

Concord, Massachusetts

Montreal -  
Jan 3. 1956 (7)

Dearest Mother,

We are in Montreal  
but missed our plane. The one from  
Boston was frozen up or something  
& late leaving. It was ten before  
we got started in another plane  
2 1/2 ~~half an hour~~ late reaching  
me. I had written our friends  
the Panets & they were at Dorval Airport  
& when they heard our plane was late  
made reservation on flight to Monrovia  
& took us home for night with them.  
Will write later. This is just to  
let you know we are this far. It  
was such a lovely visit!

Lots of love

Rete & Catherine

Concord, Massachusetts

en route  
Friday Jan 4, 1957

Dearest Mother

I should have brought more  
things to write with. will have to get an envelope  
in Calgary. In spite of the clear day we were  
delayed leaving ~~Boston~~ a 7.30 flight took off  
for Maine but an 8.00 clock one kept leaving  
the time changed & though our plane was sitting  
out in front some mechanic seemed to be  
working on an engine. finally they took the  
plane back to the hangar & brought out another  
type. a Convair, supposed to be faster. but  
this took time & other planes arrived & my  
leaving time was further delayed until.  
it was 10 AM when we took off. just 2  
hours late. Had we not stopped at Burlington  
we might have made our connection in  
Montreal but as it was we were half an  
hour late & the flight west had gone.  
Our trip was a good one. a clear day & we  
could see the White Mts & Adirondacks well.

As we walked to the <sup>2</sup> building at Dorval Airport  
a tall man waved frantically. It was Jerry  
Paret & he, his wife Margot & a relative had  
come to meet us. Such luck on our part. They  
had just returned from a sister-in-law's funeral  
in Ottawa. Glanced at the pile of mail & recognized  
my hand writing. For I had written what we were  
doing & of course with the Railway strike they  
knew we wouldn't take the train. When they  
found we would be late they made a reservation  
out on the Flight this morning. So (with his in-  
fluence we suspect) we got a through flight to-  
day & with the strike would have had to take  
the bus to Dorval in any case.

They had their car & drove us back to their house  
for lunch. Then the cousin & nephew left for home.  
We talked a bit over coffee & then Margot arranged  
for us to go to the Museum & see an exhibition of  
sculpture opening that night. A Mr. Cleghorn an  
assistant director took us around - showing us  
other things as well. We went to a few art  
exhibitions, rather modern & back to their house  
all within a few blocks. Had tea, more talk,  
changed our clothes & went to a restaurant for  
dinner on an island in the St. Lawrence.

Banff, Alta.

Sun. Jan 7, 1957

Dearest Mother,

Here we are back safe and sound and almost into the usual routine. The weather was evidently very mild while we were away and only one fall of snow, just a few more inches. about a foot on the ground, so there were no problems for Mr Scott to think of, Probably the best stretch of weather we could have picked to leave the house. However colder air is predicted for to-morrow and snow.

That was really a lovely visit and as the one purpose was to ~~visit you~~ be with you, we figure it was rather successful and just hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. Actually the poor weather and Pete losing his voice kept us home more and there were fewer visitors to tire you, so all in all it really worked out very well.

We sure got a lot of people up unnecessarily early, At first with the slippery driving conditions and more traffic than we expected, plus a truck stalled in the tunnel we thought we might have been late. but in the end they kept posting the flight as leaving later and later. The plane was there but a mechanic was fussing with one engine and we could see stuff dripping out onto the snow. The plane was directly in front of the window. Then it was posted to leave at 9 A.M and they taxied it back to the hanger to get another plane. One of the attendant's told us it was due to the cold weather and ice forming from the condensation etc. A 7.30 flight got away on time but not ours. Several planes arrived and that delayed us until they were cleared and it was after ten when we finally took off. I should have telephoned Russ but we kept thinking we were leaving any minute.

It was lovely and clear and fun with a road map to follow our route, we could tell pretty well where we were and saw the White Mountains and the Adirondaks very well, all the farms and villages like toys below us. The plane was a Convair and supposed to be quicker than the original type of plane but with a stop in Burlington we couldn't make up enough time. Another passenger was hoping to catch a plane in Montreal for Quebec but he missed his connection by five minutes and we missed ours by half an hour.

The Panets had told us to always let them know if we were going through Montreal and to stay with them, so I had written that we were flying west at 11.30 and might go by plane or train, but due to the C.P.R. Strike they were pretty sure we would be on the plane, even when they told them we weren't on it! They had gone out with a nephew to meet us. Everything seemed just lucky. All of them had been to Ottawa the day before to a funeral and so came home to a stack of mail and Christmas cards, but Margot recognized my handwriting in time to know we were arriving that morning.

They really are the most wonderful people and I don't know why they are so good to us, It is ten years since we have seen them

but have looked after a number of their friends in Banff when they came through. Gen. Panet was the Chief Investigator of the Canadian Pacific for many years and in charge of all the C.P.R. Police, then during the War head of the Prisoner of War camps, <sup>in Canada</sup> and now is head of the Banque Francais ( I think it is called ) having retired from the C.P.R. 10 years ago. He used to accompany a lot of the distinguished guests travelling on the C.P.R. like the King and Queen of Siam and Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh when they crossed the country on their tour. Margot is very artistic and loves beautiful things, they are both French Canadian and interested in many things in Montreal and have lots of friends.

They wanted us to stay over the weekend but we felt we should get back and so took the booking for the flight at 8 A.M. next morning. ~~Col. Panet~~ Col. Panet, the nephew is quite lame with two crutches but lots of fun ( he was hurt in Okinawa during the War ) and they all said we had come at the right time to take their minds off the sadness in Ottawa as the person who died was the last of the family except for Gen. Panet. And there were 17 of them I believe *in his own family.*

They drove us back to their house for a delicious lunch, then Col Panet left, and Edward to see him off, while Margot arranged for us to go to the Museum just down the street where a Mr Cleghorn took us around so we had a very interesting time there and saw a couple of other exhibitions too . Then back for tea and a bit of talking, Then changed our clothes, had cocktails and went to a quiet restaurant for dinner. It is really run by the city on an island in the St. Lawrence River which is a park and they have built a large and very attractive building where they have Art Exhibitions and serve meals summer and winter. Had only Quebec Handicrafts on display that night.

We didn't want them to get up early to take us out <sup>the 20 miles</sup> to the Air-Port but they insisted, saying they always got up early at quarter to seven and as we went to bed early they didn't mind getting up before six and even got our breakfast. When we went out it was snowing hard and very slippery but they ~~they~~ are used to snow and icy conditions. and didn't seem to mind. The ~~snows~~ were all out and actually it was a very pretty soft snow. The plane was nearly half an hour late *used a spray.* for they had to de-frost some snow and ice on the front of the wings. But as we climbed up through the snowstorm we reached sunny weather above and as we neared Toronto an hour and a half later we could see quite a bit through holes in the clouds and it wasn't snowing at all when we landed there for half an hour.

We really enjoyed the flight, they had reserved seats so we had good ones for seeing the countryside. They served a delicious breakfast on the plane soon after leaving Montreal and then at Toronto that was taken off and our lunch put on. You would be interested in the way things are done. All the food is in plastic dishes and sit in little impressions on the plastic trays. We had fruit juice in a covered cup, one only has to remove the paper top. Then scrambled eggs and ham, a roll and a muffin, with Jam in tiny dishes with paper over the top too, the coffee is brought around for as many cups as you wish. The cream too is in a tiny cup and the sugar, salt and pepper in little paper bags and a special shaker thing. For dinner we had a cup of fruit Juice, and delicious fried fish, mashed potatoe, corn and peas, a nice fruit & Jellie salad and a strawberry tart . and before reaching Calgary we could have had sandwiches with our coffee or tea.

From Toronto it was non-stop to Calgary which we reached at 3.30 Mountain time. 5.30 Eastern time. It was still a lovely day up high and we could see most of the country through the clouds in Ontario, then it was too thick to see the Great lakes as we flew over but later there were no clouds at all, except for a few coming into Calgary which didn't amount to anything. It was really very interesting seeing the 3 prairie provinces from so high up, we must have gone directly over Winnipeg for looking straight down on our sides we could see a few well laid out streets and a little out the window on the other side of the plane, but the city itself must have been hidden by the body of the plane, places look so awfully small. We could see the roads and railways and little towns and the land marked out in sections, the farms in Manitoba with a square of trees somehow looked like ruins of cellars dotted over the landscape. It was really fun, and in Alberta or Saskatchewan the streams leading into the river showed the erosion.

We took the stage from the Airport to The Greyhound bus depot and as we were the last passengers to be delivered the driver took out bags inside and even helped us put them in one of those storage places with a key so we could leave the little haversack as well. Then we walked over to the Palliser and found they were much amused by the wire cancelling the reservations. Gen. Panet has a pass so he can send wires for nothing and it was the first time this year he had used his new pass. He knows the manager at the Palliser from the old days so wired Ronny that "the Whytes have missed their plane connection delighted wish to cancel their reservations etc." You can see I hadn't much time to write you and did bits on my lap or in a rush and finally got an envelope at the hotel. Then we had a bite to eat and got on the bus about 5.30 and were in Banff just after 8 O'clock.

Rather a coincidence but at the bus depot in Banff was Walter Ashdown who we saw in the hospital the night we left and he had just arrived that day in Banff, He was talking to the taxi man which made it nice for we got a ride home and even stopped to pick up food for breakfast on the way, However it wasn't quite as fine as we thought, George MacKenzie was so efficient getting us home that he was out of the yard when we discovered he had picked up the wrong brown bag at the bus depot, So we got the Jeep out, which luckily started right off after sitting for 2 weeks in a cold garage, and we took it over thinking someone must be missing it, but no one seemed to be upset and we came back with mine.

Went up to Mr Scotts and found two market bags of mail, so much that for the fun I counted it, and we had over 250 letters which, of course included Christmas cards and a few bills etc. and I don't know how many magazines. Didn't get them all read until yesterday afternoon.

The Morants we found (after first going up to see if they were there) telephoned the Palliser Hotel and found we had missed the plane and they left the 4th by car for their lecture trip in the east, not daring to trust the rail road strike being over in time. We saw the Mackenzies and they said they would be down later. Got Steam Watt yesterday (Friday) to clear our sink drain which had gotten clogged, Eldon came for a long talk, we did the shopping and then last evening Nellie Mackenzie and Pat came down. Patsy is at

the Univ. Of B.C. and as there are no trains was leaving this morning at 4 A.M. to catch a plane in Calgary. It was fun seeing her for we had left before she came home for Xmas, then Mary Lee and Lael MacDougall dropped in, Lael is an old friend and she is first year at U.B.C. was abroad last year. She and Mary Lee stayed on and talked and it was 11 P.M. when they went home.

To-day I have been tidying up a bit, still lots to do and writing this which we will mail soon.

Infact right now. so heaps of love and many thanks for a lovely visit. *and to the girls to.*

*Catharine*

Banff, Alberta.

Wed. Jan, 9, 1957

Dearest Mother,

We are having our cold spell though not quite as cold as we expected, it was  $-18^{\circ}$  last night at 10 but this morning had warmed up to  $-12^{\circ}$ , warmer than all day yesterday. We really were lucky to have had it so mild here while we were away and so little snow. The moisture in the back chimney is condensing and dripping down into the bedroom so just as well for us to be home and seeing that the basin doesn't overflow or the drips miss it. We think we may build a new chimney, it is the gas that has moisture in it.

Have had quite a few callers, Sunday Marjoire Crosby from next door came in, she has had a nervous breakdown, then Mrs Simpson and Lynnle Becker with a copper picture she made for our Christmas present and Christine Smith with her, We all had tea & they had gingerale and we drove the girls home, Marjorie with us.

Verne was in on Monday and we asked Marjoire for tea as she seemed to want to talk more than she had a chance to before and she stayed until nearly six. In between times we have been putting things away and washing clothes and doing all sorts of odd jobs. There is so much I should do I don't know quite where to start.

Yesterday Mr Lonsdale came with some paintings he had done for Pete to see and while having tea, Bev dropped in, (She is young Cliff's wife) I have heaps of notes to write too, Thank you ones mostly.

Do hope you didn't catch Pete's throat infection. I began to have a scratchyness in mine and took turns gargling and sucking sucret cough drops each time I felt it and hope I have licked it now.

This letter is hardly worth sending but as the train strike is still on there is only one mail in and out a day, Have already missed to-days. Haven't heard from you as yet but may to-day. No use sending any parcels as they will just sit somewhere.

Thanks again for a lovely visit, it is hard to settle down and remember to do everything after having so much done for us.

Has Aunt Julie seen the suite yet? and has she decided to move into it?

Will send this on it's way and try to have something more interesting to write about next time.

*Lots of love from us both  
Catherine*

Banff, Alta.

Jan, 18, 1957.

Dearest Mother,

It was so good to get your last two letters, written Monday and before for now we know you are feeling better and have rested up after our visit. Were beginning to be afraid it was too much for you, landing you in bed that way, but quite wonderful you can recuperate in a few days time.

Yesterday I ran up to see the Pogues who live on the top floor of the old house above us, Mother and father of Bev, who is young Cliff's wife. They are going to Florida until April, Meeting a brother-in-law in Ontario who's wife died last winter in Florida and he wanted them to go with him. He has 8 children, 7 are married and each couple is to take turns going for 2 weeks with him in the Florida house, I think at Fort Lauderdale. Anyway Jim Sallie Pogue asked how you were, So I said "Fine " and Jim asked how old you were, When I said "92" they both were surprised, and then Jim asked " Can your mother get up and down without being helped ? " Wish he could have seen you back and forth to the telephone and in and out of the coat room watering plants, Guess he had some idea of a shaky old lady needing someone on either side of her to get her in and out of a chair.

So glad you found the story of the "legless man " so interesting. It was the lady in the bookshop who said we should read it and knowing of him during the war thought Pete would enjoy reading it especially. Will have to ask Gray if he knew him. I remember when he came to Calgary and Edmonton during the later part of the war to speak to the men in the R.C.A.F. We also ordered a book for Hanne at the bookshop, (they were out of it) It is about a Norwegian and how he ever survived what he did is more than anyone knows. Mrs Philips told us about it. She and Mr Philips both lost a son in the war and they are both fatalists, feeling that you die when your day comes, and certainly the man in " We die alone " seemed to prove the theory. You might find it interesting too, it is hard to put down once you start and it too is true.

Yes the ground was all white with snow after we left Boston, though less snow in Montreal than in the states. You can see the little houses and farms and the roads leading to them, often two black lanes on the roads where cars run most. and far larger patches of trees in New England than one would expect. The hills except in the distance look flat. In Canada we could tell when we crossed the border, for the farms were laid out rather square or irregularly in Maine or Vermont but in Quebec they were in long narrow fields. The houses seemed to be on a straight road and the fields stretching out behind. Must have been an old lake bed for it seemed very flat and regular.

After we crossed the Great Lakes there was as much water in lakes as land in between. The lakes frozen over and patches of irregular white with trees in between. We could see the winter roads or trails they use for tractor trains and these go across the

frozen lakes in a straight line then wind over a bit of land to the next lake. Manitoba was flat and one didn't really notice the boundaries of the large fields, which would be about a mile square but all the farms looked about the same pattern, a few buildings in a square of trees, and from so high up looked more like old cellar holes or excavations. They often spot ruins you can't see from the ground by flying high and they seem to show a pattern on the earth.

If you feel like it do tell us how you finally had the pictures hung? Know just how it is, you change one and you have to rehang the next, and one never seems to just fit on the other ones hooks. We find log walls so convenient, one just bangs in another nail.

We were sorry to hear about Leslie Anderson, I always think of him as rather a young man. I guess we are all getting older.

What a shame Edith has ulcers, Wonder how she ever got such things? I thought only men had them. Hope they aren't serious. Let me know if you hear any more. and has Aunt Julie decided yet about moving into the house on Hubbard street?

Will send you Rusty's letter, You will see that he is looking forward to meals with you. We told him about the steak and roast beef that Jessie cooked and poor Rusty, must have made his mouth water. I bet he will be able to eat dinner with you and another dinner at night at his own house.

The Strike is over and you can now start sending the parcels. The calendars we sent before we left haven't come yet, I expect are sitting down east, for there was a ~~air~~ hold up of all 2nd class mail.

Will finish this now, It is Monday morning, and get it into the mail that goes by truck, the trains only started running yesterday and not all of them yet.

Lots of love from us both

*Catherine*

Banff, Alta.

Wed, Jan. 16, 1957

Dearest Mother,

Just thought I would start a letter, for Pete posted his to you yesterday which should take you some time to absorb so you won't need one from me for a few days!

Have been busy but seem to accomplish little. Maybe it is the cold weather, Yesterday we spent the morning at Charlie Beil's the sculptor's, Pete showing him how to work a polaroid camera, while his wife and youngest daughter entertained me! This afternoon we went and made our annual Christmas call on Pete's Uncle Jack Campbell and his sister Mrs Tollington. You think you are losing your mind and forget things, Mrs Tollington is so forgetful but so sweet about it. She always was a cheery little person (who had a very unhappy time once) and she is as sweet, smiling and friendly as ever, told me she had a hard time remembering and I wasn't sure if she really knew who I was, She asked me four or five times during the visit "Now where is it you are staying? and each time I told her as clearly as possible but could see she couldn't remember the house, she has only been here a couple of times. She laughed and said she couldn't remember if they had a busy summer or not, but she knew the time went awfully fast. and she didn't know if her sister was up for Christmas or not, she knew she usually came. I got on the subject of the children skating next door on the school rink and without thinking told her about the man who comes up each Sunday from Calgary to give them skating lessons and she said with a little stiffening "Of course I don't approve of not keeping the Sabbath, we were always brought up to keep the Sabbath." So I got off that subject mighty quick. She said she was only thinking the other day how her sister once asked her mother if she could do something, (she forgot what it was) on the Sabbath and her mother told her "No." and Mrs Tollington ~~said~~ added "of course we always knew Mother was right." It was quite a visit and she enjoyed it not end but most likely won't remember to-morrow that we were even there, but Uncle Jack will appreciate our going.

We were glad to get your letter saying that Edith hasn't ulcers of the stomach, perhaps it is Gall Bladder which is quite the thing to have removed these days it seems. Hope she feels herself again now. perhaps it was just overdoing at Christmastime.

We didn't notice any time when one would feel seasick on the planes. They fly so high across the country and it was as smooth as could be, though coming into Boston and Providence it was quite rough but not a seasick motion. *We were lower down when it was bumpy -* About the books, We have Hokinsons "Our Best Girls" and "the Ladies God Bless them" and might have the 3rd one too. I thought the Biographical part in the new book very interesting.

In ~~your~~ spare room we set aside a couple of Anne Morrow Lindbergh's books but I find we have "North to the Orient" and "Listen the Wind." in Banff, so don't send those. Perhaps Gale would like them.

The copy of Life Dec. 10th. must have gotten on the window ~~shelf~~ *seat* by mistake, we don't want it, but there are some papers

there about Cinerama etc. we would like sent.

Am glad Gale enjoys Hokinson too and took the 3 books off your hand.

What a lot of snow you have had. We haven't had more than an inch since we came back, or perhaps a little in one storm, It has been around zero. ~~to~~<sup>25°</sup> yesterday morning. but on the radio the eastern part of Canada has been hard hit. Montreal the coldest on record.

Belmore Browne died a couple of years ago of Cancer.

Thurs. Another lovely day. Just for the fun I counted up our Christmas cards. We sent 548 ( ~~of~~ gave a few ) I wrote <sup>with these</sup> 30 letters and 208 notes ~~wrote~~ <sup>with</sup> them and we received 440. ~~didn't~~ count notes <sup>received</sup> with them or letters thanking us for the cards.

The notes were written on the inside of the cards, many the full page and some just short. but quite a lot when you come to think of it ! No wonder I seemed busy before we left for Concord.

Thanks for all the nice letters, we like to hear about anything you write. Have you started getting a needlepoint seat to do. If you sent the size I might even find a design in Calgary but don't think they would be as pretty as the ones in Boston. Why not write the Industrail Union and ask them to send you some samples to choose from. Am sure they would and if on a little courser material they would be easier to see and sew.

Heaps of love,

*Catherine*

P.S. I didn't get this mailed yesterday, Thursday, and thought you would have enough to occupy yourself with Pete's letter about the trip, and then as the train was late Hanne's nice letter didn't come until late afternoon telling us you were in bed & Dr. Piper coming. What a shame, do hope by now you are over the attack and feeling much better, Am so glad you weren't laid up while we were in Concord, for I don't think you ever missed a meal with us. Maybe you and Edith should get to-gether with your tummy pains and be company for one another, though it would keep Hanne busy bringing trays up and downstairs.

Will send this along and wite another soon.

Loads of love and we are thinking of you.

*Pete & Catherine*

Banff, Alta.

Sun. Jan. 20, 1957.

Dearest Mother,

Do hope by now you are over your major difficulties and up and about again. We will be looking for a letter soon, maybe to-day, as it will soon be 2 P.M. and time to go for the mail. Hanne was good to write us such a nice letter. Please thank her and tell her she writes such a good one she should do it more often. Thats not a hint, just encouragement.

Will enclose a clipping for you to send to Mildred about a Christmas pageant put on by the very active Golden Age Club in Calgary. In fact they are so active they raised enough money (\$67,000. I think ) to build their own meeting place. There are 3 clubs of people over 65 I guess, and they get to-gather once or twice a week for all sorts of things including square dancing. I sometimes read the write-ups in the paper as they are amusing.

We are still having rather cold weather around zero but it has been bright and sunny most days. lovely and sort of frosty this morning when we took the Jeep for a run to bring up the battery and make the engine run freer. Now this afternoon I must try and finish Christmas letters and answer some others too.

Last night we were up at the Vallances to show them our slides of Honolulu as they are leaving Thursday for several months there, have never been before. We made notes of things they might like to see and do and took me nearly all yesterday afternoon to type them out.

In reading over some folders, I read about going up to the rim of the Haleakala Volcano which is now extinct and there is a road up to the 10,000 foot level. At sunset they wrote that you could sometimes see the "Spectoe" of Brocken " when the sun was directly behind you, there were clouds in the crater and a circular rainbow with your shadow in the center could be seen, like a hallow. Then I remembered Mr Sanson saw it once from the top of Sulphur Mt. when the valley was full of clouds, and that is the same thing we saw from the plane which Pete drew a picture of. Wish we had looked at it even more carefully, to me it was a circular rainbow but to Pete it was different colors all broken up in chunks around the shadow of the plane, now we are anxious to ask Dr Marshall if it was Pete's eyes or the glasses and we don't know if it is a common sight from a plane or not. We thought it was at the time, not knowing.

The box with the puff and coffee pot arrived yesterday and the Customs tag was torn off so don't know what Hanne wrote on it, but surpriseingly there was no duty for us to pay ! We actually had enough allowance left over to —

cover it had we carried it with us, but at the Customs you have to produce everything for them to see that you declare so it was much easier having it mailed than it would have been to get a coffee pot out of a duffle bag and repack it again. Thanks so much for sending it, we used the puff last night and it is just the right weight, the coffee pot we have yet to try.

The books came to Mrs Simpson and she was so pleased to read about her old home and found the other parts just as interesting as they were writers she knew a lot about. The calenders have also come.

Must go over before some one comes in. Hope this finds you feeling much much better and lots of love from us both.

*30*

*Catharine*

Box 370  
Banff, Alta.  
Jan. 21, 1957

Dearest Mother,

We were glad to get your short letter to-day for then we knew you were feeling better and over that attack. What awfully cold weather you have had, never remember it getting as cold as -27° before, did the water in the downstairs lavatory freeze as it always used to ?

In the paper it said last week that Montreal had it -39° the coldest on record. We haven't had any very cold weather since we came back though it may go to - 25° to-night but it has stayed consistently around zero and below. There was some wind yesterday so it felt cold but to-day it was still with a lovely sun and felt quite mild, but again didn't get more than 3 above I think.

This afternoon we went over to see Mr Paris as it was his 85th. birthday, he seems fine but has slowed down more and more each year, lives alone with a son next door and another a block away, a woman comes to clean once a week and I think he has one meal a day with Cyril but otherwise is quite independent and goes for the groceries, or did most of the time until lately. Mr Scott was also there and Jim Watt. I baked him a loaf of date bread without the nuts as he likes that.

Hear you have the portable television, wonder if you could see the inauguration today. We just listened to the swearing in and Eisenhower's speech on the radio. Guess there was quite a parade too.

Tuesday. It was 28° below here this morning and now at 11 A.M. - 25°, so doesn't look as if it would get very hot to-day. Our house stays just the same with the thermostat and gas heat, summer and winter so it is only by poking ones head outside you would know it is extra cold. A big Buck deer came to the door and he was covered with frost.

This seems a very stupid letter, maybe the cold weather dulls one's brain. I always think January will be such a good month to tidy up and look over things but somehow one slows down and gets less and less done. After this cold spell if it warms up a bit we may feel more ambitious. We really should go to a warm climate at this season, say from Nov. 1st to Feb. 1st. Think we may another year but Pete was thinking of trying to get his other eye done, had thought of doing it in November until we planned the trip east and now we should write Dr. Marshall and see what he thinks.

Pete has copied the two old pictures of Banff from your album, it takes quite a bit of time as he hasn't done it for some time and you have to get everything just right.

Must write some more letters so all for this one,  
So glad you are feeling better

Lots of love,

Catherine

Danff. Alta.  
Jan 25, 1957

Dearest Mother,

I'm really on the bus going to Calgary but thought if I don't get a little note off to you to-day you may not hear very soon as Saturday is usually busy in the house.

A nice letter from you about watching the inauguration with Aunt Julie on Television. Good for you. Must have been fun to see. I think there are also some good programs put on by the Science Museum & the Art Museum. How things are done.

Isn't it nice Bob Palmer is engaged to such a fine girl. Isn't wonder they are pleased. Nice Aunt Julie can go to Florida. Maybe she can stay more than a month if she can't get the apartment. Isn't it the first time she has flown. Wonder how you would like it? Are sure you would enjoy looking at the country side below.

