

from the toast left over

Banff, Alberta.

Wed. Jan 1, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Just a few lines and the first letter of 1958. A Happy New Year to you. Such a hectic afternoon and no chance to write but did want to get a letter off.

We had one from Rusty yesterday, written from Rhodes on Dec. 5th where he said they were to start home the 23rd. of January. which we thought such good news and I wondered if you knew? No doubt you have heard from him too. We had another letter that came in 4 days which he wrote the 16th and we got about the 20th. but in that he never mentioned that they were to come back so soon. Hope they haven't changed their plans. But won't it be fun to look forward to. We are now wondering if they will come on the boat they have been on, or if they change crews and send them back to the states some other way. Perhaps Gale has heard. Anyway he should get leave in February sometime. I will copy out his letters first chance I get. He figures he is no traveler.

This has been a rather busy day as we had the Taskers just about noon as we were going to start lunch and that delayed us eating. then we expected the Ed Beltz & his wife for tea but they came at 2 o'clock as they decided to take the early train at 3.30, so we weren't ready as far as getting tidged up went but had a nice visit though she was so nervous she couldn't sit still, then Mrs Greenham and her nephew came with Mrs Hayes for tea, which we thought would be when the Beltzes were here, but they had already left so we kept tight on entertaining. and now they have just left and there is just time to go and get this in the mail. We didn't go anywhere but the Jim Pagues last night so had a quiet New Years, and I am sure feel the better for it.

Hope you are feeling fine as can be, and enjoying seeing the people who drop in. Loads of love and will write soon.

Catharine

Just of a nice & out as 2 engines came up the walk I said to Pete "were got company" he said "who?" in rather an unenthusiastic manner. So I told him 2 Decers - So I gave

Banff, Alberta.
Friday, Jan 3, 1958

Dearest Mother,

At this time of year I begin to think that I will never catch up with all there is to do, so many notes to write I don't know where to begin! This morning a lovely long letter from you telling about Christmas, it took a whole week to come ordinary mail, whereas one you wrote 2 days later came yesterday. I was afraid nothing we had sent reached you for Christmas, no doubt the letter got mixed up in late Christmas mail. Not that we sent much for you said you didn't want anything. Thought the little heater thing would be good for warming up milk or hot water, and the book was the one you wanted to read and was really sent for your birthday. and the little Indian birch bark design is done by "biting" with their teeth to make the designs, sort of interesting. Think I told you that you could send it right back in a letter !!

It was probably just as well you didn't go to the Newburys with all the excitement but it was nice to feel that they wanted you. We feel badly that you have some exzema on your back. You don't suppose it is from being washed more than usual on that part, for didn't soap use to trouble your skin? Maybe they know more about what to put on exzema than they did 20 years ago, and Dr Piper can give you something to help. Wasn't there an oatmeal concoction you used? and sometimes they paint the part with that violet stuff. Just hope it is better now.

The book on Lady Eaton would be nice to have, yes I did send it to you a year or two ago. *we would like the Mago de la Roche one too!*

We have been rather busy with various people coming since New Years. The day before ^{New Years} 2 ladies who we call "The Weaver Girls" came just after lunch to ask us to a party they are giving to-morrow afternoon. They are originally from Winnipeg, one divorced and the other's husband died and they both have married children, bought a house in Banff and do quite a bit of weaving for fun, and travel as well. Then we saw Merle Brewster off for Honolulu on the afternoon train, came

home and were just putting the Jeep away when we remembered there was no milk delivery for two days, so started out again to meet the Beltzes from Calgary coming in our gate, They wanted us to have dinner at the Mt. Royal but we said we couldn't, didn't want to get into a long New Years eve. So asked them to tea New Years day and then took them over town as we got the milk. That evening we went up to see the Pogues who live in the top floor of the old house, She is soon going to Florida, they are the parents of Bev White, young Cliff's wife. Poor Mrs Pogue had eaten something that gave her awful cramps and was just getting over them so we didn't stay long. Saw Mr Scott and then came home to turn in early.

New Years day was lovely so we took a ride out round by Minnewanka in the morning and stopped to ask Mrs Greenham and her nephew (here from the Univ. of ~~Alberta~~ ^{B.C.}) for tea with Mrs Hayes to bring them down, thinking they would go well with the Beltzes, as Peter Haskins was born in Kuala Lumpur in Malaya and Mr Beltz was an oil geologist in Sumatra. Came home thinking to have lunch at noon and the Taskers came, Peter to use the Darkroom for changing film while I entertained Joan, the baby and the little boy Ricky. It was about one when they all left and ~~after~~ two when we had finished lunch and were starting to tidy up a bit, getting the fire set etc. and before I had had a chance to change my clothes the Beltz's came. They had decided to go back to Calgary on the early train at 3.30 instead of later. She was terribly nervous and hardly sat down, and I tried to get them cake and a liqueur it was a funny visit in a way for she kept following me and couldn't sit still. They had just left when Mrs Hayes drove in with Mrs Greenham and Peter Haskins, so I made tea and we had a really nice visit. It was just as well the way it worked out. Then Jon ^{White} arrived to say he was leaving the next day, early in the morning and though he went home to eat the pound of hamburg left, he was back for the evening, for Barbara left New Years eve to go to Bubby in Lethbridge and Harold to B.C. for skiing.

Yesterday we slept fairly late being tired after all that, and just as we started out in the afternoon Sam Ward came, so we came backin for a chat and then

once more had out coats and hats on and were going out the door when the
Yon Harvies came to ask us to dinner that night. They came in and had tea and
another couple arrived from Vancouver, Jock and a Margareta Smith, not related
but friends. Had a nice time with all of them and then went to dinner at 7
with the Harvies. The hotel was rather quiet though they had had a lot of
people over the holiday. We are just waiting to get over the weekend and
then can settle down a bit to do our own things. The Vallances leave for the
West Indies Monday I think, the Wards go to California next week and Pearl Moore
leaves for Honolulu to-day.

Better get on to some other letters ~~==~~ so all for now. Looks as if
you would have mild weather for a while yet as we are having unusually warm
weather too.

Any word about what the Prescott girls is to do about the house?
and will the Newburys have to move?

Loads of love from us both.

Catharine .

P.S. Hanne wrote us such a nice long letter & said
Mildred was coming soon to see you. So give her
our love & tell her I'll be writing soon.

Hayff.
Tue. Jan 7, 1858

Dearest Mother,

Good news sure
travels fast & last night we
heard from Bradford Washburn
about the "wonderful gift" you
had made to the Science
Museum. & which he hopes
to use for the new lecture or
demonstration hall. & will
name after Russ. we are so
happy about it too for we know
how very interested Russ was
in the Science Museum & you
too.

Had a nice letter from you
this morning & what a good
time you & Mildred must
have had. a real nice quiet
visit which am sure she enjoyed.

We had a funny day yesterday. Decided to start working & I did want to get the Studio vacuumed first, as once Pete starts painting there is no use stirring up dust.

We had promised to take Sam & Cis Ward to the 9.15 AM bus. as they left for Salt Lake & California. So we were up at 7 AM. & up to their house before 9. Saw them off & then I cleaned for a couple of hours & we had an early lunch.

Figured I ^{would} write letters in the afternoon so started a long overdue one to Miss Berditt. all sorts of questions & answers. First interruptions Eldon Walls with Olga & Mr Bertello who want to have a restaurant in the upstairs of the new building. The first time we

3

Had talked with them. They
we had to leave by 3 o'clock
to pick up the Vallances to
take them to the train, as they
fly to Toronto & the West Indies
today.

Back home & Rita Creek
for coffee & a talk about her
eyes & comparing operations
with Pete.

Wrote a bit more before
supper. Then Eldon came
for more talk about the new
building etc. He hadn't
been gone long before the
Morants saw our lights
& dropped in. & about 9.30
Gang Cliff to say they had
telephoned there was a wire
for us at the station. He
didn't know what about

but they said it was "important"
 So down we went. The Mercants
 having some wires to send.

Of course our first thought
 was that it was something
 about you. & here it was,
 a wire from Brad Washburn
 to telephone him collect -
 which we did at the
 station on the pay phone
 as there was no one there
 at that time of night.

Got right through & he
 said "Did Dad telephone
 him & he wanted us to
 know & that he was going
 out to see you himself
 today. He really was
 excited & pleased."

Started this in the Jeep
 & now it is 40' deep. I've
 done a bit more on the Studio,
 it's clean enough. & Pete
 got me down to help to
 organize the dark room.
 Mr. Lonsdale called in too.

I forgot Brad said it was
 4° above zero down here &
 here we have had it around
 30° most days. unusual for
 this time of year -

Will send this along -
 Lots of love & thanks for the
~~old~~ clippings. Noticed on back
 of the cat one that John Badman
 is engaged. That's nice.

More love

Catharine

Banff, Alberta.

Thurs. Jan, 9, 1957

Dearest Mother,

If it doesn't start snowing or blowing in the wrong direction I think we are off for Calgary. Have one or two things to get for the dark room, one to go under the enlarger and thought we might as well go down while the weather is still mild, it might be the last day of nice weather. Heard on the radio that Fitchburg, Mass, had 19 inches of snow, so expect Concord did almost as well. Will make the kids and skiers happy and snow you in.

Seems funny it has kept so mild here, a record I guess, Ever since the 20th of November the paper says . Calgary has been much warmer than Banff and up to the 40s and 50s most days, lots of wind though. Here it gets up in the 30s and usually at this time of year it is 30 below.

We have been busy getting the studio and Dark room in order and quite a job it is sorting things out and I taking a swish with a duster or the vacuum when I get the chance. The Studio is ready to use but the Dark room needs quite a bit done yet, and goodness knows when I will get my end of the house fixed up. The storage room would shock you I am afraid.

This isn't much of a letter, but Pete will be back in a few minutes from getting gas to pick me up. The new road from Canmore to Calgary is not officially open yet but much of it is finished and all of it can be used and we thought it would be fun to try that for the first time it is on the other side of the valley from the main road in entirely new country for us.

Must be off so Heaps of love

Catherine .

Banff, Alberta.
Fri. Jan. 10, 1958

Dearest Mother,

X We had a nice trip down to Calgary and back yesterday. It was another mild day and clear and sunny, hard to believe it was January, I never even wore gloves driving and Pete didn't need his overcoat even in Calgary. People had told us how to get onto the new grade of the Trans-Canada Highway by going through Cammore and past the coal mines and in and out among the trees on a hill side until we came to the new grade just east of the bridge they are still working on which crosses the Bow River. They said because of high water last July they couldn't build it sooner but it is too bad for the rest of the road to the outskirts of Calgary is all finished. It was 5 miles from the regular road through Cammore to the new grade and from there we made good time as the road is really through virgin country and across the Indian reservation where there was no road before, through lovely cattle country and into Bowness. That was the only slow part, from Bowness to Calgary where the speed limit is 30 miles an hour. But we were only 2 hours going down.

Had a few errands to do, something for the dark room to hold one of the enlargers. We got a steel cabinet such as is used in offices and which has two files and or deep drawers, a smaller drawer for negatives and a cupboard on one side, it should work just right and saves trying to fuss around and have someone make something to fit. Then after lunch and a couple of more things we started back at 2 o'clock. Made good time and thought we would be home by about 4 o'clock, but hadn't counted on the coal company. Seems that last weekend so many Calgary cars got stuck trying to get up the hill and through by the mines to Cammore that the mine company decided to close the road and while we were in Calgary they erected a gate which was nicely padlocked by the time we reached it. So there was nothing for us to do but go back 15 miles to the Seebe road and across the river to the old road and then drive about 40 miles to Banff, when we were within about 20 miles of home! So it was five when we got back, but it wasn't too bad.

To-day we are a little slowed down as Pete Tasker was down for a while last night to ask Pete some questions about photography and then to-day we got some peg board to put on one wall in the dark room. Don't know if you have ever seen it but it is very clever, they have all sorts of hooks and little brackets to put in the little holes, each an inch apart, on the masonite board. Then you can put tiny shelves across or hang things where you like. Pete is hammering it on now. We cut and fitted it just before supper. Cecil Philpott was here earlier to change motors in the furnace fan and install a new light in the dark room and Nick and Willi were down to tell us about the Photo stores as the partners from Edmonton had been down yesterday. So we are rather busy.

Wonder how you are? Do hope the Exzema is much improved. Have you heard any more from Raaty? We haven't. Maybe as he is heading home soon he won't be writing as much.

Loads of love
Catharine

Banff, Alberta.
Mon. Feb. 3, 1958

Dearest Mother,

We were up early this morning and I thought how wonderful to have so much time and here it is 11.30 and hardly a thing done. Trouble was we went for the mail at 9.30 and in it were some books about early days in the west and I guess we looked at them longer than I realized. One is about Father Lacombe an early missionary. Catholic and from eastern Canada, a wonderful man, and I noticed that he came west of Winnipeg to the Red Deer River by way of Dubuque, Iowa, seems the bishop in charge of all this district of the far west was stationed there and in those days there were lots of French Canadians in Dubuque. 1849 I think it was. Guess we spent more time peeking at the books than I thought. Then Eldon came around before the Architect arrives, as there are a couple of little things like light switches going in on the wrong side of the door, and the height of a window not as we thought on the plan. Thank goodness we have someone like Eldon to do the talking for us, and then we have to be so careful with any changes in the plan, one firm in particular ~~are~~ being unreasonable about making the change without charging more. but we hope the restaurant will go through as it will make ~~a~~ much more attractive building.

This morning there was wind from the east and low clouds and we thought it would snow, seemed very wintry but the sun is coming out so may not be too bad after all.

Yesterday we took a drive up the ^{new} Trans-Canada ^{Highway} to Lake Louise. The road for the first 20 miles has been paved since fall but the next 18 miles is only graded and ends in a crossing with the bridge only half built as yet and we weren't sure if one could get through, you usually have to take the old road from the junction. But we tried it yesterday and found there was a fire road and it was plowed from near the new bridge for about 2½ miles to the road up to Lake Louise itself. It took us just an hour each way and was fun to see as it was the first time we had been over that part. Very pretty on the narrow fire road as the trees were still laden with snow and the river was frozen over and snow on the ice all but one opening and the water the most beautiful pale aqua marine color.

Harold Whyte had come for the Ski races after all though we hadn't seen him until yesterday afternoon. He was here just a short time and going to the Ski Banquet and then drive back to Edmonton last night, a good 300 miles.

The Winter Carnival is this week so even if we aren't really interested we will have to see a few things like the parade etc. Starts on Thursday.

Loads of love from us both
Catharine.

Banff, Alberta.
Monday
Jan. 13, 1958

Dearest Mother,

It was good to see a letter from you in our mail to-day for then we know for sure you must be feeling better. I don't wonder you got tired over the holidays with more visitors than usual and then that darned old exgema to trouble you. But that should go soon.

We heard on the radio that you had a big snow storm in the east and here the ground is almost bare, I don't even have to wear overshoes. Just had a nice long letter from Cousin Alma and she ended by saying it was zero Saturday morning, well that is colder than we have had it since our return from Concord. Though it might be cold here by to-morrow, is very clear to-day and still.

She also said that ~~Kraft~~ Bradford Washburn was out to see you so that was nice, I know he was awfully pleased about the gift to the Museum and I expect he was anxious to tell you so in person. Sted wrote that you were also going to help the Boston Symphony which is having a big campaign. We get their concerts quite often on the radio, especially the Pop concerts in the spring. I told Sted I would like to help out too, he does a lot of things in keeping track of my affairs and giving good advise and there is no way I can repay him, so I thought the next best thing would be to contribute to some pet charity of his, and I know he is specially interested in the Symphony.

I just had another idea, I wonder if there are any books in your library that Sted would like to own ?/ There are a lot that Father had which I can't imagine any of us wanting particularly and it might just be that there are some that would be of particular interest to Sted. Wouldn't hurt to ask him. or when we come east for our next visit I could look out some that might be of special interest.

Have had difficulty getting letters written as Pete has been fixing the dark room. He has the peg board up and varnished and has been putting up the little shelves and of course I have to go and see how it works and admire the progress and give ideas. The metal cabinet we got in Calgary came Saturday and worked out even better than we thought it would, just holds the big enlarger and is nice and solid too. There are still a few more things to do and then it will be ready for working in. We thought we could do pictures and make enlargements in the evenings.

Yesterday it looked like the last mild day for a while so we took the day off and drove west to see the new road west of Field. They keep the roads well plowed and it makes it so nice. We drove for 2 hours west, up 20 miles of the Trans-Canada, then across to the old road for another 20 miles to Lake Louise. Counted about 60 cars of skiers up for the skiing there, then over the Great divide, partly on old road, part new, There were low clouds and

mist which ~~last~~^{froze} into heavy frost on the trees right on the divide. Makes an interesting affect. Then down to Field in B.C. and out about 10 miles on the Trans-Canada to what is known as the Otter tail. It is going to make it wonderful by next winter when most of the new roads will be finished. It is the overpasses and bridges that take so long to build.

Better write to Rusty as we were away and I didn't write him yesterday. It will be nice when he is back in the US again and perhaps can get home once in a while.

Loads of love from us both.

Catherine

P.S. Had such a nice letter from Harve the other day. That's how we knew you were taking it easy in bed for a bit.

Banff, Alberta.

Wed. Jan. 15, 1958

Dearest Mother,

We are still having mild weather but expect any time to see the weather vane turn round to the east or north and that cold front which has been creeping south come in with gusto. Last year I think it was we never had one " chinook " all winter, in other words not a mild spell during the winter, but since November when we came home, there have been almost constant warm west winds in the southern part of the province and quite serious really for the top soil has drifted badly. However it has been wonderful for the new building .

Think we told you about it when we were east though you may have forgotten the details. It is on the back of the corner lot that Pete owns, on the ~~six~~ front end and facing the main street is one of the oldest wooden stores, now a photographic shop, (used to be a meat market always) ~~Then~~ George Noble moved his store in when the building he had rented was sold and then this fall while we were east he sold to a group of younger men, among them Nick Morant. Well in back of this old store there was room for a building to hold three stores and a hallway with the stairway to suites above. Since coming back there has been a couple wanting to rent all of the upstairs as a restaurant which would be much better for us but we have to be very sure that in changing the plans it won't cost a lot more, so there has been quite a lot to talk over and think about. It is lucky for us that we have Eldon Walls to look after business things, He is a very quiet person and kindly, never gets excited and waits his time. So he is doing all the talking with the Architects and prospective tenants, and he doesn't have to commit himself, by can always say he has to ask Pete.

The pouring of the concrete for the basement seemed rather slow while we were away, but then they ran into cold weather etc. and then during Christmas and New Years there were so many holidays in the middle of the week they couldn't really get men from Calgary to come up and work for just a couple of days at a time so it wasn't until the first of last week that the men who lay blocks got started, the walls are all made out of cement blocks, and we have been sure each day the weather would change and if it went below zero the work would have to stop, ~~on~~ a big snow storm ^{night} come up to delay things. However they have got three walls up and to-day looks nice. The brick layers have little portable stoves they use to heat the blocks and I guess to keep them warm too. Once they get enough built they can use plastic sheets and work inside. But naturally we are anxious they get on well.

A wife yesterday from Jim Orr saying that he had been delayed and wasn't coming this way but that Jerry Hunsaker from the office would be here this weekend from Calgary. He comes out quite often on business. Just as well Jim isn't coming for the town looks rather dirty with so little snow.

Hope you are feeling better and that the exzema is going or has gone. That was maddening having to be bothered with that. A week tomorrow Rusty will be starting home if they do what he thought they were going to do before Christmas. He wrote ~~on the 5th of Dec.~~ that they would start heading home Jan. 23rd.

Probably will take him 2 or 3 weeks, have forgotten how long it took to sail across the Atlantic. But will give you something to look forward to. seeing Rusty again and hearing about his trip.

Pete is busy building shelves and things in the dark room and we are going over now to get some more material. so all for now

Loads of love
Catherine

Box 370
Banff, Alta.
Fri. Jan 17, 1958

Dearest Mother,

It was wonderful to get the long letter from you this morning and to know you are feeling better even if you aren't all dressed, maybe you are by now. I hope so.

How much snow did you have in your blizzard? We are having our first snow now and if it keeps up (as it looks as if it might) we should have a good fall too. We really need it to make the town look right in winter. Yesterday practically all snow had gone under the trees and left the small branches blown off in the big wind the first part of December looking rather messy. I said to Pete, "If it is mild again to-day we should try and clean things up." but no use now. It is all covered, great big flakes coming down now, hope it doesn't rain!

Actually the weather has been fine for the building and the "block men" were able to get up 4 walls so the carpenters could lay the big beams across for the ceilings, but with to-day the way it is they may not do very well, though they have the joists covered with canvas over sheets of veneer and keeps it dry underneath. Notice you don't think much of the restaurant upstairs idea. Actually we had thought of some sort of dining rooms long ago but with no one to run it in mind, decided on three suites which will always rent, especially furnished, but also take a lot of looking after. If you get people to rent them furnished at a big price, they usually aren't good housekeepers and the furnishings take an awful beating, as it were. If you rent the apartments unfurnished we find that the people who take the best care of them and enjoy them the most are the ones who can't afford the rent and we are apt to be very soft hearted at times, hard not to be when you know all the tenants well. So when this couple came along and wanted to rent the whole of the ~~trap~~ top part for the same rent as we would have gotten for the 3 suites, we decided to look into it. The girl was born in Banff and her family are still living here, originally from Italy, she married an Italian and was caught in Italy during the War. They know the business and also lots of Calgary people and in summer a restaurant anywhere will pay if the food is good. The ones on the main street in Banff all end by having counters and seem hot and crowded and no outlook. This will have a row of large windows looking south and west with a view of Rundle and the Mounted Police barracks in spruce trees across the street, the post office and parking space in the park to the west. Actually it hasn't been decided definitely yet for we said we wouldn't do it if it would make the building cost more, have to be very careful of that part. Will let you know as soon as it is decided. Makes the exterior look much nicer with so many windows.

Your letter also told about the Washburns coming out to see you. I think Brad and Barbara were just as happy about the hall being named after Russell as you were, and as we are. Brad worked with Russ for such a long time and I know he was anxious it should be done that way. You ask sometimes why you go on living, well I think it is because you can still do so many fine things for others and you think of so much to do for people to make them happier. In other words you are still needed on earth.

It was nice too that you could help the Symphony Orchestra, I am planning to send a contribution too and have already written about it.

We have been listening to the Liberal Convention in Ottawa, // They met to elect a new leader for the Liberal Party which was defeated in the National Election last June. We were especially interested as we know a lot about both candidates. The one who got it is Lester B. Pearson who won ^{the} Nobel Peace Prize recently, for his work for Peace at the United Nations and the other was Paul Martin, who we met in Banff years ago before he was known as well, in fact we didn't realize he was a cabinet minister at the time, was Minister of Health and Welfare for a long time, maybe 9 years. He bought a picture of Pete's at the time of the Icefields. and wants one of Lake Louise when we get a good sketch. So it was sort of fun listening to the speeches and all.

Pete is busy making shelves for the dark room and now busy varnishing them, awfully smelly at times!

All for this letter, and lots of love
from us both.

Catharine

Sorry I wrote on 2 sizes of paper -

Banff, Alberta.
Jan. 19, 1958
Sunday

Dearest Mother,

It was zero this morning so guess one could say we are having winter at last. That was a good snow storm on Friday, snowed all day, rather a wet snow which stuck to all the trees, about 6 or 8 inches, then yesterday was very clear and cold and really beautiful. sunny and no wind and everyone seemed so cheerful and braced up. I think they nearly all enjoy real winter weather when it is so lovely out.

Yesterday being Saturday, we were busy in the morning and then after lunch it was so lovely thought we might as well try and get a few pictures, just as we started out two girls were giving three huskies a workout on the river with a dog sled, so we thought it might make a nice foreground, but the snow was deep and in the end it was the girls who got the workout running with the dogs. Then we went up the west road and took a few shots there.

To-day is just as lovely but it is cold to photograph and there is a wind, so the snow is falling off the trees, very pretty really, for it is so frosty and the snow so light it looks misty with the sun shining through. We should be out I guess but are also having furnace trouble, something wrong with the switch on the controls and Cecil Philpott is here now to see if we can fix it. We can operate it manually but the fan doesn't turn off by itself. Pete had to get up a couple of times in the night to put the heat on so the house wouldn't get too cold. It was lucky it never got below 60° inside. *we getting a new part Tues.*

Had a letter from Miss Burditt and she said she had just heard that Sted and Cal have gone to Cuba. Wonder do you know whether they are taking a cruise or just a trip on their own? I thought perhaps they have taken Milly with them, I know once before they were going. Only for 2 or 3 weeks I think.

We had expected Jim Orr to come for a trip west, but he had "respiratory difficulties" and can't fly for 2 weeks, so Jerry Hunsaker and Frank Johnson are coming instead, but we had a wife from Jim saying it would be next weekend, not this. We thought it just as well for it looked so dirty out with bare ground, now we are sorry it wasn't this week for it couldn't have been more beautiful than it is to-day.

Did you ever hear of Frank Johnson? He is one of the partners in Colonial and lives on Thoreau St. in Concord. No doubt one of the new people in town. Perhaps Frances knows him, or them, as he probably has a family. Will see how old he is and what he is like.

We went to the movies Friday night to see "Perri" Walt Disney's movie about a squirrel. The pictures are quite wonderful of animals and how they live and each preys on the other. a little girl about 6 years old seemed very bright, stood behind me with her head practically on my shoulder, but she was so interested and knew all the animals by name before even the commentator could tell us. The first part shows the squirrel, then the martin after them, chasing the poor mother squirrel until she is almost caught and the father distracts the martin and I think was killed for his efforts. Then the martin is distracted as her babies ~~xxx~~ are being

threatened, There were all sorts of animals, foxes, racoons, ^{weasels} skunks, birds too, and for a time it seemed there was always one kind after another. Finally they show all the animals and birds sleeping quietly in their nests or dens, and there is soft music. Then dawn breaks, also with appropriate music, and ~~the~~ as the day comes the little girl in my ~~ear~~ ear, pipes up, " oh dear, now they will all start fighting again." Thought they over did the dangers a bit but that is Hollywood. We enjoyed the preceeding picture which was French and taken in ~~Siamese~~ Cambodia or around the ruins of Angkor Watt, (where the family were) It showed only natives and their village, a group of little boys who captured a tiny baby elephant and how they took care of it and fed it etc. and finally the boys get tired of it, all but one who teaches it to follow him, and feeds and bathes ~~the~~ little elephant. Then a Chinese buyer of wild animals comes to the village and buys the baby elephant, while the little boy is sent off to herd the water buffalo, but in the end he follows and recaptures his elephant and then in the end ~~turns~~ turns it free to the parent elephants. It was lovely color and far more true to life than the Hollywood version of nature. ^{more subtle}

Better get on to some other letters.

Hope you are feeling better. Spring will soon be starting. Had a letter from Mrs Dan MacGowan who ~~lives~~ lives near Vancouver, and she said the primroses were in bloom and the crocus starting to push up.

Lots of love,

Catharine.

Banff, Alberta.
Tues. Jan. 21, 1958

Dearest Mother,

So far this has been a rather busy morning, Last night Cecil Philpott came to see how the furnace was working as he had sent the part to Calgary to be fixed and I guess it came in on the bus and he was ready to put it in if necessary, however we hadn't had difficulty so we came around at nine this morning, and while here fixed the fan over the stove which catches the grease, It only needed cleaning, I can clean it but he oiled it and reached in further than I do. Then our kitchen sink had plugged last night, so we have the plumber here fixing that.

Had a nice long letter from you yesterday, I guess you have had more winter than we have so far. The weekend was quite chilly, down to zero each morning, but it could have been way below at this time of year. then yesterday it was up to 25 and looks as if it might be the same to-day. It is really wonderful for the new building and they seem to be making good progress.

You said you might be going up to see Aunt Julie if the weather was good, I wonder how much snow you had, our 6-8 inches has settled down to about 4 and most of the snow on the trees has blown off. It was really pretty on Saturday and Sunday.

I would be glad to have the book "Green Fields Afar" by Clara & J.E. Middleton as it mentioned a family who's daughter is the school principal here and I know she would like to have it. *The other 2 books arrived the other day -*

It was so nice of the Washburns to come out and see you, it would be nice if you could go in to the Science Museum and be taken about in a Wheel chair, there is always so much walking to a place like that.

