

Banff, Alberta.
Tues. Jan. 2, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

X That is the first time that I have written 1940.
A Happy New Year to you ! We have had a busy weekend, I think it was Friday that I wrote you, when I went out to tea, and Pete was at the Intournament camp with Gen. Panat, he came over with his wife the next morning to pick out four photographs he is going to give to the officers mess at the camp. X

I can hardly remember all that happened, seems to me it was in the afternoon that the Panets arrived to look at photographs, for when they were here someone came to borrow the projector and we were showing them some slides at the time, and also Frances Hiam and Mrs Macdougall came for tea before the Panets left, it was one of those coming and going days. In the evening we went up to see Mrs Stockand, Camerons mother, who had a bad shock last summer but is getting on very well and is regaining the use of her arms and legs, they brought her up for Christmas week at Lilas.

Then Sunday the Atkins girls returned the projector and we gave them some sherry and Christmas cake, about the first real proper call anyone made us, I can't seem to think who came in the afternoon, ~~but I do~~ oh yes we went to call on the Sam Wards right after lunch, and had coffee and cheese, and then fed the little chick-a-dees at their back door, they light on one's out stretched hand, only one at a time will land to pick up the crumbs, and Pete's hand was so warm that they would sit and eat, and the others would get impatient and want their turn. Then at four thirty we went to the Hammonds for hot grog. It was the first big party we have been to for a long time, and very nice, It was a hot rum drink and all sorts of delicious things to eat. There were lots of Banff People and Calgary friends who had been skiing and the Vancouver people. Each year there are more, Frances was there too. They practically fill the hotel now for the Christmas-New Year, that is the Vancouver people do, and as they are all friends in Vancouver it makes it rather fun for them.

Yesterday was New Years and a busy day for us, in the morning Mrs Dukes and her daughter and a man, came down to see the paintings, they have been before, then after lunch Mrs MacDougall brought Dr and Mrs Hatfield and Mrs Meyer, her mother, down to see the house and the pictures and us, You may remember them, for they are the people Mrs Webster took to your house last June for tea. It was a very hot day. It was funny for it wasn't until after Mrs Macdougall brought them down, that they discovered it was your daughter etc. Then we went over to say good-bye to the Panets who were leaving, they want us to spend a week end with them skiing in the Laurentians, and said they would put us up at their club. which was pretty nice of them we thought and would be fun. Then at four thirty we went to the Moores to tea, feally another hot punhh party, and practically all the people who were at the Hammonds except the Vancouver People the Calgary people and the younger ones, In fact we were about the youngest there, except three friends of Edmees. Pearl kept telling us not to go, and they served the next thing to a supper, which was very nice, coffee, cold meats and

salad, and Christmas cake. We helped with the dishes, and so did a few of the others and it was ten when we got home. There also was a man from HongKong (who is here on leave) there, and he has been stationed in Canton and knows D'arcy Baker Carr well.

Two nice letters came from you this noon, and I am glad you are resting up after Christmas, and how nice the Cousin 'ane is to be with you New Years, or was with you. That certainly was a lovely letter from Mildred, but I feel a bit lost without one from you telling all about Christmas. Jean also wrote a nice letter on the Sunday, before Santa Claus arrived, and she told lots of little things Mildred didn't mention, so I was selfishly hoping that you too would write your version, you see no one can write and make up for a letter from you, so do tell us some of the little things that happened. / and what were all the many presents opened etc.

It is awfully good of you to write us to come later in the spring. We of course would love to come now if we dared leave, but as you say we might be called back any moment. Pete went to see Dr Atkins the other day to see if he could give us anything to go on. but he wasn't very reassuring, and wouldn't commit himself at all. Yesterday Papa was the brightest he has been, even wished Mom a Happy New Year when he woke up, though he has lost all track of time, he had evidently remembered it was New Years Eve the night before, he ate a big breakfast and asked to see all the children. and even chatted with them all. However Mom had the feeling that he was a little too bright, if you know what I mean. We will see how things go, and one thing, we can leave anytime within a day or two.

I must go over town, and now that the festivities are over, may be I will have more time to write you in.
Loads of love from us both,

Catharine -

Banff, Alberta.
Thurs. Jan. 4, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

It looks like snow to-day, in fact it was overcast yesterday as well, and we rather hope it is, for it is more like winter with lots of snow, and also we need more in Banff for good skiing. Pete was away all day yesterday, he went up to Temple again with about twelve others. I didn't go for it meant they would need more cars if I did. Pete went to help make the thing go, for we are anxious to have the thing a success, and so often it is the little extra things that count, like having a thermos of tea when they are cold and also seeing that they ski down easily. They had a good time, but this looking after people is rather tiring.

Frances Hiam left very suddenly for the oldest boy, Tom, had a pain and she was so afraid it might be an appendix, and wanted to be home if it meant an operation. Dr Hatfield, who was out in Concord with Mrs Webster, was at the hotel and I think was going home on the same train that Frances went on, so as she had him look at Tom, maybe that was another reason for her to go back when we went. I haven't heard how Tom is, the nurse stayed on with the other children and they all go back to-morrow. I am sorry not to have seen her again.

I should have written you yesterday, but washed stockings etc. instead, I had gotten to the state of not having one whole pair without a hole, run, or needing to be washed. Also I had a couple of callers too.

We were interested to hear about Russ and Kitty going to Bethal Maine for skiing. I never heard of the skiing there but on looking at the map, it evidently is the other side of the White Mountains, do tell us all you hear about it, it looks a long way on the map. Wasn't that where Grandpa went to school?

There are lots of letters to answer from you, and I don't suppose I ever will get round to doing it as I would like to.

Another nice letter from you written Sunday, it was so nice that Cousin Jane could be with you, and it did sound like such a quiet weekend and a pleasant one. We also had a lovely letter from Jean, I didn't realize that she could read my writing so will write her a real letter soon. I am so glad that the portrait turned out so well, I am crazy to see it.

There are lots of things to do this afternoon, so this is all for now.

Lots of love

Catharine

Banff, Alberta.
Sat. Jan. 6, 1940

Dearest Mother,

Your letter telling about New Years came this morning. I am listening to "Lakme" the opera broadcast, I wonder if you are too, Lily Pons is singing the bell song. I really shouldn't be typing but as there is also a bit of noise on the radio, this silent machine doesn't interfere much.

What a time Mrs Keyes and Mrs Motte had getting home after bridge, it was lucky the tire didn't happen in a worse place, say by Mrs Sewells. It was nice to hear about Eunice, and I am glad she is happy. Too bad about Gardener, I remarked to Pete how lucky it didn't happen before the portrait was finished, and Pete said Gardener was left handed, but still it is a nuisance.

I am so glad that you are enjoying "Life" (the Magazine this time) and it will be fun if we see things in it to write you about. It is like the radio programs that we can all enjoy to-gether. I haven't heard Mr Weeks lately. the one about Heroines I didn't think as interesting as the others. WereNst the pictures of the Queen lovely? That was the dress she wore in Ottawa, and Margot Panet said that it was too lovely, for it was all little sparkling things, and when she curticied all she saw was tulle and sparkles.

The animals we saw were Moose, and deer and Elk on the way to Louise, We got over a hundred Xmas cards, nearly a hundred and fifty, and several lovely letters from people like Mrs Chace and Mrs Bartlett who wrote how much they had enjoyed the card.

I am enclosing two pictures that Barbara wanted me to send you. Bubby is going to school now, and is quite grown up, Davey is three and a half I think, and is holding an engine, he is crazy about trains.

We have some photographs to make, and if the paper comes we will do them to-morrow, and if not will go up to Temple for the day, just us two. We want some skiing and if we take anyone else it means having to wait for them here and there and make our plans fit in with theirs. We will start at eight and hope to be home before dark.

I must write a note to Francis who is in Kamloops, they stopped and had Tom's appendix out there, I believe it was a very simple case but they didn't want to take a chance on trying to reach home. in case it burst.

You never mentioned whether or not the men succeeded in moving the tree you were watching when you started your last letter!

Lots of love Catherine

Banff, Alberta.

Mon. Jan. 8, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

We are having lovely weather, the last few days around zero. but all the snow storms seem to miss us, and we do want snow as everyone does now-a-days.

A lovely letter came from you to-day, about the Symphony concert and the awful exhibition. We never heard of the artist and from your description aren't apt to ! at least we hope not. Mrs Rogers of Vancouver, who has a sketch of Pete's and mine, was here the other day and looking at pictures. she seemed to think that people are losing interest in the awful pictures which have been the fashion for so long. and I hope she is right. She also is interested in Pete having an exhibition at the coast, Perhaps it was just as well we were here this Christmas, for we renewed old acquaintances and made new ones, and lots of people saw the sketches. and if we do exhibit in Vancouver it will mean more people who will be interested. We both feel that is the logical place for Pete to have his first exhibition, as it is the best place for a western Canadian.

Wasn't that funny about Mrs Hall in the train hearing Pete's name. I am also glad to hear that the tree was safely moved, for you left me wondering about it. A tractor must be so useful.

I wasn't exactly fooling when I wrote had we known that you and Mildred were to be alone we would have been tempted to go on. We should have had to fly however, but when I read it, it made me feel awfully sorry that we couldn't have been there. However there are more years coming. I am glad that you think the spring would be a good time for a visit. I would love to see the garden with the tulips and the fair with you. So if things go on here as they are we will just wait until then. It is still so hard to tell what is best to do, and if we did go and any thing happened when we were away we would never forgive ourselves if you know what I mean. Pete had a nice chat with his father yesterday, all about the early days at Silver City in 1887. They have ~~just~~ just found an old pair of hand hewn skis up near an old camp where they used to make ties for the rail road and wondered when they could have been made, they were so old looking. and Pete's father was the only one who might have known, so Pete asked him. He said that he remembered there were Norwegians, Swedes and Swiss up there and that they used to talk about skiing. but he never saw them do it or a pair of skis. but it was interesting that he could remember. Some days

he wanders do, and the next time he is so clear in his mind about things.

Yesterday we didn't go up to Lake Louise until after lunch, it was a cold morning and the night before we had gone to a hockey game and let the fire down a bit and then in the night it hadn't been warm enough to really warm up the house and we didn't like to leave without getting it good and warm first. and it was also hard to get up on a dark cold morning. so we got lazy and didn't go, then as the afternoon was lovely we drove up the west road and were at Lake Louise before we knew it. We saw literally dozens of moose. and elk and even a big ram. I always think of you when we go up the west road and wish on your trips to Carlisle and Acton that you could see such lovely scenery as we do. The undergrowth may look as lovely where you drive but the mountains can't be made up for very well. It is so nice now that they keep the road to Louise open all the year.

What a lot of thank you notes, and such nice ones, it must be fun to feel you have made so many people happy. You wouldn't approve of Sam Ward, he was evidently complaining to his wife about writing "Thank you" notes, and told her that he never asked the people to send him anything, and if they wanted to send him something, that was alright, but he didn't see why he should have to write them. However she didn't agree.

Do you know Pete's mother is only 59, and yet she seems as old as you to me. I suppose it is her white hair.

One of the cards you forwarded to us was from Dorothy Morton, do you remember her, she is married and lives in Detroit. another card had no name at all on it, and I don't even recognize the writing.

What a shame about Anne Tracy. I know they do such wonderful things now a days with skin grafts etc, but it is hard to have to go through so much.

Another thing I forgot to mention, when you finish looking at "Life" I imagine the girls would enjoy it in the Kitchen, it is the kind of magazine everyone finds something in it that is interesting to them.

I thought that was interesting in Olives note, about all the hotels being built in Florida. but I imagine the War will make a great boom there. Sam was saying that a Dutch boat now runs every week from New York to Bermuda, but with no American boats going and I guess no British, Bermuda was very cut off, probably this would be the year to go when it is nice and quiet.

did Russ and Kitty have a good time in Bethal over Newyears?

We had a nice letter from Ebbs and I am glad they could make use of the Christmas presents, It is hard to know what to send when I can no longer send a little check. I have Gales presents all done up in Christmas paper, I wonder would it be appropriate for Easter. She might like it for her birthday. It is funny but I rarely wear a hat in Banff, a ski hat in the winter and an old felt thing in the summer, So last fall when we were at the coast I got a black felt so that I would at least have something to wear on the train. then that one blew away on our trip to the coast in the spring. so this fall I again made sure to have a hat I could wear, and it is rather a nice one, I wore it out of the store luckily for I have never had it on since. I also got a black coat in Vancouver last winter to have for the trip east, and have never had it on.

Wasn't it nice of Kitty and Russ to stop at the Phinneys for supper on their way skiing, I am sure Uncle Marshall must have enjoyed it.

If you see Mrs Fred Eaton, do tell her that Margaret Simpson is teaching at the Arena in Boston. teaching Skating. I think she would be interested to know.

x I must get supper now, we had a little trouble with the roof in the new studio, twice when it was warm outside it began leaking, at least there were several drips. They went over the rubberoid on the outside but couldn't find a place where it could come in. Then Sam thought that maybe there was condensation and frost on the inside of the roof and between that and the ceiling. and when it was warm from the sun on the roof and when it rained it melted the frost and it ran onto the insulation and would work its way through. So Bill came this afternoon, and they took away the logs that were still in the peak of the old balcony, it is hard to explain, but they were right, the heat from the room was working through into the space between the ceiling and the roof, and then condensing into frost and then when it was warm enough it would melt and form water to drip through. So he has sealed it up and they will make two holes in the eaves outside which will prevent it happening again. Tomorrow they are coming to make some screens for the front room, so we can shut off the big high part, They will just be used in winter and make a tiny living room around the fire place. x

This is quite a letter, so goodbye for now. and lots of love,

Catherine .

Banff, Alberta
Wed. Jan. 10, 1940

Dearest Mother,

The beautiful book on Bali arrived to-day, such a very pleasant surprise and it will be wonderful to have. So many of the pictures one sees of Bali are all taken around Den Passar and from a sort of tourist standpoint, and nearly all, of the group of dancers there. one reason I suppose is that nearly all the dancing takes place at night unless you happen to run into one still going on by the next morning. So people taking photographs find it easier to take them in the day time when the troop puts on special dancing for the tourists. But these photographs are all taken of the real thing, as you can tell, and lots of dances the outsider would never see. We met Walter Speis when we were there, he took all but one of the pictures. It was funny that only a few weeks ago Mrs Von Rummel came to call, she is the mother of the girl who was up at Temple last winter, and she was telling us of a German friend who had visited them after spending a year in Bali, and this friend had spoken so much of Walter Spies, and I think had lived in his house. It will be fun to read too. Thank you ever so much, and I am glad you sent it now, it is even nicer than if it had come Christmas.

Your letter came this morning about Sandra falling downstairs, what a shame and I hope she wasn't badly hurt, your Sunday letter may tell us what the exrays showed.

X There is lots of hammering going on, it sounds natural. Yesterday they put the partition of veneer in so quickly and all most finished the hooks on the storm windows, We never had storm windows until this year and of course they make such a difference. but they were only tacked in temporarily, and now we have them fixed so that we can close the shutters with them on, which we couldn't do before. Pete was anxious to have them fixed in case we went away for a while, for we always close the shutters. The veneer partition was such a success, We put three large pieces of veneer 4 X 8 feet in, leaving just room enough to go into the studio end of the big room, They fit in a sort of grooved board at top and bottom, which is screwed in two or three places to the floor and beam at the edge of the balcony. It makes the cosiest room about 12 by 20 feet. and then we hung a temporary canvas (really the teepee) across the stairs and entrance to the big room. It immediately heated up and was so cosy last night that we decided instead of trying to get a curtain to put across, that we would put sort of sliding doors

X

in, which they are doing now, it is far more neat and we wish now we had done it before, It will be easy to remove in the summer and put back again in the fall.

Thursday.

Pete has gone over for the mail, and then we may go out when I will post this to you.

They finished after tea yesterday (the sliding doors) and we had sort of visitors in the middle of it, Cyril Paris and later Mrs Mack. and we sat in the front part to chat. It is a great improvement, and we used it last evening to sit in. With just one window it is very warm. The high ceiling is lovely in summer when it is hot, but at other times if it is at all cold the part under the balcony looks cozy but there is a draft in the back of one's neck from the dropping of the colder air from above.