We are still having cold weather. It was  $-46^{\circ}$  below yesterday morning &  $-40^{\circ}$  this. Got up to  $-15^{\circ}$  yesterday afternoon. Somehow today didn't seem as cold. Perhaps we are getting used to it. People have a hard time in some cases starting their cars. Ours starts well but it takes 10 or 15 minutes to loosen up enough to back around. Everyone was out & about same as usual. Little kids with scarfs tied over their faces. School as usual, but the kids all have to walk in Danff so don't get cold waiting for a bus.

We saw the Vallanges off for Honolulu yesterday. They went on the Canadian to Vancouver. They wore as light clothes as they dared not wanting warm things in Honolulu. My wish is running out.  
lots of love. Catherine

Box 370  
Banff, Alta.  
Sun. Jan, 27, 1957

Dearest Mother,

Before I forget again . Did Curly die ? Remember when we left he was very very ill and so far we haven't seen anything in the paper here about him. Just wondered. Curley was always a tough old bird.

What a lot of exciting news in your letter that just came, the most interesting to us is to think of Russ, Kitty and Gale going to Japan. Do for heavens sake tell us more about it? Are they going by boat or fly ? and when ? and for how long? and to Hong Kong too ? So many questions, and did they decide all of a sudden? We were <sup>in Japan</sup> ~~there~~ the end of March and had snow, so it really isn't until April that spring comes. Maybe they are going for something special. If they fly perhaps they will go via Vancouver or by boat on the President lines. Just had a business letter from Russ and he never mentioned it so perhaps they have only just decided.

How nice for Aunt Julie to go to Florida with Mrs Prescott for 2 months, during the worst and draggiest part of the winter. perhaps when she gets back there will be an apartment available in Concord with an extra bedroom. Too bad you couldn't go where it is nice and warm but I know you hate to leave your own home and are more comfortable in Concord.

That was a wonderful idea getting a T.V. set for the Morrisons, how they will enjoy it and I should think it might keep the one who isn't so well more contented. There are quite a few news programs in the mornings that sound good so perhaps you too will find things as interesting as the inauguration to watch. I mentioned the Science programs and there is one on Channel # 2 on Thursday evenings at 7.30 P.M. ~~when~~ ~~the~~ called "Bengtz on drawing " he used to go to the Museum School and I think taught there. Maybe they are over for there were to be 10 lessons and they started in November. But I think the Museum puts on very interesting programs at times.

You did well to hang so many of the pictures and it sounds as if they would look well where you have them.

That was interesting about the pictures that Miss Cook had, the embroidered ones. Must have been a lot to clear out, I ~~believe~~ there was someone the things were left to. a cousin I think. but it is too bad when no one knows the history behind things.

Wasn't that nice about Robert Palmer being engaged ? I wonder how soon they are to be married. Doesn't he finish at Columbia this year and I forget whether he is to go into teaching or what. No doubt this will make some difference and he will want a job as soon as possible.

The trip to Calgary went very well in spite of the 40° below weather, The bus was warm and it was bright and sunny so actually better than going in a snow storm or drifting snow. It was cold in Calgary at first with a wind, but soon warmed up and wasn't bad.

Yesterday it was up to -25° and even got above zero in the afternoon, (and to-day it is 9° above and looks and feels quite mild, but is dull out) Nellie MacKenzie was down in the afternoon and had coffee with us. Pat, the daughter is rather disappointed in her course at the Univ. of B.C. She is taking Home Economics but doesn't like it as much as she thought. Doesn't quite know what she wants to go, she is bright enough to do anything as studies come easily. Bill, the brother who is about 15, has always planned to be a doctor like his father, and Nellie said Michael came to her the other day and said he had decided what he was going to be when he grew up. He is about 10, So Nellie was quite pleased and asked what he wanted to be and Mike said " a waiter in a beer parlor, they make so much in tips ! "

We are glad you are feeling better, even if you do have some bad days it is nice to have good ones too. Pete was awfully pleased to have you enjoy the letter he wrote. He worked on it for quite a while so was happy when you wrote him.

Better get on to some other letters, I always think I will get so much done on Sundays and rarely do. Am lazy as can be right now.

Loads of love,

Catherine

P.S. We had a card from England with several pictures. A series of a little girl & her dog. It says "Merry Christmas & Deborah Green aged 22 months" & we haven't the faintest idea who it's from. Do you know? It's a personal card. They run snapshots reproduced & a dear little girl with her dog.

Banff,  
Alberta.  
Jan.30,1957

Dearest Mother,

An envelope full of letters came this morning, nice one from Mildred and a couple from Cousin Jane and the one from Julia Morse, I agreed with her about the little boy who got the electric train for Christmas and the father and friend set it all up under the tree the night before, and naturally the little boy was disappointed for the setting up is most of the fun.

I knew there was something to tell you about the trip to Calgary for you like coincidences. Dr deRenzy was working on my teeth, he grinds a little off to give a better bite my teeth are so irregular. and a girl came in, so he asked if I minded if he looked at her teeth to see how much needed doing as she came from the country. So I went into the little waiting room and he always has piles of newspapers. The Toronto Globe and Mail, the Calgary papers and the New York Times. So I just happened to pick up a section of the New York times and on the very front was a little article about 11 Americans being honored by the Queen, I caught the name of Charles Sumner Bird from Boston, which looked familiar so glanced down the rest of the paragraph and saw the name " James Keir Watkins of Detroit " and sure enough he was made an honorary officer of the order of the British Empire " the O.B.E. I think it is called. It said " Queen Elizabeth granted honorary awards to 11 Americans for outstanding services in the cause of British-American understanding." Jim got his for being legal advisor to British Consulate in Detroit. There was one Knight 2 Honorary Commaders. 4 Honorary Officers ( which Jim was ) and 4 members. It is the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire. Anyway it was very nice for Jim to get. I think Helen Vandyke was also honored in a similar manner for her work during the war.

Harold just came in, he is down from the University of Alberta to practise for the University Ski Meet to be held over this weekend. There are 12 teams, 2 from Canada, the others from the states, one from California. Expect Harold will be here for one dinner but otherwise is to eat up at the summer school where most of the boys are staying.

~~Thursday~~ *Thursday* Harold came back after supper and spent the evening talking and looking at magazines, he is coming for dinner tonight and will bring Lona Becker too.

Pete wants me to send you this copy he made of the picture in your album, taken at the CPR Depot in Banff. You can see the Pill Box hat the Mounted Police wore in those days and the spurs.

It is snowing this Morning, Thursday, Charlie Beil came down with a book about Eskimos " Ayorama " It is new and written by a missionary, Charlie said it is pretty rough in places and sad. Lots of love from us both and hope you are feeling better.

Catherine

Banff, Alta.  
Sund. Feb. 8, 1957

Dearest Mother,

We have a friend, Mrs Basilici a Bavarian, who given beats you in answering letters, she walks very slowly being heavy and elderly, so when she goes to the post office for her mail and gets letters from her family on a ranch in the south of the province, she always takes time and answers the letters at the desk in the postoffice. Not a bad idea.

We haven't heard from you for several days so expect there may be a letter to-day and if so will add a bit to this in answer, when I walk over for the mail. It is very convenient having the post office less than a block from here and on Sundays if we don't take the car out I just walk over between 2 and 4 when the lobby is open and those with boxes can get their mail. Sometimes it takes me a long time for one meets so many people to talk with, quite a social place.

It is a lovely day and we are glad for the University Ski meet is on and makes it so much nicer if it is sunny. It was below zero again this morning but up to 10 above now. However we weren't too anxious to stand out all day and watch, Harold being the only one we knew racing and nothing in the paper to tell us when the race started. Guess we are getting lazy. But it means driving up in the traffic to Norquay and eating cold sandwiches or a hamburger for lunch and no place to sit. I have been writing the last two Christmas thank you notes for presents that came recently from the old country.

Expect that Rusty must be home by now so no wonder we have had no mail, wonder how long he gets? Expect you are making and big effort to be up and around, for I know he is looking forward to some meals with you. You said in your last letter that you would stay in bed if you darn well pleased. or something like that. Sounded a bit like Grandpa. I don't suppose anyone really makes you get up, but expect they realize if you don't, that you will really feel better if you can make the effort to get up and be around so when spring comes you will be able to get out and into the garden. Seems to me everyone slows down in January, we do I know. sleep more and find it hard to get up early and though we plan to do a lot, it is awful easy to figure it is too dark and nicer to sit down and read perhaps. Guess the animals who hibernate had the right idea.

We just had a lunch with Elk meat that Dave Prosser brought us, enough for to-morrow too. Are looking for Pete Tasker to come in and talk to Pete about cameras and maybe try out the enlarger Pete made for him to work from a battery as they have no electricity at the Bow Summit. If you think of it tell Rusty Joan had a baby boy, born yesterday. Pete is the game warden at Bow Lake. They left Bow at 2 A.M. drove the 50 Or 60 miles in and Pete said "made it just nicely " he was very pleased. Will be in town for a course they are taking for Game wardens.

over

No letter from you, better lucks to morrow perhaps.  
Hope you feel alright. The wards may come back  
any day now

Lots of love

Pete & Catherine -

Banff, Alta.  
Tues. Feb. 5, 1957

Dearest Mother,

Made me so provoked, I went for the mail after 3 on Sunday, no letter from you and then luckily just before 4 We dropped in again as Life Magazine usually comes and there was your letter. They were just slow sorting, and Life wasn't there until next morning. That didn't matter, but anyway we got your letter and so glad to know that Rusty is with you this week. You must tell us all you can, about Marine Life and how he really likes it. Hope it isn't too uninteresting for him. Life is often what you make it yourself and you can get fun out of all kinds of strange situations.

The Wards are due home to-morrow morning. We met the first train they could possibly be on Sunday afternoon then the one Monday morning before we got the wire that they would arrive Wednesday. Had we a telephone they would have given us the wire on Sunday but guess they thought from the contents it wouldn't matter so delivered it first thing Monday. The Watts also got a wire for we found out to-day they have the water and heat on so the house will be all warm for them to go into. They were two days late, will hear to-morrow if it was storms or what.

Wed. We are just back from getting the Wards into their house. Too bad a snowy day and only 8 above now but no wind. The train half an hour late so it took us most of the morning, But we got them up their hill and their bags all into the house and I had enough food for a couple of days as it is Wednesday and the stores closed. They said it was the best winter in England they have had for years but they felt the cold, their feet were never warm and Sam had to buy a coat one day in London it was so cold. He just had a light one with him. It was the dampness I expect, he is quite deaf but may be the backing up of a cold. Anyway the house was nice and warm and they were glad to be home, left in September. We will go up later to see if there is anything they need.

This is one of those interrupted letters. Davy Whyte just came in unexpectedly. He is the one in the Air Force Band and first time we have seen him since he joined up. He loves it which makes it nice. They don't go abroad this year but will next summer, his headquarters are in Edmonton but they have been on one tour to Saskatchewan and Alberta and go to the coast next week. Play in lots of High schools, giving hour concerts, 9 A.M. @ 11 Am or 1 and maybe in the evening too. I asked what sort of things they played and he said all classical stuff, Marriage of Figaro is about the only thing he mentioned I can remember, but hardly any marches, then there are some of them who can play dance music so he is getting all the playing he wants. He plays the flute but something else in the full band. They have a director in Edmonton but a leader who goes with them. Davy says he isn't musical but is good with the public and really follows the band rather than leading it. Sounds like a boy describing something like that. Anyway he has

has borrowed a bag to take some clothes up to Edmonton and we are to take him to the bus in the morning. He is going out to supper at the Tronos.

Verne is here getting the darkroom ready for a new sink and I must soon go and put this and a couple of other letters in the mail.

Lots of love and will be writing again soon.

Catharine

Banff, Alta.

Sun. Feb. 10, 1957.

Dearest Mother,

No you hadn't mentioned about George Foss and I will write Mrs Foss to-day, It really was a blessing for he had been ill for so long. Am glad I was able to see him as I did for he seemed so pleased and I guess most days he didn't know people.

Guess I must have given you the wrong impression, for I don't feel real old, Had it been something really worth seeing like good ski jumping we still would have made up a lunch and stood in the snow to eat it after standing 3 hours before and maybe several after and been in a jam of cars as well, But at 20 below it hardly seemed worth it, just to see Harold flit by, and not be sure even which he was, the figures are so far away.

Last night we bundled up and went to a hockey game but it too wasn't worth the effort, a poor game and very few there, Some construction workers from Field and a few local boys but very poor hockey. It was a warm night so not bad sitting, about 18 above. but we only stayed for a couple of periods. It is very disappointing that there aren't more real winter sports. We can't figure just why whether it is the new crowd of people running things or whether it is the Calgary influence or what. The Carnival is this week and not anything but the figure skating worth seeing. All they seem to care about are the girls who try out for the Queens. They used to have to ski and skate and take part in things but now all they care about is whether they are photogenic for publicity. The parade should be good though. We will have to see. Hope we get some fresh snow before then as where they plow it looks rather messy.

Expect Rusty will be going back Monday or Tuesday, must have seemed very short visit, How good of him to go and see you each day, have you given him any bang up good meals? Hope so for we enjoyed the roast beef and steak and just generally good food. Bet he is in the best condition Physically he has been in yet. You said they were hard on the boys getting them up at 4.30 A.M. If I remember correctly he got up about that time this summer too but a little more fun going for horses.

We had a card from Mrs Prescott and a nice letter from Aunt Julie and some postals of the hotel. I noticed it is under the same management as the Faragut house. Sounds very pleasant and looks homelike and do hope they have a pleasant time. I believe they have good concerts and things going on in Winter Park and maybe Mrs Prescott will get a Drive-Yourself car so they can take a drive once in a while. It will be warm and sunny anyway.

I will keep an eye open for any Golden Age Club clippings for Mrs Volkman. Had some good ones but sent them to Edith as she has a friend interested in building a place for

older people to live. They have built a whole lot of tiny suites or little houses near the General Hospital in Calgary where couples or single men or women can rent a place for a small amount. (The Golden Age couple I sent a clipping about were to live there ) Then some service Club like the Lions Club are raising money for a community hall and a ~~few~~ store in the center and if they are ill they are right near the General Hospital. It is something like a motel.

I really think it would be a wonderful thing for most ~~places~~ towns to have, Then a person could live there alone but at the same time be near others their age and have a certain amount of help if they were ill. Now-a-days when most people do their own work there isn't the room or the help to look after an elderly person living with them and the elderly person living with others their own age is not as lonely.

You certainly have lots of big birds feeding up back of the house. We just encourage the chic-a -dees, the nuthatches and wood peckers and soon the juncos will come along. We have a coconut shell with peanut butter and a bit of suet hanging on a string, the little birds can get on to eat but not the larger ones.

Have a lot of letters to write to-day, wonder will I get far with them ? We went out to put some sand on the corner of George Nobles which is very icy and noticed no one else had, and then took a drive so my morning is most gone.

Forgot to tell you that we went to a movie " Reach for the Sky " about Bader the legless flier. It is based on the book you read and sent us back. It is an English film and very well done, the best we have seen for years. and stuck to the book as well as it could. What courage and determination he had.

Jim Simpson came in at this point so now it is after lunch and time to go to the mail. I forgot to ask. Did you pay our bill at the Concord Book store ? They haven't sent it yet though a book we ordered has come. one about the way Indians do things.

Loads of love

Catharine

Banff, Alta.  
Wed. Feb. 13, 1957

Dearest Mother,

Just realized sometime about now is Gale's birthday and I am afraid I don't know which day it is.

What a day we have had. Yesterday I was in Calgary and to-day figured I would be a little tired but haven't had a chance to be so far. Thought I had better get a letter off to you as to-morrow is the start of the Carnival and might be busy, a parade at one.

We were up at the usual time and as I was getting breakfast glanced out the window to see a truck in the yard and Gray Campbell of all people coming towards the house. He had to go to Calgary on business and just ran up for the night. So he had breakfast with us and a real nice uninterrupted visit, then as he felt he should see Mrs Walker he left about 11.30 while we went to get mail, milk etc. The stores were closed Wednesday so we hadn't anything special for lunch as I hadn't a chance to shop on Tuesday either. and luckily Mrs Walker was so glad to have him with her. We ate when Gray wasn't back by 12.30 and then we had a lot of interesting mail. a letter from you, and one from Mildred, the Vallances in Honolulu, a friend in Australia and a picture of Tony Brandreth and his bride from England. Tony was a great friend of Gray's in the Air force so it was funny getting a letter from him the very day Gray was here.

Verne came at one and then Gray was back, I went with him before two to various places and to see Magistrate Taylor in the hospital, I calling on a Mrs MacDonald. Then Gray left to meet a friend at 5 o'clock in Calgary. Had hardly gotten back to the house when Edmee Moore Reid arrived with messages from Honolulu, I made coffee and Pete Tasker arrived, added more knowing Cyril Paris might come in later and Sam Ward dropped in. Peter Tasker had to go but the rest stayed and we had both tea and coffee all to-gether, Cyril coming in later on and he and Sam were the last to leave about 5.30. so you can see it was quite a day.

Now it is after supper and think I will read the paper and more of " Reach for the Sky " Asked Gray about Bader the legless flyer and he said he didn't really know him but knew well two of the boys who flew with him, both were killed later , but they both said they would have followed him anywhere.

We too are having spring like weather. It was 45 in Calgary, very windy in Banff but none down there. It has blown several nights and the decorations had to be taken down they were getting ripped to pieces. It is windy again this morning, rather unusual for us and will be hard on the floats. The snow is going and very dirty looking the ice bad. Hard to get perfect weather just when you want it. *for a winter carnival.*

Am glad Mrs Sohler is painting again, maybe she will

do portraits once she gets going. Her children's portraits were so good.

Very interesting about the electric chair. I didn't think you were lame enough for that. Where will you use it? Usually it is best on flat sidewalks. I remember a person in Honolulu had one and she went along the sidewalks until the police made her go on the road, some ordinance. Hers though was big enough for a companion. but don't be disappointed if it doesn't work too well on rough and hilly ground, though perhaps this one will, after all they improve everything with time.

You know they have very light weight wheel chairs that fold up one could put in a car, but it is still hard to imagine you going that slow, it might be more effort getting in and out of the thing than just walking a bit. Of course it would be nice to have to go to the swimming pool.

Must have been nice having Rusty drop in to see you often and hope he had a real good holiday in every way for it will be some time before he gets another I expect. Thought the clipping you sent very interesting, about the Marines.

Will try to right oftener if not so much to a letter.

*Loads of love  
Catherine*

Box 370  
Banff, Alta.  
Feb. 16, 1957.

Dearest Mother,

It is after four o'clock but thought I would just start a letter to you as we have just had such a nice one from you and the long one from Cousin Jane. Didn't realize she was getting on, 78 is quite an age for one so young looking.

I don't wonder at times you get mixed what you write us and what to Portland & when Russ and Kitty are off traveling & Rusty somewhere else it will be very mixing. We were excited to get their itinerary yesterday. You had mentioned they were going to fly to Japan in the spring but we had no idea they would have a week in Honolulu en route, staying at the Haāākulani where we stayed for a time in 1950. The nicest hotel of all we think and the lowest situation right on the water, I expect they won't think the beaches as nice as theirs in Florida for actually there aren't many sandy beaches in Hawaii. It is more the life that goes on or used to that was fun, the surfing, fishing and singing, but of course like so many things it has changed a good deal. But the scenery and air and feel of the water is still good.

We didn't know they were to be in Manilla, Siam and Hong Kong too and so will reach Japan in their spring in April, just a nice time I would think. Sounds a very well planned and wonderful trip.

The Carnival is on this weekend and the weather perfect from the spectators point of view, just like spring. nearly 40 out and the snow melting, big puddles too, but it doesn't matter much when they haven't any real winter sports

such as we would call "winter sports " going on. There is to be skating to-night and hope the ice isn't all water, and to-morrow skiing up at Norquay. This afternoon was swimming at the Cave & Basin, a group from Kelowna putting the show on, swimming and diving, then Jalopy races are going on now, but the kids all like those so guess it is what is wanted. There was a parade to open the Carnival on Thursday and this noon a lot of the floats and people met the Calgary special train and they had 5 bands. pretty nearly one float to each band! The Army, the Shriners, a girls pipe band and one with red uniforms and the Air Force band. Davy was here but we didn't know it in time to take his picture. This afternoon they are taking turns parading up and down the main street playing and with no cars allowed to park it makes it rather nice. The weather helps a lot, sometimes it has been too cold to blow & the instruments freeze up or give awful noises out.

There are lots of cars in town and I wonder how they fed <sup>all</sup> ~~them~~ <sup>people</sup> ~~all~~. Guess a lot brought their own lunches.

The painting is in Calgary at the Customs. The notice of it's being there came the same time as your letter saying it was sent. must have come right through. They have sent down for the C.P.R. Customs Broker to clear it for us. Two more parcels of books have come, the ones with the folders and things so I think everything must be here now.

Isn't it nice that Aunt Julie and Mrs Prescott are having such a nice time, does sound a lovely place but far too hot to suit me!

I forgot, have the ironing to do if we are to go out to-night so all for now. Loads of love,

Catharine

P.S. It was awfully good of Miss Barrett to think about giving some of her books to the Banff Library, the only trouble is that until they can get a larger place for the library they just haven't room for more books.

What a shame she will have to move and sell the house when she probably hasn't many more years to go. Did you ever think of buying her house from her, then rent it to her for say a dollar a year as long as she lives? In that way she would have enough money to live on and you in turn would have a little house, which after her death could be rented or sold. Might not be a bad idea.

Wonder if she has any relatives to leave things to? for if not she could sell you the furniture as well, and in that way she would have the use of her house, belongings and what they are worth in money during her lifetime.

I think I told you that Eric Harvie has bought Carl Rungius house and studio in Banff with all the contents and then rents it to Carl for a dollar a year during his lifetime. When he dies it may be turned into a sort of museum which is a little different. but Carl's neice who would inherit it otherwise, won't be bothered about it and Carl has the use of the money.

Supper time now and the ironing is done too.

Lots of love,

Catharine

Sunday - The Skating Show was very good. Edmee Reid came down & went with us. A big crowd & about 70 kids took part all in very attractive costumes. They put on Snow White & did it very well. The tiny kids are always so cute - & the leading girl 12 was really wonderful. Bonnie Smith.

Banff, Alta.  
Wed. Feb. 20, 1957.

Dearest Mother,

We had really nice spring like weather for the Carnival, then a cold north wind and snow on Monday, a miserable sort of day, yesterday was cold, about -10 and I went to Calgary on the bus and now this morning lovely and sunny but - 30, so it looks as if we were to have winter for a while yet.

Your letter written last Friday came and we are sorry you were feeling "like the Dickens", perhaps by now you feel better, I think real cold weather slows one down and pretty soon you should be getting a touch of spring in the air and that will perk you up.

I went to see Pete's Aunt Maggie yesterday. Took a taxi out ( a girl was driving, evidently quite a few girls drive taxis in Calgary ) She is in a little private nursing home, very nice and homelike, a bright sunny room she shares with another lady in her nineties, Both of them are bright but can't get out of their chairs without help. You should be thankful you can get up and down, I had to get the nurse when the other lady wanted to go to the bathroom for a minute. Aunt Maggie can't see at all and after breaking her hip a few years ago has to use crutches and as she can't see where she is going has to be helped on those. She says sometimes she gets awfully blue and lonely just sitting and only wishes some one she really knows would go and see her. One married daughter goes as often as possible but her husband is sick with Siatica and Bot the other daughter is working, there was an elderly lady there who goes every Tuesday afternoon, but naturally there aren't many old friends left to go. and it means walking 3 or 4 blocks from the

street

street car. I am glad you can still see to read and soon you will be able to get out without putting a coat on.

Did you realize the photograph of the Rail road station was a copy of the one you took in 1899 of Banff, with the mounted police in the pill box hat they wore at that time ? Pete wrote on the back.

The bill from the bookshop came the day I wrote you about it. So that is fine. They sent the last one first , so I wrote back and just had the nicest letter from Fidi Warran yesterday.

I am 50 years old too. Didn't realize Kitty was less than a year younger. Isn't Gale's birthday soon too?

I thought that Sam Manierre's letter sounded as if Cousin George was getting better but slowly. Didn't someone write that he had to take so many pain killing drugs with his back that the effect was very depressing as it often is.

Guess I had better get busy now so will send this along. Can't find any more Golden Age Club news. I sent some to Edith in the fall when they opened their own building where the three city groups in Calgary meet.

Do hope you are feeling much better

*Lots of love Catharine .*

P.S. I know you like co-incidences. The day Gray Campbell was here, last Wednesday, we got in the mail a photograph & letter from  
Tony Brandreth  
one of his R.A.F. friends we knew who is just married and lives in England and the next mail brought from Australia a book written by another friend , Ted Marriot, who is in a Mission School in New Guinea. The 3 of them were to-gether in Canada and only friends of Grays we really knew and still write to.

Banff, Alberta.

Fri. Feb. 22, 1957

Dearest Mother,

We are having another week of real cold weather, - 36 below again this morning and though sunny it is pretty frosty, Even the little chic-a-dees coming for food are all frosty round their heads where their breath freezes onto the feathers, and they ~~thier~~ do look pretty all fluffed up for the cold.

It was just lucky the week of the Carnival was so mild and the day after it was over a north wind and snow and it has been real cold ever since.

Have had company the last two afternoons. Elsa Wyatt just back from a winter in Montreal, she is from Columbia in South America, married Colin Wyatt an Englishman who is rather eccentric and they are now divorced. but she had the house here and a little girl now 2½. Real bright too for her age. I had been cutting off messages from Christmas cards and wondered where to send them or what to do with them, some quite pretty pictures, a lot just very ordinary ones, She started playing with them and had such a good time looking at them all that I have decided to keep them in a box for little children who come, as usually I haven't much to give them to play with. and these are expendable. She was very careful with magazines we noticed.

They were here Wednesday for tea and nearly two hours as Elsa is very keen on photography and wanted to ask Pete lots of questions, then we lent her some magazines which she brought back yesterday and as Sam was having tea with us at the time she came in again with Monica. This time we were sitting in the kitchen and Monica got into all sorts of things, kept me busy as she felt more at home. But she didn't break anything.

Are you so interested in flying to the moon? I really wouldn't be surprised at anything now-a-days and when you think of all that has developed in the last 25 years, think what may happen in the next 25. Did you see a flying missile went astray the other day. got out of radio control and they don't know where it landed, pleasant thought! Luckily it wasn't loaded.