Am glad you are enjoying the Beaver Magazine. There are often very interesting articles and the pictures are always good. I remember that one about the Birch Bark Biting. How do you suppose they ever thought of making designs that way. Perhaps because the Eskimos soften the skins by chewing them and have noticed the designs their teeth marks made. I forgot which skin it is, Caribou I guess.

Guess you didn't go up to see Aunt Julie after all for I notice you finished the letter the next day, Wed. and didn't mention it.

Had a nice letter from the Wards, they went to California by bus. I should think a tiring way to travel but they seem not to mind. It is the long hours sitting I wouldn't like, but those long distance busses are very comfortable and of course you see the prettiest parts of the towns, not like a train.

They left here at 9 AM on a Monday, an hour or 2 in Calgary and got to friends in Fort Macleod about 5 PM. Stayed there 2 nights and a day. Left Wed. AM for Great Falls, Montana a night there, then left at 9AM for Salt Lake City and arrived at 2 AM Friday morning, which must have been an awfully long day.

Then off again Saturday morning for Las Vegas arriving at 6.30 but evidently were peppy enough to try the machines and she said " hit the Jack Pots 3 times " It was snowing when they left Salt Lake but 80 in Long Beach Calif, which they reached at 6.30 Mon. night. But it sounds too far in too short a time for me.

The sink is flowing again so guess we will be going over town for the groceries.

Lots of love from us both.

Catharine

Banff, Alberta.
Thurs. Jan 23, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Isn't this the day that Rusty is supposed to head home from the Mediteranean? I guess he will be awfully glad to get back and not be confined to a rather small ship, and cramped quarters.

In a letter from Miss Burditt she said that Gale had gone to New York for the weekend, and in one from Jim Orr he said that she was doing very well in her job at Mosleys, so that it nice to hear.

How is your kitten? Haven't heard you mention her since Christmas when she or Gibbs enjoyed the Christmas tree decorations. Expect Gibbs grows all the time.

I forgot to mention Mr Thorpe who Cousin Alma wrote had died, I guess he was getting older than one would think but he really was a big part of Concord. Hadn't he retired from the fish market as well as directing traffic?

Yesterday was Pete's Birthday which we didn't really celebrate any differently than other days. Got what they call a "cold light" for enlarging and he was very pleased as it fits onto the present enlarger and makes it much better in many ways. In the morning I started to clean the kitchen shelves and cupboards, and Pete decided to put up a piece of peg board in the corner by the chimney so I could put up little shelves for spices etc. It took him most of the A.M. and he finished after lunch, I had gotten the kitchen drawers etc. done and decided to clean the flat silver, for every once-in-awhile would have to hold something or mark a measurement or something anyway. We spoke of how much more one can get done if there are no interruptions. We had gotten up as usual about 7.30 and so had an early start, had been over for the mail and errands before lunch but otherwise had just been working away. About 3.30 when I had the silver polished but not washed we decided to stop for a cup of coffee, the vacuum was still out and most everything here and there for we hadn't quite finished and were in the process of putting things back. Sat down to have the coffee and Pete said "who's that coming down the hill?" It was Jacob Two Youngman from Morley. So he came in and I gave him my coffee and started to get another ^{cup} and there was a knock on the door. Flossie Currie, who is here for the winter, an old C.P.R. Telegraphist. So gave her my cup of coffee and once more started to get a cup for myself and Lynnise Becker and a friend came after school. More cake and gingerale for them and so we had quite a party. Jake was the first to leave but wanted to speak to Pete first. Then the girls, as one was giving music lessons to a younger child, and then Flossie. It was quite an afternoon and by the time I got another letter in the last mail and we returned it was nearly six o'clock. WE do a lot of checking on how the new building is coming on! They are doing quite well and it looks fine to us.

Last evening instead of answering Christmas letters I took the night off and read newspapers. Tod-ay

I tidied upstairs in the store room so more could be stowed away and then cleaned up things in the big bedroom, now I must go up and vacuum a bit for parts are pretty dusty. We will soon have the house looking more presentable. There is so much we want to do it is hard to know where to start. I still have the kitchen and front room to do and lots of things to sort over. *Washed too this AM*

We are expecting Jerry Hunsaker and Frank Joynson to come this Saturday so must be ready for them.

Will call this a letter and send lots of love,

Catherine

Banff, Alberta.
Tues. Jan. 28, 1958

Dearest Mother,

On the noon news broadcast it spoke of " Bean town " (which we presume is Boston) and how you were about to have floods or some such trouble after so much snow and rain. We have been very lucky here so far but looks dull out this afternoon so it could mean snow. The weekend was just perfect and so lovely and sunny yesterday we couldn't bear to stay in and went out the old west road and walked up and down in the sun, it was lovely and as all the traffic goes on the upper new wide Trans-Canada Highway, it leaves the old road by the shore of the lakes a dead end road. Not a person or car or even animal came along, late on it should be a good place to go for sketching.

Noticed in the long range forecast in the newspaper for the next month that all the New England and eastern seaboard right down through Florida is to be " way below normal " and out here the west coast down through California and including Alberta is to be " way above Normal " We won't complain as it is nice to be able to get out and enjoy the good days.

It was good to have news of Kitty and that she will be home soon, no doubt by the time you get this letter. I wonder if it was unusually cold at Naples? If so she will need to go back for some real warm sun and bathing later in the year. The Chambers didn't pick such a good year to take their long awaited vacation but then if they had never been before they might not mind it. Trouble with hot places that are unusually cold, is that the houses aren't built for cold weather and they are most uncomfortable when it gets real chilly.

Haven't done much the last couple of days, for Eldon was in yesterday morning talking business and in the afternoon Sunday Mrs Simpson was over to return a book, and Pete picked up a cold or throat hoarseness so hasn't felt as ambitious as we both were last week. However he cleaned the paints up a bit to-day and is now struggling upstairs to get started with oils, it is always hard to get going, same with most things.

It was good to hear that you had been up to see Aunt Julie, for I do think it is nicer when you can think of a person in their surroundings, She seems to be very happy there and I am sure they must be very good and understanding in their care.

That must have been a wonderful tea that Mrs Emerson gave for the young family and how good of her to come & see you, but then I bet she thought it good of you to write when you couldn't go. Maybe they will be giving another some time when the weather is warmer and you can get out more easily. You know if you had one of those folding light weight wheel chairs you could go to certain things that wouldn't tire you. A big tea might be a little confusing when everyone yells back and forth. Do think it nice of the policemen to take charge of the cars like that.

It's a good idea for you to try and go down stairs once a day, then when Rusty comes you will be all set to have him for dinner. Have you ever invited Bob and Barbara Palmer over for Sunday dinner, bet they would enjoy it, you might even get over to see their little house in Lincoln.

~~xxxxxx~~
xxxxxx

How is Martha Chase getting on ? Mrs Bordman said that she was home and Theo Bobrinskoy was to be with her for a while, guess I should write her myself and find out.

In fact so many letters to get off better not write more to you now. Had a nice note from both Mary and Hildur and another wonderful long letter from Hanne, Willwrite her soon.

Loads of love from us both,

Catharine

Banff, Alberta.
Wed. Jan. 29, 1958

Dearest Mother,

It is 5.30, too soon to start getting supper and so thought I would just type out a letter to mail you to-morrow. As in the morning I should get busy on the income Tax information to send to Miss Publicover. Have been trying to get all the Xmas thank you letters written but the presents keep coming, not that we get so many but to-day a book from England which is very interesting to us. About the artist Annigoni who painted the Queen's portrait last year or in 1956 and one of the Duke of Edinburgh and just recently one of Princess Margaret, the one of the Queen is the best anyone has done of her, bvery detailed but well done, and this book is a sketching trip he took in Spain and the photographs of an artist friend who went with him. They are combined and it is interesting to see what his sketches are like of the subject photographed often from the same spot. Then we have two magazine subscriptions which have just come and so it goes.

Happened to be writing up my line-a-day and noticed last years weather. This year we haven't had below zero * - Yet, and last year the warmest for the month was 17 above and for a week it was below zero most of the time, even -45. To-day it was 30 again and melting in some places, is snowing gently to-night but it has been wonderful for the new building, they could have ~~done~~ done anything had it been like last year or most years. They have the back wall and 2 side walls almost up to the roof with these cement blocks they use, and as the whole front part is windows, (or most of it) they don't put the blocks up there. By next week they might have the roof on and again they might not if we have a snow storm or cold weather or anything to delay them.

Thursday- I am like you, not much to write about as so much of our time right now is spent in doing things around the house. Pete has started painting which is good, working on some old sketches that didn't turn out well or were unfinished, so there is nothing to lose and seems a good way to get started. He finds that he can work half a day without it being too hard on his eyes, yesterday he worked both morning and afternoon and it was a little ~~to~~ too much. I haven't started on the Tax figures yet, we seem to be sleeping until 8 these dark mornings and so breakfast isn't over until 9, then Eldon came for a few minutes and now we are going out soon to the post office,

Shall be anxious to hear the first news of Rusty and where he is stationed next. Bet he will be glad to get home, and do hope he gets leave allright.

Lots of love from us both,

Catherine.

Banff, Alberta.
Sat. Feb. 1, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Here it is the first of February already and feels like spring, though this morning it was down almost to zero, up to nearly 30 above this afternoon and melting in the sun.

Such nice letters from you, sorry you feel so poorly at times but I find all elderly people do, even some 3/4s your age. so just be thankful you have a good mind and are fun for people to come and see.

How would it be if when you haven't any company you sent George to pick ^{DOWN} them up, lots of times it is the effort of getting the car out and slippery roads which keeps people at home, and sometimes I notice if you ask a person to come they think it a good idea, but don't always think of it on their own.

By now Kitty will have returned and that will be nice for you to hear about Florida, Wonder if the cold has affected their tourist season. Someone wrote from Honolulu that the hotels weren't crowded as they were last year, but I think they over expanded there.

The book which you can't find and are worried about. # Green Fields Afar by Clara & E.J. Middleton is one you wrote and asked me about in a letter written January 14th, and would we like it, So I wrote back and said "yes, we would." and perhaps you have put it aside to send. Don't worry about it, for it won't matter whether you send it now or we get it some time later.

Wasn't that nice about Wadsworth ^{wife} having a little girl? Guess Mildred couldn't wait to see her grand-niece and evidently called on you. Maybe it wasn't Mildred but Mercelia who wrote on the bottom of the letter last Sunday, Can see now it was Mercelia for it was Sunday and 11.15 but with "Owens" mentioned just above and the writing for some reason looking like Mildred's I took it for hers and even wondered you didn't mention her coming! You can see I get just as confused as you do and make mistakes, I think you do awfully well.

We had a nice letter from Mrs Belmore Browne and in it she said she had heard from Sally Chamberlain, who's mother, Mrs Charlotte Browne had been ill with Phneumonia, Mrs Charlotte is your old friend from Salem. She is better now.

Thanks for telling us about your trip to Aunt Julie's, at first you just wrote that you were hoping to go that afternoon and then our letters crossed, for in the end we heard twice. but different things pertaining to the trip. We went up with Aunt Julie last fall when she first moved in and then again before we left the east, but didn't meet the other ladies, Are glad to hear she still enjoys it. Even if the room may seem small, it has the advantage of being easy to get about in and not as much danger of her falling.

If you don't want the Birch Bark Biting any more just ~~xx~~

send it back, Sort of interesting don't you think.

What dull weather you have had, real winter compared to ours. To-day it is as clear as a bell and was last weekend, but we too have quite a lot of overcast days.

I don't wonder ~~you were~~ you were surprised to get two copies of the Calgary Herald and don't know how they happened to be sent to you, we didn't send them. Give them to Mary to read if you still have them, she likes Canadian papers occasionally.

Don't forget Rusty is coming home soon, he will be awfully disappointed if you aren't there, and so will we if we go east in March. Pete might not come but think I will, for just a flying trip toward the end of March. When the Vallances are in Boston. Syd Vallance is the lawyer from ^C Calgary and looks after all our things for us, He really mean't to retire when he came to Banff but everyone gets him to do their things for them. He and his wife both read Mrs Waymans book about Grandpa and "Japan Day by Day" and they want to meet you.

Shall be anxious to hear all you can write about Rusty and isn't it fine that Gale got a raise?

Our love to all of them including Kitty and lots to you

Catherine

Banff, Alberta.
Wed. Feb. 4, 1958

Dearest Mother,

I had no sooner posted a letter to you at noon on Monday than a nice one came from you in the afternoon. It is awfully good of you to write so much and then we don't wonder how you are. when we hear from you every day or two.

By this time Kitty will be home and no doubt some word from Rusty. We are wondering if you are having more snow for on the radio it said something about "2 feet and drifts of 8 or 10 feet " but I didn't hear where it was. Hope it's not a bad storm.

A big interruption just then while Pete's uncle Jack his sister Mrs Tollington and the son Kenneth came to pay their Christmas or New Years call. We haven't seen them since summer as they have been down on a ranch near Cochrane, luckily Pete had gone out to have a part made for his camera, he has been working on it for several days. a bit of Aluminum casting which he was filing & cutting down to just the right size. So only I spent a good part of the afternoon with them.

We have also been doing more deciding about the new building as the change to a restaurant upstairs will increase some costs and decrease others, and it is a question of whether the couple will want to pay more rent or what. Eldon came to see if we wanted to drive down to Calgary with him to-day but we aren't that keen on a trip to Calgary, Also it is colder this week and feels like winter weather, 5 above this morning and quite frosty out yet. Then we have to consider the tenants for the stores quite carefully too. We would never be able to do this without Eldon and he is so quiet and yet firm, usually lets the other do the talking and then if he doesn't want to say " yes " or " no " tells them he has to speak to us, and if they come to us and we don't want to commit ourselves, we say that " Eldon Walls is handling it all for us." He is to use the end store for his office which we wondered if it would be large enough, but he says he isn't going to take on any more work than he does now if he can help it, he would rather have time to spend with his family, than a great big business. Then one store has been spoken for and it is fairly definite, special foods & imported things, like Huntley & Palmer biscuits and English things which sell well to tourists from the states. The other store has not been rented yet. Have all sorts after it from a hairdresser to a person wanting to sell diamonds.

To-morrow is Carnival with the parade and Pete is wondering if we can get away somewhere so we won't have to lend the Indians costumes! If it is cold may not want to go far! Don't think the Carnival will amount to much this year but you never know.

Here is Pete now and soon Cyril Paris will be back to get some ski pictures for his store window to decorate it for the Carnival. Pete has the part made. thought the heating man had to take apart two thermostats to find things to make it of for the camera.

Here is Cyril now. Having coffee & cake
Loads of love
Catharine

/ Banff, Alberta.
Feb. 7, 1958

Dearest Mother,

A nice long letter from you written the 3rd. and telling about your Sunday callers, Jack and Mary Kennedy and Christine Penn and her brother, I think it was just as well you were upstairs for then you didn't have to climb the stairs after they had gone and you might have felt tired. Why not get someone to come in ~~the~~ on Sunday afternoons when Hanne is out, even if there doesn't seem much to do it would help when you do have callers.

Didn't know you were thinking of trying a wheel chair but actually I would think in various little ways it would be very handy, especially in the spring. When you want to go down to the greenhouse or over to Frances. Far easier than getting in and out of a car and also you are in the sun and air more.

I always remember waiting for a taxi in front of the Edmonton Hotel and a car drove up and parked, (or I should say was driven up,) just one man in it. The right hand door opened and a lightweight wheel chair was sort of shaken out, for it was folded up like an accordion at first and the man seemed to sort of flip it out onto the sidewalk. Then he carefully eased himself out of the front seat and into the chair, for he was paralyzed from the waist down, picked up a brief case, locked the door to the car and rolled himself off and into the hotel I guess. But he was perfectly independent. I wouldn't expect you to do that, but if George could get you one of those light tubular chairs on wheels that they have, he could take you anywhere you wanted to go, to see Steds garden or even downtown to the Bookstore. Another idea you might be able to remove a couple of shrubs near the driveway without it's changing things too much and put a little sloping path in, instead of the steps, then you could "takeoff" at the door so to speak.

Well this week we are having real winter weather at last. It has been zero nearly every morning, though not below as yet, and a fine crystal in the air, like frost, almost like a fine snow and it even sparkles in the sun, but makes it cold out. The Carnival parade was yesterday at 1.30 and though there was some sun the wind was from the east and awfully cold standing and waiting and watching. Too cold for the band to play as it was about 10° above by then and if they blew their ~~mouths~~ mouths would stick I guess and also the air condenses and everything stiffens and freezes up. However the R.C.A.F. Band, which Davy Whyte is in, looked very smart in their uniforms and I guess gave a concert or played for a dance last night. The floats were all good and it was a very nice display even if we all felt cold at the end.

The Chinese have a real show they put on for the first time this year, an elaborate Chinese dragon with a man inside who dances about and others pull strings and things to make him move about, to tell the truth I didn't watch too carefully but there is evidently quite a trick to doing it well and they have been practising for some time.

We had a letter from the Vallances to-day and I guess lots of people who found it too cold in Florida have gone to the West Indies, for they had trouble getting their reservations to some of the places and also return, so have had to give up plans to come back via Boston, so we won't be able to show them about after all. It may work out better for us too as we might not have wanted to leave here in order to meet them in the east. Jim Orr may come out west in April and he can meet Syd Vallance in Banff instead of in Boston.

Had a nice letter from Sted Buttrick and he said they didn't have a lot of good weather but a good rest, and came home relaxed. Did Kitty say it was really cold at Naples? I notice they have had another cold spell in Florida just lately.

Must get this in the mail so, lots of love as always,

Catharine .

It hasn't gotten above 5° to-day .

Banff, Alberta.
Sunday, Feb. 9, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Am enclosing what we considered the best thing to see in the Carnival, The Power Company brought in this exhibition of Norman Rockwell's work, the preliminary sketches and four covers and they really are remarkably well painted, Even if they are just considered commercial Art there is no reason to belittle them for they are so much better than the ordinary Art one sees to-day and I am sure they are the paintings that will live and depict this day and age.

The weather has been terribly cold for a Carnival, they shouldn't have tried to have it a week earlier than usual, the mixed bonspiel was evidently very good, but the rink is in a building like a barn, so sheltered. The parades had no music as it was too cold for the bands and we didn't go to the Skating show last night as it was zero, no wind luckily but too chilly to sit and watch a lot of kids in too flimsy costumes. We used to like it in the old days when Mrs Simpson had it and it was an afternoon affair and all the fond parents and grandparents with the tiny brothers and sisters got out to watch, and children from 5 years old up would try to skate. Last night the youngest was 11 and we thought we didn't really care. Also the flash bulbs and spot lights are hard on the eyes and Pete had a bit of a cold last week which he got rid of, so no use getting that back again. However to-day the wind was west and though zero this morning it is now, 1.30 PM almost 30 above and a lovely afternoon. So glad for the crowning of the queen and they can at least end the thing with a flourish.

We think we won't bother with the Carnival each year but you are bound to watch some things and it will be nice this coming week to " get back into our usual way " as Jean used to say.

A wonderful letter from you yesterday, you make so few mistakes and look at all the ones I make, some days hit all the wrong keys and it takes much longer to write. At the Art Show I tried to introduce Georgie Paris to the lady in charge and got her partly introduced but couldn't think of her married name, Sutcliffe, for we never think of her except as Georgie Paris and the harder I tried the further I got from it. So even if you did forget the Jack Kennedy's ~~name~~ right off when they came to see you, don't let it trouble you. If they came to see you as often as the Washburns you would remember but when you don't have a person on your mind and haven't thought of them for some time, it is hard to think when they appear unexpectedly.

You asked again about the book " Green Fields Afar " Don't worry about it, your copy should turn up somewhere. The only book I know of that name was a tiny thin book I sent you years ago about a family living on the Prairies, but it might be you are thinking of a new one by someone else. We had a copy of the first one here but I haven't taken time to look for it yet.

I don't believe it hurts you to do things you want to, like driving in a car, even if you do have to go to bed and rest afterwards, but if you get so tired it makes you feel sick, then you would have to figure if it is worth it for the pleasure of doing the extra driving. Why not the days you expect to drive further, only go down stairs once in the afternoon, and not for dinner that day.

Time to go for the mail so will send this along. Will be anxious to hear when Rusty gets back and if he can get leave soon to come to Concord. You be sure and tell us all you can about him.

Hanne wrote us the nicest letter that came yesterday too. She does write a good one, hope you let her read mine to you for otherwise she doesn't get much in the way of an answer to hers, and it is good of her to write. *Please*

thank her for us

Loads of love from us both.

Catherine.

Banff, Alberta,
Mon. Feb. 10, 1958

Dearest Mother,

It is after supper and we found the radio not good at all to-night, wondered what was wrong, decided it was the aerial that needed fixing. Then heard a car drive in and it was Nellie MacKenzie on her way home with Sandy, she wondered if we had noticed the northern lights and of course we hadn't. The sky is just as red or pink as can be, especially in the north, like a sunset and it goes in an arc right across to the southeast, the rest of the sky where there aren't a few clouds is a lovely greenish colour. I have never seen anything like it and Mr Scott said the last time he saw it was in the east about 60 years ago, and the reflection made the snow pink too. The top of Sulphur was quite pink from the light from the sky. It didn't change much, just a blush of pinkish rose, almost red. But of course it would bother the radio. Don't know if it means very cold weather or what, perhaps it has nothing to do with the weather. *Looks like glow from tremendous fire.*

Well the end of the Carnival was rather disappointing I guess they decided not to have the crowning ceremony too long and so there was just one girl who skated and a number of children who really just took poses, think I may have written this, and there were too many speeches. A good crowd of people up from Calgary and a lovely afternoon, warm compared to the 3 previous days, and the setting on the river is lovely. It, the river, is low this year so they could have it almost in the middle where it is very shallow, with Mr. Rundle as a backdrop. They run water from hoses with sprays and gradually build up a large mass of cascading ice, green at times and they use this to make the throne with steps up to it, very effective really. Then a sheet of ice in front and banks of snow and the people in their very colorful winter costumes and clothes standing around. I usually like to be on the bridge where you can look down on the whole thing.

To-day wasn't quite as warm but nice, Pete is working on small sketches, ones that were no good and unfinished, and he is painting over them, sometimes the same effects but often changing the whole thing. Did a nice little one to-day from the top of the Bow Summit. I was busy writing letters, business ones and made so many mistakes had to type them several times.

You talk about mistakes but I can make far more than you do in a letter. In fact I think yours are just fine and you shouldn't feel they aren't worth sending.

On the radio this morning it started talking about "Late morning energy lag" do you have it? do you know what to do for it? Eat Ogilvy oats!"

Pete is working on a piece of wood to make a part for one of the cameras, he is always trying something new, and I have done the ironing and it is almost bedtime. I have been reading aloud a chapter in Mr McCouns book each night we go to bed early enough, he was Caro Macleod's grandfather and came all through the west as a Botanist from 1870 on, reminds me a bit of Grandpa he was very observant and interested in all sorts of things. In the chapter last night for instance he spoke of the barometer dropping way down and that same day a bad mine explosion at Nanimo where they were. Said some Englishman said they often had bad mine disasters or explosions when the barometer dropped though they didn't know why exactly.

*Loads of love
Catherine*

Banff, Alberta
Thurs. Feb. 13. 1958

Dearest Mother,

We are really getting a dose of winter now, for about ten days it has been around zero, not much below and not much above but usually the wind is east. This week has been the coldest and the last few days dull, a fine snow and zero. Of course I think I am going to get so much done in the way of sorting things out and looking over papers but there is something about cold weather that slows one down. Pete has been doing more than I have. Painting in the mornings and early afternoon and working inbetween on new parts for the camera so he can use different lenses on the various cameras.

I looked at the photographs over town of the Carnival but they weren't very good @ 50¢ each so didn't order any. In fact they gave no idea at all of what went on.

A nice letter came from you yesterday, perhaps it is best to just accept Old Age but sounds as if your diet won't be very exciting. Maybe you should get one of those Electric ~~Blenders~~ **Blenders** which whirls everything around and makes it into nice soup! Hanne will know what I mean. Have never used one but it is similar to the things they make milk shakes with and you can put in all sorts of interesting things in the way of vegetables and they come out nice and ~~smooth~~ smooth, ideal for thick soup. Perhaps come summer and the fresh vegetables you will want a little meat and fish to go with them.

Think you are doing well knitting so much, what kind of baby blanket are you doing? If you did it in strips and sewed it to-gether would that make it less heavy, or crochet it the way you used to and then you only hold up one part at a time. If you want a baby to knit for, Bubby Whyte is to have one in May. That is young Barbara who was married last summer. She lives in Lethbridge now.

Miss Publicover wrote about Income Tax things and said she had talked to you on the phone, have you an extension I wonder? You know they have them that you can plug in when you need it or want to speak to someone. With a long wire it would reach into the sitting room or your bedroom and then when you finish speaking it can be taken back to the hall and the wire part coiled.

Mildred wrote the other day, thanking me for stamps and she said that George had found some thing that would go on the stairs to carry you up and down with ease, sounds quite wonderful or don't you need it yet?

I don't seem to have much news this time, but then we haven't done much that is exciting.

Will enclose a clipping or two to help out. Wonder if anyone has heard from Rauty yet. Your letter was written last Thursday, (slow in coming, I guess due to storms) and I think some one said he was to land about Friday, so perhaps there will be a letter to-day.

Loads of love from us both.

Catherine

If I were to use
a thousand words
They could not tell you more
than this —

*I love you,
dear Valentine!*

*Valentine's Day is just another
good opportunity to say it!*

Mildred

Banff, Alberta.
Saturday, Feb. 15th 1958

Dearest Mother,

Such a lovely day to-day, we are lucky for it is still below zero in Calgary and was ten above here this morning ~~xx~~ and nearly 30 above now at 2 PM. All week it has been sort of dreary winter weather, dull and a fine snow and east wind, but was sunny yesterday, though -20 below in the morning and it didn't get very far up during the day wither.

A nice letter just came from you this noon and also one from Cousin Alma and Martha Chase so we did very well on Concord news. I was especially glad to hear from Martha for I was wondering how she was getting on and she says she feels fine though is going to stay home for a while yet. Said she had seen you but didn't say if she had gone to your house or you had called on her. Knowing the steps up to her door I imagine she went to see you.

Cousin Alma mentioned that Mary Chamberlain and the Johnsons had gone ^{on a ten day} Audubon tour to Florida which sounds fun. We had a book sent us yesterday about birds which I should send to Eleanor, A government book 25¢, but quite interesting, the folk names of birds.

I gather Rusty has landed but no one knows for sure where he is, no doubt he will just drop in on you but do hope he gets a real leave this time. Had a letter from Miss Burditt and she mentioned that his boat was due they thought.

It was too bad about Bob and Barbara losing the baby but they are young and such things seem to happen in the best of regulated families. Perhaps it doesn't hurt for a husband to ~~do a~~ bit of housekeeping including the wash, I bet he is a great help and after all after being in the army most boys can do those sort of things with ease. These new automatic washers are easy too.

About the London Studios, if you enjoy looking at them, we do too. Always interesting to see what the trend is. though now-a-days it seems that the pictures which are published in art magazines are the very modern kind or abstract. There are lots of good things being painted but they are rarely reproduced. We have just been asked to send a group of sketches to London, Ontario of British Columbia, even if they are old ones, Clare Bice who had a show of ours some time ago put on one of the early west last year, lots of Indian things and paintings of the early days. It must have been very good. *Mustine de l'espero de D.C.*

We are invited out to a supper party to-night and to bring the slides of Alaska, so last evening spent quite a while looking them over. Cyril and Mary Paris came down in the late afternoon to ask us and before that Barbara Whyte of the Post Office came to ask us about forwarding mail to the Wards and she stayed a and talked, so I got none of the letters written I mean't to. "Don't know why I take so long doing things. must be getting old." Got quite a shock the other day when I read in the paper about "people who are middle aged between the ages of 45 and 65." I didn't think one was middle aged until they were at least 60 or 65. Well perhaps in cities they are, but not out here. I refuse to be .

Better get some more peanut butter out for the chic-a-dees, We have some fat hung on the clothes line and to-day it looked warmer so when I hung out the laundry I moved the fat to the further end of the line which is on a wheel, and later one little bird kept hopping around and looking where it used to be

couldn't figure out where it had gone, kept cocking his head
on one side and then he sat on a clothes peg and ~~hopped~~^{hopped} away.

Lots of love from us both and hope you have some nice
warm days soon.

Catharine.