Pete brought your wonderful long letter all about Christmas, and thank you so much, for you did tell lots that Mildred never mentioned though she did give us a very good idea of the week-end as a whole. I had great fun with the last bit, ^{reading it to Pete} as you wrote about the Mason Garfields being separated and then said "I also heard Morrison Blake and his wife are getting a divorce-You are wise to wait until spring -" (here I paused before continueing) "before coming." Pete didn't know what to say for half a second. and then of course realized what it meant. It just happened that the line " You are wise to wait until spring " was on one line, and the "Before coming " was on the line below so I just paused long enough to make it go with the divorce part above. It is a shame though so many people have troubles.

well this is all for now, Jean wrote a lovely letter too, and what a weekend you all had. I am glad that Sandra didn't break anything.

Lots of love,

Catherine

Banff, Alberta.

Saturday, Jan. 13, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

Are you also listening to the Opera ? It is going on now. Pete is busy making a box for the framed Photographs he has made for Gen. Panet to send as a gift to the officers mess at the entournement camp.

Last night we were real gay and went out for the evening. Sam ^{Ward} had invited us to spend the evening as they have just gotten a new piano. They got it because a Mr Fenton just died who was about fifty, I asked if it had been his. and Sam said "no, but I told Sis (that's his wife) that we better not wait any longer if we wanted to enjoy it, for we may go just as quick." The Moores also went, and there were others invited who couldn't come because they ~~were~~ sick, and we were selfishly glad, for it was more fun just the six of us. We went at eight, and after all having a try at getting a pencil out of the piano which had fallen in, and which Pete finally pulled out with a bent wire, we had a nice chatty evening, a hot rum helping a bit, and then at an hour, (which the Moores said was already over an hour after their bed time) the Wards started getting a little something to eat. If we hadn't all been talking and joking so much we might have been quicker about it, but such a meal as we all consumed, We sat down to the dining room table, before us plates of cold ham and turkey, rolls, salad, a tremendous Stilton Cheese direct from London. We were awfully glad we had had a light supper at six, and decided we were hungry nearly six hours later. Then we had a night-cap and it was after one when we got home. Pretty late for us.

A nice letter from you with lots of things enclosed, and how lovely to offer to wash and darn all my stockings, I wish I might except, but now they are all done, and also I only do them once in a great while in winter. for I wear Ski cloths nearly all winter.

Sunday, At last we seem to be having a snowstorm, though we are so afraid that it won't last. It is from the north east, which means a cold storm, and it was zero this morning, and is only four above now.

We had a nice thank you letter from Frances, I got a little mixed about her having to move rooms again, too bad after being settled. It was nice to hear about her ski weekend over New Years.

It is nice to hear how very nice Gardener's wife is for we have never met her.

*Monday - A west wind came up in the night, stopped the snowstorm & it is now 30° out -
(above) lots of love Catharine -*

Banff, Alberta.

Wed. Jan. 17, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

Our snow storm didn't amount to very much, and to-day is lovely and clear, also cold.

There isn't a great deal to write about. We seem to have spent a good deal of time lately talking. Pete and Jackie have been trying to figure out a way to make the top of the store, which is now just a waste space, into something that will bring in a little money. The store was a very well built building, though during a high ceilinged period, but they are figuring how they could put rooms in, and apartments. As you know such plans need a lot of discussing and considering, but it is fun always making plans, even if they shouldn't be followed through.

X This weekend is supposed to be the opening of the new building up at Norquay, which is being built for skiers. It will be quite a place when it is finished, not for over night guests, but for people to eat in primarily. The original cabin burnt down, and the C.P.R. the hotels and transportation companys found they needed a place badly up there if they were to continue taking people up for skiing. It has been built in about a month, will have a ski room in the basement and then lunch counter and lounge with large windows overlooking the ski slopes. Pete said he would help with ideas for decoration, and it is hard to know how much he will be called on to do before the end of the week. X

I nearly forgot, the three lovely art books came yesterday, and thank you so much, for they are awfully nice to have. It is rather fun having Christmas last so long.

We are so glad that you are enjoying "Life." I ~~haven't~~ haven't read the whole one about the trip to Florida, but agree with you it would be great fun to do. Wouldn't Billy love it? I am sure that you could charter a boat for such a trip, but I couldn't promise that we could join. not this year anyway. Why the time goes so fast I don't see.

I think that Picasso's things are perfectly awfull. and sometimes it makes me so mad to see the awfull things that they reproduce in the Magazine of art. The whole thing is just like a racket. The dealers (not all you know) buy up a lot of one mans work for practiaally nothing, then do a lot of publicity and write stories about his life, which after all don't necessarily make his work great, and then get a lot of criticisms written, which are a lot of high fallutin words, that no one can make head nor tail of, but because the gullible public fall for the whole thing, it works.

I am glad to hear that Mrs Hudson is feeling a little better. I wondered how she was. I listened to Mrs Belmont on the Opera Guild too, and was going to suggest that you subscribe I think I may, for it helps the Opera as well as sounds like a very interesting magazine.

The Tuesday Club sounded wonderful, and must have been awfully amusing. Do they ever have charades anymore?

You did mention about the tractor moving the tree, but it was in the letter later on. Here I am at the bottom of the page. Lots of love,

Catherine

Banff, Alberta.

Saturday, Jan. 20, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

Again it is Opera time, Are you listening ?
I don't think I have ever heard or heard of this one, and certainly can't spell it.

We are having lovely clear days this week, and down to twenty below nearly every night, and not much above zero during the day, but the sun is lovely. To-night is the grand opening of the new building for Skiers at Norquay, where Banff and Calgary skiers do most of their skiing. Pete has lent them the picture his Christmas card was taken from. It is quite large and colorful, and will help the decorations. but I don't think we will go to the party. We are going up this afternoon for a few minutes to help hang the thing, we went up yesterday also, but the people we had to see weren't there.

Such a surprise yesterday when Pete's birthday present arrived, I thought it was another Christmas present at first, but Pete is awfully pleased for he loves Atlases, and this has so much information in it besides. He had almost reached the point of writing and thanking you for your Christmas presents, and now he is overcome once more, he says he just can't write the kind of letter that so many people write you, though he appreciates more than most all you do, he is sort of licked before he starts. Maybe you would prefer to have him thank you in person !

What a shame you had a thaw, but perhaps it meant feet of snow in N.H. and Vermont. or did it rain there too.

Yes, it is the big room downstairs that we put the temporary partition in, and it works so well, there is a sliding door to let one go upstairs, and another one to let one into the big part of the room, we also have a steep flight of stairs from the workshop up to the studio above, and use that most of the time for with the downstairs toilet we don't go running up and down as often.

I wonder how the party went for Hanna, I am sure it must have been a great success.

Poor Olive Carruthers, I bet she would like to be in England, and doesn't know what to do. Agnes Hammond who left here two weeks ago to-day, arrived in Great Britain yesterday, much to her mother's relief. two weeks from Banff is very quick we think for war time.

Loads of love,

Catharine

Banff, Alberta.

Canada.

Jan. 23, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

I don't know why we deserve such perfect weather. It is cold but cloudless, and the mountains are lovely. Winter is on the second lap, for the sun is over the mountain in the afternoon. About the 20th of December, or is it November? The sun goes behind Sulphur soon after one o'clock, and though it still shines at the station we are in shadow. However yesterday it skimmed the top of the mountain again, and it makes the days seem much longer.

X Cliff was down yesterday from Temple and says the skiing is perfect and we are eager to go up, but hate to turn the water off until we do it for a long enough period to make it worth while. Pete has a couple of sketches to finish and also we have a few photographs to do. there is always something. Cliff was quite amusing about the cold at Lake Louise and Temple. It seems that at Lake Louise Station it was 38 below one night last week, and on Cliff's thermometer it was only 8 below at Temple, and the same thing happened each night, though the difference wasn't as great, and Cliff didn't dare boast about the warmth in case his thermometer wasn't accurate, so finally he sent it down to Lake Louise, and it checked perfectly with the one at the station, so now they figure that it is because Lake Louise is in the valley bottom and Temple is higher and has more sun during the day. X

Two nice letters from you yesterday. That young people's party sounded so nice and such a good idea, wasn't it Aunt Jane.

Brooks who used to make friends among younger people, and then she kept younger herself, and didn't lose so many friends that way from their dying of old age.

Aren't you becoming quite a gossip ? but I imagine that about Morrison and his wife is quite true of this age, or these times . I think the whole trouble is that people don't see enough of each other when they are married. That is one nice thing about working in a small town, or at least living close to your work, for you eat at home every day. But people who have to commute every day have so little time with the family, and naturally their interests are apt to be different, and they grow apart. I suppose I can count on one hand the days in 1939 when Pete has ^{been} away for a day, and on the other hand the meals including tea, that I have been out for without him. It just happens that way. We were trying to think this morning of how many husbands and wives are separated in Banff, we know of one divorcee where the man married again, and a couple of people who don't always live together, but otherwise there are none.

I must go over and get some lunch, so this is all for now not much of a letter I am afraid.

Lots of love,

Catharine .

Banff, Alberta.

Jan. 25, 1940.

Thursday.

Dearest Mother,

They often say here that the weather changes when the moon changes. That is with the new moon, the different quarters, and last night it was full moon, and this morning is overcast, but whether it will snow I don't know. It was 20 below zero when we went to bed last night and when we got up this mornin Yesterday it was 28 below by our thermometer, but clear. Like all other places we are always hoping for snow. Had that rain in December been snow, we would have had snow all winter, for the few inches we do have never melt. The sun was warm enough yesterday to melt icicles, and yet it was ten below, at the time.

Last night Pete sat with his father while his Mother went to the opening of the Bonspiel, she used to be a great curler. The other day, Monday I guess it was, Pete's father wasn't as well again, having a bit of pain, but yesterday felt brighter.

We have had so many nice letters from you lately. I shall never be able to answer them as I would like to. It was funny you should send that clipping about Alec Templeton, for at the same time we were reading in our Calgary paper about a blind girl, I will send the clipping. Ruth Draper is to be in Calgary Saturday, she is touring Canada and giving all the proceeds to the Canadian Red Cross.

A nice letter from you and Jean, hers was about the grand party for Hanna, it must have been a great success, I have just been over town and stopped in at the house on the way back, Papa doesn't seem to be as well the last few days, it is so hard to know what to do. The nurse hasn't come back yet, the one they had before, but she should come soon, and if she does I think that we can make some arrangement to have her there part of the time.

That Stearns advertisement certainly is gay, but what funny slimy feeling paper? something new I guess.

I meant to get this in the mail yesterday, but with one thing or another I didn't get over in time, Sam was here helping Pete do a little work in the furnace room, chinking some little cracks where coal dust was being sucked in by the fan, and then last evening we had company. Marguerite Orr had asked to bring a friend down to see the photographs, and so we arranged to have them come last evening, which they did, and stayed until about eleven. So we were late getting up this morning. It still hasn't snowed though again this morning it was dull.

This letter is also dull, I am afraid, However I will have to let it go for now.

Heaps of love,

Catharine

Banff, Alberta.
Friday, Jan. 26, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

Thought I would just start another letter to you, for it is half an hour before time to start supper. Pete has been working on some pictures this afternoon, and I went over town and did a lot of chatting, in the winter people are apt to stop and chat for longer than at other times, for no one is in a hurry at this time of year.

Pete was very pleased at your thought of him on his birthday. His mother baked him a large cake, some months she is kept very busy for she always bakes a cake for each member of the family. We took Pete's over to Barbaras Wednesday afternoon, and as there were three other children there playing, the six of them had great fun blowing out the candles and all. We were much amused at Donny, for when he realized who's birthday it was, he got up and in the most solemn manner walked over to Pete, thrust out his hand and said "I want to wish you a Happy Birthday." He did it with out the least Prompting, and then the others followed suit.

Did you realize that the person Russell bought the new Guernsey cow from, is the husband of Dot (?) Weld, ~~and~~ I am not sure her name is "Dot" but anyway she is the daughter of Grandpas old friend.

I expect by the time you get this, that Kitty and the children will have left for Florida, I can imagine how you will miss them, but how wonderful for them to be in a warm sunny climate.

I saw Mrs Simpson to-day, and she said that Margaret is enjoying the Arena very much, she teaches dancing twice a week I think and also goes out to the Cambridge rink quite a bit. Mary is at Dartmouth College, also skating, so she must be much better, I believe she is teaching but don't really know. You are kind to offer to do something, but I really don't think she is lonely or anything, and when we are east we can look her up.

We have enjoyed the Christmas cards that you have enclosed, The Goans are a fine looking family aren't they? We enjoy all the clippings that you send, the last one "Old Man Winter" had a picture of or by Luigi Foeger at Yosemite, and always there is something interesting to us in each one. That article from the Saturday Review "so you want to be a writer" was awfully funny.

Saturday, The Opera is going on, are you listening I wonder?

Poor Mr Gammell the artist, I think you ought to write him and tell him at least you enjoyed his things. It makes me mad to have people criticize that way, and it only goes to show what a racket it all is. I would trust your judgement before any of the so-called "Art Critics". They say the "skies are gauzy, the flesh waxen," and yet they never consider such things in their criticisms of Modern art, where so often the skin looks like nothing at all.

Pete's uncle is here from Victoria, and I expect will be down to see us, I will mail this if I have the chance, for over the weekend one never knows what will happen,

Loochie of Love.

Catharine -

Banff, Alberta.

Tues. Jan. 30, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

After last week being cold, two mornings it was 30 below, and never warmer than 22 above, the weekend was so different, all because of a chinook, which is the warm wind from the west, It was forty five here, and in Calgary touched 57 above two days in a row, It was like spring and the sun so warm, it couldn't have been nicer. We even had spring fever.

Pete left at eight this morning to drive down to Calgary with Sam Ward as company, we thought it better for one to stay here just in case a north wind sprang up and the temperature dropped suddenly. Pete is going to see his uncle about one or two matters, and also do a few other things and hopes to be back about five this afternoon.

I have been putting all my best clothes in one drawer with various other things, just in case we took it into our heads to go east for a couple of weeks, each Sunday we drive out the west road and plan what we will do, have it all arranged when we will do what, and then come back to have something happen to change our plans. Pete thinks perhaps his father will continue the way he is now for a while, and if so we could make a flying trip and be back before they realized we had been away, so to speak. Last fall Pete's father would quite often think what Pete said was right, when he wouldn't listen to the others, and in that way Pete could be of some help, but now it seems as if he had lost all track of time and doesn't always know the boys, and I don't think he knows, when he has just seen them, that they had been there. if you know what I mean. Pete doesn't feel now that he can be of as much use as he was before, and as the Doctor can give no idea of what to expect, we are wondering if he may not go on this way for quite ~~ye~~ a while. He was definitely better at Christmas time, but this week has slipped back a little, but it seems to go that way, up and down. and it may be the same in April, We were wondering if we couldn't make a short visit in February and then go east again later on in the spring to see the children, We thought we would go up to Temple for a week, to see how it works, being away, and then after that if Pete's father isn't very much worse we would start for Concord. Don't count on it too much in case something happens.

Maybe this afternoon if Pete is late coming home I will have a chance to write you more of a letter, I sent the one yesterday airmail as it had been several days since I wrote.

Loads of Love,

Catharine

Banff, Alberta.

Thurs. Feb, 1, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

It's February, and I can hardly believe it. Pete got back the other day sharp at five o'clock as he said he would, and so I never did the letter writing to you that I intended to. He had a very successful trip and a long chat with his Uncle who is the lawyer. That evening Cliff was in for a minute before we ate and a girl about picture frames after we ate, and we had to go over to Jim Brewsters later to see the pictures to be framed. and from then on we have been busy.