Later. Went over for the mail and other errands and heard that Walter Painter had died this morning, He was the Architect for the Banff Springs hotel and has been very ill for a year. In the hospital since fall so in a way it is a blessing. As Pearl Moore is one of Mrs Painter's best friends and is in Honolulu we thought perhaps we should go and see if there was anything we could do, Betty the daughter was there and Mrs Painter is quite wonderful so we were glad we went for a minute.

Got your nice letter with the homely Xmas Cards, funny you should be cutting up your old ones just as I am, a few

we keep. Maybe you could keep yours in a box for Gibs to look at when he comes over. You know they are so bright and gay and one can stand them in a row and do all sorts of things a child likes. I left the pãain backs when nothing was on them thinking to use some on parcels next year so mine all stood up pretty well.

Am so glad Aunt Julie is enjoying Florida, don't you think what makes anything like that fun is seeing someone else have a good time and enjoy things? Seeing Mrs Prescott have a real happy time must give Aunt Julie no end of pleasure and for Mrs Prescott it is fun to do the things and have someone like Aunt Julie to talk it over with. Nice they have a car too!

How nice that Gale enjoys using the cabin over in the woods. You mentioned that with two lamps they can see quite well. Afe'n't there shutters on one side that can be opened? Expect that would make it cold and no doubt windows might get broken. Why not put plastic storm windows on? We use it on our upstairs windows and most of the buildings being built in winter here use it over the outside, it is pretty clear and lets all the light in but ~~isxax~~ ~~xxx~~ keeps the cold out as well as glass. It is inexpensive and you can stick it on with Masking tape that comes in big rolls. They could put it on inside so that when the shutter is opened out it lets the light and heat from the sun in.

Must write another letter so all for now.

Lots of love  
Catherine

Dauff  
Feb 25 1957

Dearest Mother,

Just a line to say I'm  
sorry not to have written to day -  
First Frank Ragins from Moberly came  
with his paintings, greatly improved  
since he went to Summer School. Made  
him soup & tea. Then Mr. Fausdale  
with his pictures, was tea for him  
& F. left. Then Lynnie Beecher & got  
her gumpale & she ate up the  
cabe.

A lovely letter from home  
today. Please tell her Pete is  
writing soon to thank her for the  
wonderful socks  
& oods of love

C -

Banff, Alberta.

Wed. Feb. 27, 1957

Dearest Mother,

Maybe I can write a decent letter to-day ! and answer some of yours, First of all will enclose a letter that Jack Macleod sent with his Christmas card. You remember he is the head of the Clan Macleod Society of America and this is an account for friends of their trip to the castle, (I guess just Jack was there not Caro ) when Chief Flora Macleod entertained the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh and Princess Margaret for lunch. Russell might be interested because of Jack. Must have been quite a wonderful experience and in a way Jack's interest in things Scotch was started on the trip with all of us to England, and Scotland especially, in 1913. He lives in Wallingford, Vermont now. Would like this back some time to show some Macleods here, but no hurry.

Hope you are having a nice spell of weather as we are, yesterday it was up to 40 and the snow melting fast. Pete was trying to get a little sun but each time he put a chair out around noon the sun would go behind a cloud or the deer would come to be fed. We had some mail to take up to the Morants and found the MacKenzies having quite a time with a drip off their roof which hits a corner where a downstairs door goes in and the water was coming so fast and couldn't get away and going under the door. We couldn't help much either. They will have to get a proper gutter.

Have a story for you about an adopted child, quoted from a letter to the Campbells from a friend in Ottawa, as follows-

' A 4 year old who is adopted was showing me her dolls last week. She showed me Peggy, " who cries a awful lot," - then Mary. I said " does Mary Cry ? " and she looked at me with the most scornful expression. " Course not- she's 'dopted." I should have known better. '

Nice that Steddy Buttrick is engaged, the girl looks most attractive. Will you be sending tea cups again ? Little hard to know but seeing a spring wedding is planned there isn't much time for engagement presents.

Nice that you heard from Rusty and that he likes the new camp, I expect the first one is as strict as possible to sort of weed out the ones who can't take it, We noticed in the paper the other day that 4 Drill Instructors at Parris Island were ~~court~~ stand ~~mattialled~~ trial for court ~~mattialled~~ for mistreating recruits, wonder if Rusty was under any of them. Thanks for his address.

How nice Edith could come out and have lunch with you, hope she is feeling better, I am glad they all like the girl Bob is engaged to, she certainly sounds nice and very capable.

Pete ~~was~~ was very pleased you enjoyed his letter, but don't know when we will be taking a bus trip !

You know Pete has been thinking of getting the cataract removed from his second eye and we had planned to ask Dr Marshall about having it done last fall, then in case it took a long time to get used to the new glasses or a delay of any sort, thought we better get our trip east in first. He wrote to Dr. Marshall again but it isn't easy to get a room in the hospital just when you want it so he is to let us know when one is available, so far we haven't heard any more. But will let you know as soon as we do hear.

I think the reason the Wards noticed the cold in England is that it is so damp. They had heat in the house but to keep things from mildewing they feel they should have plenty of fresh air so keep the windows open most of the time. Sam was awfully amusing about it. Said he would go into the living room to read the paper during the day and all the windows would be wide open, They said their feet were never warm, but I don't think they have full basements as we do. Then upstairs there is a radiator in the hall but in the evening if they are downstairs and listening to television, they have to lock all the bedroom and even bathroom doors, as there have been so many sneak theifs who break in through a window and to keep them from going into more than one room to steal things they lock all doors. They weren't robbed but a neighbor was, coats and Jewlälry etc.

You asked who Gray Campbell was, He is the one with the ranch in Cowley and who wrote the book. You probably didn't connect him with coming to see us in Banff.

Glad that Hanne enjoys T.V. so much. Seems to me the Newbusy's look at it in the mornings, certain programs that are interesting. Late afternoon would be the time for you to see it. Maybe they could tell you of a good program.

For heavens sake don't drop off while the family are away or how will you hear about their trip and especially Japan? Better hang on for the tulips too. I think everyone feels sort of weaker and less energetic in winter, it is natures way of taking things easy and then when spring comes you perk up and feel like doing things.

It is lovely out to-day and I must get gots of things done too.

Loads of love

Catharine

P.S. Your letter of Feb 23<sup>19</sup> just came. Reason for sending them air mail. You will remember your questions by the time I answer them. It was big Jim Withrus who was honored by the Queen - meant to write him - haven't yet. So many things one would like to do. So glad Molly Aubrey is going with the family. Much more fun with 2 girls - they can go places together where one can't go alone. Glad you have settled in a wheel chair but not electric. It might run away with you - but you won't need it too much just for seeing things saves energy -

3aupp.  
Alberta  
Mar. 1, 1957.

Dear Mother,

We are having another wonderful spell of weather. Not a cloud in the sky & such lovely bright sunshine. We are sitting out on the path ~~area~~ between the snowbanks, & thought I might as well write a few lines to you.

Yesterday was lovely too and as we knew the Morants would be home anyday decided we might get a little exercise & go up & shovel out their driveway. Nick is the C.P.R. Photographer & "Willi" his wife. They had to drive east due to the Railway Strike for a lecture tour in Ontario. It was hard shovelling where the plow doing the road had filled in their driveway & then it had frozen. However we did enough so they could get their car off the road & then came home to find them just coming out of an driveway. We had guessed well. Made tea here & then went back up with them to shovel some more. I thought we might be stiff next day but we weren't luckily, for we had stopped when we figured we had enough, but then did a whole lot more

after tea. Pete tried the driveway first  
& then Nick went in. So it was nice  
they could drive right into their garage  
under their house & not have to unpack  
out in the road & lug things in.

It is now Saturday. Another perfect  
day. & once more we are basking in  
the sun just after lunch.

A lovely letter from you today  
telling of Mr Tomita coming out with  
the slides of Japan & the tape recording  
of his lecture. even if you couldn't  
hear it all. must have been fun.  
Am so glad Russ is getting all  
the information he can. Has he  
asked Mrs Kayman any ideas.  
Might not be enough time now  
unless he telephoned her & then  
she could write him. Of course  
her ideas would be pre war too  
must have been 20 years ago  
she made her trip.

To think it would make the  
trip more interesting if Russ read  
Japan Day by Day. It is queer  
reading there are so many pictures.

He might even take it as far as Honolulu & send it back from there. Time on the plane to read a lot.

I wrote the other day & just suggested Gale might take a very light weight typewriter. They weigh as little as 8 pounds. Then she could type a letter & with 2 carbons write you, Rusty & us all at once. But at the time didn't realize Molly Amory was going along too. She will probably be too busy to have time to write much.

Am running out of ink. Not much of a letter I'm afraid.

Loads of love

Catherine

Banff, Alta.

March 5, 1957

Dearest Mother,

Back to winter again, zero yesterday and - 10 below this morning and dull, looks like snow. Anyway we had a wonderful stretch of weather last week, felt just like spring.

Have three deer that come to the house, a mother and two little ones, very chubby and they are about the cutest ones we have seen. They go all over town but came last evening and again this morning. Were real frisky and gambled together a bit.

A nice letter from Russell yesterday, they must be all excited, have quite an early start Monday, imagine leaving Boston at 7.30 AM and being in San Francisco in the afternoon. Hope it is just a wonderful trip from beginning to end. Am so glad they will have several weeks in Japan, their trip in that part sounds well planned to see all the best parts. Notice they are to stay at 4 of the hotels we stayed at, the ones in Tokyo Kyoto, Myonoshita, and Nikko. We thought they were all good when we were there and expect they will still have lots of character.

How interesting to have seen the Trailor, do tell us more about it and what it was like inside. Is it a great big one with several rooms or just a small one? Lots of people live in them through the west when the husbands are on construction jobs and so many of the towns and cities are growing so fast it is almost impossible to find a house and rarely a good modern one so a nice trailer is much nicer.

We had a busy day yesterday, even Saturday was fairly busy. Cleaned in the morning as usual and did the shopping and then in the afternoon the Morants dropped in with Bill Martin a neighbor of theirs who has horses in summer and makes things in winter out of Elk horns. We had tea and a nice talk while Nick worked on a camera that Pete has, the shutter wasn't quite right and he finally took the part home.

Then Sunday it was a quiet morning but just at noon the Don Harvie's dropped in. The son and daughter-in-law of Eric Harvie who supported the Museum here. They are interested in pictures and we missed them at Christmas when they always come for the holidays. While they were still here, Nick arrived with the part to go back in the camera and finally we prevailed on him to eat steak with us after the Harvies left, so it was about 3 when he had gone.

Then yesterday the morning was quiet enough but right after lunch Pete Tasker came, then Pete did a little in the dark room and I wrote Russ on business, not quite finishing before Roy McCowan (a young lad) brought a landscape he just started for Pete to see and Mr Lonsdale with his pictures. They both came before 3 instead of after, as Mr Lonsdale had to leave by 3.15. Roy stayed and Eldon Walls came about a chimney and stayed for coffee, then Dorothy Cranstone, to tell

us about Honolulu after the others had left, so there was just time to finish the letter to Russ and get it on the train by 6 P.M. Quite a full afternoon.

Smiling now. Are going over town so well  
send this along.

Loads of love  
Catherine

Banff, Alberta.

Thurs. March 7, 1957

Dearest Mother,

By this time next week the family will be in Honolulu, though they will have just left I expect when you get this letter. Can imagine there was much excitement over the weekend. Your letter all about going down to see their new clothes that one just washes and hangs up. Times have changed.

Actually the way one travels is all different, do you remember when we went abroad in 1924 you and father had one trunk and Edith and I another and we took them everywhere, even on the top of the car we toured in. Think of the unnecessary stuff we must have taken. I am not sure but that dark blue silk dress I wore every day for a month or more wasn't just as easy as washing one out every night, though seems to me it was a bit "soiled" by the time we had been through the dust in Italy.

Now-a-days one can carry only so much on a plane, more overseas than on this ~~continent~~, continent, 60 lbs each I think. and it is wonderful to have things like men's shirts so you can just wash them out each time. Only trouble I find is that nylon etc. doesn't absorb moisture in a hot country, but Dacron and some of the newer ones have fine cotton mixed in which must help.

When we went to Japan and China we took weeks, I think were six weeks in Japan and 10 days in Hongkong so of course you stayed long enough for laundry etc. and the laundry could be done quicker too and then one didn't always have their own bathroom for washing things out. In future we may come to paper clothes you wear and discard, who knows!

I think with the Campbell children, Ian is about 8, Timmy will be 10 this spring and Dane about 13, so not ready yet for high school.

I agree with you that was a wonderful way for Mrs Neville to go, especially when she lived alone and would have been a great care for Barbara had she been ill in bed. Glad we saw her a year ago last fall.

Of course I approve that Russ shouldn't rush home if anything happens to you, but I think you better just leave it up to him to do what he feels best. You just keep going until they get back - I will save you worry about what Russ will do -

Friday - a busy afternoon. to the Morants. back here. Mrs Painter for tea about 3.30. the Morants later until six. Then at 8.30 Pat Mackenzie back from U.S.C. (Am. of B.C.) for Ski races. She brought an unusually nice boy friend - Doug Robinson - they stayed until midnight talking skimp. We were rather pleased to think they thought us old

Xogies

1 fogues - interesting at all. The boy had spent a winter in Switzerland at Wengen. He evidently rode a bicycle from Vancouver to New York & then through Europe. His mother is Scotch. His father from Golden -

must go now for errands. Have been doing the kitchen floor -

Lots of love

Catharine

Banff, Alta.  
March 12, 1957.

Dearest Mother,

Well the family are in San Francisco to-day and hope they had a good flight yesterday. They were wise~~st~~ to take a day there in case of any delay. and to-morrow morning will arrive in Honolulu I expect.

We wrote to Pearl Moore ( you remember the Moores of Banff I am sure. three little short people who came one time to Concord and we went to the James to tea. great friends of Mrs Vaux. <sup>Y</sup> Col. Moore died a few years ago and Pearl goes somewhere every winter, Edmee the daughter lives here ) Pearl is staying at the hotel next to the Halekulani so we wrote and asked if she had a chance to look the family up and if she felt like it to take them to some place like Don the Beachcomber where Rosalie, an old friend of all of ours sings at night and they have Hawaiian food. We sent her a check so hope it works out alright. Didn't tell Russ in case she couldn't do it, and thought it would be more fun if it was all a surprise. We hope the Vallances will be there some of the time but they were going to one of the other islands so might not. They are in another hotel across the street.

We also wrote to Auntie Elizabeth, a real old time Hawaiian who makes Leis and has a stand on the sidewalk near the Royal Hawaiian and she will be on the Lookout for the family when they speak to her and give them each a lei. So we hope it will work out alright. It would be fun if there was some sort of Hawaiian luau or feast that they could get in on. Pearl knows a lot of the real Hawaiians and it would be fun if they could meet a few. They aren't there such a long time but might just hit some special thing. The Vallances have been to several gatherings and are having a wonderful time.

It doesn't look as if we would be going to Edmonton for some time as the hospitals are all so full it is hard to get a room, Pete's trouble isn't urgent so naturally others will come first in most cases, might be several weeks but we have things all ready here so we could leave anytime if we had to. Keeps on a little unsettled but Pete has been working hard on a new idea for his big camera so he can take 5"x 7" pictures with a 4"x 5" camera. Verne was down yesterday and he will make the idea Pete devised in cardboard, in wood. Mr Londdale was also here yesterday with a couple of paintings for Pete to look at. and later Lynn Becker and Christine ~~Becker~~ Smith after school. Then I walked down the road for some milk and met Willie Morant, walked with her to the station and back ( Nick is in Calgary for a day or two ) and then she stayed to supper and we drove her home about 8 as she had a lot she wanted to do and I had the ironing here. So it was quite a busy day.

Have had lots of nice letters from you. We like to hear often and it may be easier for you to remember things to write about that way. Will send back the nice letter from Rusty as soon

as I can. It was a nice one and interesting about the Mess Hall.

Thanks too for Mildred's fine long letter, can just imagine those two little boys that visited her neighbor. Kept her on the go keeping them both entertained. The clipping about the lady 90 who paints near Calgary, we had never heard of. Perhaps will read about her in the paper.

Am glad the family all read "Japan Day by Day"; I mentioned it in my letters to them but none of them replied, so guess I repeated a good many suggestions.

No, you didn't draw us a plan of the trailer, would be interested to hear more about it.

Am glad you can go out each day now the weather is better. It may be an effort but well worth it. I noticed in the paper some doctor saying that if you don't keep using your legs you find they stiffen up more and more with age, and so you can do less and less, so better keep on the go as much as possible.

A nice letter from Mrs Foss, we had two from her, one with the picture of Elizabeth Darling and her bicycle .

Time to go over town, Too bad the family minded the shots or at least that they felt mean after them, but probably part of it was the excitement and getting ready for such a big trip.

Lots of love from us both.

*Catherine*

Banff, Alta.  
Fri. Mar. 15, 1957.

Dearest Mother,

We are having lovely weather, bright sun and no wind and though it stays around 32 during the day the sun is so warm it melts quite a bit and we sit out after lunch for a bit, cold if there is a cloud or shadow.

Your letters came telling of the family that last weekend, getting ready. I don't wonder they were excited, those shots they take for Tropical countries can really affect one. The Morants had all kinds before going to South America and one hit Nick on the train between Montreal and Quebec and quite scared them, have forgotten what it was like but very rapid pulse or something. Luckily there was a trained nurse across the aisle from them and she sort of took charge, made him lie down etc. but for a time Willi said they even thought of stopping the train for a doctor. He is quite a nervous high strung sort of person so that could have made it worse perhaps. But they had no trouble once started on their trip

Well we hope by now they are enjoying Honolulu and evidently from a letter to-day from Ethel Fulsher written Tuesday the weather was perfect. She sent us a paper telling about the <sup>a week</sup> so called tidal wave they have just had last Saturday <sup>ago</sup> It really is "a seismic wave" and I never realized they travel so fast, about 450 miles an hour. So when they had the earthquake in the Aleutian Islands early Saturday morning they alerted the islands. the first they knew of it was in the Hawaiian Islands was at 6.50 Am and it struck Kauai (where we were that time in 1934) at about 8.50 A.M. just 2 hours later. However they didn't know far ahead that it would or might be a bad wave. It evidently is at the bottom of the ocean and whereas the tidal wave in 1946 had a crest like surf, this one was like a flood of water. Rose 32 feet, a series of waves come in, about 10 that were floods and just lift houses off their foundations. It says in the paper that several houses in Hanalei where we stayed were "destroyed or damaged" and among them the one of Walter Sandborns. that was where we ate our meals, breakfast and supper.

We were just thinking that had we gone to Honolulu this winter we would have gone to Hanalei and might have stayed to paint at the motel run by Japanese at Haena. Had we, goodness knows what would have happened, for the Japanese heard a warning on their radio 5 or 10 minutes before it struck and jumped in their car and drove to higher ground, just in time to watch the waves come in. Between 8.50 and 9.10 they counted the 10 inundations. the 1st. wave pushed against the motel, the 3rd. flooding just smashed every thing and carried the whole motel building 500 yards inland and across the road. It is a wonder that no one was lost except 2 people in a plane that crashed trying to get pictures of the damage for the newspaper. Ethel Fulsher said it was really exciting listening to the radio all day. It only damaged the northern parts of the island not the Honolulu side.

Any chance of Bo and Jack going to Honolulu with the others? They should have just flown that far. By the way. The big planes now fly so high that the cabins are all "pressureized" and it doesn't effect ones ears at all. I never had to even swallow on our trip and always do in an elevator and many ~~redx~~ times driving in the Jeep on long climbs or descents, so don't think Gale will mind unless they fly first to New York on a smaller plane.

Of course we will be thinking of them all the way and it will be fun to picture them in the various places. It is good of them to want us to see the letters too after Rusty has read them.

It doesn't look as if we would be going to Edmonton for some time as the hospitals have so little room. So are busy doing odd jobs around here.

Time to go over town. It is Saturday AM now

Heaps of love

Catharine

Isn't there an Octagonal house in one of the Actons or near Harvard Mass?

Banff, Alta.

Tues. Mar. 19, 1957

Dearest Mother,

Your last letter to say that Mr Dodge & Mr Jenkins were to come out to see you, why not get Eleanor Johnson to come up if you want someone to help, she would be good or Frances. But I bet you had a nice time with them as it was.

Expect you felt the let down after all the excitement of the family getting ready and flying off. We are looking forward to hearing, especially their first letters and how they like Honolulu. Expect they too will feel tired the first part, with their hours all changed.

We are still having nice mild weather and when it is sunny sit outside after lunch for a short time, when there is no wind it is quite warm.

Had rather a busy weekend, Saturday Sam came in the afternoon to put some glass in a broken window a bird flew against and cracked and I finished off by cleaning. Then Ed Beltz of Calgary came to ask us for supper, he and his wife, Mary were up from a rest over the weekend. Wanted to see the Phillips so took them up there but they were out. Then joined them at 6.30 for a nice dinner at the Mt. Royal and back here for the evening. He is very interesting as he is a geologist, was in the Yukon in 1919, in Sumatra until the War and on the Gobi dessert for Imperial Oil and goodness knows where else.

Then Sunday Bill Jamieson came with a new Leica that had just come and we had to try that out in the afternoon and Pete developed the film so we could print a few pictures in the evening. and so it goes. not much but keeps us busy. Oh, yes. Mrs Simpson was over with a nephew Collin Menzies just out from England with his wife to live in Canada, he was here 14 years ago during the war.

How nice that Bob Palmer brought his Barbara out to see you. A nice letter too. Will be fun if they settle in New England.

In Banff the places the birds like best to go are where there are lots of trees to sit on. Maybe they miss the old apple tree. By our house we have lots of chic-a-dees and woodpeckers and a nut hatch, they fly back and forth from the branches to the suet and peanut butter hanging by the window, and if big birds bother them they always have a tree to fly to. Perhaps bushes would help. or maybe it is the kind of winter and they don't require as much food.

Not much news and I have so many letters to write. Hope you are feeling less tired and the weather is getting spring like, if our weather goes east it should be lovely for you.

Lots of love,

Catherine

over

This was in mail this morning & thought you would  
enjoy seeing it. Read Moore is the one you know in  
Bauff. very short. The Vallances <sup>from Bauff. he is my lawyer -</sup> are full back from  
one of the other islands. Curly is a Hawaiian by  
Pete first knew in 1929 & who takes people out  
in Outrigger Canoes on Waikiki - Can't make  
out at end whether they are "going out for 3 days"  
or "3 dips" - Maybe it is just "for dips" Syd & Doris  
Vallance met Rusty at Pau Lake last summer -  
It was good of them to write. Picture is right in front  
of where they are staying.

Box 370  
Banff, Alta.  
Thurs, Mar. 21, 1957

Dearest Mother,

What a wonderful letter from Russell, I don't expect we can count on his writing that much every place they go but no doubt he spent a quiet morning at the Halekulani.

We are sending it on registered mail to Rusty for if he doesn't get it we can always trace it and then with an enclosed envelope he will be able to send it on to you. For we think you will enjoy reading the letters over. *I imagine he won't lose it - it will mean so much to him to hear all he can.*

What a nice trip they had, so glad the weather was good for the flight over the Rockies, what a sight that must be and San Francisco is such a wonderful city when the weather is fine. Didn't know the Amorys were to be there and what a lot of parties,

Of course we are most interested in the Honolulu part and can picture them so well at the Halekulani where we stayed, and the little birds that hop around your feet as you eat, to pick up the crumbs, a little disconcerting sometimes if they get nervous, but they don't seem to have real accidents from overhead. Maybe because they are busy looking for the food.

I guess it was "going for 3 days" and not "3 dips" on the postcard we sent on to you. We hadn't heard they were to go to Kona. We were there just 20 years ago with Guy Davenport and the only guests in the hotel at the time, it wasn't too well known and off season, but now there is no off season, they are busy the year round. Jimmie Wilder was at Harvard with Russ, he was born in Honolulu and they lived right near the Halekulani, but sold their property long ago. Pearl Moore wrote that the Kimballs are selling the Halekulani for \$6½ million, have been offered \$4 million. Just imagine.

Thanks so much for drawing the plan of the trailer. It certainly looks very compact. Lots of people live in them these days and of course they are much nicer than most of the houses one can rent and often there are no houses available.

Nice note from Aunt Julie, was sorry I didn't think of her birthday in time. She mentioned on the back she was sorry to miss the Newbury's Golden Wedding day, I had no idea that could have been married that long. Cousin Alma must have been married in her teens, let me know ~~ifxiixwiliixx~~ when it is, though perhaps it is already over.

I will send a lovely letter from Cousin Jane which you needn't return but thought you would like to read.

Lots of love from us both, no real news from here to write as all I have done the last few days is write letters!

Catherine

(over →)

P.S. Why not get George to ask at your postoffice for "Aerogrammes" Hanne will know about them for she probably wrote her mother on them. They are one page in size, enough for a letter and are already stamped with a 10¢ cent stamp and will go anywhere in the world. We have them in Canada so am sure you will have them in the U.S. Then when you have written the letter, get Hanne to fold it and send it in to Miss Burditt to address, for she will know where to send it to catch them en route, and actually it probably will go quicker from Boston direct. *will save you lots of bother -*

Banff, Alta.  
Sun. March. 24, 1957

Dearest Mother,

Noticed the magpies starting to carry twigs this morning so spring must be here, The weather isn't very warm but isn't cold either, rather pleasant in fact. squalls of snow the last day or two and overcast to-day. Usual March weather.

Haven't heard from the family again but a long letter from Pearl Moore which I will send you to read as soon as I show it to Edmee. She ended by saying " they had a wonderful time and were crazy about it. " so that is the main thing. Lets see they are in Manila, <sup>or</sup> they have left Manila for Saigon, for they lose a day and goodness knows how one figures that out. It is 10 or 12 hours difference in time, Guess it is really midnight before they leave Manila to be exact. Most confusing!

We sent Pearl Moore a cheque thinking that she and the Vallances and some Hawaiian friends the Treadways might take the family to "Don the Beachcombers" or some such place where there is Hawaiian food and dancing and an old friend of all of ours sings. But the place is closed for alterations just now so that was out and though Pearl saw them the first morning she didn't catch up with them again until the night before they left so there was no time. and we got the cheque back !