Banff, Alberta.
Mon. FEB. 17, 1958

Dearest Mother,

From the way I am starting out expect I will hit all the wrong keys. Well by this time perhaps Rusty is home in Concord, hope he got there for the weekend and ~~not~~ sitting in some snowdrift. We happened to fiddle with the little radio beside our bed last night, because we were in bed early and waiting until it was time for the news. It is the radio we got the first year of the war so it is 20 years old nearly, and somehow got Atlanta, Georgia just as clear as could be, nice music and a little news, Said it was 6° above zero and got as high as 14° which sounded pretty cold for down there. and then it mentioned how over 100 flights were cancelled from LaGuardia Field in New York because of the snow and Lebanon, New Hampshire had 58 inches. By that and the little news we get here you must be all snowed in and pretty cold.

Expect the mails will be delayed and we are really looking forward to hear what Rusty is there and of course want to know how long he can stay and how he is and anything you can think of to tell us. Bet he really enjoys being home.

Seems to be snowing here this afternoon. We have been lucky though and it has been 20° degrees warmer with us than in Calgary where it was zero again this morning. 20° above here and 30° now.

Saturday night we were quite gay and went out to a buffet supper, actually it was a real meal or dinner, baked potatoes, meat in gravy and a couple of vegetables, coffee and cake for dessert. We were invited for around 6.30 and had something to drink first, quite a wait as the potatoes didn't bake well, then Harry Dempster showed some lovely slides of Jasper and country lots of people don't get in to, then Walter Fisher who manages the Chair lift showed his pictures, and a few too many as a lot were just personal ones as well as a few of Sun Valley and Honolulu, and then they wanted to see the ones we had brought. It was I think about 11.30 by then and we were ready to come home, but they insisted so we did it as quickly as we could, and the dance was just coming out over town as we drove back at midnight. It was a nice congenial group of people, the Lappers who are fairly new to Banff, he is the Bank Manager, The Dempsters, he is the new Superintendent but used to be an engineer in the park so Cyril and Mary knew him well, and a Mrs Leuthwaite who's husband died a year or two ago and the Walter Fishers, he runs the Chair Lift for George Encil and they both came from Germany but are to get their citizenship papers the end of the month. There was lots of joking and kidding so it was fun. Mr Paris, Cyril's father was there too and sat and looked at all those slides. pretty good for 86 years old -

Of course yesterday we slept in and then had a chicken to roast, which had to be stuffed too so I was busy with that. Pete still working on the camera things, then in the afternoon we took Rita Crick to the train as she is going to Edmonton to see Dr Marshall and hopes to have her 2nd. Cataract removed. Then we took a short drive as we find the car works better if we drive fast for a few miles on the new road. Then in the evening I was so sleepy I just couldn't write letters and Pete was just as bad. Made me sort of provoked for Sunday is often a good day to get notes written, Guess I ate too much. Now it is Monday and we have a double funeral

to go to. An elderly couple who I think celebrated their golden wedding a year or two ago, have a large family. Mrs Wheatley has been in hospital for a month or more and I was just talking to a daughter the other day, who said she ~~got~~^{visited} up every day to feed her, but ~~she~~^{she's} hadn't long to live, her father went up and just ~~sit~~^{sat} with her but sometimes her mother didn't ~~really~~^{always} know him. A week or so ago he had a " seizure " I suppose a heart attack, but was better, and then Thursday he died very suddenly and his wife died two days later, so they are to have a double funeral to-day.

Pat MacKenzie just came in so will end this and be writing soon again anyway. ~~She~~^{she} ~~watched~~^{watched} a ~~base~~^{base} ~~strip~~^{strip} ~~sunday~~^{sunday}.

Our very best to Rusty, hope he has lots of time and can write us a note or a post card!

Lots of love,

Catherine

Got your note in pencil written the 12th that Rusty had telephoned, Miss Seydett in sending some paper from the office said "Rusty is home"! That was on the 13th, but came same day as your letter, so at first we thought she meant "home in the U.S.A." but hope it really is "home in Concord".

Banff, Alberta.
Tues. Feb. 18, 1958

Dearest Mother,

It was good to hear from you to-day that Rasty is home and had been up to see you, How does he look and is he getting awfully anxious to get out of the Marines? Wonder if he has found any good skiing around Concord, I suppose the trouble is finding someone to go with him in the middle of the week. That is the trouble with getting leave when no one else has a vacation. Do tell us all you can.

You certainly are getting plenty of winter this year by the sound of the radio news and the papers too. Must be lots of snow and if you get all the cold weather we have had for the last couple of weeks you will have winter for a while yet. Actually we are lucky in Banff, on the edge of the cold wave and luckily the warm edge, so the last 4 days it has been 20 degrees warmer here than in Calgary, and to-day went up above 40 and the snow on the roof dripped and there were lots of puddles and what snow we have has shrunk to 3 or 4 inches.

Thought I would write you to-night as the Morants are coming in on the train in the morning and we said we would meet them. Always fun to see them again and hear the news from the east. They have been on a lecture tour with slides of the mountains and Peru, and some of them they show just to music with no talking. They do it for the C.P.R. really, as he is the C.P.R. Photographer.

This weather is good for building and they are doing a lot of the wood part, only trouble is the roofing men haven't appeared, probably from the zero weather in Calgary they think it is cold up here too, too cold for roofs. The man putting up tiles was there to-day but think he must have felt it too cold for bricks unless another group do that. Anyway the Architect told Eldon Walls yesterday that they hope to have it finished by the first of April, which will be wonderful if true. Just another 6 weeks. Charlie Bell is doing a plaque of a Buffalo for one end. About 2½ by 3 or 4 feet, and set into the brick on the upper left corner. We thought it would be nice to have a local touch like that, Cousin Bert will know who Charlie Bell is, he did the little horse that Ebbs has.

Thanks for sending the letter from Aunt Julie, for we hadn't heard from her for sometime, not since Christmas. How ~~is~~ very sad about Mrs Dearborn? Does seem as if she could do something before it is too late and that it wouldn't cost too much. Some people who haven't been to many doctors are sort of hesitant about going but doesn't seem as if it would cost too much does it?

Nice to think that David Little is to move into Mrs Little's house on Monument street for it is in a nice spot and they will be a great addition to that part. How are the Miss Stimsons? Does seem a shame one had to have a heart attack & the other a bad knee just when they were so nicely settled too.

Mr Scott has just come down to see us and is talking to Pete while I hustle with this. Pat MacKenzie was down yesterday, when the weather is warmer we have more company.

Loads of love and thanks for your awfully nice letters.

Catharine

Banff, Alberta.
Fri. Feb. 21, 1958

Dearest Mother,

We are having a real spring day, rather early for us and Pete thought he saw some magpies looking over building sites for this summer, if they start building their nest now it sure does mean an early spring. It has been up to 40 or over each day this week and 45 right now at 1.30 and a high wind, a real chinook and the snow going fast, We had expected the Gills up from Calgary as he had a trial on in Banff but it has been postponed and one of their children has had measles so they aren't coming, so now instead of waiting around for them we may go out and take some pictures as Pete is experimenting with the new lens he made by using one for the speed graphic and adapting it to the Leica, too complicated to explain.

This morning we had such a nice letter from Rauty written in the office on Thursday, it came very fast and we were so pleased to hear from him. He sounded as if he were having a good time and was pretty busy. Lucky they were snowed in at the Amorys and not on his way home at LaGuardia Field or some such place, that would have been aggravating and how lucky he got leave too, Might have been one of those that didn't. He spoke of the party that Kitty gave for him and Gale and that he had met Frank Johnson and Jerry Hunsaker who were out here less than a month ago. Guess being in Banff gave them something in common.

We had quite a time this week as due to a sort of misunderstanding they used materials we didn't expect on the new building. Most Architects like brick and that is one thing we hate, especially in Banff, so when it was first shown on the plans we objected and one of the Architects brought up a rough looking gray brick that is known as "split split rock" and by using the rough side looks like rock and is a quarter the price, so we thought that would be fine. It is long like two bricks in size and we called it the "rough gray brick." ~~Then~~ Wednesday morning Pete went over to see if the Morants train was on time and happened to notice that the mason was putting up the first row of red brick on the wall beside the alley, so he rushed down to see Eldon and then back to get me and we ran back and forth and looked and spoke with the foreman and Eldon telephoned Calgary and in between we met the train and took the Morants shopping, when Pete saw Eldon again and heard him speak to the Architect. Seems they got these special different colored red brown and buff colored brick specially from Saskatchewan and the gray brick isn't called brick at all but "Spilt rock" and that is to be used under the windows and in certain parts only. Well we took the Morants to see it and then to their house and we looked some more and here it was wonderful weather for brick laying and it would mean a delay of nearly a week if we changed, and they didn't know if they could get enough gray brick anyway, so we finally decided that it would blend in with the old store building and does give color rather than flat gray or black bricks and so they are going ahead with it. But just shows how one has to watch all the time.

I hear the films coming out of the developer in the dark room the clock just rang and when Pete sees how the few pictures he took this morning came out then we may go and take a few more if the wind isn't too strong. He wants to see how the lens works. First week he made it the weather was so cold and dull he couldn't take any distance shots. *Couldn't see the mountains clearly enough.*

Jim Orr wrote about the nice time he had with you a week or so ago when we went out to Concord some Saturday morning.

telephone

Did he tell you about his mother who is pretty old; probably ten years younger than you, but she broke a hip and they thought would never walk again but she gets around now. You know you can ask him all sorts of questions and he will help you in many ways for I know he would like to. He said you had real fun talking to-gether.

Must run so all for this letter.

Loads of love from us both.

Catherine

Banff, Alberta.
Sun. Feb. 23, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Two nice letters from you lately, posted the 17th and 18th. the first one written during that real blizzard you had and the next was -7 below zero. You certainly have had quite a winter, expect by spring all the resevoirs will be well filled with water, remember how low they were in the fall. Guess nature always evens things up.

We are having wonderful weather, almost like spring this week and it has been up to 40 above and over every day, yesterday 59 in Calgary and 60 at Claresholm just south of that. We hope it stays the same this week or at least the next few days so they can get the roof on, but we have been so very lucky this far we daren't hope for it to last.

Looking out the window there is so much bare ground one feels one should get the rake out or at least pick up the boughs that blew off the trees in the high wind in December and which have been hidden by snow. Under the trees in front of the house it is ~~all~~ bare, looks more like April than February. But we can have a lot of winter yet, especially in March.

How good of Rusty to come and see you so often, I bet he does it because he enjoys talking to you, doesn't he still tease you? and you call him "a goose." He wrote us a wonderful letter from the office when he was in Boston. Told us about the party Kitty gave for him and for Gale, and then he mentioned that he had met Julian Crocker at the office, who Russ thought a lot of and an awfully nice sort of person too. A combination of Alec Bright and Cob Palmer, in a way. It was fun too that Rusty could go to a hockey game and a tennis match and see "around the world in 80 days" quite a variety of things.

Wonder if he got any skiing around Concord. The poor Ski places, some winters have so little snow no one comes and then a winter like this there is so much snow no one needs to go far from home. *Norquay above Banff was closed to day, so little snow, no skiing.*

In regards to the ~~Esian~~ Blender, I will see if I can find anything about one in some of the magazines we have, I seem to remember pictures and directions so will look it up. Might be very good for soups but think you should eat other things too!

I think someone said the Bartletts would be back the end of February, they must have struck all the cold weather in Florida and the Chambers picked a poor year to take his first warm vacation, but then if you don't know how hot it can be you don't realize what you are missing.

We haven't done anything very exciting lately to write about and this warm weather we don't even have animals come around, haven't seen a moose all winter in town, and the deer only appear when it is cold or snowy.

Perhaps I am not very bright to-day, can't think of anything special to tell you about. Anyway it is time to get lunch so better call this a letter,

Lots of love and if Rusty hasn't gone by the time this reaches you, give him our very best wishes and wish him the best of luck for the rest of his time in the Marines, wonder will he be stationed at LeJemune or sent somewhere else.

*I think Gabby must be extra smart to do such funny things. Must keep Frances on the jump.
Loads of love Catharine*

Banff, Alberta.
Tues. Feb. 25, 1958

Dearest Mother,

It really is Monday but know I won't mail this until to-morrow but wanted to thank you for your nice letter of last Thursday and all the things you sent. The calling cards with my name on them, the newspaper clipping about the trouble the trains were having in and near Boston. What a week it must have been, and think of being so many hours late or trains not going at all. Also the Valentine from Florence Phinney.

It was good to hear about Rusty coming to see you so often. Did he decide at all which college to go to? I know he had both Brown and B.U. in mind but wonder which he will choose, must be hard to know. Thank he has friends who went to both. You will miss him when he goes back the end of this week.

You spoke of having no one to ask about things, Couldn't Rusty help with some questions, or are they about things he ~~xxxxxxx~~ doesn't know much about. Am sure Sted would come over anytime you want him and Bert Newbury too and if you wanted him Jim Orr would come. If you could only write what it is about, maybe I could help, or get Mercelia to write to me, or if it is something you didn't want to discuss with her perhaps Ebbs would write me. Pretty soon, late in the spring I can be on the spot to help with any problems. Hanne might be able to help too.

Tuesday, Overcast and it says colder but just this morning I saw a Magpie building a nest, carrying twigs and flying back and forth and someone in Calgary saw their first robin I guess on Sunday, which all seems pretty early. Might not in Concord but out here it does. Vancouver is having the warmest winter in years and the people can't cut their lawns as they are so full of crocus blooming. After all March can be springlike so no doubt it will start soon down there, maybe you will get out mild spell of the last ten days which should make it nice.

I guess maybe our life doesn't sound very gay to you but we actually enjoy just doing what we like in the evenings more than going to a party. Trouble is the people who work morning, noon, and night in the summer usually take it rather easy in the winter and stay up late and then sleep in longer, but to us it messes up the next day too much and puts us all off ~~g~~ing doing the things we want to do most.

Before we know it all the friends who went away for the coldest months will be tripping back from California Hawaii and the West Indies, this has been a good year to stay home and hardly any snow to shovel, just some sweeping once in a while. Did I tell you they had to close the skiing at Norquay there was so much bare ground, but of course there are so many hundreds more than there used to be it wears the snow off quicker, but it is the first time they advertised it as being closed and the Chair Lift didn't run. However they had buses running out to Sunshine which is just opening, as it is several thousand feet higher and always has plenty of snow.

* Yesterday morning Charlie Beil came down to see if we would like to go up and see the buffalo he is modeling in relief to make the plaque for the store. Think it will look very well and as we are to call it the Buffalo Block as the street is called Buffalo, it should be very appropriate.

* Well I better get on with the cleaning of the store room, you would have a fit if you could see it, just as well you can't. Boxes of things on the floor as well as the shelves.

Loads of love from us both,

Catharine

Banff, Alberta.
Thurs. Feb. 27, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Such a nice letter from you and Rusty came yesterday, we did feel sorry that you should be in bed when the family were there for a steak lunch but that is the way things go. Hope later on you were up and about again and could have Rusty again for a meal. We could just picture him writing as you told him to tell us this and that and it was good of him to do it. Guess this is the day he goes back to the Marines, how fast the time seemed to go but holidays have a way of flying by.

We are having a bit of winter too, snowed most all yesterday but so lightly it didn't pile up at all, about 2 inches is all we have. This is the week the men are putting the flat roof on the new building, we hoped they would come last week but guess they were too busy in Calgary, the foreman says it doesn't matter about the weather and at least it is clear to-day and about 20 out.

The book arrived yesterday, Green Fields Afar and thank you and Hanne for sending it. and I shall read the Article on Lincoln from the Sat. Review you sent with it, looks interesting.

I think perhaps you have the book of Norman Rockwell with lots of his illustrations, a large book, you would enjoy looking at it I think, lots of Sat. Evening Post Covers. Perhaps they have it at the library. But I seem to remember it downstairs in your library, too large to stand up in the book case.

I have an idea you will get the nice spell of mild weather we had a week ago and if you do it will seem like spring. A letter from Susan Mather in Vancouver yesterday said lots of the flowers are out and some of the trees in bloom, most likely the early things. They have had a wonderfully mild winter too. One nice thing about the coast is that it is cold enough to keep the things in bloom, not those hot days that bring everything out in a day or two then they are gone. *It was 53° in Winnipeg yesterday, very unusual for them at this time of year.*

Perhaps you and Rusty should get together on things, you to help him decide where to go to college, and he to help you decide things about the place. Did he decide in the end which college he liked best? I don't know much about B.U. except that Hannah Hallowell said someone left it a lot of money and since then it has gone ahead and become a very fine University. and of course Brown has always been good.

Funny how days go. Yesterday no one came near, but the day before we had 4 come in. Eldon Walls to tell us about having talked with the Architect so that we would be sure of the finish on the new building, color of the tile they use on the floors and the walls etc.

Then Jim Simpson came in the afternoon, all pepped up as they had been to Bow Lake the day before and are to go up soon to start getting it ready for the season and also cater to the skiers who come up weekends. Young Jimmy and Larri his wife are going up soon as they are to run it now. a painter to " tint " the bedrooms, and Tom is coming back to help, he is the cowboy, and as Jim says, someone has to cook for him, so ~~he~~ is going up to cook for them, he is pretty good on the trail but am sure Mrs Simpson won't trust him to cook inside so she will probably go up too. and if they are open for what business comes along think we may go up for a day or two if the weather is good to get outdoors a bit. *Sylvie Beecher came after school & Kate Tasker the game warden was here all evening.*

Have almost finished the store room but must go up and vacuum the dust a bit, Pete has started on some large canvases, wonder how Mrs Sohler is getting on.

Lots of love from us both.

Catharine

P.S. With all the storms lately some of your letters have taken quite a while to come and that is why I would ask questions about things you had already written about a week before, in fact from the time you write about something and you get my answer it is at least ten days, unless you use air mail.

Banff, Alberta.
Fri. Feb. 28, 1958

Dearest Mother,

The last day of February and I was going to do so many things this month! Wonder if a person slows down as they get older and so seems to accomplish less.

Another nice letter from you and Rusty came yesterday, I do feel so sorry you are in bed, though by now you may be up and about again, we sure hope so. You don't suppose that liquid diet of yours is making you weaker, it could you know. After all if a person has been ill in bed for a time and on a liquid diet, it isn't until they start eating solids and more nourishing food that they start getting strong. A person can be kept alive in bed a long time by feeding them intravenously through their veins, not very pleasant thought to be stuck so often and have to lie and have a liquid flow into ones veins, remarkable what they can do though.

Why not try as much solid food as you can manage and just see if your don't feel stronger, lots of older people have the same trouble, maybe their taste gets weaker the same as ones hearing and seeing and so they lose their appetite, but it is worth making the effort to eat if only to be up and around and not have to stay in bed.

The Morants were back yesterday, dropped in in the afternoon for a few minutes, they were showing their slides at the hospital last night and will show them to-night at the church, we are going for Nick takes unusually lovely ones and they have some of Peru we have never seen.

The roof is nearly on the new building, it is a flat roof and made up of tar and paper and fine gravel I guess. The brick wall at the side is finished and the man is now laying the gray brick that looks like rock on the upper corner. I guess we should have tried to get rock but it is so terribly expensive and I think I told you that what they called "spilt rock" turned out to be the name for a rough gray brick. It just goes under the windows downstairs and on the one corner upstairs, so we have decided to let them put it in as otherwise you break the contract and add a lot to the expense. and if it looks badly we can have it taken out later and real rock put in by someone else. It might be allright, it is so hard to tell until the whole place is finished. It is mostly windows anyway so we will just hope for the best and trust to luck it comes out allright.

Bet you all miss Rusty, I think he was awfully good to go up and see you so often but I think he is truly very fond of you so it was fun for him to be with you. Won't be long now until he is out of the Marines for good, the last months

may go quicker, we hope so,

Didn't realize I was so near the bottom of the page,
this is smaller paper than some I guess,

Lots of love and hope you are feeling better,

Catharine .

P.S. Could you ask Mary Morrison if she
is receiving Maclean's Magazine we
sent her for Christmas? Hope the Newberys
get theirs too.

Banff, Alberta.
Sun. March 2, 1958

Dearest Mother,

We are sorry you haven't been feeling as well guess it must be partly "the winter dumps," As soon as you get some real nice spring weather I bet you start feeling better, A lot of snow and being shut in makes one feel less ambitious so hope by the time you get this you will be up and in your sitting room again.

It was awfully good of Rusty to write us so often while he was in Concord and the last letter was signed "Grandma and Rusty", you started it and he finished it. Then yesterday a nice letter from you followed by a card, Perhaps you wouldn't care for the ~~box~~ Blender after all, it was just an idea, I have never seen one work but have read about them. When the fresh vegetables come in that will make a difference.

Pete was all excited yesterday for his favorite little deer shook hands with him. He couldn't believe it. They are very tame and often come in a group of 5 or 7, but the others are a bit jealous of the bright little one, he has so much personality, is tame and very perky and you can pick him out of the group, so no doubt people give him more than the others to eat. So when they come to-gether they keep him from getting the food, chase him off. He would like to come right in the door and lets you stroke his nose and rub his ears I think. Yesterday he sort of lifted one foot, I guess, so Pete said "shake hands" and he put his hoof in Pete's hand quite willingly, not striking as they do at a dog or one another with a front leg but quite gently. So Pete tried again to show me and sure enough he did it first with one leg, then with the other and later in the afternoon when he was back for more to eat, he remembered, and when Pete said "shake hands" he did without much hesitation, just like a dog. We are wondering if someone else taught him to do it. Anyway it is the first time we have seen one so friendly.

It is Sunday and snowing, a fine snow but quite steady, we don't mind as the roof is on the new building, may not be all finished but at least enough to keep the ~~xxx~~ rain or snow out. It was lovely yesterday, brilliantly clear. Had lots of callers it seemed. Eldon came around after lunch as there are always a few questions and then Pete was up painting and I writing a letter when Mary Lee Mather came unexpectedly for we didn't know she was to be down for the weekend from the University of Alberta. She stayed quite a while and we talked in the front room, then Mrs Simpson came to return a book and invite me to a Conservative tea at Mrs Kennedy's to-morrow. It is for the wife of the man running for Parliament in the next election. So we had quite a visit and it was after five by the time they had both gone. We went out for the mail, that was when I got your letter, and it was so lovely we took a short drive. The

light very bright on the mountains.

After supper Pete Tasker the game Warden came to get a lens of his that we had, and his little boy Ricky who is 4 or 5, Pete had some recent pictures he had been working on and one was up at Bow Lake painted from the Summit and showing the lake and the distant mountains. So for the fun we asked Ricky if he knew where it was. He had lived up there until this fall in the game wardens house half way up the road, so we wondered if he would say "Bow Lake" but he was one better than that, for he said when asked where it was, "the Summit," and that was just right, for that is the exact spot it was painted from. So Pete was very pleased.

Had a nice note from Miss Burditt who was so pleased to have Rusty invite her to go and see Around the World in 80 Days with Helga and Hanne, and to have lunch to-gether and even flowers, a real party. I think Rusty is unusually thoughtful for a young man, don't you? I guess she just wanted to tell someone about it, and he told her to take the afternoon off too, and I believe the next day Kitty gave her the Symphony ticket so she said it was a very exciting week.

Should get on to some other letters so all for this one.

Lots of love and do hope you are up by now.

Catharine

Reason I asked if Mary had received Macleans Magazine yet, was because a friend wrote us from London England theirs had never come. So I wrote Macleans & was on the verge of posting it when another letter from London that the Feb 15th copy had just arrived. So hope Mary's did. Wonder what was the first copy she got?

Banff, Alberta,
Tues. March 4, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Hard to keep track of you, first we get a letter that you are "failing fast," then a card as you can't write letters any more, then a letter to say you have been driving over to Lexington! It was good to hear, you will have to take us over to see the developments. The last letter you weren't having such a good day but that was the day Rusty left for the Marines and I expect you felt sort of down, for you will miss him I am sure. Wasn't it nice he got leave? For a good lot of the boys didn't I understand, just half of them got off when they first came back.

Has your snow gone yet? We have an inch or two of fresh snow but not enough to bother much, a warm day would take it all.

Monday evening we were sitting listening to a lady telling about India and her life there, I heard a car door slam and knew there must be someone coming, as I went to the door it sounded like a lot of people talking all at once, 4 or 5, so when I opened the door and it was just Nick and Willi Morant I naturally looked surprised. They had made a lot of chatter and it really sounded like a crowd of people. So in they came in their old clothes as they had been packing up to leave next day and on the way with baggage to check at the station. As Nick came in he could hear the lady on the radio and he looked at me hesitating and asked "Company?" so I said, "Yes, and held up 2 fingers." He put on his company manners and a dignified expression ready to be introduced to some strangers, and of course it was only Pete and the radio voice. So it was a fair exchange, he is always teasing people. Thought we would be annoyed to think a crowd of friends were coming to visit at 9 PM and I knew he wasn't too anxious to run into strangers either.

You just write as much as you feel like, I don't think much of postcards either. and a short letter is just fine to let us know how you are and who you have seen. Glad to know Miss Stimson is back home, hope she can rest. Anyway they are in a lovely place.

Wonder how Martha Chase is getting on? she wrote me a little note a while back. The Bartletts will soon be home I expect, weren't they to return the first of March. and the Chambers, hope they had a good winter.

9 page It's the end of March the Bartletts return. The weather here has been so nice I get all mixed up in time of year -

(over)

I thought this sort of amusement about Churchill.
Do you remember when we played "bezique"
& had those counters kept in the little table
by the fire place? Can't remember how now.

Banff, Alberta.
Thurs. March 6th. 1958

Dearest Mother,

Was just writing up diary in which I have various birthdays marked and see that I neatly forgot both Hanne's and Aunt Julies, guess I am just no good at remembering dates and anniversaries and might as well not even try! Or should I blame it to old age!

We have had another touch of winter and yesterday I no sooner hung the laundry out thinking at least there was a wind, than it started to snow from the east and snowed all day, but this morning is nice and clear about 15 above.

Have had a few people dropping in lately on business, Eldon was down after lunch yesterday, and then before supper Bev was in to return some money we had lent them in a hurry the week before so they could buy some land to build a house on. Right on the river but when they got the chance they had to act quickly and didn't think they had enough at the time, but they sold their car the other day so that helped and now they have the land and the same Architect we have. So are all set. Then last night one of the Mechanics who works for Cliff was here with his wife to see if we could help them, but we can't do much as the new building is taking all Pete has and more.

Hope you are feeling better again, nearly everyone I know or hear of over 80 has days of feeling good and others not as good, and so I suppose the older one gets the more noticeable it becomes.

You sounded ready for a big occasion when you wrote on Sunday and Bob and Barbara, Mercelia and Kitty were coming to dinner and you had a new black dress on too. Hope Barbara is feeling stronger again, she had quite a time and it was just too bad.

Tell Mercelia that we think of her nearly every morning at Breakfast for after the 8 A.M. news they have a weather report and it always tells the temperature in "Wagner Alberta" and Pete always says "Wonder how Mercelia is?"

It was nice that Eleanor and Charlotte and Mary Chamberlain could all ~~go~~ to Florida together and were to see the Bartletts as well. They should at least get good warm weather that far south. I forget, has Eleanor been to Florida before? The Chambers sound as if they were enjoying Winter Park. Isn't it lucky that Aunt Julie didn't try to go this winter with it so cold.

We still seem to be on the edge of things and though in Red Deer they had a foot of snow and 4 inches in Calgary we got but 2 or 3, not enough to amount to anything.

I think that is awfully nice about Mr Shaw and wonder who the lady is, He must have been so lonely way up in that big house, ^{with} Mrs Shaw ^{who} was such a cheery person.

Almost time to go over for the mail and errands and see if they are working on the new building. They weren't yesterday, waiting for more "split rock bricks" and the masons have some blocks to lay in Canmore and also Charlie Bell hadn't the buffalo ready. That is the next worry, how they will get it up there without damaging the roof, the overhang or someone. Think we will stay away until it is in place. Didn't realize it would weigh 400 to 500 pounds. But think it will look well,

Many thanks for all the nice letters,
Loads of love from us both.

Catharine

Bow Lake is usually open for business from May 24th to after Labor day. Though they are there from April to end of Sept or Oct, but with road open longer, the season may be extended.

Banff, Alberta.
Sat. March 8, 1958

Dearest Mother,

I don't seem to have gotten around to writing until now, after tea, Saturday is usually a different day some how and not much chance to write.

