
road as the Petersons or on
Hutchins land? It must be
a pretty situation.

When we were listening to
the news today it told of
people in Lexington, Mass at
a movie while a fire raged
nearby. Also of the man
in the ^{Boston} Garden who walked
along a garden during a fight.

and when fireman had to
 come to get him down, arrested
 him for drunkenness. He said
 he was an iron worker & had
 worked on the garden & just
 went up to see if the rivets
 were still in place. It must
 have been funny -

How is the Monument St
 scandal getting on?

About the Christmas presents.
 I got the two little books at
 Moraine Lake summer before
 last for you. I forgot to send
 them. I imagine they are
 English as most of their
 china was. Wild flowers looked
 so pretty in them I thought of you

The reason you had two bags in one year, is that I got one in Victoria then saw the other in Vancouver & thought it might be prettier or roomier than the other. So I got it too. Thinking I could send the first to some one else. Then with the two before me I couldn't decide which you'd like best. So sent both. & you can give either away if you can't use it.

Do you know if the slippers fit Gale. If not I will send a larger pair if she likes them, and she can give the

other's away.

Pete is busy making a wooden rack to dry glass slides in. The opera is coming in perfectly over the radio. I wonder are you listening too. We have heard several now.

We have had mild weather & hardly any sun lately. Lots of snow up higher in the mountains.

The last act is just starting but I may go to mail this before its finished. also get some meat for tomorrow.

Heaps of love

Catherine -

BANFF
ALBERTA, CANADA

Tuesday -
Jan. 9, 1939.

Dearest Mother

Only a short
note this time. We are still
having the mildest weather
and no more snow in
Banff. Though it has snowed
up above timber line.
Sunday we went skiing
with Cliff. Muddled through
three days. just on hills

their size. It was fun
to be out but the sheep
wasn't awfully good.
We need fresh snow.
at Norquay to better
suit too many people
on weekends!

Now we are trying
to do some slides rather
experimental yet. It
seems to take a long
time to get every thing
ready - the right facilities
to wash & dry them.

but once we start it
will be easier. It takes
so long to get what you
need, even a week if
you have to send to
Toronto. Pete made the
racks to dry them on
himself out of wood.

I had the nicest letter
from Kitty. I wish I could
write as good a "Thank
you" note. I'm glad the
things fit.

I'm enclosing two
letters which we thought

rather amusing, I sent
in a subscription on one
of those forms for the
Architectural Forum. I put
"Peter White" as the name &
send the magazine too, instead
of "Mrs Peter White". By these
letters, you wonder what
relation they think we are.
I as Pete says, I really
subscribed to the Forum for
myself.

Lots of love
Catherine

Buff. Alberta
Canada.

Friday, Jan. 13, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

Supper is cooking and I may get this written before we eat it, just at this point the news flashes from Salt Lake City are coming in on the radio. — well that's as far as I got — now supper's over. We had some delicious salmon. Frozen "philly" & it was very good. Now "Mutiny on the Bounty" is being acted over the radio. Orson Welles doing it. He's the man who staged that "Men from Mars" play that scared so many people, because it sounded as if the United States were being invaded. It's called the Campbell Playhouse here. We've listened to several very good plays.

It's been very mild in Buff lately. never gets down to zero and hovers around freezing most of the time. The last time afterwards we have been down on what is known as the "green spot" though it's rarely green more than two

weeks of the year. You may remember
its an open slope on the hillside on
the other side of the C.P.R. Railway
from the town. Its between the road
going up to Norquay.

The first afternoon we went to the
top and found only a narrow trail
had been shied on. Little by little
we side stepped up & shied down
each time taking up an untraced
part. Then yesterday we took Cyril
Paris up with us. & leaving the car
at the bottom side stepped the whole
way up. making a track three
sh. lengths wide. This we used to
sh. down on later. The snow
needs to be packed to keep it
from melting as the slope gets seen
all day. also the elk, deer, & sheep
dig for grass & those places melt
quickly. of course no one enjoys
side stepping & packing slopes. but
its been fun & also is good to get
our muscles into condition. At first
none of the other shiers think of
packing a bit. but later they
unavoidably join in and do their
share. We told them this afternoon
they should try & see how good

It was way to the bottom. Then they wouldn't dare climb up quickly while we all side stepped and in the end we got a tremulous area tramped & they began to think it was fun too. The only trouble was that when we stopped we knew they would. So we kept on an hour longer than we meant to. & now are tired & weary -

We have been doing slides every evening as we don't need daylight. It's nice too to get out in the sunshine.

Saturday.

There have been lots of nice letters from you and I will answer them in great detail as soon as I get a chance.

Loads of love
Catherine.

P.S. You asked if any of the birds were interested in birds. I don't really know -

Barry, Alberta,
Canada.
Jan. 17, 1939
Tuesday.

Dearest Mother,

How in the world did you remember Pete's birthday? I never can, and usually someone else speaks of it first. But this year I surely will. There are so many birthdays in this family, nearly two a month, its impossible to keep track.

Now that we are pretty sure you are listening to opera Saturdays, we will sort of think of you as there too. Do you ever hear the 2 hour concert on Sunday. Its one to three P.M. here so should be 11 - 1 P.M. with you - its usually very nice.

X We didn't ski yesterday but went up to Norquay both Saturday & Sunday. not so much to ski as to see the crazy weekend crowds. Here we call anything over 50 people a crowd. & Sunday there were 150 skiers on the slope. 10 of which had any control. Its amazing

but more of them don't get sent.
They are mostly up for the day
from Calgary. I have no idea that
things should be learnt from the
bottom.

Your letter written last week ~~and~~^{and}
first came enclosing Cousin Harriet's.
She does write "poor" cards. Some
how I believe ~~to the~~ ^{per} that any
one can be happy if they do their
share. + it's their own fault if they
are so unhappy as she is. We
all can find things to be thankful
for.

Russell's dog must be quite a
problem. I'll never forget his
going in the swimming pool last
summer.

We are having the mildest winter
hardly has been down to zero since
Christmas. It's just nice! but
we could do with more snow.

Lots of love
Catherine.

Banff, Alberta

Thurs. Jan. 19. 1939

Dearest Mother,

Geneva Spurling's letter has inspired me to try typewriting again. It seems slower than long hand but has the advantage that you may be able to read it. The disadvantage is that now I shall not be able to cover up my doubts about spelling, however I am sure you and Jean won't mind that, and will prefer it to bad writing

We are still having mild weather, quite a contrast to the other winter we were here when for six weeks it only got up above 20 degrees two or three times, now since Christmas it hasn't been down to zero, and is around 30 all day. It has been overcast quite a bit but only snows up above timberline.

X We have been skiing nearly every Afternoon, It gives us a chance to heat the house, make the beds etc. and wash up after an early lunch. and then we drive up to the green spot on the way to Norquay, and practice turns in the sunshine until about four. Norman Knight, who Russell will remember, is giving ski lessons and I am trying to improve my technique, He taught at Lake Placid last year and has made a study of the proper way to teach. I think he is

an excellent teacher, he understands the theory and of course can explain it all in our own language. When we skied at Skoki Vic taught us how to ski in a crouch position, and that is considered all wrong now except under certain conditions. It is hard to get out of bad habits, and I seemed to be getting my weight always on the wrong foot. Also its nice to get the exercise.

Friday-- Yours and Jeans Sunday letters came and also Pete's Birthday present, I won't have much time to write more this morning and so will answer about the books. Marion Stockand has all Louisa Alcott's books and loves them, so I am just wondering about "Old Fashioned Girl " Of course if it has lovely illustrations she might like the two, but if you did find something else it might be better. Is there any book about Louisa Alcott herself ? I told Marion that next time I was in Concord I would try and get the postcards of her house in Concord.

I think the best way to send them is in threes and twos, and inside you could put a card on each, Saying "To ----- from Mrs Robb" You could say "A Happy New Year " the idea is to show it was sent privately and not ordered from a bookseller. We have never had books opened yet. They will love them.

Heaps of love
Catharine.

Banff, Alberta.

Tues. Jan. 24, 1939

Dearest Mother,

It looks to-day as if it might really snow, so often it snows up on the peaks but is only dull here. We did have some the other night and then a strong wind Sunday drifted it badly. the only good thing about this climate is that even three inches doesn't melt.

Pete had a very nice birthday thanks to you and Jean, He thinks Frank Case's book is the best yet, and I made no progress with the one I was reading as Pete had to tell me a new Anecdote every few minutes. He knows quite a few of the people mentioned and it is written so well too. He is going to write you soon, but I am afraid the book is too much of a temptation to finish first.

Interuption number one while we fed six little deer at the back door, They are such pretty ones.

We were very much pleased to have you think of us in connection with the Opera, and I wish we knew our plans better, But the chances are that we will be here in March as it is the best month for Ski Pictures. What a lot of Wagner they are having this year.

I am quite sure that I have inherited Grand-Pa's "Library Table habits" our desk is always piled high and the tables too. that together with Aunt Frankies habit of saving things is a bad combination. although I also have a little bit of your " putting away and marking" ability, there is seldom time to really do it. I have a pile of letters to be answered right now.

We had a lot of Birthday callers, even the three little boys, Cliff, Donny and Peter, I think it was in hopes of having a piece of cake. which Mom brought down later thinking we were out.

It is nice to hear that Sted is feeling better, it must have been an awfull operation.

Thank you for sending the Museum Paper that Sam is writing, I read it and thought it was very well done, and am so glad that he has an interesting job, and hope his strehgth will hold out,

You certainly keep busy and it is really wonderful how you do it, but as long as you can sleep off any tired feeling it is Bar better to keep going.

Loads of love.

Catharine -

Banff, Alberta.

Thurs. Jan. 26, 1939

Dearest Mother,

Perhaps I shall have a chance to answer some of your letters and thank you for the many interesting and amusing enclosures. The Newbury's letters were fun to read. I wonder how Cousin George is fixed for I believe he hasn't been working, except at home, for a long time. I wonder what Olive's "intended" is like.

How is the bead bag coming along, not a very easy thing to do while Robin is around, I should imagine! It was nice to have a design just the right size, and also I think Aunt Jane would like to have had you use it in such a way.

You should come to Victoria for your hats, They have a few crazy ones but most of their stock is very conservative. Personally I would rather sacrifice a little of what they ~~do~~ consider style in the States than look so foolish in one of those silly little hats.

I should hear to-day how you enjoyed the Opera last Saturday. I thought it was the loveliest one so far to listen to when you can't see. The light ones lose a lot by not being able to see them acted.

I probably have given you the wrong idea about our having little snow. What we have stays unless we have a chinook wind to melt it. There is five inches or so on the ground in the village, twice as much at Norquay, and three feet at Lake Louise. But when it snows it only seems to be by inches.

I just finished "With Malice Toward Some" I wasn't going to read it at first but saw the part about Norway and ended by reading it all. I agree with Eileen "amusing but poor taste" "Punch" said it was written with "Ghirlish Gusto" It seemed as if she were so anxious to make bright remarks she didn't care how rude or fresh she was. But it was bright and amusing to read.

How in the world can I guess what you are going to get with the Christmas Check. Opera seats, Tulips, set of books, new cups for tea. a picture, I really don't know, also I can't think or figure out Mr Rolfe's card. Do tell us.

I am enclosing one or two things that I cut out for you even last year.

Must close.

Loads of love

Catharine /

Banff, Alberta
Sunday, evening.
January 29, 1939

Dearest Mother,

We went up to the Mt Norquay Ski slopes this afternoon after an early lunch, It was crowded with skiers, a slalom race going on, A lot of people come up from Calgary every weekend with the Banff Sunday Skiers it makes a crowd of two or three hundred. It isn't much fun skiing in a crowd, but if you never ski except with a lot of people you don't know the difference.

Yesterday we went up there in the afternoon and packed the jump for them, I guess it is our contribution to the Carnival which is in three weeks. It now needs to be tramped by foot, it is some job, we worked nearly two hours side stepping the landing hill,

What windy storms you have had this year, we have an east wind to-night and that usually means colder and snow. The skiing is good but fresh snow would make the slopes with willows better, it takes about two feet to cover the bushes.

Is the Old Manse to be sold?

I am glad that the house next the Suretts is at last fixed up. What is the book Mr Uhler has been writing with someone else? I noticed the article about it in the Journal, I never seem to know

many in the journal any more, Maybe when the subscription runs out you could cut the interesting things out of yours, unless it is easier to just keep sending it.

I am sending you a small photograph of the Hiam children, Pete took a roll of them on the river in front of the house, and we have made enlargements of the best ones and are going to send them to Mr and Mrs Webster, The light was poor and the children full of high spirits, so when the sun was out the children were in all directions, but he got some very good ones I think. He says if you would like some he will make you a set too.

Monday- It is colder and a little snow comes down now and then, but not enough to amount to anything.

We are both crazy about Mr Frank Cases book on the Algonquin, Isn't it cleverly written and so amusing.

I hope Both Eileen and Zella are getting on well, has Aunt Julie both babies?

Lots of love
Catherine

P.S. If I remember correctly I got the book on Hall mails from Lauriat in Boston.

BANFF
ALBERTA, CANADA

Feb. 1, 1939,
afternoon

Dearest Mother,

It is a beautiful day and we are going out for an hour driving. But first I wanted to write a line to tell you how terribly sorry we are about Jean's lumbago. I

hope its all over by
now. but to tell the
truth I don't know
much about it. Maybe
she & Maude should
get together. You tell
her that we are thinking
of her.

Also this is the first
day the airmail leaves
from Calgary (Canadian
airmail) to connect with

the across Canada
service, so tell me
how soon you receive
this. Now to Wednesday
& will leave Banff
at 5.20 this afternoon.

Loads of love & we
also are sorry about
Mr Wether.

More love
Catherine.

Banff, Alberta
Canada,
Sat. Feb 4, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

I guess you've had a busy week going to Portland and Jean being so sick. I hoped to get a letter yesterday but there will surely be one today. For we are anxious about Jean. Of course to a week now so she must be better.

We were so sorry about Mr. Wether, but if he was suffering there was no hope perhaps to better. Also it's rather sad to think we won't see Uncle George again (in Portland, who knows about the other places) but it is rather nice to think he could sort of have a happy ending to his life. He must have died with a contented feeling about Mildred. For she has a pleasant place to live and their affairs are getting straightened out as well. I'm glad for Mildred so she won't have the worry & care of a long illness, and that she is still young enough to enjoy things - It seems as if ever since her mother died which is

several years ago, & even before that -
 Mildred has been tied down. Perhaps
 now she can go away for a few
 days without having to hurry home.
 Today I was just going over town to get
 Today's mail when the opera started &
 now the triumphal march is going on.
 I didn't realize it was going to be
 "Aida". Now I can't bear to leave. I
 think I shall wait until an intermission
 & dash over.

x Oh, the two books for Bobby & Davie
 arrived yesterday. Jackie told me he
 couldn't figure what you were sending
 him a book for. He said it must be
 about "home furnishings" & I had asked
 you to get it for him. They evidently
 hit the nail on the head. Davie is
 tickled to pieces over his, & Barbara
 said it was about a little boy who's
 shoes always come undone, which
 Davie does. (I think he has some-
 thing to do with it himself) and that
 Davie can understand about it.
 Bobby's is about a little girl who does
 just what little girls love to do, so
 Barbara says. I haven't seen
 them yet.

*ater still.

I just went over to get your letter from Portland. I don't know whether to write you tonight or not, & find out how Jean is, for it will be Monday before I can possibly hear again - and I'm anxious to know.

The opera is still going on and is so lovely out to hear.

I hope you had no trouble going home in the blizzard. a heater in the car helps a lot, and it isn't as if you weren't in well populated districts all the way. Out here its rather serious to get stuck if there is a wind. for you might be miles from anywhere on the prairie - in the mountains its safe if you have matches for at least you can build a fire as a rule.

Loads of love
Catharine.

Banff, Alberta
Canada.
Monday, Feb. 6, 1939.

Dearest Mother, I guess you wondered why you
got a telegram from me Saturday. but it
seemed such a long wait until this morning.
Your letter from Portland came Saturday
and you seemed anxious about Jean, and
I was afraid if she was so awfully ill
when you left Concord that maybe it was
something more than lumbago. and the
more I thought the more anxious I got, so I
wried. We heard Sunday from Jean, &
then you wire came & we were every
more mystified. "Most of us all right"
However this morning your short letter
written Wednesday, so I guess to Sandra
& the cat who are still under the weather,
for I'm hoping after your being so tired
that you are all rested up by now.
Funerals are difficult to go through
and all the relatives to think of!

I'm so glad Jean's better & in
her usual way again -

Yesterday was lovely, and lucky
it was, for several hundred
Edmonton & Calgary Skiers were
here for the day - a Special train

from Edmonton, with sleepers. They
got here about 9.30 in the morning &
left at 9.30 last night. I should be
back in Edmonton this morning. It's about
300 miles. Quite a trip for our dogs sheep
but they loved it evidently. For they come
once a year. Ten have gone to Skobri
& some to Sunshine Camp for a week or so.
We didn't ski ourselves. But watched the
crowd a little while. Such costumes
& such skiers as some are.

I saw the books yesterday & Barbara
is crazy about them & says the children
are thrilled with them. Bubby has learnt
Davies by heart & can read it to him.
The others may come any day now -

Loads of love

Catherine -

How are Zella & Eileen?

Banff, Alberta,
Canada,
Thursday, Feb 9, 1938

Dearest Mother,

We have had a cold spell this week, starting Monday. 10° below all day & such a strong wind it seemed dreadfully cold. Tuesday was 20° below all day & still a wind from the north. Yesterday seemed warmer because the wind died down, but it had been around 30° below in the night. Last night it was 34° below at one point. However we were comparatively lucky as it was colder in Calgary, 50° below in Edmonton & 60° below in the Peace River. ~~However~~. To-day its zero, sun shining & a warm wind.

< We have spent a good part of the week keeping warm. Kate even gets up several times in the night to stoke up the kitchen fire. With no windows open in the bedroom a glass of water at my side of the bed froze solid!

We are wondering whether to go to Revelstoke this weekend to see the ^{ski} jumping, and then maybe go to the coast from there for a week. We don't want to be here for the Carnival, and we would like to see one or two places where they ski on the Pacific coast. Then when we return it will be the right time to go to Skabri, or the new place. It's almost hopeless to do much work here when it's cold & you have fires to keep ~~warm~~ going!

Had we realized we would be
here all winter we might have
got a furnace in in the fall.
Pete's father seems much
better & gets out even on the
coldest days. though he has
his ups & downs. Pete doesn't
want to get too far away
just yet. When do your
tulips bloom? is it April?

We have had lots of nice
letters from you, and I'm
glad Jean is so much better.
I even had a letter from
her. I hope Sandra is
improving as fast.

It's quite exciting to think
of Jean & Bill Rand going
to Germany. I bet they have
a wonderful time. & very
interesting too.

I'm so glad you've planted
big trees. I think they are
well worth it.

Can't guess what my
Christmas present to you is
to be. Opera Tickets? a
small tree? Can't remember
what I guessed before. I
was stupid not to guess Mr
Rolf's Christmas card.

Must go over before the
bank closes. so all for
now. Its fun to think you
got my air mail so
quickly. Its because there
is a plane which connects
at Calgary with our train &
the Trans Canada plane
at Lethbridge.

Heaps of love
Catherine.

Banff, Alberta

Canada,

Sat. Feb. 11, 1939

Dearest Mother.

It is now the intermission of the Opera, I wonder if you are listening too, isn't this a new way to tell the story? to act it out instead of just telling it.