Have been gay again, went out to supper again last night, this time with Morants. They feel they eat lots of meals with us and wanted us to go up for dinner, so we did, at 6.30 and came home before ten, had a nice roast beef dinner and rhubarb pie and Nick played some Peruvian records and also some interesting ones of famous people speaking on the radio, just snatches but seemed funny to hear the familiar voices of 20 years ago even.

Pete has been working on his camera and Verne has been down most afternoons to do the careful fitting and wood work part. A number of people dropping in too and I have been trying hard to get all the letters I owe answered, but don't ever expect to catch up, one trouble there have been several friends who have died lately and those letters always take me so long to write.

Had a nice letter from Miss Burditt on business and she said she had heard from Rusty recently, probably on business too. We haven't heard from him but once, since he went back to this new camp. Seems too bad he couldn't have gone on the trip with the others but I expect they never thought of going last fall.

Also had a letter from Mildred who still seems to think they can go on the Mediteranean and that the ban will be lifted. We sort of have our doubts they will let any Americans or British land in the Eastern Mediteranean for a good long time. I should think they could sail as far as Italy or Spain and then rejoin the boat later on the way back.

I don't seem to have much news, perhaps it is the weather makes me not very bright, it is sort of dull out and dull inside my head too.

Hope you are feeling better and that the weather is getting warmer so you can sit outside in the sun without too much wind.

Will be writing again soon.

Heaps of love from us both.

*Catharine.*  
P.S. Will send you Syd Vallees card & with a magnifying glass you may be able to read it. Don't know how such a large man can write so small.

Banff, Alta.  
Mon. March 25, 1957

Dearest Mother,

A nice letter from you to-day, telling of the one you had from Rusty about the boys going to a dance when they got base leave and didn't think too much of the girls I judged.

You wrote it Thursday, March 21st. but the one you sent me with Russell's enclosed wasn't sent until the 19th. just 2 days before, hardly time for you to hear from me about it. You asked if I would copy out what was interesting for you to send to Rusty, as you were afraid he might lose it. I didn't think that too good an idea for he naturally would want to read it all and so sent the letter "registered Air Mail" to Rusty so he would surely receive it with an addressed envelope, stamped too, for him to mail it to you, so trust it has reached you by now.

We have heard just once from Rusty since he returned I think, it had the new address on it

What did the family say on the postcards? I don't know if they will have time to write another letters from there. Honolulu and we are anxious to know what they liked best and what sort of things they did.

Didn't realize Gil and Frances had gone to Florida, to the same place I guess and I expect Bert and Anne took David & Nancy skiing at Aspen. I think that was their Christmas present, What a wonderful time they will have, am so glad they went.

Tuesday- We are having typical spring weather for us, nice and sunny for a short time in the mornings and then it clouds over, a chilly wind perhaps and snow squalls. We still have snow on the ground but a lot has gone and were the rink open am sure there would still be skating as it is cold enough to freeze well each night.

How nice that Clare has a little girl, I didn't know. She was one person I had hoped to see when we were east and sort of thought Gale might take us down but of course there wasn't any chance of that kind of thing.

How nice of Russell to send a box of flowers from Honolulu. What were they like? the funny heart shaped ones called "antherium," come in all shades from pale pink to deep red, and perhaps "the bird of paradise" which is orange and pointed with little blue flowers that pop out of the bud part. At least they do in Honolulu but sometimes get stalled in colder climates.

They were lucky to miss the earthquake in San Francisco, the tidal wave in Honolulu and the snow storm crossing the country. What a time they had in Kansas and the Texas Pan Handle. We figured one trouble may have been so many Sunday or weekend

drivers and these new cars are so difficult to pull out of ditches or even tie a rope or chain to to pull, and also very few people now-a-days carry anything for an emergency. They aren't even dressed for blizzards having heated cars and the storm must have come very suddenly.

Must take my Income Tax over to mail so won't write more to-day. How nice of Eleanor Johnson to come up and sew with you, why not invite her oftener.

Loads of love,

Catherine

P.S. Did I thank you for the box of books. Canadian ones that came recently.

Do you know if Mr & Mrs Raymond Baldwin are still married? Or is he just away most of the time in New York.

Box 370  
Banff, Alta.  
March 29, 1957

Dearest Mother,

Two lovely letters from you this noon, one posted the 23rd and the other the 25th. Maybe they don't send any out late on Saturdays. It was good to hear and the other 1 letters too *that you enclosed.*

Am glad to know the family reached ~~the~~ Manila safely. We haven't heard a word except the postcard from Russ the 2nd. day in Honolulu and the letter you sent us to read. *and I sent on to* Rusty, Hope you got it back safely. We would love to have a look at all the cards you get and will return them to you or to Rusty, whichever you say. *are* especially interested in the Hawaiian ones.

Didn't mention the Crash near Japan for we sort of hoped you hadn't heard. Wouldn't have been so bad if it hadn't come over the radio just about supper time. They worded the news as "a transport had crashed in the Pacific after leaving Hawaii en route to Japan" and of course no details at all. We knew they had left Honolulu that very day but headed for *Manilla*, and then as Pete said *the radio* it was a "transport" which is usually an army or government plane. Actually the regular airlines are far safer than the Army ones for they require more checks on the engines and greater precautions than the ~~the~~ Army does, and most of the bad crashes have been Army ones carrying personel. Don't forget it is far more dangerous to drive in a car these days than to fly. We checked their itinerary right away and found with the difference in time they had only just left Honolulu. But it did give us a bit of a scare at first.

What an awfully pretty girl Bob Palmer has. Is she really as lovely as the photograph. She certainly has sparkling eyes. Will return it right away so you won't wonder what has happened to it. Thanks for sending it.

A nice letter from Olive Newbury too. Am so glad they were moved south for she is really making a life of her own and they seem to be entering into everything.

Thanks too for the Hibbard pictures, they do look fine and strong and we would like to see them too. and for the picture of the earthquake damage. What a time with the whole fireplace shaking apart. They will have to watch all chimneys in case they shook lose. and what a mess of dust it would make. I have a picture I will send you of a grocery store with all the canned food on the floor. The work entailed cleaning up must have been something.

We heard to-day that there hasn't been any room in the hospital for the past month and Dr. Marshall is to be away during April, so we will *wither* try again in May or wait until fall for Pete to have the other cataract removed. *There* is no particular hurry but he thinks it would be a good thing to have done. In a way it was nice to hear definitely for we have been packed for ~~4~~ weeks now just

wondering when a wire might come saying a room was available. Now we can do all sorts of things for a change and not be afraid of being too far away when the wire was delivered.

Verne is here, has been each afternoon working on some photographic things for Pete. Has just made a wooden drum so he can develop movie film. Peter Tasker is also coming over, he is the game warden. and becoming a good photographer.

Those two Hibbard pictures were on display at the National Shawmut Bank in Park Square, (Boston. I should think it meant )

The little pictures Cousin Jane spoke of are colored reproductions of paintings of the mountains on little notepaper one uses for short letters. They are bright and pretty and when sending stamps I often write on those instead of on letter paper. and guess have sent quite a few different ones in the past, some are colored photographs. have sent you a few too.

Nice for you to take Cousin Alma and Gibs for a ride if not too long.

How would it work if you gave Miss Barrett so much a month while she lives in the little house. Say a hundred or even fifty might make enough difference to her, so she could just keep on in her own home.

Guess I had better finish this for to-day.

Loads of love and glad the weather is nice.

*Catharine*



Mt. Assiniboine

A. C. Leigh 1917

Banff, Alta.  
Sun. Mar. 31, 1957

Dearest Mother,

This is the sort of card I often use to write Cousin Jane on, not that I write very often. This is about the last I have and not as attractive a picture as most, but guess they are what she puts in a little frame and looks at and thinks about while she eats. Probably reminds her of places she has visited.

Glad your snowdrops and crocus are out, We heard the robins this morning, a sure sign of spring. It is dull to-day, sort of drizzling but nearly 40° out so melting a little. We had an inch of fresh snow night before last and that is almost gone but still plenty underneath to melt.

This afternoon we are expecting three Minneapolis friends on The Canadian. They wrote to ask us to have supper with them but don't know that we will do that. Joe Kingman came skiing first about 25 years ago and this is his 2nd. wife. The sons by his first marriage are grown up and married too I think. Gwen the 2nd. wife is a Calgary girl he met at Skoki years ago and they come most every spring and now are bringing their son aged 7 with them. You like coincidences. Joe went to Amherst (I think) and a couple of years ago was entertaining an old classmate from Japan who is now head of the Minneapolis Hunneywell Co in Japan. and mentioned Banff and the man asked if he knew Pete. It was Tosh Yamaguchi who went to Art School with us the first year. Remember he went to the Opera with us one night. We hear from him now each Christmas. His father is over 90 and now retired. Maybe you met him when you were a girl in Japan who knows!

Verne has finished for a while, he was coming each afternoon for a couple of hours and making intricate things of wood for Pete's photography. Friday Sam was down in the afternoon for a bit and also Pete Tasker the Game warden, we had quite a tea party. Peter was over again yesterday morning at 9 A.M. as he is on vacation at present and loves talking cameras and anything to do with Pphotgraphy

ESTD 1900  
C. T. Marshall  
ESTD 1900

with Pete. Think I told you Pete made an enlarger he could use with batteries as they have no electricity at the Bow Summit. Now he has a real enlarger he got for a bargain and can use a laboratory fixed up at one of the road camps. He takes really good pictures and gets unusual shots of animals so we feel all our time and effort helping him has been well worthwhile.

Must soon go for the mail . took my time this morning helping Pete write a letter which I typed after it was worded, think it is easier to do them all myself. What a fuss just signing the thing, the pen ran and goodness knows what !!

We just heard that Bubby, (Barbara & Jackie's daughter who visited you once ) is engaged to a Dutchman who works in Calgary for General Motor and they hope to be married in August. Don't even know his name but understand he is very nice.

Am getting to bottom so all for now.

Loads of love

Catherine

P.S. Just found your letter of the 26th that came yesterday. I guess it is quite a relief having Mr Loring no longer ill and in the nursing home. Pretty hard all these years for Mrs Loring.

Do be sure and send us Gale's letter when Rusty returns it.

I think Hanne quite right about the thin winter coat. Someone will enjoy it after you have finished with it so don't feel it isn't worth while.

Nice of Edith to come out but bet she enjoys seeing you as much as devouring the pudding Jessi makes. Wish we had one right now.

Do hope Aunt Julie is good and lucky and gets a nice apartment on the ground level, Maybe she will end in a trailer, who knows! You can get them with 2 bedrooms according to the article that you sent us, the one Mercelia gave you. Don't suppose Mrs Loring will be apt to move but surely there are other places in Concord though little compact ones are hard to find.

Bottom of another page. More love

Catherine,

Banff, Alta.  
Tues. April 2, 1957

Dearest Mother,

Thanks so much for the card from Gale from the Philippines - I will copy it off for you as I find her writing quite easy to read.

March 25th. " Dear Grandma: We have been kept busy every moment of the 3 days here by Marcie Lichauco, Daddy's Classmate. Weather stifling hot, we feel like hot house plants in Air-conditioned rooms. Watched a Polo Match and a Native Jai-Lai Game the night before. We have driven over a great deal of country and spent an enjoyable dinner at Lichauco's Home last night. He has 7 children under 14 ! Lunch with all the family overlooking this lovely lake . All is well. Saigon to-day. Lots of love, Gale."

We were especially interested as I knew Marcie quite well the year I came out in Boston. Think he must have been at Law School and he had just written a book with Moorfield Storey on " The Conquest of the Philippines by the United States 1898 - 1925 " Guess it was in 1926 I used to go out with him. The time I remember best was when he took me to tea with Mr Storey in a house on the Fenway and he autographed the book. Wonder what Mr Storey thought of Marcie bringing a girl to tea who knew so little about such things. That was 30 years ago. I was about Gale's age or younger.

Do send us the Hawaiian cards to read if you can. Just put them in your letters and I will send them right back.

Had a letter from Edith saying she had been out to see you which she enjoyed and about Dr. Riley who just died. Also one from Miss Burditt from the office. She sent the notice about the opening of the Mural of the moon at the Science Museum. Remember they were just starting it when we were there over a year ago to see the transparent lady?

One of you sent a clipping about Mrs Webster and I don't know if it was you or Miss Burditt as I read the letters first and the clippings later and they were all together in the end.

Sunday we went for the mail and a little drive to see if the road on Tunnel Mt. was plowed, then to the station but were early for the train from the east that the Kingmans were due on, so watched the one from the west come in first. Strangely enough Lauren Harris was on it going east to Ottawa. He is an old friend and that is the 3rd. or 4th time we have met him at the station by chance. He has a great head of white hair so is easy to spot.

Joe and Gwen Kingman were on the next Canadian with the little boy who wasn't feeling very good. A cold had started & he looked very white. They had spent one night with her mother who lives in Calgary, had just duplexed her house, making a suite upstairs and the downstairs into a suite with 2 bedrooms and tiny kitchen as well as a big living room.

We drove them to the hotel and they thought they better have the doctor to look at the little boy. Joe came over an hour later to tell us they thought he was coming down with Measles, had a temperature of 104 poor little fellow. We were to have had supper with them at the hotel but have postponed it. Yesterday Gwen came over in the afternoon as one of them ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ wants to stay with the little boy aged 7 all the time. They were going skiing but will just stay in town this week. *He has measles alright.*

Didn't mean to write as much,

Loads of love,

*Catherine*

Jai-Jai is a Spanish game something like squash played in a court, very fast. The men use basket sort of rackets tied to their hands in which they catch the ball & speed it back to bounce off the wall. We saw it first in Shanghai & later in Cuba.

Banff, Alberta.

Fri. April 5, 1967

Dearest Mother,

It is really quite pretty out to-day with big snow flakes coming down gently at the moment, typical spring weather but my how slow our snow is going, just a little melts each day and then freezes again at night. Town looks very messy and dirty.

I sort of looked for mail to-day, but then I remember if you send it regular mail it doesn't come too quick. Don't wonder it seems slow hearing from the family but you have to remember they are quite a long way ~~that~~ last two weeks and probably there aren't planes everyday and maybe the mail didn't make good connections either, back here. The card from Manila came nice and quick but it would come by U.S. Air lines. Now in Bangkok it will be different, but from Hongkong should be faster getting back. and Japan very fast.

Another thing, they are only a few days in each place and when you try to see everything you want to there isn't much time for letters or cards. Evidently they don't write when on the planes, no doubt are too busy looking down below, for it must be quite wonderful seeing the many islands and shipping etc. Would give one a fine idea of that part of the world.

To-day we are busy drawing plans, as we are wondering how it would be to add on to one of the buildings ~~for~~ on the main street. You can't ask advise until you have some idea of what you want to do. I can see what it costs so much to get Architects, it takes so long to measure and figure.

Haven't done a great deal lately, but a few people have dropped in at various time. Joe Kingman came over the other evening, and the Morants were down for tea yesterday and Sam over in the morning. He is building a stairway down to the basement from the entrance that goes upstairs from the front street ~~at the store~~.

The Kingmans have gone up to Temple to-day, the little boy is over the measles.

This isn't much of a letter, Guess I am too stupid to write. Had two nice long letters from the Newburys, wasn't it lucky Ebbs and Anne were in Colorado when it wasn't too stormy, as later they have had dreadful blizzards and a lot of people had to stay in Denver this week I think.

Will be writing again soon and I hope something more interesting than this. We had 7 deer at the back door the other day.

Loads of love,

Catharine.

Banff, Alta.  
April 7, 1957

Dearest Mother,

I am sending Russell's letter on to Rusty to-day, what a nice one it was and really told a lot. Can just imagine how fascinating it must be to all of them. and haven't they been lucky in meeting people who could show them about and take them to places where no ordinary tourist would ever go.

It is too bad you haven't been feeling well, maybe you will just have to get used to the idea of feeling good one day and not so well the next. Maybe when you can be out more and it gets much warmer and smells like spring, that will help. I hope so. Am sure you won't have to worry about spoiling their trip, just leave it up to Dr Piper and Cob to keep you going and Hanne will help too, We have a feeling you will be going strong for several years yet. Maybe if you didn't think about it so much it wouldn't be such a worry to you.

Aunt Julie must be home by now, wouldn't it be wonderful if she can get the apartment on Court Lane, much better than the one way down near Sudbury Rd. I forget the name. but near Thoreau St. I guess and beyond the schools. This house would be nearer her friends too.

What a wonderful letter from Waldo Adams, It is hard to realize his family is grown up. I never knew he was a banker but guess he left the Adams company for Herbert Adams's family to run. I must write him some time, I had thought to write lots of people when we went to Edmonton and now have too many letters I should answer from Christmas.

Reason I wanted to know about the Raymond Baldwin family, is because a Mrs Warren from Pincher Creek, ~~has~~ been looking after a place here belonging to Capt. French for 2 years, but now she and her husband have gone back to their ranch at Pincher. As a girl she lived next door to Mrs Baldwin's ~~family~~ mother in England and used to play with the Raymond Baldwins daughter when she visited the grand-mother. During part of the War she came to Concord and stayed with the Baldwins. Ask Mercelia she may remember. for I think she went to Concord Academy. She had sort of lost track of them and when she found I came from Concord asked me about them and since then has written and heard from the daughter. Think her name was Rosemary Baldwin, not sure. I haven't seen Ray Baldwin for so long, but she thinks he spends most of his time in New York, can't even remember what his job is. Should have spoken to Mrs Baldwin last Christmas but forgot. Anyway the Warrens came to say goodbye a week ago and that was what made me think of it all again.

Saturday Marjorie Crosby, who lives next door, dropped in unexpectedly for she is now living in Vancouver, and wanted us to go over in the evening to see some of her father's slides of his recent trip around the world. Don't think I have hardly been to Calgary since he left and came back! He was gone 6 weeks and visited 17 countries. Flew to Japan, Hongkong, Bangkok, India, Turkey, Italy, France, England etc.

Our eyes were a bit tired from working on plans for the store, and we weren't very anxious to go out but hated to say "no" to Marjorie. She said to come after 8 as she was to pick up an Australian couple she met on the train and they would be there too. So over we went and it turned out to be a long evening, until after midnight but the slides were fun to see. Lots of India, very good ones of Benares & especially the Taj Mahal, in fact it was all interesting to us. We didn't see the ones of Japan or China or Bangkok as they had looked at them the evening before.

Then yesterday afternoon we picked up the Australian couple also on a trip around the world but in the other direction and by boat. He is a rose specialist and they have nurseries near Melbourne. Had 15 acres of land or more, and the place has grown so the section, Mt. Waverly, wanted his land for a new school. However they took so long deciding and voting for it, that by the time they finally bought it the value had gone up way up. Had they bought it in the beginning he would have just sold it and retired then, but they waited so long that he got enough not only to semi-retire but to pay for the trip of 9 months around the world. And most of the land is to be landscaped by the school and it doesn't effect his house at all. They were a nice couple and so appreciative of everything. Marjorie had gone to Calgary so we saw them off on the train. *as well as driving them around & giving them tea*

I wonder if the family speeded up their schedule for mine says they won't reach Bangkok until April 3rd. and you got the wire from them March 31st. Maybe they didn't stay in Siemreap. I have them listed to reach HongKong April 9th and Japan *Ap.* 18th

Lots of love mother and hope you are feeling better.

Catharine

P.S. Just got your letter in mail  
with postcards & Gail's letter  
thanks so much.

Banff, Alta.  
Mon. April 8, 1957

Dearest Mother,

I had no sooner posted the letter to you yesterday when yours with all the lovely cards came, and also the letter from Gale about the fishing trip. What a shame Russ didn't catch his big "arlin !

The reason you aren't getting cards for a bit is probably because they were in Manila such a short time and so much to do, Gale wrote from there, perhaps the rest did and never put enough postage on. Any way from there they went to Saigon and most likely there is only one or two planes a week to the states. It is 3 times as far as Honolulu and the connections could be poor. you did get Russell's letter from there and by now have probably heard more. I will return the cards a few at a time. The place they stayed at Kona is new to us and looks most attractive.

Some friends the Sowdons have just come back from their 5th winter in Honolulu, they said it is getting much too crowded and so little room on the beach. I think they have spoilt it by letting ~~high~~ tall buildings be built, before that the highest was 3 or 4 stories and that was only one and too high. It didn't sound as if they saw anything really Hawaiian but it is hard to in just a week unless you know people who can take you to the out of the way spots.

Jim Simpson was over this afternoon and brought us a letter he just got from Rusty. It was quite a long one and told quite a bit so asked if I could copy it for you to read. Don't think Rusty would mind but just as well not to mention it, for it might discourage him from writing if he thought we passed the letters about. I guess we are all anxious to know how he is getting on.

We had a very busy day yesterday, <sup>Sunday</sup> Pete Tasker came at 9 A.M. to ask Pete about photographs and cameras, he is so keen. and was here until quarter to twelve. Gave me a good chance to write , you, Rusty and Russ. Then dinner and right after Bubby ( Barbara White ) came with Jim Kapteyn for us to meet one another. Pete called it a "pre-view." He is a fine chap, tall, 6' 2" and fair a Graduate in Commerce at the Univ. of Alberta. They graduated at the same time and never met until last year. I made coffee and toasted buns, it was a miserable sort of day. snow flurries. Then Lynnne came, helped wash up the dishes after the others left and we drove for the mail and out around Minnewanka, Lynnne hadn't been for ages either and we wanted to look with an eye to sketching. Left her at her house and as we drove in our yard a car followed. Walter Ashdown who wanted to know if he could bring Mr and Mrs Parkinson in the evening, he is the new manager of the Chateau Lake Louise. So we said "yes!" Had hardly gotten settled in the house when Elsa Wyatt came to borrow a tank for developing photos and Pete had to show her all about that. She left about quarter to six. Had just finished supper when Mr Scott came down, I had changed my dress by then, and as he left before 8 the Parkinsons and Walter Ashdown arrived. They stayed until 10.30 so you can see we had a full day. The two Sundays before I don't think we had hardly anyone.

The thing I wrote about the winter coat. You said in one of your letters that Hanne thought you should buy a light weight winter coat, and you said you told her it wasn't worth while as you wouldn't live long enough to use it, or words to that effect. So I said I thought you should get it anyway for when you are through with it in another few years it will be good for some one else, even if you used it only a little !

Aunt Julie did sound a bit discourgged, too bad she couldn't get the person she had counted on to stay with her, but if the apartment on Court Lane works out alright and has 2 bedrooms perhaps it won't be as hard to get someone. Maybe she could stay at the Storrow House for a while. So far she has been rather lucky in finding people just when it looked hopeless so just hope her luck continues and that she got home safely.

Don't worry anytime you don't put on enough postage, the letters or cards will always come through but at this end they will charge twice the postage lacking. Only time they go to the Dead Letter office is when the address is wrong and there is no return address.

Loads of love and hpe you are feeling better.

Catharine .

Banff, Alta.  
Thurs. Apr. 11, 1957

Dearest Mother,

We too heard from Russ day before yesterday and will send his card and you can return it later. Am glad you got a fine letter, I will be glad to ~~ex~~ type it for Rusty or any that come from now on, Or you could send it in to Miss Burditt at the office and I am sure she would type a copy, making one for Rusty and one for me. It would be quicker for him that way *she could enjoy letter too*.

The first letter I sent to Rusty with an addressed & stamped envelope for him to use to send it on to you, Do you suppose he never got it, or do you think he forgot to post it? It was a registered letter so can be traced. He has never sent the one from his mother to us either. Maybe he puts them in his locker and just forgets. They probably haven't a very good place to keep things like that. Most likely stuff them into a duffle bag.

Am so glad that Aunt Julie got home safe and sound, she did have bad luck in delays on planes. And how wonderful that she has found a little apartment with 2 bedrooms on Court Lane. It will be convenient for anyone staying with her for I don't expect Aunt Julie will walk far these days. Perhaps just as well she isn't as near the village as before where she was tempted to walk to the stores, and it was further than she realized. When will she move in ? perhaps by the first of May.

Had a nice letter from Miss Burditt this morning and she too had a card from Russ, she quoted it in her letter. " We reached our objective at Angkor Wat and it met our fondest expectations. A good hotel and you would have enjoyed the lizards on our walls at night ( no screens ) who croak. Trip going well. Very warm, but not impossible."

We had a busy day yesterday, Pete was painting all morning and then in the afternoon we both went to the Blood Donors clinic which took about 45 minutes in all. You have to wait your turn and drink fruit juice, then it takes ten or fifteen minutes giving the donation and you lie down for another ten minutes, and then they give you tea, coffee and toast. When we came out we met Frank Kaquits the Indian lad from Morley who paints, he had some pictures for us to look at so Pete looked at them in the Jeep as we were to meet the Vallances on the Canadaan at 4 o'clock. which we did. Pearl Moore came too. They looked brown and very well. Couldn't talk much but will hear about the trip soon. Drove them up to their house and think their son had come up from Calgary to see them. For his things were in their house. but no sign of him.

Then last night after supper when we were just sitting reading the paper, the boy from the express office came with a box of flowers from Pete's Aunt and Uncle at the coast. They were lovely and spring like, a big spray of heather, daffodils and narcissus out of their garden. Thought it good of Johnny the express man to bring the box around after hours in his own car. There was one little bunch of primroses in a separate bit of wax paper, only a few wilted, and as they still had roots we thought we would take the bunch up to Miss Ward. she can make most anything grow. Were not going to stop and visit but in the end we stayed. I had forgotten we had also been over to see a stairway at the store Sam is building before the Blood Donors.

Will send this along, so glad you are feeling better even if you did have a few too many on Sunday.

Lots of love,

Catharine

P.S. Have made copy of this card & will send it to Rusty on Sunday in my letter then. Don't you suppose Rusty got leave after Mess Duty. In Gales letter to him which I will enclose, she ends "Let us know about Paula's. Sounds like grand fun for you." Maybe that is what he needed clothes for, a weekend - How nice of the Washburns to go & see you.