I got in the habit of changing the bed on Saturdays and then vacuuming upstairs, maybe dusting if not in a hurry, then I change the towels same day, so clean the bath room, and when I bring the vacuum down, do the rug in the front room, and if time the floor and if more time dust quickly, and then on the way through the kitchen do that, and the back hall, and by then the house has been done for the week, and it is time to go out and buy the food for the weekend and Monday, which day the stores close in winter, at least the groceries do as most people are busy eating up the rest of the roast and don't shop much. So we did all that this morning and then as there was a food sale on we went to that, seeing Eldon about something first *this afternoon*.

Saturdays are always a great day for visiting over on the main street if it is warm or at all nice, lots of the older people are out shopping and everyone here has time to pause and chat a bit, the husbands often drive the wives up town and they don't shop so they visit on the sidewalk while the wives do it in the stores. all very sociable and the way Concord used to be.

A nice letter from you came this afternoon about having Barbara and Bob for dinner Sunday and Kitty and Mercelia too, quite a party, I guess Kitty has returned to Florida by now, hope she gets some nice warm sunny weather this time, and what pretty cards from the Johnson girls, had they ever been down there before?

That was an interesting letter from Mrs Charlotte Brown, glad to know she is over the attack of Phneumonia and wasn't that intereting about her sisters moving to a new house and having the young couple bring them a watercolor of the garden, and I presume it was by Kitty Brooks. Mary Mason Brooks.

Yesterday I was making good headway with a business letter to Jim Orr in the afternoon when a knock on the door. Two Indians. Annie Beaver and Annie Kaquits, they wanted to hear a recording of Jor Kaquits but at the time I didn't realize the 2nd Annie was his wife, for I thought she had married again. and also I didn't know just where the recording was and it takes quite a while to play, but had I realized it was his wife I would have hunted for it. Joe died several years ago, a fine young Indian too. Anyway I ask'd them in and gave them tea. Pet e was painting at the time so didn't come down and then Tom Kaquits arrived and he too had tea and of course by the time the three of them had left my afternoon was gone.

Guess I should try and finish the letter to Jim Orr
and maybe mail this later on.

Hope you are getting warmer weather, we are having it
sort of cold. They were even skating last night at the rink
and the river has fr~~o~~zen over where a hole had opened up
a few weeks ago. However there isn't much snow.

Lots of love and many thanks for the nice letters.

Catherine

Banff, Alberta.
Mon. March 10, 1958

Dearest Mother,

It is still rather wintry out, snowing the finest snow and the sun is shining, almost like frost in the air. But not very cold, about 20 out now.

Yesterday we listened to the broadcast of the World Championship hockey game between Canada and Russia in Oslo Norway. Last year the Canadian team was beaten by Russia and so everyone here was very anxious that Canada should win. They have a hard time upholding the honor of the game or country's reputation. The European rules are a little different and if the Canadians are rough they are criticized, and if they don't win they are blamed or called a poor team and actually they are just the top amateur team of last year, not necessarily of this year, and none of them are up to National Hockey league standards. Well yesterday's game was really exciting, the Russians got the first goal and Canada got 4 penalties in the 1st period, so we were afraid they would get too rough and be put off so much they never would score. Then they tied the game and Russia once more got ahead. But in the final period the Canadians got 3 goals so won 4 to 2. Pete felt better.

Haven't done a great deal lately of interest to you, just things around the house and a bit of business. This week Dorothy Whyte from Vancouver is coming for a rest, will stay at the Mt Royal but come over often I expect. She has a cold she hasn't been able to get rid of, hope the weather is nice and sunny. *She has lots of other friends here too.*

To-morrow I am invited to a luncheon at the Superintendents house, Mrs Dempster came to ask me and I just couldn't say "no." Sort of a nuisance getting all dolled up, it is a farewell party to a Mrs Richardson who is going east for a month or so with her son and daughter. One lives in Montreal and the other in Ottawa and they have a picnic spot ~~where~~ ^{at} the two families often meet on Sundays, not a bad idea, means a short drive for each. Mrs Dempster said she would rather make lunch than sandwiches and things for tea. Dorothy arrives on the afternoon train so shall have to be sure and get through in time for that.

Miss Burditt writes quite often on business things and in her last letter said that Cal Buttrick is in St. Croix which I believe is a little island off the Virgin Islands in the ~~West~~ ^{West} Indies, Sted is to be there this week, then they go to Phoenix on the 23rd. Wonder if Cal is feeling better, hope so. The Vallances are evidently enjoying the West Indies and have been to many of the tiny islands.

Miss Burditt also said it was a beautiful spring day when she wrote on the 6th. so guess your snow will soon go. Heard a news item on the radio last night, about a little boy being lost and the man had an awful time pronouncing "Billerica" but we were sure that was what he meant, and he spoke of high water and we figured by that it must be mild *in Concord*

x
Deems to me my letters are awfully stupid. We gave Walter Phillips and Mrs Phillips a ride home Saturday, and they leave to fly to England this coming Sunday. Haven't been there since before the war and want to go to Holland to see the grave of their son who was killed in the war and buried there and meet the Dutch people who care for his grave. Then they are to rent a ~~house~~ boat for a week or two, the man who owns it also paints I think and they have it to themselves and he does the cooking and running of it and they can go along as they like and stop when Mr Phillips wants to paint. Would be a wonderful way to do. ~~Will go on the many canals~~ -

As usual lots to do so heaps of love and hope this is a good week for you.

Catharine.

The Canadian Art is part of the subscription. Don't know if every copy will be as large. Seemed too bad they didn't have better things in it. We get awfully tired of so much abstract art when good things are being done. We liked the ones you did.

[Mum 12/58]

Box 370
Banff, Alberta.

Dearest Mother,

Quite a day for us yesterday. There were some fine European Ski Jumpers here to try the new Jump up at Norquay and Pete Tasker came round Monday night to tell Pete he would take him up the hill as I had the luncheon engagement. But it was a dubl day and snowing a fine snow most all day and no good for pictures and as they were to jump to-day, Wednesday ~~too~~, they decided not to go. We went over town to shop, then I got Pete some lunch at 12 and he drove me over to the Superintendents house at 1.15. Felt so funny with a hat on and all dressed up in the middle of the day.

It was a very nice affair. Mrs Dempster said she was having about 20 and she thought it easier to have them for a simple lunch than tea with a lot of sandwiches and cakes to make. Most of the ladies were from the older group, about 4 of us around 50, guess we are pretty old too when it comes to that. Two are leaving soon to go east and Mrs Phillips was there, Mrs Simpson and a lot you wouldn't know. It was very nicely and simply done. Some one, Mrs Graddmason passed around a tray with sheery or tomato juice in glasses, so you could have your choice and no seconds so that didn't stretch things out too much. Then we all went into the dining room to help ourselves to a nice casserole dish, chicken, mushrooms etc. a tossed salad and rolls, then coffee and tea and tarts for desert. and as we were leaving about 3 I noticed Mrs Powell had come and was washing up in the kitchen. It was all very pleasant.

Pete picked me up and we went to the station to meet Dorothy Whyte who came from Vancouver on the Canadain for a week or ten days. Flossie Curry another freind had also gone to the station so we all met her and after she got a room at the hotel we came over here for a cup of tea, Flossie too. It is several years since Dorothy was here, 1955 she came to the summer school, She is housekeeper for the Rehabilitation Centre in Vancouver and they now have 56 Trainees as they call them living there while they are trained how to get along in wheel chairs. most of them paraplegics, paralyzed from the waist down. It is a very demanding job as she lives in the building and they come to her for everything. Some are children of 5 or 6, some old men, Arthritics, muscular distrophy etc. But they do wonderful work.

After tea we drove Flossie home as she was going out to supper and then Dorothy came back for supper with us and we looked at some of the slides of Dawson in the Yukon, as Dorothy was born there and lived there until she was 16 and she got a real kick out of the pictures we had taken, and kept pointing out places she recognized, the school, church skating rink etc.

Now this morning it is a bit sunnier than yesterday but colder, only 12 above now. We don't know just when we will go up to see the jumping, believe it is about one o'clock it

takes place. Hard to tell if it will be any good for photographs or not.

Thought I better write this much anyway or you might not get a letter at all !

Loads of love and hope you are having nice weather and it is more like spring. Dorothy says in Vancouver the daffodils are out and flowering shrubs. They have a nice long season in the spring.

More love,

Catharine

25. just had a wonderful long letter from Hanne.

Banff, Alberta
Fri. March 14, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Will just hurry off a letter to you. Dorothy Whyte was here for lunch and we have been talking a lot, she is now up looking at Pete's latest work and soon we are going up to Charlie Bells to see how the buffalo he has made for the new building is coming along, taking Dorothy with us,

Have had quite a busy couple of days. Wednesday it wasn't very nice out but the ski Jumpers were to jump up on the big new jump at Norquay and we wanted to try and get some pictures. Heard they were to start at 1 PM so had a real early dinner at 11.30 and got into ski clothes, thank goodness I can still sit down in mine and wore a long windbreaker that hid the tightness across the hips, for they must be pre-war pants. We thought it would be very cold with an east wind and fine snow, a little sun now and then but about 15° or 20° above. We took it slowly and walked across the ski practise slope so we wouldn't have the stiff climb in deep snow up the side of the jump, which is like climbing a ladder only you slip back as much as you go forward. But we took it very slowly up the slope going way across at an easy angle and then back and no one was skiing so we weren't in the way. Then another traverse and we were at the take off which is the best spot for photographs. If Pete goes fast enough to get hot then he drips perspiration and either his glasses steam up or as it was one drop froze right in the middle of one lens. However we were very pleased for we neither got out of breath or noticed the climb and it is the first exercise of that sort we have done since summer.

We hadn't much hopes of getting pictures as Pete was using the speed graphic for the first time for that sort of work and I the Leica. We were up there nearly 2 hours I guess and there were just 4 jumpers, some going over twice and ~~two~~ others 3 times. They were top European jumpers who had flown ~~from~~ over to jump at Revelstoke, and Hanne will be interested for they flew back in time to jump we think at Holmenkoloen this weeked, near Oslo. We had 2 thermos of hot tea which tasted good.

As soon as we got home Pete developed one picture and it came out alright so he did the others before supper and got 7 good ones out of ten, one had no skier, one he forgot the slide to replace and the other the skier was in the wrong place, so he was very pleased. Then yesterday morning we made some prints of them, got 7 good pictures.

Yesterday was quite busy. After doing the prints I went over to shop for a late lunch while Pete washed them, then before we had finished eating Pete Tasker came to show us the one picture he got and then Eldon to tell us about some people taking the basement of the old store for a year, to sell Handicrafts. and then Dorothy came round and while she was here Frank Kaquits the Indian boy with some pictures, first time he has been up and then Flossie Curry to find Dorothy. We had to go out after they had all gone by 4 PM and then met the Morants at the 6 PM train and so it goes. Today I washed, then to the bank and errands ~~xxx~~ Then Dorothy for lunch and now we are going out.

Haven't had any letters from you lately, ~~be sure~~ they may all come at once, just hope you are feeling alright. Will write again Sunday, heaps of love,

Catherine.

Banff, Alberta.
Sunday, March 16, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Your letter written last Monday saying how warm it was and how you and Hanne were sitting on your upstairs porch, came yesterday. and then you continued on Tuesday saying what wonderful and clear weather it was for the middle of March and that Pietro was going to put the screens on and you wrote " I bet that will bring snow " and we had hardly finished reading it when over the radio it said that New England had had a bad storm and 15 inches of snow in Manchester or somewhere, so you weren't far wrong! Well at least it shouldn't last long now.

We have had funny weather in a way too. The first of the week it was cold with a fine snow in the air and an east wind which keeps it cold. Then as soon as the ski jumping was over and the jumpers had flown back to Norway it cleared, and there has hardly been a cloud in the sky for the last 4 days, including to-day. But though it is zero or below each morning it warms up to about 20 above and then each afternoon the wind has gone round to the east again and it has felt cold, though the sun is warm enough to melt the snow a bit. Evidently it is 15 degrees below normal for the middle of March, but we are making up for a warm January and February.

Dorothy Whyte has gone to Calgary, she was here for lunch on Friday and all afternoon. We went up to Charlie Bell's to see the buffalo he has made for the store, luckily it came out of the cast alright and had it been warmer would have been up in place, but they need a warm day for that kind of mortar to set. ~~Charlie~~ Charlie also is making one for the new Elementary school with a group of sheep but when he cast it at the same time, (or the same week as he did the buffalo) it cracked, so he must do that one over. If warm enough tomorrow they hope to put it up, but the radio says continued cold.

Yesterday we drove up the west road a way to give the jeep a fast run, it is good for the engine when all week we go so slow around town. and just at the corner where the road from Banff enters the Trans-Canada highway and also goes up to Norquay there was a herd of Mountain sheep and also a herd of deer. The deer had their ears perked forward and looked as if they were wondering what the sheep were doing in their territory. There were 8 or 9 deer and as many sheep. Did look funny and cars stopped on all the roads.

Did Eleanor Johnson get back from Florida and did they see lots of birds? Hope they had a good time.

How is young Gibbs? Is he still heading for a plumbers career? or is he keeping out of trouble.

That was a nice letter from Sam Manierre and so glad Cousin George is at last feeling better, he has had a long time of being discouraged and depressed.

Time to get dinner ready, we are having fresh

Asparagus, perhaps not up to the Concord variety but it tastes very good and comes fresh from California.

This isn't a very exciting letter but we don't seem to be doing a great deal to write about.

Loads of love
Catharine .

Banff, Alberta.
Tues. March 18, 1958

Dearest Mother,

I seem to be slow in writing you, for we have had a string of people in lately about one thing or another. Yesterday, Monday, Mrs Simpson was over quite early with very sad news, she had just heard that George Browne had died very suddenly, he was the son of Belmore Browne and also an artist. and leaves a young wife and two small children, his mother and sister. He can't be much more than 40 and we don't know what could have happened. Red Cathcart who is caretaker at the museum saw him in New York just a couple of weeks ago and he was fine then. We all feel very badly about it.

Then Norman Tabuteau came about building a house and the new lot they have gotten and by then most of the morning was gone. Right after lunch we were going to sit in the sun when Norman Luxton came to tell us about George and before he left Dorothy Whyte so had a bit more of a visit. She wanted to try some painting so worked away upstairs while we did things and then had tea and the afternoon was gone.

To-day was almost as bad, for Eldon came on some business this morning and then we went out and up to the Wards, they are just back, saw them when we went for the mail yesterday but we had some here at the house for them so took that up. Were in the midst of our lunch to-day when the Architect came, so as we had eaten most of it we made him a sandwich and he asked us about the color for the trim of the new building and talked about various things, like signs etc. Dorothy came along to finish the picture she started yesterday and then at 3.15 Pete took us over to Dorothy Cranstons for tea. He wouldn't go but we did. Pat Brewster was there and isn't it funny. He said he read an article in a magazine lately about by De wolfe Howe "now I am ninety" or something like that, and it reminded him of taking Howe and Ellery Sedgewick out on the train in 1917 in Jasper, so for the fun he wrote Howe and got the nicest letter back recalling the trip. 40 years ago.

I am just back and have only time to finish this and post it. Sunday afternoon we went and got the Phillips and drove them to the train for they are going to Montreal and then fly to England and Holland for a 3 months trip. They have never been to their son's grave in Holland where he was killed during the War. We asked where they were going in England and Mrs Phillips said the first place was to see her mother who she hasn't seen for 33 years. She is now 89 and Mrs Phillips must be over 60 or 65, her mother would have been 56 when she last saw her. She lives with a younger sister in Weymouth.

Will be writing again soon. The Wards had a nice winter in California and Arizona.

Lots of love and hope your recent storm is all over and the snow gone so you can get out.

Catharine

Banff, Alberta.
March 20, 1958
Thursday

Dearest Mother,

Well at last we are having a real mild spring-like day and lots of puddles, the snow seems to be going fast for there was just an inch or two lately and that has gone today leaving just a few piles. March has been our coldest month this winter, and several times below zero but a good 20 degrees warmer than Calgary.

Did I ever thank you for the nice letter from Rusty, do hope he got along alright in his examinations but too bad he missed the chance to go on the helicopter and fly aboard the Forestal, perhaps he will get there later.

We have had a lot of company lately, people of all kinds dropping in so I am behind in writing, just as you do at times, a whole lot of different people and then no one for a few days, I think the weather has something to do with their getting out.

I didn't know Mrs deHart Houston was still alive, she always was a great talker but you would think a little age might have slowed her down. Don't wonder you were tired out. Expect it was seeing Mr Maynard at Stearns that made her come up and see you.

So glad Mrs Sohler was up, I imagine it has been hard for her to get out with so much snow and slippery roads and her driveway has just enough of a rise to make it bad with much snow, don't suppose she got dug out much.

Dorothy Whyte goes to-morrow, she is no relation but a very old friend, used to work up at the Banff Springs Hotel and was with the Canadian Pacific for years, then she was in Vancouver when Pete was in the Air force and I used to see her a lot then, She also came to the summer school a couple of summers. She was over for lunch to-day and then Vern Castella dropped in. He is the old Danish carpenter and had to tell us all about the blast on the road above his house and it shook & cracked the plaster in their house and what a mess having that done over. He hadn't gone when a Mrs Henderson brought old Mrs Fulmer down for some addresses she wanted. She was really both interesting and amusing. She is barely 90 and stooped way over, can't hear or see as well as you. When she got into the car to go she remarked that it was quicker than driving by oxen as they used to do in the old days. She came to Regina in 1883 and it was just a year old then, the city that is! She was talking about Castle Mt. and Old Joe Smith who lived there and we have a sketch of the cabins, and she said when she was last there she thought there were more buildings, that was during the First War. It is only about 20 miles west of here and she was there last about 43 years ago. She had lots of interesting things to talk about. Very interested in digging for old things, antiques

and ruins and had she been a boy would have gone in for that. She said when she gets lonely (she lives alone) she thinks " will I read Longfellow's poems or Ancient History " and she always ends by reading the Ancient History. So I told her I came from near where Longfellow lived and she was quite interested and said there were lots of other famous people there too, Lowell and she mentioned a few, then we spoke of Thoreau, and she said she had his book, "He was a person who noticed a lot right where he was." It was quite a visit.

The building is coming along well and they have most of the windows in the front and most of the brick and rock work done and the Buffalo was put up right after lunch yesterday, Luckily we didn't have to worry about it as Chattie Bell came over after it was all up . It looks very well really.

We were awfully interested that George got you a Walker and that you can manage so well with it. Is it like the one Miss Barrett has ? Hanne would know. will draw what I remember here was like. If it is the same, could you ask George what it is called ? Dorothy had never seen one like it and was very interested to hear more about it, as she works in a place where they teach people who are injured how to walk again.

You will miss Frances and Gil but nice they can have a holiday in Florida. they seem to love Hobe Sound.

Lots of love and thanks for the nice letters and Hanne for hers too.

Catherine .



Is it something like
this ?

Box 370
Banff, Alberta.
Sat. March 22, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Another nice letter from Hanne to-day, am sorry you haven't been feeling well lately but perhaps by the time you get this you will be up and about again. What storms you have had? We hear of another last night in the east on the first day of spring. Think of a place like Baltimore with 2 feet and 800 people stranded in one of those roadside eating places on the Pennsylvania turnpike. I suppose where it crosses the mountains. Makes our weather sound very tame.

We have a theory that when the barometer drops before a storm one sometimes feels it without knowing what it is. Perhaps it is some such feeling as birds and animals have when they know a storm or bad weather is coming, for invariably they eat more than in preparation, and sometimes the deer lie down as if resting up for what is ahead. So perhaps you feel it coming in your bones and that is why you feel sort of discouraged and want to stay in bed, after all a natural feeling. Just wait until Spring comes and you will surely feel pepped up. The sun at this time of year feels so good.

If you think you don't feel full of energy you should see the scrawny bear we have. I first saw him as we were finishing the dishes out of the back window. A fairly small bear and brown and very thin. He was trying to get some fat we have hanging from the clothes line for the birds, but when I opened the door he ran. Then the dog next door started to bark with his tail wagging and the bear grabbed the trunk of a tree, and as the dog ventured closer he climbed higher, and higher and finally he was 3/4 of the way up with much crashing of small dead branches. He is now fairly comfortable and has been up there half an hour, the dog long since went home with the little boy who owns him. I tried to get a picture but he is too hidden by the branches. As I was watching a little bird came flying along happily sort of up and down and flew right into the tree near the bear, there was a surprised "Peep, Peep" and off he flew in another direction as surprised as could be.

It is 40 out to-day but overcast, could almost start raking if I was that energetic, though there is still snow on the grass at the back of the house but all gone under the trees. Pete is doing some carpentering and if he is busy it is always a good time to write letters.

Hanne said you had another nice letter from Rusty, I thought that one I sent on to Kitty was a very good one and told more than usual of what he was doing. I wonder if in this he mentioned how the exams went, someone said he might not hear the results until June. Hard to wait but of course you can't do anything about it once taken so just have to be patient.

Guess Spring vacations are on. Isn't Sted and Cal off to visit Bo in Arizona with Sarah and Nancy Newbury to meet them there, it should be lovely out there. We heard that Sted and Cal were down in the West Indies after the trip to Cuba.

They must have been away most of the winter.

If you have questions to ask are there any that I can answer or perhaps Ebbs could help. Maybe they can wait a bit for I don't think Sted will be away long.

It sounded as if you had done very well with the new Walker, it helps so to have something to steady one a bit especially if you feel a little dizzy. I notice lots of older people mention being dizzy.

Well better get this mailed. The bear is still up the tree, I should put some food at the bottom for him, he did look thin.

Loads of love, and don't feel you must write all the time, though it was nice hearing from Hanne to know how you were.

Catherine

7.5. Bear came down for I see him wandering
off next door!

Banff, Alberta,
Mon. March 24, 1958

Dearest Mother,

We are having just a perfect spring day, not a cloud and no wind as yet, though on glancing out I see the weathervane is towards the east, hope it doesn't go and mess up the weather. Yesterday was lovely too, we nearly went up to Bow Lake but with no clouds and so much snow thought it might be too bright for a whole day outside, so instead we stayed home and I even raked a bit of the lawn that was dry enough and then we were going to sit in the sun at the back after lunch, We did sit there but a cloud ~~just~~ insisted on staying over Sulphur mountain and there was so little wind even up high that it never moved off. Was tantalizing for we would have the sun (which seemed to be on the edge of the big cloud) for just a minute and a little bit of cloud would obscure it again. Maybe we will have better luck to-day. The warmth of the sun feels very good after being indoors so much this winter.

The Joe Kingmans came from Minneapolis yesterday and we met them at the station, the Morants and Jim Boyces were there too. Took them and their baggage up to the hotel and then they came over for tea later. Their little boy with them. They are going out to Sunshine to ski. His brother Henry Kingman is also a great friend and he and his wife have just returned a week or so ago from St Croix in the Vigin Island where Cal and Sted were I think. They were staying with friends who have a place there with several guest houses, named Bill Thayer who is an Architect in the east. Would be funny if Sted had met them there.

You like coincidences. Yesterday when I went to the post office I met Jim Boyce so told him that Joe Kingman was coming as he used to ski at Skoki and Jim had in his hand a letter from a girl who had been at Skoki and had just seen John Jay who took pictures there about 20 years ago. I went in and got my mail and a card from Syd Vallance from Montego Bay in Jamaica to tell us of seeing Diane Oetiker in her house there, and she spent a winter in the house that Jim Boyce and his wife Dorothy Whiteman own and so when I saw Dorothy at the station later I told her, for she rented ~~the~~ her house to the Oetikers.

Hope you are having nice weather by now and feeling better and up and about again with your walker to help you, so glad it works well. Miss Burditt is so good about finding out about things and when I wrote her a few days ago, asked her if she could find out what yours is like and if one can get them in Canada? Dorothy Whyte who works at the Rehabilitation Center has only seen the ones with little wheels like a half circle and you push it along the floor but you would never get it around through doors and over sills.

It is after lunch and ^{we} were out to sun not a cloud in the sky until we sat down and if that same kind of cloud we had yesterday didn't go and sit in front of the sun again to-day. We may have to take the car and go where no clouds hide the sun, for this cloud seems to just sit over one valley.

Loads of love,

Catherine

Banff, Alberta.
Wed. March 26, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Expect you all got snowed in again with that last bad storm but perhaps by now it is warm and melting. Had a nice letter from Aunt Julie during the blizzard and all lights but their's were out in Harvard, in the previous blizzard. In fact no/ heat, light or water, all controled by electricity I expect. But at New Manor Hall Mr Newman has his own generator so they had all three. She is certainly in a good place to be.

Hope Mary is feeling better, any kind of flu does take it out of one and makes a person so weak.

Well our spring like weather over the weekend and even yesterday was sort of spoiled with a couple of inches of snow last night and now everything is soggy and dripping, ~~and~~ it is going pretty fast being nearly 40 out. We had thought of driving down to Calgary this week but unless the roads are good, figure it isn't worth it, if by waiting a few more days it will be good.

This morning I spent looking over two clothes closets in case of moths, there have been a couple flying about so figured I had better check and this afternoon if no one came in will do some more. Wish we had rummage sales to get rid of old hats and shoes, dresses are easier to give people but the Indians don't wear hats or shoes, just scarfs and mocasins so can't send them there. Funny but they give the kids the hats to play with as we would give children Indian clothes to dress up in.

The other afternoon we wanted to finish up a roll of film and Pete to experiment with the movie he got in the east for action pictures, so we drove out the new west road but it was very windy on the lookout where we stopped. However there were six white swans or geese on the ice of 3rd. lake so Pete having a telephoto lens, aimed at that. I noticed a ~~hard~~ flock of sheep down the road and up on the slope to the right, across the road from us, so Pete thought that might be a good subject but as he turned the camera and started to focus on them they had spotted us and one or two followed by others started towards ~~us~~, ~~us~~. He did manage to catch them as a truck came along and two ran right across in front but before we knew it they had come too close to take. With the long lens Pete can't take anything closer than 25 feet. They came within 3 feet of us and just looked, 5 or 6 of them and such funny expressions, then a young buck came along and after a while lay down right in the shelter of the car, they really were funny and with the cameras we had they were much too close to photograph and I was out of film.

Well Sam Ward was just down and we have been talking for an hour or so and I guess I won't get many more cup-boards cleaned out this afternoon! In fact have forgotten what I was going to tell you if anything.

So all for this time and lots of love from
us both.

Catherine

Banff, Alberta.
Thursday night
March 27, 1958

Dearest Nother,

It was awfully nice to hear from you to-day and know you are up and dressed again, Your letter was written last Saturday, do hope Mary is feeling better by now, but a cold can make you feel pretty mean, maybe you have better weather and the snow is going, that will help more than anything.

Actually it is snowing here right now, but spring squalls more than a snowstorm. All day and most of this week it has snowed an inch or just a flurry and then melts as fast, but usually a north wind which keeps it this way.

What a storm you had last week and in places like Washington and Baltimore which rarely have much snow any time.

Saw Jimmy Simpson to-day, he came in from Bow Lake for a hair cut and will be in next week to vote in the Federal election on Monday and we also saw Larri who was headed up for Bow with the children, they will be there now until September. Jim said there was about 3 feet on the level and it was still good snow for skiing *at Bow Lake - nearly 6000 feet. has 4500*

Thanks for sending the notice of Mr Mott Shaws marriage, I think it is awfully nice for he lives a long way out and it must be awfully lonely for a man like that.

We are thinking of going to Calgary to-morrow, will drive down if we go, but will see if there is much snow in the morning, That is why I am writing to you to-night. Not that I have much to tell you about. Sam Ward was down yesterday afternoon the first time he has dropped in since they came back from California. He has just started building an addition to the Homestead Hotel, they started last fall and got it all covered in and then he went away with Cis right after New Years so they stopped work, could have kept on all winter ~~for~~ this has been an unusually mild year for building. Sam is 74 now but he doesn't seem any older. Still very spry.

Then this morning Charlie Beil came down to see if we would ask Elsa Whatt for a Spanish name for Lena Stutz new dress shop. She makes those squaw skirts and wants a Spanish name, They are quite attractive, very full and lots of braid and rick rack on them, quite colorful. The Buffalo Charlie made is very good and as soon as they finish the brick around it will take a picture for you *of the new building*.

