

Banff, Alberta
Canada
Jan. 3, 1941,

Dearest Mother,

That regular letter I was going to write you doesn't seem to have gotten itself written yet. I did write my "thank you" notes, to Jean for the two books which we were so pleased to have. Did you look at the Guyas Williams one. It really is awfully funny & so much in it is each drawing. Then the Rockwell Kent book for Pete & I know we will both enjoy. Ebba & Anne sent us "Fantasia" the Walt Disney book with the part about the music by Deems Taylor. It is remarkable how every figure has so much movement about it. Even the broom. You feel as if every thing were dancing. Frances sent us George Price's book. & really his things are awfully amusing. It's so nice to have lovely books to look at & read. Up here there is no library.

You were awfully good to write
us all about Christmas, between
your letter and those of Jean and
Mildred we did very well. Mildred
must have made an awfully good
Santa Claus & naturally would
know what to say to the children.

We had quite a busy New Years.
Ida & Sam came down New Years
Eve & also Jackie, and then we
made a few calls next day & ended
by going to the Moores "at home"
as we did last year.

We have had rather a warmish
spell this Christmas usually its
the time for a cold spell. But maybe
we will get that now. So tonight
looks as if it might drop way
down. It was zero this morning.

Saturday

It was about ten below this morning
but the sun is warm. Agnes Hammond
was here a little while. She will
go up to Temple later on with us.

There are so many letters of yours
I want to answer - but maybe there
will be time before long. Last letter
from you told of Uncle John's retirement.
I think he is real wise at his age
the long hours and travelling must
be trying. I wonder will he make
doll houses if he has the time,
often used to think he would have
made a great name as a builder
of miniature things. For he did them
so beautifully. Has he been in to
see the miniature rooms at the
Art Museum? or the model of the
old corner book shop? He might
like making such things and I'm
sure he would do them wonderfully.

Now that Christmas & New Years
are over we hope to settle down and
get more done - to very interruptions
with holidays.

Loads of love
Catherine

Banff, Alberta

Canada

Monday Jan. 6, 1940

Dearest Mother,

Goodness the first week in January has gone already. Yesterday started out snowy and below zero, we were going up to Lake Louise, but it was just as well we didn't go early. Jim was to take the tractor up to bring Mildred and the b'dys things down, and we thought that we might go up for the run down, but then the train was late due to storms east, so it was two when Jim went up and they just got down. Pete worked on a ski picture and then after lunch it turned out nice so we went to Lake Louise after all, the effects of it clearing was lovely. It was when we got to Louise that we found the train had been late, so we really didn't prove an awful lot by going up, except to save the train fare. We spent the time until the tractor got down trying to get the Asling car started, pushing it up and down the road but the oil was so congealed that it wouldn't start at all.

To-day is lovely and in a little while I will be going out.

A nice letter from you to-day, after cousin Jane arrived, and you went over to the camp with the children. It must be awfully nice and I do hope you can send us a picture of it sometime, how about a sketch of it? Did you finally gett the grill. You never did tell how they liked their Christmas presents.

We haven't seen the comet either though I must admit we have only looked a couple of times and then not always with the plan of where it should be.

This doesn't look as if it would be much of a letter for it is timeto go out. We listened to President Roosevelt as we were having lunch, I thought him fine, and the other night he was wonderful too. I do think he speaks well that sort of speach.

Loads of love

Catharine -

Banff, Alberta.

Canada.

Wed. January 8, 1940.

Dearest Mother,

We really are having nice weather for this time of year, and warmer than the prairies. It goes to zero at night but is lovely in the daytime. I don't think one notices the cold when one works up to it gradually.

There are lots of nice letters from you to answer, so I better start right in. We got all the books that were on the list and then yesterday the Art one by Rothenstein, I don't see how they ever could sell it for 98 cents, but I suppose that they had it ~~already~~ printed and then bound it cheaply. It will be interesting to read whenever we have time. One would think there was lots of time to read here, but there never seems to be enough.

I forwarded a letter from Mrs Greenham to you, but did not open it, I imagine that it was thanking you,

I don't think that I half thanked you for the lovely long letter that you wrote all about Christmas. I am so glad that you got going for I loved to hear all the little things. Mildred must have been a wonderful Santa for she can act well I imagine, and so acted the part. It must have been great fun.

I don't think that I have mentioned all the clipping's that you have sent, we always find them interesting.

Wasn't it lucky that my presents got to you in time. I should have mailed them at Lake Louise for I believe they would have gone the same day. The package for Russ was mailed there three days later than the ones in Banff. I figured that once on the train here they would get to Montreal, but I guess the delay was there, for they had to go to Boston and then Concord. However by mailing them later there wasn't time to open them. ^{We did all our Christmas shopping in Banff, I thought that the scarf Pete sent you was rather nice for here, and that it would be good for your neck.}

I went over to see Frances the other day, and she is staying an extra week for she said she was feeling so rested. Her youngest boy was in bed with a cold for a number of days and it meant that she and the nurse had to take turns going out with the baby girl, so they were kept busy. The nurse has gone back with all but little Peter as they had school to start, and she is keeping Peter to get over his cold as he missed so much of his holiday.

We got 138 Christmas cards this year and many were very nice as they were made by the people sending them.

The drilling has started again, they didn't have any for two weeks while Christmas and New Years was on, Pete said lots of them went prepared for inside drill and then they were taken for a march around town, and some didn't even take gloves, but I guess they will learn to go prepared.

We don't know Bradford Washburn, just of him. He was the young lad who gave a talk at the Tuesday Club at Mrs Gorden Hutchins about ten years ago, on climbing. Grepons in Frances, and was so goo

It is Wednesday so I better be prepared as the stores close, and
will call this a letter.

Lots of love always, and when I send love it also
means from Peter too.

Catharine

Banff, Alberta.

Jan. 10, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

We are having a real chinook to-day the wind blowing hard and the temperature 46, so everything is running water, however the wind helps to sort of evaporate the snow and moisture.

I am so sorry that you had a cold and had to stay in bed, but I am sure that is the best way to get over it quickly, and I trust that it is all gone by now. I shouldn't wonder you got overtired and so caught the cold easier. It is too bad that Gale has chicken pox, but in a way it is just as well to get over all the child deseases when one is very young and then they aren't so apt to miss school later on.

X Well you certainly gave us a surprise when you wrote about going to the dinner at Russells and Arnold Lunn's lecture. I am so sorry you had to miss it, for I am sure it was well worth hearing. We know him but not awfully, however he always seems to recognize us when we meet. We met him first in 1936, I think it was, in London, and had tea with him at the Conservative Club, he was interested then to hear about the skiing out hear. He is rather absent minded as brilliant men often are. We remember that tea especially for several reasons, we had sherry but Arnold Lunn had had no lunch so preferred high tea which included a boiled egg. He was very interesting to listen to, but both Pete and I were a bit taken aback when he started eating his egg, he just smashed in the top and ate the shell in the egg, as if he never noticed what he was doing. He only had so much time before going somewhere else so we all left together. He had one of those fat brief cases full of important papers and just as we got to the head of the marble staircase that curved down to the doorway below something happened, and there was a cascade of papers right down to the bottom, It took all three of us ~~several~~ several minutes to pick them up and I hate to think of the mess they must have been in, but it was funny all of us on our hands and knees picking them up and he was still talking quite unconcerned. We tried to say good-bye and thank him at the door but he insisted on taking us part way in his car, having first asked where we were going. So into his car we got, I in back and Pete beside him. It was a little English car and we dodged in and out of the traffic, avoiding busy ~~crossings~~ ~~going up~~ side streets, still talking as far

corners by going up little side streets, talking about skiing all the time. We were half way up one narrow street ~~with~~ which was just wide enough for one car, when there seemed to be several cars coming down towards us. Arnold Lunn merely said something about it must be a one way street and we were going the wrong way, and without more ado, drove up and over the side walk and ~~turned~~ headed back down again. Pete and I were weak when he dropped us off in ~~Piccadilly~~

X

I am reading his Autobiography right now and in it he writes "I was driving down Piccadilly in my car and noticed the Archbishop of York standing on the pavement. I offered him a lift to Lambeth. My secretary, Miss Holt-Needham, was unkind enough ~~to suggest that anybody who had driven by me~~ to suggest that anybody who had been driven by me would be ready to sign anything before the journey's end. Admittedly I remember the Archbishop remarking once or twice, " You've driven through the red lights again, "

We saw Arnold Lunn several times at the different ski races that same year, and usually had a short chat. In 1938 we saw him at Engleberg and were surprised that he even remembered us, for we were just two more people after all. In fact the last time we were with him was in a finicuar with Hannes Shneider, just a few days before Hitler marched into Austria.

About a month ago he spoke over the radio about the Dover Patrol, he was in Windsor Ontario, and we were quite surprised, we felt like writing him and asking him to come this way for some skiing, but didn't. I wish we had known that he was in Concord. Russell may have met him in Murren long ago. He has done more for Skiing than probably any other man in Europe.

loads of love,

Catherine

Banff, Alberta,
Canada.

Tues. Jan. 14 1941.

Dearest Mother,

Pete has gone to Lake Louise to help the man who runs the tractor, Ernie Yamp, to build the bot & seats on the sleigh. You see Jim Boyce, Pete & I each have a third interest in the tractor. At first we thought we could buy the sleigh they used last year, but it wasn't the right kind as it wouldn't go in & out of the dips. Jim had some "bobs" and those are what they will use. As a new sleigh all made would cost over seventy dollars in Calgary. Jim has to be at Skobie for a few days as there are people going out. The C.C.M. representative who used to be in Brussels Belgium & had to return to Canada. He has shined in Europe a lot and is in those parts for a month. They have a five year old child who is to go to Skobie in a pack. We have been thinking of going up to Temple before it gets crowded, but so far there have been quite a few.

Frances Ham went back with little Peter Sunday morning. She came down Saturday to return a book and say good-bye. All her family had the mumps in Vancouver before they came to Banff. As lots of people here have evidently had it too. The nurse started back feeling rather sick. Frances told the children what to do on the train etc. in case the nurse felt mean & tired. Then she said she were here cook to tell her that the nurse might not feel like unpacking etc. to get extra help. When the nurse reached Vancouver she developed a attack of pneumonia. They had three doctors & took her to the hospital. So they must have had quite a time.

I was glad to hear all about the Christmas things. The little dolls etc. I think you matched the kitchen floor very well with the table cloth. We never seem to get around to using a table cloth nowadays. But I will try & remember sometime when we have company. I do think this one a beauty. I think the dish towels too pretty & shall use them on our bureaus. The little guest towels are awfully clumsy but awful small.

They will make nice face cloths with the
fringe cut off. As a matter of fact we don't
use guest towels. They would only gather dust
I'm afraid. but I liked them just the same.

I must go over town now. for I want
to try & clean up the little room I started
to fix so long ago. It looks like a day
with few interruptions.

Loads of love

Catharine.

Banff, Alberta.

Thursday Jan. 16 1941

Dearest Mother,

This has been rather a funny day, zero this morning and a sort of frost in the air. We had a caller this morning, Darcy Baker-Garr's wife's aunt from Calgary. A Mrs Price. She and her husband drove D'Arcy up here from Calgary on his way through several years ago, and only stopped long enough to leave him at our house, I had sort of forgotten the relationship and all but this morning she came to see us as she was in Banff over night. She was the most interesting person, and everything she said seemed to have a lot of meaning, we spoke about the orient and all sorts of things. Darcy is still over there but his wife and their two little children are living with her mother in Vancouver for the winter. They evidently had quite a time before she left. They were living in Canton on Shawmeen Island, which is the international section. I think she was the only wife allowed to stay, I am not sure, but anyway Darcy went to Hongkong on business with the British Consul and had so sooner gotten there than the Japanese closed the river and he couldn't get back to her, and there she was alone with the two children and not even the consul. She must be pretty plucky allright. I guess the Chinese aren't too friendly to foreigners either. She was there a good long time over a week anyway and finally after trying unsuccessfully to leave for Hongknog on a Japanese freighter, she left on an American gunboat with only twenty-four hours notice. She was in Hongkong two weeks with D'arcy before getting the "Asia" and sailing to Canada. Darcy left two days before she did to try to get back to Canton via Amoy and clear up the business affairs, and I don't know if she has heard from him or not.

Mrs Price also told us about meeting the Canadian in the Royal Air Force who spotted the "Altmark" in Norwegian waters, and got the message back quick enough for the British to rescue the British Prisoners on Board. He left his Ranch near Calgary and went east on a cattle train 15 months before the war, then worked his way to England and joined the Royal Air force, he had also flown a bit privately here and wanted really to go into Commercial aviation. but he got in the other instead. He was all through Dunkerque too, and told Mrs Price that you could call it a miracle if you liked, that there were various circumstances, ~~and / / had~~ any one of which ~~would~~ ^{had} ~~been~~ different, ~~it~~ changed the whole outcome of the thing. I suppose that included weather etc.

All in all it was a most interesting morning, her husband though 56 is also in the Calgary Highlanders and was at Sarcee when Pete was, though Pete doesn't know him by name.

I am going to enclose an article on Japan. It was an interview in the Calgary Herald. As the ir interviews are usually very accurate as we have been told so by people giving the interview to them. I thought Mrs Wayman might be interested in seeing it.

We haven't gotten up to Temple yet, but just now there are quite a few up there and so we thought we might as well wait another day or two. Pete is working on a poster and yesterday Cyril Paris came down and posed for him in uniform which was a great help.

I hope Miss Barrett is feeling better and I understand they are to be with you for a few days which will be a nice change for them both I should think. Please give them my love if they are still with you.

Isn't it a great loss, Pont of Punch died very suddenly in London. You know he was the one who did the British Character things, you sent us the book for Christmas. He was only 32 years old. also did you see that Sir John Lavery also died. I told you that the Rothenstein book came. Did you read it? it looks very interesting. Also Sir Neville Hendersens book came too.

Loads of Love

Catherine

Banff, Alberta.
Canada.

Sat. Jan 18, 1941.

Dearest Mother:

"Otello" is going full tilt. The "Opera News" reaches us just as the opera starts. In the noon mail, which is very convenient so it's never mis-placed some where in the house.

I seem to have made a little head way lately in straightening things out, and perhaps with much perseverance I will get things in shape before we go shrimp. We may not go for another week as Pete is busy working on a painting ~~for~~ for a Spitfire fund! A committee of four - Pearl Moore, Agnes Hammond, Mrs. Mac, and a Mrs. Walker are doing it. They hope to raise 35 thousand dollars by summer's end, selling dollar tickets to a draw on six paintings so that each dollar ~~for~~ buys a chance on one of all six which will

be drawn at the same time as
the tickets. Carl Rungius, Belmore
Brown and two local artists, as
well as Pete & a friend from
Vancouver who paints ducks are
doing the paintings.

Our snow storm hasn't amounted
to much. about three or four inches
of fresh snow. but it's very pretty
out.

I got an announcement of Miss
Dey's retirement & Miss Van Norman's
appointment as Principal the first of
the year. I thought you might have had
one too.

Couldn't Miss Everett & Barrett
rent their house and take rooms at
the Colonial Inn, in the winter. It does
seem too bad when they are so ill
a good part of the time to be alone.

Robin must be so curious
about me. I remember a little tot in
Oberseugl Austria being taught to
say that way by his nurse who
evidently was an excellent skier herself.

3.
About the questions. We don't use our electric roaster anymore as the oven in our stove takes its place. If you do get one for Mildred, get a square covered one so more pans will fit in. I should think that if she had a gas stove it might be better to get a stove. (gas) with an oven you can control. I'm sure they have them with a clock & a way of setting the oven. I don't know how they work exactly. The electric ones are fine, but you naturally have to wash them out after a chicken or anything more so than an oven. though it isn't very hard. I think one of those flex seal batters would be wonderful for Mildred. We use ours every day. & Pete loves stews, so we first put in regular meat & vegetables that take the same time. When we roast beef, instead of making gravy, we save the juice in the pan keeping it in a jar in the ice box. Then later we use that as the liquid with a stew. The same with

a chicken. Then we've eaten most
the chicken. We break it up & add
onions & celery and any other handy
& the aspic jelly. We make a real
stew. Some times instead of water
I add a tin of consomme. We cook
it all together about 8 minutes at
full pressure.

I don't know where Miss Heekins
lives. Some where in England.

I don't know if one has to pay
duty on candy or not. But the less
one is sent the better it is when
birthday & Christmas comes along.

I will find out about having
the Studio bound. We forgot to take
it down last trip to let them try
binding a magazine for us.

It was nice to get a list of your
Christmas presents. Seems to me you
got your share of plants & candy
but any way they won't crowd the
attic.

Loads of love
Catharine

Banff, Alberta.

Tuesday Jan. 21, 1941

Dearest Mother,

You have written so many nice letters lately and I don't seem to have done well at all. but perhaps soon I will. To-day we have been trying to do all the little odd things that take so much time.

Thank goodness that you and Jean remembered Pete's birthday, for I never would have thought of it, he was awfully pleased when the book came today and Jeans letter. Also the *American "U.S.Camera"* came to-day for the first time, The address had gotten mixed up "Barriff" instead of "Banff" so I shall write them to-day and correct it before the next copy is sent. We are very glad to have it, and thank you again for everything.

Your letter about the ice storm came to-day, it sounded like a bad one and I hope melted off before the wind blew and broke branches. I do hope you write us all about the Skating show, I wonder if the Simpsons skated at all. It was funny about the picture of Mary at Mildred's school, when you sent Mildred's last letter I was going to write her and ask if by any chance one of the "Professional Skaters" she spoke of was Mary. I think I will write her *any way*.

This is a poor letter but will send it along just the same. It still threatens snow but hasn't snowed enough yet to suit us. The wind keeps $\frac{1}{16}$ changing and clears it up again. It was zero and beautiful this morning but has clouded over now.

*Gods of love,
Catherine*

(Turn over)

I trust you only subscribed to the Camera Magazine
and didn't mean to send the "U.S. Camera Annual for
1941". If you did mean to send both, maybe the
Annual isn't out yet, but I suddenly wondered
if it could have gone astray - Anyway I have
written to them today to correct the address.

Banff, Alberta.

Canada.

Jan. 23, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

We are having our first real wintery weather, and it almost looks like a blizzard. This morning the wind was starting to blow from the north east and soon was blowing real hard and drifting the snow off the shed roof, there is also the finest snow in the air, and I imagine on the prairies it is quite a storm. but in the mountains it never seems as bad for the mountains protect one from the full blast. It is three below so with a strong wind it is pretty cold. Luckily for us we have the new part of the house so the front part keeps very warm, and we are very comfortable.