X We have a west wind today, and Pete has gone to
Y Lake Louise, We were both going at first, as Cliff is anxious
for / us to see the new building at the Mt Temple site above
the Ford, However we were afraid that it might turn cold again
X and if we couldn't get back things might freeze,) Leslie Mather
once left the tap in his house running when he went to Calgary
for the day, came back late at night to find the water a foot
deep downstairs, the drain had frozen, and the sink overflowed.
X Pete was going by train but it was three hours late, the cold
weather in the east, and so he decided to drive up, Cliff and
little Cliff went up with him as they are going for the night.
Y So I am alone for the day, an almost unheard of occurrence. I
always have great resolutions at first of the many things I
will do but in the end I seldom do more than usual,

This is really to tell you that we have given
up the idea of going to Revelstoke to see the Ski Jumping as
we heard few of the top notch skiers would be there, so I guess
we will be here for the carnival after all. It just shows that
I shouldn't have tried to tell you what to expect us to do, For
our plans do change according to how things go. Pete has been

working on slides lately. It is mostly experimental as it is hard to find out much about them. but they are coming on fine now. *We probably won't go to the coast at all.*

We had a valentine and a very nice letter from Jean, and your very nice Sunday letter too, I don't wonder you said most of you were well, Poor Russ with exzema. I guess you wondered why I wired, Your letter written Wednesday should have reached us had it been mailed first thing in the morning, but it went that night after you returned from ~~P~~ Portland. and as we no longer get mail on Sunday I knew it would be Monday ~~before~~ before we heard how Jean was. and I guess I was pretty anxious to hear that she felt herself again.

It is awfully nice to hear of all the new babies that are soon to arrive, it is always so fine to think of people who will make good parents having lots of children when they can also afford it, It will be far better for the world too.

Little John must be so cunning, and I guess Aunt Julie ~~is~~ *has* real fun, as well as keeping busy looking after him.

It is snowing just a bit which will be fine if it only keeps up. I read the book Jean sent Pete for his Birthday, and loved it, It is very clever, Pete said he was going to write her, but two letters would have been too much for one day I expect. We had a nice letter from Mrs Webster, and they liked the pictures and even want some more, which is good, She also spoke of your having been to see her,

I seem to be encouraging the Air Mail lately, You try one and see how long it takes yours to come, Lots of love. *to all Catherine-*

Banff, Alberta.

Wed. Feb. 15, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

If you count the words in my letters I think you will find that there are more per typewritten letter than the ordinary way, and then it is good Practice for me.

Pete is out helping Cyril Paris fix the little boys jump for the Carnival, as I write this he is coming in the yard. so that means lunch.

Later- Such a lovely day and so mild. It will be nice if it holds out for the Carnival. We will be here after all I guess, it usually means being asked to do a lot at the last moment that someone else should have done before, but on the other hand there are many events worth seeing.

We are so sorry that Russ has had such a bad case of exzema and I do hope he is allright now. Pete said he was going to write him but I am pretty sure Russ will have recovered first, Maybe I shouldn't say that, it just seems to be so hard for people to write out here, You might be surprised to know that I have a reputation for writing more letters than anybody else in the family or in Banff, and you are the only one I really write to. so this is not a country of letter writers. Do you know if Russell ever received the book about log buildings and out-door fireplaces that I ordered from Washington for him ? I ordered one for someone here at the same time and it hasn't come yet. It was a book reviewed in the magazine of Art,

The Paderewski life sounds very interesting and more so having seen the Movie of him. Have you read " The Yearling" They say it is " delightful ".

I am getting real curious about the Christmas present, is it a Fountain pen or books ?

We had a very nice letter from Mrs Webster and were so glad that they liked the pictures enough to want some more, We will have them ready soon, She said that they hoped to come to Jasper this summer as Frances and her family, and Polly and her' will all be there. Maybe when the older ones are on a pack trip the young ones will be left with the Grand-Parents. Or maybe they will all go.

I guess Mildred must feel pretty much alone, if only she could find a real nice husband. She would be a wonderful minister's wife, I am glad you made her take the check, I thought I was quite clever at Christmas time, I could have sent more but was afraid she wouldn't accept it.

I must take this to the mail, for I haven't written you for several days.

Loads of love-

Banff, Alberta.

Tues, Feb. 21, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

This last weekend has been so hectic and no real chance to write. We were glad to get your letter yesterday that Russ was well enough to have dinner with you, and I hope that means that his exzema has disappeared.

Did you hear the King Launch the new British battleship " George the fifth" ? It came in very clearly, right now I am listening to news in English from France, it comes over short wave direct. Isn't it remarkable ?

The three books for the little boys came last week and I shall take them over to-day, thought it better to wait until the exditment of the carnival was over, they certainly are fascinating books, We thought the Cowboy one would be best for Clifford, "The Young Settler" for Donny, and the Flood one for Peter. I know they will love them, and they have very few books if any, The Little Stockands came down last evening to show us their books, we had to admire every picture. Little Betty had hers done up in paper and wrapped and unwrapped it several times, It was terribly nice of you to think of it and they certainly appreciate it.

The Carnival was a great success, and thousands came up from Calgary over the weekend, I believe they ate up all the food in the Cafe's . It began with the Parade on Thursday, the little boys ski jumping in the afternoon, and other " novelty " events on a rink built in the center of the main

street, such as a tug of war on the ice, a so called "canoe race", four people standing on a tobogan and poling with a spiked pole, and this was very amusing, There was also an obstacle race on skiis. there was barely time to get supper before the Ladies Hochey game and the Speed races in the evening, I think I had better cut out the newspaper accounts to give you an idea of all that went on.

Friday there were boys dog races with sleds in the morning and some ski Joring, in the afternoon skating races for children, Bubby came in 3rd in "girls under 8½" though she was the tallest, she was the only one of the six under six years old, Little Peter was second in his race, but there were only two of them! There was also a Pee-Wee hochey game. More novelty events on the street and in the evening a wonderful hockey game, the best we have seen for a long time. also more speed skating races.

There was a dance every night but we thought standing watching things all day was enough for us, Saturday was a full day too with Junior downhill race up at Norquay in the afternoon, also Mens Slalom and a girls Slalom. at the same time there was a Midjet hockey game and figure skating at the rink, a ladies bonspeil and trap shooting. and another Hockey game at night. Sunday Men's downhill ski race, and girls race, Ski Jumping and Boys Slalom all at Norquay. In the evening Fireworks.

Some of the Jumpers came over late Sunday night to see how Pete's pictures had come out, and they stayed until twelve, Fern Clarkson is here and came to see us next morning as w

we were finishing breakfast, and we had lunch almost as soon as she went home, then we made some prints of the ski pictures and the mail had gone before there was a chance to write you.

Poor Cousin Harriet she just makes herself miserable by being sorry for herself, I am glad you could end the day with a nice time with Ebbs and Anne.

I am glad Eileen got on so well, I intended writing her but as usual am too late,

We hope to finish up the photographs that we want to do, and then turn off the water and go out to the new place at Mt Temple as it is called, there are still men working and we would rather wait until they are finished. It is hard to decide what to do when, The time goes much too fast and there are so many things we want to do.

Lots of love and did I thank you for the Hurricane book, it is very interesting.

More love

Catharine .

Banff, Alberta.

Friday, Feb. 24, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

Your air-mail letter came yesterday, I didn't go over until afternoon so probably it came on the night train at one in the morning, but even then it wasn't much quicker. I always get your Sunday letter mailed early on Monday morning, in the noon mail Thursday. so the Air-mail was just as long. The reason mine from here goes so quickly is that it makes connections at this end, yours probably goes by U.S. air mail and has to transfer up to Winnepeg, and may not make close connections.

We have been quite busy lately, Dorothy Whyte (who is our old friend at the Banff Springs Hotel information desk in the summer) came down Monday night, no Tuesday, and asked if she could bring the new assistant manager down to see our pictures, his wife has just come and knows no one here, They came Wednesday evening and were very nice and so interested in every thing. We got enthusiastic and when Pete took them home at midnight he told Mrs Taylor to bring her skis down next day and he would adjust the bindings for her, she is just beginning. It was a late evening for us and yesterday morning before we had gotten underway Pete's father came down to see if we could run him up to the Hot Springs in the afternoon, he doesn't get down very often and he loves to reminisce and tell about the old days in Banff, We love to listen and so the morning went and before we had ~~hardly~~ finished lunch Mrs Taylor

arrived with her skis. It turned out to be more of a job than Pete bargained for, while he fixed her bindings she put on his boots and used his skis and I tried to show her a few things about skiing, I am not much of a teacher and so when her skis were ready Pete gave her some help, she learnt so quickly that we ended by spending the whole afternoon with her, going up to a slope by the hotel. Last night we made some more extra prints for Frances and Mrs Webster, Once we turn the water off we won't be able to do Photographs and so want to finish them up now. Pete is also making some frames, but we hope to go skiing soon.

The time goes so fast but on the whole we have done quite a bit,

We are so glad that Russ' exzema is going fast, once it starts leaving I believe it really goes. I hope so. It is too bad Gale is sick too. We have been fortunate here not to have any colds going the rounds, at Christmas there was a sort of grip that went the rounds, I expect partly because every one visited every one else, we think that by staying out of the stuffy movies we avoid catching colds, Some how when you are not in crowds you don't become as amune to things.

I must spot prints, Lots of love to you all.

Catherine.

P.S. Pete thinks maybe you have a Projector for Colored slides as the Christmas present, but I tell him you couldn't use it all the time, Jean says it is something I will never guess, Is it a little radio for your bedroom?

Banff, Alberta.

Sunday, Feb. 26, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

I really don't know what to write you about, but will start a letter to have something to mail tomorrow. Did you hear "Manon " the Opera yesterday ? I thought it was a lovely one we only hear the last two acts as a rule. Were you listening ?

It looks as if we would turn the water off tomorrow and go up to the Mt. Temple Chalet, Cliff wants us to see all they have done, they have four rooms finished ~~are~~ and are practically ready for guests, the plumbing isn't in yet but can be put in anytime. It takes only two hours from the Lake Louise station by horse and team or on foot, and the road goes right to the door of the new place. It is going to make it so accessible now, You get off the trans-continental train are met by the sleigh and in two hours are there. the skiing is on all sides, the runs ending at the Chalet which is in the trees and with a lovely view of Mt Temple.

Monday- a nice letter from you written Wednesday, came this morning. Do give my love to Helen Van Dyke, it is so long since I have seen her. We are so sorry to hear that Russ is still having trouble with his exzema, We are going up to the Mt. Temple Chalet and will write him all about it in the next day or two, We have never skiëd around the little valleys near there, because we were always on our way in or out to Skoki.

This isn't much of a letter but I have to run if it is to catch the mail.

Loods of love
Catherine



Mount Temple Chalet

Lake Louise, Canada

Thursday, March 2, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

I really should have written you a long letter yesterday, but somehow there didn't seem to be a good chance, and now in about ten minutes we are going up to the old half way cabin to get some thin mattresses to cover the seats that were built yesterday. This place is very much in the process of being built and there still is an awful lot to be done.

X We drove to Lake Louise on Tuesday, bringing Cliff with us. The sleigh was waiting for us and they put a Chester field on it & we rode in style all sitting on the sofa. It did seem funny but was most comfortable. ^{It was being brought up for the fixing rooms.} The team of horses looks like Mr. Coburn's (?) paintings, one black & one white horse. It is a lovely sleigh ride up, for the trail is so pretty, lovely vistas with peaks in the distance

and just the simple sleigh tracks, We rode & walked alternately, for to cold to sit too long & also its harder on the horses. It took us a little over two hours. but it didn't seem so very long.

The building is going to be most attractive once its finished but you know how much there is to do all at once, & they want to get it ready for guests as soon as possible. They have beds etc but there's still a lot to be done. Miss Fennell who is the nicest person, is sort of hostess & then Dan is cooking, and there are three carpenters and the boy who drives the sleigh.

I must let this go now -

Heaps of love
Catharine -

Banff, Alberta

Mon. March 6, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

I tried to write you on Saturday after we came home but didn't have a chance, and then yesterday we did too much talking, and now there is lots to tell you and not much time to do it in, There have been many nice letters from you and Jean and I would like to answer them. I am so glad I guessed the radio, and how nice for you to have it in your room so if there is a nice concert you can hear it, We were so sorry to hear that Russ is still home with exzema, Pete was quite touched when you wrote that you wished he were there to cheer Russ up, and we felt like taking the next train east.

If you still have the letters the Stockands wrote you, do send them for us to see, Mildred said her~~e~~ children were tickled to pieces with there^{ir} books and Cliff and Donny I think have written you, Mildred said she didn't help them at all, except to spell your name and one or two words, but she didn't try to correct the letters, I imagine they are quite funny.

We had quite a strenuous four days skiing, I wrote you about our trip up there, to the Mt Temple Chalet, how we rode up on a sofa on the sleigh, Wednesday we went skiing in the morning up in a little side valley and in the afternoon Pete made a stool out of a half log and I helped sew curtains,

Lee, who drives the team of horses, telephoned from Lake Louise that there was one guest coming up that night, and we all hustled round trying to make the place look as presentable as possible, so as to have the Guest get a good impression. The joke was on us, for it turned out to be Bill Jamison, who is Geoge Noble's assistant in his Photograph~~er~~ store. However it was just as well

to get things in shape. Bill was a great help, the light was dull for pictures so next morning we went to the old Halfway Cabin to get four Mattresses to cover a corner seat that had been built in the living room, It took us just an hour to go up, and less ~~than~~ than that to return. We spent the afternoon scrubbing the floor. The stove pipe had leaked that Black sooty stuff that stove pipes have a habit of doing, and it looked pretty badly, so Pete

got a brush and went to work. It looked so funny to have just one patch scrubbed that Pete kept doing a little more, until he was on the threshold to the dinning room. I did the second moping and Miss Rummel the scrubbing with fresh water, for Pete ~~had~~ had to use Lye to cut the dirt that had been tramped in. Dan kept us supplied with fresh water and Bill came in from taking pictures to help move funniture, It was hard work, but the more we did the worse the rest looked, so it ended by our doing the ~~dinning room~~ ~~kitchen~~ ^{dinning room - living room} and getting Gorden (the carpenter) with all his tools up into the attic, That evening the men worked over time to get the ceilings boarded in upstairs, and Pete helped.

I will continue in my next letter, Our plans are rather uncertain but when we know anything definitely I will write you.

Heaps of love,

Catherine.

Banff, Alberta.

Monday, March, 6, 1939

Dearest Mother,

This is the continuation ~~of~~ of my other letter, Friday we decided that we would go over to Skoki with Bill and back after lunch, a wire had come for Jim Boyce the night before and he would have to get it in time to catch the train from Lake Louise that afternoon, We didn't like the idea of Bill Jamison going alone or other wise he could have taken it.

We left about nine and it was rather frosty and cloudy, when we got above the Halfway cabin it seemed pretty cold and the clouds seemed to be coming down over the mountain tops, going over Boulder Pass we felt the first North east wind, It was in our faces all the way across the Lake but the worst was as we climbed ^{Deception} the Pass. The wind seemed to hit the side of our faces and was about as cold as ~~if~~ one could stand for more than a few minutes at a time, we would take about 80 steps and then have to stop and turn our backs to the wind. The day before had seemed as cold starting out and I had felt just right with my flannel shirt and a wind-breaker but no sweater, Pete wore a heavy sweater but no wind-breaker, the extra things were in his pack sack and it was so cold we didn't want to stop long enough to put them on. I nipped the lobe of my left ear, and we kept looking at each other to see that no part was turning white, as you can't feel it yourself. Of course our noses ran constantly, and it was rather a miserable trip until we got down part way on the other side of

the pass, the trees were all covered with frost and were very pretty, but the snow being frosty made it slow going as the skis don't slide well when it is so cold. We were rather stiff in our joints and were glad when we reached the cabin, Jim greeted us with an offer of some of his Birthday Brandy and it tasted very good, we were soon hot inside and out. It took us two and a half hours to go over and about two hours back, Jim left before us but we thought we had better not wait too long, so headed back after lunch. Bill came to the top of the Pass with us for he wanted the slide back to Skoki, and Joe Tiesmaki (one of the boys Packing) came as far as the Halfway as he was to do some cleaning there, It wasn't nearly as cold going back, the wind being at our backs.

Next Morning we had decided to come down in time to catch the early train to Banff, Cliff having driven our car back, It mean't getting up before 6.30 a.m. but Dan said he wouldn't mind cooking our breakfast half an hour early, It looked as if it would be nice and clear, and as we left the Chalet at seven the first yellowish glow was hitting the tops of the mountains, not the sun for that hit the mountains later as we were half way down the trail, and was bright pink and lovely to watch. The snow was very frosty and we didn't slide fast enough to suit Pete but it was just my speed for the road. it is a little difficult running in the two tracks that the team makes, I was glad that I had on my sweater but felt colder than I had expected, but you know how much colder it always is just before subrise, a sort of chill. We met a Calgary Lad on his way up and chatted a few minutes. He had taken the mid-night

train and tried to sleep unsuccessfully in the Lake Louise Station, We didn't stop long as we had the 8.30 train to catch, the last few hills were so cold that you had to go slow to keep from feeling too cold, The breeze we created going downhill intensified the cold and our faces were covered with frost, Pete's eye brows and four days beard were all white with frost and most of the front of his wind breaker where his breath had frozen, but you wouldn't think that I had enough hair on my chin to collect frost, I figured it must be zero. The sun was getting lower on the mountain sides, and as we crossed the Pipstone river near the station it was all steaming around the open water, and my nose started to freeze on the tip end. Pete noticed it in time to put snow on right away, It seemed as if it had run steadily enough to keep it warm, Running noses isn't a very pretty subject, but one rather amusing thing happened to me. I was sliding along with my head bent down, and as my nose ran it would just drop down sort of big drops, one got caught on my lip and stretched out and froze into a solid piece before it broke off, The sun was just hitting the snow around us as we reached the station, Stan Boyle, the ticket agent, was just coming out of the door, we asked how cold it was, and he said # "it was 30° below zero just before the sun hit!". We were rather surprised but decided it must have been even colder in the breeze coming down the hills. I have never been out in such cold, and we had skied about five miles, *but others have skied in 40° below.*

It wasn't very cold at the Carnival, except on Saturday afternoon when an east wind blew, other wise it was good

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spectator weather, This last Saturday when we reached Banff it was 10^{below} above but warmed up rapidly as the sun has a lot of heat in it now. and yesterday and to-day have been quite warm again.

X Herman Gardner an Austrian Ski Teacher from OberGurgl, (where we spent 10 days in 1936) arrived Saturday, he has been teaching skiing at St Jovite in the Laurentians this winter, and is going to teach and guide at Skoki the rest of the time. Hans Faulkner arrives next week, he was head of the X OberGurgl school, they expect to make their homes in Canada.

Tuesday, I had better send this along now,

Heaps of Love,

Catherine

Banff, Alberta,

Friday, March 10, 1939,

Dearest Mother,

We are having a lovely stretch of weather, and should be out in the mountains, but thought we would rather wait until the carpenters are finished at Mt Temple, They are to put the plumbing in this next week, and there is a party at Skoki that went out to-day. Miss Rummel who has been at Temple has to go home for a few weeks and Mildred, Cliff's wife, is going to pinch hit for her, We are going up on Sunday with Edward Feuz the Swiss Guide, but not for over night. Yesterday we drove to Lake Louise to take some pictures to the Swiss Guides and it was a lovely day to drive up, We saw lots of Moose along the road, 20 at least.

There are lots of nice letters from you to be answered, We are so glad that Russ is so much better, and I imagine that a trip to Florida will help a whole lot, sun is good for every thing. At one time we thought it might be nice for him out here on a ski trip, but were rather waiting until this new place was finished, before urging him to come out.