Banff, Alta.  
April 14, 1957

Dearest Mother,

We slept in late this Sunday morning, didn't have breakfast until nine. It was supposed to be warm and sunny but the wind has gone round to the east again and it is overcast. Yesterday felt nice and spring like with a west wind and soft air and real warm in the sun, only trouble was there were too many fluffy clouds so you couldn't really sit and bask. It is some 20 degrees below normal for mid April. Last year the river was all opened up and this year just one open part near the temporary ~~eri~~ foot bridge to the skating rink. Still snow on our lawn. 2 weeks now of just melting but not warm enough to really go.

A nice letter from you yesterday postmarked the 6th. Goodness knows where it has been for it took over a week to reach us. It was written before Aunt Julie arrived and before it came we had a couple ~~after~~ from you about her staying with you and about last Sunday.

Do hope her new apartment works out just right, Edith will be relieved to have her find a place without a steep stairway and nicer for you to go and see her too.

We have had company at night lately. Wednesday I may have told you we had a lovely box of spring flowers from the coast and took the little bunch of primroses up to Cis Ward and in the end spent the evening. Then Thursday night Mary Simpson dropped over as we were listening to the Bruins being beaten by the Montreal Hockey team in Boston, Haven't seen Mary since before Christmas as she has been in Calgary working this winter.

Then Friday night ~~Jim~~ first Mr Scott came down to borrow some putty and stayed while we listened to the news and then Jim Davies and his mother came. Jim is one of the boys who went to Switzerland this last winter to ski and then hitchhiked to Italy and saw quite a bit of the country in the end. He brought us a very nice carved wooden bear from Switzerland which we thought very good of him, Such a change in the boy, he was so shy when he and John Derrick came over last fall before they left and now he is all a fine looking tall boy and quite a lot to say, certainly did him a lot of good. ~~Admired~~ <sup>Admired</sup> him really, mixing with strange people and all, He is going to technical school this fall to take drafting. His mother is a great friend of Larrie Simpson ( Jimmy's wife ) and had never been here before, was so interested in the pictures. a very nice quiet person. Jim was one of the boys in school who did the best ice sculpture.

Then last night Pearl Moore and Edmee came down and Pearl told us all about her winter in Honolulu, and of course the people she knows there are our friends too, The Vallances came down Thursday afternoon to tell us about their winter though it will take several get to-gether to hear about it all. It was nice for Pearl having them there and they did a lot to-gether.

The Morants were down Friday afternoon for tea, they dropped in and we always have so much to talk about they usually visit. They have just finished printing some 800 pictures of Peru and Mexico. Quite a job and titling them all and sending them to various people.

Yesterday afternoon we drove out the west road a way it was so lovely and a flock of Rocky Mt. Sheep were holding up all traffic right in the center of the Trans Canada highway, so guess they won't change their habits.

No. You haven't told us about the \$5.00 and you, so don't forget and tell us the story soon.

Dr Riley ~~was~~ no one you ever knew. a Pathologist in the Holy Cross Hospital in Calgary who lately has been head of the Cancer Clinic there, he also painted and used to bring his pictures for us to see. *They have a summer cottage here. When last time he visited with a Co.*

It would be just lovely if you sent Barbara a wedding present and \$50. would be wonderful. They will have to furnish a place though she has some things in the suite she has now. She spells her name Barbara White. and her address is 327 A 23rd. Ave. West. Calgary, Alberta.

I think Barbara <sup>(the mother)</sup> and Jon will come from Medicine Hat for Easter and Harold most likely will be through his exams in ten days, so their family ~~will~~ will all be to-gether.

Nice you could get Mary Morrison to come, why not keep her on this spring, *otherwise it is a lot of work for Thomas.*

Must get ginner now so all for this letter.

Loads of love,

Catharine

P.S. Did I thank you for the copy of Russell's letter about Anker's arrival in Bangkok. Will send it back next time. Is Rusty through Mess Duty do you think? We have 3 big Elk in the yard & tourists taking snapshots.

Banff, Alberta.

Tues. April 16, 1957

Dearest Mother,

Your short letter came this noon with news of the family arriving in Hongkong. Nice to get the cables and know just where they are. Will be glad to see Kitty's letter you are having typed for us to read. I guess with the extra warm weather it is hard to get up energy to write much.

That other letter you wrote on the 6th. evidently went to Waltham, for I just noticed on the back the Waltham post mark, so no wonder it took a week to reach us.

Sunday we had a busy day after all. It was dull and rained a tiny bit towards the end of the afternoon. Some cousins of Pete's from Calgary dropped in. a young couple who were up for the weekend for a little rest. They have 4 children now under 7. Had a nice visit from them. Then the broadcast of the Hockey game was on at 5.30 from Boston, so we listened to that a really exciting game, the next one is to-night.

At 8.30 the Crosbys from next door came over. Mr and Mrs and Marjorie the daughter, We showed them the Alaska slides and some of Honolulu and then we had tea and talked and it was after midnight when they went home. Mr Crosby has just flown around the world and was in Japan, very wintry there, then Hongkong, the coldest in 65 years, and Bangkok too I think.

Yesterday Sam was over and wanted to get a tool up at Eisenhower junction to use on some stairs he is building so we said we would drive him up. Made a nice break for all of us though it was rather cloudy. Then we had tea when we returned and Cecil Philpott came with a thing he is making for Pete for the darkroom.

This afternoon Uncle Jack Campbell was down as we haven't seen him for a long time, so you can see we keep fairly busy doing other things in between.

The Morants just drove in to tell us to be sure and see the movie on to-night about Van Gogh, said it was very good but we aren't too keen on his stuff and not keen either on Hollywood things, doubt if we go.

A letter from Jonny to-day and he arrives with the dog for his Easter Holidays on Good Friday, expect he will have a week. Don't know if Barbara will be here all the time or not, no doubt she will be stopping in Calgary to see Bobby.

This isn't much of a letter but will send it along.

Loads of love,

Catharine.

Banff, Alberta.  
April 17, 1957

Dearest Mother,

A nice long letter from Hanne to-day, looks as if this was the day Aunt Julie was to move. Do tell us about her apartment, what it is like when you get a chance, don't expect you have seen it yet.

And poor Miss Barrett, didn't know she had broken a hip. What a shame. Suppose that will mean quite a long time in the hospital. Was it in the house? and she lives alone too. What a hard time some people have.

Am enclosing some clippings about Lady Eaton who wrote the book we sent for your birthday, she is evidently in Calgary.

We are still having nice weather but after a nice sunny morning it seems to cloud over each afternoon so it is dark and not worth going outside, then clears at sunset. We still have a few piles of snow and the river is just opening up.

Barbara and Jonny are coming for their Easter vacation this year on Friday, haven't seen Barbara since she left in the fall as we missed her at Christmas. Will be anxious to hear all about Medicine Hat. where she is teaching.

Have you had any more letters from the family. I believe you are sending one of Kittys soon that was being typed. and before we know it they will be coming home. Hardly time to write much more in a way. Shall have to get off a letter to Japan.

Don't know if you will remember Susan Mather who is one of the girls we used to see quite a bit of, she is training as a nurse in Vancouver, has been there a year and a half only but the last couple of months has been in the operating room. Evidently she is useful there, for on her last day they asked her to help do the scrubbing for a Caesarian operation when triplets were born. The largest weighing 6 lbs. Quite a thrill, and evidently some of the regular nurses would have liked to have been asked to help but weren't.

How is Frances and the boy? I expect she comes over to see you fairly often now it is so nice out. Hope you can get out a bit too if it is really spring.

This isn't much of a letter but we might go to Calgary to-morrow if it is nice and we wake up early enough. The days are getting nice and long, still light and almost 8 PM.

Hope you are feeling better and don't worry about your letters they are just fine -

Heaps of love  
Catharine -

Banff, Alberta.  
Sat. April 20, 1957

Dearest Mother,

It was good to get your letter this morning with the copy of the one Kitty wrote from Bangkok, It must have been a fascinating place. Mr Crosby our next door neighbor who has just returned from a trip around the world and who also stopped in Siam, said that Mr Fenerty of Calgary, who went with him, came originally from Halifax and his mother's sister ( or some such involved relation ) was taught in Sunday school by the teacher of " the King and I." Who was also a native of Halifax I think. Because of course it was a true story. Why not get it out of the library and re-read it now the family have been there?

What a shame Miss Barrett broke her hip, will be interested in what you decide to do. You and Mrs Cade. There comes a time when a person shouldn't live alone really and yet what to do.

We have had a couple of busy days. Thursday it was nice and clear in the morning so we decided to go to Calgary, I was supposed to drop in to see the dentist just to check on what he had done before and Pete had a few things he wanted to do. We really had a lucky day. Took us just 2 hours and we went straight to the Parkade, then to the dentist, thinking to find out a good time to return. But by luck there was none there, the next patient being late so he was able to take me then and there. Took less than 5 minutes. Then we went to have Pete's electric razor adjusted, and that was done while we waited, 10 or 15 minutes. Then lunch and we separated meeting again at two in the Jeep. That is the nice part about the parkade, you can go and leave bundles in the car or sit and wait for one another. I did a lot of errands though it was busy in all the stores. Then Pete thought it might be a good idea to go to the Jeep place way out the other side of Calgary and ask about a little oil leak. So we went there next and though they were busy they thought they could fix it. Would take an hour and a half once they got at it. So we were there until nearly five 4.30 or later, quite a wait but it is in a district where there isn't much one can do and I hadn't even brought any writing paper or could have dashed off a few notes. We didn't leave Calgary until after five but there wasn't too much traffic and we had a good trip but quite a long day for us.

It was the next day we felt tired, had Jon to meet on the train that comes in at 9.40 A.M. It was supposed to be on time so we waited and waited, must have been about 45 minutes late and it was crowded with people taking the long weekend, as Friday here was a holiday, Good Friday, and of course a fine chance for people who also get Easter Monday and all the schools out starting vacation. Barbara had stopped off in Calgary but Jon, and Tuppy (in the baggage car) arrived safely. Pete was near the baggage and said Tuppy seemed to know him, had tears in his eyes and was glad to be taken down, the express man said he was no trouble at all, the best dog he had ever had.

We left John and Tuppy over at their house and then they arrived about noon for lunch with us. Sam and Al were working at the shop and helped Pete fix the garage door in the morning, a good thing to have done, and then in the afternoon we had all sorts of interruptions, Peter Tasker was in for a while and Tuppy appeared twice looking for Jon. He whimpered the first time but the next visit settled down and slept. first in Pete's lap and then in mine. Jon came for supper too. In fact we were just starting when Eric Harvie and a friend from California arrived. They were just coming for a minute and in the end stayed an hour. J

Eric has just been appointed to the Canada Council on the Arts or whatever it is called. a new thing in the country to set up a fund for supporting and encouraging the arts, music, Art of all sorts. Ballet and theater groups. A very wealthy man died recently and the inheritance tax was over a million and they sort of earmarked that for a start and have added to it. Now they have appointed about 20 Canadians to the Council and Eric Harvie is one. Do you see the Illustrated London News? In the April 6th. number which should come soon is a picture of a statuette of Robert the Bruce, which was done for him. It is in this weeks copy but next issue it is to be in full colour.

It was really a mixed up call, for they said they would just look around while we finished supper. So Jon kept eating and Pete & I took turns, though actually we didn't eat much, until after they left. The friend is a professor at Stamford Univ. I think but taught in Honolulu at the Kamahamaha school for 5 years. So he was very interested in hearing about the islands. Then Eric was in Japan just a year ago and told a little about his trip. They went to out of the way places with a Japanese guide for 11 days and never saw another tourist. had a most interesting time and just loved it. People living much as they used to I expect and they liked the Japanese so much.

They didn't go until 7.30, we had given them tea which they ate with us, and some bran muffins I had luckily baked, all disappeared

Today we were down at the station again early to meet Barbara but didn't hurry expecting the train to be late again, but it came in right on time, not nearly as many people.

It is now Sunday, Easter Sunday and a lovely morning. As soon as I finish this and one to Russ and Rusty, think I will go out and rake a little on the side or shovel snow at the back! The other day when Pete, Sam and Al were fixing the garage door I started to rake leaves off the grass and a little deer came along and stayed with us all the time. A few little blades of green grass are showing and the larkspur close to the house is up about 3 or 4 inches. Most of the snow is gone except on the north side and in the old drifts.

We had a call from a young Banff couple yesterday afternoon while I was writing this, they now live in Edmonton, he is doing commercial Art and she is on a switchboard, but they are very much interested in pictures and the good things, liked the Navajo paintings too and yet neither of them came from families who had much opportunity, we have known him since he was a boy but not the wife, except by sight, a very sweet girl.

The Morants were supposed to be leaving for the coast to-day and were to drop around yesterday but we may have missed them. So are up early this morning to be on hand if they drop in on their way. Were down at the Prossers last evening for a short time with some Air Mattresses for them to use at the ranch, for they are going to the Campbells for a couple of days and hope to bring El and the baby back with them, for a few days change.

We have had the loveliest sunny mornings lately and then it clouds over in the afternoons and even rains or snows a bit. real April showers. It is lovely again this morning. Expect there will be lots of cars and people about to-day. a lot even yesterday with the long weekend.

Better get onto the other letters.

Lots of love,

Catharine .

When you have a copy of letters made, have a couple of carbon copies made at the same time. We would like to keep our copy.

Banff, Alta.  
April 23, 1957

Dearest Mother,

What wonderful letters from Russ and Kitty and we enjoyed Gales postcards too which I will return. Think the trouble with the other envelopes is that they are too thin and the things didn't go right to the end. Won't use them any more.

Well by now the family must be in Japan, hope they have nice weather. Mr Crosby next door liked Hongkong as well as anyplace, we thought it one of the loveliest harbors in the world but when we were there I don't suppose it was as developed as much as it is now. We too went to Aberdeen where the junks were but no place to eat for us in those days. Repulse Bay was the popular place with a nice hotel and beach, quite a resort. The hotel they stayed in is the same one Mable Brown was in.

Looks like rain to-day but Easter and yesterday were quite sunny and we were out as much as possible. Had a funeral to go to in the morning and raked a bit in the afternoon. Mr Lonsdale was down and Jimmy Simpson too. Mrs Simpson was over on Easter. In the morning for a nice call, and then after lunch Lona Becker and Lynn with the cutest Easter bunny cookies she had made. Good too, only Pete thinks we shouldn't eat them, they are too special. Plain sugar cookies in the shape of bunnies and pink icing with white marshmallow for tails and silver buttons on what could be a pink coat. We sat in the sun and Barbara and later Jonnie came along so we talked about school etc. They are trying in Medicine Hat schools where they have 10 classes of one grade, to put the brightest in the top class and give them extra subjects. Have about 3 top classes and Jon got in an experimental class of some sort. All quite interesting to hear about.

The Morants were coming down before they left for the coast but it was nearly nine when they did appear and stayed until after ten, so rather a long day.

So glad that Aunt Julie got moved allright and do draw us a plan of the apartment, Is it the 2nd. or 3rd house along Court Lane from Monument St? Seems to me the first house was a red one, can't remember too well.

So much to do I don't know where to start, so guess I better send this along. Hope you are feeling better. Thought your letter fine. How would it work to have someone come and write your letters for you, you just dictate what you want to say and they can take it down shorthand and then you sign the typed part. Lots of people do that. It seems awkward at first but you would get used to it. Just think out loud so to speak.

Loads of love,  
Catharine.

Mrs. Russell Robb, Sr.  
Concord, Massachusetts

May 6 1957  
Monday.  
11 A.M.

Dearest Mother.

The first part of the trip was easy enough. George will tell you we reached the airport a few minutes after 7 A.M. Much nicer than in Dec.

I bought a newspaper & first trip I knew my flight was called. However though we got aboard before 8 I must have been 8:30 before we left. The Chief Pilot never showed up! The Co. Pilot told us he might have been held up in traffic & then they called for another pilot who finally appeared & we took right off.

It was such a pretty morning. Clear all the way to Montreal, a few high clouds now like the ones

in Concord a couple of days ago. We flew or circled out over the harbor & ocean & then in over Revere Beach & flew over Lawrence. It was misty in the distance but I could see Mt Washington clearly, a few streaks of snow & Mt Mansfield & the Adirondaks on the other side of Lake Champlain which we flew over. So pretty with little islands & the farms & towns. The grass fields so green & such pretty ~~flat~~ patterns - changes when we crosses in to Quebec. Where the farms & buildings are on either sides of the few main roads & the fields stretch back in long narrow rectangles.

I like planes as there is no rush to them or noise (except the engines). You get off & walk leisurely to the waiting room & then immigration & Customs. The man poked into the ~~bag~~ bag a little but not much & here I am all

Mrs. Russell Robb, Sr.  
Concord, Massachusetts

ready to head west, will have lunch here before long. No use going in to Montreal as it takes 45 minutes each way.

Russ was right about pens & papers this one I've gotten all over things. the ink I mean.

The airport quite normal & no weddings.

It was a lovely visit with you mother & I enjoyed it even I shot. Such a pretty time of year & the weather perfect & I even saw those we missed at Christmas & best of all you were feeling better at the end than you did when I arrived.

Later. Have had a nice lunch upstairs & better post this in case I forget. Lv at 2:00 Ottawa at 3. Fort William about 5:30 on the west end of Lake Superior. Winnipeg for 20 minutes at 7 P.M. Regina at 8 P.M. & Calgary 9:15, after midnight by the time you got me up on. So should see most of Canada by daylight. Hears of love to you & home. Love to Mary & Jessie too. Catharine

# TRANS-CANADA AIR LINES

In flight

May 6, 1957

Dearest Mother,

My other pen ran out so hope you can read this all right.

We are at present crossing Lake Superior & some little grain boats or tankers can be seen way below. We are 18,000 feet & it's  $-140^{\circ}$  below zero outside,  $80^{\circ}$  above at the Lake head. that would mean where we are to land.

A little while ago I could look right down on the locks at Sault Ste Marie. several boats going through. it really is so fascinating. You would love flying once up. Was quite bumpy lower down after we took off. It often is. We are flying at 315 miles an hour. with a head wind.

One thing you will like to hear -  
 In 1960 they expect even faster  
 planes. Jets. & I may be able  
 to make the trip in 5 or 6 hours!

It is much nicer flying in the  
 daytime especially when clear -  
 I had lunch & an hour to wait.  
 We left on time. Stopped in Ottawa.  
 You could see the Parliament  
 Buildings in the distance. Then  
 we all had coffee & biscuits.  
 Now we are due soon at Fort  
 William & after that dinner or  
 supper. Am hungry already -  
 20 minutes at each place &  
 30 at Winnipeg where we are  
 due to stop after the meal.  
 Then Regina & Calgary.

I asked for note paper to  
 buy in the Terminal & the lady  
 said to ask on the plane. They  
 have a nice pad & folder &

this paper . envelopes to match .  
 & post cards .

It was funny when we left Montreal we must have gained altitude quite fast & maybe they hadn't the pressurizer on for I got terribly sleepy. Just couldn't keep awake & started to feel queer. Noticed the Stewardess doing some thing as if it were a control. & then I felt awake quite soon. Noticed several people dozing so it must have been the altitude. We have plenty of fresh air we can turn on.

Guess I was wrong the pressurizer works automatically. Maybe I was just plain sleepy.

Later we have just left Winnipeg. It's only a little over 3 hours more. It's really interesting to see the country & has been clear all the way - Except one part we were above the clouds. They floated by like ships below us. It's hazy now like smoke from fires somewhere. I can understand better now

how birds go north in the  
 spring. Some of the lakes still  
 had ice at the northern end &  
 way north in the distance a  
 few still frozen. After all we  
 are getting a birds eye view.

Will try to remember to post  
 this in Calgary - so you will  
 know I have arrived -

Arrived Calgary on this  
 Pile here with jeep to meet  
 me.

Lots of love  
 Catherine

never got this mailed so sorry-

Bauff.  
Wed. May 8 1957

Dearest Mother,

Didn't write yesterday as my mind was a bit "wuzzy" & I had another letter to get off-

The trip really went well. lovely weather most all the way & on the radio we hear just yesterday there were thunder storms in Saskatchewan & some T.C.A. planes were re-routed today. Also we woke to a nice snow storm. about 4 inches wet snow & had I arrived to-day Pete wouldn't have driven to meet me. So all in all everything worked well.

X Had a card from Russ in Nilesko written May 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday - & he wrote "Here we are for the weekend. Lovely country as you well know. - It won't be long before we are back. Leavup on the 16<sup>th</sup> with stop overs in Honolulu & I. A. weather cool & pleasant. Noise from autos terrific -

X So now you can change your little chart & mark their arrival ~~back~~ <sup>home</sup>, about the 20<sup>th</sup>. They leave Japan a week from to-morrow.

Think I wired that Pete met me  
at the airport Monday evening. We were  
on time getting in at 9.15 P.M. As  
he said "if we spent the night at  
a motel we would probably talk for  
an hour or two and we might as  
well drive home, which we did.  
a warm evening with thunder storms  
in the distance. Reached Banff at  
midnight but 3 A.M. Concord time.  
Sent the night letter at the station.

For some reason though we slept  
well we woke early, but last night  
was in bed at 8 & slept a good  
10 hours. Feel rested to-day. Have  
been busy washing clothes to take  
to Edmonton & seeing to lots of  
things.

Actually the flying is an easy  
way to go - now you don't mind  
our staying just a week at a time  
it will be easier for us to get away  
from Banff. Doesn't interrupt our work  
here as much.  
Loads of love from us both  
Catherine.

Banff, Alberta  
Fri. May 10, 1957.

Dearest Mother,

We are sitting at the back of the house in the sun. makes one feel lazy, especially right after dinner but I did want to get a letter off to you. It is lovely weather & feels hot. but a cold front coming in to night they think.

Had a busy day yesterday. packed Pete's bag & washed out a couple of things like sweaters etc. Did errands. were going to have an early lunch when a car full of Indians arrived with a beaver skin coat they made for Pete. so our lunch was a little later. were sitting in the sun when Syd & Lois Vallance came. So they joined us. Then Pat & Mae Eugie came. She is just back from the University of B.C. worried as her father is ill in Calgary Hospital. I didn't get much done except to tie up the hop vines. After she left we had a couple of errands to do & drove out to see one of the new bridges on the Trans-Canada Highway.

After supper & the ironing I was going to tidy the desk & sort out bills to be paid letters to answer etc. when about 7.30 Ben Seddell of the Calgary Herald came & he stayed until 10.30. So it was quite a day.

This morning I looked out my things & washed my sweater, errands & now I have the bills figured out & also got my desk fairly well cleared in case we go to Edmonton.

soon. We can expect a wire any time now.  
so want to have most things ready in case we  
have to leave within an hour. On the other hand  
we may be like this for several weeks. If Pete  
can't have the operation this month we will  
wait until fall.

It is nice to think that Russ will be  
leaving Japan in less than a week & by the  
time you get this should be in Concord in  
a week.

It was good of Harume to forward Pete's  
last letter. It had these two photographs in  
it of 2 paintings he has been working on -  
They are quite large. The one of the wagons is  
about 7 1/2 feet by 3 1/2. & the other a little  
smaller. 6 ft by 32 inches.

Hope you are feeling better all the time.  
Harume said you had a good sleep after I  
left.

Must go over town now to the bank  
etc. Hugs of love from us both  
Catharine.

Banff, Alberta.

Sun. May 12, 1957

Dearest Mother,

We sort of got fooled to-day, Woke to find it clear & lovely but cool and thought what a lot of sun we would get after lunch. Had a couple of errands and then went up to the Wards to tell them we couldn't go to an afternoon party the Kennedys are giving and which they sent a message <sup>about</sup> to us through the Wards. We didn't mean to stay and then it was lovely sitting at their back door and we stayed almost to lunch time. Their garden is just coming out, tulips just showing, poppies up but nothing blooming as yet. Had an early lunch and then noticed clouds had come over and it doesn't look as if we would get any sunbathing after all. But ~~not~~ excuse for not raking outside except some elk sleeping on the lawn.

It was nice to get your first letter and to know you were feeling well enough to write, we appreciated the effort.

Nice to know that the family will soon be heading home. One thing about my flying visit, with that and the one at Christmas it all seems easier to do and as long as you are willing to have a short visit we might be able to come more frequently, and also there are more flights each day which makes the connections better.

We have had three busy nights for us and hope to-night we can go to bed at a decent hour. Thursday Ken Liddell of the Calgary Herald came at 7.30 and it was 10.30 when he left. He is a reporter who writes his own column, a great friend of the Campbells and an unusually nice person. Very quiet and of course a good listener, has done more than anyone to interest people in the old days.

med.

Then on Friday night we went up to the Vallances for a lovely evening. They showed the Hawaiian pictures they took last winter and invited all the people from here who had been there too as well as the Wards and us. The Souders, Pearl Moore and Edmée and Merle Brewster and three girls you wouldn't know. We had lots to eat afterwards and stayed until after 11. Then last night Pearl and Edmee came around after dinner and we talked about Nassau and Honolulu too. so all in all have been quite gay.

Still no word from Edmonton and we daren't go too far from home in case a wire came and we had to catch the afternoon train. If we don't hear within the next two weeks think we may put it off until fall. I hope to do my spring cleaning this week, for up until now have done none.

Think I will write Rusty and then go out <sup>make(?)</sup> for a while, should be weeding the garden! *am very sleepy at the moment!*

Loads of love

*Catherine*

Box 370  
Banff, Alberta.  
Tues. May 14, 1957

Dearest Mother,

It is nice to know you are back at your desk again and we do like getting your letters even if you don't think there is much news in them.

Please thank Hanne for writing and sending us Rusty's letter which is such a good one, we really enjoyed it. Sounds as if he liked the training, perhaps because this part is outdoors and he seems to be getting somewhere. The mess duty must have been very tiresome but good to have back of one, as I believe they all have to take their turn at it.

Did I tell you about the Calgary man who sat next to me in the plane coming home? Think I may have. He had left Calgary at 10.15 Sunday morning getting to Ottawa at 9.30 at night. had a good sleep, <sup>had</sup> done his business the next morning and left Ottawa at 3 P.M. ~~the~~ Mon. afternoon and was back in Calgary that night at 9.15 Pm. For in Hanne's letter she said you thought I could soon go back to Concord for a day!