We have a grand nephew, I guess that is what he is) Cliff White Jr's son, little Cliffy, and he is about 4 or 5 and really quite a kid, rather shy but now he has a baby sister his mother puts him outdoors each day and he either plays by himself or with 2 little Styles girls 3 and 5 or a little Macleod girl somewhere about the same age, they get along pretty well. but occasionally we hear howls. With all the puddles around this week little Cliffy is really enjoying himself, this afternoon I watched him, his mitts hanging below his hands on the cord through his sleeves, he was singing to himself and sort of

dancing in and out of the various mud puddles, as he would come to a new one he would sort of run through it and make a big splash then slow up and look for another, he was having the best time. The other morning he and the littlest naighbor's girl were breaking the ice on all the puddles in the district, in the process Cliffy gets wet up to his knees but even at supper time last night he was going from one to the other and you could tell by the sogyness of his pants that he was wet through, it even slowed him down somewhat, but didn't deter him. Sometimes he appears in entirley different outfits during the day but usually it is a dark brown so shows no dirt, at a distance. He is very tanned already from being out so much and looks healthy enough.

Lots of love Mother and hope you are feeling much better by now.

Catherine .

F.S. Bradford Washburn sent us 2 photographs of Grandpa's portrait. So nice of him. Friday will mail this in Calgary if I can remember. Came down this AM left at 7.40 got here by 10. Pete had splasers checked. I made a dentist appointment etc. we've had lunch. Sunny in Banff. overcast here Loads of love, Catherine

Copy of Rusty's letter to us.

March 29, 1958

Dear Pete and Catharine,

This time I'm really over-due !
My correspondence is terrible.

About two weeks ago, most of the battery left the base and motored up to Norfolk, Va. where they loaded their gear on two carriers (Forrestal & Tarawa) and a cruiser. The Forrestal is our third largest Flat top. The new Ranger and the Sarasota excel in size. While the others were bobbing up and down on the Atlantic and sleeping in the corridors, I was taken off mess duty and then proceeded ~~by~~ to hop on a bus which took me to Wilmington, N.C . where I took my college exam. The exams seemed relatively easy and I figure I did a little better than last time.

Last Sunday the rest of the battery and myself drove the trucks with 105's out to the field. We wasted a wouple of days out there and then we joined up with the rest of the battery. At this time, the rain had started to fall - it never ceased until we were back at LaJeune. Practically all of the 2nd. Division took part in this exercise. During the problem I left the battery and joined up with a SAC outfit. Supreme Artillery Command. I was working with ~~an~~ a Major and a couple of Lts. They would decide where to use the artillery fire. By means of plans and forward observers the brass could keep in touch with the enemy movements. We returned to LeJeune on Saturday. Actually the problem was held in and around the base.

Next weekend I'M going down to see Mummy. Will meet her in Miami and go to Fort Lauderdale

Love Rusty

Banff, Alberta.
Sun. March 30, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Pete was listening to the Hockey game last night from Boston and they spoke of it as being "a nice spring day" so we hope you are all over your storms and having a real nice weekend. We are having snow just now. Was overcast when we woke and we slept in, the barometer down, then a few flakes and it has gotten darker and darker and now seems to be snowing fairly steadily from the west and 30° above which is just right for snow of this kind. Can't see a mountain.

We had a most successful trip to Calgary. Pete went first to have his glasses adjusted, after we parked the car in the Hudson's Bay Parkade, a most useful place, I think we are lucky for we can drive down in 2 hours and right into this building which is really a spiral road that winds up 4 or 5 floors with parking on either side as you drive up, All the cars go in on an angle so if you see an open place you just head in, and when you want to come out you just take the elevator to your level, walk to your car and back out, drive around to the ramp going down and either pay at the bottom or pay before you go up in the elevator. If it is raining you can do all your shopping in the ^{Hudson's Bay} Bay which is reached by a covered bridge at the 3rd floor from the Parkade to the store. Pete was a bit embarrassed as when we used the bridge into the Bay it landed him in the ladies dresses and children's too! The sides of the Parkade are open to the air, like being on a porch so not unpleasant to wait in the car and look across th the north hill.

Anyway we parked there and while Pete went in one direction I made a dentist appointment for 2.30, to the bank and to see a lawyer, none of us had to wait anywhere and I met Pete still at the optometrists (don't expect that is spelt right.) Pete was anxious to get a certain lens for the Leica enlarger and a new one here seemed too expensive so we thought perhaps we could get a second hand one, Went first to a Photo store but they had none and didn't think it was a lens one would find in Calgary 2nd hand. I had read in the paper of a drug store going out of business and they had everything marked down 20 to 50% so we just tried there. They have had the sale on for some time but we were lucky and the man went down in the basement to see if he had what we wanted. We think he was probably going to send it back, for he came up with a brand new lens just what Pete wanted and \$16. less than a new one in Banff. We also got some film marked down and one package thrown in. so we were really pleased. Had lunch to-gether, then ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ took the car to drive out to the Jeep place to order new cushions for the front seat in the Jeep so we sit up straighter, ours are sort of worn down from use and if we are to drive east we want to be comfortable. Then I went to the dentist and don't have to go back for a couple of months so that saved a trip down later on and we headed home at 3 PM and were in Banff soon after 5.

However the next day is when you feel a little tired. Also I usually vacuum and do the laundry on Saturdays and the Morants came in for a few minutes yesterday and stayed until 11.30 We had so much to talk about, they have had a Latvian Carpenter working up at their house for 2 weeks. Ran into him at the coast and he had done finishing work for them before a few years ago, so he said he would drive to Banff for 2 weeks work, which he did and worked 10 and 12 hours a day and Willi cooked his meals and he was glad to do it for \$2.25 an hour (though he could get \$2.50 at the coast) and no extra for overtime, but then Willi made him pie and all sorts of things so I think he didn't do too badly! and they were glad to get their work done.

Then Eldon came over to tell us the painters were up to do the new building. I called it a "Paint Blitz," the foreman such a nice young chap, he had a station wagon, ladders on top, paint and stuff in the back part and five men with him and they even brought their lunch. and they put the first coat on all the outside of the building by 4.30 and were headed back to Calgary. It was funny to see for there is a canopy over the stores and they were standing on that to paint upstairs. Had a medium green to go around the overhang for trim, a light pale greenish yellow for the trim around the windows and soffits (don't know if that is the way to spell it, a new word to us but is the part under the eaves and canopies) and then a nice brown for the wood over the windows, under them and above the downstairs windows. It looks quite nice, we think, but they certainly were efficient, *each man doing a different color it seemed.*

In the afternoon Pete had the oil changed in the car and then I went to a church bake sale and to the hospital to see a friend and we really had quite a busy day.

This afternoon we are to meet the Vallances who came back from 3 months (nearly) in the West Indies and may have company for tea, a Banff friend and her sister who lived in Tofino.

The snow is still coming down, looks as if we might be in for a storm, everything white already but no wind. Might be a pretty storm where it stays on the trees.

Loads of love from us both.

Catharine.

Banff,
Tues. April 1, 1958

Dearest Mother,

You are kind to think I don't forget, but I can't remember whether I wrote yesterday or not ! You asked my age, I will be 52 in June, Pete is 53 already.

We are having a lovely day, a few pretty clouds but the sun is getting nice and warm and it is drying up. I should be out trimming trees or raking but we rather expect Penny Warren to come down, she is a young girl who has been working in the Camera Shop all winter, her father and mother live in Pincher Creek and know the Campbells and strangely enough her (step) Mother is a friend of Mrs Baldwin's (of the Concord Bookshop) daughter. Penny is going abroad with relatives this summer and then to Brazil for a year I think.

We were sorry you were so lonely on Thursday, expect you missed Hanne, How about asking someone to come that day, either morning or afternoon or both, of course as it gets warmer and Frances gets home you will have more dropping in, Gibs will soon be old enough to come on his own to call.

Why don't you get George to find out about ~~about~~ a moving seat that goes on the side of the stairs. Might not add to the beauty of the stairway but I don't think you should let that bother you, if it got you up and down easily that is the important part. They don't really take up much room either, I have seen them in magazines advertised. Would be so nice in the summer for you could then go down each morning and afternoon with ease.

Yesterday we had the Federal election in Canada and as they aren't allowed to broadcast any results until the polls close at 6 Pm, when we turned the radio on, the Liberal leader Mike Pearson was already conceding the election to Mr Deifenbaker the Conservative, The latter party swept the country, but we found it interesting to listen to until nearly 11 PM, so many were defeated. The conservatives got 209 seats, the Liberals 46 and no Social Credit members got in. That is the party which runs this province. The people from east to west wanted a change and they certainly got it. We were pleased but no one knows if such a big majority will be good for the country but it will be alright for a time.

x
The Vallances were down yesterday afternoon, brought us some lovely woven mats and a tiny woven basket about big enough to hold a package of cigarettes, and in it were all sorts of spices, each rolled in wax paper and named and in their natural state. a stick of cinamen, a few cloves which Doris says grows in a cluster at the end of a leaf, and nutmeg and the stuff that grows around nutmeg.

We questioned them about letters they wrote from a place called Tobago, where they stayed the longest time, 2 weeks. None of us heard from them while they were there and wondered if their letters weren't getting mailed as sometimes people will

steal them for the uncanceled stamps. And they said they had written more letters there than anywhere and it was so easy for you just handed them in at the desk and the amount in postage was put on their bill, and then when we questioned more they began to wonder if someone hadn't just never posted the letters and stolen the money charged for the stamps. Doris was furious to think of such a thing and said " Why Mr Crook who ran the place would never do anything like that. " and we laughed and they did too when they realized what his name was. They have a list of the people they wrote and are going to check and see how many got letters, but we know the family in Calgary didn't hear for a week or more and the man forwarding mail didn't know where to send it as he hadn't heard.

Must take this over now to mail, so lots of love and don't know if I have any clippings to send or not. Am so glad the Glider works so well for you, believe they can be got in Canada and am going to order one here for a freind.

Morelove

Catherine .

Banff, Alberta.
Thurs. April 3, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Easter already and none of the Spring Cleaning done, think I won't take it too seriously this spring but leave most of it until fall, Trouble is I haven't taken it seriously for so long I should do a bit more than usual, if I get all the woolen things stored away that ~~will~~ will be something.

Hope you are having nice weather, ours has been overcast a good deal of the time and this afternoon an east wind again, never saw so much from that direction and yet no real storms. To-morrow, Good Friday is a holiday, then Easter Monday is also a holiday, makes a nice long weekend but gets one so mixed up. Have just heard that Jim Orr will be here the 12th or 13th, which is the following weekend, which will be nice. Quite a lot to talk over with him and we are anxious for him to see the set up here and meet Eldon Walls and Syd Vallance.

Had a nice letter from Rusty this afternoon which I will copy so you can read it more easily and then send it in my next letter, have company just now as I was writing this and will finish while she is talking to Pete.

Kitty wrote me and her letter came yesterday and she mentioned that Rusty had what they call in the Service a "96" which means 4 days off, and Rusty is to meet her in Miami and they are to visit friends of hers at Fort Lauderdale. Then she also spoke of meeting Gale at a wedding in Baltimore, I believe she is to be a Bridesmaid for an old friend, Susie, ~~Simpson's~~ Stimson. Funnily enough when Rusty came out to the Simpsons 3 years ago and we drove him up and as we went into the lodge there was a Dr Johnson there who has been up to Bow several years with his wife, and when he said he came from Baltimore, Rusty said "Do you know Susie Stimson?" and he did, at least he knew her family well and we all laughed at Rusty for it sounded funny the way he asked and of course at the time we thought she must be a favorite of his.

Rusty sounds fine and this break will help the time go too. So nice he can meet Kitty down there and they will have a few days together.

This isn't much of a letter but we are having trouble with a neighbor's dog chasing the deer, very difficult, have been out chasing the dog with a broom so guess if I am to catch the mail will have to end this. Will do better to-morrow.

Lots of love

Catharine

Banff, Alberta.
Sat, April 5, 1958

Dearest Mother,

That was an awful letter I sent day before yesterday but Rita Crick came in as I was hurrying to get it off and so just had to finish off where I was when she left in order to catch the mail.

This is the Easter Weekend and yesterday being Good Friday was a holiday, we were a little late getting up in the morning and then Edlon Walls came around to talk over a few things, then we went for the mail and had lunch late, and first thing we knew after reading the mail (which had several long letters in it) and I had cleaned up we had to go to the train to meet the Kingmans going through. The train was late and we didn't realize they changed and were going on the later afternoon one. However we gave another friend a ride home and then went up to the Vallances to leave a paper for Syd to read as Jim Orr is coming this next weekend of April 13th. Their family were up Jean (the daughter,) husband Bill and 3 small children, so it was quite a lively visit.

The weather is awful, which is too bad. Snowed all yesterday morning, a wet heavy snow which amounted in 4 inches in no time and thought it let up later it didn't melt much and to-day is dull and all slush underfoot, most disappointing for most people coming up for the weekend. The Gills were driving up from Calgary where they live were to have lunch of sandwiches at the Vallances and then go on over to the Windermere Valley where they have a cabin, another 85 or 90 miles. The roads were so bad that people got stuck on the hills near Exshaw and they were held up an hour or more, over 100 ~~mixxxx~~ cars I think stuck trying to get up the hill, so they decided to spend the night with the Vallances and then go on to-day. Of course the kids didn't have much to play with and they are 3 ages and it was too wet to go out. They insisted we stay for tea which we did, then came home for a while before going to the 6.10 train which was also late. but we did see the Kingmans and took the Morants home later. So the day was busy but not much done, I did wash out a couple of sweaters and that was about all.

This morning was a terrific explosion at a place called Ripple Rock off the coast of Vancouver. Two rocks that are 9 and 21 feet below the surface of the water in a narrow channel on the ~~inside~~ inside passage on the way to Alaska. it makes the tides even worse and there have been so many wrecks of ships they decided to see if they could blast the rocks under the water but didn't know what the effects would be. They have been tunneling and placing explosives etc. for months and to-day was the day set for the explosion. We didn't think to go and see someones T.V. but listened to it on the radio. There were observers photographers and the newsmen and radio men and goodness knows who. They evacuated some residents from closeby regions as they weren't sure what would happen. So of course we wanted to listen

"Seymour
Harbours"

In peacetime
The broadcast started at at 79.45 with us and the actual blast at 10.31 Mountain time, 12.31 your time. I wonder if the Newburys saw it on their T.V.? It was broadcast in 16 languages as it is the largest explosion not atomic so far. What interested us was that every five minutes they gave the time signals. In fact they were "peeping" out each second of every minute up to 50 seconds then a pause and then so many more peeps and they would know the minute. This was so the ones handling the explosion itself and all the observation points and the people listening to see if they could feel the ground waves as in an earthquake would all know the exact time. They even had the navy or army, shoot flares so far into the sky with smoke trails so they could tell the height of the explosion. and the one giving all the time signals from C.B.C. Vancouver was a nephew of ours, Marian Stockands husband, Doug Campbell. *It was he who gave signal "Fire"*

Another caller here so will send this along
Loads of love from us both.

Catharine

P.S. We don't exactly know when we will go east but it should be sometime towards the end of next month, depends a little on whether it is an early spring or not and other things too. But don't worry, it won't be too long before you see us.

RS. 3:45 P.M. They are telling about the results of explosion. It was successful. They hoped to blow off 40 feet of rocks & they figure now they took off 47 feet. Figure it went as planned & was completely successful. It was a Canadian job but 2 experts from Duponts came up as advisers.

Banff, Alberta
Mon. April 7, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Am afraid I am not doing very well with my letters to you, will enclose the copy of Rusty's last one to us. mean't to send it last time and of course forgot. Wasn't it nice he could go down to Florida and had enough time to do something. 4 days I believe.

At last we are having some sun. first nice day for about a week. The Easter weekend was most disappointing which was hard on a lot of people who get the Good Friday Holiday and Sat. and Sun. and then to-day, Easter Monday is a ~~shakney~~ holiday too. It was overcast and dull and some snow and wet and soggy underfoot. We didn't do much. Think I last wrote on Friday when we met trains and called on the Vallances. Saturday we were quite busy, usual cleaning and ~~listened~~ listened to the Ripple Rock explosion, (think I wrote after that come to think of it.) Went over town in the afternoon, took some flowers up to the Wards. They came by express from the coast Friday night, were just as fresh and lovely, tulips, iris and daffodils, anenomes and even one little primrose plant wrapped up in paper with the earth still on. even a worm squirmed out as I put some water in the little paper cup it was in. I sure squirmed too, and it wriggled off the top of the refrigerator and fell down the crack between it and the counter. Don't know where it went after that, but Pete said it wouldn't live, still I would be a bit surprised to see it wriggle out at me again anytime !

Seems to me someone came in but can't remember who. We listened to the final of the series between the Bruins and Rangers playing hockey at the Boston Gardens and wondered if the Wilmots were there.

Yesterday, Easter. we were up at 7 as the robins were chirping away and we had promised to take Nick to the morning train, he is off for a month to photograph for the C.P. R. Then Merle Brewster came in about 10.30 and stayed an hour telling us about selling her motel and wanting an apartment. She is a very nice sort of person.

In the afternoon when I went for the mail the bank manager and his wife, little boy 3 and baby girl, happened by and so I asked them to come back for tea as we have been wanting to get them down and just never have. Their name is Lapper. They didn't think they were dressed up enough but neither were we and Pete was busy making frames so we had tea and they were interested in all the pictures. and so our day went.

To-day we are invited to the opening of a Community Hall at Morley which the Indians have built with help. It is at 2 PM and as it is nice we may go down.

Also wrote Mr Orr yesterday. There is nothing we can think of for him to bring with him but it was nice of him to think of it. *He is bringing his wife too.*

Too bad that Mary has been so sick with the flu,

It certainly takes it out of a person and makes one weak for so long and as she isn't as young as she used to be it is even worse. We do feel sorry she doesn't feel she can work any more. and shall miss her, we have always been very fond of Mary.

Checked the magazine Canadian Art just now and I do think that picture of the fox and chickenson page 49 awfully good. I can't see the point in # 49 on page 47 either. Most of those pictures are used I think on TV programs to introduce them. The little girl is sweet on page 33. The ones on page 27 are just awful, especially the top one. I thought the last copy of the London Studio was much improved and hope that it gets better as time goes on, think people are getting awfully tired of Abstract Art and such.

Was interested to hear that Barbara Palmer is the Red Cross nurse, you may see her more often.

Must hang our the wash and go over town if we are to go to Morley at noon.

Loads of love,

Catherine

Banff, Alberta.
Wed. April 9, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Snowing again to-day and looks quite wintry, it is just about 30 out and not piling up much as yet but the ground is white. only hope we have a nice weekend for the Orrs who come this weekend. They wrote they would arrive Sunday morning and leave on Monday.

Did I tell you that the Indians at Morley had invited us down for the opening of their new Community center? We had an invitation signed by all the 3 chiefs for 2 PM. Weren't sure if we would go but Monday was a really lovely day with sun and a few clouds lifting from the mountains and really it couldn't have been prettier. Mrs Lottie Flem who was so good to Frank Kaquits last year and gave him his meals when he went to the summer school and who is to room and board him this year. was invited too and asked if we could give her a ride down, so we picked her up at 12.30 and got there just in time. about 5^{min} to 2. We were surprised to find so much snow from Exshaw east. the ground was covered, about 6 inches and it had been more than a foot. People were coming from all around, Indians and white friends and quite a lot there when we arrived. There were a number of ones we knew outside and we all spoke to one another, while sloping about underfoot in mud and shush, just lucky we had worn overshoes. Then people began going in so we joined the rest.

The building is like a huge Quoneet hut, and arches over with now pillars inside. 75 feet by 45 feet I think the paper says. a stage at one end, a bench one can sit on right around the walls and about half the floor space with really good chairs that can be stacked. It was full of Indians and their friends and so many babies and kids, but strangely enough though it was mighty hot with all of us inside it didn't smell of buckskin. or really anything special.

There was a little entrance hall at one side and along the wall a mural on wrapping paper done by the Senior Class at school of all kinds of transportation. I noticed there was even a log going down a river with an Indian astride, perhaps they used to do that in the old days.

The 3 chiefs of the 3 bands, Chinicki, Bearspaw and Wesley sat at the back of the stage and then the younger councilors, all in dark navy uniforms with gold braid and the councilors with huge leather belts. They sat in a row at the back. a younger man. Eddie Hunter was master of ceremonies and not only introduced the speakers but interpreted for many. and George MacLean was dressed in buckskin to cut the ribbon across the stage and declare the building open. There were many speakers but luckily all short, about 30 " said a few words " both Indian and white. some chiefs from neighboring tribes and the stoney chiefs and ministers and Indian affairs men and friends, must have been more than 30 while we got hotter and hotter until near the end of that part they opened the door at the back.

The first part was all done to a chorus of crying babies which gradually died down or else we too got used to it. no one took much notice and some of the young mothers took especially troublesome papooses out or fed them from a bottle or otherwise. I think most of them were too bundled up perhaps.

One of the elder Councilors, old Jonas Rider died the night before so they had no dancing during the afternoon ceremonies and the school teacher was sick and had gone to the hospital in Calgary so no one could direct her children's program for her but otherwise we had a little singing and square dancing and then we left about 4 I guess. *It went on all night.*

Right now we are off to a funeral and then the blood donors clinic. so all for now.

Loads of love,

Catharine .

Banff, Alberta.
Thurs. April 10, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Will enclose a copy of Rusty's last letter which came yesterday or earlier perhaps. I never knew anyone who seems to just miss things as Rusty does, but it is really a matter of luck and no doubt his luck will change and he will hit everything just right! It was too bad he couldn't have spent the Easter weekend with his mother but then it might have been mostly driving and getting back, and poor connections. He sounds quite happy and as if the life weren't too bad.

We have been busy with various things and a number of people dropping in. Verne was down as we had lunnh, to stain some bookcases for us, as he does them so well. We ordered one from Eatons Catalogue (like Sears Roebuck) for \$15.00 unfinished wood and it was so nice and better than anything we could have made here, we ordered two more, he puts a light brown stain on and then later gives it two coats of varnish and they come out very well. Will hold a lot of books, and we will put them under the little windows in the big bedroom, the other I am going to use in a cupboard downstairs for the slides.

Lynn timer came about 3. Pete was over having the tires on the Jeep changed from the snow tires to the regular ones and with interruptions at the filling station took him some time Verne, Lynn timer and I had coffee before Pete got back and Verne told us stories of the old days on sailing ships, He gained weight on the German ones and lost on the English, the German food was the best of any. Then we did a few errands with Lynn timer and tried out the tires and drove her home, had no sooner gotten back about 5.15 and each of us was glancing at a magazine that came to-day and a car full of Indians drove in the yard, but no one came to the door. We just kept on reading and didn't look up and they just sat in the car. We didn't know what to do and they drove away, evidently not realizing we were home, But then back they came before we thought to move so we sat and read some more, and then about 6 they blew the horn a couple of times, so we figured Pete might as well go out and see who it was, which he did. Mr Crosby next door had said we were out but should be home at 6 o'clock and so they returned! It was the blind man with some friends, and he wants money and then you are never sure how much of it he gets, a dollar bill is the same as ten in feel. Pete had a dollar so gave him that and they left.

We started to get supper and another car drove in, this time it was the Two-Young men. Jake and Annie. So Pete went out and talked with them a while and they had some belts they wanted to sell. Unusually lovely ones, so in the end we bought the 2, perhaps the Orrs will like them! Were late with supper and just finishing when Pete Tasker came for a while. He is the one who used to be Game warden at Bow Lake, a photographer & painter and such a

fine lad. An English boy married to a Banff girl . He has gone, and Pete is listening to the hockey game.

Yesterday was busy and we had Mrs Hayes Funeral to go to. It was in a new little chapel connected with the funeral parlor and just as nice as can be. seats about 50 or 60 people. the side walls are plain wood, a light mahogany color, and at the top of the wall windows about a foot high , a row of them on either side. The end wall was just blocks of cement (they use so much now) with bits of wood set in, which took away any bare look. There was a little organ at one side and a pulpit thing at the other . Then the flowers were arranged very effectively. Most people here send sprays as they come from Calgary. and these were grouped in a fan shape on a stand that didn't show, right in the center of the wall, and on either side two lovely bright sprays by themselves. It was simple and just right. We went in a door at the back of the little chapel, and the coffin was against the wall, then later the family came in from a side room curtained off and sat in the front. The two funeral men wheeled the coffin up following the minister as he went from the back up the tiny aisle to the front and then after the very simple funeral , they opened a wide door onto the sidewalk to the left of the organ and we all went out that way. Nice to know there is such a place in Banff.

Then we came home and went to the Blood donors clinic to make a donation and had just returned about quarter to four when Pat Mavkenzie and her friend Barbara Rennie came to see us. We had tea and talked and they were here almost to six. Both nice girls, taking a secretarial course in Calgary, Barbara's father used to be manager of the Banff Chateau Lake Louise and now manages 3 C.P.R. hotels in Eg Digby, Nova Scotia, St. Andrews and somewhere else in the Maritimes. We hadn't seen her for several years since ~~when~~ she was a little girl, she is so bright and a tiny little thing too.

The game is over so better end this as well.
Loads of love,

Catharine

P.S. Forgot to say that I liked the heavy writing best in your letter. But why not use whichever pen writes the easiest.

3amp. Alta.
Sun. April 12 1958

Dearest Mother,

Just realized unless I write now
I may not have another chance to-day. We
are just waiting for Jim Orr and his wife
to arrive, not knowing when to expect them
but hoping they get here before lunch.

Thank good —

Well this is as far as I got yesterday when
the Orrs drove in and the rest of the day was full. It is now
about 9 AM Monday and they probably have just started for Calgary
in their "Drive Yourself car" for they catch a noon plane
for Vancouver and will be in San Francisco to-night.

I was going to say "Thank goodness it was a
nice day yesterday" warm and sunny and a few clouds so the
drive coming up was lovely they said. We were up early and tidied
up the house and picked the papers off the grass that blow in
from the street and had things looking about as well as we could.
They must have driven in about 11 or a little after. Mrs Orr
came too, the first time we had really met her to remember her.
I knew she painted but didn't realize that she still did portraits.
and that she went to the Museum school. In fact she left the
year before we went and remembers Aunt Alice Brooks so well and
had many of the same teachers as we did. She was there with
Stanley Woodward and knows Mr Hibbard and Whorf and so many of
the artists we do, so she was very much interested in the paintings
and they both looked at everything.

As Syd Vallance and Eldon were coming at 2 PM
to go over ~~some~~ papers and business matters and also so that they
could meet Jim Orr, we thought it better to take them to see the
museum in the morning so went there and of course stayed longer
than we mean't to, ~~so~~ gave them an idea of the new building and
then were back here at 12. 30 and just time to cook lunch, steaks
beans and carrots (for we found neither of them cared for
Potatoes) and mushrooms and ice cream with strawbe rries. coffee
etc. Were just finished eating when Syd and Eldon arrived. Mrs
Orr went out for a walk and we talked for nearly 2 hours. For I
think it was 4 o'clock when the others left.

Unfortunately it had clouded over by then
so was not the lovely afternoon that we had hoped. However we
took them for a drive around, up by the hotel, the summer school
etc. and it was quarter of six when we got back to the house.

When Jim wrote he was coming he hoped that we could show him a bear and a deer. and the funny part was that there was a nice big fat bear at the summer school and a deer a little further on, and at the Timberline Lodge there were 8 or 9 deer but we saw no other animal.

They were very insistant that we have dinner at the Timberline Hotel with them, though we had enough here for supper and it would have been just as easy and we could have talked more and showed them things, We thought they might come back here last evening but dinner took so long as it does in those places, it was quarter of ten when we got up from the table so we stayed another half hour to talk a bit, and then came home. It was raining by then but this morning it is trying to lift a bit.

They seemed to like Banff but it was too bad they couldn't have come a day sooner and had Saturday here too. and more leisure to enjoy things, but maybe they can come again for longer.

It was nice having Jim see what it is like here and know us a little better.

I will be writing again soon, have a lot to catch up on in the way of letters. I didn't actually clean house this last week but did a lot of dusting!

Lads of love

Catharine

P.S. The car they rented to drive up in was a fire engine red! They asked for a Plymouth. I got a bright red Meteor. We always enjoy reading Rusty's letters if you can send them on for us to read.

Banff, Alberta.
Tues. April 15, 1958

Dearest Mother,

April half gone, how time goes. Pete is listening to the hockey playoff in Boston. Funny Sunday night when we were having dinner with the Orrs at the Timberline Hotel there was a television in the corner with the hockey game in Boston taking place. Pete always thinks of the Wilmots and wonders how they are and if they are there watching.

It snowed with us this morning but more showers than a storm, made the ground white but it soon melted. Sam Ward came in about 10 so I didn't get much done in the way of letter writing. He is building an addition to the Homestead Hotel but has a cold and I guess didn't feel too much like working hard. It was awfully dark and snowing hard. ground quite white but it had all melted soon after.