Yesterday was one of those days when there is a continual stream of people, it started about eleven thirty when I went over town, Neilson and his wife came up to inspect the furnace, and see how it was going, they also planned to get in some skiing, so while Willard and Pete chatted in the furnace room Mrs Neilson and I (when I got back) chatted in the kitchen, they then started on skis and by one were still working over a binding or something so we all had lunch together here in the house, and Mrs Neilsen helped me wash the dishes while Pete finished working on the skis, then he went up to Norquay with them for some skiing while I did a few things around here, I had barely gotten under way when there was a loud knock on the door, and it was Mr and Mrs Nichols of Victoria, who have come for skiing and are later going to Temple. He is a great Leica enthusiast and I showed him some of our things and we were just having tea, when Pete came back, they stayed a while longer and were just leaving when Col. Moore drove in the yard, having brought some books back. He stayed until six, and five minutes later Mary MacDonald arrived to ask us up there for the evening, and if we would bring the Nichols, So at eight with just time to get supper and wash up a bit we went up there. It was Mrs Macks birthday, we took the slides up, which was lucky as she has been anxious to see them and also the Nichols had asked to see them too. So at last we got home about eleven after quite a busy day. This morning it began again, for Mildred came over with messages from Cliff, she said she had finally given up the afternoon before having tried to come three different times, and always a strange car in the yard. We of course got talking about family affairs, and what could be done for Pete's father, etc. and now we have just finished lunch and Pete went up to the other house and hasn't returned yet. I am afraid that his father isn't as well again. Two nights now he has been sort of delirious and doesn't know where he is, and night before last Mom finally got jackie up at midnight thinking maybe he could do something, but his father didn't know him, and I believe it was the same last night so maybe after all our plans made last Sunday, we will still have to wait until spring. I guess I shouldn't have mentioned there was a chance of our coming, for now it doesn't look very likely. But I know you understand how it is.

I expect there is a letter from you over town, so I won't write more now.

Heaps of love, Catharine

Banff, Alberta.

Sat. Feb. 3, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

You must be missing the children terribly, and I can imagine how lonely you will be without them dropping in. I wish that we could be keeping you company, We had it almost arranged to turn the water off this afternoon and go up to Temple tomorrow morning early, Jackie was to drive us up, and Sam Ward to go along to measure up a partition in the third floor, but this morning Jackie tells us that his father was worse again last night and he couldn't leave very well under the circumstances and of course with that the case we don't feel like going either, So now we have decided to wait until Monday morning and if every thing is allright here to go by train, and then stay up there for about a week, We have been out so little and have had so little exercise that we feel the need of it. The skiing up at Norquay is very icy as there are now-a-days so many skiers on the slopes. So there is no use going up there, We need snow badly around here.

Your nice long letter written Tuesday came this morning, I am so sorry about Mrs Castle, Automobile accidents do seem so unnecessary and yet sometimes you wonder there aren't more. It was also interesting about the movies, and the ones Gale liked, I imagine the Charlie Chaplin ones do look strange, and especially as the clothes aren't familiar either, and they had to over act so with no talking. You know when it is cold here one doesn't feel it very much, in fact there is a wind today and yet it is comparatively warm, but feels twice as cold as it did when it was way below zero. The children don't seem to mind or notice it, but at school they don't have recess when it is way below zero.

It seems too bad to think of little houses on the John Keyes land, but as one looks back one realizes how Concord has gradually been built up little by little without one realizing it, at the time.

Barbara didn't have a picture of Harold, her youngest boy, I guess he wouldn't stay still long enough to be photographed. He reminds me of Edith's youngest boy, into everything and yet so good natured. The other day Barbara discovered him emptying the W.C. with Jackie's best hat, he had it full of water but I guess had n't dumped it, Barbara didn't dare tell Jackie all the details, so he thinks it was the bathtub that was being emptied, Other wise Barbara was afraid he would never wear the hat again.

Are you listening to Lucia ? We are. Sometimes we listen to "Information Please" but there are so many programs of questions and answers I get a little mixed up which we hear. I haven't heard Mr Weeks for ages, either we have been out or some one has been in, or we couldn't get Vancouver, It is funny but during all the clear days the radio was the weakest, I often wonder if one couldn't prognosticate the weather by the radio. for during a storm it is usually at its best. We have quite a few broadcasts pertaining to Canada's war effort, the other night there was one from a canteen in London England, and lots of the Canadian Soldier who happened to be there evidently walked by the microphone and

each spoke a message to Canada, It was quite amusing. Sounded like this " Hello Mom and Pap, having a swell time. this is John from Didsbury Alberta" " Hello everyone in -----, this is Tom speaking" " Hello Mom having Swell time " etc. ~~40~~ At least 50 percent of them said "having A swell time " and they sounded it too.

I forgot to answer you about Sally Faversham, Pete said he was very pleased to have her interested in the Paintings, and that we would be interested in an exhibition there sometime, We would have to find out from the American Consul in Calgary first. what the regulations are. It would be easier to talk it over first with Sally, but we will see later what can be done, We appreciate her interest though, and will keep it in mind.

I didn't realize that Mildred had made the old house into apartments, I thought she had sold it maybe . We have postponed the apartment idea over the store. It was becoming too complicated. You see Pete's father had always told both Pete and Cliff that part of the store had been left to each of them, the newest part to Cliff, the other half to Pete, but now it is uncertain if the rent from the building isn't to be Pete 's Mothers for life, and that complicates it all a bit. So I don't think that they will do anything for the time being.

Frances wrote us an awfully nice Christmas letter and told us about her skiing at Jackson, at the end she mentioned that she was going to send some present she had for us Christmas, and I just wonder if she did, for it never came. Tell her to keep it for us, unless it is something to eat ? It might even save until next year.

I must close for now, Pete came back to say we are going to wait until Monday to go to Temple. They have decided to take up enough lumber to build the partition, and Sam will come up later.

Loads of love,

Catharine .

Banff, Alberta.
Monday, Feb. 5, 1940

Dearest Mother,

We are going up to Temple this morning, on the eleven twenty train, for perhaps a week, and right now Mr Waterworth is here turning the water off, (a good name for a plumber) Pete can do the old part very well, but the new part he wanted Mr Waterworth to do the first time.

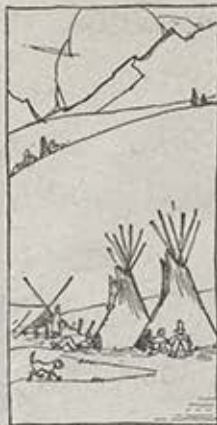
~~My mother~~ came yesterday, and thanks for letting us know about Russ going to Florida, for now we won't try so hard to arrange to go earlier than spring. It will be best for us to wait for many reasons, and the spring will be far nicer in many ways. and we also would have a bit more time. There is also a chance that we may sell our car, and pick up another in Windsor, Ontario. and if that is the case it will be just right to drive in the spring. It also gives us all the skiing we will want, and one thing that helps a lot is that we are sort of used to the cold, and acclimatised so to speak, and for after being in the warm houses in the east, sometimes it feels colder to come back to snow. Why don't you go south for a while ? Take Mrs Motte, of someone nice like that. and then the winter wouldn't seem so ~~very~~ long. It would probably be sometime in April that we could go east. It will be far better too for us to be near home, as Pete's father seems to be failing a bit, he has times now of being sort of delirious and wanting to get over to the store to lock it up etc. usually in the middle of the night.

This is a bit hard to write this mornigg with all the conversation etc. but I wanted you to know that we got your wire, and though we might not be able to have left in any case, it is nice to have it all settled in one's mind. Also there are to be the Dominion Ski Championships here the end of the month, and the Carnival too.

I will write in a day or two from Temple.

Loads of love

Catherine .



Mount Temple Lodge
Lake Louise, Canada

Tuesday, Feb. 6, 1930,

Dear Mother,

At last we have gotten up to Temple for a few days at least, and are lucky enough not to have anyone else here, just Cliff and Oota who is cooking. She is Norwegian from Drammen, near Oslo, and is the perfect person for the job. Is an excellent cook, and so cheerful and young and strong. Last year they had a man, but he wasn't always good natured and did nothing but cook. While Oota can do everything, take care of the rooms and all. Later on when they are busy they hope to get a young girl to wait on table & look after the rooms.

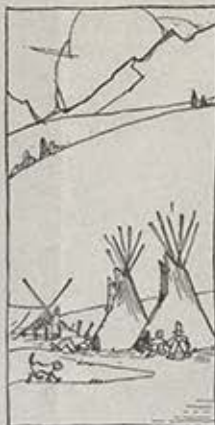
Each time we come up they have done a little more to make the place

more attractive or more comfortable. and really it is awfully nice and has lots of character. The bedrooms are simple, but very good beds and warm blankets and we think it is as nice a place to stay as one could find in the mountains.

We took the train to Lake Louise yesterday morning, and then came up with Kenneth on the sleigh. We had a load of lumber which we had to pack on first, and it was a heavy load, so it was after four when we reached Temple. It was a warm day and looked like snow, which everyone wants. There is about a foot of snow at Lake Louise Station but one needs more than that in the woods where there is underbrush & fallen timber & stumps. Up here there is always plenty but it would be nice to have snow on the trees for pictures.

This morning it is snowing rather gently, so we are hoping it will keep up. There is lots to be done yet to fix up the rooms, like door frames and sills, and floors to be oiled, and all kinds of odd jobs which take a lot of time. Pete is working on some door frames now.

There isn't much to write, so I will stop this for when Kenneth goes down tonight.
Lots of love - Catherine



Mount Temple Lodge
Lake Louise, Canada

Friday, Feb. 9, 1940.

Dearest Mother, I'm afraid I am falling down a bit
in writing you, but we have been so busy nearly
every minute, except when I wrote before. Sam
Ward came up with Jackie & Mildred on Wednesday
& ever since day and night, or rather evenings,
they have been building new walls and
goodness knows what hanging doors etc -
I have been helping Cliff with the water
system which froze up. Mostly merely
talking, but I did manage to shovel a
bit of snow and help carry saw-
dust. I haven't time to write more
now but will try to do better tomorrow.
We aren't sure how long we will be
here.

Loads of love -
Catherine



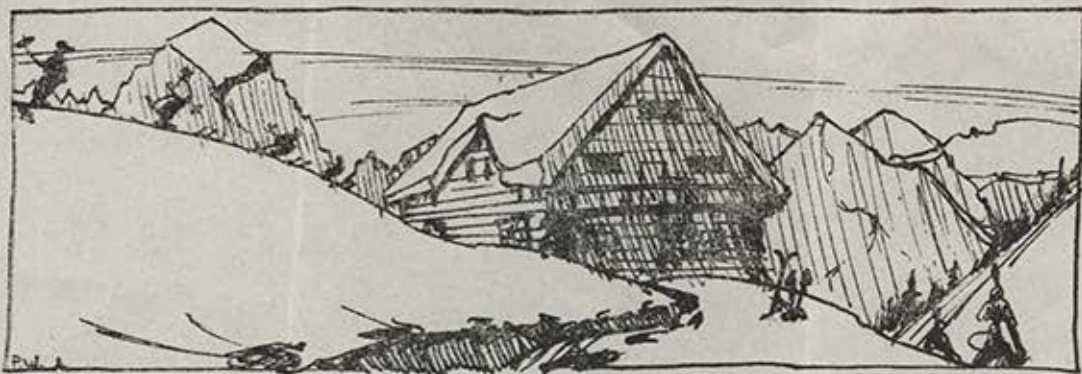
Mount Temple Lodge

Lake Louise, Canada

February 11, 1940

Dear Mother, I haven't had a moment to write but thought I'd send a line at least. and then when there is more time I will tell you all we've been doing. There are four guests now, and Cliff got the water on tonight. It had frozen half way up the pipe line and Cliff had to dig up 300 feet. I know lots about plumbing now, so I have been trying to help in any way I can. while Pete was doing carpentering and the last few days I have helped Asta who is doing the cooking. She is Norwegian and lots of fun. and a grand cook too. They expected another girl to do beds & wait on table but she hasn't come yet. so I have been doing some of it. I've been sort of fun helping and I'll tell you more about it all soon. I hope to morrow. Loads of love and I'll answer your letters too.

Catherine



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

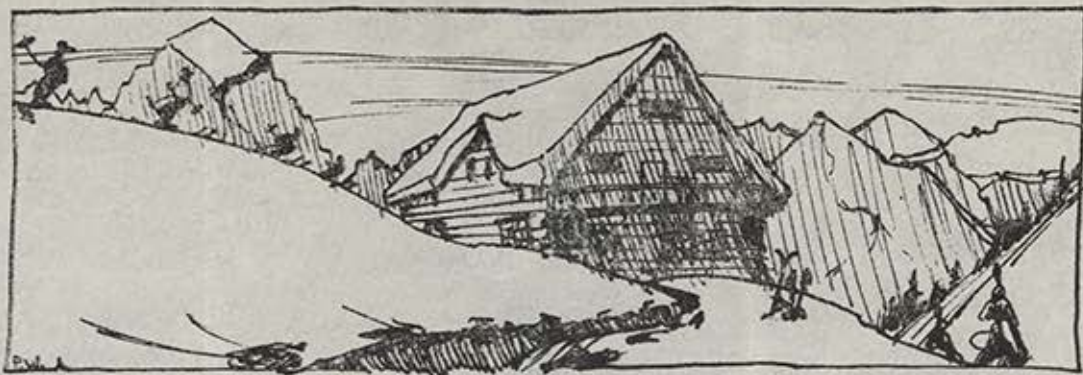
Tuesday - Dec 13

X Dear Mother, believe this is the first letter written on this paper. The cut wasn't as good as it should have been, but it isn't too bad.

There is only 10 minutes before supper and as tonight the mail goes down and not again for a day or two. I thought I better warn you to have patience, for surely tomorrow I can write you. I haven't even read all your letters as they are upstairs & we are so busy. But some one has come to help so surely I can write tomorrow.

Yours of love
Catharine

P.S. I have had time to read your letters, but not the enclosures. I'm so sorry about Bob Cheney. I really will write soon, & it will be quite a letter.



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

Thursday, Feb. 15, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

at last I have a chance to sit down and write you the long promised letter of the last ten days, and perhaps even answer some of your lovely letters which I have enjoyed, even if I have to read them hurriedly. I doubt if I can remember all we have done, but I shall start at the very beginning and see what I can do.

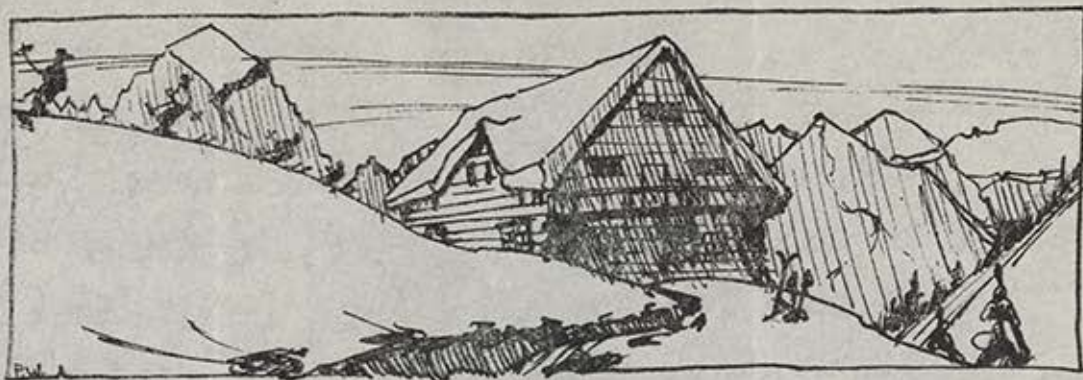
I think I may have mentioned the part that we were coming up here for a week, to get some exercise ~~and~~ skiing and perhaps help a bit to finish the rooms & especially build the dormitory on the third floor. Well ~~so~~ we have gotten plenty of exercise but not on skis.