Yesterday Pete took Cyril Paris up to Lake Louise with him to see about a sled that the Government are going to loan them for this winter, as we tried to find a wide one that would haul a big load of twenty people up to Temple, but the only thing that Jim could find in Calgary even was nearly a hundred dollars. Pete expected to have to dig around in snow up to his waist trying to find it, but when they got up there they found that the Gov't had had to get one for themselves and so had done all the digging around locating them, and all Pete and Cyril had to do was to show Ernie (who drives the Tractor) where it was and he will pull it out with the tractor next time he has it going. We are very lucky and have a fine strong man to run it this winter, he's quiet and nice with the people too.

While Pete was away I tried to write letters to people we thought might come skiing and send them folders of Temple. I feel that is almost as important as war work, for every American dollar that is spent in Canada helps the Gov't get foreign exchange to spend in the states for airplanes and raw material etc. You see they have to pay a good deal in Canadian money for the equivalent in American. I don't know what the rate is now, but every Y U.S. dollar is worth #L/L \$1.10 in Canada. I got five letters written when Mrs Jennings and Her daughter K. came with a receipt for the Red Cross donation, and stayed for tea. Pete and Cyril came back before they had left so we had quite an afternoon in the end.

It is now after lunch and seems to be warming up a few degrees so maybe it won't be a big storm after all.

I bet Elizabeth Darling loved going to the Statler concert with you, I should think she would be a nice person to take.

Now that you describe the camp more I shouldn't think that the grill would be so good, but I didn't realize that they were to cook in the fireplace at first thinking it was more a glorified shelter.

We haven't received any London Illustrated News since the Dec 6th issue either, but yesterday a large group of ships must have arrived at an "Eastern Canadian Port" for on the radio it spoke of hundreds of Nazi flyers having arrived and also a lot of young men to be trained under the Empire Air Training scheme. The Germans will be put in Prison Camps, They said they had no trouble with them coming over, and the Germans were quite surprised to have bacon and Eggs for breakfast on the boats, thinking that the German Blockade was working. I imagine they waited to bring the boats over when they could give them more protection, after the great number of sinkings the first of Dec. lately it has been below average for five weeks now in Shipping losses.

I forgot about the Quiz Kids, and only heard the tail end of the program the other night, last night, but that problem the one aged ten worked out was miraculous to me. something about kilowatt hours.

Does Jean ever listen to the Cecil B.deMille program for Lux on Mondays. about nine o'clock for you. They do plays awfully well, have good plays and usually the same actors who took the part in the movie version. But as Jean can't read stories I think she would enjoy the program. It lasts an hour. I guess its called Lux Radio Theater of the Air. You might enjoy it too. Last week it was "the cowboy and the Lady".

I must go now, heaps of love,

Catharine

Banff, Alberta.

Sunday, Jan. 26, 1941

Dearest Mother,

Well our blizzard didn't seem to amount to a great deal, I believe it got to 25 below here and then for no reason at all warmed up the following night to above freezing and hasn't been too cold since, below zero at night only, + am sending some clippings, one shows it was 64 below zero up north. Quite cold !

There is also one about a pioneer woman that I think rather interesting, it is continued on the back.

This morning we drove out to Lake Minnewanka to see how much work had been done there. They have started and have cleared the Dam site of trees already. but they have to clear all the trees off the neck of low land that runs out now into the lake, I don't know if you remember it or not. and also up a certain height around the whole shore line which I believe is some 45 miles in length.

They are to build camps for the men and all in all it is to be quite an undertaking. I imagine we will be making frequent trips out there from now on to see what is happening. The most interesting thing to me this morning was a truck who's hind end had fallen through the ice. It looked such a hopeless thing to get out, but I guess they will in time for there were several men working.

The Ice Follies must have been great fun to see, I guess it is a thing in itself and the Simpsons didn't skate. but + expect they will if it is a Boston Skating Club thing.

I am sure I have told you that we paid no duty on the kettle you sent, The customs man never charges duty on presents valued under five dollars (That is five dollars + meant to write) Pete thinks it the best thing we have yet and we use it almost every meal. It cooks things like carrots turnips and Parsnips deliciously and then the juice I save for our grand stews, Beets cook in no time too Cabbage was too strong, the lot we tried. I am sure Frances would find it convenient and so would Cousin Alma if she is doing her own cooking.

You mentioned one letter about the man who spoke from the Alcott House over the radio and not one word recorded. It was funny for the next week I evidently turned on his program in which he told about it, and how he enjoyed it even no one heard him.

I think that the Fantasia book Bert and Anne sent us must be the same as yours for it is a very lovely copy, I think it is

remarkable the way all the little figures seem to be dancing to the music, there is so much motion in every one.

Madame Butterfly was lovely yesterday wasn't it ? We enjoy looking at the Opera News though I don't always read it thoroughly as there is so much to read nowadays, + thought R.H.E.'s letter very good and to the point. Anything Particularly interesting in it let me know from time to time.

If you ever get any pictures of John E's farm do let us see them, it sounds like nice country You will have to drive down one of these times to see it,

The man in the snapshots that Mrs Greenham sent you is one of the Mounted Police here in Banff and the little boy is Colin, there was no picture of her nephew. Yes there is too, the little boy with the little girl, they are all such nice children.

We may be going out again and if so I will get this mailed.

We had such a nice letter from Kitty the other day, I am glad they liked all the funny preserves we sent, but I thought they might like to try some of the things that might be different.

Loads of love,

Catharine.

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Wednesday, January 29, 1941

Dearest Mother,

I am so sorry that you had flue, even if it was a mild case I know how weak it makes one. Nearly every one here has had it, Frances Hiam said that it started in California and has been working gradually east, around Christmas time was the worst here, though you still hear of people getting it. Only a few were very sick and no one in Banff died of it. We were lucky to escape it so far though Pete may have had a touch of it around Christmas. We think one avoids things by staying away from the movies. I hope you are all better and that you don't feel weak for long afterwards as some do.

Two letters came to-day from you, you are lucky to be having snow, our storms haven't amounted to anything and it is discouraging. We went and had another chinook, up to 45 yesterday and in Edmonton it went from 40 below one night to 35 above the next day I think it was. It looked like snow again this morning and then went and cleared off this afternoon.

X Pete has a new camera, I say he has it for I am sure it is far too complicated for me to use. We had bought an extra Leica before the war as I thought I would take a lot of colored pictures for you and also we could have color in one and black and white film in the other, however I never used it as much as I thought I would, I had hoped to take close ups of flowers in color, but it proved more of an undertaking than I had realized, and then lately we have wanted to take pictures of skiing that could be used for Postcards. The trouble with the leica is that you have to do all the developing and printing yourself if you want good results, and there are so many times when people want us to take something for them and then it means making the prints and all, if the prints are good they want more and you can't let them take the film to have it done by a professional as there may be other pictures on it that would get damaged, for professionals no matter how careful are never careful enough. Pete had a twenty year old Ica camera that he never uses and we took the Leica and the Ica and made a trade with George Noble for a Speed Graphic. It takes pictures 4 x 5 inches in size, and in color too if you want to. You use cut film in what they call a film pack, which means you can take just one at a time and then have it developed, or a dozen if you like, but not like roll film. I don't know as I have made it very clear. One nice thing is that George Noble can do the developing, and the printing too, so if we want just one or two pictures of anything, we can get them with little trouble. We hope to get some good pictures of Temple and skiing up there and one thing you stand a much better chance of getting a few prints now and then. It is a beautiful camera and the last one they had to sell in Canada. It is American but we can no longer import cameras.

Everyone here has just gotten mail from the old country, maybe the letters sent in November were held up waiting to be censored, for there must have been an awfull lot to go through at Christmas time.

The opera is two hours earlier our time, if it starts at two with you it is twelve with us, but the Canadian stations only give us the last half, from three your time on, though usually I can get it

BANFF, ALBERTA

CANADA

on an American Station, and then we get the whole thing. That Lux Program I spoke of that I thought Jean would enjoy, is on Monday nights at Nine, 9 o'clock your time, seven ours. Last Monday it was Captain January with Shirley Temple and Charles Wininger, and I thought it really very well done,

I agree about the nudes in Life and some of the other trash, I suppose that they figure they must show all sides of Life and also I try and think that perhaps the people who would like that sort of stuff might have there taste and ideas improved a little by having really fine things in the same magazine. I agree about the murals and liked the ones you did. Pete thinks the one Clinton in Winter is awful and I do too. It is bad enough to have to see that sort of building outside without having to look at it in but some of the others are rather decorative,

We don't have as many birds as you do, partly because of the magpies which are great big things and steal the birds eggs. but our chick-a-dees will eat out of our hands, which is very cunning. did you ever try? they sit on your hand and peck at the crumbs.

I will try and find out about sending the cooker to you, there may be some rule against it, there are so many restrictions now about things going in and out.

Thanks for the clipping of Po. it was funny but only last night I read in the paper here about the women's unit in Boston. I will send it to you.

A load sof love

Catherine.

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Friday, Jan. 31, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

I am so sorry that you are having grippe badly enough to have to stay in the house for another week, but I am sure you will get over it quicker for being careful, and also won't run the danger of having a relapse or catching more cold. Perhaps the forced rest will do you good in the end, for you had been going pretty steadily.

How nice that the camp in the woods is such a success it sounds as if it would be great fun, and with so much snow it must be lovely over there.

I guess you noticed Gardner's picture and write up in Life this week, I thought it rather well done and how did you like the portraits on the next two pages? We thought the \$500. to \$700. ones were the worst. I rather liked the first one by Hester Merwin and also Eleanor Weeden's in Gardner's group, though I like his of the boy very much, really about the best. Henriette Wyeth's daughter of N.C.Wyeth the illustrator) is good and so are the \$1000. to \$2000. but the one by Charles Baskerville is the worst of all, well maybe not the worst, I like Gerald Brockhurst's, he is English I think.

Pete has gone to drill to-night so I will try and answer some of the letters of yours. I am glad you enjoyed the Ice Follies, Pete said that trick of trying to pick up the hat was very simple, but I've forgotten how he said it was done, I think with the feet, for you know just one can do all sorts of things just by changing the edge or the weight or something.

I am sure I mentioned the paper weight, for I think I asked you where it came from, it looked on the back as if it had once been a doorknocker.

Aunt Rhoby certainly is smart to be going to Florida at her age, but if she enjoys it I don't suppose it tires her, and noise to me is more tiring than anything else and of course she doesn't hear anything. Also I get tired looking too hard, maybe she doesn't try to see everything.

The clippings are all interesting, the one of the Princesses was very sweet and the article was just like the we had in our paper without the Picture, I think Lady Halifax looks very lovely, and he should be a wonderful ambassador, one thing about British Ambassadors is that they are trained in the service as a rule and work up gradually from post to post which I believe is a far better way than to just pick some business man who isn't trained in observing or in saying things in a diplomatic way, like Mr Kennedy for instance, I thought Neville Henderson in his book put it very well in the first chapter, that an ambassador's job was not only to interpret one's own country to the country to which one is sent but also to interpret that country to one's own government. Lord Halifax was viceroy of India at a most difficult time.

I just looked up that letter in the Jan 20 Opera news and it was very much like R.M.E.s but no better expressed. "De Gustibus" was pretty funny, but I can just imagine a person like that, as a matter of fact I think that is one trouble with a great many people to-day, c they are too afraid to judge things for themselves.

You said that Margaret Watkins came and told you all

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

the Detroit news, and then never wrote what the news was ! I was awfully glad that you sent me Suzanne Manierre's letter, for it sounded as if everything was just right, I suppose that they had been going to-gether for such a long time that Cousin Kathie thought everyone knew all about it, or she may have thought she had told you. It was funny but in our small local paper with hardly any outside news they gave a list the other day of all the well known people who had died in the last year and the last name on the list was that of Glenn Frank, the father of the boy Mary Jane was to marry, I can imagine how terribly disappointed Cousin Kathie was.

How funny to have the opera in the Metropolitan theater, I mean it will seem funny to go there, I hope the acoustics are good, for the rest will be allright I should imagine, though a bit crowded for ears in that part of town. Are you going to see Fantasia, it would be fun to see and hear.

We get Radio City Sunday mornings, it would be 10.30 with us, Just remember it is always two hours earlie with us than for you. I only ge t the Quiz Kids when I can fremember to try, what time is it with you.

You wrote that the tractor would pull a wagon, have they tried the sled ? for going to the camp.

Well it will soon be time for the news and I shall do the dishes while I am listening, I usually save them till then. We listen to most of the news broadcasts and there are plenty, but if you don't listen you always wish you had, though some times the news seems about the same all day.

We aren't going up to /temple now until Monday, as they expect several people up there over the weekend and we still have a lot to do here and once we turn the water off we don't want to turn it on for a while. so would rather finish up the things around here.

I forgot to say how interested I was in the thing about the Studio being bombed out, the British are amazing the way they carry on, they seem to take pride in making light of their troubles, but I suppose after so much is destroyed one would place different values on things and there is no use feeling sorry about material losses when there is not much one can do about it all except what one is already doing.

They were very pleased with your taking eleven chances on the pictures, it is quite an undertaking to try and raise enough for a Spitfire. One Spitfire costs \$35,000.00(thirty-five thousand dollars) maybe you don't know what a Spitfire is, It is a fighter plane that is probably the most remarkable of the British planes, of course we hear far more about them than you would, and all over the British Empire people have contributed to Spitfire funds, I think it appeals to people to feel they are giving money for the kind of machine that will bring down the most German bombers. Seattle raised enough for one and the Dutch East Indies have given several, and many places all over the world. Ceylon, Jamaica, places in Africa, and some Rajahs in India have even given a squadrom of them. The fund here is to be a Banff-Jasper one and they hope to get a lot this summer from tourists. Will I keep your tickets here or send them to you, with each ticket you have a chance to get one of the five paintings. They will draw first a painting out of the six, then a number out of the box and that person who's number it is will get that painting etc.

I was glad to hear that Marion Newbury was a little better sometimes with Arthritis the pain lasts just so long and then goes, a friend here has that kind and it left her very lame but she now gets around quite well. Loads of love, Catherine

Banff, Alberta.

Tuesday, Jan Feb. 5, 1941

Dearest Mother,

I don't think that I have written "February" yet and still it doesn't seem that long ago ~~that~~ I last wrote you. We are at last on the eve of departing for Temple for a week or so, until after the winter carnival though I believe Pete had promised to be here a week from Sunday to judge the ski jumping. However we don't want to be here during the carnival as it only means being roped into things, I would like to see the skating on Saturday afternoon which is all local talent and all due to Mrs Simpson's encouragement and teaching, a good many relatives/ are taking part, from Bubby's size up. Wasn't it nice of Mildred to do so much for Mary Simpson, I wrote her and of course our letters crossed and we both wrote about two other similar subjects, wasn't that funny.

Your letters with the clippings and things came to-day and yesterday, What did you think of the reproductions for \$2.38 8 of them. There weren't any that I would have cared for. Pete knew of that Louis Kronberg who does the Ballet dancers, he was before our time at Art school!

I seem to be hitting all the wrong keys to-night, perhaps because of one of these fast and furious things on the radio. you know lots of violins all going up and down at once, it is William Tell. Do you listen to the Ford hour on Sunday nights. nine your time they have lovely concerts.

They did well selling the gold curtain at the Metropolitan. I have loaned the Opera Guild booklets to Evelyn Noble and she is very much interested. *She's the photographer's daughter*

We are so glad that you are really better and will be yourself again by the time you get this. About Mrs Greenham, if you could wait until I see her and find out how she is getting on, then you could send her some more money. Her name is Mrs Margaret E. Greenham, (at least I think her middle initial is E) The Mountain School, Banff. If you want to help more with the Spitfire fund we would be glad of any help that way. After all the more planes the British can get the shorter the war will be and the less children left homeless etc.

I noticed in Mrs Spurling's letter that she mentioned a boat that Billy had made for Robin for Christmas, what was it like?

I must have mixed up the letter about Minnewanka and the dam they are building there. The camp is for the workmen who have to cut down all the trees up a certain height as well as build the dam and of course there isn't enough room in Banff for workmen and tourists. and they will have a lot of men as they want to build the dam as quickly as possible. The level of the lake is to be raised 75 feet, that is a good deal for a lake 20 miles long.

Here they don't have conscription as they do in the United States, they do have a compulsory training plan according to age and this winter they have given three groups of 21 and 22 year olds a period of thirty days training in a camp, primarily to make them realize their responsibilities towards Canada, and also the

fundamentals of training. Now they have just decided to give all boys who have just reached 18 four months training, after which they can volunteer for Active service in any branch of the service, or take training which they have now for men to learn the technical side of the machines so they can be used in factories as well as in armored units. In Canada they are doing all they can not to upset the normal life and to keep men useful in their present jobs in those jobs, which I think is a good idea, but of course so far they have had no trouble getting men to volunteer for active service over seas, and I don't believe they will have any trouble. The militia units, called The Reserve Army, are for home defence, but quite a few from that go into active service every once and a while.

Did you try the Radio Theater? it is not a story like the Soap programs in the middle of the day, but different plays, some are really quite good, and I thought they might amuse Jean.

Guess I had better write no more now as there is still quite a bit to get together.

Yours of love,

Catharine.

P.S. Mr Wilkie certainly made a hit in England. We heard more about him over our Radio Stations & the British ones, in the last week than during the whole campaign last summer. We didn't hear one news broadcast since he arrived in England that didn't mention him, and we get 3 daily from London, and 8 from Canada - each carried some story about his triumphal tour. We even heard him say a few words now & then.



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

Thursday, Feb. 6, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

This time we really picked the right day to come up. The weather is just perfect and we are the only "guests" which suits us, but isn't exactly good for business. Not a cloud in the sky yesterday and so blue: so unbelievable.

We had brought our skis and stuff up to Lake Louise Tuesday so as not to have so much to bother with on the train. Then we did all the last minute things there always seem to be. paying bills, buying both paste, taking laundry etc. Cliff had come down the night before so we three came up on the noon train. It reaches Lake Louise at 12:20. Ernie Yamp was there with the tractor and we were here for a late lunch soon

after one thirty. We were pretty lazy and spent most of the afternoon on the front porch sitting in the sun. though we did do a bit of posing on the sled behind the tractor for Pete, as the light was so good. I even did a little skiing on the slope besides the building.

Today was perfect. and so warm. We went with Sid out to what is called the Look out point. The sun was so hot we skinned with our sleeves rolled up & bare hands. There is little wind around here, though we could see snow blowers off the high peaks. Pete took some pictures and then we had a fine run back. The snow was perfect even if it was warm; it didn't seem to melt it.

We had another late lunch, but this time we moved the table out onto the front porch and ate there. It was so lovely and warm we could hardly believe it. Pete took some more pictures, which I hope came out well, and then we got so lazy sitting in the sun with our sleeves rolled up that we just kept on sitting. At four o'clock I thought of taking the temperature. It was 40° at the back door and 74° in the sun. It must have been warmer earlier.

Pete was taking colored pictures with his big lens & Cliff happened to spot a funny snow shape up on a ski line. Pete had a look and there were four big goats up there. They also had a snow bath up on the mountain top.