Pete telephoned Edmonton to-day to make an appointment with Dr Marshall to check his glasses and the first he could get was May 1st. which is a Thursday. At first the girl said the 7th and then changed to the first. so we will be going up there for that and may have to stay a few days while the glasses are done if they need changing.

Pete also has a drawing to do for the Elementary School to have a cut made for the children's diplomas, they get one for each grade they complete. So he hopes to do that first. I still have a lot to do about the house.

How surprising for you to have so much snow just last week and with flowers starting to come up too. Our grass is just starting to show green in places.

Have had such nice letters from you lately and how nice that Cousin Jane came to spend the weekend. I had noticed in the last letter from her that you sent, that she hoped to come to Boston soon. Was glad to hear that Mildred was feeling better. Takes a lot of rest with any heart trouble and she was so active always, must be sort of hard. Wasn't it lucky she went on that trip to the Mediterranean last summer and not this spring.

Our weather has been very dull and overcast for us. A week ago Monday was perfect and Tues. morning, but then it was poor and I guess not until Friday and Saturday was it really nice again. Did I tell you it was 84° in Winnipeg yesterday. a record of some sort. 75° when the Orrs came through on Saturday. Has been up to 50° or even 55° here so you could be outside without a sweater, and felt lovely and warm in the sun.

Nice Frances and Gill had such a good holiday I guess they are back by now. and Sted will be too from Arizona, Wasn't Nancy Newbury to have spent her Easter vacation with them?

If Mary is still there and gets Macleans magazine tell Hanne to read the April 15th copy as it tells about the Canadian 74 who is the specialist on the Civil War and has been on the \$64 000. question on the Quiz program which I think Hanne sometimes listens to from New York.

I am glad that Hanne has you resting every 2 hours for no doubt it helps quite a bit. She really knows what is best.

Today we were just going out to mail a letter when Lynn
Becker came with her little sister who is the cutest little
girl about 4. Looks just as Lynn used to when she first came
to see us and now Lynn is exactly twice as tall as Joanne.
We took them home and coming back by the cemetery up the
narrow road came a big fat black bear. looks as if she might
have cubs any moment. in fact so sort of plump underneath we
didn't want to scare her, so stopped. She went back and around
into the yard of the house where some children were playing
hide and seek. One little girl was hiding on our side of a
building, standing close to the wall and never saw the bear so
we called out to her, and she came out of hiding mighty quick.
The big black bear just ambled along towards the group of kids
and neither seemed scared of the others, though the bear kept
going along the sidewalk and they stepped inside a nearby gate.
Did look funny.

The sheep and in fact all the animals here are out and
about all winter except the bears who usually hibernate. When
the snow is deep up high they come down into the valleys. Yes-
terday we took a little run up the road and there was one place
where ~~some~~ sheep were lying along the side of the road just
waiting for a passing motorist to stop and feed them, some were
standing but most just lying down unconcerned.

The game is over, so all for now.

Loads of love,

Catharine -

P.S.

About going east. We are trying to get everything in order
so when we do go we can stay a little longer & not have to
hurry back. We won't know for sure until after the trip to
Edmonton the first part of May.

If urgent I can always fly east for a week but in that
case would plan to stay here for painting this summer.

What we hoped to do was to go to Concord to see you
and make it our headquarters and take sketching trips from
there to Maine and New Brunswick and Nova Scotia perhaps, in
June. We will just have to wait and see how things go, but
do hope to be in Concord by early summer.

It is Wednesday and we have sun for a few minutes
and then dark snow squalls likethe middle of winter. a funny
sort of day.

Loads of love from us both.

Catharine .

Banff, Alberta.
April 18, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Another nice letter from you to-day, we don't think your letters are at all dull, in fact you tell us lots of things that interest us. How nice that Cousin Jane was with you over the weekend and that Kitty got home in time to have Sunday dinner with you all.

I always think I am going to have so much time to write and of course never do and then lately we have been listening to the Stanley Cup Hockey game series from Montreal and Boston. Pete enjoys them more than I do but when I have to listen and try to write a letter at the same time I get all mixed up, and night before last Mr Scott came in. He is the elderly man who lives in the bottom half of the old house just above us and keeps an eye on our house and the furnace when we are away. His wife died several years ago and he has a large family of children, grand-children and great grand children. He is well over 70 but works all summer repairing the boats and canoes and he does his own housekeeping too and likes to have plants. He originally came from Ontario and farmed in Saskatchewan. But living alone as he does he has no one to tell things to, so each new baby that arrives or each death or whatever happens in his large family from coast to coast, he wants to tell us about them. He always lets us know when he is away and when he gets back from little trips to Calgary where his son lives. But when he comes in the midst of a game I usually do the entertaining so Pete can go on listening.

X
Pete is busy working on a drawing of the new Banff Elementary school for them to use on the diplomas given to each child who passes their grade. It will be reduced in size and a black and white cut made. Pete did 3 sketches several years ago for the other schools and so they asked him to do one for this building. Sort of a chore but nice to have them like the drawings.

Our weather is typical I guess of Spring but a lot of wind and heavy snow flurries which make the ground white and have to melt each day, a bit soggy for much raking. Should go out and trim the little spruce trees but have several letters to write yet and also some books to shift into a new bookcase up-stairs and curtains I had out to air this morning rehung etc. Always a lot of little things like that to be done.

Next week we have some dentist appointments to see how many holes need filling, and we also hope to get the Jeep repainted. Where the gravel and stones hit the sides of the car on the Alaska trip, there are touches of rust showing so we are going to have it painted a darker green. It is very vivid at present, also one windshield needs a new piece of glass, again where the gravel struck and shattered it a bit.

Can't think of anything special to write about so will call this a letter.

Loads of love,

Calthorne

Banff, Alberta.
Sat. April 19, 1958

Dearest Mother,

The 19th of April and I would have forgotten all about the day if Pete hadn't reminded me. One trouble is that it seems more like March than April here. Just the odd blade of green grass, it still looks a bit wintery out. Am hoping it is sunny to-morrow and that is one reason why I am doing this before supper to-night for if it is nice I hope to do a lot of raking and trimming trees. Pete finds the raking stuffs his head and so far we haven't anyone else to do it.

Have been to another tea, this time the Ladies of the Masons. the Eastern Star I guess, and just near us so I asked Pearl Moore to go with me and Merle Brewster her sister-in-law came too and we got there real early. Then Pearl came back down here and with Pete we had a real nice quiet afternoon and she told us all about her winter in Honolulu.

I am afraid that it has changed too much for us, they are still building high new hotels and apartments and even the Outrigger Club on the beach has had to sell out and are to move somewhere else. It isn't the same any more. I asked how the new development was of Henry Kaisers, Hawaiian Village and she said it was well done and people seemed to like it but to her it seemed so artificial. If we go another winter I think we will go to one of the other islands.

Pete has been working hard on his drawing for the school as he wants to get it done and out of the way. Another nice letter from you to-day. with the Guild thing about Elizabeth Paxtons still lifes etc. I didn't realize she was still painting, she must be getting on. Mrs Jim Orr used to do minatures and the Guild asked her to exhibit or do them for their customers (I guess you would call them) but she never did. Don't know if she still does them or not. She says it makes her sick to go to the Museum school it has changed so since her day. but she also said that people are beginning to get away from abstract painting and the conservative things are selling.

Am glad you liked the Maude Adams clipping and that her life is so interesting. I remember her quite well on the stage in " a Kiss for Cinderella "

You will have to start practicing going up and down stairs so we can all eat to-gether when we get to Concord. Did I tell you that Jim Orr thinks you should try a small elevator such as Mr Webster had. He found it so convenient and I guess he wanted to be able to get out into the garden too. They are made so they can be put in and taken out later on for someone else, so it wouldn't seem extravagant, You could leave it in your Will for the Old Ladies Home. Anyway he is going to enquire about one that a friend of his had before he died. Might be easier to install than a chair on the stairs. You could put it in the coat room to come up where the linen closet is perhaps.

How is Mary feeling? Do hope she is all over the flu. Perhaps after she has a few weeks rest she will want to come back for the summer, or maybe it would be better to have a younger person who could give Hanne a hand now and then or be able to keep an eye on you when Hanne has a day off.

What a fire. I haven't read it yet as Pete was looking at it and I went to read other mail. Must have been very exciting.

Tummy thing is the night before your letter arrived I dreamt about a fire in Canada.

It is Sunday & we have snow showers much as you have sudden spring rain squalls. Sunny one minute & snowing the next. Have cleaned the Jeep out to have it painted to-morrow - but will work on trees & lawn later in the day -

Loads of love

Catherine

Banff, Alberta.
Tues. April 22, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Most discouraging, we are right back into winter again, It snowed suddenly last evening for a short time and when we woke at six this morning it had started again so there must be about 3 inches and it looks like the middle of winter. It will all have to melt before we can rake or trim trees or anything like that.

Sunday was quite nice, would be real bright sunshine and then a flurry of snow but warm enough to be outside so I trimmed the spruce between us and the Crosbys land. if you don't the trees get away on you and too tall and take too much light, then in the afternoon we knew if we raked the front yard someone would be sure to see us ^{when} driving by and stop and talk, so we worked at the back and lucky we did, for Mr Scott came out and helped and in fact did most of the raking while I hauled in the wheelbarrow, and Pete cleaned up old boards and things the kids have scattered about, and then ~~the~~ the snow buries the mess ~~all~~ winter, but when that melts such a mess is left behind. Mr Scott used to be a farmer so he enjoys raking and seeing the shoots of green grass and the Rhubarb starting up & a few larkspurs ~~coming~~.

Yesterday was a funny one for us. We were up at six for we are having the Jeep painted and Pete was to take it over at 8 AM and we will get it to-morrow we hope. So I got an early start and did the washing and was busy scrubbing the sides of the shower where the hard water forms a deposit after a few months even if you wipe it down often. Was good and hot, when I heard a voice downstairs. Young Cliffy with a written message from his mother that if we wanted to go to the dentist at 10 AM, an appointment had been cancelled. So got cleaned up and Pete came back and we both walked over so Dr Barker could check and see how many teeth needed filling. Then we had to wait a while so the morning was shot by the time I got back, and I have 3 or 4 fillings, rather a nuisance and hard to get appointments.

Then Rita Crick came over after lunch and we had a long talk about the Mathers, and her trip to the coast. and then there was a bit of ironing and Willi Morant came as we were finishing supper.

Think I told you we will be going to Edmonton the middle of next week, Wednesday I think, ^{Thursday} the first appointment Pete could get to have his glasses checked. ~~and~~ if they have to be changed, they may be able to re-grind them in Edmonton in a few days, but being a weekend we don't know if we will have to stay until the ~~next~~ following week. and if the Trifocals have to be sent to Toronto, it might take a couple of weeks before they ~~xxx~~ come back. So we won't be able to plan much until we see Dr Marshall.

You know I was east just a year ago, flew down on the 26th of April I think and saw a lot of the flowers and tubips and Concord in the spring. Don't think we will be in time to see them this year. What we would like to do is to drive east a little later on and stay on the Atlantic coast for a while this summer and do some sketching there. Make Concord sort of a headquarters. We will have to finish a few things here first. There is not much use of my flying down ~~some~~ for then it would only delay our going later. We were there just 4½ months ago for 4 weeks. *most of November -*

The next few weeks should go by pretty fast now the weather is getting nice. and we should be there before too long. Won't the questions you want to ask wait until then?

Maybe it is about papering the girls rooms? We had a nice long letter from Hanne yesterday written the 19th. or mailed then, and she said you were wondering about it. I think that would be a fine thing to do, paper and paint their rooms so they are fresh and clean. After all anyone working for you spends all their leisure hours in their rooms so it helps having them bright and clean. While that is being done perhaps you could have the plumber put in a new toilet and sink in the girls bathroom, that isn't hard to do, seems to me they just replace the old ones with new ones, unscrew a few things no doubt, and disconnect a couple of pipes. Maybe those are the things you wanted to ask me about.

The sun is trying to come out and the snow is melting but still an east wind.

Will let you know as soon as we have seen Dr Marshall next Thursday afternoon, when we are apt to be able to start east or, if Pete will have to wait a couple of weeks for new glasses. there is no use going until he gets ones he can sketch well with.

Didn't expect this to grow so long.

Lgads of love,

Catharine

PS. Look on page 563 of the April 5th copy of "The Illustrated London News of the movie 'Titanic'"
1st picture Pete is wondering if the "Inevitable & courageous Mrs Braun" is Mrs Keyes' mother?
Not quite as I remember her in looks -

That is coffee - no time
to rewrite no
please excuse.

Barry
Alberta

April 24, 1955

Dearest Mother,

Looks today as if you might
get a letter written on my lap in the
jeep. We are doing errands & while Pete
is in talking to the man who painted
our jeep. I thought I could at least
start a letter to you. My errand is
the next one & then he has a person to
see.

and
this

It is snowing & 32° on
our thermometer at noon. Sun trying
to come out but still a little snow
under the trees. We always think when
we get our first few days of what
seems like "balmy" weather up in
the fifties, that spring has come, but
it is not unusual to have these
snow flurries & cold wind & not
real spring until the buds come
out the end of May. Did notice
a sunny slope yesterday with the

faintest tinge of soft pale green.
The sheep were on it.

The car looks very nice we think. By being old fashioned & conservative in having a dark color we will be in style in another 5 years - if we aren't now.

- I've done 3 errands & Pete is doing his so will continue.

Miss Burditt wrote of a funny coincidence. Left in her mail on Myrtle St. was a Caread Journal for Tricilla Darling at the same number Peichney. So Miss Burditt read it before putting it back for the Post man & noticed the death of Miss Barrett & wondered if it was the one of who had the Walber. Did Miss Mary Barrett die? She didn't seem very well the last time I saw her in November & a lovely life in a way for her.

Back home but we are going out again soon. To see a girl who was badly crippled in an automobile accident & we hear Verne Castilla is in the hospital. Should go to see him too.

Had a look at the new building. They are just finishing & doing the painting. The stairs haven't come yet so didn't go upstairs by ladder. But the stores just have the floors to be laid & partitions to go in Eldon's office. We didn't realize even the light fixtures are all included.

Your letter written the 19th of April just came. Too bad you didn't dare go listen to the bands & sit in the car. But maybe you could hear them in the distance. Glad you had good weather. Hope we do soon. They had 30 inches of snow at Bow Lake last week

about 3 feet on the level. 4ft in
the bush.

I was going to do so much to-day
→ have hardly done anything - time
just flies -

Loads of love from us both.
Catherine.

Banff, Alberta.
Sat. April 26, 1958

Dearest Mother,

The weather with us is very discouraging and seems as if it had been snowing off and on all week. Snowed evening before last a bit, then all day yesterday and we had 4 or 5 inches and even quite a bit on the trees, might just as well be winter, don't think it even got above freezing and the deer even ate most of the leaves off the larkspur which were up about 6 inches. Yesterday morning we had 8 Elk lying under the trees near the road and as many deer at the back.

Thought I would get so much done this week and don't seem to have made much headway. one evening Mary Lee and Doris Blow, both with problems, one, her mother has been ~~well~~, on the verge of a nervous breakdown and the question of what is best to do and the other about her daughter who is going around with a boy much older than she is (she is in her last year of school and very headstrong) and the mother doesn't know what to do and seemed to want to talk it over. Pete Tasker was down night before last to talk photography, and last night Nellie MacKenzie came at supper time as she is thinking of selling her house. So all in all there are many worries people have.

Yesterday afternoon Mary Lee came again and things seem to be working out quite well now she is back from University but I couldn't do the mending I had hoped to do while she was here. and then Paul Francis one of the finest old Indians came to see us and we all had coffee which he really enjoyed. So the afternoon went pretty fast and we had Nick to meet at the train.

Paul told us about how he goes to the Preachers house to watch T.V. and what a wonderful thing it is. He is 78 and I couldn't help but think what a change in his lifetime. For he has told us before about the winter they nearly starved in their teepee until their father or grandfather spotted the tracks of a buffalo that had been seperated from the rest and he tracked it all day and finally shot it and that was all that saved their lives, for they had no food for sometime and were all so weak. Have forgotten the details exactly but think of from living off the land that way with all their belongings in the world packed on one horse *to T.V. in his old age -*

He speaks good English. Said he can't work now as his knees are bad, when he cuts wood he can't lift it anymore. Had flu last fall and was in the hospital, after 2 days they brought George McLean in the same room with him and he was so sick " he knew nothing $\frac{1}{2}$ After a few days he started getting better and he got up one day and came over to Paul's bed and said " Paul, will you pray to God, for me not to die. I want to live. " So Paul prayed for him and he said " he lived." but he didn't make it sound anything very remarkable. He lives now with different people, a couple of weeks with one friend a month with another. He said " they are all good to me but I like my own home best." and then he added, "I feel lazy all the time"

and he sounded a lot like you, you call it feeling tired all the time but he calls it feeling lazy. He can just go to sleep anytime.

The sun is trying hard to come out and shines brightly for a few minutes and next time I look it is snowing hard. Nearly 40 out to-day so it is melting.

We had a letter from Dr. Marshall's office yesterday that he will be away on Thursday so Pete now has an appointment at noon on Wednesday which means we will go up Tuesday and may not have to stay over the weekend.

Must go over town. Verne is in the hospital with the same trouble as Sted had and we should go up and see him.

Hope you are having really nice weather and can sit outside.

Loads of love,

Catharine

Banff, Alberta.
Monday, April 28, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Such unexpected things happen here, you just never can plan on getting things done. Saturday afternoon Red Cathcart of the Luxton Museum came over and asked if we would be here Sunday as a Mrs Ediger of the Glenbow Foundation was coming up with a group to the summer school and she wanted to ask us about Richard Jack. He didn't know just what was going on but expected some of them would be coming to see us, so we said we would be home all day Sunday if he wanted to bring her over or any of the others.

Sunday - In the morning early we took Nick Morant to the train at 10 A.M. then we spent a little while sort of tidying things up, it was a miserable day and the snow didn't melt very much so we couldn't do anything outside, it felt too cold anyway to want to be out. I wrote a couple of notes and then Pete thought we better eat early in case they came, so at 11.30 we had dinner and were all through soon after twelve.

Expecting people one doesn't start any real job. At 2 PM I went for the mail and met Norman Luxton and he said he was going over to the Museum as he expected them down there, about 38 of them, all connected with the Glenbow Foundation, but he didn't say what it was all about, some sort of conference.

We still expected Red over in the afternoon but no one showed up, we didn't mind but it just seems to keep one from settling to anything. Pete did a bit of experimenting with photography and I wrote the odd letters and looked over a few things. But no one came.

Then this morning I had a dentist appointment at 8 AM which is rather early, so we were up at 6.30 and Pete wanted to have something fixed on the Jeep. I ran into Norman Luxton again at the post office and he said they were all down at the Museum yesterday and if we wanted to see Eric Harvie (which we did) he was up at the summer school with the rest. So up we drove but he hadn't arrived, he was at the Mt Royal ^{Hotel}, so we went down there and he had just left 15 minutes before but the boy at the desk said he would tell him we wanted to see him at noon.

Came home and I started the wash when Red Cathcart came along, evidently we were supposed to have been invited to meet the others and we thought he seemed a little sheepish, he is apt to be funny about things and you are never quite sure what he is supposed to tell one. Said he couldn't get over yesterday but Eric wanted us to go to the Banquet at the school to-morrow night, and we are off to Edmonton to-morrow

afternoon, then he said to come up for lunch this noon but we didn't really know whether he was taking it on himself or whether it was a real invitation. Anyway we both were busy, Pete getting the hubs on the car checked and I washing out the woolens etc. Again we thought we better have an early lunch and then see if Eric got our message. We were hungry having gotten up so early.

Ate at 11.30 again and went over to the Mt. Royal Found the boy at the desk had just left, wouldn't be back until six, but I did find out from the head waitress that the Harvies were eating up at the School of Fine Arts. So we went up there which worked well as we met the various ones coming out from the dining room. Dr Leachman who we hadn't seen since last year and the Harvies. Then we couldn't get away! They wanted us to have supper with them and go to some of the lectures and showed us things and we are only just back. 2 P.M. Eric is coming down about 5 o'clock so we will have a chance to talk to him then.

Luckily we heard from Dr Marshall's secretary and the appointment is on Wednesday noon, instead of Thursday at 5, so it might mean we wouldn't have to be in Edmonton so long. We will stay at the Corona Hotel as usual, wouldn't feel at home anywhere else and I will be writing you from there.

Hope we don't have to stay over this next weekend.

Quite a letter. so all for now.

Loads of love,

Catharine .



J. L. ARDERN, Manager

CORONA HOTEL
EDMONTON
CANADA

April 30, 1958
Wednesday

Dearest Mother,

We came up here yesterday; it was quite a day. One trouble was getting up so early Monday morning for an 8 A.M. Dentist appointment & another yesterday at 9 A.M. Actually they were replacing old fillings more than new holes - Guess I have too sweet a tooth, but at least they are my teeth not "store ones." Then we had several errands to the bank & Eldon to see & had to pack & Verne

2

dropped in to Eldon too, to find
to get rid of to a lunch to take
with us etc.

Eldon came soon after
3 P.M. to drive us to the Station
to we took the Canadian to
Calgary. 2 hours, then an
hour's wait to the Dayliner
to Edmonton. 3 1/2 hour ride.
It was light half way to
we arrived at 10 P.M.

Always nice to come
here to the Corona for they
all remember us to even
a lovely bunch of flowers
in the room, tulips, pinks
to iris to very well arranged.
Sort of white fluffy stuff
in the vase to which one



J. L. ARDERN, Manager

CORONA HOTEL
EDMONTON
CANADA

add water. We had a milk shake before going to bed & then slept in this morning.

I didn't go over with Pete to see Dr Marshall. Just as well as the appointment was 12.15 P.M. he was there half an hour ahead & altogether waited ~~1~~ 1 1/2 hours, a room full of people. Goodness knows when Dr Marshall eats.

The Doctor was very pleased with the condition of Pete's eyes. In fact he gave him extra small print to read which is too small for the

usual test & when Pete read it with ease. Dr Marshall said it was very unusual especially with cataracts removed to be able to read as small print.

There was nothing they could do there to the glasses but some excess glass could be ground off one lens & Pete may go to Calgary about that.

So now we shall go back to Bayff tomorrow morning - leave at 8 AM & get there, with a 15 minute connection in Calgary - at 2.45 in Bayff. Really very direct - we could have taken



J. L. ARDERN, Manager

CORONA HOTEL
EDMONTON
CANADA

a night train but it is a
more tiresome way we thought.

When we get home we will
start planning the trip east.
There is quite a lot we must
see to be before we leave, so we
won't have to hurry back
but we will do our best to
get to Concord ~~the~~ by the end
of May or first of June. It
depends on lots of little
things to attend to & also
takes some time to get all
our things together & organized.
We want to drive in the
Jeep so as to have it there

6
for sketching trips & we don't
know how long it will take
to drive east at our speed.

However it won't be long
before you see us. By the time
you get this letter you can
feel it will be within the
month if there are no delays.

If the weather warms up
& is nice, we can get more
done. Snow most every day
seems to slow me up.

It is time for dinner.
Our meals are all off
schedule. We had dinner
after 2 o'clock & didn't
go out until after 3. But
had a nice walk to the
Edmonton Art Gallery in



J. L. ARDERN, Manager

CORONA HOTEL
EDMONTON
CANADA

an old house. They had lots of paintings - some amateurs & some drawings by famous Europeans. Then to the CPR to reserve a ticket or seat on the Canadian to morrow. Saw Fred Davidson who we know well -

To dinner now so -
Loads of love & I will keep you posted on how we are getting on. Hope you are having nice weather.

Loads of love
Catharine.

Banff Alberta
Fri. April
May 2, 1958

Dearest Mother,

It is May but our weather seems to be no warmer, in fact they had snow in Edmonton this morning. It was so lovely yesterday, like summer up there. not a cloud in the sky and we were sure it would be hot. We were up at 6.30 AM again and got the 8.30 train to Calgary. Were a bit ahead of time and found that General Vokes who is head of the Canadian Army was in the station with his party of 4 and going on our train. It is called the Dayliner and is just 2 cars, same as run through Concord and very fast. You could tell we were going fast by the speed with which we passed the cars on the main road which paralels the track a good part of the way. We went 80 or over part of the time and when you stop it is just for a minute. In fact they put all the through passengers in the rear car, and those who are getting off or on at the stations are on the front car. The conductor and trainman sees that they are ready to hop off as we approach the stations and that is how they save time. Only takes 3½ hours for the 185 miles with 8 or 10 stops. You have to carry your own baggage but they help one with it if necessary. Well anyway Gen. Vokes went up to the engine cab after leaving south Edmonton so we knew he probably drove the train part of the way.

We had half an hour in Calgary but didn't fair (or is it fare) as well on the Canadian Day coach. Everyone has a reserved seat so you sit where you are told or can go up in the Dome if you want. We got on to find a very crumby seat with a cup on it and a little boy behind. Across the aisle a mother and baby. I wiped off as much as I could of the crumbs before we sat down and then in the end she had to move to the 2 seats ahead of us, Had gotten on during the night and someone was asleep in her rightful seat so she had sat in an empty one behind. There was much confusion as 2 ladies arrived with the same seats she was in and the baby cried and the little boy yelled a bit but she finally got moved. The little boy, Johnny, was very lively and she couldn't make him lie down, he cried each time, then we discovered there were two more kids ^{David} not much older who had been up front with someone else and there was much going back and forth. The Mother took it all rather calmly but looked so tired, she handed out food, and the oldest boy about 5 went off with a jelly sandwich up towards the front of the car. Soon a strange little lad came back to report " David is dropping crumbs on the seat. " and before long David arrived back with the crust ends of the sandwich still being consumed, and his mother said " David did you drop brumbs on the seat? " and he answered " yes. " So his mother said " well don't do that. " But there was no attempt to do anything more about it. David wanted a drink and got the cup and went back of us for some water. When he returned his mother was leaning against the seat in front of us next the aisle and David was carefully attempting

to pour water down ^{the back of} her neck when the train lurched and the water went onto the floor. She never noticed or knew what might have happened and we said nothing.

She sat some of the time with the baby 2 seats in front and when little Johnny cried, in ~~xxxx~~ the seat just ahead of us. Finally she was with the baby and Johnny peeked around at Pete, he was awfully cute and a big smile so we all had a game of Peek- a-boo, but it ended by Johnny throwing dirty socks off his feet practically in our face, well they weren't too dirty fortunatly, and then twice a big pillow came sailing over the back of his seat. He was awfully strong for a 2 year old. We had to stop being friendly after that and luckily for us soon neared Banff. But they had a long trip before they would reach Vancouver.

WE got home by 4 o'clock and went for the mail and food saw Edlon and later Mary Lee came over to talk about a letter from her Aunt about her mother who isn't well. We seem to be the only ones she can turn to. Now must go to the Clinic on the same problem.

Two nice letters from you, and so Miss Barret did die, She didn't seem too happy up at the Nursing home so perhaps it is just as well and I am glad she wasn't ill at the end but went so quickly.

Will be writing more soon, Should rake a bit if I have a chance this afternoon.

Loads of love,

Catharine

Banff, Alberta
Sunday -
May 4, 1955.

Dearest Mother,

Full of steak & fresh asparagus & —
(just remembered we forgot the mushrooms - will have
beet them for supper) & sitting in the sun feeling lazy -

It's the loveliest day - just perfect.
Sunny a few fleecy clouds & no wind until now.
Did a lot of trimming of the little spruce trees this AM
& if I am not too lazy & no one comes, may get some
lawn raked this afternoon.

We are getting on. Hope to get
Calgary within the next few days. Our list of things
to do is so long now may have to make 2 trips. I
hoped to do some errands in Edmonton but we went
to the Art Gallery as Pete was so late getting back
from the doctors & I didn't shop at all.

This coming week we will start
in getting things organized. There is always a lot to
think of & plan. Like canvas to cut & paint to look
over etc. & that's true of each department. Clothes
on camping things - tools etc.

You would have been amused this
morning. Pete was sitting at the back with his
glasses off to get some sun & heard a noise he
thought was a dog. So made out of a ~~clucking~~
noise to get the dog to come near & it was a
little black bear. He wandered off & later as

I was clipping the little spruce & got to the end of the row, heard a little noise & about 20 feet from me the same little bear. He was by a big spruce. Soon he lay down with his head on his paws. I went on clipping, but no nearer him & he didn't seem to notice me at all. Only raised his head when a car went by. He was behind the tree trunk from the road. Later a neighbors dog came out & barked & next time I looked the bear was gone.