We came up on the train last Monday, over a week ago, and then with Kenneth on the sled, (Cliff was busy digging up the pipe line from the dam down towards the main building. The water supply had frozen up some where between the top of a tree half way, and with each pipe he

dig up he hoped it could be the one with the
black, as he knew the lower section had drained
dead. It is some job in winter, and unfortunately
he had been delayed 4 days by people wanting
to be shown the country. He had to build a fire,
first splitting the wood for it and packing it on
his back up the hill. Then when he had shovelled
snow three feet deep, and about 5 feet wide in a
trench, he would build the fire over the pipe line
this would thaw the ground enough to dig it up
easily. Then he would disconnect a 10 foot section
of pipe and melt the ice out of that. At first
he thought he could do it best alone, but by
Thursday he was glad to be helped, and I
was his assistant for several days.)

Tuesday Pete & I tried to get things started
& sort of planned out, so that when Sam came
up on Wednesday we would know what needed
doing most. Some of the bedrooms needed cleaning
and I could do some of that while Pete put on
moulding round the door & all sorts of things. There
was lots more to be done than we realized, but
we did all we could do.

Sam arrived about noon Wednesday -
Jackie & Mildred coming too for the day only.
Sam & Pete went right to work and even
after supper. I helped where I could. There were
dishes to be done, and all the little things
too. The water not working there were always
pails of water to be ~~carried~~ carried, for the



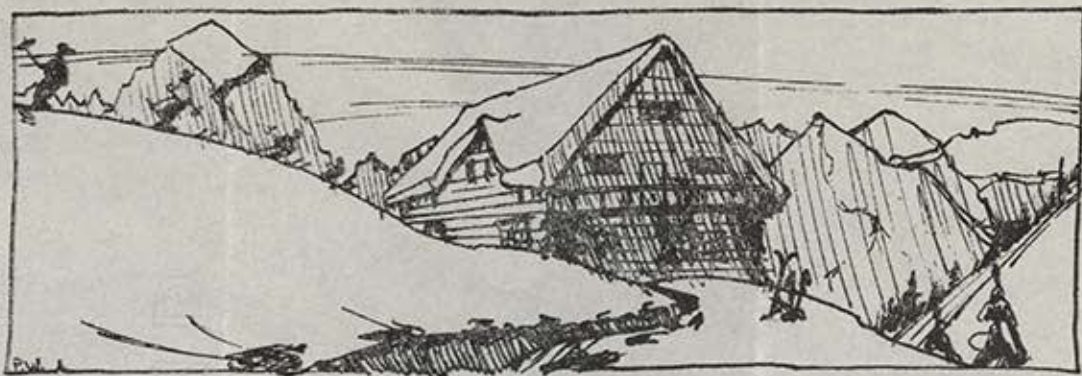
MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

kitchen and the bathrooms, and then a guest arrived Tuesday, a Banff boy on his way to Skoki. He left Wednesday morning as he thought he knew the way well but he didn't & came back for lunch. So in the afternoon some one had to go with him. & Pete was about the only one, so he went to the pass, but that took several hours, & was time lost.

Thursday afternoon I shoveled snow for Cliff, a section about 30 feet, and again the next morning I did another section. Then he let me help saw pipe too with the blow torch and at different times I packed up sacks of saw dust, nearly 20 in all. I tied them onto my pack sack frame. Then two guests, Mr & Mrs Scott, from Vancouver arrived on Friday to stay for 10 days, and Mr & Mrs Nielson from Victoria came Saturday for a long stay. Both their rooms had to be cleaned & of course with the carpentering there was dust & saw dust filtering through every where. As I had all the cooking & did quite a lot of scrubbing

- ✓ but really from Thursday on we had all we could do to get things done. What with meals to serve, & dishes, and tea, and more pulls of water to carry, and the fire to keep going & rooms to get ready and the water system not yet working, it was pretty hectic. It doesn't sound so as I write it, but it was. We expected Billy Wellman to come Friday to help take the people out skiing, but he didn't come so again Pete had to help by taking Mr Scott out. I helped Cliff whenever I could. Then Sunday 6 people arrived for lunch, & instead of eating it all one wanted it at 12:30 so Poor Berta had to change the menu, as the lunch she had planned wouldn't have been ready as soon. Seems to me every day someone was dropping in unexpectedly. Even to arriving at six in the morning when it was still dark. Three men from Calgary. Cliff was sleeping downstairs when they came unexpectedly, & they thought they wanted tea. so he built a good fire in the fireplace. But they had practically gone to sleep before he could make it, and decided after all they wouldn't bother until breakfast. & went to sleep on the couches in the living room. So that was a bit of extra things to do. and two days later they dropped in again, about tea time, in a great hurry for they had a train to catch.
- Then the other night they telephoned from



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

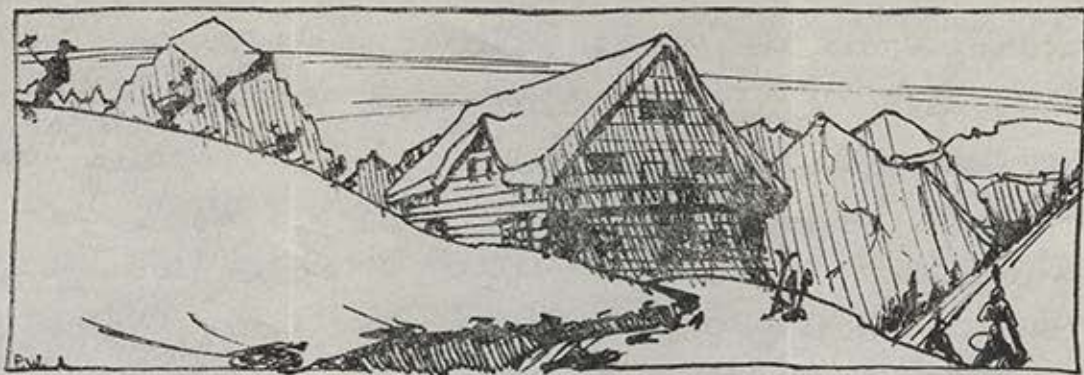
LAKE LOUISE STATION

Late in the evening, that Ova the guide at Skoke, was bringing a girl in, & she might spend the night, so I rushed around & got a room ready & beds made. & Billy moved into another room, & we rushed around after supper, & then she decided only to stop long enough for a sand wich, and that's the way it goes here. You never are sure when some one may drop in. Then there were all sorts of complications, the milk didn't arrive when ordered & finally there were so many things needed that Pete made a quick trip to Banff, & got all he could. Best of all Mueley Batch, who works in the store came up with him, and she's to stay for a while. She is very efficient and has gotten things well organized, and I hope can stay on for she can do it all so well. I wouldn't attempt it at all, and it's so hard to get a good girl who would be able to do the waiting on table & the beds too.

Well this is quite a letter & I'll have to set the tables for lunch. The water has washed twice, but it's been cold so Cliff hasn't dared turn it on the last two days -

Heaps of love

Catharine.



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

Monday - Feb. 19, 1940,

Dearest Mother,

We have been to Banff, and back again this afternoon, rather a hectic trip in a way - and as you know, no chance to write. Mr. Nichol didn't feel well Friday, decided he had done too much, and so spent a good part of the day in bed. He is rather a nervous person, and they wanted to see a Doctor, were afraid of the Altitude, and so decided to go down to Banff on Saturday, and we thought we would go too.

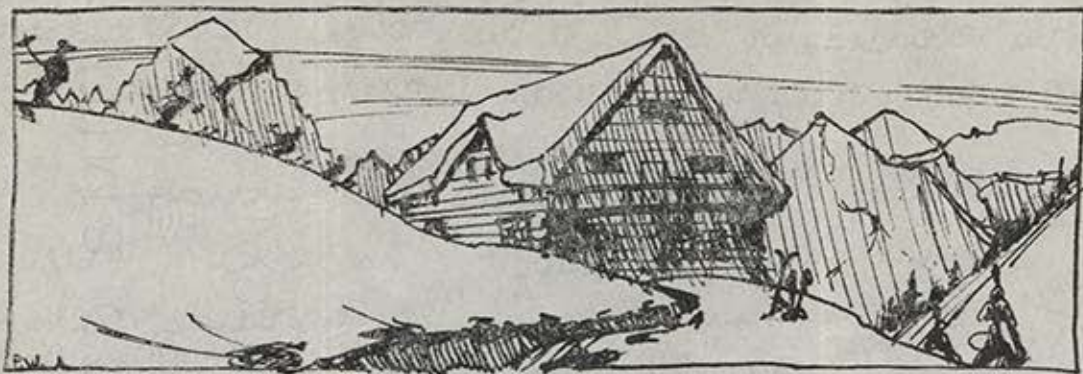
Friday night we expected a Mr & Mrs Wiggan, and when Kenneth drove up in the sleigh I greeted them, then introduced Mrs Wiggan to Mrs Nichol, and he former said, "Oh, my name is Miss Ross!" No explanations, but Mr W & Miss R. seemed rather enamored of each other. Had the five people expected the night before been here, we would have been rather short of rooms!

x We dried down to Boise Saturday morning, and
reached there about the same time as the Nichols-
& Morgans. We all had lunch together, and then
drove on to Bauff. I just had time to go to the
Skating rink to see the Fancy Skating, as the
Winter Carnival was in full swing. Mrs
Simpson has been teaching the Bauff children
to skate, and really - they were awfully good.
I was particularly interested in Lila's little
girls. They may turn into real skaters some
day, they are good even now for their age and
size.

x We hoped to do some of the many things
we had on our list to see about, but Jackie
was busy with Carnival things and so we
really did nothing until this morning.
and now I'm too sleepy to write about it
all. but shall have time tomorrow to tell
you about the weekend. We will be up
here about a week I think, going back to
Bauff for the Dominion Championships at
the end of the month.

Lots of love & I will answer your
lovely letters soon.

More love
Catherine



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

Wednesday -
February 21, 1940.

Dear Mother,

Perhaps now I'll have a chance to write you some sort of letter. It is snowing quite hard, and the only guests are the Carnival Queen - Catherine Bell of Spokane, and Janet Atkins of Bauff, who came up with us Monday. For three days and then will go on to Skoki. They have skied down to meet Kenneth & the team & ride back.

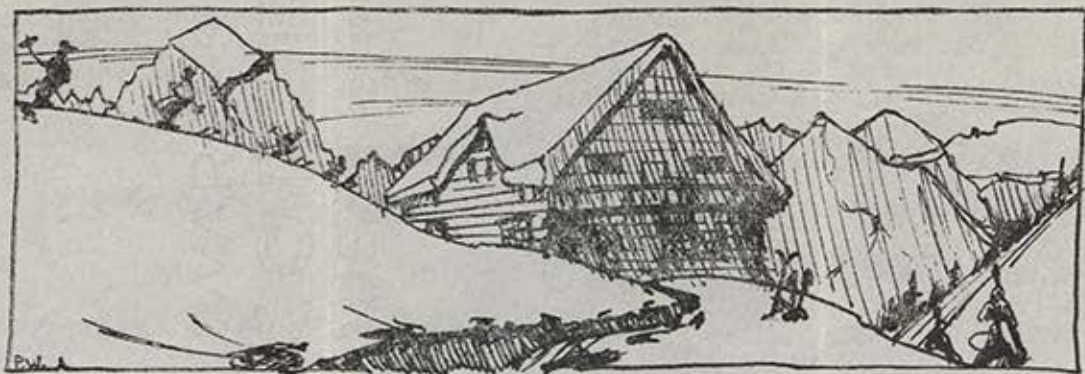
Seems to me I was telling you in my last letter about our weekend in Bauff. We hoped to do the various errands on Saturday, but every one was so busy we had to leave things until Monday morning. It was quite a week end. We drove down to Bauff from Louise just in time to see the skating. At least I did, for I wanted to see the children. Mrs. Simpson has been coaching in fancy skating, particularly Mavis and Catherine Siskland. They were awfully cunning and did a pair solo. The looked so tiny.

in the evening we went to the Hockey game which was a good one. & there was speed skating races too.

Sunday there were races and jumping up at Norquay in the afternoon. We weren't successful in getting anything done in the morning but did get up to Norquay in time to see the Men's Slalom and the Junior Boys' Downhill. It was snowing gently all day, so wasn't too good for the Ski jumping. But the jumpers were all good and there wasn't even a spill.

We had barely finished supper that evening when George McLean (the Indian) dropped in to see us. He was up for the Carnival to help add color I guess. Pete took him up to see his father, and George asked if he could say a prayer in Stoney for him. He is a very religious Indian. Then we had to rush over to see the finale to the Carnival, The Fireworks. They were fine. We ran into some friends and ended up at Sven Hauersen's house with the Jamisons of Lake Louise (The School teacher and his wife). It was 12.30 when we got home.

Monday was the hectic morning. We were up about 7.30 and got breakfast over & the dishes washed as soon as possible. Then armed with our lists we started out. Jackie wasn't up so we went over to the store anyway. & bought towels, mops, a coffee pot, yeast cakes, bag sugar etc. A very miscellaneous lot of stuff! Things at the Drug store, and we saw so many



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

people who wanted to chat. Like the Nichols who had to leave because he thought the altitude was affecting his heart or something. & we had to hear about that. They hope to come back again. Then there were the Reads from Philadelphia, who thought they might come out here skiing. & so it went. There was also the Queen to arrange for. She was to go by train to Lake Louise & as we were to drive we wanted to be sure and get to Louise when the train did. In the end we decided to take her with us and then found that Janet Atkins was to accompany her. So in the end we all got in the car. They sat in front, while I somehow got into the rumble. Sat on the treads my feet in a couple of lamps, and wrapped up in the extra blankets. We had an awful pile of stuff. But managed to get off at 11.30 some how, even after arranging for a lady & her daughter to come up for two weeks.

We had lunch at Lake Louise and got up here about five I think it was. The Carnival Queen is awfully nice and great fun to have

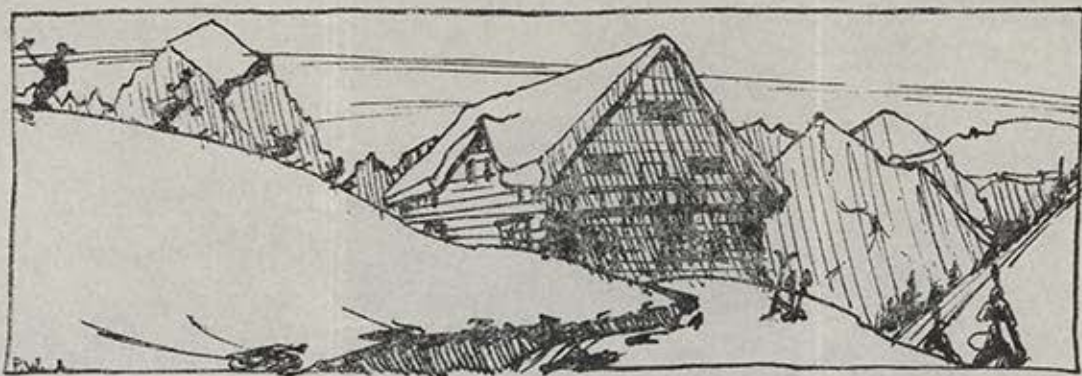
here. We all went skiing the first morning, as she has only skied one week at Sun Valley. We wanted to see how well she skied as she is due to go into Skohi for 3 days. Tomorrow. In the afternoon we went on a short tour. It was rather a nice day - but today has snowed pretty steadily.

The Scotts left Tuesday & we gave them a pair well party Monday night, preceded by a hot rum. They were very pleased. Mr Scott is Secretary for the Mounted Police in Vancouver & has been ill. but went back looking very fit.

We aren't sure when we will be going down. Probably this week end. They are going to be quite a few here over the week end! and we have decided to be in Banff for the Dominion Championships which are Thurs. Fri. Sat. & Sun. next week. We want to turn the water one too, & the house is rather a mess, as usual.

Pete's father is about the same as far as I can tell. He had a bad spell again last week. but as we can do little it is just as well for us to be up here. They will gradually get used to our being away most of the time.

I haven't had a chance to answer your letters lately, though I have wanted to. The last one was about the letter from Patrick to Russell, and the dinner party, and the play "Our Town". We heard of it but never seen it acted. I also was interested in hearing about the Japanese flower arrangements.