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

It is rather unusual to have it so very warm at this time of year. None of us can remember such a day at this time of year. We often have it clear but not as warm in February.

It seems rather far away from all the war news. though the radio reception is good here, one doesn't think to listen. It certainly would be ideal for any one wanting to get away from all the world problems.

Cliff I believe is going down to-morrow so well have this ready to go.

Loads of love

Catharine

PS. This isn't much of a letter but its ^{hard} to write when an interesting conversation is going on.



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

Monday, Feb. 10, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

I didn't think anyone would be going down till tomorrow, but Jim Boyce has just come from Skoki on his way down to Lake Louise, so I will scribble a few lines.

We are having a perfect time and grand weather. Saturday we skinned down to Lake Louise on the old pony trail. We used to use all the time, but it was pretty hard going as only a few people had been down about a month ago, and fast it was nice deep snow & then crusted a bit. We came up on the tractor cliff was on the trail and as there were no guests for the weekend Mildred & the three little boys came up. The little boys have a wonderful time up here as you can imagine.

We spent Sunday working on a ski trail. Pete & Sid limbed trees & chopped them others while the boys & Mildred & I helped fill in the holes. It really made a fine improvement.

Jim is going. So lots of love

Catharine,

P.S. Yusis & Jean's Sunday letters arrived



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

Wed. Feb., 12, 1941.

Dearest Mother

The time certainly takes by up here. We came a week to-day and it seems only a day or two ago. We certainly have been lucky with weather. Yesterday there were heavy snow squalls and we didn't expect much of a sun. But as we climbed a ridge it started clearing and was lovely and sunny. Never than any time last year. After we had had a grand sun down it clouded over again but was perfect for us. The snow was just right too. In spite of the hot sun lately the snow has kept loose & fluffy. Because there is lots of frost in it. Only on banks where the sun hits it hard has it any little crust.

Nial Begg (who used to cut wood in the summers for Lake O'Hara Camp. when we were there) is up here with his wife for a few days. and we have

had some good runs together. In odd moments we try to improve the trails a bit, packing them down on turns and limbings trees. Pete realizes how much people like good runs and with just a little work it makes them so much better. Yesterday afternoon we made a run parallel with the road, just a little way through the trees. The snow is deep yet and you have to go over a trail several times to pack it down to make it good. We went over it six times & Cliff limbbed a few trees and now it's pretty good.

After dinner yesterday we also went down the trail as far as the ford and met the tractor coming up. We also packed a bit down there and hope each day the tractor is coming up to go down & improve the trails a bit & then get the ride back up. For the better the trail is going down the more people will take the tractor up.

Poor Banff. All this warm weather has melted all the snow except on the river and the carnival starts tomorrow. There is awfully little chance of a good snow fall in time now. I wish we had some snow such as you are having in the east. It is perfect skiing up here but if this warm weather keeps up we will soon need more snow for the trail down.



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

There isn't an awful lot to write you about up here, unless more goes on. Some three girls are coming from Vancouver Friday for a week so. Pete has to go down Friday night and then will come back to go down again Sunday morning to judge the jumping.

The tractor is ready to go. It brought Jim up early at breakfast time. so I thought it would be a good idea to scribble a few lines.

Loads of love
Catharine

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Saturday, Feb. 15, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

We are in the midst of the Winter Carnival, so I don't expect to have time to write you much of a letter. Pete got word up at Temple on Wednesday that Roland Davison was on the train going through that afternoon, on his way back from Japan, where he used to work for the C.P.R. at Kobe. so Pete went down to Banff on the same train while I stayed on at Temple with Mrs Begg who sprained her ankle just as she came in from a wonderful run that same noon. Her husband had to go down that afternoon, so he and Pete skied down together.

Pete expected to return on Thursday, but it looked stormy and the train was two hours late, so Pete sent for me to come down with Mrs Begg on the tractor, as we had to come down Friday in any case. So without really wanting to be here for the carnival we are. Thursday night there was a hockey game between the Air force and an Army team from Calgary and the same last night too, both games were very good as there are lots of good players who are in the army or airforce now. Yesterday afternoon there were pee wee hockey games, three teams of them or rather six teams, each two playing one 15 minute period, ans they were from the age of seven up. There was speed skating in between.

This afternoon there is fancy skating and to-morrow will be the ski jumping up at Norquay. There is something going on every minute but a lot is just happening for that reason and not very exciting to watch. Pete has to judge the jumping to-morrow so we won't be going back to Temple until Monday and then only if they aren't too busy.

The weather is still perfect and they did have a couple of inches of new snow which cleaned up things a bit.

A nice letter from you yesterday, telling about your large weekend of feeding people, I hope you weren't too tired afterwards. Thank you so much for Churchill's speech, we only heard parts of it as it came at lunch time, one o'clock and we were eating early on account of other people coming later, not so early really. I did hear the part where he called Mussolini a black-hearted Italian, only I felt he had called him worse things than that for he had put so much feeling into it.

Thanks so much for the Camera books, they will probably arrive soon, I think they were rather stupid to just hold them for you in the store and never let you know, but I am glad they weren't lost and that you are sending them to us, for I know we will enjoy having them.

Going back to the portraits in Life, the Wyeth one is of a man, the girl's husband. Sometimes our Life comes to pieces, but not very often. Four or five Illustrated London News came yesterday and also Punch. maybe they waited for more room in the ships or something.

Yes I did read about the Man at the Trigger in the opera news, he was the prompter wasn't he, for I have lent the magazine.

I was interested to hear where the dragon Paper Weight came from, on the under side it looks like a Chinese door knocker.

I don't think that any other children have come yet to Mrs Greenham's but will let you know how things go later, anything that you send to Great Britain is of the greatest help, and remember that every dollar is ~~WORTH~~ worth at least ten percent more in England because of the exchange rate, so in sending to the hospital in London a check, you help in two ways. You of course help the hospital, and the country gets that much more foreign exchange with which to buy war materials in

the United states.

I was interested about Philip's father and mother coming to Canada. Sometime ago it came out in the newspapers about several Air training schools in England being moved to Canada, and knowing that Philip's father was an instructor I wondered at the time if he would come too. I nearly sent the clipping to Philip and then thought it might raise his hopes, and he would only be disappointed if his father didn't come. I wonder where he will be stationed in Canada.

Concord certainly has done well for the British War Relief and Kitty must be very proud too.

I mustn't write more now.

Hugs of Love,

Catharine

P.S. Pete has been talking for a month now about writing you.

Please tell Russell that we received 4 Illustrated London News yesterday Dec 14, Dec 21, Dec 28 & Jan 4th through the Old Corner Bookshop; and today three copies Jan 4th Jan 11th and Jan 18th direct from London.

Banff, Alberta.

Canada.

Monday, Jan. 17, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

This will just be a hurried note as we are going back up to Temple to-morrow morning, by car I think. First to thank you for the excellent pictures of the camp, I wish we had a cabin just like it up at Temple for it looks so attractive, and the pictures are very good. did Russell take them with his new camera? We thought them real good ones and they give such a good idea of it. I like the fireplace especially.

Also the Two Camera books arrived and thank you so much, the old pictures were very interesting taken in the 18 hundreds. Also the miniature room catalogue, how fascinating they are, and all give the appearance of having been lived in.

The Carnival ended yesterday and was a great success especially the weather, I don't think there was a cloud in the sky any of the four days and it was warm and lovely in the sun. enough snow at Norquay for the ski events and enough on the river to hold the novelty events. There were so many people in Banff Saturday night that people slept in chairs in the hotel lobby's and railroad station and even in the restaurants so it said in the newspaper.

The ski jumping was Sunday and now they are so used to having ski events that they run them off very well. They also had an exhibition of swimming by the Australian's and New Zealanders and Canadians in the Air force, it was at the Cave and Basin, and they took a silver collection and got \$68.00 for the Spitfire fund, which was pretty good. The Air force and Army men helped a lot in adding to the Carnival.

We will be at Temple for a few days anyway, maybe longer, so I will write you in a day or two from there. Pete has leave from drill, they aren't doing very much that is different right now.

We had a nice long letter from Russell to-day and I shall have to answer it soon.

I will enclose a clipping from some one in Bradford in England near where Anna is, Jean might be interested for that reason
This will have to be all for now.

Loads of love and I hope you are continuing to feel better and more like yourself.

More Love

Fatherine .



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

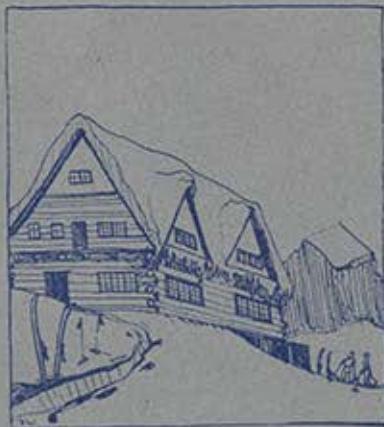
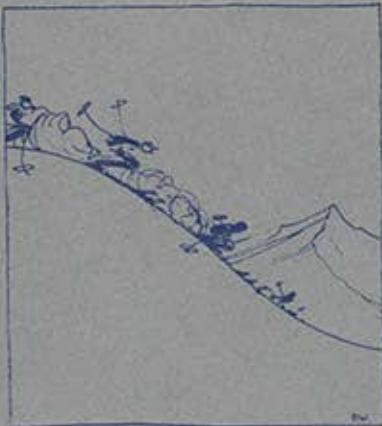
At last it is trying to snow, though it already looks as if it might clear up before an inch has fallen. It was lovely yesterday, we drove up this time, arriving about train time. There were three people from Montana coming up. Two brothers and a girl, from Great Falls. They are all awfully nice and enthusiastic. The boy's grandfather was Irish & settled near Wolf Creek Canyon between Great Falls and Helena, a good many years ago. They had a large ranch there. Their names ~~are~~ is Moran, I think and they now live in Great Falls. They do most of their driving on King's Hill, which Ebs & Frances would know of. The youngest boy is being called up to the army on Monday so I guess this is sort of his last vacation. They drove up by car in a day, so the roads must be pretty good.

There are three girls from Vancouver here for a week's vacation. They have skied very little before and so are in the learning stage. came through a

couple who were here last year. Cliff was taking them on a little trip in the afternoon, and Sid had taken another couple over to Skoki, so Pete took the two boys up the Silver Tip a way and I tried to help the little girl to ski, not too successfully as I'm not much of a teacher, and she has skied very little. It was a lovely day so that helped.

This morning the 2 boys have gone with Sid, & Pete & I are going to the dam to the Ford and meet the tractor when it comes up. The young lady going with us. The three leave this afternoon. Bill Fairweather is coming up to-day.

There was much excitement in Lake Louise yesterday. Eleanor Boyle who is 16 years old and ~~is~~ about the best girl skier in these parts, has been invited by the C.P.R. to go east with her father, who is station agent at Lake Louise, and to go to all the Canadian Pacific and other ski resorts in Eastern Canada. They were to leave next week, but Monday afternoon they received word to leave next day, that was yesterday, so as to reach the Laurentians in time for the races at St. Marguerite's on Sunday. He had offered to send them the large lawn suitcase of mine. Monday night the little Asleep girl, Mary, came over to our house to get it. Mary & her sister also live in Lake Louise but go to school in Banff now & board with Mildred. I think Mary was almost more excited about Eleanor's going east than I. She had been going herself - finally after locating the key we took them to the station to send the suitcase to Lake Louise. I do hope Eleanor does well in the races, and that they don't make too much of her before she arrives. It will be hard for her with everything sort of new to her there.



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

Pete is "On leave" from the Militia. It sounds very important but really isn't. They aren't doing very much that is new, and as long as one reports & cooks to be secured, you can get leave. I don't know how long we will be up here this time but so many of the local drivers have joined up that Pete may be needed to help take people driving - like yesterday when every one wanted to go different places. And you do like to have there here for just a day see something of the country.

The snow is starting to show a little on the trees, so we will hope & pray it continues for a while. There is much less snow than usual this year.

Heaps of love -
Catherine



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

Saturday, Feb 22, 1941.
Washington's Birthday.

Dearest Mother,

We are in sort of a rush up here now, and there isn't much peace & quiet to write in. They have a full house which is nice. There are the three Vancouver girls, (one leaves tomorrow the other two next Friday) Then a Mrs Wilder Ripley from Calgary, who is really American. Her husband just went to the States to see his mother and an American must register within five days of crossing the border, and he drew one of the draft numbers! so now he is due to be called up for a year's training & she doesn't exactly know what to do. With her is a Mrs Sanford who is about 75 and wants to learn to ski. She is having rather a difficult time of it and is not easy to teach. She is awfully nice but talks all the time thus I haven't had much chance to write.

There have been people going back & forth to Skoki too. One a Mrs Molsch, who was at Skoki the

Dear Tot Fearing & Tom Dabney was there, and she
hasn't been here since. Then day before yesterday a
Mr & Mrs Case from Minneapolis came through, they will
be out there two weeks, and are awfully attractive young
people. Then two ladies from Cincinnati came through
yesterday on their way home. Something goes on every
minute it seems. Last night two couples from Calgary
came up late, drove up by car, and then drove back
them up with the Tractor as it has a light on it. They
didn't get here until after midnight but it means they
have all day Saturday, Sunday until late afternoon to
ski. One of the girls used to come to Skoki years ago &
the other girl was Olive Michener who went to Nassau
with us that time. Goddess knows if any more arrive
today. Oh yes, the ex-Carnival Queen & a friend came
too, until Sunday. Gay Bells, she is the one who was
up here last year.

We have had two light snow falls and it
has made the shrubs perfect, and today is lovely
out. We have been very fortunate. I haven't time to
write more now so lots of love
Catharine.



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

Monday, Feb. 24, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

Pete is going to go down to Banff this morning and will bring back our mail, as they haven't been forwarding it, so then I will really have some letters to answer. So far it has been too confusing the last few days with a lot of people here to write much. There is always some one talking and asking questions when there is a house full.

Most of the guests left yesterday, one Vancouver girl went back in the morning, and the two Spokane girls the five from Calgary in the afternoon. It was awfully cold in the night, 18° below in the morning. The water went off the blinds. It didn't freeze up tight but gradually slowed down to a trickle. If we had realized it was going to stop we could have sort of gotten things ready, but it didn't stop until just during a late dinner about two. and we were sort of left with piles of dirty dishes and no water to wash them with. Once everything started down though we got things organized & a water hole dug. and the fuels we used last year resurrected.

They have dug the bottom pipe up & found it unfrozen
so feel the trouble is not down here. They hope to have the
frozen part located this afternoon, but I'm not going
to expect water very soon after last year there are
few people from Minneapolis coming today - but they
may be going to Skolte tomorrow.

I'll let Lee take this so you will be sure to hear
from us - fairly regularly. & if I have a little quiet
chance, will write you again soon.

Yesterday was cold but a perfect day. The sun
seemed warm enough each day to sit in it.

Loads of love

Catherine -



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

Friday, Feb. 28, 1941

Dearest Mother,

My best the time slips by quickly here, and I can't remember quite when I wrote you last. I thought there would be so much time in which to write letters up here. That I would easily catch up on all my letter writing, but with the house full of people and the water on the thumbs we have seemed busier.

The weekend was pretty hectic and then the water froze up first as the weekend people were leaving, and left us with no hot water to wash piles of dishes. However they soon got a water hole dug & there was all the water anyone wished to carry. Pete went to Banff twice to get things and yesterday came back with a man to dig. Ernie has been digging in between trips with the tractor and also Cliff's Sid but Sid has had to take guests skiing as well.

Joe Kupman from Minneapolis and his wife & two sons, aged 10 & 13 arrived Monday. It was a lovely day. This Kupman has been ill too shield very little the first couple of days, and yesterday they all went into Skoki. Taking it very easily and stopped for lunch at the Halfway. Bill Beatty & his son came up for the week from Banff, and they have been doing a lot of driving. Also went in to Skoki yesterday. Two of the Vancouver people are still here & may stay an extra week. Then the others came in yesterday for a few days. They expect several more to the weekend.

Our lovely sunny weather has left. Wednesday was overcast with a little sun, and yesterday it looked like snow and we have had about six inches in the last few days. First an inch or so at a time. No snowing again today, but very cold. Nice plumbing weather. Pete brought back all the family garden hose and last night before supper they managed to get it connected up from the dam down to the back door, and so we had running water. Filled the two bathtubs through the windows and that means plenty of water for flushing toilets upstairs. But with such they may get the real water back on to day. The other night they put a concoction of salt & water down the frozen depths of pipe & it eventually ate its way through. Ernie told us that they used salt to melt frozen irrigation ditches on the prairies, to ice cream salt, and gradually eats its way through the ice. This morning they found it had eaten its way down, but not fast enough.



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

Here we quite a lot of letters from you to answer. I am so glad you are feeling a bit better, but I know people here who had the flu have had a hard time getting rid of it.

I have never met Mrs. Lyndall Hill who spoke at your garden club about mountain climbing. She is a great friend of Martha's classes I think. There are lots of flowers up here they grow in the rocks way above timber line. You wonder how they grow with so little dirt.

"Australia" must have been lovely. I'm sure we would like it. I loved Punchis though it wasn't supposed to be as good as some. The little details are so clever.

I do remember the sailing ship we saw between England and Holland, and what a wonderful sight it was.

Kangaroos must be funny looking things from your description. I believe you enjoyed hearing Russell introduce the speaker that evening more than the main movie. I'm sure he could do it well.

I do think that was bad luck having Pete Palmer come down with Chicken Pox on a visit to his Grand mother!

I'll send the "Old Lady" clipping back. you might want
to send it to someone else. It's good isn't it?

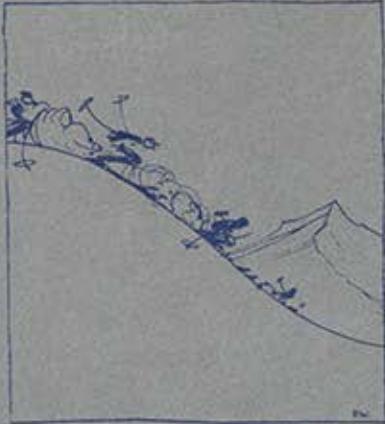
The mail will soon be going down, so I'll call
this a letter. This morning we were busy packing
the Larch balsifern. The snow is deep & heavy at 42° above art., and once its side stepped all the
way, then the running is far better later on, as the
base is firm. & new snow on top makes it perfect.

The water is running again with the help of a
garden hose & they have found one frozen place &
fixed that. The warm weather is perfect for repairing
water systems.

Lodds of love to you all. Tell Jean one can no
longer send "love & kisses" in this form. XXXX.
The censor will cut it out going to England I believe!

My love.

Catharine
PS. I got the valentine & it is wonderful. I always did
enjoy Gluyas Williams, and aren't these drawers perfect.
I must write Russ & thank him for the ski flaps.
I arrived o.K. The French in Quebec made the next I sent
you Xmas. Its called "Belieant". like Marie Chedelaine.