How bright Gale's sayings are. Children do say such funny things, I suppose it is partly because they voice all their thoughts.

It must have been fun to see Flick, and Bo must have been quite speedy to get ready so quickly, if you have a passport it takes little time to have it extended.

We would love to have the Studios when bound.

We were so sorry about Mr Harris, It seems out here as if all the old timers were dying off.

Cousin Jane spoke of Irving Johnson's book " Westward Bound on the Yankee " as if Russ would like it, I think Russ once drove Irving Johnson from Marblehead to Boston about 7 years ago, We met him in Nassau on Warren Tomkins boat.

I will try and write you again soon but must go over
I
now and get a paper witnessd,

Heaps of love to you all-

Catherine

Banff, Alberta.

Monday, March 13, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

By the news broadcast to-day you must be having quite stormy weather, We had an east wind last night and the wind howled around the house, but now it has all cleared off again and is perfect out.

Yesterday was not too bad in the morning and quite warm, so we left at eight o'clock to drive to Lake Louise and meet EDward Feuz (one of the Swiss Guides) ^{to} and go up to Temple for lunch, It was great fun going with him and we skied up in about two hours without hurrying, The Chalet was quite full, Jackie had gone up the day before to see how things were going, and then there are two English Ladies who met Herman Gardner on the train and went up to stay two days and are staying a week longer. Margerite Orr is also there and taking lessons from Herman, and then there were five who went for the weekend only from here. Skoki is quite full too.

I expect you are very busy with opera this week and I hope it will be nice weather to drive in and out. We will be thinking of you, we listened in Saturday for most of it.

Is your Grosebeak and his Harem still at the feeder ? We have a whole family of deer that come to the back door and are so tame and pfetty, I am not as successful with birds, the dogs run off with the bread crumbs and bury them.

We were interested to hear you have a virtrola.

you may find the old records disappointing, the new methods of reproducing music are so improved,

We turned the water back on that Saturday we came in. I had two bad blisters which have since healed up, and it meant no skiing for several days, They came from the snow being so frosty and trying to push the skis along. Pete thought it would be as well to turn the water back on and we had quite an amusing time doing it. The house was colder than we realized, and on account of the water front in the Kitchen stove we couldn't light a fire there with the water off unless we took the water front out. So we turned the water on slowly, and all of a sudden realized the drain in the sink had frozen and was backing up, We had no hot water to pour down, and so had to wait ^{turn the water off} It was quite exciting for a while, We both ran up and down stairs every few minutes to watch developments, and by the time the kitchen drain had been thawed the ones upstairs had frozen, The water in the back of the toilet even froze and the little water in the bath tub froze solid, It was all rather funny but rather tiresome. however we got it working before long,

Must go to the bank.

Lots of Love
Catherine

Banff, Alberta.

Wed, March 15, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

Just after writing you, your letter came telling us that Russell's feet were so swollen he had gone to the Phillips House for better treatment, and we do feel so badly that he is having such a time, it must be so discouraging, it has been a month now hasn't it? The time flies by so quickly for us that it is hard to realize he has been sick so long. I bet Jean cheered him up when she went in with Gale. I wish we were nearer to go and see him, but perhaps we will be east before long for a little visit, don't look forward to it too much for you never can tell what may happen between now and then,

This year we seem to miss all the big storms, even Calgary gets more snow than we do, though this afternoon it is snowing a little.

We always enjoy your enclosures in your letters though I don't always remark on them, Poor Uncle Marshall what luck he does have in trying to get a housekeeper, Wouldn't you think it would be easy with so much unemployment. I hope this one turns out to ~~X~~ be the right one, It would be wonderful if he felt like marrying again, and yet I can see how he might not want too, For a man though I think it is somehow different than for a women. and especially when he is sick so much of the time and needs to be looked after. but I don't think I ever could suggest it, could you ?

The Opera broadcasts start at one here, and usually it is after the first act, but it is enough to listen

too in one fell swoop.

You must be in the middle of the opera week and I hope enjoying it as much as ever, Why do they always have the Flower Show at the same time? Just to make more going on for people like you.

Let us know as often as you can how Russ gets on, does it mean now that the Florida trip is off, or does he have to do that business trip in any case? I suppose having missed so much time in the office he won't want to miss more than he can help.

We hope to have decided what to do for the next few weeks by the end of this week, At one time we thought we would like to stay out at Mt Temple for a while, but when the workmen were there it wasn't very nice, and Pete really was interested in painting, now by the time the bathrooms are in it looks as if it might ^{be} full of guests and not much room for us, so we shall see.

I seem to be hitting all the wrong letters, I guess my skill as a typewritest is about an a par with My piano playing, except that no one suffers from hearing me strike the wrong key.

Lots of love to you all ,

Catherine

P.S. 9 in enclosing the Winter Carnival Programms for 3 of the days. you might be interested & amused to see all that went on.

Banff, Alberta,
Monday -
March 20, 1939

Dearest Mother,

I'll just scribble
you a hurried note to send air-
mail, as there hasn't been a
good chance to write you the
last few days. We seemed
to have a lot of people in &
one thing or another kept
us busy.

Right now the west
wind is blowing hard. Has
been blowing steadily the
last three days and nights
and has fairly licked up
the snow. It's a real
"chukook". The flies are
buzzing. The river is opening
up & it smells like spring.

We are glad Russ is getting
on so well. What a lot of
sickness there has been
this year. There is flu going
round here, but by not
going to the movies or being
in close rooms we haven't
had it yet.

This isn't much of a
letter but will let you
know how we are & I'll
try to send a ~~to~~ real one
soon. Also to Jean.

Heaps of love
Catherine.

Banff, Alberta.

Tuesday, March 21 1939

Dearest Mother,

I don't expect to get very far with this but will start anyhow, It is the loveliest spring day out, 60 in the shade, and nearly every speck of snow has gone, It makes me feel like house cleaning and washing windows but instead I spent an hour making the water run down the driveway in little streams, you know what fun it is, Bubby and Davie were doing what they thought would help but it usually had the opposite effect.

We have had our share of local callers lately, Last Wednesday it began, Pete went over to Jackies to ask for mail, as the store was closed that afternoon, and after a long call they came over here and ended by staying to supper and for most of the evening, The next day Cliff came down from Temple and had a lot to tell us, and when he left the Simpsons came, they are two of the people in Banff most interested in our painting and are always so encouraging about it, Then Cliff came back for supper as Mildred and little Peter have gone up to be at Temple while Miss Rummel is away. The other little boys were staying, little Clifford with Barbara, and Donny with Lila, The first night was allright, but the next night they began to look as if they didn't feel so good, and when Cliff came down he was awfully good to them and suggested they go up with him in the morning for the weekend, without their saying anything about being homesick.

I believe Cliff came down to-day but I don't know about the two boys.

Friday was the first day of this warm spell, Mr Carveth the head Leica agent was here and also Sam and Mrs Ward returned home and we had to hang all about their winter, and so it has gone all week, Then with the excitement of keeping track of the European situation and wondering what will happen next we have been very busy. I wonder if you listened to Chamberlain over the Radio, we get news over short wave too, right from Europe.

Yesterday afternoon Allen Mather asked us to go out to Lake Minnewank^{er} to look over a little sort of Inn there that he has had to take over, He wanted some advise about what to do to make it more attractive and also our ideas about such a place as a tourist, It is a lovely situation and as he has the boats there it will help his business to have an attractive place for people to stay. We gave him all the ideas we could,

It was nice to have Cousin Kathie's letter about them all and the picture of Virginia, it was a pretty dress wasn't it? Also Cousin Jane's letter, I am so glad people are being so nice to her, but then she is such a cheery person people like to have her around.

Pete liked the picture of feet you sent him, I wonder if you could tell the character of a person now-a-days if you just saw their hats, and maybe the back of their heads?

X As I was writing this a young man walked by the window to the front door, It was Donald Castle of Honolulu, Remember

him ? Came out the night before Thanksgiving several years ago, We had a nice call from him and he ended by buying a sketch of Peter's for his Mothers birthday present, It is one Pete painted last year with her in mind, as it is of the lake near O'Hara named after her, Linda Lake. ✓

Now we are Planing to drive to Louise with Donald to-morrow and spend the night at Mt Temple Chalet and then he will catch the train the following day west. He had to give up Harvard as the climate was too severe for him, he had phneumonia (can't spell it) two years in succession, so now he is getting his degree from the university of Washington in Seattle.

Wednesday- I have decided not to go with them, will keep the home fires burning instead, and I hope get a pile of letters written. Barbara has asked me to dinner and supper so that is nice.

Your letter written the first day of the ppera came yesterday, How funny those wigs must have looked. I am so glad that you are staying in and how nice that Kitty can be with you. I hope they find out what is wrong with Russ and that he will soon be about again. He certainly has ^{had} a hard time of it,

Wasn't that a nice letter of Aunt Nela's to the dolls?

Well I must go over and get a few things before the store closes at one, It is just the opposite from Concord, for your Wednesday closing is in summer and ours is all winter.

Lots of love to you all.

Catharine -
P.S. yesterday while playing with the water on the driveway
Davee not yet three said the muddy water looked like 'Hot Run'

Banff, Alberta.
Canada.
March 24, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

I started this yesterday, and then realized that airmail to-day would be just as quick.

X We have had a week of balmy weather. 60° above for several days, the Swiss guides said that in 30 years at Lake Louise they had never seen a warm spell like this, before the middle of April. Our snow just vanished, the strong wind seemed to lick it up and it was only slushy and muddy a couple of days. This morning it was 40° and in an hour dropped to 32° with a wind from the north trying to blow,
X It can't seem to decide what to do.

We had a nice letter from you written Wednesday and Sunday, I do hope that the tests that Russell is having will help them find the trouble. Yes, I knew he was at the Phillips House, and then your next letter said he would be home at the end of the week if he kept on improving as fast as he had the first few days, so I thought that sounded more encouraging. We are awfully sorry he has had such an awfull time, and wish we could have helped, Did he ever receive my letters and the postcards? Pete started writing him the other day, you would have laughed at the time Pete has getting under way. It is like a little boy

trying to get out of taking a bath. It was last Wednesday, a week ago, and it took all morning for him to Decide he would write, then after lunch he asked what I was going to do, I had an idea what was coming, so said I would be busy in the front room, Pretty soon he was wandering round, did I know where there was some writing paper, we found the kind he wanted, and I thought he was under way, when he began wandering round again, this time it was his pen he couldn't find. That took some time to locate for it isn't used very often. Then there was silence for about ten minutes, "Catharine, have you any ink?" was the next, another few minutes after that was found and again he was poking round in the desk, "was there a blotter?" and so it went. When he finally got started to do the actual writing and had the first paragraph written, we had callers, The Simpsons I think it was, and after that we had a whole string of people for several days, and the letter is still in the same state, I had thought I would wait until Pete wrote Russ before writing again, but I guess it X would be better to write a note in any case.

I am glad the Opera has been so good, "Boheme" sounded lovely. I hope there is a letter from you to-day telling us how you all are.

Lots of love to you all.

Catharine

(over)

Later. Much to our surprise we turned
the radio on to the Calgary Station about
one (three o'clock your time) and heard
some thing about "Boston" & we realized
it was the opera broadcast. So now
we are listening hard not only to the
opera but maybe you will cough
or sneeze & we'll hear it. Its lots
of fun thinking that you are sitting
right there while we listen here.

We have quite a blizzard going
on outside its 26° above now -
was above 40° this morning.

Your letter written Tuesday in Boston
came just now. I'm so glad Russell is
home & that they know what the trouble
is at least. and perhaps now he will
improve quicker. &

I think I heard you on your way to
the N.C. during the last intermission -
aw () right?

More love
Catherine.

Banff, Alberta.

Tues. March 28, 1939

Dearest Mother,

X We are having lovely spring weather, Pete has gone out sketching this afternoon and after I write you a little I think I will rake the lawn.

I must tell you a joke on Pete, Saturday he wrote the letter to Russ, and later that evening as we were going up to bed I saw him looking pretty hard at a letter on the desk, in its envelope, he said he just wondered what letter it was, and I told him it was pretty bad when he wrote so seldom he couldn't recognize his own handwriting.

X We have been thinking quite a bit lately of putting an addition on this year, to the house. and we have had all sorts of ideas and plans, now at last we have one that we think will fill the bill. The idea is to do as little building as possible and yet have what we want for working in. The best time to build is in the spring or fall but we want to do it all at once in as short a period as possible so as not to keep us from painting. We want to have the floors sanded too in the present building and could do that at the same time as it would take four or five days, Then we want to put a hot air furnace in and can have that done too at the same time and also any new plumbing. The plan is to build on at the back, including the back porch, a room about 20 by 22 feet. in one corner would be the work bench for framing and carpenter work, another corner

would hav-e a furnace room and maybe the third corner would have a small toilet. Then upstairs would be the studio off the bedroom, and away from people who may drop in the front part of the house, We would build it of frame construction ~~to conform~~ and log siding to conform with the logs on the out side. Then if we have heating we can use electricity to cook with and to heat the water, every thing will be cleaner and more convenient.

I am glad you are enjoying the opera and that you are staying in town, it is too bad you couldn't have gotten the man we used to have with his car to meet you after the opera each night, for I think you have gotten beyond the age of hunting for taxis, didn't you used to have George come in every day before.

You didn't mention Russell in your last letter so I hope he is improving rapidly.

Lots of love

Catherine -

Banff, Alberta.

March 31 1939.

Dearest Mother,

x Pete hasn't progressed very well with his Spring Sketches around Banff, He got one awfully nice one, and was all set to go out the next morning, as he has a few subjects all picked, and ever since then it has been dull and flat light. However we may go up to Temple Chalet tomorrow or the next day for a week, as Pete is anxious to get some snow sketches around there, That warm spell we had has turned winter into Spring about a month too soon, and it is hard to know whether we will get much more snow this year. Of course up above tree line it still snows a little now and then,

✓ We were terribly sorry to hear that Russ is still no better, it would help if you could send a letter air-mail once in a while so we could have more recent news of him. Your letter written on last Sunday came yesterday, and your previous letter written in Boston on Tuesday telling us that Russ had gone home from the Hospital had made us think he was much better. I don't wonder he is discouraged, and as he isn't a great reader it is hard for him to lose himself in a book. How about his looking over some of those magazines in the attic, the ones that were saved

for the first person who broke their leg, to have to read ! I wonder if he would be interested in the old copies of the London Illustrated news, that he had during the war, another thing that might amuse him in the evening would be to rent some movies from the movie library in Boston, that is if you have a good projector. How about getting people to call on him like Sted and Harold or Mr Keyes, they would cheer him up. Is he interested in ShortWave Radio ? If so you can rent a small set that will bring in stations from all over the world, the one we have has what they call three bands, the ordinary broadcasts, medium wave and short wave. We get news and music direct from Paris, London and Rome when ever we want to spend a few minutes tuning it in, for it has to be tuned carefully. The Macone boy in Concord has a radio shop hasn't he, I am sure he would rent one for a week. Probably none of these are very good ideas but even if we were in Concord I am afraid we wouldn't be much help, I always remember the time we tried to do what the Doctor said should be done for Russell's knee, and then it turned out to be the very worst thing we could have done, we didn't get much thanks for that!

It was too bad you missed some of the Opera

but were wise to look after a cold when so many have had flu.

It is interesting to hear of the Newburys getting married, of course they are the age now. How do you know whether Gilbert helps his family or not? He probably does and if he has been going with this girl ever since he went to Detroit that is quite a long time. I hope they make a go of it.

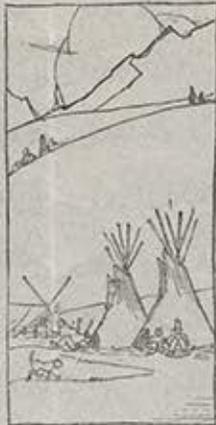
I don't feel I must write you every so often but the time slips by so fast that unless I keep writing every few days you might not hear for a week.

Every thing is going well for us if that is any comfort to you, I just wish Russ was well and then there would be nothing to worry about.

Heaps of love to you all and I hope Kitty keeps well, if she has to take all care of Russ she will have to be strong.

More love, Catharine

25. Saturday. I had this all sealed yesterday ready to mail. but Mrs Simpson came to return a book & I couldn't get it mailed - in the meantime yours written Monday came & I was glad to hear that Russell's kidneys are clearing up. What fun Robin must be - I'm glad he is such a happy baby. and must amuse Russ. I do hope this time Russ is really getting better. Your letter surrounded more encouragement - Mrs Love. C.



Mount Temple Chalet
Lake Louise, Canada

Monday, April 3, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

at last we have gotten up here again. We left Banff after lunch yesterday and were here for supper. There was an inch of snow in Banff when we woke up, but as soon as the sun came up - it vanished. We knew the sligh was coming up after the 4.30 train arrived in Lake Louise from the west, so there was no use hurrying. Barbara & Bobby had been up here skiing for several days, so we persuaded Jackie to drive to Lake Louise with us & then take them back down. It worked very well. We were at ~~here~~ Lake Louise over an hour ahead of the train and found Barbara and Bobby with Clifford & Donny already down. The little boys have to go back to Banff for school. Mildred and Peter are still up here. Peter is assisting me with this letter. I'm getting

a good many interruptions, for he has been writing a letter too with a fountain pen. He was six at Christmas time and is awfully cunning. He was writing away as an older person sounds when they write, and he scratched away, the result looked like some hand writing and every little way he would punctuate it, with a great flourish. Then he began drawing pictures of us all, and they really are funny.

9th snowing hard. Tuesday - I didn't get any further yesterday with this letter. It snowed nearly all day, real hard and quite blustering at times. We went out after lunch, with little Peter as guide to his hill, had a few good runs always in new snow, and as the trees have been thinned out quite a lot its great fun making your way down through them. A long time ago there was a fire up this valley and so the trees are second growth and are not too close together. Look like Christmas trees and are mostly blue spruce. Though it was windy, in the trees was quite sheltered.

About three, five people came in for lunch on their way from Skobri, and that took up the rest of the afternoon. Then just after they had gone, maybe an hour or so later, John Jay Jr arrived. He's a Williams



Mount Temple Chalet

Lake Louise, Canada

graduate. I think is going to Oxford next winter. And is here taking a movie with an Austrian Refugee - Vera Freudenfeld. During the bad days when there was no light, he went to the coast, and came back yesterday. Spent the night here and left before seven for Skobri this morning. It's a lovely day today, though a wind is coming up just now. Pete started to sketch on the front porch, but the wind was too cold, and he had to come in. It was zero this morning, but Jean doesn't need to worry, as the dry cold isn't nearly as severe as your friend! 40° below here would be like 20° below in Concord.

We haven't much idea how many days we will stay. It depends how many come for Easter weekend. We like it ever so much but its hard not to help with

things. If we were strangers we wouldn't think
of offering to go shopping with people. But when
you know your way about a list, you are apt
to offer to take some one such and such a place
and the first thing you know you aren't doing
what you want to do at all, and also because we
were connected with Skolri in the beginning
people still seem to think we are.

A letter may come from you to-day with
the groceries. I hope so for them.

Mr Bennett has just come in on his way down
and will take this. so I will finish & start another
later on.

Its blowing quite a bit & landing up again.

Loads of love. Catherine.