Well maybe you are right, for Pete's operation on his eye has been postponed once more and he thinks he won't have it done now until maybe in the fall, when it is easier to get room in the hospital. Also it will give us the summer to paint. So actually if you feel you must see us we can fly on to-gether this time and cheer you up!

Hanne also said you had a couple of times of those bad feelings. We do feel sorry. Do you suppose it is the same sort of feeling you used to have years ago when you would take aromatic spirits of amonia? Might be that now you are older

the attacks seem worse. Also very hot weather doesn't help. Am glad you had rain at last to stop the forest fires. Wasn't it strange, all the way flying I could see very well, only in northern Manitoba didn't it seem smokey in the distance.

Had a nice letter from Edith and she said how badly she felt about the forest fires, especially around Plymouth where many of her friends not only lost all their trees but their summer houses as well.

How is the Mayflower getting along? Pete is quite interested in it.

Well I should get busy and do my spring cleaning, the trip east made me lazy I guess and when it is so nice outside I hate to stay in, though we have Verne raking the yard this year which is quite a job with so many leaves from the balm of gileads and cones from the spruce.

Thanks too for the copy of Russell's letter from Tokyo, Wasn't it nice he could go to the Imperial University and see so much, sounded like quite a day.

All for now, must start a bit of dusting.

Heaps of love,

Catherine.

will make a space between the lines so it is easier to read.

Banff, Alberta.

Thurs. May 16, 1957

Dearest Mother,

Didn't get a letter written to-day, partly because we got a bit of sun after lunch before and after it rained in showers and then we had a visit from Johnny Bearspaw from Morley with his son and daughter-in-law and tiny baby boy. They all had tea. Johnny had brought up his father's costume and Eagle Hat which has feathers all the way down the back. Pete had told him we would like to buy it but he wanted to wear it for a ceremony in Calgary. It is in good condition with nice beadwork, gloves and mocasins too. Johnny also wants to wear it at the Calgary stampede and so he took it back with him for that and we will have it after Indian Days.

Yesterday just before supper Tom Simian came with his two sons and some chairs they had made out of willow sticks. they had sold six and just two left so of course we had to buy them. Quite expensive staying home these days. Then Tom asked if he could bring the boys in to see the portrait of their mother Pete painted about 25 years ago. The boys had never seen it before. So they looked at that and all the other pictures.

Last evening the George Nobles called. They are here for a few days and were the couple who stayed across the court from us at the Islander in Honolulu. Are from just south of Edmonton. a nice couple, and he was full of oil stories, too long to tell to-night, but how some people are so lucky and make heaps of money, and others lose out.

The Vallances were down to-day too and Verne and we have had quite a few people it seems the last few days.

We took a run out the west road yesterday to see how the bridge is coming on, maybe it was the day before. Anyway at one of the big rock cuts there is evidently lots of salt or mineral in the rock and two fine looking mountain sheep were licking at it. They were rams and how they ever climbed up the perpendicular walls I don't know. They were about 20 feet or more above the road & standing somehow on the steep rock, of course when one foot slipped they still had three to stand on. We watched them for quite a while.

Will send you the nice letter we got from Rusty and you can return it after you and Hanne have read it. We thought it was one of his best and he seems to really be ~~iki~~ taking to the Marines.

Must try and get a couple of other's letters written to-night. Do hope you are feeling better and we are looking for a letter perhaps tomorrow .

Lodds of love from us both.

*Catherine*

Box 370  
Banff, Alberta.  
Sun. May 19, 1957

Dearest Mother,

This is a holiday weekend. Used to be the 24th of May, Queen Victoria's birthday but now it is the nearest Monday so makes a long weekend. Crowds up in Banff, the same kind you get on Labor Day, and of course it has ended in rain, quite heavy showers, the joke has always been that it is apt to snow the 24th of May.

We have been very busy with extra friends dropping in. Indians three days running. first with willow chairs they make, then Johnny Beaspaw, his son and daughter and little baby, with David's Indian suit, he wants to wear it for the Stampede and Indian days and then we will have it for we have already bought it. Then yesterday afternoon the Vallances dropped in and we were having tea when Frank Aquits the Indian boy who paints came with some pictures for Pete to look at. One little one was really very good and the Vallances wanted to buy it. It really is encouraging to have Frank doing better all the time and so keen on painting. He now is sticking to the life of his own people, had one large one of Indian teepees and they looked like buckskin ones which they used in the old days, and he said that is what he meant them to look like and he saw one the other day, first he or the man with him had ever seen. Evidently John Hunter has made it and was trying it out and he said it looked the way he had painted it. It will be good if they get interested in their own history and way of living before it is all forgotten.

Then last night we met the Morants <sup>Train</sup> who are here just until Tuesday when they go east to give a lecture in Toronto with slides, then back to Victoria to finish some interiors they are making of the hotel. We took them up to their house to turn on the water and heat etc. and back here for supper, Just as we were finishing the John Jaeggis dropped in. They have been to Switzerland this winter via the Canary Islands. We had a long evening the night before with the George Nobles who asked us out to dinner and then of course there was no place to sit but here and talk, so back we came and that was a longer evening than we had expected. So it turned into two evenings in a row.

I forgot to make a space between the lines so it would be easier for you to read. Will try and remember next time.

Am returning the lovely post cards. the prettiest ones yet, I like the woodblock ones don't you of the Torrié Gate in red and the snow. The one of the Palanquin I think they call it near the lake is just like the one I was carried in up a hill. Not very comfortable as you have to sit Japanese fashion. But the old bridge is the loveliest of all, I don't ever remember seeing that, even in pictures before. Isn't it graceful and the cherry tree adds a lot too!

Better catch the mail so will send this along and write again soon. Had a nice letter from Cousin Alma and Edith Palmer and Mrs Charlotte Brown too. in answer to the one I wrote her from you. Will send it next time.

Loads of love mother from us both.

*Catherine*

P.S. Forgot the most important thing of all. I did send Sam Manieere a one year's subscription to Canadian Art for this year but you could either continue sending yours to him to give away or just wait until next winter to send them again. I forgot you sent him yours.

Banff, Alberta.

Tues. May 21, 1957

Dearest Mother,

X Strange how things happen and perhaps it was just lucky you didn't want us to go east just now, for a very sad thing happened early yesterday morning. Dr. Duncan MacKenzie died very suddenly. I don't know if I told you he had been ill for over a month and was becoming increasingly paralysed and they couldn't find just what caused it. He had been in the hospital in Calgary and came back to the hospital here on Saturday and seemed fine Sunday evening and was laughing and joking so Nellie said. But whatever it was happened early in the morning. Some friends said that he knew he hadn't long to go and his partner at the clinic Pat Costigan told us he was very worried last week. But it is so hard when he leaves his wife and four children. Pat the oldest girl is 19, had one year at University but didn't like it at the coast. Bill is 16 in school here and Michael 10 and Sandy 8. *He was only 44.*

X We went up yesterday afternoon after speaking to you and Patsy came outside to speak to me for a bit. They live right across the street from the Morants. We hadn't been home long before Dr. Pat Costigan dropped in, he feels it very much as he thought the world of Duncan, was at the Mackenzies when I went to the door. We gave him a bup, in fact 3 cups of tea and sat and talked quite a while when Mary Lee Mather came. She was very upset too as she is a great friend of Patsy's and Mary Lee lost her father when she was 12. So she too had tea, and later we took her up to see Patsy.

X Reason I was telling you this part is because Mary Lee paid us the nicest compliment we have had. She said " you know

Lona and I were talking about it just the other day, the best place to come to if you are having trouble is your house." Lona lost her brother just before Mary Lee's father died ~~many years ago~~ 5 or 6 years ago.

So to-day when we met the Morants over town and gave them a ride ~~over~~ home and stopped just near the MacKenzies, Nellie came out and ~~we~~ were all talking to-gether in the sun. ~~Nick~~ She said the Grandfather and Bill were going to the Costigans to lunch and Nick said " why don't you go down to Pete and Catharines " so we urged her to, even if she said she couldn't eat anything. Patsy and Michael would come too, so we went ahead & got an enormous steak, 3 bunches of asparggus etc. & they appeared half an hour later. I guess it looked good and a little sherry helped her appetite, for she had vegetable juice, all the tenderloin, and asparagus on toast and strawberries, and tea. The kids did well ~~to~~with ice cream and cake too. Nellie went back as the sisters at the hospital were coming to see her, but Patsy and Michael stayed a while longer. I guess it helped a bit and we were so glad they came.

Now we are to take Nick and Willi Morant to the train at six, to go east for a lecture and got a letter to-day saying Frances Adaskin was arriving Thursday for a few days, she used to sing at the hotels. and Erling Strom is also in town so will be around. Summer season is starting .

We don't plan on going far from Banff, may take a run up to Bow Lakes for a day and might go down to Cowley for just one night, but you can reach us as quickly there as anywhere. On a seperate paper I will put the telephone numbers.

The reason I telephoned yesterday was to find out quickly how you felt when you found out the family had been delayed and why, and thought if I wrote instead it would take a week before we heard. Now you remember, if the time drags or for any reason you want us to come and be with you we will be very glad to Hope the next plane for the east.

Don't know if you have seen Stedman lately, and this week they will be going to Steddy's wedding, but when I went over that Saturday to watch them eat lunch I couldn't help but notice the lovely carving in wood that Mary Abbott has done for their dining room mantel. Have you ever really looked at it? The design is so graceful and the whole thing very handsome. I got to thinking of it and how there really should be an example of some of her work in Concord in a public place, and thought of the Concord Library. So have asked Sted and Cal what they think and I believe they think it a fine idea and the Library board<sup>s</sup> would like to have it for the small reading room (near the stairs if I remember rightly) Think it is all nicely pannelled and would be a good setting. I don't think enough people appreciate Mary Abbott's work, they would think first of anew rug for their house.

Must get this finished as it is nearly time to go for the Morants.

Loads of love and hope you enjoy the garden, and have nice weather. What a nice letter that was ~~you~~ sent us to read.

More love,

Catharine .

Box 370  
Banff, Alberta.  
Fri. May 24, 1957

Dearest Mother,

I just never had a chance to write to you yesterday and to-day is almost as bad. In fact Pete is out driving Frances James and the little girl from Saskatoon (who is to sing at the hotel, her first public engagement) while I stay home and try to write letters.

We had such a nice one from Rasty to-day, I made a copy for you and one to send to Japan, will also enclose a letter from Mrs Charlotte Browne for no doubt it will be sometime before I get a chance to answer it.

We have been so busy, all sorts of thing. I told you about Dr MacKenzie, We are trying to do what we can for them. Went by the house on Tuesday, and really it was Nick Morant who talked Nellie Mackenzie. Patsy the daughter and Michael to come for lunch. Nellie didn't think she could eat a thing but we were so glad when she ate a great big tenderloin steak, and she told Pete later it stood by her well and she felt better for the food.

Then Wednesday was the funeral and about the largest one I have seen in Banff. The church was full by quarter to two and they had people standing down each side and at the back. It nearly finished us when the doctors from the clinic, their wives & nurses there came in as a group followed by all the nurses at the hospital in their starched uniforms and some with capes. It was somehow very touching. Poor Mr Lonsdale thought so much of Duncan that he had a hard time at first with the service, but it went well and every one was so sincere in their tribute. I bet <sup>Duncan</sup> he had really saved the lives of a good part of the people there.

We didn't go up to the house afterwards as we knew there would be lots there. Think I told you that in Banff <sup>at a time like this</sup> all the friends are so good and take food up from time to time knowing that there will be numerous friends and feaations as well as families to feed. salads, roast hams, rolls and cakes and all sorts of things like scalloped potatoes. They had 12 cakes and have put most of them in the deep freeze ! It is a kind and useful thought just the same.

We came back here from the cemetery and pretty soon noticed two figures walking along the river road. Lona and Mary Lee. They have always been great friends and felt the whole thing deeply as Mary Lee lost her father when she was 12 and Lona her brother when he was about 10 or so and they are great friends of Patsy, MacKenzies. So in they came to see us and soon Lynnies sister arrived from the other direction and then they thought of their parents and Pete took Lynnies to ask Don and Ruth <sup>Baker</sup> to come. They went up to the MacKenzies house first but came here later with little Joanne. Ruth was feeling the whole thing being a very sensitive sort of person and told us how Dr MacKenzie had breathed into Joane's mouth to give her life or otherwise she wouldn't be alive to-day , such a dear little roly polly girl. They all had tea with us and we all felt better.

Have company for tea so will just finish this so I can mail it and write more to-morrow. We wanted to go up to Bow Lake some-time and have invited Nellie and any or all of the children to go up too for to-morrow night, thinking it would help a bit to be away over Sunday. We will go sometime to-morrow <sup>Sunday</sup> after noon and come back after Sunday dinner.

An enclosing a copy of Rusty's letter that came to-day, would n't it be exciting if he got into Annapolis where the naval officers are trained, think how Billy Spurling would feel.

Load s of love and will write soon again. Catherine

Banff, Alberta.

Sun. May 26, 1957.

Dearest Mother,

This has really been an awfully hectic week for us and I know my letters have been written in such a hurry and I can't even remember what I wrote. and this one won't be a great deal better I am afraid, we got back from Bow Lake at 4 PM just in time to get the mail and your letter written last Friday the 24th. Came very quick. We are so sorry you have been worrying for we thought that cable from Japan was such good news and showed Russ was getting on well. and then didn't Bradford Washburn speak to Kitty on the telephone? Actually if you wanted to phone Japan you could. Get someone like Gil or Ebbs to help put the call through or Hanne, don't know who's voice is best or how good a connection one can get. Or when is the best time to call, but might make you feel better.

Actually Pete and I have been talking it over the last few days, and seeing that his operation has been postponed until fall, and we have no immediate plans here, we were thinking it might be a good year to spend a little time with you. June will soon be here and is lovely in Concord. Then if you feel worried at least we can all be together and talk it over. I have an idea that Russ will soon be out of the hospital and then there will be a period of rest. Most cases here rest for a week or two to give things a chance to heal and build up, I think they call it. You ask Cob Palmer for he should be able to tell you how it works. They have new medicines in the last few years which do wonders and have

~~and have~~ changed the treatments for any kind of heart attack. Like President Eisenhower for instance, he was in hospital a certain length of time and then rested I forget where. Anyway in case they decide to keep Russ a little longer over there, it might make the time go quicker for you if we were with you, and also it might ~~also~~ speed Russell's recover if he knew <sup>we</sup> were ~~w~~ in Concord.

in Concord

There is a lot we could do <sup>at</sup> this time of year as well as being with you in the house. Pete thought he could get some paint and materials and work there as well as in Banff, and I have a lot to do too. The amount of letters to answer is enough to keep me busy for ages. and then I could help you with yours.

You just let us know what you think about it, or have Hanne write. We wouldn't tire you too much, would we? and we don't need special food or any particular attention. I might even be able to help Hanne a bit and I am sure the time until Russell's and the family's safe return, would go much quicker ~~if we were~~ for all of us if we were to-gether. Also we would get news that much quicker without lots of wiring and writing back and forth.

Have a talk with Hanne and maybe Frances and see what they think, for we really would like to come if you would <sup>like</sup> us to.

I hope I have explained this allright, for just as we got home Mr Scott saw we were back and dropped in, and as this year summer seems to be early we are having lots of people coming and going, I think more than usual.

WE hope you are feeling better now and try not to worry for they have done everything they can for Russ and he seems to be getting on very well. I am sorry not to be with you now but we would like to be soon if you would like us there.

Heaps of love, *from us both*

*Catherine*

P.S. The only letter this week from you besides the one that came today (+ which you wrote on Friday May 24<sup>th</sup>) was one written Thursday May 23<sup>rd</sup> in which you said you couldn't write - + asked if we had Rusty's new address. We have. Miss Burditt sent it to Rusty too - Harve wrote us early in the week.

Reason a cable from Japan seems to take a day coming is because of the date line. It is enough to confuse any one. For instance Sunday in Japan is really Monday in Concord.

I think you will find most air mail letters from Japan take 4 days to come + to go takes 5. the change in time again. A cable just a few hours -

We didn't get your wire until Wednesday morning I think. + I didn't wire back. It was the day of Dr Mackenzies funeral. This whole week has been so mixed up for us + hard to find an uninterrupted time to write anyone -

Loads of love again  
Catharine.

Banff, Alberta

Tues. May 28, 1957

Dearest Mother,

I never know whether to write you in the morning or wait until the mail comes later in the day and then perhaps be interrupted and not have a chance to write at all.

X We do hope you are feeling O.K. and not worrying as you were last week. It is hard waiting for news from Japan but as you said to us on the telephone, "no news is good news" and then when you got the cable last week Wednesday, that news was good as well. Sounds now as if Russell was over the worst part and is at present doing the resting. Now-a-days they keep one very quiet and nature does the rest. It is too bad he isn't nearer home but just as well he isn't in Bangkok or some of those out of the way places. Guess we just have to be patient and write or send him interesting things to read. I have tried to get a letter off each day but not hearing much or in fact anything but that he is doing nicely, it is a little hard to know what to write!

We have had the loveliest weather I ever remember in May, it has been like summer and day after day sunny with a few white clouds. We haven't been able to go sketching as yet but it is nice to have the weather bright and cheerful.

Think I told you that Frances James Adaskin who used to sing at the hotel and is an old friend, was here with a young girl 18, a pupil of hers, who is to sing with the trio at the Banff Springs this month. She is a sweet little girl, and Frances said at the concert the other night she sang a folk song unaccompanied.

and it was so well done and natural that the audience ~~were~~ greatly taken with her. So that is nice.

We were supposed to see Frances when we got back from Bow Lake but didn't call her up and just as well as she had other friends appear. quite a coincidence for one of her best friends Mary Campbell who used to be here too each summer and now lives in Victoria just happened to come for a golf weekend with her brother, a special rate from the coast, and Mary just walked around a corner in Mt Stephen Hall as the concert was going on and they both got a surprise, as Frances now lives in Saskatoon and they rarely see one another.

Yesterday in order to see them we arranged to take Mary and her brother Don to "the Canadian", which train went about 3, so had a bit of a chat with them, Then went to see the Phillips as we never seem to have a chance to drop in there, then picked up Frances at five and drove her around to see 4 friends before ~~the~~ train left for the east at 6 o'clock.

I had thought of telephoning you and nearly did Sunday until I realized that you would have already gone to bed, so I may call <sup>Wednesday</sup> to-morrow and just see how things are. Remember we are still glad to come and make you a visit if you would like us to.

Lots of love from us both.

Catharine .

Banff, Alberta.

Fri. May 30, 1957

Dearest Mother,

This is Memorial Day and I only just remembered, hope it is as nice a day with you, lovely and sunny with a cool breeze here.

x After telephoning you we went over to enquire about planes and this morning have the reservation confirmed. Will arrive at the Boston Air Port on Northeast Airlines from Montréal at 4 something, will find the exact time day after tomorrow when we pick the ticket up. That will be on Wednesday June 5th. We leave Calgary the night before and just hope this time the plane isn't delayed, if on time we should get the 2 something plane out of Montreal for Boston. Will let you know the exact time in my letter Saturday. (Its the girl's day off tomorrow, the one who sold us the ticket) If we miss connections I will telephone, otherwise expect us to arrive Wed. 4 P.M. June 5th.

They have what they call family plan, one member pays the first class fare and the other just half price, but you have to fly between noon on Mondays up until noon on Thursdays. Quite an idea.

It will seem strange to be back in Concord so soon again but a lovely time of year to be with you. the roses should be coming out. Will bring my license and learn to drive your car.

Want to get this in the mail. Hope I haven't hit George's day off again, seems to me it was Monday .

See you soon, A nice letter just came from Miss Burditt but her latest news was the same as you sent us in the cable. Last Saturday Lots of love,

Catherine -

Banff, Alberta.

Sat. June 1, 1957

Dearest Mother,

Am sorry to mess up the paper but was trying to turn over the tape, make it darker.

We got our tickets to-day and will take the plane from Montreal Flight 387 Northeast Air Lines, arriving in Boston at 4.10 P.M. If we miss it will telephone you. *That's on Wed. July 5<sup>th</sup>*

Such a funny day as we had yesterday. We had thought of going to Cowley for one night on Thursday, but couldn't get them the night before on the phone and we felt tired when we woke and thought we would just postpone it. Also heard Dr Leachman on the radio, he is here for the Museum Directors Convention in Calgary and they were to be in Banff yesterday and we felt he just might come around to say hello.

X Well yesterday, Friday, we tidied the house, then met Nick Morant on the morning train, his wife Willi had things to do in Calgary so had stopped off there for the day. We drove Nick home, he turned the heat up etc. Then he thought he would like lunch with us, so back down and bought a big steak and asparagus, got his groceries too. Saw Norman Luxton so asked him if Clare Bice was with the Museum Directors as he is a friend of ours and the Morants too. Norman told Pete to come over to the Museum at 10.30 AM and see if he was with the group spending the day in Banff. Pete said " Norman it is quarter to eleven now, " so Norman said "well come at 11.15 " So we came home and I changed a bit and we found your went over. Nick said " ~~I'll~~ I'll just ask this couple, they should know." so he went up to a nice looking couple, found they were old friends of his and while we were waiting for him Norman

spotted us, said " Eric Harvie wants to see you " and that led to our being asked to lunch at the Timberline Hotel, Nick too. So then after meeting a few people there at the museum we came back here, and found your wire so ran over to answer that and I think I got the date wrong. We leave here Tuesday the 4th and get to Boston on Wednesday the 5th.

Then we went up soon after noon to the Timberline, had a terrifically elaborate buffet , met more people, one Bobbie Hunter's sister, an old friend of Pete's. and strangely enough Mr Cleghorn who showed us around the Montreal Art Gallery in the winter.

It ended by Marmie Hess bringing Mr Cleghorn and two other people down here for about half an hour or so, then a period of quiet when I wrote 2 letters, and then Mrs Donald Leslie, with her husband of Calgary and Dr Swinton who is a palentologist of the British Museum and a Mr and Mrs Russell of the National Museum in Ottawa. Dr Swinton was quite Scotch and tired and he spotted an illustrated London news and made himself comfortable and he and Mr Leslie drank tea and enjoyed feeling at home while the others went up to the studio with Pete. I could hear Dr Swinton say something about feeling right at home and he never moved from his seat for two hours!

I had barely gotten them tea and toasted buss than Eric Harvie, his daughter from the east and a Mr and Mrs Meach and another man dropped in. So they all had tea and looked at everything and then sat and relaxed a bit and talked of Museums and libraries etc. and finally Eric said, I guess it is after five and we should be going, looked at his watch and it was nearly seven o'clock.

We were a bit tired but got our supper and then went and met the bus from Calgary, Willie being on that. Nick was there too so we took them both home. Nick too had had a funny afternoon as some of

the ones he knew landed up at his house and then took him to supper at the Mt Royal. We were really tired, Pete thinks it was concentrating so hard for all of them were asking so many questions about things. Quite a day *and all unexpected.*

To-day I have been cleaning house, doing the wash and trying to get the garden plots weeded and larkspur tied up. Then Sunday Eldon Walls gets home from a trip to the coast and we have to see him before going east, as he looks after things here. But we have been packed for some time so will just have to check what is in and out of the bags.

It will be quite a change to be with you in summer but fun to have the pool and warm weather instead of ice and snow.

Better get this in the mail so heaps of love and see you real soon . I won't write again before we leave.

More love,

*Catherine.*

Mrs. Russell Robb, Sr.  
Concord, Massachusetts

Dowal Airport  
Montreal. P.Q.  
Wed. June 26, 1957

Dearest Mother,

We have had a good lunch & have an hour and a quarter to wait before boarding the plane west at 2 P.M.

The trip has gone well so far. Were 10 or 15 minutes late leaving the terminal & then sat out on the runway for the rest of the hour before taking off. Quite a line up of planes waiting in a long row to take off. Probably slowed down due to the fog or mist.

We couldn't see any ground until we were past the Green mountains & then just bits of it through the clouds. A funny

feeling as we flew up from Boston,  
almost made me a little sick as  
there was nothing to tell whether  
you were moving up or down or what.  
I guess over eyes helps one balance.

It was cloudy over Montreal I think  
we circled the airfield, am not sure,  
we could see so little until we were  
under the clouds. They had a terrific  
rain last night 2.8 inches in a  
short time. Lucky we missed that!  
It's sunny & nice now, quite warm.

Not much to write about we have  
watched the planes coming & going &  
the people, time slips by.

Thank you all for getting up so  
early for us. Forgot to tell you Gale & I  
put the copies of the Deans of Grandpas  
in the lower desk drawer in library,  
with other things to keep.

Thanks again & heaps of love  
from us both. Pete & Catherine.

TRANS-CANADA AIR LINES

In flight

Wednesday  
June 26 1957

Dearest Mother,

In an hour we should be near Calgary at 9 P.M. western time but really midnight Eastern Daylight. Seems as if it were last week we left Concord, more because it seems so different that the time has gone slowly -

I'm using the pen Gale gave me. It writes very easily but can't hold it sideways as I do my old one!

The clouds have been fascinating all day - Sush effects. Right now we

are above a sea of soft gray slightly billowy ones. might be a sunset later though. It looks rainy ahead. Big thunder heads out of Montreal. The land all so green. In Manitoba they have had over 4 inches of rain this month. maybe you will get it soon for there seems to be rain clouds all the way but we fly above them. Just glimpses of land at times.

It got quite hot in Montreal about 80°. We had lunch at the airport & just enjoyed watching the people & planes. The planes come & go constantly right in front of where one can sit inside or on benches outside. They are most efficient serving the planes, taking mail off & on baggage etc. food & passengers.

we left at 2:30 P.M., stopped at  
Ottawa then the Lakehead at  
Fort William. I had written a  
note airmail to friends in  
Winnipeg, Syd & Evelyn Wats.  
he used to be Bank Manager  
in Banff & they were at the  
airport to see us for the 20  
minutes we stopped, which  
was fun. Then a stop at  
Regina & we have had coffee  
Buronade or supper between  
each stop. Just had coffee now

will have this ready to  
mail when we get in.

Hope you will get rains  
soon. If all the clouds we  
have seen to day go east  
you will have plenty.

We never had a chance to  
tell you how much we enjoyed  
the pictures Gale & Betty showed  
us. Look forward to seeing  
the rest next trip.  
Loads of love  
Catherine -

Banff, Alberta.