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

Tues. March 4, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

This won't be much of a letter and we haven't yet sent you the photographs. But you just keep on hoping and you may get both soon. We have been rather busy. Got a wire Sunday tel Roland Dawson & Amy (his wife) would arrive in Banff Sunday morn. & would come skiing for a walk. So we decided to go down & get them and settled. So they had only long under wear. But I have all the pants etc which Betty can wear, so we managed all right. We went down to Lake Louise Station Sunday morning, & then drove down to Banff. were a bit delayed. first to see a honey moon couple off on the train west. They had been up here several day's, all from Montreal, then we had to put chains on as the snow was heavy. & then we had to help four skiers in a little car up a hill. They were on their way up here. Dorothy Whitman, a New Zealander & Australian air force man, and another girl. They had no chains & had been off the road once already.

It was fairly late in the afternoon when we reached Banff & we found the Davises at the hotel, but had so many odd things to see about that we arranged to meet them next morning. Had supper with Peter's mother. Looked at lots of other the clothes etc. Did lots of little errands & they caught the train up & we drove back all coming up on the speech together. Elizabeth Rumel who works for Philip Stoen at Assiniboine also came up. She has heard from Philip & they are very busy & doing well at Stoen.

I shall have to wait & write tomorrow when there aren't so many distractions.

Loads of love
Catharine



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

Thurs. March 6, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

Yesterday was such a lovely day that I just couldn't stay in and write letters, and every evening the general conversation is usually too interesting to even read the newspaper. It's funny up here but the war news seems so unimportant. The newspaper is nearly a day late & we even forgot to listen to the radio. It would be a perfect place for anyone needing a rest from war news etc.

We are having great fun with the Davisons. Amy is part Japanese and Dad never been on skis before. But though at first she could hardly move on them, she now can go down a hill in a good snowplow, and yesterday was really just her second day. We have all been practising turns and it's been great fun. Such spills as beginners can take, not bad spills but they get into the darndest positions and tangles, and where the snow is deep they nearly bury themselves. Yesterday morning I took Miss

Morrison, Elizabeth Rummel out to the Look out Point
and it was perfect. Both weather & sun. To-day Pete
has taken them all a short way, but as it is dull
and almost raining I decided to stay in & write

you. And now to answer some of your letters. The last
one first. It was pretty exciting I think that you &
Mildred are really planning to come out here this
summer for a visit. We are much better prepared
than we were on your other visit, and could see that
you had a really nice time. Last first summer
we were just getting used to the house and had had
Cousin Bert & Nell and a good many others to sort
of look after and we wanted to paint and didn't
seem to have a chance too, which was rather
disappointing, but if you and Mildred are coming for
just a week or two we can plan to give you all
our time and it won't interrupt our painting at
all, for we wouldn't plan to paint at all. Of course
we can't tell exactly what will happen this
summer in connection with the war. Pete is on
two hours notice now, though we can't see that
they will be needed for anything just yet, but
one can't be sure whether or not they might
be called for guard duty somewhere. As far as
we know we will be here all summer, have
you any idea when you might come? The
wild flowers are most in the early part of
the summer. We can put the top down and
take you on some nice drives, for our car holds four.



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

We didn't receive the Sawyer boy's wedding announcement. Who did they marry? We knew young Harry abroad. The last letter from Miss Annie Sage was a wonder about their death, who she thought ought to take life easily now he is 77. Miss Emily sounds as if she really were getting old.

We often listen to the N.B.C. concert on the radio set. nights. and enjoy it very much. There is a Canadian concert Broadcast later too.

They have all come back again from skiing. So again there seems to be lots of talking. It's like trying to write in the living room in Concord, when Russell used to have a number of bays out for a weekend to play hockey. You can imagine how much one would get written under those circumstances.

I'm glad you are having the path in the woods by the partridge berries, improved, for it was always a pretty way to go over to the camp.

Pete said this morning he was going to send you the pictures today. I wonder if he will. I know he means to.

Loads of love Catherine.



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

Sunday, March 9, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

Just a short note today as the tractor is going down in half an hour. Pete finally wrote you yesterday. I'm sure you would be amused to see him getting up his courage to write. It took him several weeks. Finally he got down to it - and then he got started & it was snowing hard. He was in the midst of ~~clean~~ writing on the back of the photographs when it suddenly started clearing & the effect was so lovely that we made Pete get his camera. He tried to resist as he said it would be fatal to the letter, and that's why I helped finish the photographs. but you will have to blame the shortness of the letter on the beauty of the mountains.

It snowed nearly a foot in a couple of hours & we thought it would be lovely on the trees, but a high wind blew up suddenly, and just spoiled that part of the snow effect. Though the spring is grand. There have been quite a few people here

in so art. The Vancouver girl left after 3 weeks. and Elizabeth
Rummel had to go home because one of her family was ill.
Mr Bill from Malden arrived Sat Fri. He is an engineer
for some Sheep Skin Co near Boston. They make the stuff
especially for and flying suits for the Air Force. He was very
nice. Will have to tell you more later. They are ready
to go. Keeps of love

Catharine.

P.S. Another letter from you to day with one from Louise
& Mrs Huppert. Its interesting to think that 3 Newbury
boys are in the Army. I imagine they got their training
at University. I think its too bad if you have to give
up any of the men & pretty hard on them unless they
could get other jobs to the duration of the war. Couldnt
you give up some of the pants but keep them to
maybe work in the woods.

more love

Catharine.



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

Wednesday March 12, 1941,

Dearest Mother, We are having the loveliest weather now. Not a cloud for two days, and today is another clear day. The sun is very hot but the air quite cool in the shade. Yesterday Pile & I went up on a sort of ridge to take photographs while the others went up the Silver Tip. They were a couple of miles from us across the valley but we could see them quite plainly.

The Davisons are still here, and crazy about it all, though this is the first driving they have done. Guss was never even on skis before, and now she can go almost anywhere.

We aren't sure of our plans, but expect to go down to Banff over the weekend as they will be full up here and we like it better when there aren't too many. The water has been working again which makes it nice.

You certainly did well on the benefit bridge party and I think you were wise to charge more and so make more. I was surprised to hear Aunt Julie was seventy. somehow I never thought of her being that old.

We were delighted to have Gale draw us a picture. Did she print her name first by looking in a mirror? If not it is interesting to think that she could write her name back words. I'll save it.

It is nearly time to start some where so as usual I won't be writing you much. Are the flowers starting to show yet, or did you have that terrific storm that they had in New York. We read about it in the papers.

I hope your flu has really gone now.

Lots of love
Catharine

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Banff, Alberta.

Friday, March 14, 1941

Dearest Mother,

We came back to Banff yesterday afternoon, it was hard to decide just what would be best to do, but Cliff needed some sawdust badly as the water pipe froze again Thursday morning, it isn't as serious as it was last year, for we had the bright idea of using garden hose, and Pete came down and borrowed the family's hose which all together makes quite a bit, and they run it into the unfrozen length of pipe while the other is dug up and thawed out above, so during the day the water will run quite satisfactorily. They finally got the system working but had no sawdust to cover the exposed pipe, then the snow storm came last weekend and acted as an insulation for a while. Cliff had sawdust ordered but they only can get it when there is wood cut and at this season of the year it is in great demand for people putting ice away, so that unless one is on the spot someone else gets it. Cliff was very anxious for it before this weekend when they expect to be full up, so we decided to come down and see what we could do. This morning we went down to the lumber yard and got four bags of it, and Pete drove to Lake Louise with it before noon, while I had a good chance to vacuum clean the house a bit. The weather is still nice and not very cold.

Pete is busy developing films, black and white ones, there is always so much to be done when we come to Banff, odd things, and bills to be paid and laundry to take and get and we've lost our ski pants somewhere, between the cleaners and the store and our house. We will be here until Tuesday and maybe longer, depending on how many people are at Temple. We really had some wonderful weather and skiing this last week, Pete took quite a few pictures, but it is always a little difficult with people who you want to have ~~had~~ a good time. The Davisons liked it so much they stayed over there week and leave to-morrow. They have never skied before so that one has to plan their whole trips down a hill side. Amy can't turn so that one has to go back and forth across a slope to get down, and Roland was so heavy that he often broke through places into deep snow where we ran over the top. Sid was very good taking them on trips and after all that is his job, whereas we would only do it out of kindness. You would love to have Roland visit you, for he has one of the biggest appetites I have ever seen and likes anything that is put before him.

You certainly have had your share of snow storms this year and what fun for the children to ski, not even as many apple trees as we used to have to avoid. and what fun for you to watch.

I expect to be listening to Gladys Swartout in the opera to-morrow, she was to have sung in Calgary this winter, but was ill and had to postpone the concert twice and now I believe it is to be late in the spring. She has a wonderful voice.

Loads of love,

Catharine

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Monday, March 17, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

We were going to Calgary this morning, but we didn't wake up very early and finally after breakfast decided that it would be more help if we took a load of sawdust up to Lake Louise, which we did. Cliff was looking for it all last week, but somehow though he had a truck man promise to bring it up, it never seems as important to the Banff People and they didn't think there was any. Pete got one load last Friday and took that up and though Jackie thought he would take up a load yesterday I think a new son was too much for him, and we knew if we didn't take it up probably no one else would. It was a lovely warm day, about 45 in the shade and we drove up and back with the top down. It is funny how it sometimes seems warmer in winter than in summer.

We just missed that blizzard that froze so many in North Dakota and Manitoba. Seems as if all the storms sweep out of the north and head east and we only get the tail end of them, which after all is rather nice. It was 38 above in Banff on Saturday morning when we listened to the Calgary Radio which reported a strong wind blowing there and it was 19 above, in an hour the temperature dropped 10 or more degrees and it started snowing and blowing, by afternoon it was only 10 above and a regular blizzard but towards evening it had stopped and Sunday was lovely and mild with us.

Friday night we went over to see Barbara only to find that she had just gone to the hospital, and she had a little boy about 2.30 next morning, just a year to the day that Pete's Grandfather died. We haven't seen the baby yet but called on Barbara yesterday afternoon. She seemed fine. Poor ^{Sat.} ~~Sunday~~ was terribly disappointed ~~Sunday~~ morning, I have never seen a more disappointed face, she had set her heart on a baby sister, however when she saw the baby later in the day she didn't mind, and was quite pleased.

What a lot of snow you have had lately, and I guess you are mighty glad to have the plow, our tractor hasn't one, as it can break its way through any depth of snow it needs too, four feet is nothing but of course if it was breaking for a car it would need a plow. I hope you had no trouble getting the people who came to the lecture there.

We are glad that you liked the pictures, we both feel that good postcards are a wonderful form of advertising, and no one else seems to get around to taking them and having them made, so with this new camera we started in and as we get better pictures we will have them made. A lot have been sold already, and as George Noble makes them up as we want them it is very convenient, we just order more as we need them.

We don't see the New Yorker any more as Barbara doesn't take it now so would love any cuttings. We haven't heard the Quiz Kids for along time, up at Temple we only hear the morning news on our little radio and in the evening the electric light plant makes too much noise, we can't hear it but it effects the radio. They don't use the radio any more than can be helped for it can be annoying to the guests, and it is so quiet otherwise.

I imagine that if Wadsworth Owen and his family were to be with Mildred this summer on Diamond Island that it would only be for a short time and you could come either before or after, just depending. We won't know either what we will be doing, there are all sorts of ideas that the unit here will be mobilized etc. but a good deal is

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

wishful thinking, a while ago in the fall lots of the boys were sure they would be sent to Egypt, as it is a lot have joined the Active Service force and the Air Force.

Pete's Uncle, Sam Armstrong, arrived from Victoria Saturday just when it was coldest and snowiest and it seemed funny when he said that the Apple blossoms were almost out in Victoria, it is all unusually early, nd he siad that as a rule they can graft onto thire apple trees until the middle of April, but this year it is already hard to find a place. (I don't quite understand how they do it) but anyway the plum blossoms are all over. It seems funny it is so early for after all it is not much further south than we are. Some spring you will have to come west and we will go to the coast and enjoy the spring there, for it is a lovely climate and so many gardens, the same vegetati as New England, or England, and so many people who love to make gardens.

Poor Cousin Harriet to be so lonely and unhappy, when she could really enjoy things a bit. I do believe that people make there own life what it is, if you know what I mean, they can find enjoyment in all sorts of things if they try too. If Cousin Harriet was as interested in every thing and every body as Aunt Mary Clark was, she would have people droppin in all the time, and even if she didn't she would find interests in the radio or newspapers or something.

The evening paper had come and I shall glance at that and then to bed.

Loads of love,

Catherine -

P.S. Tuesday. Again our Calgary trip is delayed. a heavy wet snow almost rain & 35 above here in Banff. On the radio it said sleet was falling in Calgary & the roads treacherous. so it seemed better to wait a day.



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

Saturday, April 22, 1941.
March

Dearest Mother,

We are back up here again, and the six girls who are here now leave this afternoon, and I don't know whether or not more will be coming. Of course we like it quiet, but it's not exactly the best thing for business.

I forgot to tell you that we got a letter from J'Grey Baker. Carr from Carlton, Alberta, written Feb 17th '40. It was pretty quick coming; he got our Christmas card, but this was to tell us he is getting leave this spring & expects to be in Canada the middle of May. His wife & two little girls came to Vancouver last November. He said that they may be visiting in Concord this summer, and then conditions permitting will return to Alberta in the fall. I hope we'll see them some where.

We got a nice letter from you yesterday. It was too bad that Frances had flu, & it does take so much out of one. But we were amused that the turkey brought both Mrs. Mother and Frances appetite back again. How in the world did Jean get poison ivy & you hay fever? Not some new plant of Pestic's!

I am returning the letter from Mrs Bates to don't
you think that Peels would like it. She seemed so
pleased with his talk.

You don't know the Davisons. Pete used to know
Roland Davison the first trip he made to Japan - also a
Mr Ryan, they worked in the C.P.R. offices in Kobe one
time & I think also at Yokohama. They were known as
Ryan & Davison. One could speak Japanese but couldn't
understand it. The other could understand it but couldn't
speak it. So they always worked together & in fact lived
together. In 1930 they came to Japan here on leave & we took
them for a day's trip to Lake Suwa & Yodo. They wore
dark blue flannel shorts, and when we had dinner at
the Chateau I remember how everyone stared. ~~for~~ We saw Roland in
Japan & then after he & Amy (who is part Japanese) were married in 1935
they came to Lake Suwa for a few days. Then next we heard was
when they came this time. They have left Japan. things got so
unpleasant I guess.

Loads of love Catherine.

Banff, Alberta
Canada.
Thurs. March 20, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

Such a nice surprise to get
the book of "War Letters" today. It must
be a present for the first day of spring.
Pete woke me up this morning saying
"Listen." I couldn't imagine what I was
expected to hear. He insisted he had
heard the first robin of the year. but
to go back to the book. It looks
awfully interesting and thanks so
much. I shall take it to Temple to
read. We expect to go back to Moray.
We were going today but Jim Boyce
had a party of eighteen from Minneapolis.
four grown ups and the rest little boys
& girls. nine years old & up. three little
girls. one with pig tails. We went up to
Lake Louise to see Jim Boyce anyway
about the tractor man in Calgary who
is coming up to check the machine etc.
and so we were there to see them start
out on the sled. There were two leaders
from Calgary & Jim & two guides.
23 in all on the sled. & heaps of
back packers & 23 pairs of skis.

It was quite a load. We will hear to-morrow how they made out. Some of the ~~the~~ littlest ones are to spend the night at Temple. That was the reason we didn't go. So there would be more room.

We made our Calgary trip yesterday. It was a lovely warm day there. 48° above I believe but such smalls when we got back here. We take our lunch & eat it in a gravel pit on the outskirts of Calgary. for lunch takes at least half an hour & one always runs into people one knows. We did all our things in 3 hours & were back here by 5.30. We used to make a day of it! & be tired all out at the end. Now we just leave after breakfast & never feel a bit rushed or tired & almost enjoy it. There were lots of planes to watch over head all the time. Training planes.

I think if everything works out well we will stay up at Temple until near Easter time. when they will probably be full up. & we wouldn't want to be there anyway - with a crowd -

I'm so glad the big party was such a success. \$2 dollars is a lot for an evening. I think you are awfully good to do so much and open the license as you do. for I know all the trouble it means, getting ready & cleaning up afterward. It seems as if some of the younger people who have big houses night, take their turn having crowds, but maybe they can't always afford the food.

Its bed time. In fact I'm writing this in bed & the news will be on in a minute. We have a radio up here & it is very nice to listen to the news when we were in the morning & before we go to sleep at night. Pete is reading the new book & likes the idea of the proceeds going to the Irish American Ambulance.

Loads of love
Catharine



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

Tuesday, March 25, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

This is rather a dull day right now. Yesterday was perfect and warm in the sun. I hoped to get a lot of letters written but I didn't do very well. It is awfully hard to write anyone outside the family I find. The trouble up here is the interesting conversations. Right now there is a Mr Simpson of Philadelphia here. He is an old Lake & Hail friend who likes the mountains and though he doesn't ski. He has some nice narrow snow shoes. and enjoyed going at taking pictures. He is a lawyer by profession and has travelled all over the world and is most interesting to listen too. Then there is an engineer from the Royal Canadian Air Force, or leave, and a friend of his. They also are interesting. They are skiers. But like now they are talking with Pete in the other room about skiing in North Conway, which has led to interesting tales of the hurricane. I finally have

had to resort to writing in the dining room. I can hear the most interesting tales, but the others aren't too fond to be disturbing. And it's even harder finding time to write in Bauf.

Did you hear Mr Wilkie last night speaking in Toronto. He was fine & I wish he had spoken that way during the election. He certainly got a tremendous ovation. They are starting to raise over 5 million dollars for the War Services Fund. Five or six different organizations have joined together to raise money - the Salvation Army, Y.M.C.A., I.O.D.F., Canadian Legion & some other. To provide the Soldiers with services the Gov't can't provide. canteens, cigarettes, entertainment, education etc.

I do want to answer some of your recent letters. We enjoyed all the clippings & other letters enclosed, even if I haven't always mentioned them.

You asked whether we have the melting & freezing rain etc. that makes the going so bad. As a rule we have little slush. It gets warm in the sun during the day but it seldom gets sunny until after you & they soon freeze again. But I suppose part of it is due to our dry snow! There is more moisture in yours & we seldom have rain in winter, though it looks like it right now & is warm enough. Our snow up here just evaporates, but never gets slushy. & seldom a hard icy crust.

That was quite a party when Mrs Underhill spoke, and I can imagine how many 25 people would seem. I do think you were good to go to so much trouble. I should think it would be far easier to have a camp like that at the Country Club, and it would hold more people too. How many children does Franny tell now? and is he all better from his bronch trouble.