Mount Temple Chalet

Lake Louise, Canada

Wednesday, April 5, 1939

Dearest Mother,

It is the loveliest day you ever saw, clear as a bell and the sun so warm, but when the wind blows it's quite cool, and cool in the shade. We had one of the best runs this morning that we have ever had. Herman Gagner took Mrs Jamison (the wife of the Lake Louise School master) and Bill Jamison (no relation, but George Noble's assistant photographer) and Pete & I up what is called Eagle Mountain. We started about nine, crossed the creek which Russ will remember, as the one at the Ford, and straight up at a good angle until in an hour we were above the trees. The most beautiful ski slopes which you never would imagine from below, could be up there. Pete & Bill wanted lots of pictures, and that always takes time. Mrs Jamison and I got a bit cold standing for there was an

awfully strong wind whipping across the high
 places. But later we stood in the shelter of a
 big drift, and the snow reflects the sun and
 it felt awfully warm. The view was perfectly
 wonderful of the Bow Valley, about the ~~best~~
 most extensive view I've ever seen for ~~only~~
 only an hour's climb. You could see Lake
 Louise and the Chateau and the highest peaks
 in every direction. It really was magnificent.
 We went along the ridge a little way, and
 Herman showed us several ways down. Pete
 & I were coming back for lunch for we rather
 expected a Miss Turner would be here, and
 had promised to take her skiing. We didn't
 attempt the first two ways which looked
 wonderful and real steep, but went further
 until we could see what they call the
 White Horn, a real snow peak, and there
 are three ways down off that. We went
 down before reaching the White Horn. The
 snow was perfect. Deep powder snow -
 about six inches deep on a firm base,
 and by going on a gradual turn we
 could take it straight. Our points of our
 skis were hidden in the new snow. It's
 a wonderful feeling to go so easily and
 have the snow flying all out behind.



Mount Temple Chalet

Lake Louise, Canada

With all the wind there has been lately, it was so sheltered on the north slope that we didn't find any wind blown snow at all. We left the others to go further and then Pete & I slid down with few turns. For the deep snow isn't as fast as other snow might be. However we didn't have to pole and it was down hill right back to the creek. The country is wonderful in this Eagle valley, really better than the skiing right near Skokholm. At Skokholm most of the best skiing is on day trips but here it is all so near. You wouldn't suspect there was such wonderful country close by.

Yesterday we went up what is called "Herman's Run" it goes up right back of the ~~chalet~~ Chalet, and Herman has taken out a few trees, enough to make plenty of

room for turning. The trees are quite far apart
 and such lovely ones, for they are perfectly symmetrical.
 We climbed all hour, and as Herman took us he
 knew just the way to go, very slow & steady but
 always up hill, and at the end of the hour we
 were above the trees. It even cleared up enough so
 the sun came out, and Bill got some beautiful
 shots ~~with~~ ^{with} his hands. Before we headed back
 for the door of the Châlet. It was lots of fun,
 the snow being perfect for turning and you
 never are quite sure what is around the
 next tree. At Skobie there was always
 some flat skiing to get back to the camp
 but here you run down right to the Châlet.
 This morning we had a thing set up but
 so little. We both said "How Russ would
 love it" and I wish he could be here. The
 trouble is I'm not sure how much longer
 they are to stay open. Easter weekend may
 be crowded but after that - its hard to tell.
 If there aren't many guests they will close
 up, and the sleigh is stopping at the end
 of the week. The snow has gone at the
 bottom of the valley and there is not enough
 business for a sleigh. We still don't know
 how long we will stay out.



Mount Temple Chalet

Lake Louise, Canada

Such a lot of mail as came yesterday. Two nice letters from you, and we were so glad to hear Russ is really better.

Friday -

I didn't finish this the other day so will continue now. We had another good run yesterday, just Pete & I. For Herman had taken Miss Turner over Eagle Mountain and down to Lake Louise. It was up what they call the Silver Tip. The morning was rather cloudy but by noon the sun was out, making it lovely & warm. We were out all afternoon and what a view from the top of the ridge.

Today is warm but not sunny yet. There are eleven coming out from Skobri on their way home. 10 are children from Minneapolis, aged 8 and up. They and four older boys who left the other day, were out here for quite a while. Easter Vacation for them. I think we will stay over the weekend, before going back to Bayff.

When Pete was away for a night with Donald Castle I wrote lots of letters that I had owed

for ages, and the other day I got answers from lots of them. A wonderful long letter from Ebb and also his father wrote, one from Nell too and now I've as many to answer as before!

The frost is practically all out of the ground in Bang. and lots of people have their yards all raked, but it will be a long time before the leaves start budding. We have pussy willows though.

I didn't realize that Mr Bordenay was still sick. How hard when he at last got home, to be so ill. Will he never be better?

Those were fine letters from you, about John Edward and the book about Grandpa - and Dr Chamberlain (I'm sorry he has been ill too) & the kitchen in the attic. I'll send you a plan of the house when we have it decided. They now can have hot air furnaces on the same level as the rooms to be heated. a fan blows the heat through the ducts & another one sucking out the cold air. Jackie is in his basement, but also heats the rooms down there.

I'll have this ready to mail when the party goes down to-day.

Heaps of love
Catherine.

P.S. I hope Jean can read this.



Mount Temple Chalet

Lake Louise, Canada

Easter Sunday.
April 9, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

This will be just the start of a letter, for Pete had to go back to Banff yesterday and will most likely bring some mail to answer. He had a wire from Donald Castle to send the picture right away, and as the weather wasn't very good he decided to go down to Banff on the afternoon train and will drive the car up this morning. We may go back tomorrow. The nice loose snow has become crusted and so the skiing conditions aren't the best. We were anxious to get an idea of the various runs, which we have now, and so we may go back tomorrow. There wasn't much use going down for Easter in Banff.

Day before yesterday the little boys

came through on their way down to Lake Louise. A young fellow who I imagine is a teacher, was with them, and also one little girl. They are awfully nice ~~of~~ kids, between the ages of 9 and 13 and had been here about two weeks, Minneapolis seems quite a way to come, but they do it every year.

That afternoon Peter went up what is called the Silver Tip and had a beautiful day for it, warm & sunny until we got on top where it was windy and chilly, but a beautiful view on top!

Wednesday -

I never had a chance to finish this, we returned Monday afternoon to Banff, & today brought Herman Gadow to Calgary. We had arranged to bring him on Thursday but he thought we said Wednesday, so we came, any way - will spend the night & try to do a few things in the morning. It's the first time we've been down this year!

Yesterday morning we had a wire from "Edwin S. Webster" that he was on his way to visit Frances & would go thru Banff this morning. So we went down to the station at 11.20. Had nearly 10 minutes chat with both Mr & Mrs Webster, at first we had thought it might be Eddy - He told us he had spoken to Russ on the phone 2 days before leaving. They had a big box of flowers in the vestibule, all sealed ^{with string} in little glass tubes. an experiment to see how they lasted. Frances is going to the fair at San Francisco with them. It was awfully nice of them to wire ahead.

I'll mail this tonight on the planes

Heaps of love to you all
Catharine

So glad Russ is able
to go but a bit now -

Banff, Alberta.

Canada,

Saturday, April, 15, 1939

Dearest Mother,

Your letter to-day sounded as if you were very busy and I don't wonder you felt tired, with so much going on. We were so glad to hear that Russ is well enough to go to the office for even a few hours, and I hope his strength is coming back quickly, it takes so long when anyone is laid up as long as he has been, I hope Kitty is all over her flu.

We are rather in a quandry and are going to ask you to help us decide what to do, We have been thinking ever since last fall of our next trip east, and one thing or another has delayed us, first it was Pete's father who wasn't well and then it was some work to be finished, and once we even had a suit case all packed, but each time something has come up and we have put it off. now we have a little time before the middle of May and the coming of the King and Queen, but wonder if it would really be worth while to go way east for just a short visit of a week or ten days at the most, or whether it would be better to wait until later when we could make a longer visit. Of course we could fly.? !!! Pete feels that he is sort of mean to deprive you and Jean of my company so much of the time, but it does seem as if there was always so much to be done out here, I tell him that if I weren't so happy out here I would probably be figuring out how to go east for the whole summer, but I know you understand how it is, for this is where our life is,

X We have quite a lot planned for this spring or early summer, the addition to the house will take quite a while but we hope by getting all the people working at the same time, the furnace man, the plumber, the electrician and the carpenters that it won't take us too long, and that we can have the work finished and be free to go painting, when the good weather comes. However it will be about three weeks before we can start on X the house and we thought that if you felt you would like to see us terribly much for a very short visit, that by starting right east we could just about make it. So when you get this air-mail will you think it over, and let us know by wire if you think we had better go east now, or by air-mail if you think it would be better to wait until we can make a longer stay in Concord. If the King and Queen should cancel their trip, we might be able to go in June, but we can't miss their visit here, especially as they are to be in Banff longer than any other place except Ottawa.

I must send this now so you will have it Monday, and we will be waiting to hear from you.

Loads of love
Catharine.

Banff, Alberta.

Monday April 17, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

Ever since we returned from Calgary the other day we have had a stream of callers, it really was almost funny and there wasn't time to wash dishes or hardly to get meals in between, it was quite funny. and it has been the same to-day too

The most exciting visitor was Pete's Uncle Pete. It is the first time he has been here since 1914, 25 years ago. He is the nicest person and such a quiet voice. he has a ranch or farm up in northern B.C. at Telkwa, he came west a year ahead of Pete's father and they were reminising down here Saturday afternoon, about walking to Regina before the train or Railroad was through, and Papa said that he remembers being driven to the train he came on by ox cart and they nearly missed it because it was two days ahead of skedule. Uncle Pete went to the Yukon in the Gold rush in 1898, but all he got was experience. It was interesting to hear them talking about it. He knew Robert Service , who wrote all those good poems, " the Shooting of Dan Megrew " was one of them. Service was in the bank up there. Uncle Pete also knows Sam Megee, said, " you know he wasn't really cremated, and last summer went back up there for a visit and rather upset the tourists who had been buying what they thought were his ashes. " " the Cremation of Sam Megee " is one of Robert Services best know poems. Sam Megee came from Golden, just west of here. We hope to go up the Caribou trail this summer, it is very interesting country and

then we could see Pete's other uncle as well, he is holding down a gold claim.

Erling Strom came to see us yesterday, he goes back to Assinaboine to*day, he told us all about his winter at Mt Tremblant in the Laurentians, Ebbs might be interested to hear that Mr Johansen is visiting him out here.

I wish you were having some of our lovely weather, it is like summer. The bluebirds have been here over two weeks now. There are so many things I must do that this is all for now, My air-mail letter had to be mailed in a rush Saturday and we hope you get it quickly,

We are so glad that Russ is really getting better and can go out a bit, you ought to have nice weather soon. Don't worry, you never write too often to suit us, and your letters are always good, they never sound one bit stupid.

Heaps of love

Catherine

2 Studios came -

Tuesday, morning.

Your wire arrived yesterday afternoon, and thank you ever so much for being so prompt ! That was a quick way to ask a question and get a reply. I am glad you feel as you do, for though it would be awfully nice to see you all, still taking every thing into consideration it will be far better for us to go east a little later on, This has been such an uncertain year for planning ahead, you would laugh to see how we have been living, with the idea that any day we might leave and not wanting the house full of things that might freeze, we have been buying food as we eat it and sometimes we are so carefull and have callers without a chance to go to the store in between. and once or twice we have almost been left without much for supper. Just as we have things figured out something has come up to prevent our leaving, or someone to see. We think now that we will take the car, which is always the easiest way for us, and go away for ten days or two weeks, just a little trip to see a bit of country west of here, If we stay in Banff it is the season that people drop in when they see you raking or the doors open and we will get little done, when we get back the ground will be all right to start digging for a foundation, and we hope to get the addition started and finished so we will have lots of time to paint this summer, for after all that is what we want to do most of all.

I must get lunch but just wanted to write a bit to let you know we heard from you.

Loads of love

Catherine .

Banff, Alberta.

19 th. of April.

Dearest Mother.

I must write you because of the day, I hope Jean has remembered the Flag. and Gale and Robin have balloons, and that the band is playing. It is a perfect day here, not a cloud, I am sure we have more nice weather than most places.

Yesterday we drove up to Lake Louise to see Sam Ward, who is to build our addition, he isn't sure when he will be finished up there but not for two weeks, so we are going in the car for a little trip to-morrow. How far we are not sure maybe to Victoria, we hope to be in Lethbridge to-morrow night and I will mail this on one of the planes, they carry mail and passengers. It takes four hours to the coast and thirteen and a half to Montreal.

It is so nice out I think I must go and rake —→

The wind blew my leaves around so I did the lawn (?) and now Donny aged 8 is here and we have given him a corner to do. He is earning money for a bicycle, rather slow work but he and Clifford are going to pool their money, Donny also says he wants to be a farmer. We had three of them raking Sunday and Donny came to " finish the job"

last night. I expect Gale will be helping you soon, When they first start they are almost more trouble than help.

There are lots of nice letters of yours to answer, also the two Studios came and isn't it nice having so many colored pictures now ? Jean writes that you complain of stiff knees, but adds that you go around like a young girl, so you don't seem very successful yet at looking your age! I am afraid I never could keep up to you at a World's Fair.

The letter you wrote as a girl was very interesting and I am glad to have it. It gave a very good idea of what girls did in those days, The Tennis Party sounded lots of fun and all the lanterns.

I don't know what to say about renewing the journal, but I imagine it is easier to get it than to have you always thinking of cutting things out. We enjoy all the clippings you send, especially Dahls.

I suppose I ought to go and see Cousin Harriet next time east, think how we all treated Aunt Sarah when she wasn't much older than Cousin Harriet is now, I believe old people do much more now a days than they used to.

(over)

With luck we will start to-morrow.
Our car registration hasn't come yet.
The Government is very slow & though we
were among the first to get our plates
this year, they haven't gotten round
yet to mail the paper. We even wrote
specially for it & still it doesn't come.
I think will wire if it isn't here to-
morrow. It's just as well we were
here to-day for the man who is to put
in the heating came up with his
estimate, & has been measuring
all afternoon.

Will mail this if I have a
chance.

Heaps of love
Catherine.





PLAZA HOTEL

KAMLOOPS, B.C.

Tuesday
April 25, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

We finally got off Saturday morning. It was lucky we waited for the furnace man came up to Banff on Friday and we had a chance to plan our heating, if and when we put it in. We also had a call from General Parit and Mrs Mac. He is out west making arrangements for the King and Queen, as he is head of the Canadian Pacific Railroad Police force. He will be on their private train coming out. We said we didn't suppose

we would see him when he is here next, and he answered that he was more fortunate than the King or Queen for he could come to our house and they couldn't!

We got ready to leave rather leisurely, even stopping on our way to see the Modes for a minute. They are just back from England via the Panama on a freighter.

Saturday we lunched in Calgary & spent the night in Lethbridge. It was rather a tiresome drive as a strong wind blew constantly, and great clouds of dust every little while. We were eating it and everything was gritty. A bath ~~was~~ felt very good that night. The hotel in Lethbridge is very comfortable.



PLAZA HOTEL

KAMLOOPS, B.C.

We decided that we knew so little about British Columbia that we would drive through parts we had never seen before, and it has been most interesting and great fun. I'll send you a letter & map which shows where we have been. The roads are not too good so it's rather rough going at times.

I would have written you before but except for the first night there wasn't much use for the connections were poor.

We expect to be gone about two weeks, and the mail we will have forwarded ^{from Banff} soon.

I hope Russ is fine & all is well. Loads of love - Catherine.



HOTEL GEORGIA
VANCOUVER, B. C.

TELEPHONE-SEYMOUR 5742

Thursday -
April 27, 1939

Dearest Mother,

We arrived last evening in time to have a late supper, and may leave for Victoria this afternoon or to-morrow morning. There are one or two things we must do.

It was really quite a trip we made and some of the roads were very dusty, so we looked rather travel worn when we reached here, our bags were white with dust and I guess we were more black with it. The joke was that they gave us the biggest and best room we've ever had, on the corner over looking the harbor, and we are rather amused. People get the idea you should dress up to make a good impression and

get good service. but it seemed to have the opposite effect last night. Maybe they thought we were raiders or gold miners or something.

The trip so far has been lots of fun. I will trace it out for you on a road map, as other wise you wouldn't believe we could go up & down the country so much.

Had the roads west of Banff been plowed out on the passes we could have saved a day's travelling. we hope they will be open when we go back. We had to come through the Crows Nest Pass which is kept open all winter to Cranbrook. It means the long drive down through Calgary to McLeod then to Pincher Creek which is lovely ranching country in the foothills - We went out of our way to spend the night at a good hotel in Lethbridge and also hoped to see the Trans Canada Airways plane go through. Lethbridge is where the planes from North to South, East and



HOTEL GEORGIA
VANCOUVER, B. C.

TELEPHONE - SEYMOUR 5742

west coast, but it would have meant staying up until ten-thirty or eleven and we decided to see the planes here instead.

Sunday we went as far as Creston, a great fruit growing district, and the trees all starting to blossom. The next day was the loveliest for we drove along Kootenay Lake, and it was so like Norway we could hardly believe it. Even to the time of year. The Lake is a large one & with high snow capped mountains on either side it looked like a typical Norwegian Fjord. even to the little farms. only there were more trees and the water was a lovely color. We went on the funniest old Ferry, across the lake, it had a stern paddle

wheel & looked so high, about three or four decks. Just as old fashioned as could be. They have been in use for years. We were nearly sea sick for the wind had blown up quite a chop. but it was great fun. The scenery was lovely all the way to Nelson, and such comfortable looking little houses along the lake shore. The type you find out here ^{at the coast} probably people living on a tiny income.

✓ The day before my hat, (which was really quite a beauty & just right for what I wanted) blew out of the car. When we don't know, but it must have been sort of sucked out from behind Peter's ear. or my ear. Anyway we missed it in Cranbrook! It was my one & only hat too. There was some question of whether we might have to go to Spokane or not. So Nelson being a town of considerable importance



HOTEL GEORGIA

VANCOUVER, B. C.

TELEPHONE - SEYMOUR 5742

We asked the Phillip Station man about a hat store. He directed us to a very nice dress shop, almost too fashionable. The lady insisted on trying up on the most awful looking hats, even a magenta one, all of which were too small & sat on top of my head. Way on top. Finally as a last resort she tried on the only 23 size in the store, which was the kind I wanted and black & she said of course it was one of the best felts and more expensive for that reason. Was wonderful in the rain etc. \$3.50 & I walked out with it in a paper bag. Quite delighted.

We drove to Grand Forks that night, & Kainloops the next, but

I will tell you more about it, also
will send the map in my next
letter. as we are going out to the
air port in a few minutes. -

Heaps of love

Catharine

SUSSEX APARTMENT HOTEL
1001 DOUGLAS STREET
VICTORIA, B. C.

Monday.
May 1, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

Such a lot of mail from you today. four letters and one from Jean. All about the 19th of April weekend. We certainly have had better weather than you this spring. We read in the paper that in Calgary it was 86° the other day, and warm all over Alberta. Its lovely here, about like the 30th of May in a late year in Concord. The Apple trees at their best. The lilacs out and all the flowering bushes at their best. The rock gardens are so pretty. Some time we will have to get you here in the

spring & will drive you up & down the streets. For all the houses seem to have some garden, and many along the side walks. The English are such gardeners. & yesterday being Sunday we noticed ever so many people working in their yards! The yellow *ellium* is so pretty & there is also a lot of that bright purple flower. Peter's Aunt has roses blooming already on a vine over the door. They were also blooming last November. It's the kind of rambler that has roses that look like those on bushes.

We are so glad that Russ is really himself again. Though I suppose it takes some time to get ones strength back. The trip to Florida should be just

SUSSEX APARTMENT HOTEL
1001 DOUGLAS STREET
VICTORIA, B. C.

the trip. There is nothing like
sunshine.