Guess the sun is making me more & more stupid for I can't even remember what I was going to write, but it seems to me outside to sit in doors & type.

Yesterday we had several heavy showers of rain so we couldn't really be out at all to do anything. Our grass is just getting green & cat tails on the Aspen. No green buds yet.

Loads of love Mother & will try to start east as soon as we can but there is a lot to see to before going. Just depends on interruptions & the weather.

Loads of love

Catharine

P.S. Heard that Bobby had a little daughter Laura Jeanne I think is her name. Born May 2nd

Banff, Alberta.
Tues. May 6, 1958

Dearest Mother,

We had quite a day yesterday and to-day is sunny and sixty out and don't know if it is hbe heat or just spring fever or just the after affects of the Calgary trip but I feel awfully splëepy and lazy right now. At 2.15⁵ we are to take Mary Lee and her mother to the train to Vancouver and I hope I wake up enough after that to rake a bit this afternoon. Pete is busy fixing the seat in the Jeep so it is more comfortable as we have worn it down quite a bit from sitting long hours I guess.

Did quite a bit in Calgary. Were up with effort at 6.30 in the morning and got away before 7.30 , it was mild but rather dull sky, just as well, to-day is prettier but brighter too for driving so just as well we went yesterday. Went first to see Mr Humphrey the optical man to see if he could do anything to make the glasses better for Pete. Dr Marshall had said to have him do anything he thought would center the thing better, the man in Edmonton who fits glasses isn't too interested, just a job to him but Mr Humphrey takes a real interest. So now he is to re-grind the lens for distance and send it up as soon as possible for Pete to try and if it works, will order as quickly as possible a new lens for the Tri-focals. It evidently takes several months for a person's eye to adjust after a cataract operation and though the present glasses are good for most things it would be just that much better for painting if the object was sharp with both eyes at once

We then went and shopped for some shirts for Pete and I had already done one errand of books, then I had half an hour before we met for lunch to buy Susan Mather a graduation present (as she graduates as a nurse next week in Vancouver) and a number of other little things. We had a good lunch at the Tea Kettle Inn and then went over to the Canadian Art Galleries to see Mr Turner. He had a large painting of Pete's we wanted to get back if he hadn't sold it. He brought it up to the gallery he had here last summer and no sooner had it hung than a lady wanted it in Calgary, so he rushed it back and hung it for her in her living room and even lighted it, and her husband being the head of Home Oil (a big Oil company) wouldn't buy it I guess. Told Mr Turner to send the bill but they never paid it, and finally Mr Turner took it back and was too embarrassed to tell Pete! "

We also went to the A.A.A. for maps for our trip and then headed home and it being just 2 PM thought we would try the new road. It was fine except for 6 miles of construction they were just starting to get ready we hope for paving, but we were back soon after 4 o'clock.

Then we started supper after a look at the mail etc. and luckily by six for we were just having desert when Elsa Wyatt came with little Monica to ask some questions about photography and while I entertained her with some of the little things you sent at Christmas and the old children's books about the Animals, Pete & Elsa talked, and before they left Syd Feuz from Golden dropped in as he had brought some children over from Golden for the Music Festival Concert. and he stayed until nine when we went to bed!

So now it is time for the train so will write in another day or two. Heaps of love, Catharine

Banff, Alberta.
Thurs. May 8. 1958

Dearest Mother,

We have had real spring weather and it has been wonderful. Sunday was lovely, Monday we were in Calgary and then Both Tuesday and yesterday sunny and warm, couldn't have been better, but it does take a long time to wake things up. Still not much green grass and though the buds are swelling there is still no sign of green, but the air is so fresh and the sun so warm it is good to be out.

We have done quite a lot of raking and have this lot finished and the boy next door said he would do the front of the next two lots so that will help. Yesterday Big Jim Simpson was busy doing his yard and Mr Crosby on the other side working on their long grass too. In fact they asked us to drop in for tea later and I went over at five as I felt so dusty from raking it was good to have a shower first, and they had some books to return. I think we raked a little too much ~~for~~ yesterday ~~and~~ I was tired later. We went up in the evening to see if there were any crocus blooming, our first flower of the spring, a lavender anemone and comes all over the prairies before the grass. Sure enough we found quite a few. I needed some green Juniper or something so we stopped and I was busy cutting a few sprigs and heard a rustle nearby and the sound an owl makes. Sort of a cooing or queer noise. Couldn't figure what it was and then noticed about 6 feet from me in the grass a grouse, all brown except for a ~~mixt~~ bright red spot on his head, and then he made a funny noise and sort of blew out his jowls and there was a big circle of white feathers on either cheek with a brilliant red spot in the center, like a bit prune in size, and at the same time his tail stood up at the back in a fan shape as he strutted about. and then the noise would stop and the big round white feathers tipped with brown, circle would close down and he would appear to be a normal bird again. The circles of white feathers were 4 or 5 inches across with the big red center that seemed to glow, must be some organ, but it was a very striking and curious affect. He didn't seem to notice us and walked in a funny precise way across the road and down the slope on the further side. Just luck that we saw him at all.

Had a nice note from Mildred this morning, well really a letter. I hadn't realized she had been staying home resting for so many weeks but expect one she relaxed from doing so much all the time, the let down would be quite a change. Expect she will have to go carefully for a while yet.

We had a wonderful letter from Mercelaa telling us about last Sunday when Gale was there and also the Washburns came out and how lovely the woods were and the garden in the spring. From Mildred's letter, Maine sounded cold. It was good of Mercelia to write and take all that time for she must be very busy near the end of school.

I didn't tell you the rest we heard about Bubby White. She is Jonny's sister who spent a weekend with you some years ago. Don't know if you remember her. She is Barbara's daughter. She was married last summer and this winter taught Diet Therapy at a hospital in Lethbridge, hoping to finish before the baby arrived and the baby was due the first week in May and they also were to move at that time. We had a letter from her and she hoped she would be finished the end of the month. It turned out that Monday she

she gave the pupils their exam, Tuesday corrected the papers Wednesday and Thursday moved into another house and Friday the baby was born. As Bev remarked " a busy week " It was a little girl. We heard from Miss Burditt that Ailsa had another boy so that is nice. It is Ailsa isn't it.

So much we should be doing. I am finished at the dentist, went at 8.15 this morning and Peter right after and he has one more appointment. and we have to start soon getting the Jeep packed and things figured out. Still don't know how soon we can get away. The stairs for the new building are being made in Calgary and first flight was the wrong size and they have to do them again. It was their fault but a nuisance just the same. We would like to see the upstairs before we leave ! Means going up ladders as yet.

Time for lunch so all for now, thought it might rain to-day but sun is out again now.

Loads of love,

Catharine

Banff, Alberta.
Sat. May 10, 1958

Dearest Mother,

To-morrow is what they call Mother's Day but we think of you every day not just on one day a year especially. We hope to-morrow is a specially nice day for you just the same -

They always get in lots of flowers from the coast & usually tulips. In the grocery store they give away bunches of 6 tulips to each customer & they looked so pretty, all shades & varieties - just little ones, but a nice thing to do. We also bought a few bunches with narcissus too & mixed them for people who don't get many flowers & have just taken them round after lunch & are having a bit of a sun at the back of the house. Looks as if it might get too cloudy. We have had wonderful weather this past week & every thing is starting to grow.

Two nice letters from you & what dull cold wet weather you are having. I think it is what we had in April. I was talking to some one about it today & they said if you watched T.V. ^{weather forecasts} you could see the storms go slowly from day to day across the country. Ours wasn't really a storm, just poor weather for several weeks, but soon you should

be getting this lovely spell we are having now.

Wasn't that exciting. Betty getting her car back. We were afraid it was gone for good. There are so many "rackets" these days, & we were afraid it was a gang who makes a business of stealing cars who might have gotten hold of hers. Looks as if the man had just taken a joy ride. How lucky to get all the suitcases back.

→ poor Frances with water pipe trouble. We have to have our drain pipe replaced soon in the kitchen sink. It runs so slowly & periodically I have to clear it. You didn't say if the trouble was incoming or out going.

Yesterday we got the paint figured out & canvas cut to paint on. & today I was going to look out the camping things but it's been one of those interrupted days.

Pete has been looking for the new lens that was being ground for his ^{distance} glasses in Calgary. Was supposed to be up by the end of this week. So when it wasn't in the mail today, he telephoned. It was ground but had a flaw in it & so had to be sent back to the laboratory. So now will

be Tuesday before he gets it. We may go down to Calgary Monday & spend it up a day that way. He has to try this out for a day or two & if ~~that is~~ it is better than what he has now, then they will make a new Trifocal lens for his other pair. All takes time but can't be helped.

Elden Walls was the first to move into the new building & his office is very nice. The stairs came at last so pretty soon it should all be finished.

Saw a little ^{blue} scilla out today in some ones garden. Just one tiny plant. *Ellysim* (can't spell it) is almost ready to bloom for us & her poppies. but she covers them up every night.

Lots of love Mother & we will be thinking of you every day -
Catherine

Banff, Alberta.
Mon. May 12, 1958

Dearest Mother,

I am afraid I am not very good about answering your letters, and so have never asked about the wheel chair. Think I encouraged you to get one some time ago to visit gardens with but never heard if you got it or not, so do tell us?

We really had a weekend starting Saturday evening. Asta Hauge is just back from Norway and with Bill Walrath who also works ~~from~~ Beckers came down about 8 PM They have both worked together at different times for 30 years in this district but though we have known Bill since he helped dig our basement he was always too shy to come and see us, but this time he did. He is from Denmark, and we really had a wonderful evening. We had been to Ribe which is near where he used to live and it brought back all sorts of memories and then he and Asta started telling about the early days when they worked at Deer Lodge at Lake Louise for the Crosbys and when Pete was driving for Brewsters, and we did laugh. So they stayed until 10.30 and Bill told Pete he didn't know when he had enjoyed an evening so much.

Yesterday morning we were a little late, got up at 8.15 instead of 7.45 and were in the midst of breakfast when Pete Tasker came to show us a thing he had made for his camera, he is the game warden who used to be at Bow Lake and so keen on Photography. He borrowed Pete's tripod for the day and was off to experiment with a lens he had adapted by working until 11 PM Saturday night. It was a cloudy day ^{Sunday} too and rained in the afternoon ~~no not very good for photographing~~

Sunday morning I usually put stuff on my hair as we aren't apt to go out or anyone come in, but had no sooner finished the dishes and bed when Big Jim Simpson dropped in and we had a long talk about all sorts of things. Especially what could be done with this block of land someday. That is the reason why we are interested in setting up a Foundation. Too much to explain in a letter but will tell you about it when we see you. Jim was all excited about the prospect, he was to meet someone to go sketching so went home for a few minutes, ~~didn't~~ and was back again to talk some more. We were busy getting lunch by then but he wouldn't stay to eat, had had a big breakfast. ~~xx~~ We had been up to see Mr Scott with some Tulips after Jim's first visit and stopped to chat a bit. Anyway after lunch I tried to finish some letters and then we went over to mail them and had no sooner come back than Harold dropped in, and then Jim again with more ideas. Harold stayed for supper and just as I was starting to get it ready at 6 Pm Frank Kaquits from Morley came to see Pete about summer school and what to do about the money etc. He wants to buy a car so he can go home for weekends to see his family, so Pete patiently explained how much less it would cost to pay his way on the train or bus

have to meet friend until afternoon

and suggested that when he had a car the other Indians would get him to take them places but he would be the one to pay for the gas, and he began to realize that was what would happen. but he must have been here nearly an hour talking. We finally sat down to eat as he had to go and see someone else, and before we had finished Pete Takker came back with the Tripod to return ~~a~~ and one picture to develope. So Pete helped him in the darkroom and though Harold said he was going up to see the Beckers last night he seemed to enjoy just staying here so it was after nine when he went home. and we were really rather weary.

harder on the eyes so as
This morning we had thought of driving to Calgary (after Pete had first had his teeth fixed at 9 AM) to pick up the glasses, but being a bit tired and the long drive does make it ~~hard~~ to tell if the glasses are just right, and as they are to be mailed up to-day and we will have them to-morrow, we decided not to make the extra trip down. They may not be ready until late afternoon in any case. and goodness knows there is plenty to see to here, and I should get busy right now!

Looks as if our nice sunny weather is over, but it was a lovely week *last week - hope you are having it now -*
Loads of love,

Catherine

Bay, Alberta.
Wed. May 14 1958

Dearest Mother,

A lovely morning. We are just leaving for Calgary & I will write this during the day whenever I get a chance.

We were down a week ago Mon. & Mr. Humphrey (unlike the Optical man in Edmonton) thought he could have a lens ground so that Pete could use both eyes together. Right now only one at a time is sharp. Had to explain but evidently it takes 5-8 months after the 2nd Cataract for them to come together anyway. The lens for the long distance was ground in Calgary & we rather expected it last week. Waited hopefully but when it hadn't come by Saturday, telephoned. Found it had to be re-done & again it was too thick on Monday. A Rail Strike mixed up mail, but it came up on the bus last night so Pete has been trying it out & thinks it is

going to be better, but it has to be
set just right on his nose. So we
are going to Calgary in a few minutes
now.

If your wire came yesterday
+ we will bring some slides. That
is what you want. Haven't taken
many photographs this winter.

No time to finish this. Are
back in Banff. Will write to-
morrow. Successful trip.

Lots of Love
Catherine -

Banff, Alberta.
Thurs. May 15, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Never did get that letter finished to you in Calgary yesterday and got home barely in time to catch the mail here. We had a busy day, in fact lately there have been so many varied things to think of we hardly know if we are coming or going. Just now we are expecting the plumber for the umpteenth time in a week and he may not come yet as his helper has the mumps we hear!

Last week he was coming twice and we had to put him off as we were going to Calgary or expected the glasses, and twice he had emergencies and never showed up, and then yesterday we put him off again and to-day the mumps. He did come and left the pipe which is something. All this waiting for things gets a bit tiring.

Think I told you yesterday's letter that after the trip to Calgary last Monday, Mr Humphrey felt he could have another lens ground for Pete's glasses for the new eye that would work better and thought it would take just 2 or 3 days but he was sure it would be ready by the end of ~~last~~ week. We haunted the post office and finally when it hadn't come Saturday, we telephoned. There was a flaw the first time so they had to be reground, would be mailed up Monday, when they didn't come on Tuesday morning we phoned again, they had been too thick and gone back again but would be mailed Tuesday, but because of the rail strike (which is over now) they didn't come up until the Grayhound bus that night. So after Pete had a chance to try them Tuesday night we went to Calgary yesterday, and by luck got in at 10 minutes to twelve, ~~and~~ Mr Humphrey wasn't coming back in the afternoon, but took all the time ^{needed} to see Pete ~~he needed~~ before going for lunch. He has sent the measurements in to Toronto and expects the new lens for the Trifocals to be back in ten days time, and as soon as they come and are adjusted we will start east. We hadn't realized that when the 2nd. Cataract is removed it takes six and usually 8 or 9 months for the 2 eyes to work together, and that is ^{from} the time from getting the first pair of glasses which was just before Christmas. so actually Pete's are better than lots of people.

The strange part is that had we gone ^{east} when we expected to, earlier in May we would have missed so much that has taken place, which is just wonderful for the future things we want to do with our land here. It is too long to write about but we have had in the back of our mind an Art Gallery and Library or perhaps some sort of historical museum ^{and} several friends have made suggestions or offered to let us have certain things so we are very busy drawing up papers and getting ideas and figuring things out. We aren't saying anything as yet but working towards the future. Will tell you all about it.

Later. This is a very mixed up letter I am afraid and don't know if you can make head nor tail of it, The Noel Gardiners were here this morning to borrow a tent and tell us all about the house they are building down near the Indian Reserve. Steam Watt the plumber came with some pipe and said he would be here in the afternoon, but in~~z~~ the meantime Mrs Painter came home and he had to fix some pipes of hers leaking. But he came in the midst of this letter and did some work, had to go back for a part, is just back again now.

Mary Lee also arrived to tell us of her trip to the coast. Her mother hasn't been well but you wouldn't know them, so it is too long to tell about, but she starts working at a summer job at the ^{Park} Gate ~~and~~ and we are to drive her down there with her things to-night. She left her mother out at the coast for 6 weeks under a doctor there. So there was lots to talk about. and so more things seen to.

We did quite well in Calgary, The glasses, a birthday present for Harold. Lunch and Pete to do a couple of things while I rushed about, bought a hat ! big brim this year, and a small one for sketching. mosquito~~z~~ netting for the Jeep. 2 slips, knitting wool and even tried on a cool looking dress that didn't fit and wasted too much time there. At 2.30 we went over to Mr Turner's at the Art Gallery to see if Belmore Browne's paintings had come in, for they are sending the last ones they have for sale from New York and they are on their way now. We hope they come before we leave, ^{as} we would like to get one or 2 of his paintings if we can, for any future plans we have of a Gallery.

Then we left for home at 3 and got back at 5.15. It was hot and sunny and Pete left his dark glasses down there to have a new lens for that pair too, so it seemed rather bright driving. Got some milk and the mail before coming home. Were just putting the Jeep away when I carried an armful of things to the door and there was a notice of a wire for us. So we got the Jeep out again and went right around to the telegraph office but it was closed, so to the station and I could see it was a wife from Concord. Had a good laugh when it was to come quick to see the tulips! Just wish we could, but if you are having hot weather and not a cloud in the sky as we are having, (the river rising fast) They will be mostly over before we can get there. I always did like the roses best!

Must go over town now and mail this. Barbara and Jon will be here this weekend, haven't seen them since Christmas. Loads of love from us both.

Catharine

Banff, Alberta.
May 17, 1958

Dearest Mother,

One of those days and four O'clock now so I may not get much written as Nellie MacKenzie is coming with Pat (her daughter) after playing for a wedding. and we had a very busy morning.

Eric Harvie said he would be up if possible to-day and if so come and see us this morning but not the time. We were up early and I went over to get some flowers for the people opening new stores to-day and delivered those, then Barbara and Jon arrived from Medicine Hat for the long holiday weekend so met them with Harold and then Eric came about 10.30 or 11 and stayed until one o'clock telling us all sorts of interesting things about collecting for his Foundation, too long to write about. They collect and then loan things to various small museums and universities and it works very well. Do research on ~~xxx~~ Western Canadiana, have Archives and all sorts of things.

Then we shopped and had a late lunch and Jon came over with a recent poem he is writing. An Epic poem really. but he only has about 30 lines. and the Brief on Education they wrote. We decided to relax and get some sun while it was nice and talk to Jon and all the time we sat at the back of the house there was the little black bear not far away stretched out under a tree. Once and a while if there was a noise or we moved, he would look up but other wise had a good rest. At one time on his back with his paws in the Air. We call him Jim after Jim Orr, for the latter was so anxious to see a real bear. He saw one but not our private one.

Then over town and no room to park on the main street and such a lot of cars coming in, the town will be jammed as the weather is like summer and the first long weekend of the year. Still very dry and the river getting high from the melting snow up high.

A nice letter came from you to-day, in fact 2 and how nice that Rusty could get home even for such a short time. At least he could see the tulips, I am sure they must be very lovely and know how well you combine them in the colours and planting. In the last MacLeans magazine it shows color pictures of the ones in Ottawa, started when the Queen of the Netherlands Juliana, gave Canada thousands of bulbs and now it is a real show each spring. Ask Cousin Bert to show you the copy.

We are awfully sorry we couldn't get away sooner but some things one just can't help and this time it has worked well in other ways for we hope to have finished up a lot of business here before we leave, as well as get the glasses that should be better for Pete in sketching and driving and everything else. Had we gone sooner we would have had to fly and then return in a week or ten days but this way we hope to spend a much longer time down east and make Concord headquarters for trips to Maine and the Maritimes. We have a lot to tell you about too. It won't be very long before we leave. a week from the time I am writing this if the glasses come, well not on a Saturday but a week from Monday with luck. There is so much to do here.

Will get this to the mail before the MacKenzies come
Heaps of love and see you pretty soon. *Catharine*

the 26th

Banff, Alberta,
Mon. May 18, 1958

Dearest Mother,

will try to get this written while taking a bit of sun after lunch. Another lovely sunny day - & so nice for the holiday. River has been full of boats. (mostly canoe & row boats) & some people. As we were putting the jeep away yesterday we saw a red cushion floating down the river. A ^{fast} motor boat going up, & soon it came back with an ever turned canoe alongside & 2 boys being hauled out of the water. They very cleverly pulled the canoe up over the bow of the motor boat so the water flowed out & turned it over so it emptied nearly all the water out before letting it slide back in to the water.

Such a lot of picnics & cars. & people. This holiday. The first of July & Labor Day bring in the same crowds from Calgary.

Rather busy for us - the last few days. Yesterday we spent most of the morning going over business agreements we were trying to get done before leaving. & then at 11.30 started getting ready for dinner. Steaks new potatoes, asparagus, creamed onions, ice cream (& watermelon too for you). Then Barbara

Harold & Jon came² about noon. They had slept late so it was breakfast too for them & luckily everything was done to a turn & they enjoyed it. Later we took Harold to the train with his bags. He went to Edmonton to fly east for the summer's training at Trenton. Ont. as an Air Cadet. His birthday is today. 20 years old.

Then as it was getting cooler I decided to weed the garden plots & water them too with the help of young Cliff ^{aged 7} who was very intrigued with the diggers. & I knew he had visions of how to make bigger & better holes in the garden.

I had barely started when the first carload of Indians came. Frank Ragouts with some paintups, his wife, father-in-law & the other 6 kids. They were going to picnic on the way home outside the park where they could have a little fire.

Before they left Jimmy Bear's paw his wife, son & son's family arrived to return a costume. There were so many we didn't suggest any food!

Then it was time for supper, after which I again tried gardening & Charles Riley walked in. He is 17 & son of Mr Riley who died a year ago. Wanted to know if Pete would go to Calgary & take a picture with his movie of a rocket they had made at school. in flight.

So he came in after we finished outside & told us to tell him when to leave, which we did about 9.30 PM.

To day did a weeks laundry before going for mail & up to see Syd Vallance ^{on business} but didn't really get very far talking. Sam Ward has just been over & we have nearly summed enough.

never told you what a busy day we had Friday. Stan Watt didn't finish the plumbing the night before at 7 PM so came early the next morning. Then Sam was down for some tools & 5 men came in a big truck to tar & patch my studio roof - here about half an hour it seemed. & then Poirs Bray to collect for Cancer fund & stayed to talk about Cataracts. Quite a morning. The afternoon almost as busy -

Must go now to take Phil & his mother to the train. This will be a busy week ahead & we may have a trip to Calgary for glasses or to see Eric Harvey.

Lots of love in a rush

Catharine

Am afraid this letter very scribbly. Verne Castello has just come

More love

C

Banff, Alberta
Thurs. May 22, 1958

Dearest Mother.

Such a lot to think of & so little time for writing, but am sure you realize we are doing our best to get everything done as quickly as possible.

Haven't heard from you lately but guess you may have thought there wasn't time to write before we left. The long holiday weekend delayed things a bit & just hope it didn't delay them grinding the new lens in Toronto! We hope it comes the first of next week & when it does arrive ^{we} will be packed & ready.

Yesterday Syd Vallance was down soon after breakfast to re-word an agreement we are having drawn up & re-write a Codicil to Pete's Will. Then in copying it I found some thing we weren't sure about so this morning we went to see him right after breakfast & he changed the wording. So have that to type to-night or before we go.

Also looked out for & got that in jeep with cooking things & paints. Have clothing to look out & pack, but easier when it's cool in AM & you can do it all at once. Just now we are going up to

Baw babe with some paintings for them to hang
this summer. Haven't gotten there yet & haven't
baw'd to day.

There is Pete with Jeep so all for
now. Loads of love
Catherine

Bayliff, Alberta
Sat. May 24, 1958

Dearest Mother,

You would laugh if you could see me writing this. Am trying to get enough tan on my legs so as to go without stockings when possible. It's another hot sunny day & after dinner so am lying on my tummy at the back of the house where the little spruce trees shelter us from too many neighbors. After being indoors all winter the sun feels good. It's 75 out now I think. As far as I can remember we have had but one raining day in May. It is getting to be a drought. Quite serious in woods & on farms.

After saying we hadn't heard from you lately 2 nice letters came. It is too bad we have been so long getting started but the strange part is that had we left sooner we would have missed some opportunities we might not have had again. Will tell you all about it when we get east for I think you will be interested.

I don't wonder you miss Russell so much & especially for advice & help in so many ways & the interest he had in the place. We miss him too for he was so good in writing & giving us advice too.

He wanted us to start what is called a "Foundation". So the money you put in is all spent for Charitable purposes but you can direct what is done with it. We have been working on the idea for about 6 years. but always something happens to keep us from getting the papers drawn up or worded right.

Jim Orr was a great help when he came on. so that was lucky we could be here then. Syd Vallance our lawyer friend has been down several times lately to see us there. Anyway we are getting there. Have to keep writing east to Guido Perera too.

Thursday was the most beautiful day. Think it was that morning we packed stuff in the Jeep. food & cooking things. were sunny but it was rather cloudy - lovely clouds. So about 2.30 or 3. decided it was a good chance to go to Bow Lakes with 3 large paintings Pete had promised to lend them for decoration. We hustled round. Got some ice cream ^{for them} packed in ice & left at 3.30. Such a lovely afternoon. We were up there soon after five. the road is so good & the last stretch is supposed to be ^{packed} done this summer to Lake Louise.

The lake was still frozen over but only snow in shady parts. It was so lovely & warm we never even put on a sweater.

Saw the Simpsons & had a good meal & started back at 7 P.M. a most beautiful evening & we ^{were} back before 9 P.M. still light.

Gave a couple a lift from Timberline hotel on outskirts of Banff. They were from Wellesley - Mass. A nice couple.

Then yesterday Pete spent all morning having things on the Jeep fixed. The Speedometer broke - & the door handle was loose. I could have done more had I known he would be all morning - but did look out clothes.

Then Mary Lee came over & we gave her a lift to the Gate. Would have had to try to make her a call anyway. So talked on trip out, 11 miles.

Did a number of things over town. So many questions about new building to be figured out. Saw new Handcraft store in basement. Most attractive it is.

Must shower off now & go over for more things to see to. Have lots of notes to get away. Pete's new lens for the dark glasses came yesterday & he found it so much better driving in the bright light. Hope the one for the big focal come this ^{coming} week - & then we

will be on our way. ⁴ If there isn't some
sudden business deal to see to, we have
most things almost settled we think.
Guess I better turn over or I'll be
too red. → I can't write lying on my back!
Loads of love
Catharine.

Banff, Alberta.
Wed. May 28, 1958

Dearest Mother,

A nice letter from Hanne this noon and we are sorry to hear you weren't feeling very well, I don't wonder you are tired waiting for us to get there, we are tired of waiting too but it is just one of those things that can't be helped. Pete telephoned Calgary again this afternoon and the man at the Optical Co. is to wire as soon as he can find out where the new lens is, he said it should have been here by now. We think the Holiday weekend soon after it was ordered, slowed things up. You know how people are after a long holiday weekend, work piled up and they feel tired and don't work as well. It should have been in Calgary last Saturday. But don't you worry we will be there before long.

X We have been looking for Indians to get a good appropriate name for the Foundation we are forming, as we don't want to use our names, but not an Indian have we seen since we thought of asking them. So yesterday after lunch decided to take a run down to Morley on the new road and see if we could find George Maclean. It was awfully hot and bright too, not a cloud. Drove down the new road and across the new bridge not yet officially open near Canmore. The Trans-Canada goes right across the Indian Reserve so we turned off and over by the station at Morley. Saw an Indian on Horseback riding ahead, and it turned out to be Bill MacLean, George's son and he said he had seen his father that morning so was pretty sure he would be home, Just follow the road close to the track and don't take the roads to the left until we got there. Sounded very simple, so off we started on the two ruts across the prairie.

Had to go rather slowly and followed the road near the C.P.R. easy at first but then it turned down through a coulee that Pete didn't remember. He was there with Mark Hopkins about 25 years ago that first summer you were out here. We thought we had gone too far so turned back and spent nearly an hour wandering around. finally got a road that seemed in the right direction and I was opening the gate, Pete driving through when another car appeared full of Indians. All they would say was "you have the wrong road." So back we went on the first one and down and up through the Coulee again and as far as Chiniquay Siding and sure enough saw the old log house George had built, across some fields and overlooking the lake.