Fri. June 28, 1957

Dearest Mother,

These notes I scribbled from the plane were hardly worth mailing but it did let you know how we were getting along. As you may imagine we have been quite busy since getting home and also were a bit weary from the trip and the 3 hours change in time makes it late getting to bed this time.

We were only 10 minutes late getting into Calgary and missed another rainstorm there, a heavy one, and yesterday afternoon they had lots of hail, enough to shovel off walks, so somehow we got in between storms. Luckily we had written ahead for a room at the Palliser for they were filled up and two men ahead of us were turned away. Got to bed about 10.30 but 1.30 by the time we had gotten up by.

The train west was due to leave at 7.30 AM but we woke early and were over at the station before 6.30 to check bags and have breakfast first. Peter tried to buy a ticket but the man at the wicket said they weren't open until 6.30 sharp, another 7 minutes so we would have to wait, while waiting we heard someone say the train was late, so asked "how late?" and it was at least an hour behind time. Then we thought of the bus, found one left at 7.30 for Banff, so had a real good breakfast at the station, got our bags out of the baggage room, taxied to the Grayhound bus station, caught the bus and were in Banff by 10AM. We heard the train come in around noon so we saved nearly two hours getting home. All because the ticket man didn't want to sell us a ticket before the correct time, for had we got them we would have waited for the train.

We walked home from the bus depot, got the jeep and went back for our bags, noticed they hadn't fixed the holes in the road in front of our driveway and remarked on it to Eldon Walls when we told him we were home, got the groceries and came back about 20 minutes later and there was a road scraper scarafying the road all along the river, so it looks as if we would have a new road after all, funny they should do it just as we got back .

Had hardly finished lunch when the first Indians arrived, a blind man with a friend escorting him as he knows we will give him something. We also went up to see Nellie MacKenzie and how they were getting on. Everything fine except the Doctors father has come back to stay a ~~while~~ while and has had a gall bladder attack and is in the hospital. He thinks he is a help but actually is more of a care just now.

Pete took the Jeep over to be serviced which we had planned to do before we left and I unpacked a bit. We went up to see the Wards in the evening thinking we would go to bed early and then Jonny was here on our return so it was nearly ten when we did get to bed and we were both tired this morning.

To-day we were busy seeing to things and just after lunch Frank Kaquits the Indian who paints arrived with some pictures and wanted to find out about going to Summer school so we went over to Norman Luxton with him which took time, then some errands and ended with tea with Doris Vallance and Pat MacKenzie and Lona Becker were here until supper time. I had started this letter but no chance to finish it.

A little hard to get used to a new typewriter, let me know how you like it to read. ?

We found lots of mail, and one letter was asking us to the sundance at Morley which is later than last year and will be next week so that will be interesting to go to/

And how are you getting on ? Bet you are having as many callers as ever. As usual I forgot a number of things, That last evening we ran down tosay goodbye to Aunt Julie and then dropped in at the farm just as they were having their coffee. Didn't realize that Kitty's friend <sup>Miss Walsh,</sup> was the girl we met in Shelbyville and later she and her husband came to see us in Banff. Hasn't she the loveliest reddish coloured hair ? It was nice too to see Hannah Higgins, Gale and Kitty got out the screen and showed us as many slides as we had time for. Those of Siam and the temples at Ankhor Wat and a lot of Japan .We wished we had had time for more, you will enjoy them as they are very good.

We had to come home as we hadn't done any packing and knew we would have to be up early in the morning and after I got all packed I discovered I hadn't put in the tin cookie jar that Cousin Bert gave me for my birthday, If it is still there and the little dish inside, please save it for next trip. I just couldn't start and repack and it isn't a shape one can slip in at the last minute. too big too.

Also I am not sure if we brought the article Cob wrote, will have a look here. Such a mess as the house is in but hope to get it tidied a bit over the weekend.

Will call this a letter, though a poor one, am not yet used to the new machine.

It is nice and cool here and they have had quite a lot of rain this month and fairly cold.

Loads of love and many thanks for all the things you planned for us, including the lobsters and strawberry shortcake and everything else.

More love to all,

Catherine  
Sat a.m. your wonderful letter just came as I was posting this. Glad you had a few callers!

Box 370  
Banff, Alberta.  
Sun. June 30, 1957

Dearest Mother,

It made us feel awfully good to see your letter in the mail yesterday, you have been such a good sport about our coming back and we felt better to have such a long and well written letter from you. That really has been a long stretch of muggy, hot weather, I am afraid it takes all my energy and ambition. It has been nice and cool ever since we returned, in the 60's today.

I haven't quite gotten on to the new typewriter so in order to get this in the mail will revert for a while !

Funny how things work out. It was just lucky in a number of ways that we came back this last week. Think I told you we went over to Norman Luxtons with the Indian boy Frank Raquits who wanted to take painting at the summer school but hadn't been able to get anywhere with the idea while we were away. Norman was afraid he would get too modern and be spoilt if he went but we knew by the letter his last years teacher wrote that he was doing well and on the back of one picture it said " recommended for a Scholarship." So Norman said he would get in touch with Senator Cameron who is head of the school, which he did. Came down yesterday morning to tell us Frank could get a scholarship but there was no more rooms left in the dining room or sleeping accomodation. So Norman said he would have to get here Monday to register and have a tent. We knew that last year he had trouble with bears and his wife was scared and that he would be better to have a room of some sort & meals if he was to get the most out of school.

So yesterday morning we started right out. first to Mrs Flem who is very good natured and takes roomers and boarders and is near the school. She had no sleeping accomodation left but said if Mrs Street down the road had a bed on her porch, which is screened off, she would give him his meals. So down the road we went and sure enough

Mrs Street proved to be a nice little old lady and said she had had students before and didn't mind if he was an Indian ( which some might ) so now we just hope Frank appears to-morrow and that it will all work out. He has improved so much in his pictures it seemed a shame not to help him. The tribe had votad enough money to pay for his schooling.

This is a holiday weekend, also to-day is our wedding anniversay, our 27th. nearly gorgot ! We also found a letter from George Kaquits inviting us to the Sundance in Morley, and he was in town the other day, told Pete he should come on Wednesday to see the setting up of the lodge and Thursday for the dancing. We thought we had missed it as usually it is the last week in June so are getting things ready to go down if the weather is good and get some pictures.

Barbara came home yesterday afternoon and was over here last evening, also Jonny. She is to teach the weaving at the summer school this year, to help one of the chief instructors, She just finished school in Medicine Hat and starts to-morrow getting organzied for the weaving classes on Wednesday. Some year we will have to try and get Mercelia out for the eoures , if she came with a friend I think she would really enjoy it. They have an awfully good time besides weaving all day.

Have so many letters I should write and just put off. If no one comes in will try to write Mrs Mayor. This is going to be a busy month and we would like to get down to the cabin in Cowley with the Campbells next week and then Indian Days come along which we missed last year.

Lots of love and by now expect you will be getting cooled off and are having rain.

Catharine .

Banff, Alberta  
Thurs. July 4th  
1957

Dearest Mother,

If I don't sit right down and get going on a letter you won't get one to-day. Summer has started and the usual flow of visitors, including Indians, I think we have had some Indians every day since our return.

I can't remember when I wrote last. must have been Sunday for then Pete wrote <sup>you</sup> ~~you~~ about Tuesday, will give you a quick resume if I can remember. Sunday afternoon we had the Vallances come, then Pearl Moore and Mrs Painter and we made tea, (the V's had ice cream left over from dinner.) then Jean Park the hostess at the Banff Springs, <sup>came</sup> before the tea was cold, and she stayed after the others left until nearly suppertime.

Frank Kaquits ( the Indian boy who paints ) came ~~as~~ we were finishing our supper, a day early, and we weren't sure if we could get him the bed for that night as it was a holiday weekend. However we were lucky and Mrs Street had the bed on a screened off porch so we took him up there.

Monday first thing after breakfast Frank was down, so Pete helped him clean his brushes and then about 10 we took ~~to~~ him up to the Summer School to register, The Instructor he had last year seemed so glad to see him and they were all very friendly which we were glad to see. Then we took him to Mrs Flems where ~~he~~ is to eat. and she said she would like to do her little bit to help and is feeding him 3 meals a day for \$1.75 and the bed is \$1.00 so he is doing very well. They all like him which is a big help. I did all the washing and ironing too that day and in the evening

the Morants dropped in on their way home from the coast, They noticed our gate open and wondered if we were back , so we made them a bite to eat from leftovers and they stayed until 10 P.M.

Tuesday was a perfect day and cool so we started to fix up the Jeep, got it cleaned out and quite a few things packed in, most of the food and our clothing and looked out a lot of stuff, Did errands and right after lunch Kathie Stockand ( a neice from the coast)came with her Spanish husband."Paco" First time we had met him. a very quiet, well mannered lad, noticed everything. We showed him the photographs of the murals by Sorxolo Bastida at the Hispanic Museum in New York, and he was greatly taken with them for he said it was just how the people dressed and looked. We took them up to the Cave & Basin, paid Mrs Flem for Frank, had a call from Syd on business. Verne and ~~MrxSxscott~~ Mr Scott both called too and Frank came after his supper to see about paints and tell us about the school.

Wednesday we were going to the Sundance but it was so cloudy we telephoned and found it was rainy and no good for pictures so we didn't think there was much use going down. Jonny Beraspaw came and we did more looking out things for the Jeep and a lot of bills to pay and the bank and such things to see to. Then we checked up on Sam Ward we hadn't seen and he has a bad back, when we came from there we found a note on the door that the Fowlers from San Diego had been here, staying at the Watts, rushed up there, but they were out but came again after we got home.

They haven't been here for 5 years, and are on route to Alaska, it was her sister who was just married and who I got the little table cloth for at Mrs Bagersons, it evidently made a big hit in California and she was so pleased with it she sent us some of her "Grooms cake" It is awfully good, a big box of plums too.

Paul is a traffic engineer for San Diego and Janice is a Laboratory Technician who used to work in canning factories, We met them when their car turned over near the Bow Summit and have been great friends ever since. We made coffee and had quite a visit. Last night we tied up the larkspur and watered the garden plots, luckily the larkspurs are so thick you can't see the weeds. Wonder if Pietro would approve! I also got a tooth filled at 5 PM

Today is ~~xxx~~ even cloudier so no use to go to Morley as the real reason for going is for pictures, and perhaps during Indian Days it will be nice enough to get all we want here. I did wash out a couple of dresses and skirts, and the Fowlers dropped around as planned and we asked them for steaks at 12.30. Just time enough to go and do the errands and be back to make dinner. They really enjoyed the steaks and we told them all we could about our trip to Alaska. They aren't going to try and see it all but take their time and go to Whitehorse then to the Haines Cut off and take a boat back, sell their car up there. As we finished lunch George McLean and a car load of Indians came to try and borrow a costume but it was already lent, and then later the Kershwas from near Edmonton with their two children dropped in, they have all gone & I haven't read the mail and it is four thirty. I did read your nice letter though and Rusty's about Mars. Want to read it more carefully before sending it back. The Vallances have been reading Grandpas books and are so interested in the Japan Day by Day, they read Mrs Waymans first.

Wonder if you have had rain as yet? What storms in some places. We have had odd showers but some sun and nice and cool.

Rockwell Kent was in Banff 2 or 3 years ago, a most interesting man and full of fun. He is wonderful telling a story and sort of acts them out as he has a great sense of humor.

He was commissioned to paint a picture of Assinaboine and came in the fall when most of the tourists had gone and so a lot of Banff people met him and his wife and we all liked him. He has been accused of being a communist but actually none of us think he is. He is a man who believes in a persons rights and stands up for what he thinks, He believes an American has a right to think as he wants and actually is a real patriot. You will see that he mentioned Banff in one of the last chapters.

Must get this off now. Heaps of love and do thank Hanne for her nice letter too!

*Catherine*

Box 370  
Banff, Alta.  
Sun. July 7, 1957

Dearest Mother,

We should have been on our way to Cowley by now but just couldn't get ready in time so hope to leave to-morrow morning early, better than going through Sunday traffic.

Such a busy time the last few days. We didn't go to the Sundance after all and Wednesday afternoon the Fowlers came, made quite a call. We had started to pack the Jeep and then when Edlon Walls told us that Mr Dale, (the young architect who has designed the new school) was to be here on Saturday for sure, with ideas for the corner property and drawings, we decided we had better stay and see him. Just as well for there was quite a bit to talk about. We are considering putting up a new building if not too expensive, three stories, with basement below and 3 suites above.

Thursday the Fowlers came around and we asked them for lunch and cooked them steaks, they brought us all sorts of things grown on the father's ranch near Stockton Calif. Janice is a 4th generation Californian. Plums and walnuts and wonderful preserved fruit. We had a nice visit and lots of talk of Alaska. Then cousins of Pete's dropped in too, the Kershaws, for about half an hour and in the evening Kathie and Paco from Vancouver and Jon. We wanted to see how Sam's back was so went up there and so didn't have too long an evening just talking.

Friday we got up courage for a trip to Calgary, as Pete wanted to have his glasses adjusted to his nose, they are so heavy they keep going out of place and he hadn't been down since winter. We were tired and late getting up and late getting away, About 9.30 but we only had a few things we wanted to do and it proved a very lucky trip. Got into Calgary at 5 minutes to twelve and found a parking meter empty ( even with 20 minutes time left ) all paid for ) right next the Medical Arts Building and Pete just caught Mr Humphries, who he always goes to, before he left for lunch, very lucky really. Then we found another parking place right near the typewriter place so I could take the new one in to be adjusted. The carriage was slipping, and the man was very nice and said it would be serviced free even if bought in the states as it has a 3 month guarantee. Then we drove around to Mr Turners Gallery to pick up a picture he has had of Pete's for some time, found it was to be hung in an exhibition during Stampede week, so had a good talk and got a few things, including a painting by a Hungarian living in Canmore, to encourage him. and by then it was hot <sup>nearly 70°</sup> and Pete thought it about time we started home. Never did go back to shop or do a couple of things I could have done and we just headed back, had lunch at Emens outside the city and were home by 4.30. So that wasn't bad.

We thought we would relax a bit and first Pete Tasker called he is the game Warden up at Bow summit, says they have a mile of road paved and if it doesn't rain can do half a mile a day. So that is good news, then Frank Kaquits dropped in. We had supper and Syd and Baeda Feuz with their two kids called. We haven't seen

them for nearly 4 years and the two kids are bright and so interested in everything, the little boy especially. They live in Golden in B.C. Syd is a son of one of the Swiss Guides.

Yesterday was Saturday and it rained hard every little while, heaps of cars in town. Eldon and Mr Dale came about 10AM ( we had been at the bank before that ) and stayed until nearly noon. So I didn't get the wash or cleaning done as usual. We had shopping to do for lunch and then at 2 P.M. 2 friends of the Davidsons in Ontario called. ( they had come earlier and we were busy ) They are from Toronto, she is most attractive, Belgium, and he is <sup>in</sup>x-ray business. Was very interesting talking about new films etc. Told of one experiment someone in Belgium made, using infrared film and electronic flash to take a bride who wore all nylon. The combination penetrated the nylon and when the picture was developed all she wore was a string of pearls !

They were just going when <sup>x</sup>Lynnie Becker, a new little friend named Terry, and Lona came with a Birthday present for me, and Pete too. A wonderful Eskimo carving in wood of an Eskimo in a canoe with three caribou swimming in the water. very clever. <sup>x</sup> That mean't gineral and cake and a visit. We had a few things to get for the Campbells thinking we were to leave at the crack of dawn this morning and while shopping ran into Carl Rungius. He is 87 and really forgetful, was much encouraged to hear you think you are too. We helped him get his groceries and drove him home and he asked us in, so we went as he doesn't think he will stay long, brought no paints and says his legs are weak and it is <sup>x</sup> really too hard for him living quite a walk from the stores.

He gets tired and finds it hard to do things. We got him to buy a barbecued chicken, they have a machine to cook them as you watch, so it was warm & looked good.

By then we had a shower present to buy for Bubby and leave that at the Homestead where the party will be this week and it was supper time when we got back, still a lot of things to put in the Jeep and photographic stuff for Pete to resort and letters for me to take to answer and look over. Had barely begun when Kathie and Paco dropped in to say goodbye, they were taking the bus at 8 and actually didn't leave here until 8.30.

Then Eldon came to talk over the plans and see how we could cut down a bit on the expense and we decided we would be foolish to try and think of everything last night and might as well stay over to-day.

Have been busy as it is, did my Saturday washing and cleaning and got most of the rest of the things into the Jeep, all but the fresh food and letters ! Will try to make an early start to-morrow. Hope to stay in Cowley this week and start painting if the weather is good. Then back this <sup>next</sup> weekend ready for Indian Days the following week.

It is soon time to go for the mail, we have enjoyed your letters and a nice one from Mercelaa too about last Sundays dinner with you.

Harold was here this morning, he has a months vacation. and Jon , his brother, drops over often.

Hope you are getting rain and a little cooler weather and will be writing from Cowley.

Thought Rusty's letter very interesting, Haven't you  
an extra copy of " Mars and it's Mystery " you could send him  
to read.

One thing about the Marines they have good libraries and a  
wonderful chance to do a bit of research in ones'r spare time.

Lots of love,

*Catherine*

Cowley.  
Alberta.  
July 8<sup>th</sup> 1957  
Thursday.

Dearest Mother.

We arrived safe & sound yesterday afternoon. Took us about 6 1/2 hours to drive down from Banff. Had a good trip & it was a lovely day.

Should have written this sooner had we known we were driving in to Cowley to have a spare tire fixed for Gray's Jeep. Decided it might be a good idea all of a sudden. For 3 days. Eleanor & the little baby. Peter & I in our Jeep. a sort of spree & no doubt ice cream cones before we return.

We left Banff before 8 AM. & were wondering what it would be like going through Calgary while the parade was on. The parade started at 9 AM & we listened on the radio all the time. Everyone in Calgary must have been at the Parade for there was no traffic at all. & we went across the city in 10 minutes where as it usually takes half an hour.

Will write again a real letter. Hope to stay 7 or 5 days  
Always of love  
Catherine.

It's Saturday & we are just  
back in Banff at 4 P.M.

To - Randy  
Cowley, Alta.  
Thurs, July 11, 1957

Dearest Mother. - The time slips by & it's so quiet & peaceful  
here. Never have we been in a place so undisturbed. Our  
little cabin is light & airy & at the opposite corner of the  
square of trees from the main house, a little path through  
the trees & across the new vegetable garden & we are at their  
back door. But no one can see the cabin from the road  
or the other buildings, except when they go to feed the pigs.  
To-day they started haying & we took the Jeep  
up onto the hill top to the east where there are great wind  
blown trees & old weather beaten stumps. However it's very  
windy & the gusts grew increasingly strong until we  
nearly blew away. However the wind does blow the flies  
away, which are bad just now.

Just as we were packing up to have lunch  
my back to the sketch box blew down on my hand, can't  
figure if it improved my sketch or not! Pete has been  
working on his since coming back & I just took a walk  
up a nearby hill, each one gives a different view & as  
they are all grassy slopes, just now with blue lupin -  
wild roses, black eyed regans & all sorts of wild flowers.  
It is very pretty. Actually one can go most anywhere  
in the Jeep.

Yesterday we took Dave & his grandfather  
Mr Benson (who has just come from England to stay)  
down to Cowley. Mr Benson to have some papers witnessed  
& to renew a few old friendships. & Dave to drive the  
small caterpillar tractor back the 13 or 14 miles. We  
also took the truck tire to be fixed. All of which helped them.  
It was a lovely day but very hot & no clouds so  
really not as good for sketching.

They have been anxious to have the ranch appraised  
 - if they were offered an awfully good price, might  
 be tempted to sell this one & buy a smaller place.  
 However the real estate people never showed up until  
 yesterday - then with 2 people Fred Percival & his  
 son. Gray knew who they were, at once & actually  
 it's quite a story. Seems the ~~Father~~ (about an age) lived  
 on a homestead with his father & they had a very  
 hard time. The mother died soon after he was born.  
 & then about 25 years ago they <sup>father</sup> inherited a large  
 estate in England and became The Earl of Egmont  
 & very wealthy. They had to go to the old country &  
 weren't really accepted into English Society & felt  
 very out of place & finally came back to near  
 Calgary. have a big place on the outskirts of Calgary  
 & the city limits have come right to their house  
 & they can't go on ranching there as they would  
 like to. So are looking for another place. Fred (the  
 present Earl) & his son. would be strange if they  
 wanted this place. We didn't meet them.

Later in the afternoon, the boys had been promised  
 a treat, a swim in the river. Gray, El the baby & I went  
 in their trucks & Mr Benson & the boys with Pete. We  
 had to go to Cowley, along the main road & then off  
 through some fields, under the Railroad tracks &  
 to a lovely grove of trees by the river where we left the  
 cars. Then a short walk & under a very high Railroad  
 bridge, a freight train going across as we got there.  
 Near the pillars of the bridge is one pool where you  
 can wade in off a beach, but deep enough to dive  
 into from the abutments & about twice the size  
 of an swimming pool. The most perfect swimming hole.

It was the first time the baby, Catharine Louise aged 9 months had been down & she just loved it. Seeing the boys going in and splashing about kept her from being afraid when I dipped her in & out. She squealed with delight & then sat contentedly in the sand playing with sticks & stones & having her feet buried by Dan!

It was all great fun. Mr Benson tried to fish us success-fully & then on the way home we got a hamburger & milk shake at the Olinmans.

Don't think I have answered your recent letters very well, will have a try now.

That was a really funny clipping about the man taking the boy for a hair cut & neither paying.

Don't wonder you find the 4th of July quiet. They discourage fire crackers because of so many accidents.

We didn't receive the talk Brad Washburn gave at Tufts & sent to you. Would like very much to see it.

Sorry we didn't get down to the Art Center Show. Sounded good & am glad you saw it.

What fun Rusty could come home on the 4th, after missing that other weekend.

I haven't seen Danny Keyes for ages either. nice he came up to see you.

I think we enjoyed our visit at Mrs Soliers as much or more than she did. Am still talking about the iced mint tea she made. If you think of it ask her how she makes it? They have wild mint here & it would be good at laying up time.

When I wrote that the airplane trip was cloudy most all the way. I meant so cloudy we didn't see much ground but we were in sunshine & above the clouds which are lovely to see, changing often.

I forgot to bring the article Cob Palmer wrote on heart's. Do you still have it & if you don't want it, we would like it. Am mailing this in Paul. Catharine

Box 370  
Banff, Alta.  
Sun. July 14, 1957

Dearest Mother,

I just mailed a rather long letter to you yesterday when we got home, so this will be just a short one perhaps. We had thought of staying over the weekend <sup>in Cowley</sup> but the Deer flies were so bad we just couldn't sketch outside and there is always so much to see top here we thought it wiser to come home.

It was hot too but cool up on the hilltops. Friday we took Ian and Timmy with their lunch to the same hill top we had been to on Thursday, I started to work on the same sketch with a net over my hat but the flies were so persistent they got into everything, 3 drowned in the oil cup before I had put on a stroke and they got mixed up in the paint on the palette and one stung the palm of my hand as I held the brushes, it still itches at times. There seemed to be swarms of them so we finally gave up and went back to the cabin being thankful we had a place where only a few got in inside. one stung me while writing a letter! They look like small house flies but are very persistent and fly round in circles ~~in~~ in a most distracting way. They only last a short time, perhaps a week or two and then are gone, came very suddenly with the high winds for we never had one the day we went swimming. and they had none last year. Gray says they always seem to start with the haying!

We left at nine yesterday morning, Saturday, and drove pretty steadily, it was really hot and then we could see big thunder storms forming over the Rockies and a tremendous one back of us as we left Calgary. Had lunch on the way. It was cloudy when we got home and rained in the night, have had frequent storms to-day .but we can

always use rain as it was getting dry.

We got back about 4 or earlier and had no sooner gotten into the house with the mail to read, hadn't even ~~sat~~ down than Verne Castella came, had a long story about some friends and word of his younger brother's death at the coast to tell us of. Then we relaxed and had 3 nice letters from you to read. July 6th, 8th and 11th.

We were sorry you hadn't felt up to much, but can just see how a person nice and quiet like Mrs Sohler would make you feel better. Don't you think making the effort to get up is really better in the end, staying in bed gets a bit depressing. Don't ever think any of your letters are too bad to send (mine aren't so wonderful) and we can always read between the lines. After all one can read your writing well enough and a few words misspelled would be rather fun to guess at. Much better than Grandpa Morses writing to try and decipher, after all his spelling could have been terrible and no one would have known, for each word had to be guessed at anyway.

The picture of Rockport Harbor is lovely, nice soft colors, perhaps you have forgotten we went there in the Madoc with Billy Spurling on our wedding trip!

Wasn't that wonderful getting over a thousand dollars for the Emerson hospital instead of flowers. People must have sent a lot in. They did much the same thing for Dr MacKenzie in Banff and people gave money towards a ward in the new hospital being built now in Banff. They too got around that amount. a lot of even small donations will mount up. How much better than too many florist flowers.

Didn't realize the Thoreau meeting was so soon, nice that Cousin Jane and Mildred are both coming, for soon Mildred will be off on her trip. Glad you gave her an added bit for the trip, it

would be nice if they could stay over a boat and spend a couple of weeks in Italy.

Did Rusty have a long weekend, or just the 4th? Nice he could come up, wonder are they at Essex?

It has rained off and on to-day, Sunday. thunder storms and heavy showers, but very little lightening, just a couple of distant rumblings. This morning I thought perhaps I should just run a wash through the machine when the John Jaeggis came to thank us for the Rockwell Kent book, they are tickled to pieces with it as they met the Kents at Assinaboine and were the ones to bring them here. John and Edith have a little old wooden hotel up on Sulphur Mt and John (who is Swiss) has been trying to get a Gondola Lift up to the top of Sulphur where there is a lovely view. We heard on the radio coming up from Calgary that ~~hexhadxgatzem~~ his tender has been accepted, but they didn't know until last night when they read it in the paper. Had the gov't. not changed in Canada recently he doesn't think he would have gotten it. It will take over a year to build.