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

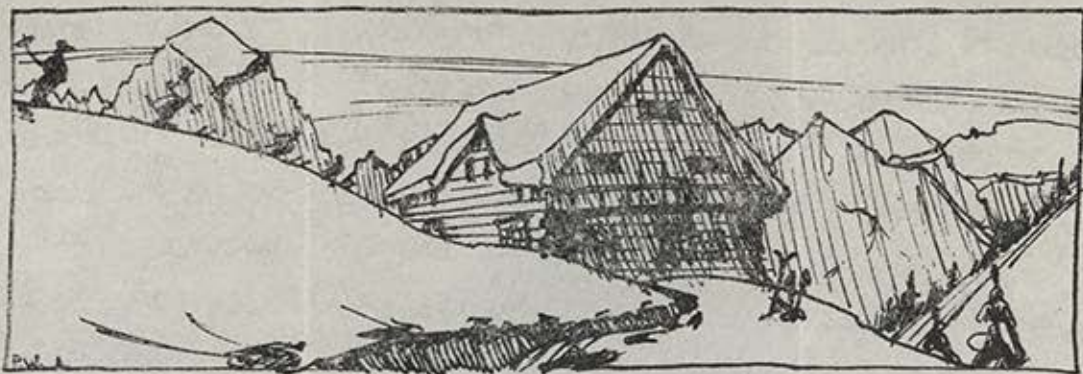
LAKE LOUISE STATION

Russell must be on his way to Florida. How the time flies, though I guess it won't go too fast for you until they are all back home again.

I didn't know about the new issue of stamps. Though I did ~~look at~~ ^{notice} them before opening the letter. However I was so anxious to read the letters I almost tore the First issue one. Wouldn't that have been awful? They ~~are~~ are very attractive stamps aren't they?

I guess that is all I have time for tonight. but I hope to have time to write more now that things are sort of organized up here.

Loads of love
Catharine -



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

Sunday, Feb. 25th

Dear Mother

The days have slipped by so fast, and I really should have written you often. The "green", Cay Bells, from Spokane stayed here three nights & then Pete took her & Janet over to Skokholm. He didn't intend to go the whole way but it was cold & blustery & no one came to meet them so he went right over. That was Thursday, & they are due back today for lunch.

We had one man only Thursday night, on his way to Skokholm to be a handy man. He was on snow shoes. Cliff went in to Bauff that day & this Mr Kiddle helped Pete get wood & water & was very nice.

Then Friday Cliff came back with a Mr & Mrs Wilson from Calgary on their honeymoon. Also two girls arrived in about supper time, a Bauff girl & an Edmonton one. Then yesterday, Saturday we expected four Winnipeg people. The honeymooners left for Skokholm, and the ex Carnival Queen was also supposed to come in. When Kenneth telephoned at noon after the train came in he said there were 10 or 11 coming up, and that didn't count the ex-

Queen & Danny & Clifford. We didn't know who
they all were. Now did we. except 4 of them were
the Remond's party. We thought he was bedding
at first, and wondered would there be bedding
enough. We expected them to arrive about Jan. but
they all came half an hour earlier at least.
Asta was making chocolate pie for supper.
Ora from Skokie was carrying meat that was frozen.
When in they came, & none had had lunch and
all wanted sandwiches. such a confusion for
about 20 minutes. The Wilson's had left and
Janet Atkins had come back from Skokie. and
the gamblers of Lake Louise were also here having
come up for lunch. So there were 23 of us. no ~~23~~ 24
with Kenneth who drives the horses. Still, people
trying to get settled & people leaving. & then they
all went dining and it was as quiet as could
be. Supper went very well and they all seem
to be having a good time. I am going on to Skokie
after lunch, and there will be the Winnipeg party
here. One, a Mrs Smith, went to Whistler and
used to visit the Camerons in Concord - quite a
bit. They are awfully nice people.

I guess I better start setting the tables
for lunch. There are lots of little things to be
done as you may imagine.

Heaps of Love
Catherine

P.S. Have I written you since getting your
nice letters about the blizzard. How much
snow was there? in feet.

Banff, Alberta.
Tues. Feb. 27, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

Just a note to go on the afternoon train, We came back down yesterday to Banff and will be here until next Monday at least. The Dominion Championships started on Thursday, and we think it will be fun to see them.

Later- This hasn't made the afternoon train as you can see, in fact it is whistling now. We had the water turned on this afternoon after lunch and all went well but the drain in the kitchen sink was clogged up and it took a while to clear that.

We left Temple Monday before lunch and skied to Louise with Mrs Jamison, the wife of the School master there. It was snowing all the way down, in fact we have averaged about three inches of snow a night for the last week, and it has been rather cold too, an east wind and below zero every night. I think I told you about our busy weekend, yes I know I did. The ex-Carnival Queen went over to Skoki with her friends and also Mary Read and her sister, and that left only Mr and Mrs Konantz and Mrs Smith and Miss Gray from Winnipeg. Then on Sunday a Mrs Dobelle and her Daughter arrived, they may stay a long time, as the daughter has glandular trouble and has to be at a high altitude. To-day Mr and Mrs Nichols went back for a while, and with the people stopping on their way back from Skoki it will keep them quite busy.

Cliff still had a lot of work to do on the water system, and when we got to Louise and heard that the Swiss Guides boys were up there we had the bright idea of seeing if they would go up and help. We drove right up and sure enough two of the Feuz boys were there and came right along with us and we sent them up with Kenneth on the sleigh, one was done quite a bit of plumbing and the other is a good worker, and we hope that they will work out well doing the chores so that Cliff can do the guiding. the local Banff boys are none of them good workers though they can ski well, they can do nothing else and we are anxious to have the Swiss boys work out well.

What blizzards you have had in the east, like the ones several years ago when I was at Art school and Huntington ave was so bad. I just haven't time to write more now, there is always so much to do. We didn't mean to get so interested in the Temple place but can see so well all that needs to be done and if we don't help no one else will at this time. Cliff can't possibly do it himself and we do want it to go well.

I doubt if I will have much chance to write you the next few days, but will do my best.

Loads of love, Catharine.

Thurs. Feb. 29, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

I don't expect this to be much of a letter, as it is after nine and I am so sleepy that I can hardly write, but to-morrow morning it will be a rush to get up the hill in time to see the ladies slalom race, and the other events, and as there are several people that we have invited to the house this weekend, they may be here for tea to-morrow. So I thought I had better write now and be sure to have something to mail.

Your letter and Jean's written Sunday came to-day, the one about Frances bringing a young man to the house. There are so many letters of yours to answer I hardly know where to begin.

I will cash the check for five dollars you sent so long ago, I should have done it before, but waited as there is no place here to buy flowers, and then when Pete's father seemed better I waited, then I misplaced the check, but have found it and will cash it and also get some flowers from Calgary, when I can, and explain to Pete's Mother. She got a box of spring flowers from Pete's aunt in Victoria the other day. It has been a very mild winter out there and roses have bloomed all winter, she sent all sorts of spring flowers from her garden, Crocuses, primroses, tiny hyacinths, daffodils, and even Japanese Quince. They were so bright and pretty, bell hyacinths too.

It was nice that Mildred could be with you over the holiday, it never seems to amount to much when there isn't a week end attached. We enjoy all the clippings, about the blizzards, Ben Dahls drawings, the Old Man Winters page, and all the letters too. The George Newburys seem to be getting married all in one year, I am glad to hear that things are going a little better for them. What happened to Mrs Sohler? I didn't know that she had been sick until you spoke of taking her to ride. Why don't you take a drive around Lincoln and see if you can get a glimpse of one of those Modern houses, I have never seen one in real life, only in pictures. The poor Aggas, Miss Annie used to be the invalid, and now she seems to be the strongest one of the lot.

The only Robert Nathan book I have read is the one Jean sent, the one about the little dog. It is funny, but Mrs Nichols was reading the book about Borneo out at Temple and thought it so good, if she is still there when we get back I will try to borrow it. I didn't like the Japanese Paintings at all in the Magazine of art, they were awful. The dirt on the envelope was not mud, but chockalate, Kenneth said he didn't know what to do about it and thought of bringing it back, which would have delayed it a day or two which would have been sad, I told him another time to put it in a fresh envelope and address it again. Yes Temple is a summer place too, there is horse back riding and fishing and hiking from there, I will send a few postcards when we go back Monday or Tuesday and that will give you a little idea of what it is like. We haven't had much luck seeing the planets, I think they are partly hidden by mountains and then I forget to look clear nights.

Maybe I will have time to write more in the morning.

Loads of love Catherine

Banff, Alberta.

Sun. night. March 3, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

The Dominion Championships are over, and now perhaps we will have a chance to write you a letter. They went off rather well and the weather was mild and nice for the spectators and the snow not icy for the contestants. It wasn't nearly as big a meet as the last ones three years ago, but it was pretty good on the whole and no accidents to speak of, the only bad one was when one racer skiing to the willage ran into a bus, it was his one fault, for he hit the back of the bus, but he broke his leg rather badly. Another boy broke an ankle in a race, but that was all that happened.

This afternoon when we got back about six, we noticed that both Jackie's and the doctors cars were up at the other house, and Pete was sure his father must be worse, he went right up but found that he was all right, He had had a bad attack, of pain I guess, but the doctor had given him something to help. Lila just came down for Pete a few minutes ago, they were having a hard time keeping him in bed or something, so Pete went up, and I am just waiting, as there is nothing I can do. Pete's father has been about the same for the last few weeks, he has times of wandering in his mind a bit, and yet the other day he spoke to Pete about how things were going at Temple and about George Mclean the Indian who had been to see him. How he stands these attacks I don't know, for he is so terribly weak, It is a bit nerve racking as every one you think may be the last.

We have been pretty busy the last few days, Thursday morning we went up to Norquay, where the Ski events are held, to see the boys jumping at ten thirty, and then the cross country race after that. It is rather fun for the spectators, as the course is about three miles in length and the racers go round three times, they start ~~1/2~~ a minute apart, so that when they go by for the second lap you can tell by their numbers whether they have passed anyone and who is ahead. Then later was the boys downhill race, which is always exciting as one can watch it from the hill near the finish and see the racers from start to finish.

Friday was the mens slalom with over fifty racers, and that took most of the morning, in the afternoon was the ladies and girls downhill race, we also went to the train in the afternoon as Mr and Mrs Konantz and Mrs Smith (who went to Wheelers) and from Winnipeg, and who were at Temple when we were last there, were coming in, and Miss Gray too, They wanted to come down to the house so we asked them that evening, and they all came at nine oclock just as we had given up hope, They stayed until nearly midnight and seemed to enjoy it, I suppose its the pictures and photographs that they enjoy looking at.

Saturday was the ladies Slalom and the men's downhill race, the later was pretty exciting, for it took almost an hour with fifty racers starting at minute intervals, and some overtaking others, and nearly all having terrific spills -

I will enclose a picture of the courses to give you some idea of the setting. They take the downhill as nearly straight as possible making turns most of the way. the best time was a little over a minute and quite a bit of it is to the left and down in the picture. Russell might be interested that Ted Paris, Cyrils younger brother won the race. He didn't fall once and ran it beautifully.

After the race, Cay Betts came to the house a little after five for tea, and then just before six Alex Casgrain and Lorna ~~Warr~~ ^{Warr}, (both racers from the east, Quebec I think, he is a friend of the Panets) came in, we had asked them all down. The last two didn't have a chance to even sit down, they looked at every thing and then when five deer walked across the front lawn they were so excited they all had to go out and feed them, luckily we had lots of bread, and the deer were very friendly and they were so thrilled they forgot all about the time, when suddenly Cay Bett looked at her watch and it was five past seven, and she was to be dressed for a Competitors Banquet at seven fifteen, so they all hurried off. You can see why I don't try to cook fancy meals, thanks to an electric stove I had slipped some potatoes into the oven when they were out feeding the deer, so we didn't do too badly.

To-day we were up the hill rather early as Pete had some flags to put up on the jump, it was just as well as there were lots of cars going up. It was still warm but overcast, however the boys slalom in the morning and the big jumping event went off well. Last Dominions we had plenty of snow until spring weather melted most of it, and everyone said " it just shows they shouldn't have held it so late " it was in March, so this time they held it nearly two weeks earlier and we had exactly the same kind of weather, a strong chinook wind which brought the temperature up to the fortys and nearly all the snow in town has gone and it was pretty soft up the hill, but lovely for the spectators.

Mary Cross and her husband from Columbo Ceylon are coming down to-morrow morning before going back to Calgary. He goes back to the east soon, but she is staying on here because of their young sons education, and also the uncertain world conditions. I guess, but it must be pretty hard not to expect to see her husband for two or three years.

We may not go back to Temple for two or three days and then might take Alex Casgrain with us to see the ski country, we aren't quite sure, but if everything goes well, we will go back for most of March as Pete wants to do some sketching and to be here is rather upsetting. Like to-night, I think I will call this a letter and go up and see what is happening, and if I can't be of some help. Now that the water is working at Temple again it is not as necessary for us to be there to help. When we go again we hope to do more on our own, but Cliff really did need us that last time

Lots of love,

Catharine.

P.S. Pete's father was alright and Pete just stayed for a while.

Banff, Alberta.

Wed. March 6, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

We seem to be having Spring weather, for it is about forty above every day. Has been for nearly a week, but I guess it means that March will go out like a lion.

Yesterday Pete went up to Temple with some of the racers from the east, Ted Zinkain who raced in Europe last year, drove in the car with Pete, Jackie drove three men and Gertie Wepsala, who is one of the best girl skiers in Canada, as far as Louise. and then Pete went up with them to Temple. They meant to leave at nine thirty, but it was nearer ten when they at last got away. They are ~~getting~~ going to be out there only a few days., but it is nice to have them busy. Tomorrow two more go for two nights, and to-day a lady went out. The Nichols are coming in after a week's stay, Pete drove up with Jackie this morning as Jackie is going for a night, and Pete is to drive the Nichols back in the car. WE may be going back to-morrow, it just depends on when this Alex Casgrain comes in from Sunshine, (which is the opposition Ski Camp) We are anxious to have him see Temple and Skoki, and let him judge for himself. It is rather difficult, for the people connected with Sunshine tell tall tales about the places near Lake Louise, they say Temple is full and you can't get in, or that it is too hard a trip, It is very unfair, but people are beginning to find out for themselves, and of course it makes them furious at the Sunshine outfit, However they are getting a nice amount of business at Temple, and it is best to work it up gradually. You were asking about the rates, They are \$ 6.00 a day, \$35.00 a week, two in a room, and \$ 7.00 a day for a room to oneself. Then it is cheaper for the month or ~~two~~ 3 weeks, I think. There is also a so called Party rate, ~~for more than~~ for four or more, and they must expect to be all in a room or in the dormitory. this is from \$ 3.50 a day up to \$ 4.00 I think. \$ 25.00 a week. This includes everything, three meals and tea, and cocoa at night, in fact all one can eat. There are six double rooms, two of which can hold extra cots, and the dormitory for 8, There are two toilets and two bathrooms with just tub and basin. so it really is very nice, and the water is working again.

There are lots of letters of yours to answer, and while I wait for Peter I will see how I can make out.

It was fun hearing about the children in Russells letter I will return it in case you want to read it some more. I bet they are enjoying the warm weather and sun, even if it is cold for Florida.

Yes I do remember Mrs Bulkeley, isn't she the one Sam always goes to see, some relation. I am sending a bit from the bulletin of the Milwaukee Art Institute, it evidently came last fall.

I wonder did you have the slææ storm that New York had a few days ago. You spoke of the last storm breaking off two of your fir trees in the middle, that is what happened to six of our trees last fall when we had the 2½ feet of snow. Once they started bending over the snow was so heavy that they just bent ~~and~~ until they snapped off.

When we were so busy up at Temple several ~~years~~ weeks ago (I am listening to the news from London in one ear, I guess writing with the other) I didn't have time to read all the enclosures in your letters, and one letter I slipped into a pocket of my rucksack and somehow didn't see it on second reading, In this letter I have just discovered the clipping which Mrs Wayman sent on "Sanity in Art," it is the most encouraging thing yet, and we agree heartily with it. I fyou have a chance to help out, do, for it sounds the best thing yet. I notice one of the committee is Charlotte Lamson, she was a t Art School when we were and drew and painted as well as anyone. Thank Mrs Wayman when next you see her.