The map I'm going to send
you is so big I'll have to get
a special envelope. If you
keep it on hand you can tell
where we go. I've marked the
trip we made coming out. It
was most interesting and such
a lovely time of year. For the
hills that usually are burnt
dry were a delicate green
and the peach orchards and
cherry were a mass of bloom.
There are many irrigated
orchards in the Okanagan
though the land otherwise would
be very dry. Around the
Kootenay Lake district it is

similar to the Revelstoke district,
lots of rain & luxuriant growth.
but further west until one reaches
the Fraser Valley it is dry, & and
the trees are large pines. Only
on the hill tops do they get much
rain.

Nelson was a lovely district
and especially along the river.
Near Nelson is where the Doukaboors
live, they are a Russian Religious
group and are always causing
trouble. They live in communal
farms, and all the farms look
exactly alike. Two big cement
houses, square & homely, and
a few farm buildings which
do vary. The fruit orchards
are neat enough, but the farms
are far from attractive. They
are always burning churches
or schools, refusing to have
their children taught by Canadian

SUSSEX APARTMENT HOTEL
1001 DOUGLAS STREET
VICTORIA, B. C.

teachers etc. and then they demonstrate in the form of nudist parades. When we saw the great fat women, we couldn't help wondering if they took part in the parades or not!! As we drove through the section they live in, I noticed a school half gone. I pointed it out to Pete & we wondered if it had been bombed last year. It looked like a bomb. When we got to Kamloops a day later we read about it in the paper. It had been bombed the night before we drove by. & also there were two fires started in Grand Forks. where we had spent the night. It just shows when you are in the place where things happen you seldom know

anything about it -^u

We also drove by trail, a tremendous smelter, the largest in the world I think, also the place where Elephant Brand Fertilizer is made. Smelting towns usually have a dirty look like a blackness over every thing, but around Trail there were many trees planted along the road, as if some effort were being made to make things grow. We decided it must be the Fertilizer people, for the plant seemed a new & flourishing development. Most interesting of all was were the new houses. All colors, but rather effective. No doubt built by the company for they were similar but several different designs. Dark colors, green brown & red, looking like a toy village, but rather interesting.

SUSSEX APARTMENT HOTEL
1001 DOUGLAS STREET
VICTORIA, B. C.

We went on to Rossland up in the mountains. Found the road over 2 mountain passes to Cascade was open but 3 feet of snow on the summit & very bad going. We were advised by all to go down around through the states, which we did. The roads was excellent that way & the only inconvenience were all the customs & immigration to go through. It was our shortest visit to the states 2 1/2 hours. We spent the night in a very home like hotel, clean & served good food, at Grand Forks.

Next day we drove to Kamloops. through old mining towns, some coming to life again. for several places we saw them mining hydraulically for gold in the streams

8.
It takes a long time to get west
on little winding roads. But is
far more interesting than the main
highways across the desert near
Spokane -

We drove over high sort of
plateaus which must catch more
rain than the valleys. For the range
land was green and the trees spruce
instead of all pine. Its funny but
it reminded us so of parts of the
Black Forest. We finally landed
at Orofino, which was very busy.
New houses & buildings going up.
New gardens being made. It
seems a big cold storage plant
is to be built there & that means
everything to the fruit growers.
We have noticed all the way
many new little places being
built & land cleared. We
imagine lots of the people are
from the drought areas.

SUSSEX APARTMENT HOTEL
1001 DOUGLAS STREET
VICTORIA, B. C.

trying to make a new start. It's very interesting driving as we did and you can't help but try and surmise about the places. One valley in particular where there were wonderful big ranches and quite large houses, which seemed to have been built about 1912 will say. and one or two almost abandoned. Then we noticed a stone monument and looking at it, we found it was the war memorial, 8 or 10 dead in a small community like that means a great loss, and no doubt had it not been for the war the country would have prospered. one place had irrigation ditches etc, which were all fallen to pieces. no doubt the war had taken the men & the place was abandoned. It is discouraging though to see

even tiny farms being built. and to us it seemed far better farming for a livelihood than the praries. On the praries all their eggs are in one basket so to speak. but these other little places at least they have wood to keep them warm & food to eat. fruit as well.

The towns in the Okanagan valley are quite up and coming places, and we got to Kamloops that night. The next day driving to Vancouver by eight in the evening. down the Fraser Canyon as the train goes.

We were in Vancouver just a day. read in the paper that the Websters were over at Victoria so didn't try to get in touch with Frances. she wouldn't want to be bothered with us when her parents are there anyway.

SUSSEX APARTMENT HOTEL
1001 DOUGLAS STREET
VICTORIA, B. C.

We took the Nanaimo Ferry &
drove down the island to Victoria,
and now after we finish at the
dentist having our teeth cleaned
we will head back probably
tomorrow - if the weather is nice
we may go up the Cariboo a
little way.

I must get this in the mail.
but will try not to be so lazy
about writing. Guess its the
sea air -

Heaps of love
Catharine.

SUSSEX APARTMENT HOTEL
1001 DOUGLAS STREET
VICTORIA, B. C.

Tuesday -
May 2, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

We are heading back tonight, taking the midnight boat to Vancouver, and probably only staying there a few hours. We may possibly go up the Cariboo towards Prince George. If the road is good we may go further.

Yesterday just by coincidence I ran into Hans Faulkner on the street. He is the Austrian Ski teacher who first came out to Mt. Temple. He and Herman are out here on a trip. They were as surprised as we were. We

all had supper together. No
just Hans & us, for Bernay
was busy, and then spent
the evening with Bobbie
Hunter. To-day Pete has
been driving them around
most all day. They think
Victoria is so English & so
lovely. It is a nice time of
year to see it & the weather
is fine. Tonight we are
all having a Chinese Supper
together.

So I write you again
it may take some time to
reach you. So don't be
surprised if you don't
hear for quite a while. I'll
send this tomorrow from
Vancouver.

SUSSEX APARTMENT HOTEL
1001 DOUGLAS STREET
VICTORIA, B. C.

Wed. May 31 1959.

We came over from Victoria on the night boat. Have one or two things to do and then will go as far as we can to-night. We are going up the Cariboo to see if the country is very paintable for if it is, we plan to go there for a few weeks this summer & while it is so near, it is better to take a few extra days to see it. We hope to be back in Sauff in at least 10 days. maybe in a weeks time.

I called up Frances but she is not home now.

Heaps of love
Catherine -



Prince George Hotel

OPERATED BY THE
Prince George Hotel Co., Ltd.

PRINCE GEORGE
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Friday, May 5, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

Just a scribble to let you know where we are now. So far we have made good runs. Left Vancouver at noon Wednesday spending that evening at a "Spa". Hot Sulphur & Potash waters. Tell Jean we dutifully tasted them. It was at Harrison Hot Springs, a lovely place and beautiful surroundings.

Thursday we spent some time waiting for the ferry across the Fraser, so it was 10 when we got over. Had lunch near Lytton at Cisco, and it took us all afternoon to reach Clinton, via Lilloet. It had rained and in some places the roads were slippery, also unfamiliar & very twisty, but it was interesting country. The Clinton Hotel was a really old one, built in 1861 when the country was first opened up, but I hope to have more time another evening to write about it. Today we made a long day of it and I'm too sleepy to write more news. It is raining and if the roads are bad we will go back south otherwise we hope to see Pete's Mules - at Tulkuwa & Hazelton. We hope to be home by the end of next week, the 12th or 13th - loads of love
Catherine

ROOMS WITH BATH

REASONABLE RATES

REGENT HOTEL

(NEW AND MODERN)

REVELSTOKE, B. C.

Monday May 8 1939

Dearest Mother,

With luck I may get a short letter written to you. I had one to send from Prince George via mail, but found that went only once a week, and had left the day before, and the trains go only twice a week from there, and ~~it~~ we figured it would be quicker to carry it ourselves. I'll enclose it if I still have it.

We are almost home, the car is being shipped by rail to Golden, and we spend the night here in Revelstoke

-take the 8.50 train in the morning and hope to find the car already for us. We should be in Bauff to morrow night.

Our trip up the Cariboo was most interesting. At one time we hoped to go to see Peter's uncle, but there was a night of rain at Prince George & with the frost just out of the ground we were a bit fearful of the roads - especially when told the one bad spot was where they were working on "Mud Hill". It was over 300 miles further and on poor roads would mean more than a day's trip. So we decided to go back there at a later date, when we have more time.

ROOMS WITH BATH

REASONABLE RATES

REGENT HOTEL

(NEW AND MODERN)

REVELSTOKE, B. C.

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It took us a day from Barrison
 Hot Springs to Clinton, via
 Selkirk. You can find it on the
 map I sent. Maybe you know
 the history of the Cariboo Gold
 rush. It is all rather recent
 in a way. About the time you
 were born. At first they used
 boats up the Fraser River to
 Yale and then from there pack
 trains freighted everything in,
 until in 1862 or some where
 along there, the Royal Engineers
 carved a road out of the side
 of the Fraser Canyon, and
 then stages were used and
 tremendous freight teams with

16 or more horses or mules. It took a month at least for one freighter to make the trip - but the stage was faster as they changed horses every ten odd miles, and the horses ran all the way. It must have been pretty exciting and how they got around the curves is a mystery to me. In some places the road even now is built out on a sort of wooden shelf over the canyon. This was the only means of reaching the Cariboo until the P. O. & R. Railway was built ^{first} before the war. All along the road which follows the old Cariboo trail are the old stopping places. Some are quite large for those days, and others just

ROOMS WITH BATH

REASONABLE RATES

REGENT HOTEL

(NEW AND MODERN)

REVELSTOKE, B. C.

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places for champing horses, but all are built of logs, even the huge barns, and they have so much character. Even the windows have small panes, and though some places have disappeared many still remain, and they still go by the mileage from Revelstoke, for a name.

Of course few are stopping places now, they are used as ranch houses. In fact most of the wonderful ranches have log buildings, and another rather interesting thing we noticed was that the road always goes through the ranch buildings.

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invariably the house is on one side of the road, the barns on the other, just as it is in New England, I suppose. It came from the stages driveway to the front door & so the road went that way -

Barberville was their destination, and on the map you will see how far it is, beyond Aversnel. There were 55,000 people there at one time now there are 200, but they are still mining gold at Wells. and even along the river we noticed men panning gold.

The land between Clinton and Aversnel is nearly all ranching country - rather high 3000 feet or more above sea level & so catches more rain

ROOMS WITH BATH

REASONABLE RATES

REGENT HOTEL

(NEW AND MODERN)

REVELSTOKE, B. C.

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than the low valleys do. Just now the hills are a delicate green and everything looked too lovely. The trees are large pines & spruces on the hills. Many lakes about and almost ideal. Ebbes would go crazy about it.

We drive from Clinton to Prince George in one day. were rather disappointed in Prince George as the country is so open & the place itself had evidently started very optimistically with 8 hotels and nothing had happened and it doesn't seem to have any real

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character as some of the other places have. Any way we were glad to return to Clinton which has such a cozy little inn.

We had a most amusing evening. An English man was there, having just arrived from the old country. He used to ranch in the Delcote District, nearby and then the war came and he went overseas. He had never been back since. 25 years it was. and he now has six months leave and has brought his son, who is about 16, over for the summer. He used to be partners with the husband of the lady who runs the inn. He was such good fun and told us some wonderful stories, and of course how things had

REGENT HOTEL

(NEW AND MODERN)

REVELSTOKE, B. C.

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changed, especially Vancouver. He couldn't find his way around at all there.

He was much amused because, Mr Hawley (?) his old partner, was so fond of his ranch, that when spring came he couldn't wait to get back to it, leaving Mrs Hawley and his two young daughters to run the hotel. The Ranch is near 150 mile house, and they can't reach him by telephone or mail, but he loves it!

He also told us about riding down on the stage from 70 mile house when he first came out, in 1909 I think it was. He was

just a young lad. had been working
 all summer, & was going down to
 Balcroft. I guess, had only his
 summer working clothes and as it
 was zero and all the ladies had
 to have the inside seats on the stage,
 he had to join the men on top.
 Some were done up in fur coats &
 sheep skin and fortified themselves
 with whiskey, but though they offered
 him some he knew it didn't keep
 one warm. An old fellow offered
 him some cod liver oil, said it
 was the best thing to keep one warm,
 and they ^{took a little} ~~sipped~~ it now and then,
 and he said he never felt cold
 all the way. though the men with
 the whiskey nearly froze, fur
 coats and all.

I shan't be able to write more
 now. The light is poor. I've run
 out of paper, and ~~off~~ I'm going
 to take a bath. Not every day
 can one bathe in a bright green

ROOMS WITH BATH

REASONABLE RATES

REGENT HOTEL

(NEW AND MODERN)

REVELSTOKE, B. C.

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both top, surrounded with other
green fixtures and bright
pink walls!

There will be lots of mail
in Banff to-morrow I expect
and it will be good to have
it. We haven't been able to
have it forwarded not knowing
where we would be.

Heaps of love & will write
again first chance I have
after we get home.

More love
Catherine.

Banff, Alberta.

Sun, May 14. 1939

Dearest Mother,

I am glad that Russ and Kitty had a nice trip south even if it was mostly business, the five days at Sea Island must have been fun. How was the wild duck ! Did it have a sooty flavor, I never heard of such a thing before. How do you suppose it ever got down the chimney?

X We are still rather unsettled as yet, there doesn't seem to be much use cleaning as the men are coming Wednesday to sand and finish the floors, We could have had them in the spring but with no furnace and a cold spell the stuff they put on might not have dried as well, now we are planning how to move the furniture etc. It will take them four days and we will sleep in a tent and bum meals from the relations. Then it will take us another week to clean the house well and that should last all summer, We also have the electrician coming evenings the following week to put in the wires for the new stove which is already here, it is going to be the greatest help for cooking. Then we have the furnace man coming to put in the heating arrangement for the summer, later it can be hooked up with the big X furnace when the addition is built, This summer arrangement is quite clever, a stove in the kitchen for wood or coal, over it an air duct that will have four openings all of which can be open or closed, one into the kitchen, one in the bedroom, another into the bathroom, and the fourth into the big room over the stair landing just enough to take the chill off the big room. Also there is a big opening over the stove to send heat into the kitchen, One fire will do it all, except the dark room and that has a little stove already. The furnace man is also going to make a hood over the stove to carry off odors with a ventilator on the roof, to blow in the wind, and suck the bad air out. then we have a hot water heater to go in too, electric and a thermostat

This is all we are planning to do this spring, Sam is still working up at Lake Louise and we figure it would take most of the summer to finish the addition and we want to be free to Paint and to get out of Banff and into the mountains. In the Fall if we want to we can add on then. One thing it is all planned and thought out so it won't take long to do.

I started this in order to answer your letters and have just talked about us all the time. We were quite interested in the two couples changeing husbands, are they to go on living in Concord, and how confusing it will be to know which is which, Is it Mrs Ben Wilson? I think I know Who she is.

A while ago in Calgary Ethel Barrymore was in "Whiteoaks" and several notices appeared in the paper that no one would be seated after the curtain went up, rather a good idea even for a play.

I am always sorry to hear of your old friends dying, but I suppose it is just the way things go and think of how glad we are to hear of the new babies arriving. Will Edith Eaton live on in the house?

The reason we went west by the way of Calgary was because the roads across the Rockies via Windermere ~~and~~ or Golden are closed all winter and aren't plowed out until May, The Golden one is just opened and the Windermere will be through this week. It makes a long way round.

I didn't realize Mr Finnegan was the one who used to be in the Market, He was the Jolly fat one or which one? It must have been a horrible accident, but Why in papers out here I don't know.

It was too bad you couldn't have the D'oly Carte singer for tea, Shingles must be so painful to act with.

I read Uncle Billy's speech in the paper, it sounded as if it were a fine one, I would have liked to have heard it, for I am sure he would give it well, It was far ~~so~~ better than the Governors and his was good too. It is too bad you didn't hear it, and that it rained.

Have you seen " Pygmalian " in the Movies ? Bernard's Shaws play with Leslie Howard and a very good cast. An English Picture but so well done and funny, I am sure you would like it.

What fun the children must be to have around, and Gale must say such amusing things by the ones you have told us. Jean wrote that Robin spent most his time running up and down stairs.

Speaking of Dog Wood, there was a lot of it growing wild in British Columbia, and it was lovely while we were there. the dark spruce and cedar made it show up so well. You would do well near Clinton in the Cariboo country for they told us that in some places they can just shovel up the Epsom Salts by the carload, but added " a carload goes a long way " I might suggest that they bathe their feet in it, and make more of a demand for it.

Monday-- I didn't realize yesterday that it was Mothers day. I guess I think of you a lot every day of the year, and not just once.

We moved the stuff out of the front room ^{this morning} and put things on shelves where we could so they will have one room to start in on. There is a lot to do so I will call this a letter.

Loads of Love to you all and a lot more to you

Catherine

P R I V A T E



PLAZA HOTEL

KAMLOOPS, B.C.

PRIVATE _

Thursday

Dearest Mother,

My pen is upstairs so I will use this instead. We certainly were surprised to get your letter about Uncle Marshall, and I think that you and Aunt Julie did just the right thing, and that it was awfully good of you to write as you did, It took some courage. The funny part is that I have felt as you do all along, I know you mentioned it in one or two letters, how wonderful it would be if Uncle Marshall would Marry Miss Hansen, and he wrote me in a letter some time ago how nice it was to have her there, so when I wrote him about six weeks ago, I said it would be so nice if Miss Hansen could be with him all the time, for she was such good company and



PLAZA HOTEL

KAMLOOPS, B.C.

could also take such good care of him, and understood all he had been through, etc. I sort of hinted as strongly as I dared. The funny part is that it must have reached ~~h~~ him about the same time as yours and Aunt Julies did, and maybe it was just as well, and I am so glad it is turning out as it is. Miss Hansen must be awfully nice and she is really the only person who can be a real comfort to Uncle Marshall.

Do you think that Uncle Marshall feels that the Gorham People may not realize that Aunt Nela's family are in favor of his marrying Miss Hansen ? I was wondering if maybe they were married at your house very very quietly, you know just get the minister up and Aunt Julie and Uncle John, and then a little notice could be put in the Portland and Gorham Papers, That " Mr M.M. Phinney



~~PLAZA HOTEL~~

~~KAMLOOPS, B.C.~~

and Miss -- Hansen were quietly Married to*day in Concord, at the home of Mrs Russell Robb Sr, etc. and were shortly returning to Gorham " or words to that effect, also it could be sent to the Boston Papers and it would show that you all approved, if you know what I mean. Or if Miss Hansen wants to be married at her home, for I guess she has a family, then you could maybe invite them to visit you for a few days, and that could be mentioned in the newspapers, "

A letter just came enclosing the one from Uncle Marshall so I guess by that you suggested just what I did above. I imagine Concord would have too many associations. but maybe they could visit you for a day or two. We might all write Uncle Marshall on postcards how glad we are, then I bet



PLAZA HOTEL

KAMLOOPS, B.C.

the Gorham people would know how we felt !

We didn't realize that Russ and Kitty had gone away already for their trip, it must have been a nice change and the weather in Concord may be nice now for a change, it is lovely here warm and sunny but cold at night, enough to freeze the water in the hose.

It is always fun to get the things you enclose in your letters, I must write Uncle Marshall or he will be married before he hears from me.

Heaps of Love always

Catherine

Banff, Alberta.