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

ALBERTA

I expect Mildred will be with you on her way to Florida this weekend. If this reaches ~~too~~ you in time, tell her to be sure not to answer my last letter to her, as her letters I enjoy so much. She writes to you, and I know she's busy every minute. I believe Margaret Watkins was right the busier one is the more one seems to get done. I know there is so much time to do things in here, but it's hard to get into the mood of writing letters. I hope she has a lovely time in Florida. Why don't you plan to go on that trip to see the Azaleas this year? You have always wanted to have it you. Wouldn't some one like Mrs. Solier like to go or maybe Mrs. Motte, it would make a nice change for you before your own garden starts growing.

It's such a dull day so I think I'll make a big attempt to write all the people I owe letters too.

Loads of love
Catherine.



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION
ALBERTA

Tuesday March 28, 1941.

Dearest Mother

It seems so funny to think of all the snow and cold weather you are having, and all we seem to get is warmth and sunshine. Yesterday there wasn't a cloud all day and it was too hot in the sun to sit out in the early afternoon. To-day there are clouds and a breeze, but the sun is very sharp. We are wondering if it is an unusually early spring or whether we will have some more snow.

Pete went to Banff yesterday afternoon. Mr Simpson from Philadelphia who was here for nearly a week went down on the sled about 9.30 and Pete drove him & Jake Truax as he wanted to see the guides & spend the day there taking pictures before catching the rock train. The man came to service the tractor, a vehicle that was being driven. Pete made a hurried trip to Banff to try & get a sort of drag made to plow off the bumps in the road. This warm weather has made the

wed very rough. To-day we went out to the Look-out
gladys Atkins from Bauff going with us. She & I did
a bit of picture taking of sun bathing while Pete made
a sketch but the light was pretty sharp.

By this time I guess Nellie has been to Concord
she seemed very enthusiastic in her letter about
your summer plans. so I hope it can all be
worked out nicely. Imagine when she gets back
from Florida she will know Wadsworth's plans.

What an awful fall you had at the Red Cross -
luckily it didn't break any bones or anything but
I can imagine it would be quite a shock seeing
stars is no fun. I hope the effects didn't last
~~too~~ long. You must be in the midst of opera right
now. We will be anxious to hear all about it
and how you like the new place for it. Please
remember us to any friends you meet in the intermissions.
Does Miss Freeman's "Bluelight" still go? Mrs Sophie Sawyer
& Mrs Webster and perhaps you'll see Donald Castle from
Honolulu. The boy who came out that time last year to the
night before Thanksgiving. He's terribly tall & thin but
awfully nice.

If you do get something for Barbara's baby
just send it to her married "left". for then there
will be no duty. A gift up to five dollars in
value is usually duty free.

There may be a letter from you today so I'll
leave this to finish later. There is more chance to
write for with this warm weather, the snow is best for
skipping in the mornings, is too soft in the afternoon.

Pots of love

Catherine



MOUNT TEMPLE CHALET

LAKE LOUISE STATION

ALBERTA

Monday, March 31, 1941.

Dearest Mother, I'm so glad that Spring has arrived for you at last. It was 65° in Calgary yesterday & is still mild with us. but one never knows.

You last Sunday letter, the day the Kennedy's were with you for lunch, came to-day up here! also Jean's about the Flower Show. & Cousin Harriet! I don't wonder that you were surprised at the cheerful note in the latter. Maybe spring gave her a more cheerful air look. Who was the "Miss Wheeler" who spoke so kindly of you? the same one perhaps? It was very nice of Robert to write, I think. It sounds as if he had a nice spot to live. and as if it were like his house in Italy where Mabel Brown visited him.

Yesterday was rather a busy day. 14 skiers came from Banff all for the day's skiing. & then the crowd of Minneapolis boys went out, nearly 30 of them. It was a big load with their skis and baggage as well. I haven't gotten round to sending these cards yet. It depends how soon the train goes.

X We had a wonderful sun Saturday morning. It was perfect when we left here, not a cloud, and so hot when we went across & up the open slopes. It took us two hours to the top of the mtn., & another short climb on the rocks to the summit of what we call Purple Peak. The view was disappointing as far as pictures went, for it was stormy in the distance & too hazy. Such a cold wind! Gladys Atkins was with us. We ate lunch on top & then had a fine run back down.

They are nearly ready to start dam. So this will be all the letter for now.

Loads of love
Catherine.

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Friday, April 4, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

We are back in Banff until after Easter, and if the snow goes as fast as it appears to be going it will be a very early spring. For two weeks there have been blue birds around Banff, and day before yesterday we saw butterflies at Temple, they did look funny on the snow, perhaps it was because there was a bare patch of ground in front of the chalet. There is still about a foot of snow at Lake Louise Station, but the road is bare in spots. There is two to three feet on the level at Temple, but under the trees it is pretty thin, that is in a circle under each tree, where the snow fell on the branches. It has been around sixty in Calgary and even warm in Banff and the spens are starting to have sort of pussy willow buds. Every one is raking and burning leaves, and as it is a lovely day I am tempted to do the same this afternoon.

We left Temple about ten yesterday morning and so ~~had~~ we were at Lake Louise when the noon train went through, we thought Cliff might be on it as he had gone down to Banff the day before. They had just said "all aboard" and I was going over to the post office to see if any mail had come for us, and when I got back Pete said, quite excited "You just missed seeing the Websters" It seems that they were having lunch in the diner, and noticed the skis in our car parked by the station and wondered if we were around, they recognized me as I went by the diner, but by the time they got to the vestibule I was gone, the train was moving, but Pete managed to jump on for a few minutes and as they were on a pullman the porter opened the top of the door. He hung on as long as he dared, but it was too bad that we didn't see them sooner as the train was at Lake Louise a good five minutes, and we had been standing chatting to Ernie just outside the kitchen of the diner all the time, the chefs always give Cappy, Mrs Aslings dog, a bone and we were joking about that. When we got back ~~from~~ to Banff we found the letter from Kitty telling us what day they expected to be in Banff. It should have reached us had we been here.

Yesterday was full of surprises, for we had no idea that Russell and Kitty had gone to Mont Tremblant skiing, or were even considering it. Hans Falkner who is the head of the Ski School there is one of the Austrian boys who was sent out here by Sir Norman Watson and had the war not come would probably still be here, also Percy Bennett who works with Jim Bayce in the summer, went down there last year to look after the horses and he and his wife are there winters too now. I wish we ~~had~~ known in time to write Hans for he might have been able to do quite a bit for them.

So you are in the midst of the Opera season, I am glad that you found a good way to go and come, for other wise it would be rather difficult.

As usual there is quite a bit to do, so I will call this a letter.

Lots of love,

Catharine

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Monday, April 7, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

I have about half an hour before going to the train to see some friends on their way to Skoki. so I will see how far I can get with a letter, Yours about the opera written last Wednesday just came, I am glad that you are enjoying it and just seeing the ones you want to see most. Who is the Davis that you sent flowers to on their 80th birthday ?

We got your letter saying that Mildred will be able to leave anytime after the 10th of June, we will do some figureing and try to decide which time of the summer will be the loveliest for you to be here, and then I will write you all about it in the near future. June sometimes is rainy, but anyway we will try and plan it so that you can enjoy the flowers here. We may have to go to the coast in a week or so to have our teeth fixed and also Pete has to see a Mr Scott there, there is also quite a bit to do to the house that we didn't get done last fall and we don't know yet when Sam will be back to do it. but we are anxious to get it done this spring some time.

We were quite surprised to hear that Anne and Ebs are to fly west for a month, I am so glad for all concerned and what a grand time of year to go, doesn't Cousin Bert get a week or so off at this season? I wonder will they get up this way at all,

We are having the loveliest weather, warm and sunny, around fifty every day, our larkspur has started coming up and the grass is beginning to get green, it looks like an early spring.

I have just finished the book of letters that you send us, I enjoyed reading it so much and think it gives a wonderful idea in a personal way of life in the first year and a quarter of war. Seems to me that the bombing worries the busy people least, but those who have plenty of time to think get more upset by it.

The other day a catalogue of books from the BOSTON BOOK and ART SHOP came, it is the place where you got Rothenstein's Memoirs for 38 cents. There are two books that we would very much like to have and as I have a birthday coming on soon this is a gentle hint. I will enclose the name of them on the order sheet, and the marked down price.

It is so lovely out now that I think I shall have to go out, so this is all for now.

Heaps of love,

Catherine -

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Wednesday, April 9, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

The weather is still lovely and around here the frost is almost out of the ground and it is quite dry, not many puddles. We heard geese flying over this morning. I guess it is really spring. We are in a clearing up mood which is very helpful, you see last year we went east in the spring and never did get things cleared up around the place but with these nice days it is good to be working outside. Yesterday I spent the afternoon raking the lawn and spreading the manure which the elk deer and goodness knows what else left. I hope it is good for the grass, in piles as it is left it isn't very good I am sure but spread around I should imagine it helps. Pete cleaned his workshop and I don't know what is on for this afternoon, as it is Wednesday and the stores close I must go over soon.

It doesn't look as if we would be going up to Temple again this season, they will be full at Easter we hope, and then if there aren't many after that they won't keep open, each year we think that we will have a chance to do do much photography or sketching but as a rule something always seems to prevent us doing what we want to do. The first of the season we hoped for more snow all the time, expecting it would surely come in March but not once did we have the storm that leaves the trees heavily laden with snow. then there was always some one to look after or things just happened in such a way that Pete would have to do this or that. but we did do more than last year.

Day before yesterday was quite a day in the end. We went to the train to see the Conantzes who were on their way to Temple, and as the train was in two sections it took most of the morning. We had an early lunch and then were just going over town when Pete spotted a car with a Massachusetts license and felt sure the young couple were the friends that Dwight Shepler had telephoned about a week ago. They had come up from Sun Valley for skiing, are on their honeymoon, said they were so sick of Bell Boys and wanted some skiing, were anxious to go up to Temple that night, so we just decided to go to Lake Louise too and see that they got on/the sled etc. They had one or two things to do and we knew the sleigh had gone up with the Conantzes and it would be four thirty before it would be back in Lake Louise again, so we helped them repack a bit and send laundry and then drove up. They are a very attractive young couple, the girl from Brookline and the boy from Atlanta, Grant is their name. Pete telephoned Cliff when we got there and found we had 7 of an hour so we drove them up to see the lake, then met Ernie at the railroad crossing. The snow has gone on the road so Ernie brings the tractor to there and then uses the old truck to take people back and forth to the station. We didn't expect to have anything else to do, but the Pipers also on their honey moon, were in the sled coming down to catch the train and to save Ernie the trouble of starting the truck we drove them over to the station. We really were kept busy, they had to repack their suitcases in the baggage room and almost missed the train as they didn't hear it come in and so in the end we helped carry their stuff down to their car which was at the end of the train, then Pete sent three different wires made a telephone call to Banff about a pair of skis and a rucksack that

that had been put on the train ^{by mistake} with the Conantses things from the Mount Royal hotel, and then that had to be put on the train in case the owners were leaving Banff that night. So altogether we had a busy five minutes.

This is all for now. Lots of love to you all and we will be anxious to hear all about the trip to Canada Russ and Kitty had and if they had a good time etc.

More love,

Catharine -

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Saturday, April 12, 1941

Dearest Mother,

I had mean't to write you this morning and then there was a hurry up call for Pete to go to Lake Louise as the runner on the sleigh was nearly finished and what to do. so we drove up and helped. Ernie decide what to do for the rest of the season. Easter was so late this year and over this weekend they are very busy and also will have quite a bit to do next week, and this year being such an early spring the road is bare in a number of places which makes it hard to pull a sled, so we just hope we can make things last one more week. We had a picnic lunch with us and since getting home Pete has borrowed a set of runners to send up. It seems as if there was always something to see about and Jim being at Skoki it is hard for him to do much.

What a shame that Kitty broke her leg. (I have forgotten if your letter telling about it came before I wrote my last letter to you) Yours written Monday came this morning. I hope it is not a serious break, seems to me most breaks in Skiing are the spiral type, but I don't know if that is worse or better than what ever the other kind is. I believe it is less serious below the knee and I certainly hope so. I couldn't help but think how lucky it was that they didn't come west to ski this year for sure enough it would have broken here and it would have been so much more uncomfortable, though a train trip with a leg in a cast must have been miserable. You hadn't mentioned that Kitty was taking the children to Kentucky and I do hope they can go, or will the leg take a long time to heal.

About the other thing you mentioned, we will just have to wait a little while longer before we know what we can do, for it all depends on several things, but you may be sure we are keeping in mind the suggestion you made and will do our best to pick a good time to carry it out.

Yesterday was a holiday with us and I must go over now and see about things for Sunday, Sorry that this isn't a better letter.
Loads of love,

Catharine -

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Tuesday.
April 15, 1941.

Dearest Mother:

We are just leaving for a short trip to the coast by car. We hoped to go by Windermere or Golden but they won't let people through that way yet, so we will spend to-night in Calgary.

Just keep on writing to Banff & we will ask them to forward our mail. I hoped to have time to write you last night but spent most of the evening hunting for an old bell for the Shakes for the boy as we want to get more for the new part. This morning we had to go to Lake Louise unexpectedly - till write soon if I can.

Lots of love

Catherine

Hope Kitty is getting on O.K. Will be away ten days or two weeks.

Creston, B.C.

Wed. April 16, 1941.

Dearest Mother.

I thought I might as well start a letter to you tonight, and then I will have more to mail when we reach Vancouver. For there is no place in between that would be quicker for mail east.

Sunday afternoon we went driving and decided that Tuesday would be a good day to start for the coast, so Monday we were quite busy getting things together, & eating up what was left in the refrigerator. It was a lovely warm day & in the afternoon I pruned our small spruce trees. So they would ^{not} waste energy growing in the tops that have to come off) while we were away. The Crosbys who live next door, went to Edmonton over the weekend & came back to find that a Beaver from the river had been busily engaged cutting down one of their two aspen trees. & he had gotten half through it in one night. So goodness knows what he will do for us while we are away. That evening, Monday, I had intended writing you, but Jackie came in about one or two things & I also

had an awful time trying to find an old bill with the Vancouver address of a place to buy stakes. It must be my new filing system. I got two office files this winter, the first one didn't prove big enough, & now I can't remember which compartment I put what into. However I did find it.

Tuesday was rather cloudy & looked like snow. We had to go to Lake Louise as Jim Bayce was to be down at noon train time & he & Ernie & Pete had a few problems to settle about the tractor. It was nicer at Lake Louise than at Banff, & we were able to decide about how long the tractor should run etc.

We were at the Station when the train pulled in, so I said to Pete "We better look in the diner & see if any friends like the Websters are there" & sure enough an old friend of Peter's was sitting in the same seat they had been in. & he came out & spoke to us!

It was about two o'clock when we got back, & in the mean time we had found out that we had to go by way of Calgary, as the park roads were not open yet though there had been a chance they would be.

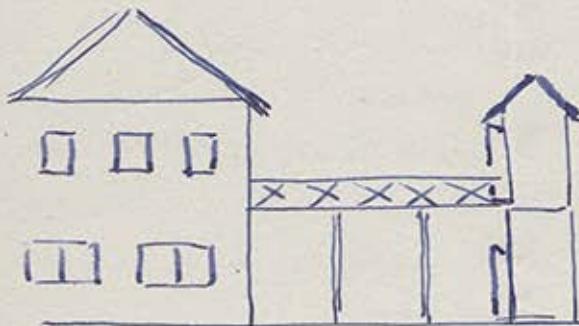
Pete turned the water off. we loaded our things into the car. & left for Calgary. arrived there in time for Pete to order some bugs for the tractor. & then we spent the night at the Palace. going to see just movie this year. Deana Durbin. rather disappointing. a good movie of a Nazi air raid on a British Convay. & a news reel. It always interests me that every time the King appears in a news reel, people laugh. They also applauded Churchill! its the same at the coast.

This morning didn't look too promising. squalls of snow & rain. but somehow we seemed to avoid all the storms we could see around us. so it wasn't bad at all. The fields are getting green & the first flowers are up. they call them "crocuses" because they look like purple crocuses in the distance I guess. for they really are "anemones". Here the peach, pear & plum trees are out & the bleeding heart but the apple trees need a few hot days yet.

One amusing thing we saw to-day. I'd never noticed before. was a double decked privy in back of a hotel at Cayley. Its an old hotel needless to say. a double privy on the ground. two more

4

on top, with a bridge to the second floor.
this is the silhouette effect, quite convenient
but a chilly walk
in winter at best.
We promise not
to take you here
this summer
for the night.



at Creston when Pete paid the bill. The man at the hotel said it was \$2.00 for the room. Pete said "Is that all?" for we had a room and bath, and the man replied "We don't charge extra for ladies."

This sketch below is of a decoration in our room in the hotel at Grand Forks. It was the old "Parlor" upstairs, and in one corner was a huge wool flower piece, framed in gold frame. There were three large white cotton ball like flowers, 2 red, and on all sides of the colors, all wool & sort of embroidered on were, like a large ferned piece.

Peter - we reached Vancouver to-day Saturday, the 19th of April! Will write again soon. About the rest of our trip. Loads of love & will look for Mail for we are anxious to hear how Rethy's leg is. More love Catherine

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

Tuesday -
April 22, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

We reached Victoria this morning and were glad to get two nice letters from you and one from Jean written Easter Sunday. We were anxious to know how Kitty was getting on. It is nice that her mother could come and be with her so I imagine it has upset all their plans for a visit to Kentucky this spring. How long will she have to stay in the Hospital?

I do hope you aren't getting too overburdened with so much on your mind, and

so much to think of. I just wish
you could be here with us. It is
just like June. tulips in full
bloom. also. broom. Chestnut trees.
Elysum. iris. peony's. roses
and goodness knows how many
other flowers but they all seem
out. What they have in summer
here I don't know. Or after all this
is only April.

We start going to the dentist
to-morrow afternoon and hope it
won't be a long siege. The car
is to be checked over too. and then
I guess we will start back as
soon as we can. It took us
longer than we expected for the
beds are narrow & curvy.
Like tiny Carlisle roads only
over mountains. I'm afraid you
wouldn't enjoy them for we have
any retaining walls or fences.

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

This won't be much of a letter as I just wanted to let you know we had reached here & heard from you. Peter's mother left on the train two days before us, but we had no idea where she was staying in Victoria. We were lucky to get a room here & found she has one right across the hall. So that makes it nice. She was a little lame-deck I think. For it is the first time she has been out here by herself. So by our coming it makes sort of a break in her three weeks.

We are going to lunch now.
Loads of love
Catharine.

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

Thursday -
April 24, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

We will probably be here until Saturday. I ate very bucky and finished at the dentist's yesterday, but I have to go to-day and maybe to-morrow. But then we will start back.