I hope Aunt Julie and Mrs Motte will be out and about soon, they have had quite a seige, I am so glad you have kept well, it pays to be careful.

If there is time(?) I shall read Lin Yuitang up at Temple. Asta has it as she belongs to the book-of-the-month club. and I saw the Peking one up there. We haven't read for ages.

The book I sent you Christmas with Mr Phillips illustrations is by a man Pete knows, a great friend of Mr Gibbons, he spends some of his summers in the Windermere Valley west of here. Mr Phillips is one of the very best Block Print Artists (I should say Wood Block Artists) there is. In fact we like them better than his water colors. We saw him several times the summer that he did this book, and so many were pictures around O'Hara that I thought you would enjoy them. I haven't read the book yet.

The Simpson Girls didn't separte, but Mary was so ill that lots of people said she would never skate again, in fact she was on her back most all summer, Thank goodness she had the stuff in her and is skating at Hannover N.H. but it takes a lot of strength to do what they did before, maybe they will be able to next year.

Jean says the chair seat you are making for Harold Cabot is lovely. I am sure it is. That embroidery work must be fun to do, I shall be interested to see just what it is like.

Guess I had better call this a letter, Pete's father is about the same, after that sort of attack he had Sunday he has been quiet and not much worse that we can see he has his good days and bad ones. I can't promise what our plans will be, this time when we go to Temple we will have the time to ourselves we hope, as the water is working and also one of the Swiss Guides boys is there to help with the chores, so Cliff can do the Guiding. I really don't know what he would have done had we not gone up and helped, I don't think he realized what he was in for.

Loads of love,

Catharine.

Banff, Alberta
Friday March 8, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

We still haven't left for Temple, but I hope we will go up to-morrow. Mrs Mack and Marcia Prior left to-day for two nights. We rather expected Alec Casgrain to come in from Sunshine yesterday, but he didn't show up, however he wrote that he would like to go in with us to Temple but didn't say which day. Several skiers are coming in this afternoon so I hope he is one of them. Pete decided to go to Calgary this morning, but I stayed home in case Alec comes, Pete expects to be back early, he went down to make enquires about a tractor for the road to Temple, we think it would be a good idea to have them try it out while there is lots of snow and see how it works, and the only satisfactory way is to go oneself. It will save Pete coming down from Temple, for next time we go up we hope to stay for two weeks and do some sketching. We had hoped to sketch before but there was so much to help with that we never had time, but now the water is working it is a ~~diff~~ different story.

It was an awfull shock to hear of Dr Woodworth's death in Jeans letter, What a terrible thing to have happen and he was always such a nice person.

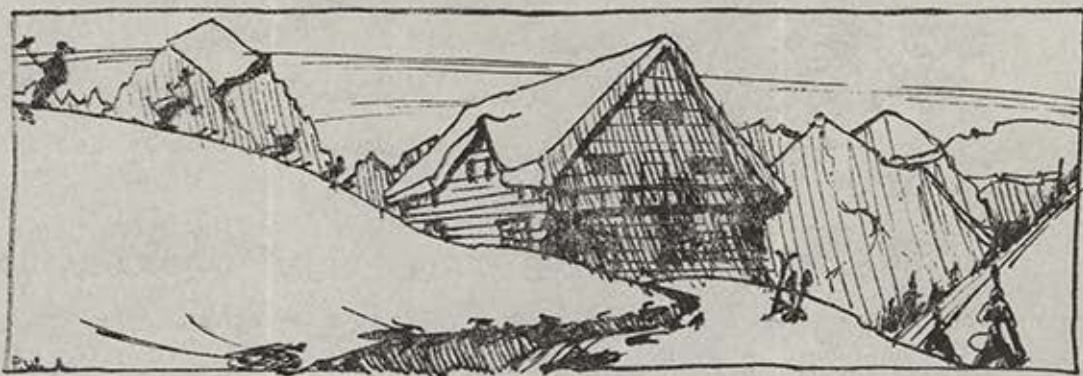
It is nice to hear that you are getting Edith a new car, but seems awfull to think how little one can get for old cars in the east, I will send you for the fun of it some special bargains advertised in the Calgary papers, of course they are worth a hundred dollars more due to freight charges out to the west, but even considering that, there is quite a difference George might be interested too.

We are so glad to hear that Russell is free of his trouble and has a good bill of health, I thought I had remarked on it before, for we too felt so happy about it.

This isn't much of a letter but I will send it along anyway. There are so many little things to do always and I want to go over and see Jackie and hear about his trip to Temple day before yesterday. he got back late last night.

Lots of love

Catharine



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

Sunday -
March 10, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

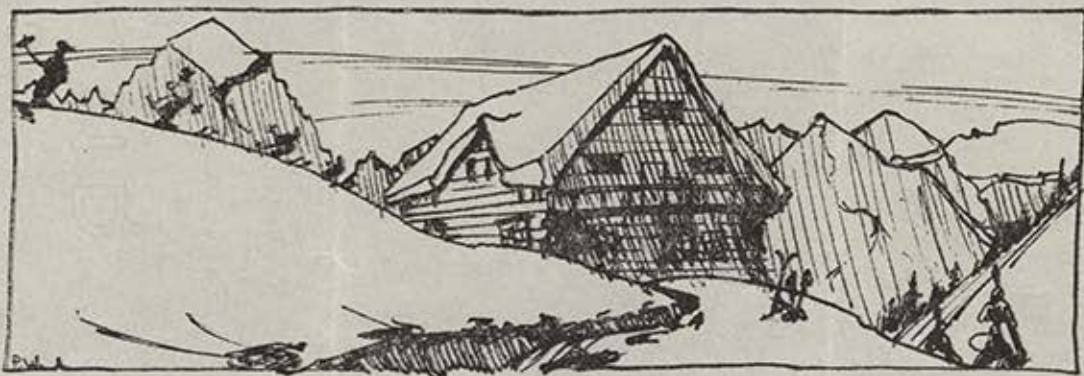
This afternoon has been very quiet and sleepy. In fact I was one of the few who didn't take a snooze. It was zero this morning an east wind, but not here, as the mountains seem to protect us, but it made the temperature drop. We came up yesterday afternoon, drove to Lake Louise about noon, and then had to wait a while for the sleigh to be hitched up & loaded. A Mr Kirkpatrick from Vancouver was also coming up and hopped on the sleigh. We three only rode up the big hill and as far as the short cut, and then walked the rest of the way. It is quicker as the team has to go further round.

Mrs Maeb from Banff and Marcie Prior from Victoria were here. They left this morning, and a girl from Montreal is staying for a week. Then there is Mrs Dobell and her daughter who may be here for all spring, as the altitude is just right. Some Banff girls are coming in tomorrow and a Mr Campbell.

Cliff took Mr Kirkpatrick, Miss Putnam
to me for a short trip this morning. The snow
is gone now. The warm spell having
settled it a bit.

It is very pleasant up here, rather hard
to describe, but there is a nice homey feeling
about the place. Everything is simple but
comfortable. Warm and clean. The food is
really awfully good. Like home cooking of
the best. The time just slips by. This
won't go down until to-morrow maybe, so
I may have a chance to add more later.

Lots of love
Catherine



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
Tues. March 12, 1940.

Dearest Mother,
We are having lovely weather though today is very windy. Yesterday Pete was busy all day fixing shutters on windows and building steps. But I think he has nearly finished the carpentering. I made curtains yesterday and have a couple more pairs to finish. The water goes off & on with the weather, and is an often enough for baths.

I will try to answer more of your letters. How nice it was that Mrs. Bayman won the prize for the best Atlantic Monthly short story. I will try to look for it. Though I don't often see the Atlantic.

— Later. I'll just send this as Kenneth came up & is now ready to leave. Ole Casgrain arrived at last today (here). Another fellow too, and four girls for the night. So again we are busy. This really is hardly worth sending. Two nice letters from you! One with lots of other letters I haven't had time to read yet.

Loads of love
Catherine

Banff, Alberta,
March 16 1940.
Saturday.

Dearest Mother,
I'm writing this long hand as we
are listening to "Faust" and it's too lovely to
spoil with the typewriter. You may not have
received my last letter, as there was a train
wreck east of here Thursday and the mail
car burnt up. a total loss. No one was
killed but 12 injured. My last letter didn't
amount to much in any case. so don't
think you missed anything.

Thursday up at Temple Pete
took 40 pounds and Alec Casgrain and
several others over to Skoki on a days trip.
It was a long day for him. I didn't go
with them, but in the afternoon went with
Mrs Tobell, who snowshoes but doesn't
ski, up to the Halfway Cabin. It must
have been about 5.30 when we got back,
and in the meantime a message had
come that Peter's Grand father was ill
with ~~the~~ bronchial pneumonia in the
Banff. Hospital and that he wasn't apt

to live very long. I got packed up and when Pete ~~he~~ returned weary at 6.30 he stopped only long enough for a cup of tea and then we headed for Lake Louise, at about quarter to seven. It was dusk and rather hard to see but not really dark until we reached the car at Lake Louise Station. The Turners there gave us more tea, which gave us a chance to dry off from hurrying, and we got to Banff about nine fifteen. Five hours after Pete left Skobri. Pete went up to the hospital and saw his Grandfather that evening. We slept at Jackies and they were called about 3.30 in the morning, and got up there only five minutes before he died.

It was fortunate we came right down. Pete's Grandfather was 89 and a really remarkable man. He was the one who painted, and also was the father of Pete's mother. He lived in Cochrane, alone the last few years. His sister lived with him for several years but died two or three years ago. He was very independent and did everything for

himself. He's been sick with flu since Christmas and it got into his chest I guess and his bronchial tubes. He didn't want to go to a hospital, so I suppose it was really too late when he at last agreed to. He came up here Wednesday and could hardly breathe then, and they had to give him oxygen all the time. However he was never out of his right mind and joked and knew people all the time. Jackie said the ~~(nurses)~~ sisters were so good to him and Grandpa thought they were so kind.

X It seems queer to think how he has been the well one visiting Pete's father who has been so ill. Yet he was the first to go.

The funeral will be Sunday and I suppose we will go back to Temple Monday. I hope your bet in your last letter isn't right. As a matter of fact the weather the last two trips hasn't been too good for painting - and the first trip we were too busy with other things. But after Easter there should be more time for painting.

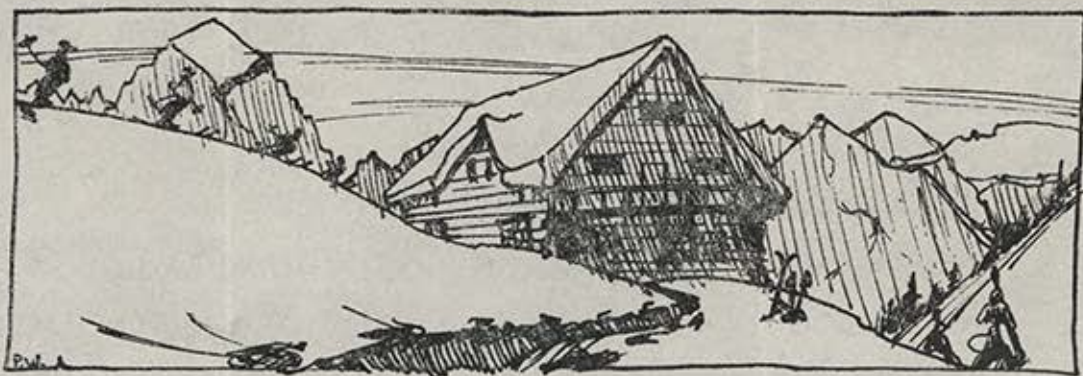
warmer weather to be out in -

It doesn't look as if we would
make the opera season - but I am
sure we shall see spring in the
garden in Concord -

I may get a chance to write
you to - now

Heaps of love

Catharine -



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

Monday, March 18, 1940.

Dear Mother,

We are back here again, such comings and goings. It's hard to keep ourselves straight. Saturday we spent rather a quiet day in Banff. Having had little sleep the night before we slept late. ~~Made a note~~ it was Thursday night we had little sleep, but anyway I guess we slept late Saturday. In the afternoon we made two calls: one on Cecil Paris where we had tea & talked and at Mrs. Mac's where we also had tea & talked. Then in the evening Joe Kuipman of Minneapolis and Eileen Harmon came down to see us and it was after mid-night when they left.

Sunday there were quite a few relations around and the funeral in the afternoon, and then this morning we hustled around to get all the odd things done.

We have a new system now in the house. Pete turns the water on only in the

new part of the house. So we have a toilet
& basin and the water in the dark room -
and its not much to drain -

We brought Ted Garret up with us. He
is a Bang Bay and also an engineer on
the new road. though he is all through now -
He is going to give advice on the road up here
also etc. We have to go down again on
Thursday to vote in the Provincial election -
to try & defeat Social Credit. but will
probably come right back up -

The mail is going down now. so
I will send this along.

Pots of love
Catherine

Banff, Alberta.
March 21, 1940

Dearest Mother.

X You must be as confused
as we are, as to where we are staying up.
I never knew in the morning before
opening my eyes just where I am.
That night we were at Barbara's and
tired. Harold cried several times in
the night, and each time I woke I
tried to figure out who it was at
Temple sleeping. until I realized where
X we were.

We suddenly decided to
come down from Temple yesterday
noon, as they were full up there &
the day wasn't very nice anyway.
and today we had to vote to get
Albion & Social Credit out. They
are pretty full over the Easter week-
end and it only means that we
move from room to room in our
sleeping bags, & even those they
will need. Also when there are so
many there we can't paint, & also
the weather has been dull & the
skiing isn't too wonderful just now

On the way down in the car we had a brain wave, as we were trying to figure out our plans. We had originally planned to go to the coast, see the dentist, get me some clothes & one or two other things to attend to, and then go east from there.

Now we have decided instead of waiting in Bauff four or five days until there is room at Temple for us - to make a hurried trip to the coast now while the Easter rates are on - See the Dentist, arrange about the car credit we still have. get me a few clothes, then come back here by the end of next week. have two or three weeks of spring shrimp when we hope the weather will be good - and then start east. We seemed to have all the good weather when it was cold in Dec & Jan. but we are due for a good stretch soon. Pete does want to get some sketching and now everything is going well at Temple we won't have to help there, but will have the days to do as we like in.

We should be able to start east by the middle of April sometime. That

is if everything goes well in the mean-
time -

Right now we are listening to
Provincial Election Returns, and they
are so close it is very exciting.
The returns from our riding were
the 1st completed and Social Credit
was defeated & the man we all wanted
got in. But other places are awfully
close. It makes it pretty exciting.
The Liberals & Conservatives joined
forces & sort of backed one candidate
running as an independent. in that
way the vote wasn't as split.
If I have time I will add to this
in the morning, but it may be a
bit of a rush!

Friday. Good Friday -

We were up early, before eight & got the
news. 12 Social Credit were elected, 7
independents and ~~the~~ the other 36 seats
undecided, Social Credit leading in 22
and Independents in 18. The second
count will maybe decide it.

Pete got ~~the~~ reservations this
morning, though the trains are gained
so we will go after all. Be in Vancouver
Sat morning. Do our business there, go
to Victoria Easter, and we hope see the
dentist starting Monday.

Loads of love
Catharine.



TELEPHONE-SEYMOUR 5742



HOTEL GEORGIA

VANCOUVER, B. C.

Saturday -
March 23, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

We arrived this morning
and leave to-morrow early for Victoria.
There were one or two things to see too
this morning, which we did. Have up
to call back when we return after
our sojourn with the dentist next week.

X The trip out was un-
eventful. skiers got on the train
to go to Lake Louise, and others were
coming through from Winnipeg
& points east to make a trip up
into the Yoho Valley. They were
mostly Alpine Club people and
going to inaugurate a new hut
they have built. People in the

mountains hate to see such groups go out. The Yoko is rather dangerous country to get into on account of slides. But some of these people feel they know all about everything. We hope they have no trouble.