Thurs, May, 18, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

Such excitement! Our floors are being sanded and I guess you know what that means. The man who is doing it is from Calgary, he did Jackies house and the store so well we decided to have him do ours, they were to come Wednesday and so Monday we started to clear the big room thinking they would start there and in the meantime we would take the things out of the bedroom and Kitchen, We had the tent up outside in case we had to slæep out. The Machine takes extra power so we had the got'T men stringing the new wire and they couldn't do it until Wed. morming, That was yesterday, it was quite a day. We were up at seven to hear the arrival of the King and Queen, I hope you heard it for it was lots of fun, Luckily the sanding men didn't arrive until about ten, they drove up with a small trailer, five all to*gether I think, in less than five minuted they had taken out enough stuff to fill several trailers and carried the big machine upstairs and one man was already started before we had come too, They work like that , not a minute wasted. I had time to grab a tooth brush and one or two things, and Pete got the bedding out of the way and the bed etc. Then the other men disappeared as they are doing

jobs all over Banff, The Gov't men were still work-
on the wires and luckily the machine was a new one and
worked on both curenents, but more effieiently on the
new line being put in, We were afraid the noise might
effect every one's radio and so we stopped long
enough to listen to the KIngs speech, the man sanding
listened too, It was his lunch time before he was
under way again, the head man taking him up to the
hotel and back down again within half an hour, they
waste no time even to eat, such a ndise too, but
very little dust with this new machine, I was glad
when the other two men came and did the places *where*
which couldn't be reached with the big one, for thier
little sander made some dust,so it was worth while
waiting to spring until they are finished. They
came in the afternoon after the first man had finish-
ed the upstairs, The head man going back and forth
all day checking up on all of them and even doing
overalls too and doing the stairs, Pete ran around
helping to pound~~ing~~ nails in the floor and moving
things Etc. I stayed out of the way as much as I
could, doing some weeding in the garden and getting
meals as rapidly as possible, The machine made such
an " infernal racket " as Grandpa would say. that
there was no temptation to stay in the house, they
worked until ten-thirty last night, The Sander man
finishing the big room last night and the other two
putting the filler coat on upstairs in the bedroom

bath and hallway on the balcony.

We slept in the tent very comfortably and were up before seven but hardly finished breakfast before the sander man was at work, seven fifteen he started, He finished the kitchen before lunch and also two doors and a table, the moter had hardly stopped a few minutes ago when I saw them load it into the car and they are off to another job, the two men doing the finishing are working now and may be through this evening, them there is another two coats to go on so I guess we will be in the tent for two nights more.

This is a queer kind of letter but it is hard to write with sò much going on,

I will try to do better next time,

Heaps of love

Catharine.

Banff, Alberta

Monday, May 22. 1939.

Dearest Mother,

Well the floors are finished and we will sleep in the house tonight, They came out rather well and should be much easier to keep clean. Now we have everything to put back and to clean, the dust from the sander made very little mess, I vacuum cleaned the bedroom and bath this afternoon and will try to get the downstairs done to-morrow
X Mildred is coming to help me dust books, like every one else we want to have things ready for the King and Queen, even if they will never know. There will be some excitement in Banff, no one has much idea how many outsiders will come, 100~~0~~ Mounties will
X be here. I wonder how much of it you have listened too, we havent had much chance with the men here, but I am sending Jean the clippings for Mrs Brown to read her, our Papers are full of details, Could you send us some of the clippings out of the Herald as we are interested to see how it is written up in the American Papers ? Especially the part about Banff. It must be rather thrilling to have such enthusiastic crowds everywhere, Will you ask Jean to keep the clippings for us. You may enjoy them too.

We got your letter and also one from Uncle Marshall telling that he is married, I am so glad.

that people have written to him how pleased they are, in his letter he said how "good " you had been three different times, and it wasn't a very long letter either, I really hope he has a happy time and Miss Hansen doesn't sound like the kind who will keep fussing and worrying about him, She will know what to do to make him feel well too.

We are not sure what we will be doing, Sam Ward is still at Lake Louise and so we won't be building an addition this spring, the furnace man is coming next Monday to install our heating in the kitchen, then there is the wiring for the stove too. After that we hope to paint, Pete has several ones to do for people and also some Kodachrome to take.

I may not write for a few days, as we are apt to be busy, Some friends of Pete's arrived on Thursday or Friday, I forget which, Pete went with them to help find places for Photographs Mr Jackson wanted to take, he is an artist in Vancouver and also has an engraving plant there, We spent an evening to-gether and went to Carl Rungius with them, and yesterday drove them to Field to catch their train, they were awfully nice and we seemed to have so much in common with painting, Leica photography and so many things, Mrs Jackson is Welch and her husband rather English, but both western Canadians. there was also a Mrs Laney with them, she and Nanny (Jackson) used to come here and play hockey at

the winter Carnivals, Pete was younger and a little boy who helped carry their hockey sticks, she didn't forget evidently, he saw her last in Vancouver before we were married. It was fun being with them and they were so lucky in weather, It rained hard the day they arrived and looked like the kind of storm that would last a week, however the west wind blew and it cleared while they were here and then to-day started to blow from the east again. it is 50' and cold and looks like snow for the King and Queen.

We are so glad that Russ feels alright again, and hope he isn't troubled any more with kidneys. What an awful time Edith has had, I am glad she is better, but what a queer thing to have happen.

I must stop. Loads of love to you all and I will save up for a good letter about the King and Queen ,

More love

Catherine -

Monday, May 29. 1939

✓ We are having the heating put in to-day so there is a bit of confusion. but I must tell you about the Royal visit. We spent most of last week getting the house in shape with the vacuum cleaner, by Friday it was fairly presentable, it rained hard Thursday and of course everyone was wondering if it would clear, George Noble was running back and forth looking at his barometer, and no one seemed to be able to settle down to anything, decorations were going up and last minute preparations, The school children rehearsed every afternoon, marching behind the boys bugle band to their place on the bleachers near the station. Major Jennings who is the Superintendent of the Park went down to coach them how to cheer, (he isn't very popular with some of the town people who think he should give them jobs or who don't agree with regulations he tries to enforce.) He had the children cheering the odd car that would drive up the station road and they really made quite a roar, Then to be sure they understood, and for one last rehearsal he got in his car and drove by himself, there was a long and lusty " Boo " from the older boys, and that rather upset the lesson. We also heard that when the little children were told to give " three ~~long~~ cheers and a tiger" they all started growling at the end of the cheers going " grrrr-" As a matter of fact I never knew a "tiger " meant a long cheer.

Every one in Banff seemed excited, sort of a suppressed excitement, we all expected thousands of people to descend on the town, and lots of cars did come in from British Columbia and other places, Detectives appeared on the streets, they might have been inconspicuous in a city but here they were very obvious, The Banff Springs Hotel was well guarded by Mounties, we went up to see Dennis Mighall who is now in Edmonton, he was head of the guard at the Hotel and so busy we only had a minute's chat. He was wearing the medal the

the King pinned on him when he went to the coronation, the Mounties had given an exhibition for the Princess at Buckingham Palace, He said the Queen was really charming and had fed his horse sugar, ~~and~~ which the horse wouldn't eat, but the Queen had spoken to him. He also said that the visit was "going over big in Canada" but that the Queen was "stealing the show!" Jim Eaton who used to be here in Banff and took Pete out shooting several times, (target Practice) is now with Dennis and their team just won the target shooting contest for all of Canada, Jim being the best shot. They also have been chosen to guard the Royal Train when it spends the night on a siding out of Edmonton, maybe because they are good shots.

I have never seen so many Mounties before as there were in Banff on Friday, they even came in bus fulls after the parade in Calgary, and their scarlet coats added to the color, There is a group of them on the Royal Train which guard it day and night, and will be on board for the whole trip.

We listened to the broadcast from Calgary in the afternoon, maybe you and Jean heard it too, then we were so afraid that we wouldn't get a good place to see the King and Queen that we went over town. There didn't seem awfully many people but we thought they were all having early suppers. I even had a box spotted in the store which I could stand on in front of the door, Pete was going to be on the roof with George Noble to be sure his view was unobstructed for pictures, Pete's father and Mother were up in a window with Cliff's family, and I wondered whether to be there or not, the little boys could hardly wait to get down to the school, Little Cliff was to be with the cubs and scouts on the Bridge and Donny with his class at the station, they were all shined up, one time no child seemed to object to a bath. Even little Peter aged six wouldn't wear his sneakers which were dirty, but had to have a pair of his brothers

black shoes several sizes too big, he wanted to look right for the King and Queen even if he was going to be in the window on the second floor. The children were almost sick from excitement and so were many of the old country people. The veterans were covered with their medals and lined up on the main street to hold the crowds back, one man George Sutherland had a shock while he was getting ready to be with the veterans, and is in the Hospital, it just mean't so much to him to see his King and Queen.

Pete went down to the school grounds to take pictures of the children who were to march to the bleachers at six, the King and Queen being due to arrive at 7.30. He seemed to be the only one there with a camera and the principal gave him the key to the school so he could take his photographs from the upstairs. There were some children from as far away as Trail B.C. about 400 miles,

The excitement was growing all the time, ~~the~~ I sat up in the window with Cliff and Mildred watching the people gathering but though the time of arrival was getting nearer there still weren't many people on the side walks. I went down to the street about seven and joined Pete who decided not to go on the roof after all as there was still room on the curb, we got a good place in front of the police barracks and could see up and down the street very well, by this time everything was quiet, the side streets had been shut off and only the occasional truck or bus connected with the hotel went by. At seven the pilot train arrived and the ladies and gentlemen of the press were driven in busses to the Banff Springs Hotel, then their luggage in a bus. Another bus full of Mounties from Calgary went by. Then it grew quiet again, the sun went behind the mountains for good, It was a fairly nice evening with a few clouds but no rain. People were hardly talking, just standing quietly, hardly moving. it was so hushed and yet you could feel the suppressed excitement, then we

heard the bell on the train and it was amazing the stir that went through the crowd, you could feel everyone sort of coming to attention, though we all knew that it would still be another fifteen minutes before they would drive by us, then there was the sound of cheering at the station, we could hardly wait, no one spoke above a whisper. There was a stir at the King Edward corner, they were coming, the two mounted police on motor cycles flanking the first car with Scotland yard in it, I think we were all in a daze, Pete never gets rattled taking pictures but took a shot at the first car and when he saw the queen in the finder he almost forgot to wind the thing or snap the picture. It was an open car, the Queen on our side smiling and making her gracious gesture with her ^{right} ~~right~~ hand, she had on a lovely pinkish hat, (a dusky pink that the announcer in Calgary got so excited about that he couldn't think how to describe and after stammering over ~~said~~ it, ~~she~~ said it was the ~~the~~ color of vanilla) and turned up off her face, that was all I saw except that she had powder on her neck, then I realized I hadn't seen the King and as they passed us he was sitting on the edge of the seat and was bare headed looking quite tanned and very young. Then the other cars went by all too rapidly, and the only person I seemed to see was Major and Mrs Jennings who had been presented at the station, and were driving up to the hotel with the royal party. I imagine it took one minute for the whole lot to drive by. It was all over and we just stood, it seemed like a dream it was all so unreal, Pete felt they had looked like wax, and though they were within ten feet of us ~~and~~ we hardly could take it all in. 7

Later there was quite a lot of excitement because they had gone by so fast, Pete was the only one who got pictures of them except George Noble who took Movées. The poor Veterans had planned some sort of salute and the King had been looking the other way and

so never saw them. We had all been told that they would drive by at 8 miles an hour, but the man driving the police in the first car had gotten rattled and gone faster as the people thinned out, and across the bridge they fairly sped up the road, I really think that we were so excited we couldn't take it in quick enough, It was like a meteor passing.

Next morning was perfect, the loveliest sort of day you ever saw, beautiful summer clouds, fresh air and a warm sun, We went up on the Tunnel Mountain drive to get a picture of the hotel with the Royal standard flying and also a look through the glasses, Just a chance we might see their Majesties, later we went up again to take color and found quite a lot of people, drove on around and saw a lot of cars belonging to the royal party parked beside the road, never thought much until later we heard that the King and Queen had been climbing Tunnel mountain, they drove through town when Pete went over to the store about eleven, and he came back for me. We stood with others at the end of the bridge till they drove back to the hotel for lunch and as they slowed down to round the corner we had a fine look at them, The King had a slouch hat on the Queen a yellowish felt. ~~She/He~~ Jim Brewster was driving them and General Panet was in the front seat. We heard later that they went right by our house, I am glad the flag was out.

That afternoon they went for a drive around the golf course in a democrat, Jim driving the horses, Quite a few saw them near the fish hatcheries, it was just as well we missed them for the Press had decided to take the afternoon off, and when they heard that amateurs were snapping the most novel of pictures, they made a great fuss and a carload of police were sent down to confiscate the cameras, which they did and we might have lost our films too, We haven't heard if the films were destroyed or not. Luckily we didn't want to hound them . I must stop now,

loads of love Catharine

Banff, Alberta.

Sat. June 3, 1939

Dearest Mother,

We were very much touched to-day when your letter arrived with the large check to help with our addition, in fact it will practically put it up, thank you ever and ever so much for thinking of it and it will be much nicer to think of it as coming from you, The addition I mean. But of course you will see it when next you come to Banff. We are rather uncertain when it will be built, there is so much we have to do this summer.

Before I am interrupted by callers. Your wire came yesterday afternoon, " Mrs Wayman arrive Banff June Nineteenth noon leaves that evening" (We are wondering if there is any mistake in the date ? You told us previously that she was "sailing June

Jamaica 0079.

15 thth, but perhaps you meant she was leaving Boston then, If she arrives in Banff on the ninth by any chance and there was a mistake in the wire, please wire us right away, otherwise we will look for her on the 19 th of June.

X We find that the summer train ~~schedule~~ schedule doesn't come into effect until June 24th, and it seems too bad for Mrs Wayman to take the night train at One something in the morning, which is a slow train and goes through the loveliest part of the Rockies in the dark. If she can't stay over a day until the noon train on the 20 th, it would be better for me to join her on her train at Calgary or Banff and go west until I have answered all her questions. Pete would drive to Lake Louise or Field and pick me up there. You ask her what

she prefers to do and then send the details to us, What Her Car Number is on the train if possible ? Is she going to come via Chicago or Montreal ? and does she sail from Vancouver or where ?

The book arrived the other day and was a joke on me, I opened it and the first glance was rather a surprise, I thought what a shame Mother didn't pick out a well printed copy, for you know some reproductions are all esque. Then I discovered the specks under the cover and read the instructions, what a fascinating book, the poor children haven't had much chance at it for their parents are so enthralled, It will be great fun to have and I am going to look at it all again very slowly and really enjoy it.

Just one more page, I ran into Mrs Hall at the store yesterday morning, and she was so nice and asked us up to tea yesterday afternoon, Pete was busy but I went and had a very pleasant time, Her friend Miss Forbes with her, and they had been for a walk first, Mrs Hall has aged so since last summer, and doesn't walk as briskly, but I believe in a week or two she will seem more like her old self because she is as young as ever in spirit, One example, we were speaking of Mt Assinaboine, and she said in her bright way, " That is one place I want to see " as if she were ready to go out there next week, It is only a two days trip on horse back, but I believe she would get there,

I must send this, It is raining a bit, but we don't need to worry the King and Queen had good weather here.

Heaps of Love

Catharine

P.S. June 7 - 2 packages have
arrived unopened - one
large one small -

Banff, Alberta
Canada.

Wed. June 7 1939

Dearest Mother,

A letter came from Mrs Wayman, also yours with hers enclosed, with all her plans in detail, so now there is no question, We will meet her Monday morning, June 19th, and if it is a lovely day we will show her all the mountains we can. It will give us a chance to tell her all she wants to know about traveling in Japan, and Pete can help in that way more than I can, the early morning train will be the best for her to ~~take~~ ^{leave on} under the circumstances, I have written her to-day confirming her letter, We will do all we can to help.

Yesterday we made a hurried trip to Calgary to do a few things, and now to-day it is still showery, we have had a lot of rain since Saturday which is good.

There are so many nice letters from you to answer, you might think that I wasn't as interested as I am when I don't comment on what you write about, but we are interested in all you write us and the things you enclose.

You sound awfully busy all the time and I don't know how you do so much when you have so many things to think of. You speak of stiff knees, did you ever try hot Mustard baths for stiffness, It says three tablespoons full to a bath, on our package of Keenes mustard, Mrs Ward says it is wonderful and used a lot in England. It is dry mustard.

I never mentioned Memorial day in my letters, I wish we might have been there with you. they don't celebrate it ^{here}.

We are getting things pretty well organized, the heating arrangement is in and does make it easy to heat the house with one fire. We had thought of going out for a few days painting but yesterday it started to rain in earnest and is still doing so, we are glad for it is the first real rain for ages.

You haven't mentioned Russell 's and Kitty's plans for the summer, except that they are getting the boat out, Jean said something about their taking a house at Manchester(?)

The Garden opening must have been a great success, and you did well to make so much money for whatever cause it was. The tulips must have been lovely, we will see them yet some year.

I don't suppose you have had time to read all the clippings about the King and Queen that I sent her, I hardly have time to cut them out, One has to be so careful not to cut into some bit on back, I have slipped several times, and try to cross out with red, things not pertaining to the Royal visit. There are lots of little bits that are amusing to read. She has only worn the same costume once so far, and the Kings uniforms are all packed in separate trunks including swords etc, (like opera scenery is packed) It must make it far easier on a train where there isn't much room, also it saves the clothes being crushed. perhaps the Queen's cloths are packed the same way.

I am having such fun with my new stove, and it is so nice being able to regulate the heat so easily. it takes no time at all the oven a meal. I have my fingers crossed because a roast

I didn't have time to finish this, The roast was perfect. I followed directions that came with the stove. ^{Later.}
Kays of love
Catherine.

Banff, Alberta.

Saturday, June 10, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

I don't think I have written you for several days, I wish the weeks wouldn't go so fast, there is never time enough to do all I want to. To-day has been almost a total loss so far, though we were up early listening to the King and / Queen arriving in New York, it was such fun hearing it and every little while some more about the Worlds Fair, I wonder did you hear the same comentatprs we did ? Yesterday and Thursday we listened to the arrival in Washington, but were didappointed in the men who broadcasted, they seemed so excited you could hardly hear what they were saying, I think they would have been better at a Hockey Match. But this morning the men were Canadian od British Broadcast ing men, probably so the Empire could understand their accent, but they were fine and gave such a good idea of it all without talking a mile a minute. It was thrilling to listen too. How the King and Queen ever stand it I don't see, it is too bad it was so hot for them, At the Worlds Fair the announcers were American again and one who was in Washington, Pete calls him the " ah-- man " for he keeps saying ah and eh all the time and gets all mixed up, he called them "King George and Queen Mary " several times. In the Paper a Canadian Anouncer told how they were do it, In one ear ~~they~~ they can hear the control man speak, and in the other ear through another earphone they hear the broadcast going on, them

selves included, and he said it was rather confusing in one place where there was a loud speaker across the street which blared out everything he said a second later than he said it.

A letter from you just came asking again if we are going to the fair in New York, I don't think so, if one could pick a cold spell it wouldn't be so bad, but a heat wave would be too much for me. I hope Jean misses this hot spell. How about you going and telling us all about it, or were you wanting us to go with you? I wonder how long it will keep going.

Are you and Cal running a race to see who can have the fullest house this summer! The hard part for Cal will be so many children I should think, it will be nice to see Margaret though and Margie must be quite a big girl now.

Pete is busy doing prints while it is rainy, he took some of the school children the day of the King and Queens arrival and wants to make up a few for the different groups. It has been rainy weather this week but we need it so much, a rainy June is supposed to mean a good summer, so I hope so, We want to go out as soon as it clears a little and start sketching, are trying to get everything done up here first.

Monday,

Another letter from Mrs Wayman telling her berth and car number. We are still having showery weather, and lots of callers about this and that, Friday night Mrs Simpson came to supper, she was very upset about Mary who is sick with peritonitis in New York and Mrs S. was waiting for a telephone call and alone, then on

Sat. Erling Strom dropped in and also stayed to supper, I don't know but its easier not knowing ahead of time. We just decided

Catherine
Heaps of love
up what we had cooked -

Banff, Alberta.