Just now I must go and try to find a spring hat. I'm getting as bad as you are buying clothes. Maybe it's easier when you do it often. For I didn't used to mind, but now it seems an awful chore, especially when I use city clothes so seldom.

We had the car over-hauled
yesterday and then went for
a drive at four. We noticed
there was much more traffic
largely because of the Army
Navy & Air Force stationed
here. Also there are so many
more new houses built &
buildings. Lots of people have
come here to live because of
the war. English people who
can't go back, people from
the Orient, & people from
Canada who can't go to
California etc., as they used
to. It's a nice mild climate.

We got another letter
from you yesterday about
going to Mrs Hall's for dinner.
I'm so glad that Kitty is

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

feeling better. Do write more details about how long she will be in a cast etc. Can she walk on it while it is still in the cast I wonder?

Will answer your letters better, as soon as we know for certain our plans. Its hard to be definite these days with the war situation changing all the time.

Lots of love -
Catherine.

KING EDWARD

Revelstoke's Leading Hotel

REVELSTOKE, B.C.

Monday - April 28 1941

Dearest Mother,

This will just be a hurried note in pencil (these small hotels seldom have ink) just to let you know that we will be home in Banff to-night. We hoped that we could drive around the Big Bend road and could have only two slides come down yesterday & they won't be dug off until Saturday. So unless we had taken another two or three days we couldn't get back except as we are going shipping by train.

I may not get much chance to write to-night but will soon and tell you a few more of the highlights of the trip. We've had perfect weather. I hope Kitty is getting on well and please give my regards to Mrs. Cornishay -

Yours of love

Catharine -

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Tuesday, April 29, 1941

Dearest Mother,

Back to my typewriter again. We got back yesterday afternoon just before the stores close at six, it was mild and so the house wasn't very cold, we are going to be busy though the next little while getting things fixed up. There is always so much to be done just little things around the place. For one thing it has been so dry ta that the lawn will need a lot of water, it is quite green in the hollows where the snow was deepest and left the most moisture, but other places are very dry, I like watering though.

We have spent most of the day seeing people and talking, catching up on what has been going on here, also seeing the Wards who came back from the coast just as we left two weeks ago. and we had to compare notes on the winter. Then Pearl Moore and Agnes Hammond came down about the Spitfire pictures and we had another long chat. I thought all the leaves would be out but it doesn't seem as if much had changed since we were away, I imagine the nights have been cool.

The trip back was rather uneventful, the evening we left Victoria we spent with Bobby Hunter and his wife Cynthia and some friends of theirs, Bruce Hutchinson, who is a newspaper man, writes articles on all sorts of things but with his name attached, also a Miss Ferguson who's brother runs a Winnipeg paper. It was one of the first times we have had such an informal evening with Journalists! and it was great fun, Mrs Ferguson Hutchinson was awfully nice too, they are a young couple and had seen Pete's paintings that Bobby had and wanted to meet us. They were the kind of people that you felt you knew right off and we enjoyed it. Then we took the midnight boat for Vancouver. We felt we should get back and so didn't stop in Vancouver at all except about the shakes we are ordering and had to see the man about once more, so now I have several little notes to write explaining to various friends why we didn't look them up or telephone.

The first day was pretty hot, the first humid day we have had this spring, and we were glad to get out of the Fraser Valley with its heat haze and hot look, It is a wonderful farming valley and beautiful in the spring with the fresh green, and the mountains as a background. We saw Mount Baker so clearly both times, it looks like Fujiyama and has lots of snow.

We got to Lytton the first night and Revelstoke the next. We were undecided how to go not knowing whether or not the Big Bend was open, and being a Sunday it was hard to find out in Kamloops, but they thought that cars were coming through and we knew that there was no snow now this year. It meant taking a chance on that or going the way we went and taking maybe two days longer. So we tried Revelstoke, The filling stations are closed on Sundays at this time of year, but we found the Ford man doing his books and he did a lot of telephoning and finally the police said that we could go through if we got in touch with a Mr Curtis head of the road Dep't, which we did, He told Pete there were two slides down which the men were just going out to clear, but that we couldn't possibly get through the next day. so as it was already evening we decided we better make arrangements to ship our car on the train. Which we did. That is easy but expensive off season

however we thought it easier than going back and around the other way. When we got to Golden and got the car, the garage man said he was sure a car had come through that morning from Revelstoke, but we said it was impossible, then we got to Lake Louise and were told that a car did come through and found the road quite good. So by that time we were pretty mad, and don't yet know why we weren't allowed to come through. the only thing that cheered us up was meeting Jackie and Cliff and Mildred on the road. and much to our surprise found that Temple is full up.

It seems that they were closing up after Easter and Mrs Kiddle was leaving with her bags packed and on the sled which was making its last trip, when they got a wire that Hans Faulkner was arriving with two guests the next day, and then Herman, the other Austraan, also arrived without any warning and with a party and some instructors who had been at Sunshine skiing, and two more people from the east flew out. I guess they had quite a time, for Jackie had to hire two boys to pack in more food and the duffle too, for the sleigh stopped running after Easter, but we were tickled to hear that they were finishing the season with a great flourish.

It is time to get supper now,

Loads of love,

Catherine

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Friday, May 2, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

Seems to me there is always a lot going on here, just little things and yet taking time. Mostly seeing people and talking. We got home Monday, and Tuesday morning we went to see the Wards and heard all about their winter first from Cis as Sam was out and then he came down after lunch to see us. Then Pearl Moore wanted to see us about the Spitfire pictures and she and Agnes made quite a call. At Supper time Fern and George Clarkson came to see us about cutting some trees on our land down that keep all the sun out of their house. After that Pete had to go over to the drill room to get his web equipment fitted, it wasn't a drill night so I went to see the place, it is under the Mount Royal Hotel and is fixed up very neatly with the store room with all the equipment and extra sizes, and the shooting place etc.

Wednesday Sam again came down to recut our linoleum where it has flattened out and made a bulge, he cuts it very well, oh yes we got up at six that morning to take Cliff and a girl to relieve Ann at Temple, up to Lake Louise, and also to make arrangements for them to get some treads on the Caterpillar tractor. We also found out that Allen Mather wanted to borrow the tractor to move some small buildings at Lake Minnewanka, he couldn't get any help and the water is rising almost over the road so he has to move them in the next few days, we thought this would mean another trip to Lake Louise, but yesterday morning Allen came down to tell us that the contractor had said he would lend him one of their tractors so we were very pleased, but that was another long chat as Pete wanted to tell Allen about our trip and the roads etc. We also had a call from George Lisenchiml who had come for a two weeks ski trip to the Freshfield group and we heard about his winter in North Conway. Mary Simpson came in yesterday afternoon and we heard all about her winter in Boston, so you see we have been quite busy on the whole.

I didn't mean to write you quite so much about what we have been doing for this letter is really about this summer. We have tried to consider from all angles the best time for yours and Mildred's visit, and we think it would be best if you could come sometime in July. You are more likely to miss the hottest time in Concord and yet will be home in case Wadsworth and his family want to go to Maine. July is really the nicest summer month here, and the flowers are the best then and everything is green. June can be awfully damp and cold, so around the middle of July would be the very nicest time for you to come and also should work in well with our plans. When I say the middle of July I mean, if you left Concord the first week in July sometime, then you would be here say the second and third week, if that sounds alright with you. We thought it would be nice if you had a few days here in Banff, and then we might all drive over the road opened last year to Jasper, stopping over night at the Columbia Icefields where we could get a room and bath for you. Bow Lakes would be nice but the bath situation isn't as good for you.

Yesterday before I could finish this we had word from Cliff that Hans and Herman and Marion Miller and the whole party were going through on the train, so we went down to the station to see them. Actually H

Hans Faulkner was the only one who went through, and Marion Miller came down here last evening and we had a nice talk about all sorts of skiers and skiing. We had seen her skiing at the Olympics and at other races in Europe and also knew lots of people she knows in England, Switzerland, Norway, and Eastern Canada. so it was rather fun. She is a Canadian but spent her winters in Switzerland. She may be down to-day when they know what they will be doing. It is showery spring weather and so they left Temple, but we need the rain badly as everything is very dry.

I will try and answer some of your letters and thank you for the book which Pete is reading. I hope you aren't getting too tired with so much to think of and that you will get a real rest out here. The altitude of the Bow Summit where the road goes is high enough to have all the loveliest flowers which you can see without having to get out of the car hardly. yet the road isn't scary like some of the old ones.

I hope that Kitty is getting on well and now that she is back home you won't have to think so much of the children and their household, it was unfortunate that they only had a cook and Hannah just at the time, and it seems so hard to ~~feed~~ be fed in a house that is planned for a lot of service. I do think that life out here is far easier and less complicated.

I must not write more now.

Loads of love

Catherine

P.S. Have you read "H. M. Bullock Engine" by John Marquand. He wrote "The Late George Apley". I got this new one at the coast and am thoroughly enjoying it. He gets the life of a certain type of Bostonian so well and so awfully true.

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Sunday May 3, 1941

Dearest Mother,

Pete is painting and I am trying to clean up and straighten out letters and things, so as I come across things to thank you for or mention I will write a bit.

I just read the clipping you sent some time ago about Concord and the various distinguished citizens and was quite amused at some that were included and the obvious ones that were left out, like Mr Surrete and Mr Shaw and lots of others, *every* evidently it was more important to be a member of the Elks or to have organized a baseball team.

We think it was mean that the usher stood right in front of you at the opera in that picture you sent.

I am so glad that Kitty is back so that you won't have their house hold on your mind, for seems to me it was a lot of extra care for you. I imagine it is hard to learn to walk again and always the feeling that your leg isn't as strong as originally though of course one shouldn't feel that way really. One nice thing is that Kitty's trouble is in her bones and she doesn't have to worry about getting tired or doing too much the way one would have to if it had been an illness like pneumonia. Its too bad that she had to give up the trip to Kentucky, for I imagine springtime is the nicest there.

You spoke of getting the twin books for Gale, I think you would be wise to wait another year or two so that she would really enjoy them. Bubby is barely old enough now and she is in her second year at school and also reads unusually well for her age. She is nearly eight. The books that I think Gale would enjoy are those little ones we used to have about Peter Rabbit, Cotton tail and Peter, and the one about Tommy tit mouse or something like that, they are all upstairs in Concord for I never brought them out.

I got such a nice letter from Frances, I didn't realize until you wrote that Frances had not seen Erling Strom, had just spoken over the telephone. That wouldn't be too successful for Erling stutters terribly at times, and so probably doesn't say more than he has to on a phone! Actually it is an attractive stutter when you are face to face with him but on a phone it would be a moment of silence. I was awfully glad to hear that it is such a nice place to stay. It wasn't so much what Jean wrote but that just before getting her letter I had been talking about Erling to Elizabeth Rummel and she made some remark about Erling having been rude to a certain person, and then I was so afraid that maybe he had been rude to Frances. It was sort of a coincidence all round. Did Russ and Kitty go near there I wonder when they motored up to Canada.

You said that My letter from the coast was censured, I wonder what they thought of my drawing of the W.C? Maybe they censure all letters from the coast.

I am glad that you are at last over your fall and can sit down in comfort and I hope you didn't have too much trouble with your foot.

The Beavers haven't cut down any more trees near here, one has to protect the tree with wire around it, for Animals come first in the park and mice are the only things one can catch with out a permit.

How large are the bean slicer and pea sheller? I have a little gadget for peeling vegetables and it could be used for stringing beans. We don't get many peas and beans so unless it is a tiny thing.

it might not be worth while. Oh there was no duty on the present for Barb's Baby, she was tickled to pieces with it. told me about it first thing.

In looking thought the letters to answer and bills to pay etc. I find one written to you but not sent, maybe I put a stamp on an empty envelope. I'll send it now.

the Tuesday club with Information Please must have been very amusing. I think you were very bright to send in such a good question. It must have been fun.

I was sorry to hear that Mrs Pritchard had died, she was such a lovely person.

Thank you for all the clippings that you send, What an awful fire that was in Marshfield, but I suppose once those summer houses start burning it is hard to stop the fire.

What did you think of Sam Manierre's letter ? I thought it sort of stilted and then when I showed it to Pete he noticed the stenographer's initials, so maybe Sam wanted you to know he had a secretary. I shouldn't say it, but it made me think that Sam is planning to come east this spring and sort of didn't want to come without having written for so long, but then again now that he has a secretary he may be catching up on his correspondence. I am glad that he is getting one well.

I shall enclose a post card for Gale, she has been so nice sending us pictures in your letters.

Thank you for that clipping about Italy, had I realized that it was out of the Transcript I would have cut the rest of the series out for you, as they were in our Paper's too, but when we were going to the coast, so that the one we would have missed was the one you sent. I saw that the Transcript was going to stop being published, and then later that they were trying to get different people to put \$5000.00 each into it to keep it going.

This must be all for now.

Loads of love,

Catharine

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Thursday, May, 8, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

I was going to write you after lunch and then Pete said that he would run me over town in the car as he had to go and we could do all the things get supper and the mail etc. I scribbled you a card, but after writing it there was so little in it that I decided it wasn't worth sending, better to send one to-morrow.

We are making up for the warm weather that we had in March and April, since Sunday it has been squally moments of sunshine and hail, then it cleared up beautifully yesterday afternoon, so clear and bright, and the effects on the mountains were specially lovely. Just before supper the Grants appeared on their way east. They are the young honeymoon couple who were skiing at Sun Valley and met Dwight Shepler the water color artist, and he told them to come up here, which they did driving up. they had gotten tired of the bell boys and all at Sun Valley. They went up to Temple before Easter and were to be back in Atlanta Georgia the first week in May. We helped them get to Temple, and then after a week or so there they went to Skoki and only came down yesterday. They wondered if we could cash a check for them as Wednesday the stores are closed, ~~and the day before that it is not possible to do anything~~ and we only had a little money in the house, so Pete got hold of Jackie and they finally decided to go to Calgary that night and then meet Jackie at the Bank (Jackie was also going to Calgary) this morning and he would introduce them and they could cash their personal check there. We offered them bacon and eggs for that was all we had enough of, but they went on and we had a late supper of bacon and eggs ourselves as there was hardly time to cook anything else. Then we went out to Lake Minnewanka to see if there was much earth left in the part that is to be covered with water. The waves are lapping the shore already and over the road in a few places so it may not be many days now that you can drive to the old town site. There was the most beautiful effect, the wind had changed and a snow storm was coming across the end of the lake, in the west it was clear and the sun turned the snow which was coming down in streaks to a golden yellow and the sunlight was hitting the tops of the peaks, the whole thing reflected in the shallow part of the lake. Later when we were coming back they were lighting the piles of brush and the blue smoke and leaping flames with the mens figures silouetted against the light, and all reflected in the pools of water would have made a wonderful picture, we stopped and looked for quite a while. Then there was quite a wind before the storm and we started home, they work all night with great big machines called "Le Tourneaus" which scoop up the earth, haul it at a good speed, and dump it and spread it where they want it. and the whole thing is done by one man. We will show them to you when you come out if they are still working. the dam is earth fill, no cement. While we were watching these big machines working, right beside the road was an enormous beaver eating his supper quite unconcerned. and several wild ducks too.

The storm blew in and this morning we woke to see snow on the spruce trees, not very much and it soon melted, but has been raining and snowing off and on all day, a miserable sort of day and only 38 now.

There was a nice letter from you and Jean at the store, all about Mrs Wayman coming out, I wish I had had more time last fall to read the book, but I am sure I wouldn't have known how to help in suggestions, I am not very good giving criticisms, would Cousin Jane be a help or

Mildred. About the summer plans, my letter has probably reached you by now. Why not figure on sometime between two dates and then decide on the actual time later, depending on how things go. Any time between the last week in June and the first three in July would be all right for us as far as we know now, but if anything should come up say that we had to do the end of June then you could come in July and or if Mildred had to be home earlier, you could come here in June. It will be much easier for us to tell a little bit later on.

I hope that you aren't getting too tired trying to do too much. I know it is nice for you to have the children with you but I can also imagine it is rather hectic. What did you do with me when I was little and Jean had her day off, or didn't she have any days off? Couldn't Mrs Armstrong put them to bed once a week or isn't she well enough. I never realized that a person had to have their leg in a cast for so long, but then you remember Alec Bright had his in one when he came out to dinner. so I guess it is mostly the inconvenience of the thing that makes it hard and the stairs at the farm are rather narrow and steep aren't they. Kitty might try sleeping downstairs.

Well I must tackle the desk or it never will get cleared up.
Loads of love,

Catherine
Friday. I will mail this now. It cleared last night & is
a lovely day today. I've been cleaning out my
kitchen cupboards this morning.

more love

Catherine

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Monday, May 12, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

We were going to Calgary this morning to do one or two things but I seem to have developed larengeitus (however you spell it) and so we may not go. Pete had the same thing as we came back from the coast, a sore throat and then hoarsness and now nearly two weeks later I seem to have it. Neither of us had a cold all winter but this isn't much, just inconvenient. Pete had to get some retouching varnish for his Spitfire picture which they want Wednesday, but I think that he may telephone for it to be sent up and the rest of the errands aren't so important. He is now going to give them a snow picture of Mt Assinaboine instead of the Ski track one, as we think more people will like it. I think it came out awfully well, it is a sunny snow picture, actually it is from a sketch Pete made several years ago in the fall, when we were out there and had several feet of snow.

Yesterday was quite warm, we did a little raking and then in the afternoon went up to see Sam Ward to find out when he would be able to come and make some cupboards for us, he is always so busy, but thinks in two weeks he will have plenty of time. They live in a house on the hillside of Tunnel Mountain and have a very pretty garden that goes up hill behind their house, with a fence to keep the deer and elk out and also make it more private, at the top of the garden there is a tiny lawn about ten feet square and they have a few chairs and a hammock and they can see the mountains west over the roof top of the house. We sat and chatted and another friend of theirs arrived and we all had tea. I felt so very English but it was very pleasant and as there is no through road it was quiet sitting in the sun. I think I will have to take you up there when you come, Cis has a way with birds and they are all so tame and come around summer and winter, the garden is very simple but she does it all herself and I think it is very pretty, it shows what one can do.

Miss Miller the Canadian skier came down Saturday afternoon to say goodbye to us, and brought a Mr Straus who is American vice-consul in Montreal, they have been skiing up near the icefields.

The Garden in Concord must be lovely now and I can imagine all the people coming to see it and keeping you very busy. I hope that Kitty is getting on well with her leg, Crutches must be hard to manage unless you have very strong arms, for doesn't one have to sort of hold oneself up by the hands on the cross bar.

By this time you have probably gotten my letter about the best time for you to come this summer so I won't say more now.

Heaps of love,

Catharine -

Banff, Alberta.