Quite a few got off to ski at Temple & Skolvi, and we were glad we weren't to be there. For with a crowd it only means that we would spend all our time turning people out - it's awfully hard not to, when one is there. But when the season slackens off we won't have to offer.

The train was crowded with Holiday people. Such a nice crowd, no hard boiled business men. Most of our car was full of ~~top~~ Scotch. Such wonderful accents. It is a cheap Easter excursion that is on. We came tourist this time, and liked it so much. Air conditioned. Better



HOTEL GEORGIA

VANCOUVER, B. C.

TELEPHONE-SEYMOUR 5742

seats, a porter and all very nice. The only real difference is that you can't have the run of the train or use the observation car, but that is always so smoky in any case. Also the people were so nice & seemed to be enjoying everything so much.

We saw the Empress of Russia sail. Did I tell you about the boy from Hong Kong who knew Darcy Baker Carr, & who was here Christmas? He went to all the ski places & a month ago went to Assinaboine, met a girl there and now they are to be married. She & her mother sailed today with him. When we saw the boat as the train came

in to the city. we thought of him &
that he must be going back on her.
& the first person we bumped into
was him in this hotel. They
are to be married in Hongkong.

It seems funny to be in a
big city. It is the first time we
have spent a night out of our
district since last spring.
It's a good dress rehearsal for our
trip east!

I'll write again from Victoria
maybe Monday. We may take
the day boat to-morrow. It was
a beautiful spring morning but
is raining now. The grass is
green and the Forsythia &
Japonica are out. The Paffodils
& Hyacinths - (Can't spell any
of them)

Loads of love
Catharine -

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

Wednesday -
March 27, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

I should have written you yesterday, but somehow we kept busy all day. This has been a very successful trip so far - and we expect to leave on the night boat tomorrow, spend a day & night in Vancouver, and arrive home Sunday morning, giving us a chance to warm the house up, which is better than getting home in the late afternoon.

The trip over on the boat Sunday was

lovely, as the day was warm and sunny. Neither of us wore an overcoat, so you can see it is quite warm here. in fact we haven't needed one yet.

It has been unusually mild all winter with hardly any frost, and only once or twice below 35° above. Peter's aunt told us that the spring here is very long drawn out. She sent his mother a box of spring flowers over a month ago, and the same flowers are blooming now in the gardens. Daffodils are 5 cents a dozen to buy. The plum trees are blooming & forsythia, and I even saw Iris yesterday in bloom. It makes gardening a real pleasure when the flowers last so long. but they are nearly a month ahead this year.

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

Monday we called up the dentist who was having Easter Monday off. but made an appointment for Tuesday morning at 8.30 A.M. We each have had two teeth filled & I have one more appointment & Peter two.

X Monday we went to see Mr Duke the head of the Ford agency. They all know us for we have had a credit with them since the fall of 1937 when we turned in the Station Wagon. We were going to sell it ^{the credit} to Sam Ward last fall. but he was changed his plans. Mr Duke told us the Auditor was sure there was some mistake in the books. for he had ten thousand in credits and no other out.

4

dealer in town had anywhere near that amount. He said he couldn't understand why people trusted Mr Duke with so much money. He isn't a bit like an Auto Dealer, his quite English and terribly nice. We have decided to pick up a new car this spring in Windsor (its \$125.00 cheaper in the east than here) and then drive east from there, so we ordered it. He showed us a similar car yesterday. & we had a drive in it. It is rather like Russell's last Packard in type.

Mr Duke asked us if we had our car here. & we said no, where upon he insisted on lending us a Ford to drive as much as we like in while we are here, and we have had a lovely drive each

SUSSEX APARTMENT HOTEL

1001 DOUGLAS STREET

VICTORIA, B. C.

afternoon. We thought it was awfully nice of him.

I have been buying lots of clothes for me. a new tweed suit, a top coat, a hat and a shirt. I hope you recognize me for I don't know myself when passing mirrors. In a few minutes I'm going out to have a look at a dress.

I better send this now and tell you what else we have been doing later.

Loads of love
Catherine.

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

Thursday -
March 28, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

We both finished at the dentist this morning, thank goodness. He treats one's gums as well as giving the belly a cleaning, but it makes them ache for a few hours afterwards and the stuff he puts on is horrid tasting. So the final visit is never very pleasant.

Ever since we arrived we have wished that you were here too, for you would have enjoyed the drives we have taken. Maybe we could arrange sometime for us to be here together. This trip with our borrowed car we have found several roads we have never been on before. Just the kind you would love. Very narrow and

one would think miles from
anywhere. Yet all within a five
or ten mile radius of Victoria.
We usually start out by going down
the "Marine Drive" and through
various residential parts. There are
always a few new houses, and
every house has such pretty little
gardens. Yesterday there were lots
of people out working in them.
Most of the people living here are
retired. Sea Captains, people who
used to live on the Prairies and
even from Banff. There are a good
many. The climate is easier
for them I expect. They can live
very economically here, and very
simply. No such fun looking
at all the little places. Some
right on the sea. Others in the
woods. Some of the country
looks a bit like Carlisle,
except the trees are bigger when

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

you get near them. and there are
the prettiest little bays and inlets
and a vein across the water of
snow capped peaks. The woods
are lovely too. Like an opera
setting with such green moss
& grass underneath.

Mrs Sam Ward has been here
on holiday from Banff. & she went
with us one afternoon. and told
us several new roads that were
pretty.

There are a few things to
do yet. I may still look for a
dress. Maybe Vancouver may be
a better place for that. I'll write
more later & mail this from
Vancouver.

Saturday -
March 30th

We leave this morning at ten o'clock & should be in Bauff before ten tomorrow - think what fun it will be getting all the mail!

We had a good night coming over. It's nearly always very calm and the boat goes slowly so one sleeps well, & no hurry to get off as the stays at the pier until after nine.

It was raining hard but later in the day stopped a bit. I called Frances Ham up after lunch and she wanted us to come up. So arranged to meet us at the Art Gallery and drove us to her house via Stanley Park. We had a very pleasant time. Saw the children and her house. Had a nice chat, a cup of tea and then she drove us back. She also gave us the colored print she had made of the Kodachrome that Pete took for her - and we were awfully interested to see how it came out!

Last night we went to the best Hockey game - It was the Chicago

HOTEL GEORGIA
VANCOUVER, B. C.

TELEPHONE-SEYMOUR 5742

Black Hawks, which is supposed to be one of the best big League teams, and the Vancouver Lions - Sort of an exhibition game. But the Lions were so good that they beat the Black Hawks seven to nothing. The Chicago team never even scored a goal. And of course everyone was tickled. It was a wonderful game. The team here did such steady play up and good "stick handling" the others never seemed to get started. and we imagined they expected to walk over the local boys -
Must go to breakfast -
Loads of love
Catharine -

Califf, Alberta.
April 1, 1940.
Monday.

Dearest Mother,

We were going up to Temple today but as it was a snow storm from the east, we decided to wait until to-morrow. There are always people to see & things to do.

It was a lovely day yesterday when we arrived, spring was here. But today is more like winter. We had a late breakfast and dinner at Jackie's which was very nice! and it gave us a chance to warm up the house by evening.

I got some beautiful flowers in Vancouver before we left Saturday morning a dozen mixed roses, and a lot of spring flowers. stock, daffodils, tulips, & snap dragon. It made a large box full, and they kept well. only needing an hour in deep water on arrival. Helen's mother was so tickled with them, and I had you said inside the box. I told her how you had sent it so long ago, and so she understands and was awfully pleased and wanted me to thank you.

There were three nice letters from you waiting for us, but I was awfully disappointed when you said you weren't going to write as much as usual. We wanted to hear more about everything, especially how the Simpson girls were in their skating and anything else.

I hope the Bowdoin Boys' Concert was a success, musically as well as financially.

We missed a week of good weather, but that is always the way - and anyway it was so crowded up at the Ski Camps over Easter - but this time we go out the season should be tapering off - and it also should be fairly good weather. We hope. I expect we will be up there at least two weeks. The time does slip by so. It doesn't seem possible that it is April already.

It also seems funny to think of you all still with snow, when we are all running water, or were yesterday. Pete was even taking a bit around the house.

Gots of love

Catherine -

P.S. Thanks for the clippings & the Ski Bulletin. We still get it. subscribe to it, but thanks Russell for thinking of us.



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

Wednesday -
April 3, 1940.

Dearest Mother.

We are up here again. It stormed yesterday, snowing all day and as we still had a few people to see we decided to stay over one more day, and also there were four people going out today and it meant we could have a room when we did come up. So everything worked well for it stormed here all yesterday, and today though it cleared early this morning it clouded in again. It seemed funny to have it so spring like Sunday we were raking the yard, and when we left Bayliff this morning there was about 5 inches of fresh snow. It's almost as much as we have had all winter.

We couldn't drive to Cruise as the road is dozed. They did a lot of work on it last fall & the new grades are terribly muddy. We slid up today, two hours was all it took us. Kenneth brought our packs with the other stuff in the sleigh.

Nickie Walsh had to go back to the store so
muddled is up here with the three little boys.
They couldn't come up for their Easter Vacation as there
were so many others here, so they are allowed to
stay out of school this week. They are awfully
good in the school, very lenient if the boys keep up
with their studies.

When we arrived the boys came tearing down
the ski hill close to the house, toy rifles
slung over their shoulders. They were playing
"Finnish" and had gotten rid of all the Russians.
There were two other little boys here for 10 days
who went home today, and they all had a grand
time together.

The season is gradually falling off. Mrs. Tohell
& her daughter are here, and a Mr. Thelander, and the
Rauets are coming in for the weekend, but other-
wise there will only be the odd person. We like
it much better when there aren't so many here.
Though of course, it's not as good for business.
The place I think will close up the 20th of April,
and the team will only be able to go back & forth
as long as the road lasts.

Kenneth has the team almost hitched, so
I'll give this to him to mail.

Lots of love
Catharine.



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

Friday, April 5, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

Yesterday was the loveliest day, and we all just enjoyed it. Cliff said it was only the third really nice day in the last six weeks. It was one of those clear clear days and just one or two clouds in the afternoon. It was warm too, and we were still sitting in the sunshine at six in the evening when the sun went behind a mountain. It was so warm we were in short sleeves all day.

It was just as well we didn't come up until Wednesday, for the others went down that same afternoon & there was only Mrs Tobell and her daughter ^{here}, and a Mr. Pichau who yesterday went to Skoki. The Tobells have been here so long that they are almost part of the family. Mildred and the little boys are probably going tomorrow and Gladys Atkins will be up to help with the work. We don't expect many more now, of course. As to more fun for us when there aren't many here - Asta leaves on the 20th of the month and the Tobells will have to go before the last trip of the sleigh.

Yesterday morning Pete took ^{little} Clifford and little Peter & me for a short jaunt and to a lovely spot where the view was particularly nice. It was such fun for we skied about through the trees and the snow was just perfect. Four or five inches of fresh snow on a good base, and everything was so fresh and sparkling. It was the first real snow we had been in, so we were careful not to get too much the first day, as one can get an awful sun burn from the reflection on the snow. It was so lovely that we did quite a bit of sitting too. Pete made a jump for the little boys and we watched them for some time. They had a great time all afternoon.

Today was rather disappointing for it is all sort of overcast, and though the sun is partly out it is not very bright. There is a little crust on the snow and so we are going to wait until this afternoon when it will have softened a bit.

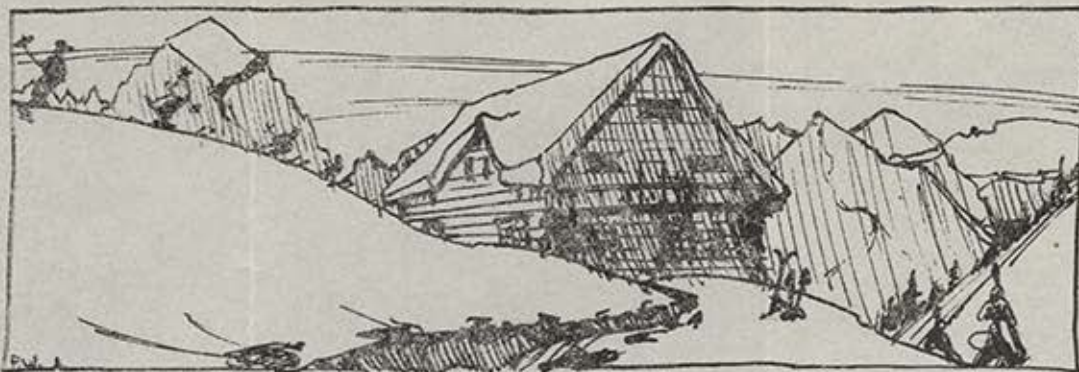
Mrs Ernie Rogers is coming up today, on her way to Skokie, and the Panets are coming tomorrow for the week end.

I will save this letter until Kenneth comes and perhaps with luck there will be some mail from you to answer. There doesn't seem to be much to write about, but I just remembered. I never sent you postcards of the place. I will right now.

Later. Kenneth didn't bring any mail for us so I will end this note. The snow has laid again. Pete & I went on a run near the Chalet & it was quite good. 4 boys came for the night from Winnipeg.

Loads of love.

Catherine.



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

Monday, April 8, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

A nice letter came from you Saturday night, written the previous

Sunday. I just remember that I had my typewriter up here, as they use it once in a while for letters. It makes it quicker writing and so you are apt to get more of a letter. I am so sorry that neither Kitty or I could go to the opera with you this year, but I am sure you must be enjoying it and the people you are taking with you will be having such fun, that it will make you feel nice to be giving so much pleasure to others.

What a bright letter from Cousin Harriet, and how funny Tom breaking the chair, or rather the chair breaking down with him. Also I was quite amused about the portrait they wanted Mrs. Sokier to paint, did you ever? She might make more by selling the story to the New Yorker. We are so sorry to hear about Mr. Eaton having another stroke.

The days still slip by faster than ever. After that one marvelous day the weather had a relapse and it has been snowing a tiny bit and the clouds have been low ever since, except for an occasional moment of sunshine. We have had a few nice runs even if the weather hasn't been too clear. Four boys from Winnipeg and Vancouver were here one night and then Saturday Pete skied down to Louise to meet the Panets. They all came up on the sleigh and then Pete and Cliff took General Panet out for a trip that same afternoon, and next day while Cliff took ~~him~~ him up the Silver Tip Pete and Gladys Atkins took Margot Panet out to the lookout point. Cliff was feeling pretty sick and had sort of a touch of flue so he had to take to bed, I think it was more the need of sleep and a sore throat. So this morning Pete has taken them all out for a short trip and then they go down to catch the afternoon train. Pete is going down with them for he is very anxious that they have as nice a trip as possible. But after they go there shouldn't be anyone that needs special attention, if you know what I mean.

They brought us the loveliest present, four each, of knives forks and soup spoons, stainless steel with the most beautiful wooden handles, very modern in design and very appropriate for our house. very simple. but it was so nice of them to think of it.

We have seen all sorts of animals this year, a goat on Saturday, a pine martin this morning, a weasel at the front door, a coyote right around the building and fresh bear tracks too. A bird flew in our window this morning and around the room twice and luckily found the open window again and got out safely. But I was sure he was going to hurt himself. Hear they are coming back, Loads of love

Catherine



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

Wed. April, 10, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

This is the queerest winter as far as weather goes, it started clearing up yesterday morning and was lovely and sunny for a little while though there were some heavy clouds in spots and there would be an occasional snow flurry. The last snow flurry is still snowing! and it has been snowing steadily since yesterday afternoon so as it is noon now we have quite a bit, about a foot anyway. It is the first real heavy storm since October where the snow ~~sta~~ stays on the trees. I hope it clears to-morrow for it will be lovely when it does clear up.