Tues. June 13, 1939

Dearest Mother.

Such a nice letter arrived this morning for my Birthday. and with the clippings about the ducks which are so amusing. I shall give them to Cameron who is crazy about duck shooting, also interested in the Ducks Unlimited. They put some feed in one of the lakes west of Banff and the other day we saw over twenty Canada Geese there.

I am having a very nice Birthday, we were woken up rather "rudely" at eight o'clock by the upsetting of the Garbage Pail, we both blinked a bit and jumped up, sure enough it was a ~~very~~ nice black bear, medium size. He had rather fun strewing our neat little bundles of Garbage about the lawn. We are wondering if he will be a regular caller this summer. The Gov't decided to burn all the burnable Garbage in an incinerator this year, and we have to do it up in Newspaper and that goes in one pail the tin cans in another, the poor bears out at the dump will have poor pickings and we are wondering if it won't drive them in to town, we saw two big fellows near the camp grounds last night.

Well to continue with my birthday, I had your three nice packages to open at breakfast, a lovely pair of stockings from Jean, and Pete gave me a little thing to view colored slides with, it almost gives them a third demention. Your presents were so nice, the books we were tickled to pieces with, especially the Henri and Bellows. That is a lovely series and the reproductions

are so good. The Elizabeth Goodge book looks real good, and as soon as the King and Queen sail and I have time to read something besides accounts of their trip, I shall enjoy it. The Bag with the Thermos bottle and sandwich box is going to be wonderful, especially for the car, when we walk we can put those two you gave us last year in our pack sacks, but in the car when we drive all day this new one will be perfect. Loose thermos bottles are always a nuisance, they either jiggle and rattle, or rub against ~~so~~ something and wear a hole in it. Then when we get out at hotels I usually have to clutch the bottles as well as books, maps and all the other things, so I shall appreciate this with a handle no end. also it is a nice size.

I have never really thanked you for the wonderful check. it was so un-expected and dear of you to think of it. When our addition will get built I don't know. This spring was hopeless as there were so many cabins and houses that had to be improved to accord with new Gov't regulations, and Sam Ward who is the only carpenter we would have is still busy on an addition to Deer Lodge at Lake Louise. If we start now it will ruin our summer for painting for it is bound to take longer than we expect, and yet if we wait until late fall it is sometimes too cold to get much done. also Sammy is moving to the coast and we want him, he is such a good friend, the other day when we were there he asked when you would be coming out, for he said he wanted to meet you. He is more fun and a great Philosopher in a way, he also says things real seriously to people as a joke and then never lets ~~on~~

he's joking.

Well to go on with my birthday, (if I can listen to the King and Queen in St Johns New Brunswick and write this too) It was raining hard all morning, in fact still is. so I decided to experiment with the stove, I made some date nut bread without any nuts and in my excitement left the oven to "Preheat" instead of putting it to "Bake " which you are supposed to do, so I will have to try again when this is eaten up, for it came out all right. The thing I like about an electric stove is that once you get a thing just right you have something to go by, and it should be the same every time. Then as the oven was warm I decided to make some muffins for lunch, well in the midst of that with the asparagus cooking Cliff came in with something to celebrate with, Mildred was supposed to come too, but had to wait until the boys had started lunch, so then she came in , and as the boys we thought might have eaten most of the stew they were having we kept Cliff and Mildred here, and they helped us eat up all our left overs, Such a confusion as I had with baking and mixing dishes and even last nights dishes, and glasses as Erling Strom came in last evening, so it was very nice having Mildred to help dry. Pete is drawing in a sketch of Mt Assinaboine that some one wants, Mildred and Cliff have gone and I mustn't write much more.

No. you never happened to mention Russells plans for the summer, I never can remember the North Shore places very well, that is which is which, is Manchester the one Mr Bemis used to live in, I have always heard of Singing Beach, and isn't there

a harbor for boats too ? It sounds very nice and will be more convenient too all round, is good for Russ ^mcomuting and for the vegetables and laundry, and of course you. noteven a city to go through. Also I imagine more of their friends are there,

We were much amused about Annette and the Worlds Fair, that is the way it is here all the time. if one didn't guard against it one could be busy all summer and most of the rest of the year just entertaining people. It is different from a place where people go for business reasons, they are usually on a holiday and so have nothing special to do, I fthey come by train they would like to be driven round by car, and if they come by car a meal appeals to them. Some Familées have an awfull time, if they have guest rooms especially. It is not that you don't love to see the people but it is that there are so many, We had a letter the other day about a young Englishman who is coming on his way to settle in Australia, with his new wife. He is an artist, a ski mountaineer and writes as well, also takes very good photographs, he will be interesting to meet, so we will try to do what we can for him. Last year we never saw Murray and Frances Adaskin , she sings at the hotel and he is leader of the concert trio. They are old friends so this year we have had them ~~at~~ down already, ^{Saturday} ~~Saturday~~/night they came after they had finised at ten, which made a late evening but a very pleasant one.

Have you read the new John Marquand book? it must be good I loved the George Apley one.

The Worlds Fair must be wonderful, you tell us what Aunt Julie thinks when she gets home.

I am so glad that Uncle Marshall is so happy, and she sounds so nice and will be such good company, I think it is awfully hard for a man to live alone, and especially when he has no business.

That animal book is certainly funny and very clever, I suppose it ^{was} ~~is~~ something like figuring out stereoptican pictures in the beginning.

I am glad that you sent the article on the Childrens Hospital as it gives me an idea of the way she ^{Mrs Wayman} writes, I thought it very well done and so interesting. straightforward writing.

I forgot about the money for Northfield, I will send five dollars if I don't forget. and if it isn't too late.

You once mentioned someone having read a book " Vagabond trip around the world" and we were mentioned in it. I don't know what it could be, get the authors name if you hear of it again.

I never have heard of this movie, have you seen Mr Chips. You know the one I mean, "Goodbye Mr Chips" We never go to the movies any more here, we got so tired of the Hollywood ones, and when there is a good one we are busy doing something else.

The mail has gone to-day but will mail this to-morrow.

Loads of love
Catherine

P.S. Did you remember John E's birthday on Sunday?
I forgot -

Banff, Alberta.
Sat. June 17, 1939.

Dearest Mother.

Your Air-Mail letter came to-day, mailed the 14th in the afternoon, just 24 hours longer than mine to you, but perhaps it was delayed by the rains, as I read in the paper some planes were grounded(that is didn't take off) We have had in Alberta 16 days of rain out of 16. in Banff we have not had quite as much as the prairies have, but it has been cloudy. I hope it clears before Mrs Wayman arrives, we will ask her about the story to tell us.

We feel awfully sorry for Russ that his Kidneys are still not quite clear, I imagine one has to be very careful for a long time, but it is miserable to be on a diet for so long, I hope he can eat fresh vegetables for that is one thing that is so good in Concord. And not to be able to play Golf or tennis is a shame, I wish we could be there if it would be any help but I am afraid we mightn't be as entertaining as you might think.

I can't make this a long letter as we have had lots of company the last few days and there is so much to be done. but you know we think of you a great deal and wish we might be ~~with~~ with you and yet paint at the same time, but it is the old story of not being able to have your cake and eat it too, or is it that one can't be in two places at once.?

Did you realize that at the Art Association there are some paintings by Helen Weld of Lowell, you remember her? and also by Abbott (Hank) Cheever. I wonder did you notice them.

Loads of love Catherine.

Banff, Alberta

Wed. June 21, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

I expect you will want to hear all about Mrs Wayman's visit, from beginning to end, It was a showery day but the sun shone quite a bit even if there was a good shower as she arrived, She had been up early and seen the Mountains in the ~~dist~~ distance at five o'clock and it had been lovely all the way up from Calgary. We had no trouble spotting each other as the train pulled in, and then we brought her to the house for a chat before lunch,

I am afraid that we weren't much help, for most of ~~the~~ the things I could tell her about Grandpa she had already been told and in fact she told me far more about him, ^{things} that I had never known before, However there were one or two little things that she took notes of, and also I mentioned a few people who might be able to tell her some characteristic stories, even about Grandpa's later years. I thought that Sted would be a good person for her to talk to, he has such a good memory and also knew Grandpa at Seal Harbor and the tennis weekends, also Mr Keyes might help in that respect.

This isn't a scolding, but why didn't you tell us that Mrs Wayman had lived five years in Japan? We certainly felt foolish to have offered to give her information on traveling in Japan and then find that she of course knew far more than we ever could know. We wondered why she was going on a Japanese boat but thought perhaps she wanted to get familiar with things Japanese, but Now of course it is quite clear. In that way we were no help at all, but we did show her the Rockies and got acquainted a bit so if she wants to ask us questions she will know who she is asking them of.

It also is nice knowing what kind of a person she is, and she told us how she happened to be writing the book which was very interesting, She also gave us two of her books, and we have had time to glance at the one on Japan, just enough to like the way she writes and we find her first experiences much like ours, in Japan. It will be fun to read her first part of the book on Grandpa.

I took her out to lunch as it gave us more time to talk and also fewer interruptions, then we started to drive west for we figured if the day were nice at all we would take her to Golden and she could catch the train there in the morning at 4:30; We had a lovely drive and she was so thrilled with the mountains that we were glad she could see as much of them as she did, also the cloud affects were beautiful. We stopped at Lake Louise a little while, even had some beer, then had time to go to Emerald Lake as well and were in Golden in time for supper. We saw lots of Moose even a tiny new born one the smallest I ever saw, and a bear too on the road so she was quite tickled. Mrs Valentine who runs Golden Lodge is awfully nice and I think that Mrs Wayman is going to write a short article for the Globe about her and Golden. She didn't want me to get up in the morning but I might just as well have, Pete put her on the train after they had a cup of coffee.

She was going to sit out on the open car in the back of the train and write, and I guess she would be by herself at that hour. We also sent you a postcard, it was her idea that we should all write on it, so she started and then Pete said after reading what she had written he couldn't think what to say. So you will see how we worked it. You must read it ~~it~~ very carefully. We really had an awfully nice time to-gether and enjoyed meeting her so much. Have you read her books?

Yesterday after Pete had gone to bed again and we both had over slept a bit, we decided to go up the Big Bend road as far as possible and see what it was like on the Golden side. It was a lovely day and we drove 53 miles but it was a little disappointing as far as Mountain scenery went as the road is in the Valley all the way. following the Big Bend of the Columbia River. We could have gone a hundred miles up but decided it would all be much the same and we would rather come home. It is a hundred miles from Golden to Banff in any case. It rained hard when we got back, a shower, and I am sure will rain again to-day, for it is over cast

I will mail this when I go over town which I must do right now.

Heaps of love to you all

Catharine -

P.S. We heard the amusing story about the Globe reporter and the Queen & the red pagamas -

Banff, Alberta.

Sat. June 24, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

We are still having rain, it is hard to believe it can rain so often, Mrs Wayman was awfully lucky for though the showers were heavy the sun would shine in between, and the cloud effects were lovely. to-day it is dark and the the clouds low yet yesterday afternoon it almost cleared off. We are waiting for a break and then are going out with our tent, everything is ready except the things that get stale. Tomorrow if it is clear we are going to Bow Lakes, then start on a real jaunt on Monday. One nice thing about this weather is that we ~~that we~~ are getting a lot of odd things done, I even have all but three pairs of stockings washed, and most of them even darned, another thing we haven't had as many people dropping in as we do sometimes.

Reading over your letters I realize that " John Morse " is of course Uncle John. I thought perhaps John E. was up on business but wondered why Aunt Julie would be away at a time like that.

It is nice that Mrs Armstrong and Elizabeth can be with Kitty in such a lovely part of the year, when Concord is at it's best, and what fun for them to see the children, Haven't you a snap shot of Robin so we can see how he looks now ?

By the way, wasn't that Mrs Lee's brother who delivered the sermon at Hyde Park when the King and Queen went to church there ? Did you hear the arrival in England Broadcasted, we did and it was real exciting. We forget to listen to the luncheon yesterday when the King spoke. We haven't seen any movies of them yet.

Have you read Mrs Waymans book, "an Imigrant in Japan " ? I am half way through and find it very interesting, we will be interested to hear how you like the first part of the Biography.

I am glad Jean had such a nice time at the fair. Do you know how long it will stay open? Guess I had better mail this.

Loads of love

Catherine

ES. Also am half way through "The Middle Window." I started it & must keep on - it is nice & light reading. This is a stupid letter. I guess its the rain -

Banff, Alberta.

Mon. June 26, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

Probably one very good reason why I don't write more people is that when I am in a letter writing frame of mind I always think to myself, " Now I will just start by writing a short note to Mother," thinking I will get warmed up in that way, and then of course I never have time to even write all I would like to to you.

It is still showery, yesterday we were going up the Bow Lakes road for the day and it rained hard nearly all day, we spent a very nice quiet day at home, Hans and Herman dropped in at breakfast time and we chatted until noon, they have been up at Mt Temple and I think are a bit lonely as it has snowed nearly every day this month. Cliff and Mildred and the boys are going up Tuesday for the summer, and have several people coming. the fishing is wonderful up there. Sir Norman Watson is coming out in August and until then they don't know just how much to do.

We have our paints all ready and are just waiting to go out when the weather clears. We were thinking of going to Jasper but will have to put it off until the roads dry up a bit, also some people on there way from England to Australia are due the end of next week and we have more or less promised to look after them. So now we may go for our camping and sketching trip up this end of the road, The grocer said this morning that this is the last day of rain, he seemed quite sure, told me if it rains on a certain date it means 40 days of rain and this is the 40 ieth day, so I hope he is right, I guess Norway isn't the only place where painters get rained on, the only difference is that here we have a nice home to be in and not an unheated summer hotel,

Anice letter from you this morning, I am glad to hear you have had at least one quiet day this year, It sounded very nice and what fun for you to have Anne read to you, Perhaps Margaret and her Children will be with you when you get this, if so give them our love and best wishes, and also Olive and Alec. How nice that Cal has a little daughter,

We have had a letter from Betty Dumaine and I guess she has received my answer by now.

Loads of love to you all

Catherine.

P.S. I finished "the Middle Window". I couldn't stop once I had started. and enjoyed it very much.

Yoho Valley -
Friday, June 30, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

X If there aren't too many flies and the porcupine wandering around in the bushes doesn't come too near, I may get a letter to you written. At last the weather has cleared and we appear never to be satisfied for now we have too much sun and it is almost too strong to stand X out in. Pete has done better than me for I never could sit out in the heat much. But he got too much the first hot day and has quite a burn and rather beet red complexion.

X We left Banff finally on Tuesday though it was very showery & didn't look a bit promising for painting. However we were tired of waiting for the weather to ~~clear~~ & thought we would take a chance it might clear in the evening. We left after an early lunch and drove west. Originally we were going to Jasper. But the road reports were very discouraging so we have put that trip off until later. We decided to go up this end of the road instead, another 10 miles having been opened to traffic this year. There were great storm clouds but Pete remembered the North fork of the Saskatchewan River

was fairly dry & so we took a chayer and set up camp on the bank of the Mistaya River just where it runs into the North Saskatchewan. It was evening but light enough to read at 10 o'clock. We had a late supper & watched it pour up near the Waterford Lakes. It must have been quite a down pour. & we never had a drop of rain.

Wednesday was clear & lovely & the sun was so hot. It felt rather good for a change. However we didn't realize that the dry river bed & old flat river bottom was reflecting the sun & making it seem extra hot. Pete got a terrific burn & I felt like doing nothing, which I did. Even in the evening it was warm - we strolled along the ~~to~~ tote road to where an old cabin of Jimmy Simpson was. It has quite big trees growing out of the sod roof which has fallen in. He said he built it in 1902 & used it for trapping. There are quite a few of his cabins still left.

Thursday morning, that was yesterday we woke to find a glaring sky. Not a cloud & our river bed was dusty & dry & reflecting the sunlight worse than ever. The rivers often change their

course + it leaves boulders + gravel
 bars + sand behind. The Mistaya rose
 quite a bit even in those two nights and
 a day. The melting snow on the mountain
 top I expect. We felt almost sick with
 the heat + decided to break camp + find
 a cooler spot. We were in the midst of
 packing up when two game wardens drove
 in, sort of a social call I expect, but we
 kept on putting things in the car. It felt
 good to get in the trees + back on the
 highway + beside a lovely tumbling
 roaring creek we stopped + cooked a
 big breakfast or a small lunch at ten.
 Then we drove on ~~down~~ to Bow Lakes
 thinking we might stop there + put our
 tent up. It was lovely + cool with a
 strong wind off the glacier + lake.
 However that didn't prove a very good
 idea either for they are trying to finish
 the inside of their new lodge and have
 five carpenters, and some how we find
 it difficult to paint when there are a
 lot of workmen around who know you.
 for they never understand a person
 frittering away his time ~~with~~ dabbling
 with paint when they are really working!

We didn't realize how many there were
 still working. We will go back later
 when they are through. We had thought
 of staying in one of the camp grounds
 but they aren't built yet. The only one
 that is ready has a bear, which isn't
 too pleasant. In the end we found
 a cool in the Yoho Valley. Pete made
 a sketch while I sat near a brook &
 really got cool for the first time. Then
 we set up the tent in the Yoho Camp
 Grounds. It was lovely there. We have
 taken some Kodachrome pictures as
 Pete has some orders - & I expect to get
 underway painting myself soon. I don't
 quite dare get in the sun yet. & it takes
 over an hour to sketch much. Pete has
 got a good start but is being eaten
 up by black flies as I am. One never
 appreciates being without mosquitoes &
 flies until they have them. It's like the
 dentist. We haven't had a mosquito
 in Bayf this year. & I think it's quite
 wonderful. They put oil on the water
 & drain the swamps. We should really
 sketch there! but it's much harder to
 get out at home.

a bus just went by filled with Hawaiians. Well maybe not filled, but there were several. I remarked to Pete they must enjoy this weather & he said they were all bundled up in coats. All the cars & buses have their tops down. What a day to drive through the mountains. It's so lovely.

The flowers are all coming out now and everything is getting so lovely & green. It's such a beautiful time of year. Pete is having to quit it's so hot, so I will too.

Heaps of love
Catherine.

P.S. Do you know what day this is?
We do!!

P.S.S. One isn't supposed to camp in the park except in the regular camp grounds. But we are going to try & get permission to camp where we like. Some times they will give it to artists or photographers. It's really on account of fire & they are quite right, but we don't smoke, & also have an Norwegian primus stove which uses kerosene & is wonderful. so quiet.

Banff, Alberta.

The 4th of July.

Dearest Mother,

We don't have a holiday here, but I just realized what day it was. Our holiday was Dominion Day which comes on the first of July, it made a nice weekend here this year, and Banff was full of people, there hasn't been as many for ages, so all the town people were happy, the weather was cloudy but it didn't do more than shower once in a while, so every one could enjoy their canoeing and golf and swimming etc without thinking of the weather. It was really rather fun seeing real crowds on the main street and not a place to park a car, they were very rushed in the store and had to get in extra help.

I wrote you last up in the Yoho while Pete made a rapid sketch, he had to stop the sun was beating down so unmercifully, I told him he would make a good many sketches during the year if he did one every time I wrote a letter to you! We went back to the camp ground to make our lunch and found the bear had been around so it was lucky we hadn't left any food. In fact he wanted to join us for lunch, but we preferred to have it alone. It began to cloud up a little and we also thought of our new lawn with the holiday people picnicing on it and decided to go back to Banff for over the holiday and then by Monday there wouldn't be so many Sunday drivers and also it would give Pete's sunburn a chance to calm down, and peel. So back we came via Moraine Lake, in case there was a chance of getting some good color pictures. Instead we met two of the Swiss Guides who had just climbed Mt Temple and we gave them a lift back to Lake Louise. They have just built a new cabin at Moraine, very up to date with a private bath, so next time you come that would be a nice place to stay for a few days. The C.P.R. are at last realizing that people ~~don't~~ want a few more conveniences.