Thurs. May 15, 1941

Dearest Mother,

Goodness me, I am awfully sorry you got the idea that we weren't glad to see you this summer. We are tickled to pieces to think that you are coming out and maybe I was trying so hard to think which would be the best time etc. that I didn't say ~~not~~ enough about how pleased we were and how much we are looking forward to the visit. I guess it is the same old story of not mentioning the most obvious things, and I thought of course you would realize how glad we are to have you. We have been trying to think of all the little things that we would like you to see and do, you know that other time you were here we were barely moved into the house and so anxious to be painting, not realizing then that we couldn't paint and do other things at the same time, then we had Cousin Bert living here and then Nell Badwin and Pete's best friend Bobby Hunter and allto-gether it was alittle too much. now we know better how to plan things and we hope to give you a real good time without being too strenuous. Also we can have more meals down here if you can stand our cooking, maybe you could show us a few tricks as well. and also you can get ~~an~~ idea how we live in that way.

I couldn't quite gather about what Russell was going to do in July. Are they taking a house somewhere at the beach and want you to visit them? or is it somewhere that Russell would be only weekends and so be in Conocoed weekdays with you? If the latter I don't wonder that you would like to be home if he was to be with you evenings. so let us know all the things you have to consider in making your plans and then we can see which exact time will be best, for I realize you have to know definitely on account of planning the girls vacations.

The shakes for the roof came this morning and Sam will help us put them on maybe next week. I can hardly realize that it is the middle of May already and I don't seem to have done anything much. Pete has been making boxes for the Spitfire pictures and it has kept him busy, he made his own box, then he offered to make one for Carl and then there was still another one to be boxed and he offered to do that, there are few carpenters now and they are all so busy.

Pete has several large pictures he is anxious to finish but first he wants to get the roof fixed properly and the shelves and then he can go ahead with the painting.

Robin must be awfully cunning and I think he was real clever about the picture, though where do you suppose he has ever fished in a river? Carl Fungius picture of a Moose was in the house yesterday on the floor next the wall, and when Davie aged 4 came in to the shop with Harold he peeked through the door and said " Oh! there's a moose in the kitchen?" and of courses Harold had to go and see it too. There's ways of saying things are so funny at that age. I wish Robin could play with them for they would have a grand time to-gether. You are apt to see quite a bit of Davie and Harold as they come over to

to see us very often, and we have to tell them we are busy and for them to come back later. They are very interested in all that goes on and want to help in their way.

I thought that was an ettra nice letter from Cousin Kathie and had so much news of all of them. I am glad that Sam is better, but he sounds sort of changed though I don't wonder after all he has been through.

^{Loads of love} and just let us know when you want to be back in Concord and then maybe we can do better planning at this end, for we do want every thing to be best for all concerned.

More love

Catharine -

(The point of this penul is broken)

P.S. I will be thinking up a present for you to bring. Stockings are a great help, but I believe you are allowed only so much. to bring anyone, maybe I can find out.

Banff, Alberta.

Canada.

Sunday, May 18, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

The joke was on me or perhaps Pete. He was going over town the other day and I asked him to get me a gargle for my throat was pretty raw, and he thought it a good idea to bring Dr Atkins instead to just look at it, which he did. I was feeling quite well and downstairs but Dr Atkins said that the only way to get rid of the thing was to go to bed and stay there. and I suppose he was right, but it is an awfull nuisance. It is the first time I have ever been sick in bed here. He told us to put on mustard plaster three times a day and catch the thing where it was in my laranyx (?) and keep it from going into my chest. which we have done, I never realized before how a mustard plaster would loosen things up. Any way I feel fine and am anxious to be up, Dr Atkins said yesterday he would be round to-morrow morning so I hope he thinks I am cured. He said it is the same bug that people have had all winter and though I could get up and drag myself around I would be apt to catch more cold and it would keep on that much longer, for its the kind that drags on. so I hope he is right after all this staying in bed. Pete has been wonderful and fortunately the Dr. said I should have "slops" as he called it, soup, milk and plenty of water. But even then it is quite a job bringing up all my meals. Pete is quite tickled for he has been inventing new dishes, got some fish for chowder, then read Fanny Farmer's and got quite discouraged about all the things to do, so he put the cook book away and made the thing the way he thought it should be made. It turned out so well that we are now planning to have it for a luncheon dish when you and Mildred are here. I have never tasted any chouder like it, with such a flavor, and Pete has been boasting about it ever since. I only hope he can make it again.

I have been reading Ambassador/^{1/2} Dodd's Diary. It is most interesting. He was Ambassador to Germany from 1933-1938. I forgot to tell you how very much we both enjoyed the book you sent about France, the poor French. One can only pity them and to think of what their so called Government is doing.

I have had so many lovely letters from you and am glad that everything is going well and that you are getting rested from all you were doing. I will find out about getting those things at the drug store so you will know if you can get them or not this summer. We can always lend you and Mildred an extra coat or sweater but don't bring too flimsy a summer coat as I think you would use what we would call a spring coat more. if you know what I mean. We also have plenty of extra bags or a small trunk if you want to take anything back with you. This is supposed to be a wonderful place to buy blankets and such like and you are both allowed a hundred dollars worth each on re-entering the states. I am sure the children would be tickled to pieces to have you bring them any little thing. I told Pete what you suggested and he said he knew they would love a present and we agreed it would be far better for you to bring some

something to them and never mind anything for us, he added " You tell your Mother that the only present we want is herself " I think he put it in a better way than I have, but the meaning is much the same. I don't always word things very well. I will try and find out all the ages if it will be a help, or maybe I can give you an idea. Lila's oldest girl, Marion, is in high school and the other two are just a year or two younger so they would probably like some little pin or something pretty to wear. The little adopted child is six I think, not in School, any simple toy would do. David the boy, is about nine or ten, ten I guess. and Cliffords boys are about 8, 10, and 11. They would probavly all like the same thing, soldiers or something to do with them like little cannon or whatever there is in that line, toy ones like Russell used to have, or model arioplanes to put to-gether. but I think it a good idea to give the four of them the same as they are all near enoughin age and play to-gether. Bubby is 8 in the summer I think, and she would like most anything. The two boys are about Robin's age and shoud also have the same things or they will want each others. thats Davey and Harold. Anythingto do with trucks, trains or planes would suit them. Did you realize what you were getting into?

I guess this is all for now.

Loads of love,

Catherine ~

P.S. Monday. I'm up & around again & feeling fine. Will write again maybe tomorrow.

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Wednesday, May 21, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

I am trying to be very careful and get rid of my bug. Dr Atkin came down Monday morning and I was up which he thought all right but said not to go out for two days and be very careful for a week, which I am doing. I really wasn't what you would call sick and ordinarily wouldn't have gone to bed at all, but we had such miserable cold weather all week, with rain and snow flurries (making up for the too good weather in April) that it seemed best to try and get rid of the thing, which I hope I have done.

The two books have come and thank you so much for getting them for us, they will be very nice for us to have.

Yesterday afternoon Pearl came down with the pictures to be packed. Pete got in for more than he bargained for but that is often the case. Had he known in the beginning he could have done the making of the boxes and packing in half the time, but he is glad to do it for them only it does take time. He naturally expected to make a box for his own picture to be sent round in, and when he had finished that he found that Carl's box was made for the painting without the frame. Pete had originally made the frame Carl had for it, and as that had to be cleaned up a little, Pete said he would make his box, which he did. Then Grandmaison's needed a box and Pete made that, and at the last minute Gissings hadn't a box having been delivered by car so again Pete said he would do his too. Each box meant a trip to the lumber yard and all the rest and now he has all the boxes it is the logical thing to bring the pictures here to be packed. Carl came down this morning and said Pete was doing it the right way so that was a help. What I really started to say was that Pearl brought the pictures down yesterday afternoon and with her a Royal Air Force Pilot who is here on sick leave for three weeks, he had the bad luck to crash five hours before he was to graduate and he was feeling rather badly as the rest of his class have gone on for their next training. He is a fine sort of young fellow, so clean cut, comes from near Winchester England. They have a R.A.F school at Moose Jaw and one opened this week at Calgary, nothing to do with the Canadian Air Force but he said there were quite a few Norwegians with them. Agnes Hammond was here too so it was quite a busy afternoon, and I still haven't got my desk cleaned up.

So many nice letters from you to answer, the one about you all going over to the camp and having coffee and doughnuts which must have been nice. I was interested in what you wrote about the big places in Western being closed and for sale, what a pity and yet I can easily understand why in this day and age few want to keep up large places. I suppose they will be made into building developments. I hope the people who bought the Sewell house are real nice it is a lovely place and can certainly be made nice.

I think I told you that we can lend you and Mildred anything you need in the way of extra's, coats and sweaters etc. you won't need much variety in the way of dresses, as the people change around so at the hotel no one would notice if you wore the same thing all the time, and also it is only the American tourists who come out in new cloths or rather fashionable ones and therefore are quite conspicuous, it is a good chance to wear anything you are tired of wearing in Concord.

Loads of love,

Catherine -

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Friday May 23 1941

Dearest Mother,

A nice letter from you yesterday about going to the Cram place and also about showing the colored pictures to the children. I am glad that Kitty is getting on better now that the cast is just on the lower part of the leg. Do you remember what a hard time Mrs Lindsay had after she broke her hip, for she kept feeling that it would break every time she put her weight on it. I imagine it would feel that way, but I understand that the theory now is to move around as much as possible in order to increase the circulation.

You evidently forgot to enclose the list of questions for me to answer but I expect you will next time, and I will do my best. The 26th of June as a starting date for you and Mildred will be all-right for us. You spoke once of taking the day train from Boston to Montreal (as I did last fall) and then you land in the same station as you leave from for the west. I believe you have an hour and ~~a half~~ ^{1/4} to kill in between, but as the station (the Windsor Station) is only a few blocks from the main street in Montreal, you can take a stroll if you like. What I started to say is that if you take the "Alouette" which is the day train leaving the North Station at 8 A.M. or 9 Daylight Saving time, it goes via St Johnsbury Vermont, and Mildred can take the # train that leaves Portland at 8 A.M. too, and join you at St Johnsbury. Another thing that might make it easier for you would be to plan your baggage so that you can check your big suitcase or cases, and have just what you need on the train with you. You can check them right through from Boston or Portland and then get the customs here to look at them when you get them at the station. If you get your tickets at the Canadian Pacific office near the Arlington Street church on Boylston St I think they will look after everything for you. Of course they also will get the tickets at the station in Concord. But sometimes they think that because Banff is inland that there is no customs man here, but there is both American and Canadian for the tourists.

I didn't know that Dorothy Gannett Hamlen or Thomas Ridgway Macy Jr that you got wedding cards from. Maybe you were on some list they had and didn't go over carefully.

We don't promise to give you any great teas but will see that you meet as many of our friends as possible.

We are having lovely weather again only quite a wind. and the leaves are coming out fast. night before last it was 28 above and the frost took lots of peoples early things. quite discouraging.

Loads of love.

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Monday May 26, 1841.

Dearest Mother,

We always joke about its snowing on the 24th of May which is Empire Day and the first summer holiday in Canada. They used to have boat races on the river in Banff, but so often it was cold and miserable with occasional snow that they gave it up. This year the season of tourists coming by car has started early and Thursday and Friday being clear and warm it looked like a great weekend. Saturday was clear but thick with forest fife smoke from a big fire a good many miles away. The town was full of people and they had some 250 ministers and their wives and family's to dedicate some stone monument to the Rev. Rundle who came here many many years ago. There was a nice east wind but the sun was warm, then Sunday morning we woke to a pouring rain and dark as could be, it rained all day turning to snow in the afternoon. a heavy wet snow and as it was just above freezing it stayed on the trees and ground, so this morning it looked just like the middle of winter with the branches laden with snow on the north east side. the poor trees with leaves did look pathetic. It is afternoon and there is still quite a bit on the ground.

We have been doing quite a bit of figuring about the easiest way for you to make the trip this summer and just now got a new timetable to be sure. You spoke of taking the day train from Boston to Montreal (It stops at Lowell too) and I wrote you that Mildred could leave Portland at the same time and join your train at St Johnsbury Vermont. You reach Montreal at 6.30 P.M. and take the "Dominion" west at 8.15 P.M. that same night from the same station. There is only one drawback for you, and that is that there is no compartment on the day train. There is a combination parlor car and buffet but that is all. There are usually very few if any passengers who ride in the parlor car so it might be allright for you, you would know how you feel better than I do about the Ladies room part. It might be possible that the Canadian National has a train to Montreal from Boston with a compartment. I will see if I can find out next time we are in Calgary, but I doubt if they have anything better. The "Red Wing" is the night train from Boston to Montreal and then there is the one that goes through Concord which lands you at the Canadian National Station in Montreal, but if you were to be there for the day you would want a room in a hotel anyway and so it would hardly matter which station you landed in. There also is the way of going via Toronto by taking an afternoon train from the South Station at 5.30 and getting to Toronto at 8 A.M. and leaving for the west that night at 10.55 P.M. (you can board the train earlier than that) but again you have a day to spend, though some people like it to break the train journey.

Which ever way you decide to come it is a good idea to ~~get~~ make a reservation well ahead. I imagine that you will take a drawing room which is much the nicest and not much more expensive. 2 in a compartment costs \$45.50 from Montreal to Banff, and 2 in a Drawing Room costs \$57.00. It is much roomier and has the toilet and also a place to lie down for your nap. It wont make any difference which day you arrive at the end of June or first of July for us.

I haven't found out all the answers to your questions but will when it isn't so slippery under foot. About the coat question, I think maybe you better bring a warm coat that you would wear if you were going up to the White Mts to see the Autumn foliage. You can always take it off if it is too warm but it is miserable to be too cold. I can lend you a nice light coat to wear. A day like this makes one feel that the weather is always cold, but of course it can be hot at times, but seldom humid. As far as we are concerned you can wear the same clothes all the time. You won't need any dress clothes except perhaps a dinner dress for the hotel some nights. but I think you know pretty well what to bring. I will find out about the duty and other things soon.

Loads of love;

Catherine -

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Wednesday, May 28, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

Yesterday I went over town and found the answers to all your questions, first to the drug store and they carry what you need, then to the customs man. He said that it is sort of understood that an American can bring a gift worth not more than five dollars to each person, so if there are five children that would be about 25 dollars worth that you are allowed, however I knew that you meant to bring only little things of fifty cents or a dollar. He said that if a gift or gifts was worth more than five dollars for any one person that it would come under other restrictions. Since the war a great many things everyone is prohibited to bring in, really as a matter of saving foreign exchange, so he said I had better read the list of prohibited articles. I started in on the list, "all cotton goods, lace embroidery, stockings and sewer pipes" (I could just imagine you and Mildred with a length of Sewer Pipe under each arm as presents for us) you can't bring us a bathtub or a lawnmower either! There were all sorts of odd things and I kept picturing you bringing them as gifts when of course the list included every thing people might order brought in. It won't effect you at all, as long as you keep under the five dollar mark. Toys are prohibited otherwise. Just put any gifts for the children or us in the bag you check through and then the customs man here will examine it when you arrive, and when the customs man on the train asks if you have anything to declare, you can say "no," as the ~~W~~ few personal gifts for the children are in the bags you checked through. You don't have to even mention the things in the other bag. If there are any more questions just let me know.

There is really nothing that we want unless you could find a pair of folding scissors, a good strong pair. I lost the ones I used to have and miss them very much as they were so easy to carry in a pack sack without the points sticking into things and I have never been able to find any here.

Last night we listened to President Roosevelt as I guess nearly every one who could did also. I thought it a very good talk and to the point, and though at the time it didn't seem as if he had said a great deal that was startling, when you thought it over he really went quite a way in declaring a National Emergency and also the part about Capital and Labor, and also that the U.S. wouldn't wait until their own shores were attacked before becoming active. It was an exciting day with the sinking of the Bismarck in the morning.

I don't think I remembered to tell you that Percival Goan and his wife came to see us. Unfortunately it was when I was in bed, they were with some friends and on their way to see Lake Louise but said they just wanted to say "Hello" They come upstairs to see me and spoke a few minutes and saw the house and then went on their way. We thought they seemed awfully nice and she looks so awfully young.

We expect Sam down this evening about a plane that he and Pete are going to get together, - expect you will meet him for he is building a house right now for someone and won't be able to do our work until later, maybe while you are here, though of course it won't interfere with your visit, but he is great fun and a real philosopher too, always cheerful and good natured.

Pads of love,

PS If you don't like my old sweater with buttons, well get a new one for you to wear? I can use it afterwards so don't buy one -

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Memorial Day
May 30, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

I should probably have forgotten all about what day it is had they not mentioned the fact that it was Memorial day on the Radio. you see they don't have it here. May has gone awfully fast and I really lost a couple of weeks with that sore throat, the few days before going to bed and the time in bed and then nearly a week feeling not too energetic, I feel fine now and have been trying to get the house cleaned up and the cupboards in order, there is always so much to do or so it seems, We were going to get a lot of things done before you came but it doesn't look as if we would now. One morning I did the big end of the big room and then in the afternoon did an easy part of sorting photographs, and the same with the other end of the room, and in that way it is very easy. but this morning I wasn't so successful for I had planned to do the kitchen, dusting the logs off, before I got underway Pearl Moore came for Pete to make one more box and then after she left Pete's mother came down about a safe she has and the morning was gone.

We got your letter yesterday with Mildred's \$6/10⁰⁰ enclosed. saying that the 26th or 30th of June would be fine for her, those were the dates you asked us and we said would be O.K. Then in your letter you wrote that you would leave the 23rd. so I wondered if you made a mistake. You can let us know when you finally decide. We will speak for 4 rooms on the front with the view east down the valley. It doesn't help to be on the first floor as you have to use the elevators where ever you are but we will do our best. Every room has a bath I think but we will have them connecting. I think two singles will be nicer for you both as Mildred might want to stay up later than you do and yet wouldn't want to keep you awake etc.

My letter about the duty crossed yours, it is nice of you to think of the doilies that don't need washing, but we never use them ourselves and seldom have people to meals, I have some straw ones and the ordinary kind, we just use the bare table. As you can bring me only a 1/ \$5.00 present maybe a slip would be the nicest thing though I would rather have the folding scissors than anything. Also could you get a bottle of the hair tonic you used to use " Eucalyptus " made by Otis Clapp? You understand it isn't a matter of paying duty on anything over five dollars it is that you are prohibited from bringing any more than five dollars worth of presents to any one person. How would it be if you got us a present out here for the house?

I wrote Mildred about the wearing apparel to bring and suggested one dinner dress in case she met a friend who asked her to eat with them and they were dressing, but otherwise you can wear more of an afternoon dress if you like. You may not want to eat many meals at the hotel. Probably sport things would be the most useful really anything that is comfortable. and I told her to be sure and bring walking shoes. I also mentioned the fact that on the Canadian Pacific Observation cars they have a very good library and you can take the books out for the trip you don't have to read them there. they usually have very good ones, and you get a real choice if you go to the porter the first morning.

It's Sat. & raining - We are going over now so will not add more to this to-day. Goods of love - we are getting quite excited too! Catherine

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Monday, June 2, 1941.