The Rockwell Kent and Tin Lizzie book were both here when we returned. Also thanks so much for Cob's article, funny I should have asked you to send it when it was already <sup>sitting</sup> ~~sting~~ here waiting for us.

Must go for the mail now so lots of love, and hope you are feeling better. *Pete sends his love too.*

*Catharine*

Banff, Alberta.

July 15th. 1957

Dearest Mother,

Such a day as we had yesterday in the end! A quiet enough morning except for the John Jaeggid visit before lunch.

X Then about two Mr Turner of the Canadian Art Galleries, his wife and son John, (studying architecture at the Univ. of Manitoba,) and a little son, Ian (aged ten) arrived. They looked around a bit first and then said the real purpose of the visit was to see what could be done about using the basement under the dry goods dep't at the store, for an Art Gallery. We had spoken to him about it a week ago Friday on the 5th when in Calgary and he had been up on Wednesday to see the space and talk to Eldon and had it all figured out, how to make a gallery cheaply to see how it would work out.

We were so pleased to think he would try it this summer for we had the stairway down from the main street put in just this spring and had a gallery in mind, but it isn't easy to find the right person, and Jack Turner has done so much for all the Canadian Artists, especially the Western ones, and doesn't have abstract painters if he can help it. Nearly all very conservative like Mr Phillips, George Browne etc. He said if he could start right away getting the lighting etc. it would speed things up.

X So we went to the Wards first and Sam was in the garden and they talked about partitions across the front to hide pipes etc. then to Cecil Philpott, who was also home, about the lighting, then they telephoned Eldon who had the key and we all went back to the <sup>basement</sup> ~~cellar~~ to look around.

It was after 4 O'clock when they left us. He will have paintings and Art supplies, framing, Art books and suchlike to sell. We just hope it goes well. The Artists at the Summer school have been sending to him for materials so he should do well with supplying them. *Summer is the slowest time in his Calgary Gallery.* Had no sooner gotten home ~~xxx~~ (via the dairy for ice cream where we met Nelson Bowles who we have known at Bow Lake,) than Harold came with some slides he wanted to show us of the Air Show at St Hubert. he is home for a month, They were good ones too. Then Barbara came for a bit and then supper time. After supper Pete thought perhaps we should ask the Bowles over which we did and they came at 8 PM and stayed until 11. But are very interesting to talk to. He was born in Washington State and used to raise cattle, went to Dartmouth.

One thing he told us is that a lot of Texas Oil men who he knows are making art collections which when they die go to the County or state, but the expense of buying the pictures are deductable from their Income Taxes as long as they leave the ~~part~~ ~~xxx~~ pictures to the public. He says they have gotten very fine pictures too and love Remingtons and Frank Tenny Johnsons and Western subjects, but a lot have Whistlers and others of that type. He is quite a collector himself.

It is now Tuesday and to-morrow the Indians start coming in to set up camp, we think we will take in just the first two days and then try to get out of town, only trouble is there are bound to be lots of people we know here just at this time.

The weather has been showery and cool and we have been busy with all sorts of little things. Mr Turner will be up tomorrow too and we do want him to get a good start.

Frank Kaquits was down last evening to tell us about Summer school and they had a sketching trip to Johnsons Canyon and the other students liked his picture, especially the water, in fact they are all trying to paint water as he does. He is really an awfully fine lad.

Do hope you are feeling better and seeing your friends. and how is the garden ? We had such a nice letter from Gil and I think he said he was having his vacation in Concord. Did I tell you about taking the new typewriter to Calgary and the Royal Typewriter people were very nice and said they would check the spacing etc. under the guarantee even if it was bought in the states and then send it by express. Well it came while we were in Cowley and evidently they never clamped it into the case so it had been banging round loose inside the ~~case~~ and the plastic bits had broken and it looked quite badly damaged, The C.P.R. Express people said to send it back with a letter so just hope they do something about it.

Time to go out for mail etc. so heaps of love  
from us both.

*Catherine*

Box 370  
Banff, Alberta.  
Thurs. July 18, 1957

Dearest Mother,

A nice letter from you to-day telling about the visit of Cousin Jane and Mildred for the Thoreau Society meeting. I am surprised they couldn't braid your hair ! Maybe I didn't do so badly after all.

We are in the midst of Indian Days. It just poured at times yesterday which made it damp setting up camp but we went down in the afternoon late to take presents of food which we always do, tea, bacon, sugar bread etc. and luckily they got the teepees up between showers, and to-day it seemed as dusty as ever.

Went down first thing this morning and saw Mrs Bearspaw for the first time since her husband the old chief died. She felt very teary and sort of - not exactly moaning but real Indian way of expressing ones feelings, she held both our hands and it was hard to know what to do or say as she understands little English. However she seemed so glad to see us and after a cigarette felt better and told us what food she wanted . It was poor light for pictures until later when they paraded uptown. Such a crowd of people as there were and we went back this afternoon to see the sports and get a few photographs.

We are sort of undecided what to do as Indian Days isn't what it used to be. Awful power lines and telephone poles right through the camp spoil it for looks and there are fewer and fewer old Indians each year. If it weren't for the old friends we wouldn't be apt to go down at all.

Monday we have promised to be here for the Architect with revised plans for the new store building if we think of doing it. He is going to Scotland for a month or 6 weeks so will be away and we should see him first. Then we think we will head down the forestry road towards the Campbells as we want to go to Standoff to see Bader (the flier who lost both legs) be made a Kenai chief. and then we might come home and head north up the forestry road ~~that~~ <sup>the</sup> way where we haven't been before. It all depends on the weather etc.

I am so sleepy to-night I just can't think. Pete noted in your letter that you said you were just "no good" and old Mrs Bears paw in her little English said exactly the same things. only her words were. "me no good" ~~any more.~~

Maybe if when you feel all in you just lie down for a bit you will recuperate and be able to go again. Remember that last Sunday we were there you had to lie down before supper for a bit and then were fine and ate with us.

We were interested too in the clippings of the ~~the~~ two houses, one lovely and old the other very new.

The Campbells baby is about 8 months, was born last fall. Just starting to crawl, such a pretty smiling baby and lovely pink cheeks .

Lovely day to-day, clear and sunny, Think I will try to photograph parade. Will be writing soon anyway.

Heaps of love,

Catharine

This is Rusty's birthday so Pete says, I never remember dates. We will try to wire him.

Box 370  
Banff, Alberta.  
Sun. July 21, 1957

Dearest Mother,

The typewriter has come back after it's accident and so will see how it works on a letter to you. So don't be surprised if all sorts of things happen.

Indian Days are nearly over, we go down thinking to take photographs and then get annoyed by the telephone poles that get into every picture or the cars parked near the teepees. If not too hot may go down this afternoon. We would have gone away this weekend but have to be here to-morrow morning early to see the Architect who has been working on plans for the new building, if we decide to build it, we may not for it is so expensive right now. I think I told you that we might build on the back of the corner lot on the main street, three offices or stores on the ground floor and three suites above.

Yesterday we finished lunch and were doing the dishes old Paul Amos came to the door, he is 82 and almost blind, a real old Indian, he was hungry so we made bacon and eggs and tea and toast and then recorded a story about the first time he met Bill Peyto (who the lake is named after) and also about the first Indian Days. Then took him to the store and got some groceries and took him back down to the camp.

The evening before Frank Kaquits brought his wife, Kathleen, boy Gerald aged 6 and baby of 8 months. The wife is a nice little person. Frank seems to be doing well in the Art Class so we are very pleased. Everyone likes him and especially the place where he sleeps and where he eats.

The other afternoon, Thursday we were at the station with Pearl Moore, the Vallanwes, Merle Brewster and Dorothy Cranston to meet the Treadways from Honolulu. Mrs Treadway is Chinese Hawaiian

A wonderful person, was in charge of the girls Glee club when they toured several years ago, and her husband is English Hawaiian I would think, loves to play golf. They are to visit Pearl for <sup>about</sup> 3 weeks I think. We all went down to Pearl's for tea, they gave us 3 of those funny red flowers, and sort of <sup>a</sup> coincidence, as we came home we stopped for the mail, only one letter and that from the Castles in Honolulu to say they were going to come to Lake Louise the middle of August.

We are planning to leave Tuesday on a sketching trip and hope the bugs aren't too bad. Will head down the forestry road reaching Cowley that way by Friday. Have asked the boys to spend that night in Fort MacLeod with us and see the Sundance at Standoff. then come back to the Campbells for the weekend and the following week go north on the forestry road to see what the country is like in that direction, but will come back to Banff in between. <sup>to</sup> for mail.

Hope you are having nice weather and not too hot so you can really enjoy the summer. Do tell us where everyone is and what they are doing. Had a nice letter from Rusty which I will enclose, <sup>if</sup> I remember!

Lots of love from us both

Calthorpe

P.S. Has Gibbs gone swimming in the fountain yet? I think the reason the Campbell baby wasn't scared was because the little boys were already in and splashing about. Frances better go in with Gibbs <sup>or</sup> girl - or you -

July 23, 1957

Dearest Mother,

It's Tuesday afternoon  
& we are all packed up in the Jeeps  
ready to leave. Are going down the  
Forestry road camping 3 nights, then  
to Cowley, pick up the 3 little boys  
on to Fort Macleod & to the Sundance  
Saturday. All of the weather is  
good & back to Banff the first  
of next week.

Will write on the  
way but no chance to post it.  
We received one of Brad Wadsworth's  
copies of address from Museum.

Loads of love

Catharine.

Upper Kananaskis Lakes  
Wed. July 24, 1957.

Dearest Mother,

We finally got out of town yesterday afternoon about 2:30. It showered in the morning & didn't look too promising but turned in to the most beautiful cloud effects as we went along, out through the Gap in the mountains at Eshawa, then turned right across part of the Moley Indian Reserve onto the Forestry Road. The one that goes south 140 miles to Coleman in the Cross Nest Pass. We have been on it in previous years when going to Crook. It's a good gravel road, little traffic except for fishermen & tourists. The flowers were lovely, the grass green yet & the mountains at their best with lovely long shadows.

This is the first time we have driven the side road to the Kananaskis Lakes - 7 miles to the first large one, then another 3 miles round it & up to the Farm on the Upper Lake. They say the dam spoiled the beauty, but never having been here before we don't know. It's very windy which keeps the bugs away & we found a nice flat sheltered spot, to one side where we can see both lakes & the range of mountains across the valley.

Fishermen are camped below the dam & two parties had boats on trailers they have used on the upper lake, but we saw no fish taken out of either & they have both taken the boats back down the hill. Looks as if we would have this lake to ourselves.

We got in in time for supper & didn't try to sketch last night but will today. It's very clear & hardly a cloud. are just waiting for the sun to move around a bit more to give some shadows.

We both have sketched since starting this. Pete 2 & 9 one. It's always hard getting started. Might have been a bit easier if there had been more clouds to make shadows. but anyway it's a start.

It is now Thursday. 8.30 P.M. The sun just setting making the distant clouds rather pink. It's been another clear hot day. few clouds until afternoon.

We are camped in a creek bed <sup>near Cayley</sup> on the gravel wash where there was enough wind to keep the bags away before & during supper. It is about 20 miles from the Campbells but we know they are trying to finish the haying & we would only make it busier if we arrived a day early. So will go there to-morrow morning sometime.

Had quite a day after hardly moving yesterday except to walk along the shore in the evening. but this morning we were up at six, as the first fisherman were starting out. had breakfast & were packed up before eight on our way.

There is no gas to be bought on the 140 mile Forestry Road so we don't do too much investigating by car. but did get a good idea of the many places we could camp by either upper or lower Kananaskis Lakes which are dammed by the Calgary Power Co. Doesn't make the shore line very attractive with the water down, but they have kept it picked up & the mountains are fine & all in all we were interested to see it.

It was lovely in the early morning as we went over the Highwood Pass. the highest road in Canada. 7000 feet or more. Lovely lush meadows - We had thought of sketching but the flies & mosquitoes were bad so thought to find a better spot later on. but we never did though we saw a lot of ranching country we

have heard about but never seen before - too hot to stop.

There are only 5 entrances to the Forestry Rd. It starts at Seede, just outside the mountains from Banff. You wind in to different ranges through long valleys, climb up to the High Wood Pass & follow the High Wood from a little creek to quite a river. 20 miles or more.

There is a road out to High River following the High Wood River all the way, while the Forestry Road goes over another pass & down another valley. We had never been out the Road to High River & as it was dry & hot we had no worry of rain & slippery roads. as the gumbo on all the country roads can make them impassable in wet weather.

It was very interesting to us. We were soon out of the mountains & in wonderful rolling hills & great Ranching country for cattle & horses. It will be lovely in the fall with the Aspens & color.

The road was poor due to oil trucks & screws so we went slowly to Longview. a little oil town. neat as a pin. a new hotel looking rather nice so we had dinner there. very good too. home cooking.

Then we headed cross country to try & find the next road from the Prairies into the mountains. It isn't on the map. but we knew there was one. First thing we knew we were at the EP Ranch which was the Prince of Wales ranch before it was the Duke of Windsor. Met a car coming out so asked them the way. the lady said she was just out from Scotland they too were strangers in the District.

Still later. we are now in Fort MacLeod & it's Friday the 26<sup>th</sup>. we are waiting for steaks to be cooked. Have the 3 Campbell boys with us. Will write first chance I get.

Loads of love from us all  
Catherine.

Will be heading for Banff Monday or Tuesday.

Fort MacLeod.

July 26 1957

Dearest Mother,

Friday night & we are settling in the same motel we have been in several times before. a double one so the 3 boys. Dave, Tim & Dan have one unit & we the other. Each bed room, bath & kitchen setting room combined. We got in about 4 o'clock & it was awfully hot. So while we showered the boys went out with a dollar each to spend. Came back to tell us of the "Fort" they had seen. It has been built recently like the original one built on an island in the Old Man River in 1874 a year after the Royal North West Mounted Police was formed. & built by them when they were trying to wipe out the Whiskey Traders from across the border selling Whiskey to the Indians.

The Fort (or replica) is well built of squared logs at the corners & made according to the original specifications & plans. Will be a museum eventually & inside is an old tumbled down building that once housed R N M P Stores & it is to be rebuilt using the original hand hewn logs. They have an interesting display of old vehicles, Red River Carts, carriages etc. The boys told us about it. They had seen it before when it was first opened.

Later. This is such a disappointed letter but will try to continue where I left off. We went out early for supper Friday night. & each had a steak dinner in a real good restaurant. The Palanino ending with vanilla ice cream - with chocolate sauce. quite a meal. As we finished Dan spotted Annora Brown (the artist who has been up to the ranch sketching) & her friend Miss

Hunt & another friend, they were on their way to the movie. We chatted & then took the boys around to the Fort again to show us around. They had left their cameras in the motel so as we had all evening, went back for them. It was then that Mr. Pelletier the owner of the motel told Pete that "Reach for the Sky" was on, which was all about Bader who they were to see next day made a chief. They hadn't seen the movie so we got them there first in time for the 7.30 show. & Pete & I having seen it before had a quiet couple of hours in the motel after first seeing the Fort better.

At what I thought was 9 o'clock & must have been at least 9.30, Aurora Brown appeared. Said they were all going for Ice Cream to take back to her house if we would come too. So of course we all went, the boys having a great spree. We saw a lot of both Aurora Brown's & Miss Hobbs' pictures they had painted around the ranch, several flower ones. She is the one who wrote "Old Man's Garden" about the western flowers. I thought they were pen & ink but actually they are called "Scratch board" or something like that. You paint ~~black ink~~ on some hard surface & then scratch out the whites with a buffer I guess. Good for reproduction.

We had a very pleasant time eating ice cream & cookies & coffee. Looking at pictures. She has a great sense of design & is very original. She had one painting for instance

after a winters ride near Winnipeg - frost on the branches etc. Then one abstract which was inspired by a certain piece of music which had meaning when explained like that. the rise in sound. sort of spiral design like a top. lovely colors - in back & below dark objects which she called drum beats. but most of her things are realistic. The boys enjoyed looking at slides in a little viewer & it was nearly 11 when we finally got home.

Saturday morning we were up about 8. Could hear the boys having great fun in the shower & I had visions of much water about but forgot to look. Went to breakfast. huge plates of hot cakes they consumed & when we got back to the motel. Mr. Zellner came to apologize for stripping the beds of linen before we had checked out & then he said he wanted us to know he had never had 3 boys who were so neat in having things & thought they must have been brought up exceptionally well. So guess I needn't have worried about the bath room!

We set off for the Indian affair about 10 AM. Should have stayed as we learned later we could have heard Bader address the MacLeod school children. but anyway we arrived early at the Sundance. a new spot & was fun as we came up the hill to see the tops of the Indian teepees first rising over the hill. the tents too low to see as we drove up the ~~hill~~ road. Could have been years ago. that first view. There were about 30 teepees & 50 or more tents in a large circle.

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Rather amusing for as we stopped a man who couldn't speak came to direct us, giving us the idea we should go around the camp to pairs. So we drove way around. Then assembled our cameras, lenses etc for the light & cloud effects were good - not too many cars.

However 2 Indians appeared & asked if we had written permission for photographs & we would have to go to the spotted teepee. So we all piled into the Jeep again & went round there to ask. It was the Blackfoot Police & Pete spoke to several standing there. Was told there was a new law & some movie company had bought all rights to take pictures & no one else was allowed to have cameras, stills or movies. Pete asked if the boys could take pictures with their Bot bromies. No. No one, & if any cameras were seen they would be confiscated until after the ceremony. We felt pretty upset, but after all it was on the reserve & they could do as they liked, only we wished we had known & stayed in MacLeod Lager. The boys were disappointed too! So we ~~all~~ ate our picnic lunch, watched a man & his wife unload their truck & put up a tent. Bring out a green kitchen chair & a wash board etc. All rather fun. We also saw other tourists arrive & go into the camp & thought they would too be sent back to get away the Bot bromies etc.

Finally the drums started & the dancers began & we all got good strategic places along the snow fence they used to keep us in a circle. We noticed others taking pictures so got Pete to go & ask a man who seemed to know everyone & he said of course we could take pictures, but to be



the smoke blowing strong into Mac's food. We stopped long enough to stock up with fruit etc. In Cleburn got milkshakes & started home about six. We were a weary bunch, especially Jan & Terry, but they never said a word of being tired & such. Even they had telling about the spire later. Actually they are the most thoughtful & well mannered kids & great fun to take like that.

Tim said after breakfast, "Those hot coles were just lovely & they came out just right" as he ate the last bite.

Today Sunday we all slept in & did a bit of talking over coffee - picked gooseberries & were just planning to go & look at the cellar hole of an old farm house when friends from Winnipeg arrived. a Mr & Mrs Gordon, he the head master of a school. They are on their way to Kentleton in the Okanagan - a most attractive young couple.

Never did tell you about our trip down when we stopped at the S P Ranch to ask the way. It was a lovely spot, in a river valley & large cotton wood trees, the biggest I've ever seen & a lovely creek running through. Just a small single house, the new first furnished dinner & sitting off on various jobs. They couldn't tell us the way but suggested we ask at the B U, another old & famous ranch nearby, belong up to Lane.

However we didn't stop but kept on our way & in the end found our way quite easily. Just headed in the general direction.

First we went through a wonderful long valley with gentle slopes on either side &

hay fields. Saw 2 men ahead on horseback going  
 on way, so stopped to ask them. They were Stomies  
 from Eden Valley. So we said "Paul Dixon, do you  
 know him." One Indian said "I'm Willie Dixon  
 & Paul's my brother. he's over there haying." We  
 gave him cigarettes left over from Indian days  
 & said "Hostile" & he was both surprised &  
 pleased.

Finally we saw a likely road to the west  
 towards the mountains so took that & soon we  
 came to the Willow Creek Ranger Station & the  
 gate to the Forestry section. It led up a narrow  
 valley higher & higher & way ahead & above  
 on a lone mountain in the Rockies we could see  
 two towers. Oil derricks & realized it must be the  
 oil field on Plateau Mt. How they ever  
 found oil up there I don't know. Saw a road  
 high up & thought it must be to there, but later  
 found it was our road.

We finally went up the little valley to it's  
 head where there seemed to be an old abandoned  
 coal mine & then as an after thought a steep  
 road up a side hill & around a mountain.  
 so steep we had to go in low gear all the way.  
 on top was a pass & a lovely little round  
 lake. Just then & we skirted that & went  
 down hill 2 or 3 miles to the Forestry road.

Kept on that until we got to "The Gap"  
 & came out through that to the Waldron ranch  
 country. miles of prairie with no fences.  
 It had been a hot day & looked like thunder  
 but we got no storms where we were camped in

a small river bed <sup>near</sup> the Waldron range.

Next morning we were up at 6 A.M. & started by 7.30. Drove up towards the Campbells on the Cabin Hill road where you can look all across the country. Saw a particularly nice little valley so stopped by the road side & each made a sketch. It was so windy later we had to hold on to our boxes. nearly blew away.

Then we came up a steep road all the way to the top of the hills behind the Campbells & really surprised them arriving at the back of the house instead of the front. Had a lunch in the cabin. got organized & took the 3 boys with us leaving about 2 for MacLeod.

Now it's Sunday afternoon & I'm getting sleepy. We may be going out soon with the Campbells. we'll see. A chicken dinner is on for to night.

Monday. We are leaving for home as it looks like rain & we've been away nearly a week.

Heaps of love from us both

Catharine

P.S. Hope to find news from you when we reach Bangf. Will mail this on the way -

Box 370  
Banff, Alberta  
Wed. July 31, 1957

Dearest Mother,

As usual we came back to all sorts of things going on and I nearly forgot to post your letter, mean't to do it in Calgary on the way home. We had a good trip back. Woke early to find it all over cast and looked like rain and in the ranch county the roads are just dirt and even with one good shower get very greasy with what is known as "gumbo" mud that sticks and piles up on the wheels. So we packed up and left Cowley for Banff about 8.30, took the main roads and were in Banff by 3.30. stopping for lunch on the way. Actually it cleared later but there were big thunder storms. Found lots of mail here but hardly had time to read it for just as we came in Jean Park from the hotel dropped in to tell us that Guy Davenport who used to be manager of the Banff Springs Hotel in the 1920's and was later so good to us in Honolulu when he was manager of the Moana, was coming Wednesday. We had a letter in our pile of mail too, so that mean't we would stay over an extra day before starting out again.

Took Jean to the hotel after a cup of tea and some talk, then did some shopping and met Judy Oakander here from Moose Jaw and she told us her Grandpa <sup>(MacDonald)</sup> Dan had just died. no one you would know but they are all old friends. The funeral had been that day, Monday. So after supper we went down to see Mrs MacDonalds and her son Carl and Laura Oakander, had a good call and they seemed glad to see us.

The Hawaiians were singing at the hotel with Moxie Whitney that night but after ten o'clock and we didn't feel we wanted a late night which it would have been. *jean Park told us about that too.*

Next morning, Tuesday, I did all the wash ( except for a couple of shirts ) and Sam Ward came for a while and later Carl and Judy

*Blueberry  
must be in  
↓*

Oakander for quite a call, then the usual errands and mail over town.

Yesterday afternoon Pete took the car over as something seemed to be wrong with the carburetor and it was there being fixed until after six. I wrote Gale and Rusty. Made us so mad, Gale wrote us almost the day after we left Concord and we never got the letter until we came back from this last trip. <sup>a whole month later -</sup> It got up to the Banff Springs Hotel and in the pile of mail they think is for incoming guests and after it stays there 2 weeks they return it to the sender, Never thought to check that it was addressed to "Banff" not the "Banff Springs", So I wanted to write Gale right away for it was an especially nice letter. and then in the evening we got down to Pearl Moores to see about Guy's visit.

The Treadways <sup>from Honolulu</sup> are still there and tickled to pieces to see Guy again for they knew him in the days when the Girls Glee Club used to entertain at the hotels. Then they had just had word of 4 or 5 other Hawaiians who had gotten as far as Billings, Montana and hope to reach here to-night for the fun. Also one of the well known singers, Rosalie who sings at Don the Beachcombers in Honolulu, her husband Bill and youngest daughter Peaches are on their way through to Alaska, taking a new car up to some friend. They did the same trip 3 years ago and were here at our house then. They stayed over an extra day to see Guy ( his wife they call Freddie and her sister are both here with him, they come from Elizabethtown near Lake Paacid.)

Pearl told us that they were to serenade Guy at the train today so we must all be there, which we were.

We came home early last night expecting the Morants might come if our lights were still on when they went by at 9.30 but guess they were late for they didn't come and I got all the ironing done instead.

This morning we were up about 6.30 as Pete had to take the car

to be tuned at 7.30 before the tourists brought theirs in . Gave me a go  
 good morning, so I washed and waxed the kitchen floor and just as we were  
 going out Syd Vallance dropped in, a chat with him, and then we had  
 promised to take a picture of Mrs Painter's garden so went over and did  
 that too, made lunch a little later . Verne Castella came as we were doing  
 dishes and then we went to the train about 2.30.

It was really fun. Gogy expected Pearl and some of us might be  
 there but not leis of larkspur and then to have Kualoha and Rosalie come  
 down the platform with their long Hawaiian dresses <sup>and hulaes</sup> and singing his favorite  
 songs. Quite a surprise and of course there were lots of other friends  
 and the little girl danced a hula. Now we are invited up to Edmees at 7  
 to-night for supper and all of them will be there. You never quite know  
 what to expect in summer.

We found three lovely letters from you, those prayers in the  
 churches must have done some good for we heard on the radio it had rained  
 at last. hope it was plenty. Also had a nice card from Mercelia in Quebec  
 City, what fun she could have a real trip like that this summer with the  
 Brookes.

I mean't to tell you, our Box number is ~~250~~ 370 not 306  
 Maybe I told you the wrong one.

Didn't realize that Hanne was on vacation, how nice that she  
 and Helga could go to-gether, a real change would be fine for both.

Have Kitty and Gale been to Essex much ? would think it hard  
 and even more lovely there. About the best one can do is to keep busy and  
 try to do things for other people but when you are tired it is hard to  
 make an effort and there are so many difficult things like writing letters  
 to be done. I haven't been able to do hardly any we have been so interrup-  
 ted and out camping it is hard to write seriously on ones lap !.

*Loads of love from us both  
 Catharine*