The weekend proved very quiet for us, not a person dropped in. People are beginning to think that we are never at home, Pete has worked every day on some large canvases and it has been real nice, the weather has been so un-settled that there is not much use going away. Also some people are arriving on Friday that we are to see, I think if we have a little good weather I will try making some sketches around here, for Pete is having such a good time working on his large pictures he may not want to go out, and there are a lot of nice subjects close at hand.

We have had so many nice letters from you lately, and it has been fun hearing all about how busy you are, the Sunday supper sounded such fun with everyone there, like old times, I'll bet they all talked at once,

By the way, do you like the lines in these letters close together or a larger space in between?

I liked Mrs Waymans book so much on Japan, I think you would enjoy it, the title is "An Immigrant in Japan" and she uses the name Theodate Geoffrey. Try and see if you can get it, if not I will lend you ours after Pete has finished it. The thing I liked most was how much she appreciated the true Japanese character, I am sure she will write the biography with a true fondness for the

Japanese, and I also like her style of writing very much.

I remember the little Japanese lady at the Art Museum, she always was there when we went in to see Mr Tomita. I am sorry to hear that she died.

Will you thank Jean ever so much for the lovely catalogues she sent us from the fair, we are so glad to see them and also to know what kind of pictures are there, also the one of the British exhibition. I will write her sometime soon but know that she has a read of my letters to you.

Thank you too for the American Federation of Art Magazine for another year, and also if you feel like sending the Studios when we are here we would love to see them, we often look at the old ones which are up in the bedroom, we could send them back for you to have them bound or perhaps have them done here.

This is quite a letter so lots of love and take care of yourself.

More love

Catherine

Banff, Alberta

Thurs. July 6, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

I will just start a short letter as I may not have a chance to write you over the weekend, We rather expect the couple on their way to Australia to arrive to-morrow, If they want to be driven anywhere we have more or less offered to do it, He is quite a mountaineer and they are newly married so may not want to be bothered with us.

Our weather is still showery, lovely and sunny for a few moments and then it pours, I was going to make a stab at sketching around here but there is not much use with this kind of weather so instead I am doing things around here. *in the house.*

Your Sunday letter just came and didn't sound quite as hectic as your last few have. You enclosed one from someone about their "poor Boy" dying, and for the life of me I couldn't figure out who it was.

I am glad that Ann Tracey is making good progress, and she must be such good company for you especially as the family have gone to Manchester. By the way, Mrs Vaux and George have a house in Banff for the summer and they came down to see us ~~at~~ the other evening and we had a very nice visit.

I had such a lovely letter from "Miss Hansen" but I still don't know what to call her.

You sent me a thing about the old Manse, Have they raised enough money for it? or was that a hint for me to send some?

We had a wonderful letter from Russell, but as Jean said in her ~~letter~~ *July* letter that he was going off on the boat the second week in August, I may wait to answer it, however I felt like writing back return mail.

The Paintings I spoke of by Abbot Cheever and Helen Weld are at the Art Center not in a Magazine. I do remember the frigate we saw on our way to Holland, this one you sent must be lovely to see sailing.

Did you see in the paper that the King and Queen are going to make a state visit to Belgium in the fall?

If you have time, send a drawing of the floor plan of the new cottage,

Guess this better be all for now, Betty Dumaine arrives next week I think, they may go out to Assinaboine with Erling, but we will see them in between times.

Loads of Love.

Catharine



July 10, 1939

Dearest Mother,

We brought the
Colin Wyatts down here to
Calgary last night after an
early supper, and are going
to try to show them as much
as possible of the Stampede
today, and then drive back
to Banff this evening. They
are the English couple on
their way to Australia.

They arrived Friday, and I thought Pete did awfully well spotting them before the train had come to a stop. But he is always good at meeting people. They liked the mountains so much that they wanted to stay longer & called first thing to put off their sailing another month. They are a wonderful couple and enjoy everything so much. Pete drove them around Banff the first afternoon

and then Saturday they
climbed around Norway.
we didn't see them until
evening. Yesterday they
went canoeing. It was a
really hot day & today
looks like another.

We may drive them
to Pale Faise to-morrow
and show them around
a bit, but now that they
are to be around a month
or nearly that long, we won't
have to cram every thing
into a couple of days.

They are a most interesting couple. He has travelled a great deal in Europe, Australia & New Zealand too. Has crossed Lappland on Skis & traversed Norway & Sweden well. Is a ski mountaineer - an artist musician & writes articles and has a wonderful sense of humor. Also has jumped over 150 feet on skis. and speaks several languages.

I shall have to call this a letter.

Fots of love
Catherine.

Banff, Alberta.

Wed, July 12, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

I will start a letter and hope with luck to finish ~~it~~
it, The trip to Calgary was very successful in many ways and the

Wyatts were thrilled with it all, They were very easy to look after, were always on time and enjoyed everything. We watched the parade from the curb stone and it was a real good one, lots of bands, Indians, and cowboys, as well as amusing floats and chuck wagons, we went out to the grounds and saw ~~the~~ a few Indians we knew and they enjoyed the Bucking and other Stampede events enough to stay right through till the end, though Pete and I came back to the hotel and had a bath. Then we hurried through dinner to get back in time for the chuck wagon races and the evening show followed by wonderful fireworks. It made rather a long evening but none of us got too tired, and we stayed the second night at the Paliser so as to do a few errands in the morning and then come back to Banff eating a picnic lunch on the way, We even saw the Indian Parade pass the Paliser in the morning. Funnily enough Betty Dumaine and her friends were there too so we had a chat while waiting.

It was after three when we got back to the house and really it was amusing the way the rest of the afternoon went. Under the door was a post card from Tom Archibald and friend that they had been down but had gone on to Louise, Pete went over town to get something, I have forgotten what, and I was reading your letter when there was a " Hello Catharine" at the back door, it was Henry Kingman here for the Alpine Club. We haven't seen him for ages, he is from Minneapolis and one of the first guests at Skoki, Pete soon came back and we were having a grand chat when Barbara's maid came over to tell me Betty Dumaine wanted me to call her, so up I went and couldn't get her, however she tried ~~aga~~ again and Mavis came down, so finely I got her on the phone and she wanted to talk with us, as the walk to the dining room was too far for Dr Richardson and she wanted to find out about Lake Louise *etc.* So we went up for her dropping Mr Kingman on the way, Betty came back here and before long a telephone call for Pete, a Mr Baines from Victoria, by the time Pete had called back the doctor had left to come down with Dr Robinson, they soon arrived and Dr Robinson came in too as he hadn't seen Betty since the time Mary Thompson had had appendicitis at Assinaboine. Betty had to get back so I drove her up while Pete entertained Dr Baines, in the meantime as Betty left Pete's mother came to tell us about Tom coming. then a terrific thunder storm came up and Pete had to run the Doctor back up, By this time it was after six and I hadn't even had a chance to comb my hair or anything since getting back. Then Betty brought them all down in the evening, and with the ~~g~~ crowd at the hotel they couldn't get into the dining room and so it was after nine when they arrived, and after eleven when they

left. Quite a day. This morning Pete left after breakfast for Lake Louise with the Wyatts, I didn't go as it always means some one has to sit in the rumble, and the joke is that so far there hasn't been one person come to the house and probably this evening when Pete gets back there will be another stream, that is the way it seems to go.

I have had two nice letters from you about the Fourth of July and the awful heat, luckily while we were in Calgary it was fairly cool, a lovely breeze, and today there is a very strong wind but the sun is hot. I have spent most of my time watering the flowers and grass.

Indian Days is next week and we want to be here for that and perhaps get a few portraits, Betty and her three boys are going out with Erling Strom probably Friday and the others may move up to Lake Louise so we won't have to think of them once they get settled.

Friday.

This hasn't gotten mailed yet, We have been rather busy. Wed. Betty came down about 3.30 and I went over town with her and later drove her out to Erlings Coral which was lucky, for he was just coming in with the horses and she could make arrangements for going out with him, which they did this morning. They all moved up to Lake Louise Wed, the Housekeeper took it into her head she didn't like Banff, Luckily Pete had spoken about them at the Chateau, and when he got back that afternoon and I told him they had just left, he telephoned right up, as he knew they were full at Lake Louise with 500 people, It worked perfectly for they were greeted at the door and given the Royal Suite for the night, (it was all they had) and they got a special table at the hotel, and etc. The house keeper, Miss Brown, told me to-day that the whole atmosphere was entirely different from the Banff Springs and they had been wonderful in every way, I didn't let on that Pete had prepared the way, and we are so relieved that she likes it there.

That was Wednesday and Erling came down for a little and we took him to meet the Wyatts as Colin had stayed with Erling's friends in Oslo. then Jim Boyce made a short call too.

Yesterday, I helped Mary Wyatt buy groceries to take up to Lake Louise as they have taken a cabin until next week, Colin was climbing a mountain. We ran into Mrs Vaux who asked us to tea and Mary went with me instead of Pete which was very nice, Pete was busy entertaining two Mounties on Vacation who we hadn't seen for some time and who dropped in before we left, Colin arrived as we got back and we talked some more. then in the evening we went up to the Rungius to see Carl's butterflys and spent the evening there. and so yesterday went.

This morning we had thought of driving the Wyatts up to Louise but they decided to go on the train and Pete took them down to that while I waited to see Betty. He got back before they left the coral, it was quite a circus in a way, the Dr and Miss Brown had come down to see them off, and Carl Rungius and Miss Rummel, (the one who was out at Templ for a while last winter;) also went, Erling had his hands full packing the horses.

We feel quite funny with no one to bother about for a few days, Pete is going to work on some large pictures and then we hope to do some Indians.

Leads of Love Catherine

Banff, Alberta
Mon. July 17, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

This week is Indian Days and I am afraid that I won't have much time to write you, so to be on the safe side I will at least get this off. Your letter from Manchester came today, I am glad that at last it is cool for a change. what a hot spell you must have had, we had a little one but it also cooled off here and is real chilly. Jackie went fishing yesterday and it snowed where he was, it was around fifty here, but that seems cold in summer.

I am a little mixed on your plans, I guess I thought that Russ and Kitty were going off on a trip the first time you went to Manchester, but now I gather that you are merely staying over night or maybe just a day this last letter, and are going back again, or rather went back again Saturday for two weeks. Are Russ and Kitty going up the coast this time, no one has told us ? but I expect they will make for Maine, I am glad they can go at the hottest time of the year. also the days are longer. I hope the change will be nice for you and that you don't have too much to plan and think of. It will be nice though for you to have some one to enjoy driving around with.

Last week was so busy with people that it is hard to settle down again. Some Indians are coming up a day ahead of the rest to cut teepee poles and with luck we may get one to pose tomorrow. Then there are the four days with parades and sports and if there isn't too much going on we may get some more sketches. Indian days will be over Sunday and then we hope to go out to O'Hara or up to Bow Lakes as we have some subjects we must do there, Then comes the Trail Hike which we may go on as we missed it last year by a day, After that the rest of the summer we should be free to paint what we want to. There are so many things we want to do I don't know how we will work it all in. I wish the days didn't go by so fast.

My larkspur is doing quite well this year, It is so tall that we look at the buds as they stick up above the window they are lovely to look at from inside.

Oh, have you read any of Mrs Wayman's book about Grandpa ? We would love to see all the articles she writes while on her trip. Jean said she would send them.

There doesn't seem to be much to tell you, so I will send this with lots of love and I hope you have lovely weather and a lovely time at Manchester, Please give My best wishes to Mrs Armstrong.

With love
Catherine.

Banff, Alberta.
Canada.
Sunday, July 23, 1939.

Dearest Mother.

You haven't heard much from me lately I am afraid but with Indian Days going on there wasn't much chance to write. Today is the last day and it looks like rain in fact is showering now. it is too bad for so few will go down if it rains this afternoon.

I don't wonder you got mixed up about Betty Dumaine and her friends, She was with Dr Richardson who had some sort of shock about nine years ago and is quite lame and has no use of his right arm at all. He has three sons about 17, 19, and 21, and their mother died when the youngest was born, a Miss Brown evidently brought them up, she is the so called Housekeeper, and when the Dr. had his shock she did everything for him, I believe he couldn't speak for three years, so she is with him practically all the time. some one has to be I guess. then there is a young man who is acting as chauffeur and who takes the Dr sketching of fishing and is sort of valet as well. They are a most attractive family but the unfortunate part is that for so many years the housekeeper had complete charge of everything and still has, she manages the whole family and treats the boys as if they were ten year olds, it would sound impossible in a book, I think she is a bit "daffy" to tell the truth. and how the boys stand it is more than I can see. I think that the Dr is not well enough to do much and also is very dependent on her and also very grateful for all she has done in the past, and the boys are probably afraid of upsetting him if they fight back. so they all just stand for the way she acts, Betty is an old friend and they invited her on the trip, but I don't think that she realized what she was up against. Betty and the boys were put at Assinaboine for six days and they came back Wednesday. wanted us to have supper with them over town but it was the day the Indians arrived so Pete said I would but he was afraid that he would be busy, We sketched an Indian that morning, and Pete also did a quick sketch of David Bearspaw in the afternoon, but I couldn't very well thinking that they would arrive to wash up after their trip. As it turned out they were about two hours late and Pete didn't see them as he was making an evening sketch at the camp of the teepees. However they arrived and all washed up including Miss Brown who had driven down with the Dr to meet them. We all had a nice supper together and they drove back to Lake Louise in the evening, We expected them down the next day for the Indian Parade and all, but we never saw them so I don't know what happened. Betty wrote a lovely note saying she couldn't come.

Well anyway we were fairly busy Thursday as the Wyatts came down to see the Parade on the train, It was very dull weather the first day and rained hard before the Indians got back to the camp.

Monday.

I didn't get very far yesterday, it was rather a nice afternoon and we spent it down at the Indian Camp, as well as the evening but I will tell you more of that later as I must write some letters to do with pictures and also we are having callers, all the Indians have gone.

Another nice letter came from you this morning, this time from Manchester, It sounded as if you and Mrs Armstrong were having a lovely time together, she reading to you while you sew or knit, I know how you love to be read to----

As I was writing Pete came with Ada Beerstecher of all people and her friend, we had just read Cousin Berts letter to you and then Ada appeared. I could hardly believe it. but to make it funnier he handed me a letter from Ebbs, so I started to read it and there was a knock on the back door, Pete went thinking it might be an Indian, and it was Tom Archibald, He is going to take the afternoon train so I will send this along.

Lots of love

Catherine.

Banff, Alberta.
Wed, July 27, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

Another nice letter from you in Manchester to-day, I am glad that you are having such a nice restful time and that Mrs Armstrong enjoys the same sort of things that you do, the drives in the afternoons and reading aloud, what fun the children must have to-gether, or you watching them, Edithe must be quite grown up. We were glad to hear that Russ and Kitty had such a good spell of weather for their cruise and got so far, now if only Concord was in a different hemisphere, like New Zealand, we could have summer here and in the east too.

It was awfully funny the other day when I was writing you, a real coincidence. Your letter with one from Cousin Bert came that morning and then after lunch as I was sitting answering yours, Pete came home with Ada Beerstecher and a friend who is motering with her, they had met Pete over town as he was getting the noon mail, the only letter in it was one from Bert to me, I started to read it after they had been here a few minutes and there was a knock on the back door and Pete went thinking it might be an Indian, it was Tom Archibald, and Ada of course knew him, Ada and her friend were on their way to Lake Louise and then back east the next day. it was fun seeing them and Ada looked so well. Tom stayed until train time about 5.30, and we only had two other callers while he was here, Carl Rungius and a man to sell carvings, Yesterday Mrs Fulsher of Honolulu came about breakfast time, as we were finishing and after a short call we drove her up to her old home where she still had some boxes of letters and old family things, She seemed so glad to have us with her, for ~~the~~ there were so many memories connected with the house, we helped her with ~~three~~ three old trunks under the porch, the new owners building built a new porch with a door too small to get the trunks out from underneath, So by the time that we got home it was lunch time, then we had a note from Mr Gibbon that he wanted to come down to see us in the afternoon, no time set, Pete finished a sketch for a bride in Vancouver, and I wrote the letter saying when it would be sent, and then we waited expecting Mr Gibbon any minute, He came at five and so another day went, To-day is lovely but hot, we have been experimenting with flower pictures I am going to take some later in color of the wild flowers and it ought to be great fun if they only come out well. We may go up to Bow Lakes to-morrow and stay a few days, if we do you may not have another letter for several days, Then next week we go on the trail hike, I hear that Mr and Mrs Brooks are coming for a week in Banff and then going to Assinaboine with Erling. (Edwin Brooks)?

Lots of love to you and our best wishes to Mrs Armstrong. More love

Catherine

Bow Lakes -
Saturday, July 28, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

We are having the loveliest streak of weather, though it is pretty hot in the sun. We finally got away from Banff yesterday after lunch - and were up here before supper. There seemed to be one thing after another to see too in Banff and people coming in as usual, and then it was pretty hot into the bargain. It looked like showers last night but didn't rain here. To-day there hasn't been a cloud in the sky. We scratched this morning and were nearly eaten alive by mosquitoes, but one must expect them at this time of year. Also horse flies. We also scratched this afternoon. But I think the mosquitoes had the best of it in my case.

The Simpsons are getting on well with their building. The main lodge is livable & only has ~~the~~ the plumbing to go in. They are serving meals & teas and have quite a few for the night. The carpenters are still working. But on the laundry & staff quarters. We have pitched our tent

near the main building in a sheltered spot, & are having our meals with them which makes it nice.

I noticed in their register that Nat & Herbert Blanchard of Concord were here for lunch one day. July 18th I think it was. Are they sons of Mrs (can't remember her name. Who was the young Mrs Blanchard)?

I can't possibly write a serious letter for Pete is shaving with shaving cream, and you know how ridiculous any one looks! Last shaved, when they try to talk seriously. His makeup faces too -

This isn't much of a letter, but will let you know what we are doing. I'm so glad Russ & Kitty have had such ideal sailing conditions -

Heaps of love
Catherine -

Banff, Alberta

Monday, July 31, 1939.

Dearest Mother,

I am so sorry that a whole week went by without your hearing from me, I do try to get at least two a week written to you, but perhaps it was because I sent one airmail and then three days later one regular mail which would make seven days in between when you recieved them. You may recieve another letter mailed from Bow Lakes Sunday, at the same time as you get this. or later, for I will send this airmail to be on the safe side.

You must have gotten some hot weather the last week you were in Manchester so you could enjoy ~~the~~ sitting on the porch, how wonderful that Russ and Kitty had such good weather for their cruise. We will be anxious to hear where exactly they went,

We had thought of staying another day at Bow Lakes but yesterday the light wasn't very good and Pete was anxious to lay in a large canvas of the subject he had made two sketches of while it was all fresh in his mind, and so we came home after lunch yesterday, it cleared off hear after supper and we had a beautiful moonlight night, but now to-day looks like rain and it is cool again, We are glad we came back, I am watering the lawn like mad as the warm spell made it so dry, and there is so much new grass,

Wednesday there is some sort of meeting in connection with the trail hike which we are going to, and then on Thursday the Moores and the Wards and Carl Rungius and maybe George Vaux and ourselves are going up to the Ptarmigan where the hike is to be held and have one evening before the rest arrive, ratheran exclusive evening.

I must go over town and get some twine to tie up my larkspur for the wind has come up and I am afraid that they will be broken, some are taller than my head.

Loads of love

Catharine .