Pete went to Banff night before last, and when he called up from the station he told us the news about the Germans taking Denmark and going into Norway, we could hardly believe it and poor Asta she is Norwegian and naturally you can imagine how she felt. It was awful and we hardly got anything done all day, or so it seemed. Mr Phelan came over from Skoki on his way down and told us more news and then later Jim Boyce came over with more, as they have a radio, and in the evening Stan Boyle telephoned up and again this morning. It is all very upsetting, poor Hanna I guess she is pretty upset too. I can't see how the Germans can invade Norway very well and the British should be able to help. but it does seem terrible to think that the Germans should just march into small country's like that.

We are planning to stay up here until about the 20th with the hope of getting some decent weather, it has been most disappointing so far, but one can never tell. If the war doesn't upset our plans we should reach Concord sometime the last week in April, that is after picking up a new ford in Windsor. It is hard to tell exactly but that is pretty definite as things are now. We wanted to give you some idea so that you wouldn't have any plans upset. and the garden should be nice in May isn't that right? and the children will be settled home too, if we had come for the opera we would have missed the children and you didn't want us to do that.

Lunch is nearly ready and there is always lots to do. in a place like this, What fun it must have been to take Sylvia Short to the opera and the other people too, I am glad it comes now after the blizzard season, remember what times we used to have.

Must go this time, lots of love to you all,

Catherine



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

Friday, April 12, 1940.

Dear Mother,

It's real spring today & we are all feeling lazy. Spring fever I expect. We are sitting on the porch in short sleeves at the moment. The sun is out, but not very brightly. Yesterday was perfect after a cold night. The storm started clearing Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. Hammond who had been here since Monday went down in the sleigh & her daughter Edith Hilda Hammond shied down later with Tom Hare. As soon as they all left it really cleared up & was perfectly lovely, and the snow was perfect, over a foot of light snow and right near the Chalet too. We had just made one run when three Winnipeg boys returned from Skoki. So Gladys Atkins who is here helping & I rushed around and fixed their rooms. & then we all went for another run, it was so perfect, and the light was lovely. The temperature kept dropping that night from 32° above at four o'clock to six above after supper. Thursday morning it was 2° above zero, and between 14° & 16° below at Lake Louise. It was a perfect morning and the three boys were out before breakfast shins. It warmed up pretty quickly and we all went for a little trip. Pete taking the three boys. Gladys & me. We had barely gotten to the top of the knoll where we were to start our run when the sun went behind a cloud and

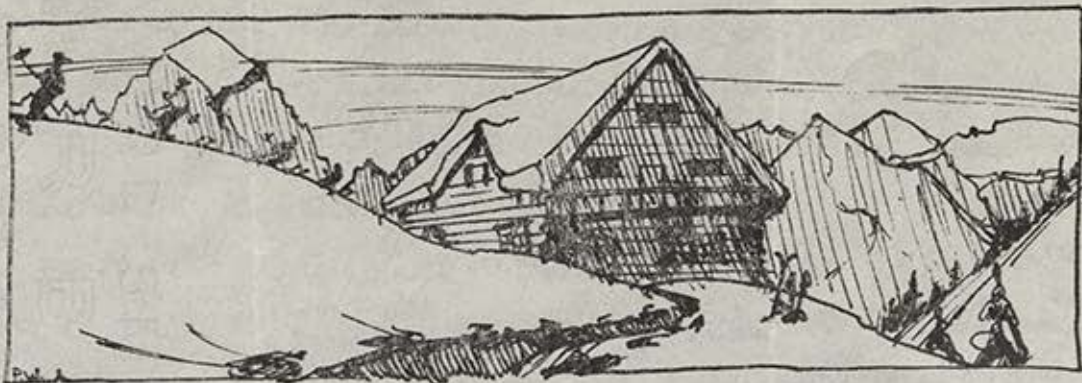
It never snows again until late afternoon. It was rather disappointing but we had a good run home. After a late lunch we went up the slope near the cabin which is a grand run. You climb up through the trees where it has been cleared out & finally come out on top above tree line if you like. The snow was still perfect on that side of the valley and we had a wonderful run down. No sign to have such good skiing. It looks now as if the afternoon would be lovely & sunny & warm.

We were so sorry about Mrs. Rogers and I do hope everything goes all right. I'm glad you added the line that she is out of danger though still ill. We were talking about infection the other day and Gladys whose father is a doctor, said that a person rarely gets infected if they have lived in a place over two months. Isn't that queer. They evidently become immune to the germs around. I am sorry Mrs. Wayman has been so ill but it is nice that you can help her out.

What a time you are having with the plumbers and all and how annoying to have the leak just as the work was being finished. But things seem to go like that often.

Lunch is nearly ready. We have a radio here now so don't have to wait impatiently for day old papers.

Loads of love
Catherine.



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

Sunday -
April 14, 1940.

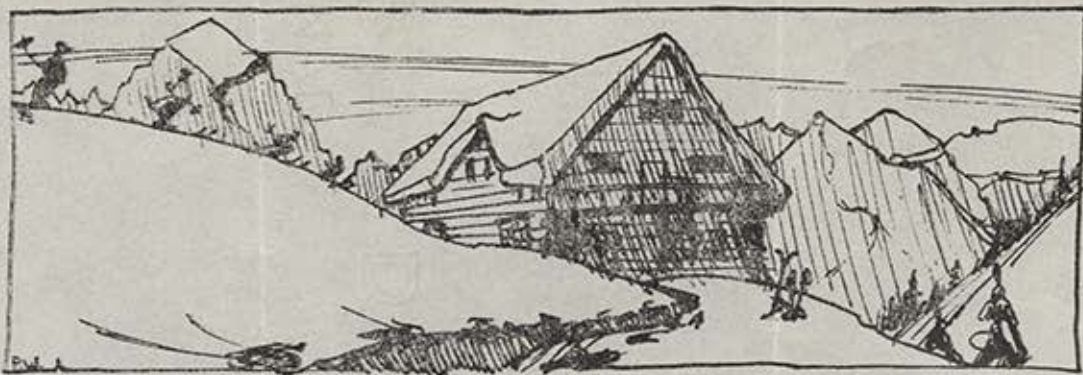
Dear Mother,

We are having fairly nice weather but a warm wind which has made the skiing surface not too good. However it may be fine to-morrow. I have been helping Gladys & Ethel with the house work I guess you would call it. but we have it worked out to give us all the time we want skiing. I have even been skiing in a bathing suit, with disastrous results for I fell once & the snow is pretty cold.

Our plans are working out fairly well. If nothing happens to postpone them. only something happening to Peter's father would delay them. But we have decided to stay here until next week end. Have a day or two in Banff. then leave Wednesday April 24th in the afternoon for Chicago. Have an evening with the Links and take the midnight to Windsor, Ontario. make final arrangements to pick up our new Ford on

Monday. We will arrive in Windsor early Saturday morning, around 8 o'clock on April 27th and though ~~we stop~~ the train goes to Detroit first, its a horrid hour to be met by anyone. so we thought we would go straight through with our baggage to Windsor & return later in the morning to Detroit. I have written Aunt Frankie & also Margaret to find out if its convenient for them to have us then. for I believe Dorothy is home only on weekends. I hope it works out alright. we haven't seen them for years - five or six years I think it is. Then we can go back to Windsor on Monday morning the 28th and start east. We haven't driven in real traffic for so long we thought we would rather not tackle the Detroit variety. It will take us two or three days to drive to Concord. I hope that works out all right for you.

We have been having rather a hard time with the War News. Poor Costa, her family lives within 40 miles of Calo. nine from Franken. and naturally she is rather upset. and the worst of it was that she was tired after working so hard & had trouble with an arm so hadn't slept well. and lack of sleep didn't make the news sound any brighter. We have a radio now and that helps for before she was afraid we were keeping the worst news from her. It seems as if one no sooner got an encouraging report than the next



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

Broadcast had bad news in it. The reports of bombing naturally worry her. We think the news is rather encouraging, but it seems as if she always hears the worst parts. However the Radio is better than the newspapers for in the usual 15 minutes they can't give too many details.

We seem to be always eating here, and it's almost time for another meal, and I must wash up a bit. Just think you will just have time to answer this before we head east. I can hardly believe it.

lots of love

Catherine.



MT. TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

Wednesday -
April 17, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

Three lovely letters came from you yesterday, and I'm so glad Mrs Keyes is better. What a time she had but I guess she was awfully lucky. I'm so sorry to hear Mrs Wayman is so ill, as you say, worn out. The trip to Japan must have taken a lot out of her. The strain and all.

I didn't realize the house was being painted. As just as well we won't arrive in the midst of all the work. Your bathroom will be well worth seeing when it is all finished. I do think the boys were mean to laugh. Jean says her room is lovely and looks so clean and nice.

What fun having the family back, and I know how happy you will be. Spring is such a lovely time of year.

We are having the darndest weather. Yesterday morning we woke to find it clear & lovely but by ten o'clock it was all clouded over and windy & not nice all day. This

morning is dull with only an occasional patch of blue sky. It's so different from last year - in fact none of us remember a spring like it.

x I think we will probably be going down Friday unless it's a lovely day which would tempt us to stay until Saturday. Rota went down yesterday afternoon. The news of the Germans in Norway was such a shock & she really went all to pieces. It seemed as if she always heard the worst bits of news and never would look for the encouraging parts & it was rather hard for the rest of us, as we were always trying to make things not seem too hopeless. She was tired anyway and then didn't sleep & couldn't eat and got weaker all the time. So we decided it was really better for her to go as she was leaving anyway on the 20th. Cliff is doing the cooking & the place will close Saturday unless the occasional skier comes along.

x A Needle point rug sounds awfully nice but no one would dare walk on it. I wonder how an Indian Design would look in needle point. When we get east we can figure out the size & if you should try such a big thing. I must have written the wrong thing when I said we shied from Bauff to Linnis - for no one does that. It could be done but is too flat in the valley & too remote in the back country. Kenneth is ready to leave so will send this along. We still expect to leave the middle of next week. -

Love & Love
Catherine

Banff, Alberta.
Sat. April 20, 1940

Dearest Mother,

We came down at last yesterday, the weather was still unsettled, I have never seen such a disappointing spring in the way of sunshine, and to-day it is raining so we were lucky to have come down when it was only cloudy. Mrs Dobell and her daughter came out on the sleigh, about the last trip that Kenneth could promise and we sent our things down too and then checked them through on the train. Cliff will be down next week after he has cleaned up and done a few things around the place. There isn't much use keeping open unless one is sure of the guests, for it means more wood and food.

There were several letters from you and how nice to have the family home again, I am glad now that we hadn't figured closer for Russell would have been away, will he be back soon, I hope so. We are still planning to leave here Wednesday afternoon, will spend Friday evening in Chicago with the Links if we are lucky, then to Windsor on the midnight, will telephone Margaret Watkins and see what their plans are in case we don't hear from her before, then go to Detroit and see them all over the weekend, back to Windsor on Monday morning to pick up the new car and then drive to Ottawa which is about 500 miles and should take us a day and a half, Pete has to see two people there and go to the Art gallery and I imagine that won't take more than a full day, say Wednesday, Then from Ottawa it is about 375 miles to Concord. I doubt with the customs that we can make it in one day, and also it is harder to make long days in the east, so it would probably be some time Friday afternoon that we would arrive in Concord on May 3rd. It will be easier to tell when we reach Ottawa, and we can wire when we leave there. At first we didn't think we would need to go there but it seems now as if we had better. It will only mean two extra days.

x Pete's Father seems about the same,
x goodness knows how long he will go on this way. We had quite a busy evening last night, as Sid Feuz who has been working at Temple came down with us on the train and came here to supper, we had just time to get a few things to eat before the stores closed at six, he slept at Jackies. Christian Haessler the Swiss Guide who was so badly hurt by the Grizzly last fall and who is still having treatments on his arm came down too and spent the evening. He has had an awfully hard time, first his youngest boy was blown up experimenting with chemicals in the cellar, then

then his wife died about a month ago, and he has been in the hospital all winter. It has been so hard for him and we were glad to have him come down and chat, he seems so much better than he did last time we saw him.

We may go to Calgary on business next Monday, day after to-morrow, I guess there will be lots of little things to do, it is hard to know where to begin to get ready and it is hard to believe we are really going to go east at last. It will be a lovely time to be there and at last we shall see the tulips, won't we?

I must go and get some things for supper,

Lots of love to you all,

Catharine

P.S. That exhibition you saw at the Guild by Margaret Pearson, is she was at Art School when we were but way ahead. She is lame & has to sit always in a wheel chair. I imagine that is why she does interiors. I don't think her work very "inspired" -

Banff, Alberta.

Wed. April 24, 1940.

Dearest Mother.

We expect to leave this afternoon, in about an hour's time. We had thought of going to Calgary this morning & then taking the train to night but it meant too much of a rush last night, & this way we have had more time to get things done.

Monday we intended to do a lot but it was one of those days when every one drops in. Eileen Harnum for a few minutes in the morning. Christian Haeseler in the afternoon followed by Gladys Atkins & Mr ~~to~~ Harnum & Floyd. Then after they had all gone Barbara & the two boys came in. We were just setting down to a picked up supper. meat, onions, tomatoe & carrots all cooked together when Hans Faulkner came to bring back Skis he had borrowed. I guess our supper looked good for he decided to stay & though we had already eaten a bit, we just divided up everything off our plates and he seemed to enjoy it. We had a very

pleasant time & he left early. He flew out last week & got a wire to return & so flew back after only a days shiping.

We were interested to hear that Russell flew from New York. We were tempted to wire you Saturday and ask your permission to fly, but then I was afraid it might get you all worried, and any how we probably couldn't have gotten reservations, but maybe next year we could fly east. It takes such a short time I'm sure we could visit you often. Frances Hain is going that way this spring.

We got a letter from Margaret Watkins who wants to meet us even at night something in the morning. She says she is free that week end so everything will work out very well. We may wait to go to Windsor until Monday & have extra crossing of the border. I think we will definitely go to Ottawa. I'm to look up Mildred's mother. You think you haven't seen me for some time. Mildred hasn't seen her mother for eleven years. & she's never seen the 2 children, only Clifford as a baby.

I got your last air mail letter and
will look forward to the one in Rochester.
will not write until we see them
all there.

Heaps of love

Catherine.



THE ROYAL CONNAUGHT
HAMILTON, ONT.



THE GENERAL BROCK
NIAGARA FALLS, ONT.

THREE GREAT HOTELS IN THREE FINE CITIES
ALL UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
VERNON G. CADDY



THE PRINCE EDWARD
WINDSOR, ONT.

The PRINCE EDWARD
WINDSOR - ONTARIO

Monday -
April 29, 1910.

Dearest Mother, I did mean to write you this week end but hadn't a chance. as you may imagine. Got your two letters sent to Rochester and hope we won't be greeted with snow in Concord.

X Our trip so far has gone as planned and we had such a nice visit with the relatives. We left last Wed. spent Friday afternoon at the Chicago Art Institute

had supper & spent the evening
& with the Links in Chicago!
Spent our third night on the
train to Detroit. were met by
Margaret Wathins. breakfast
at her house. called on Aunt
Esther & Aunt Grace Bagley.
saw Jack Bagley during
lunch at Wathins. Dorothy
& Ada driving us to Rochester
Saturday afternoon. Spent
that night & most of Sunday
at Aunt Frankies & had
such a nice visit. John
Wathins came out for us
& we had a real party at
the Wathins. Jim & Agatha
Angell. Bob & Esther Angell.
Pete & Jean Wright. Phil
Bagley. and of course the Wathins



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It was the nicest sort of party.
This morning Margaret took
us out to see the Ford Plant
& then to Windsor to get our
car. It took longer than
we figured it would, & after
Margaret went back & it
started raining we decided
to stay at the good hotel
here & make an early
start in the morning.
Rather than try to drive this
evening. Now we are
unpacking on the going via
Ottawa and think will go

some that way any how -
So now it looks as if we
might reach Concord Wednesday
night at the earliest or ~~Thursday~~ ^{Thursday}
noon. But will let you
know as we go along. I
guess we are anxious to
reach Concord now we
are so near. Expect a
wire any time letting you
know where we are. The
Watkins can make Concord
in two days. But may
be we won't drive as fast
with a new car.

Tots of love

Catharine

P.S. Did you know that Suzanne
Wallace Cheney died very
suddenly about a week ago?