X Dearest Mother,

It is June and you will be coming almost before we know it, I am afraid that we won't be able to get everything looking as well as we would like to but we will do our best. Saturday we finished planting new patches of grass that we hope will be nice and green for you. We spent a little while carefully explaining to the children that they mustn't walk on it and then yesterday, Sunday, it rained so hard in the afternoon that little rivulets of water went right across the newly sown lawn and I suppose washed all the seed out. but I guess you won't really mind.

Your last letter with one from Mildred sounded as if you had thought of coming the 23rd of June, and also I gathered from Mildred's letter that you were maybe thinking of taking the night train to Montreal, if you do decide to take the night train, why not take the one from Concord? and have Mildred go to Concord so that you can be together and have the day in ~~Montreal~~ Montreal together? If you take the train that will stop in Concord you will arrive in Montreal at the Canadian National Station (a funny old fashioned station) and then if you take a taxi to the hotel (Pete said the Mount Royal Hotel is very nice and in the center of things) you can take a room for the day. You will have a place to rest and Montreal is rather fun, the stores are nice and if you like you would buy us a present there and save all the trouble with Customs, and also help Canada, for every dollar you spend here helps end the war sooner. You could take a drive in the afternoon and get the driver to take you all around the different parts of the city and the residential parts should have real pretty gardens. I am sure Mildred would be interested. and then you get on the train that night.

We are having horrid weather, rainy and not very warm. To-day was the opening of the Victory Loan and they had a parade which Pete was in, besides the Reserve Unit there was the Red Cross and all the School children and the school band, and then speeches and the opening of the drive. There was quite a crowd, that is one reason I am hurrying with this letter to get it in the mail in time, and of course hitting all the wrong letters.

Loads of love

Catherine

P.S. I will enclose a folder that they have gotten out with information for the tourists. I have marked a place where it tells you the sort of identification paper it is convenient to have with you, so that when you cross back into the states all the immigration man has to do is to read it and know that you are a United States citizen. I wrote Russell and asked him to get it for you in the form of a letter from the bank or something, and I also wrote Mildred so she would get one. I remember once I used a handkerchief with my name on it but of course that wouldn't really do. A drivers Liscence is a good thing but of course you haven't one and a birth certificate is another thing you can use.

Must go now.

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Thursday June 5, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

I mean't to write you to-day but we went up to Bow Lakes and it was afternoon when we got back. Mary Simpson came down Tuesday afternoon to ask Pete's advise on a light plant and we decided it would be best to have a look at the lay out and also measure it all out before going to Calgay, yesterday it rained again and so it was just as well that we had planned to go to-day for it was the first lovely day since the 24th of May, and everything is getting green and lovely the willows are just budding up there. We had lunch with the Simpsons and now will go to Calgary to-morrow, we have been meaning to go for some time as we have quite a few things to do.

A nice letter from you to-day in answer to mine with all the details, I am glad that Dr Bartlett could help you out on trains, they really don't change from year to year. I think a trunk a fine idea and if we all want to go somewhere else for a couple of nights why you can borrow any size suitcase from us and leave the rest of your stuff in the trunk at the hotel. Also you can bring all you want to and be real comfortable. Don't bother about the folding siecors or the Hair Tonic if it means another trip in town for you and I know that Jean will be away. You didn't say which train you had decided to take, the day or night to Montreal, but do let us know later how you decide, and whether Mildred will start from Concord too or not.

Aunt Frankie's letter was rather pathetic, I didn't realize that she had been in bed and it must have been a great effort for her to write, of course that double vision she had for so long made it very tiring for her but I do feel sorry to think that she is not even well enough to be up.

I am glad that Kitty is able to get around now and go every where for it must be trying being laid up so long. I believe that Cousin Jane is with you so do give her my love.

This isn't much of a letter but the news comes on in a minute and then the paper arrives and by the time that is read it is time for the last news and to bed. I will mail this AirMail so you won't be so many days without a letter.

Loads of love

P.S. The news is over and the paper hasn't come yet so will write a bit more, I was sorry too about Sir Hugh Walpole, he has a new book out too, about the father of "Rogue Herris". He was very young, and what a lot of well known Artists have died like Mrs Murphy and Mr Paxton and seems to me there was one other. Paper's come so this is all for now.

Pete has been having great fun just now as the kids were playing at the back and he took one of their bicycles and they were sure he didn't know how to ride one! and I guess he led them on a bit - told him how we used to laugh whenever you spoke of riding a bicycle & that we never could imagine it. But he says to tell you that now he knows you can ride a bicycle & that he would suggest you & Mildred riding a tandem bike in Banff this summer, and we would follow along by car & help you up the hills.

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

-#Friday May 28, 1941.

Monday, June 9, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

Your letter just came saying that you are now leaving on Friday the 27th, as yet you haven't said whether you are taking the day train or the night train to Montreal. If you leave Friday morning you will be here Monday the 30th but if you leave Friday night you get here Tuesday morning. Just let us know and we will have the two rooms and baths spoken for, as I mentioned before all the rooms have a bath. It will probably be easier for Mildred to have a few more days after school ends and better for Kitty and also you will have Jean home a few more days to help run up and down stairs while you are packing, it also will be just as well for us to have a few more days as Sam Ward is still busy trying to finish a house by the fifteenth, and after that we have the roof to be shingled before you come. We thought yesterday that we would maybe leave up the pinter partition in the living room so that you can get an idea of how cozy we are in winter, it is still chilly enough evenings to have a fire in the fireplace.

It is very showery weather, beautiful one minute and the next a hard rain, the mountains are lovely in between showers. We have been busy the last few days, I may have told you that Mary Simpson came down to ask Pete's advise on the electric light system at Bow Lakes, so Thursday we got up early and drove up there, measured things up, and then Friday went to Calgary, back in time for drill for Pete, and then Cliff came down and he and Pete discussed getting a new truck for Cliff now that they have permission to take people up and down to Temple. An old stonemason here is retiring and wanted to sell his, but for cash and it has only been driven a short distance and had the best of care, it was a wonderful buy, they tried it out and finally on Saturday it was bought. Sunday Pete was anxious to see how it worked so we drove to Lake Louise yesterday morning, Cliff taking Mildred and the small boys in the truck. The little boys much preferred to ride in the truck than with us, but came back in the late afternoon in our car. We all drove up to Temple with Cliff and had a picnic lunch there it was a beautiful day and great fun, it rained before we got back to Banff. Then last evening Mary Simpson came and Pete tol her what he had found out in Calgary so that was all arranged, it was after eleven when she left and the night before had been a late evening as Sam and Cis had come down, so we really have been quite busy, and this morning we had a couple of days dished stacked up to wash which we hadn't had a chance to do.

Poor George Prescott or May be I should say the Mrs Prescotts. Are the Emerson's related, I shall be interested to hear what becomes of the place. There will be so much to hear about when we see you. I know Fidi Warren but not well, and will be on the lookout for them, an old friend of hers and the Kidders, a Mrs Foreman, has built a summer log cabin here, in fact she copied ours, Mr Foreman has a boys school in Connecticut. I don't know yet whether they will be here this year or not.

I thought Aunt Frankie's last letter sounded as if she felt better than her first one, and spoke as if she were up.

Pete is going over town so will have this mailed. By the way if you don't like the books on the train they have there you can buy in

the station in Montreal and in Winnepeg. but I know they have very good new ones in the Observation car. One is Mr Gibbon's "Steel of Empire" all about the building of the Canadian Pacific, it is a year or two old but parts are most interesting.

Loads of love,

Catherine

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

June 12,

Thursday, May 28, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

Two more birthday packages came, making three in all, one to Pete, one to me and one from Jean. It is quite exciting and thank you both so much.

Mrs Hall has arrived, I met her while shopping this noon, she asked me to come up to tea and I have asked her to come down, she will still be here when you come, and her friend Miss Forbes is with her.

We have had a couple of lovely days and the first warm weather since April, over seventy.

A short letter from you yesterday that Cousin Jane was with you for a week and also that Jean had gone on her vacation and that you had had the children with you two afternoons. I hope you will be able to take a little rest before coming so you will enjoy the trip and not be so tired when you start out. However it is rather a restful trip once you get on the train at Montreal. In case I forgot to tell you, be sure and have the Porter show you how to work the air conditioning system, there is a thing that blows fresh air into the car but if it blows directly on your neck or shoulder it is liable to give you a stiff one or a cold, and yet it is nice to have all the fresh air one can. It is not like the system on the train from Kentucky we were on, do you remember we all got headaches? The C.P.R. is cooled by ice, and you will see them loading it on at some of the longer stops.

I wonder would you do me a favor? Could you pay my dues to the Vincent Club? At first I thought I might resign but in any case I think you have to pay this years dues. and so as the money goes to the new hospital building connected next year with the "assachusetts General, I thought perhaps I had better keep on. You make the check payable to "The Vincent Club" and it is for \$ 10.00. I will enclose the envelope addressed. Perhaps it could count as a birthday present.

X Don't worry that we are going to treat you as company, we haven't dug a danderlion this year and you can expect to be put to work anytime. The only cleaning I am doing is what most people do once a month if not once a week, and which I do once a year, the reason I like to get it done before the season starts is that otherwise no sooner do I get the room upset than some special guest calls, lots come in the morning at eleven I suppose a polite way so it doesn't look as if they wanted something to eat. but very inconvenient if it is the morning I have picked to clean, now I have a better system and never do more than one corner at a time. Just now I am making a new curtain for the big window as the other was so faded it had no color left, and so I won't write more now but get to work on it. I stitched the lengths together yesterday afternoon and now must put it together. We also cleaned the big window, first time since the storm sash was put on and the stickers telling the name of the glass was on the inside of the outside window but we never seemed to get round to getting it off before.

Loads of love

Catherine

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Friday June 13, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

This has been such a nice birthday and I thought I would tell you so right away. Such wonderful packages came and I opened them at breakfast time. How did you know that my right foot was going right through the end of my bedroom slippers? it was, but now with this nice new pair I shall be all set for another five years. The book about France is as nice a book as I have seen for a long time. The pictures are so well chosen and so well reproduced, I haven't read the front part yet) and I do like the combination of the drawings, etchings and photographs, don't you? - notice it is a limited edition and - am tickled to pieces to have it. not for the latter reason but because I like the pictures so much and it reminds me of the part of France that we saw. and thank you for the Hans Zinser book too, have you read it? The candy is grand, it is one thing I love but don't often indulge in, and this is a really wonderful box, so altogether it was really very nice. The book Jean sent looks awfully good and light too, I shall enjoy reading something of that type after so many War books.

You are apt to have more Concord friends at the Banff Springs while you are there, The John Abbotts, Miss Magowan, who you may remember as being a Gym teacher at Wheelers with very light hair, and is now hostess at the Banff Springs in the summer and was on the World Cruises, told me they were coming for a week and then going to a ranch. She also said that Mrs Abbott's hair was yellow now, I always thought it was.

Jean wrote that you may go to Portland with Cousin Jane, I know Uncle Marshall will like to see you by the letter from him that you sent me, he sounded father blue. Be write how they are.

Don't worry we won't clean too much, just enough so that you will find a chair to sit in, enough table to eat off of, and be able to walk across the room without falling over a box or a picture of something. It is really a matter of getting things straightened up for the summer so that when you arrive we will have all our time to devote to you while you are here. There were a few things I hoped to get done before you came, things I have planned to do for some time but - may not finish any of them.

We are having a thunder storm, we can't seem to have more than three nice days in a row.

It was nice to hear that Molly and Henry have another son.

I am glad that you have had a quiet day, and why not bring your needle point with you, you could do background.

I had a lovely letter from Aunt Julie with news of all her family.

I was going to get some ice cream to go with a birthday cake Pete's mother made me, and invite the kids to a party outside, but it is cold and rainy and I think I will postpone it. We will have it when you come some sunny day, not the cake but the ice cream.

Loads of love and many thanks again for the awfully nice birthday wishes and presents.

Catherine

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Monday June 16, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

It hardly seems possible that you will be here two weeks from to-night, as the time draws nearer we get more and more excited, and we keep thinking of all the little things we must show you and the things that we think you will enjoy doing and seeing.

The mountains and landscape should be particularly lovely this year for we had so much rain in May and have hardly had to water the lawn this month. My larkspur I hope will be out when you come for they are usually very pretty, this year there are horrid little round bugs on them and I don't know how to get rid of them except to cut off the leafs that are all curled up, so I do hope there are a few stalks left by the time you come. It makes me mad the one year I would like them to do their best, but if there aren't any left I can always tell you how remarkable they were.

We have just been listening to Col. Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy. Did you hear him by any chance? He was wonderful. I wonder if Russell heard him. He spoke from Montreal, at a Victory loan rally. I am afraid that Bubby Shaw didn't hear him, for he certainly said a few things about isolationists. It was a very strong and fighting speech and tremendous applause.

We seem to be having a spell of rainy Sundays which is very discouraging for a tourist resort. It has rained the last four or five Sundays, the one we went to Temple was the best and then it poured most the afternoon. Yesterday we didn't go out. Pete put a coat of linoleum varnish on the kitchen table and to-day another coat, he is anxious to have things look nice and we have been meaning to do that for ages, to-day he painted the screen door green another thing we have meant to do. Wednesday Sam Ward is coming for the day to help Pete put Insul board on the ceiling in his studio. You may remember that we have had trouble in the winter with condensation and have discovered that it is partly caused by the moisture in the air conditioning system. The moist warm air works through the gyproc wool and then condenses in the space between the attic floor and the ceiling of the roof and then when it gets warm outside it melts and runs down through cracks. We expect this will fix it and certainly hope so. Then Pete can start building his stacks for paintings and things. We may not get the roof shingled until later.

Your letter came telling the trains you take, the day train from Lowell to Montreal and so you will get here Monday morning. Pete said to tell you that he has been to the Library and borrowed their Emily Post Mildred at table!

* won't be able to write you many more letters doesn't that seem funny?

Loads of love,

Catherine

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Wednesday, June 18, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

This will be one of the last letters I will have a chance to write you before you leave. Pete has only one drill a week now and is going over to-night so it is a good chance to write.

Such a day as this has been, we used to have more like this but lately have been quite lucky and not interrupted at all. We were doing the breakfast dishes and listening to the news Cliff came with some boots and then we had a chat about the problems of the Ski Camp etc, and the plans for the future. When he left Pete decided to run up with something to Carl Rungius and I had just started looking over old clothes when first the dry cleaner man came and then Mrs Mac, to say that Mrs Rogers was going through on the train and would we go down. It was nearly train time so I told her where Pete was and she telephoned him and he picked me up and we went to the station, that took some time as she was on the second section, and then there were lots of others there and by the time that was over it was noon. After lunch we decided to go up to the Hotel about your rooms, so we got shined up a bit and went up there, running into a few other people. We saw the manager, Mr Ronnie Zyll, and he was very nice, he was a clerk or rather an assistant manager when you were here before. They have only two floors open now and each week open another as the business increases, but there will probably be plenty of rooms to choose from if you don't like the one we picked. We looked at several in different parts of the hotel and thought that the nicest ones were two in the middle of the wing overlooking the terrace, they had larger rooms but the view wasn't as nice. One room has two windows and the other one, but you can have the extra beds taken out if you like and that would give you more room. It is on the floor above the dining room floor, not too far from the elevator's, but far enough so that you won't get the noise of people late at night. and you look right onto the terrace and sort of garden where you can watch all the people come and go, for everyone walks across it at least once. The view is lovely, as you know. We have reserved both rooms and baths, and if you want to change you can later. He asked if you wanted a sitting room, but we didn't think that you would, as we said you probably would be with us most of the time, but if you would like a sitting room just let us know.

Your letter came about driving to Portland, and I expect there will be a Sunday letter to-morrow or the next day telling more about your trip. I am so glad that you could go down before coming out here, as I am sure it would mean a lot to Uncle Marshall for you really are the closest friend he has. I am glad that they have a nice little house.

The next page I am going to write down all the things on the trip for you to look for and do, just in case they may be a help to you and make the trip more fun.

It is just as well you didn't come in June, for we have had a furnace fire quite often and if not have had to light the fireplace one, it has been cold and rainy too often, though moments of sunshine in between.

Friday - You letter about the trip to Portland came yesterday. I am glad it was so successful. Also we

will expect you a day later Tuesday the first.
More than likely there is a greater demand for state
rooms from Montreal, as usually only one car
goes from there right through to the coast. Other wise
you would have to change cars part way. So we
will expect you July first.

Must go over now & mail this.

Gods of love

Catharine .

BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA

Sunday, June 22, 1941.

Dearest Mother,

This probably will be the last letter to you before you leave, unless one comes from you that needs a special answer, and I send an air-mail.

You've said several times that you didn't want us to do any special cleaning or fixing up for your visit, and I don't think we shall get a chance now to do much more, so you will find things as they usually are. The reason largely being that Pete burnt his hand quite badly and so can't use it for a week or until it heals up a bit. It was a pure accident but maddening because it might so easily not have happened.

I think that I wrote you that Thursday we were to be up early as Sam was coming to put Insul Board on the ceiling of the Studio, and Pete was anxious to get it on so as to be able to make the cupboards before you came and have everything in order, we have the ceiling on but one hand only isn't much use as you can imagine. About noon the same day the roofing men came to asphalt the flat roof and as Pete was helping them move the trailer they use for heating the tar, some sloped over and onto his hand. He got it fixed up right away but burns are always pretty painful I guess. Pete hates being bandaged up and having people asking what is wrong, I guess men are never very good at knowing anything wrong with them, so don't be surprised when we meet you at the station, for by then Pete hopes it will be allright, but the Doctor says it will be very tender for a while as it is on the inside of his hand.

It was quite a hectic day as you may imagine, I tried to help Sam hold the boards in place and we did very well though it took him twice as long without Pete to help nail etc. He finished about six.

Friday was rather busy as we had quite a few callers off and on, at this season there are apt to be a lot. Yesterday morning about eleven the Davises called, they looked awfully well and seemed to be enjoying their trip, but said that they had planned it all before leaving and so every minute nearly was booked up with bus rides and what not, they were leaving that afternoon for Lake Louise and Jasper. It was very nice to see them, I expect that they will cross you somewhere.

I do hope you write what happens to the Green girl, what an awful thing to have happen, was she kidnapped or something?

I do hope that Mr Weed and the Bartletts come out this summer, you urge them to, tell them with all the tain everything looks very green and lovely.

We will be seeing you so soon I won't write you more now, and can tell you everthing when we see you next week, doesn't that sound exciting? I expect that Kitty and Russ are busy getting ready to go to Nonquit, packing a family must be quite a job. Give them our love, and tell Russ not to expect a letter from Pete as he can't use his hand to write! that is about the only pleasant thought he has, that he can't write letters!

Lots of love and we will see you soon. only seven days and eight nights.

Catherine .