George was outside fixing his wagon and team and seemed glad to see us. Said in a day or two he is to go east to Mackinaw Island, in Michigan, as the head of the Moral Re-armament movement is celebrating his 80th. birthday and about 40 years ago they made him a ~~Blood~~ Brother at the Banff Springs. George, Mary his daughter and her husband Jee Kootenay are going, so we could easily have missed him. It was hot in the sun and Geoge said "come down in the shade where we can see the lake." He had his big old hat on but looked brown and well.

George MacLean has a well built log house on a sort of promontory overlooking the lake, it is all grass and lovely ground cedar of some sort, clean and the grass just starting to be green. On ~~either~~ either side a coulee leading to the lake and the trees in the coulee rising above the grassy spot we were on, you could see the water through the trees on either side and the lake stretching out to the hills on the other side where the old Calgary road goes to Banff. There were some very old Douglas Fir as well as spruce, pine and aspen.

We sat in the shade of one tall spruce and the ground cedar was quite fragrant. Pete explained a little that we wanted a name that wasn't too long, but suitable for a place where there were paintings and books and on our ~~ground~~ ground with the grass and trees etc.

George sat for a while and thought, and then said the name ~~WA~~ WA-CHE-YO-CHA-PA and tried to tell us what it meant. It means "Anything you see, Anything you do, it's perfect. Doesn't matter what you do or what you see, All there. - - Would draw influence" (By that he mean't it would be educational) "In that way perfect, in that way nice and beautiful." "Your mind draws to the work, and the influence draws, Can't say nothing against it."

It sounded rather appropriate to us and coming from George had meaning and it was really lovely sitting there with a nice breeze off the lake but a warm day. Then he told us a little about himself that we hadn't known. He was born about 1871, started school in Morley 1880 and went to school at the MacDougall Orphanage School for 7 years. Then he went to Calgary and Edmonton and to an ~~Industrial~~ school in Red Deer built for the children both north and south. Then he was in Ottawa and Winnipeg where he learned about wagons for he was given Carpenter's training. Then to Calgary to build Democrats (which is a kind of wagon) to take the place of the Red River Carts used to cross the Prairies. They wanted to teach him to be a doctor but the old Chief, old Chief Jacob Bearspaw (David's father) wanted him to be his interpreter and made him a minor chief. and he even taught school for a while.

Then he told us that you can learn a great deal from observing. The Forest is like life, the trees all stand side by side, When you want some particular kind of wood you go into the Forest and you look among the many different kinds of trees for the tree that will serve your purpose. There are the very old and fallen trees with tiny little trees sprouting out of the trunk, "the tall straight trees, standing side by side and never encroaching on one another," the crooked trees and many kinds of different trees like different nationalities, all growing together. He said "God's book - the Forest, if we study his Universe we can learn more than from any book." and then he added "even the crooked tree helps build the Forest!"

It was then time we started back, his wife came out of the house as we were leaving, said a few words in Stoney and then George said. "we always think of you as our favorite son and daughter - in-law." It was all very nice and we think the name will be a good one, it has a lot of meaning for us.

I have written more than I mean't to but will get this over to the Post office. We have had 2 busy evenings with friends dropping in right after supper. The Nobles from Ponoka last night and Nikki Coleman and her husband Ron Percy of Montreal the night before. They are on their honeymoon.

Loads of love from us both.

Catherine

PS. Mean't to say that Pete used his new dark glasses that came last week, for the first long drive and said there is no comparison with the previous ones, he had so much more comfort in driving with this new pair. So we are awfully glad about that.

Baruff. Alta.
Sat AM.
May 31 1958

Dearest Mother.

I won't take time to write a real letter so we can start that many minutes sooner.

Had quite a day yesterday + this morning too.

Will telephone you collect when we get a chance from some places along the way. If we camp there might not be a phone. So if you don't hear we are probably OK.

Hope you are feeling better now + we will come as quick as we can.

Loads of love

Catharine.

Pete's new lens only came yesterday

Regina, Sask
Sun night
June 1, 1958

Dearest Mother,

We got away in quite a rush Saturday & went as far as Brooks Alberta that night. Were pretty tired & too late to phone you because of 3 hours difference in time. So that was why we went in to Medicine Hat & phoned this morning.

The Trans Canada By passes all towns & cities which makes it faster. So it took us $3/4$ of an hour to go in & phone. Telephone company extra slow too. So think we won't try to phone unless we get to somewhere in time to do it at night.

It was nice though, we could actually hear your voice & know Mercedes was with you Sunday as we realized it was a hard weekend for you. Would have been there if we could have.

Hanne said you had fresh
chowder Friday. We may not
make it this Friday but are
sure to be there next. Shouldn't
take us more than a week or 10

days. Will keep you posted -
for trip. Pete finds he can see much
better with these new lenses
in his glasses, but what a
time getting them. Lucky we
waited though.

It rained & blew all day
today but clearing to night.
We drove 365 miles today &
are going to bed now to start
early in A.M.

Last letter we got Sat noon
in Banff, one from Rusty,
a nice send off.

See you really soon
now. & we will come the
quickest way & not stop
to see anyone we know.
Didn't even phone Barbara
& Jon in Medicine Hat.

Loads of love to you
from us both

Catharine -
90° last week on Prairies.
Cool & 48 today.

Brandon
Manitoba.

June 2, 1958

Dearest Mother,

That wasn't much of a letter last night but I was getting sleepy by then. We have been going pretty steady.

Last Friday after no word of the new lens Thursday we decided to take a chance & go to Calgary in case it ~~they~~ arrived & perhaps see Eric Hawre & I had to go to the bank which closes Saturdays -

We got up at 5.30 Friday morning & was in Calgary by nine or a little after. They had gotten notice of the lens being mailed from Toronto & Mr Humphreys said to come back around 2 PM or give him a ring before noon. We did several errands & I went to the bank & about 11.30 Pete called Mr. H. He told us the lens had arrived & also that Eldon Walls had called from Banff for us to phone ^{him when we came in.} ~~Hawre in Canada.~~ which we did & he told us to call Hawre in Canada. nothing serious but wanted us to call.

We had arranged to meet Eric
 Harvie between 2 + 2.30 ~~but came~~
 but our first concern was to phone
 you. + what a job we had finding
 a phone that was in a booth so one
 could hear. I'm no good on those
 phones out in the open with people
 on either side talking too. Went to
 the bus station. New telephone office
 not open yet. Other just to collect bills.
 Went to Optical Prescription Co +
 Mr H fitted the lens into Pete's glasses
 but up stairs the phone was out in
 the lobby + Red Cooper of Lake Louise
 standing beside it + we didn't want
 him to know what our plans are.

We then went to the Wales Hotel.
 again an open ^{pay} phone near the elevators
 + then we thought of Syd Vallance's Law
 office in the next block so went there.
 Bill Gill, the son-in-law told us to use
 his office + put the call through from
 there. But what a time going from
 place to place + Pete not yet used
 to the new bus so he had to watch
 the ramps + steps extra carefully.

We left a message for Eric Hawice that we couldn't see him that day & started for Bauff. Had a good dinner about 2 P.M. on the way, thinking we would need to be well fortified for all there was to be done so we could leave next day.

Got home about 4 P.M. & did odd things, collected parts at the Cleaners. Saw Eldon - P. signed a lease. I got a present for a new baby born that morning - mail, food etc. Got back to the house before six & began to feel tired, but we managed to gather letters to answer. Oh yes the Morants came in as we were finishing the dishes & I cleaning out the Frig. took left overs up to Mr Scott, & asked him to pick up our magazines etc at P.O.

We got to bed by 10 P.M. pretty groggy. Next morning up early again - about 7 o'clock. Pate up to Mr Scott's with keys & instructions a little more food. I forgot we had to pick up a bus Elsa Wyatt had borrowed & hadn't returned. Such a lot of odd

things to remember. Oh yes. Pete had a Codicil to his Will to have witnessed Friday afternoon & put in the Safety Deposit Box Sat A.M.

We decided to go about things slowly so as not to forget things. Packed clothes & last food & stowed everything in the jeep. The what was left over for lunch. Got U.S. Traveler checks at bank & even had time to see the new dining room in the new building, all ready to open & then left at 2 P.M.

That first day got to Brooks Alberta. Next night Regina, Sask. & then last night a tiny town across the border in Minnesota.

So we have made good time. Got to Ironwood tonight Monday & hope to reach Concord before Sunday, Saturday perhaps. Will know better to-morrow - may get there before you get this! So don't worry we are coming as fast as we can!

though. It means pretty steady
driving. Over 400 miles a day. So
it's time to turn in now - Will
telephone again if I get a chance
so you will know where we are -
Loads of love to see you soon
Catherine.



Dearst Mother. We Mrs June 23
couldn't have found a
lovelier spot. Right across
the river from Wiscasset,
Maine. We are in the eastern
cabin & have eaten
Mary's lettuce on a land
served in porch. The tide
must go in with the tide
go in & to dunking better
every minute. The hills
train across the water & am
riding thru lands above.
Quiet. Peaceful. Just lovely.
Got here at 10. The. Was
surprised to find it only
15 miles beyond Brunswick.
Couldn't recognize a thing
on the new roads. In a fine
but RR Station in Brunswick
& 2 houses across a street
roads of love. Fair & Catherine

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POST CARD

Address

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

South west. Har.
Maine.
June 25 1958

Dearest Mother,

We arrived safe
& sound yesterday afternoon &
so far have had a fine trip, the
weather being lovely. Near
Ellsworth one man said it was
only the 2nd fine day they
had had. Lilac bushes in
full bloom.

I wrote Belly
over the weekend & he got the
letter yesterday morning, so
he figured we might pull
in any time which we did.

X Pete asked at
a filling station in Southwest
Harbour if they knew where
Capt. William Spurling lived.
They didn't seem to know him.

So Beth said "Billy Spurling?"
 One man asked another, who
 said "Do you mean Billy Dump?"

We found the house on the
 road to the pier, along the harbour.
 Sheldon lives in a little house
 right behind. Both neat pretty
 little new houses. Geneva &
 her mother was sitting out back
 in the shade. Billy down cellar.
 They seemed so glad to see us.

I gave Billy the brass
 bowl and he was tickled to
 pieces & so pleased to have you
 think of him and send any-
 thing as lovely. Geneva was
 equally delighted as she
 loves that sort of thing & when
 I looked at the house I could
 see it has lots of nice things
 they really prize.

Mrs Spurling looks much
 older than I remember her &
 Geneva has grown a little
 stout & more like her mother
 when she was young. Tall
 of talk & very friendly, so
 not shy as her mother was.

Haven't met Sheldon yet,
 but have seen 2 of his
 children & they are fine looking.
 From the pictures they all are.
 He has a year round job
 working for a family on Lones
 Sound!

x We have driven round by
 Seal Harbor & Northeast & they
 have changed so little. Somerville
 hasn't changed one bit in 30
 years that I could notice.

Northeast too is much the
 same except the Rock End hotel
 where we stayed years ago

is gone. Burned down, & they cut a lot of trees near the town & filled in part of the harbor. It looked different & not as "swell." Very simple in fact.

The roads have been widened in some places & are all over grass in others. We drove up the hill at Seal Harbor & I knew my way better than Billy did! but what a maze of roads, & so over grass I don't see how one could have passed another car. You could hardly see the houses. Finally found Hillside Cottage where we stayed & it's pink - sort of an orange shade. I didn't approve. x

However back down, the Seaside Inn looked just the same & the cottage we had with the Hosmers has a little fresh

paint, otherwise just the same.
 The beach is all nice sand
 again & people bathing.

The road up to Mt Desert
 isn't quite as pretty as it
 used to be. bigger, more traffic
 & built up, but the fields were
 full of buttercups & daisies &
 lovely as ever. Grand Camden
 was lovely & we crossed over a
 big bridge at Bealsport, but
 I could see in the distance the
 dirt road coming down to the
 Bealsport Ferry, where it
 crossed a different part of the
 river. Had forgotten there was
 an old fort ~~above~~ above it.

Daniscotta was the
 nicest place of all we thought
 & like a real old town in
 Maine. Nothing to spoil it.
 I think one could spend a

pleasant work just driving
 along the little coastal ~~harbors~~
 inlets. Poking about. One
 good result of the thru big
 transpikes is that it keeps a
 lot of the thru traffic off the
 pretty coastal parts.

We may go over by Bar
 Harbor tomorrow & up Cadillac
 Mountain (or Green Mt as we
 called it) & then head for New
 Brunswick.

Had wonderful lobster last
 night cooked in salt water.
 Billy & Mrs Spurling having
 steak & ham respectively.
 to-night we are to have more
 lobster at their house.

Weather has been lovely
 so far. real summer &
 almost hot.

We are going down now
to see Bobby Shaws boat
have it's mast put in.
Billy went out at 5 AM to
lobster near Duck Island
where he has 100 pots.

It was Billy thought I
should telephone last evening
& then I forgot to thank you
for him for the bowl!

Will keep you posted
where we go & telephone
every few days -

Loads of love

Catharine.

~~St~~ St John
New Brunswick
Thurs. June 26, 1958.

Dearest Mother,

Am too sleepy to spell the name of St John correctly! & it is pouring rain. Was "thick o' fog" (as Mrs Spurling would say) almost all day. but is just getting down to-night. we are lucky to have a nice motel where we could make a bite of supper. Hope it is nicer to-morrow. if not we will take in the Museums more thoroughly at St John & Fredericton.

This isn't going to be much of a letter for I have run out of ink in the other pen already & it's too wet to get any more from the Jeep.

Billy cooked us lobsters last evening. boiled them & they were the very best I've ever tasted. Mrs Spurling & Geneva were there too. Mrs. Sp. is much thinner & older looking but not as shy as I had remembered her. In fact has a good sense of humor. They have a dear little house. nice living room & dining room on one side. ^{another side} a sitting room (or bedroom) &

nice roomy kitchen, very homsey looking. Soft greenish blue walls & bright red things to make it bright & flowers in the window over the sink. Rocking chair where Mrs Spurling crochets. I guess they still do it in Southwest Harbor as Mrs Bunker did! Upstairs, they have 2 large bedrooms & nice bath at top of stairs. In basement Billy has a work bench & makes lobster pots. Had them stacked like wood -

The house has nice lawn like neighbors, on the road to the pier, & you can see the harbor out the front windows. a short walk to the main street & nice stores. Sheldon has grown more like Billy & reminded me a little of George Foss. He has a year round job with a man from Warrenton Va. Captain of his 40 ft cruiser & caretaker of house on Somerset Sound. He has a most attractive young wife & 3 young children. 2 boys & a little girl to she had one daughter. Sheldon's daughter by his first marriage is also married & has 2 children. they come down each August & stay with Billy. Geneva works in the 5¢ & 10¢ store in Southwest.

we left about 9 after Mrs Spurlock
 cooked us a nice breakfast, drove
 to Ellsworth & up Frenchman's Bay
 on the opposite side from Bar
 Harbor, but it was too foggy to
 really see the beauty of it all.
 Pretty country side though. Then
 to Calais Maine. Across to Saint
 Stephen & down to St Andrews
 New Brunswick which is a
 popular Canadian Summer resort.
 Some lovely old places & a big
 Hotel of the C.P.R. Then on here -
 We lost an hour due to change
 to Maritime time. So it was 16
 when we stopped instead of 5 o'clock.

Not much of a letter, but
 will let you know when we
 settle for a few days, Hard to
 phone from places like this.

Hope you are fine & having
 better weather than we are tonight.
 It was so lovely the first 3 days.

Too sleepy to write more to-
 night. Loads of love from us
 both to you & Harne & all

Catharine .



Pub. by Eastern Illustrating and Publishing Co., Inc., Belfast, Maine

Newcastle N.B.

Fri. June 27. '58

Motor Hotel Bar Harbor and Bathing Beach as seen from The Wharf, Bar Harbor, Mt. Desert Island, Maine

Color by Alton Johnson

Dearest Mother. It was good to hear your voice on the telephone just now. I'm never very good on a phone. sort of tongue tied. nice to know Mercedes was there for supper. We have had good weather for driving. Fog yesterday & pouring rain last night at St. John N.B.

but left a lovely drive along St. John's river this morning to Fredericton the Capital. Then across country to Newcastle

Hope to be in place where Pete's father was born by noon tomorrow. If we find a nice place to stay & like it, we'll stay over July 1st holiday which is Tuesday. Will let you know tomorrow

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P18607

POST CARD

PUT STAMP HERE



by writing too 200994-2012
didn't go to Bar Harbor
but this is picture of

SOMES SOUND ON MOUNT DESERT ISLAND only
fjord on the Atlantic Coast of the U.S.A. seen from
the harbor at MANSET, Maine.
Aerial color photo by Luther S. Phillips

NATURAL COLOR
by
Mike Roberts
BERKELEY 2, CALIF.

Somes Sound to other
is of old club house
at Bar Harbor I think
a big house. no one
can live in such big
places now - a - day's
guess it's a place to
stay. Do you remember
- it? Destavees in

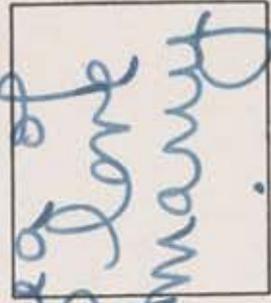
Published by Luther S. Phillips, Box 6, Bangor, Maine

new Brunswick take
time to cover very poor
looking farms so far -
except one apple orchard.

POSTCARD

forever fields of hay
though. Will write
more tomorrow when we
have better

views. Loads of love
from us both to many
thanks. Catherine.



Campellton -
New Brunswick
Sun. June 28. 58

Dearest Mother,

We were going to stay over the weekend at New Mills near where Pete's father was born, but when we woke to fog this morning decided to move on & go around the Gaspe the way Mercedes suggested. Then North coast after going through the Medipedia Valley & back here in the middle of the week. then to Prince Edward Island.

So until ~~Wednesday~~ ^{Thursday} July 3rd send any mail to our care of General Delivery, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island Canada. (Not the newspapers) We will let you know later where we go from there.

Am hoping to phone now. Should have written yesterday had we known we were coming on. Didn't find the relations we had hoped to but might on return.

See Post Office 50

Lots of love

Catharine -

Had a perfect day yesterday
just beautiful.

Matane P.Q.
Sun afternoon
June 29, 1958

Dearest Mother. I had hardly hung up
the receiver this morning when the sun
came out & as we drove along the
Restigouche River & inland all the fog
disappeared & it was a clear & lovely
day. I rather hurried the telephone
conversation for I was in a little booth
right on the main street of Campbellton.
Nearly glassed in. A young priest
came along with long flowing brown
robes & black beard! a little skull
cap & very modern looking bag. He
saw me & stopped to look in a store
window. Later as I talked he glanced
at his watch & I knew he wanted
to phone. He was very polite about
it however. - Great crosses & statues.

The trip so far has given
us a good idea of the country, which
neither of us knew much about
after leaving Billy & South west Harbor
we drove up along the Maine coast.
Little out of the way villages with
some lovely old houses, rather small.

but no doubt belonging to sea Captains years ago. Fog arises of the sea come in, some up rivers, & it was foggy & low tide so we imagined how lovely it must be on a fine day. The little harbors were familiar because of being places Reuss used to cruise to. The ones where summer people came were spruced up & clean looking, others rather poor.

We crossed into New Brunswick in the afternoon at Calais & still in a thick fog drove to St Andrews - a great Canadian resort which we have heard much about. a nice C.P.R. hotel, golf course tennis courts & several nice summer places, a rather sleepy town & the tide way out. We drove around & then started for St John. a winding & hilly road, thick fog, quite a lot of trucks & still a bit like Maine. We were very lucky & got a little motel where we could make supper. for it just panned that night. Decided that was where the name "Sai' wester" came from for slickers - as the storm was from that direction.

Next morning I was trying to clear. We got away by 8.20 in order to see High Tide at the Reversing Falls. The Saint John River comes down over rapids & as there is such a drop in tide in the Bay of Fundy at times the river drops into the sea & at other times when the sea is at high tide it drops into the river over rapids. We watched from a little park near the city & the ocean was rushing in. Very interesting. Then there is a slack period when boats go through. Billy & Russ have taken the Madoc up the river & Killy too I think.

From there we followed the St John River all the way to Fredericton. The Capital. The first part a bit as the drive from Portland along Casco Bay used to be. nice houses. but later farms which looked as if they were having hard times. Only one which seemed to be large apple orchards under one head farm. looked as if they were making a living. Very pretty country & lovely fields. as Maine used to look.

Fredericton is a University town
 + rather a nice place along the river.
 Early old Cathedral. (Anglican) +
 a quiet nice sort of place. Like Brunswick
 or Portland in size, but none of the
 New Brunswick cities were as large
 as we expected from their seeming
 importance.

We were lucky + noticed a restaurant
 attached to a lovely new + very modern
 motel as we drove in. Turned out to be
 the best place we saw. Had lunch there.
 Most attractive. Looked up Lucy Jarvis
 but she is already in Yarmouth, so we
 will see her there on the way back.

From there we drove across country
 to Newcastle. Could have taken a larger
 route + perhaps more interesting, but
 this one was very pretty at first up
 a river valley with 3 nice Covered
 Bridges. Through a lot of timber country
 + some of the forest looking settlements.
 Couldn't figure why they were there.
 Then down the Miramichi River. (which
 is famous for fishing) to Newcastle.

Lucky there + got a nice new
 motel with baths. Smallest one
 I ever got into + with difficulty, out of -

It was a lovely day. all day - which made it nice. Pretty country to drive through but nothing one would want to paint.

New Brunswick as a province is not very prosperous looking & we saw few nice old houses in the towns we passed through. They have had a hard time on the whole & I guess their one "Golden Age" was in the days of sailing ships when they built boats out of their lumber & had lovely small farms going down to the sea.

But lately they depend on pulp - some fishing & lumbering, but the farming looks poor - Good country for fishing & hunting but that only brings in a little at certain seasons.

The houses were most unattractive we thought. Most needed paint. Perhaps all the young people who have ambition have to leave to get anywhere & it has left behind people who are content to let things go on as they always have. The people were very friendly & nice though. It was the last day of school in most towns. one room schools too.

x

Saturday was clear as a bell when we left Newcastle, & crossed country to Bathurst, then we headed west along the Bass de Chaleur to where Pete's father came from. Pete was very interested & tried to recall the places he remembered from his trip to the old farm in 1929. Only time he had been there & then for just a weekend & by train. *

We drove through villages crowded with birds & people walking. French Canadians largely - & Saturday - & they were all out & about. Knowing it was a weekend we thought we better make sure of a place to stay first, so drove through Nash Creek to New Hills where we found a place just opening up down in the trees by the shore. A lovely spot, but rather old "cottage". However we decided to stay the people were so nice. French speaking, a whole family & trying to get the place opened up. *

Made lunch & then decided to drive back to Nash Creek & see

If we could find Pete's uncle who he had stayed with 29 years ago. Uncle Jim, his father's youngest brother, who had gone west only once for a year & then returned to the old farm. His 4 brothers & 2 sisters all staying in Alberta & B.C. We asked at the store & an old gentleman sitting on the steps gave Pete directions with his cane, drawing imaginary routes with the end. I wondered Pete could tell where to go. He said that there was no finer man in the valley, ^{than Jim White} but it was too bad he had let things go.

We drove up a side road & along a road on top of a hill paralleling the Bay & over looking green fields to the Baie de Chalour & the high hills of the Gaspé beyond. really lovely country. Pete saw one neat little farm he thought looked like the old place but it was too neat for a place "let go". so we asked a boy & he said it was up the little road just beyond the grove of trees. It was so overgrown we could

barely get through & Pete was afraid there was too much grass in the center to get up. But in 4 wheel drive we made it.

Looked like a little old abandoned house, trees grown all around. But I told Pete to go around to the back & sure enough Uncle Jim was living most of the time in the kitchen. He is 87 now & lives really like a hermit, in a world of his own. He didn't seem to place Pete but was glad to see him & glad we had come & wished he could have put us up. He had bright eyes & could hear well & seemed to have lots of newspapers he was reading. Was very happy & thought it a good world we lived in. But it was very disappointing for Pete to find him living alone like that & not the up & coming sort of person he remembered. But then there was quite a difference in a person 57 & 87. When we were about

to leave a neighbor came up the little road with bread & a bag of food. He was such a nice sort of person & has been keeping an eye on Uncle Jim for 27 years, goes in every few days & keeps wood cut etc. Said he had never been too well since his fall 15 years ago. (We gathered out of a tree) & hurt his knees (we thought maybe his head)

We left then & decided perhaps we should just let things be, as there wasn't much we could do & he did seem quite content to ~~stay~~ live as he was. We didn't try to find other relatives & went back to our cabin, built over looking a tiny beach & rocks, birch trees & spruce around & flowers similar to ours in the mountains.

There were about 10 cabins all along the shore & perched on rocks in the trees & over looking the water. We had supper at the main lodge. The first they served & very good then thought to enjoy the sunset.

but the clouds of the afternoon cleared away until there wasn't one in the sky & it was nearly 10 P.M. their time when the sun slid behind the mountains of the Gaspé. There ~~as so~~ wasn't a ripple on the water - though during the afternoon a strong west wind had blown. About 10 P.M. an east wind sprang up making dark patches across the still water. & this morning it was very damp & foggy - quite cold last night.

This morning we decided to start for the Gaspé & so glad we did. It has been the best day yet. Clear & lovely & such beautiful country & fun being Sunday - will write about it later.

We felt so sorry to miss Rusty. Wonder will he get leave this summer or first ~~will he~~ ~~wait~~ & wait until he ~~is~~ gets out when college starts?

Loads of love
Catharine

P.S. We are in very nice new motel over looking water. Lovely evening.

Gaspé, ~~en route~~
Mon. June 30, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Have a funny noise in an engine, a skip. so while we are waiting for "George" the mechanic, will start this letter to you (Turned out to be poor quality gas. OK. now) Yesterday was the high light of our trip so far - After leaving Campbellton around 10.30 we soon crossed the Restigouche river ^{at Gaspé} & started climbing up the Matapédia valley. A lovely rushing river where we presume the fishing is excellent - woods on either side & fishing lodges. It was bright & sunny by then & fresh air. a few little places. we were in Quebec Province.

Just before noon we came out into country that reminded us more of the Black Forest in Germany than any where else. High hills with green fields to the top & a few patches of woods. You could see little farms way in the distance & winding roads leading up. Such a change in the country & we suddenly came to the neatest town. ~~about~~ as clean feeling as a seaside resort. Lots of little houses. stores & clean looking restaurants on one side of the main street which was high

above a rushing stream. It was real
 French & fun. It was Sunday & every
 one dressed in their best. Little girls
 with pretty gilly dresses & invariably
 pink hats. Even the little boys had
 long trousers & braces. Bow ties. Very
 gay feeling some how.

We were hungry so stopped at a
 nice looking restaurant, spotless &
 rather modern in design. Had a
 delicious dinner. Chicken with a
 delicious sauce.

Mercelia had said the Metapédia
 was a lovely valley but after the
 first part through wooded hills we
 weren't prepared for such lovely
 expanses of green slopes. almost
 mountains. a few trees marking
 the edges of the long fields & pasture
 land. Our road wound up & down
 right across to ~~St Joli~~ Mont Joli.

We find that whereas the English
 are apt to live spread all over the
 country side. the French live along
 a highway. their farms stretched
 straight back of the houses in long
 narrow fields. & often the houses are

clustered around the really large Catholic church with high spire. Makes them really attractive in the distance. The high spire & enormous church & bright little spots of color in the houses & buildings around it.

The French have the most wonderful sense of color. Just wish you could see it. They use the strangest combinations for houses & other buildings. Sometimes first a bit of trim on a gray weather beaten little house. or the door or porch will be painted. Pale soft colors too. Turquoise blue with white trim. or a lovely orange pink. Maybe pale green & soft pale pink on the same house. One deep blue barn with nice vermilion trim. Little yellow houses, & lots of blue. roofs, & even dull blue houses.

The other gay happy part was that on Sundays the French custom is to gather on the front porch in rocking chairs & watch the passers by. Never saw so many rocking chairs & those old fashioned wooden swings in the yard filled with kids. In fact there were children everywhere. Men all dressed up sitting on porches together. but the

family groups were the best. Some waved & all seemed friendly. Lots of people walking along the roads & young teen age boys on bicycles. It was great fun & we really did enjoy the drive. really lovely country all the way & festive feeling.

It got pretty hot as we came over the hills & down a long slope towards the St Lawrence. It had been cold damp & foggy when we left N.B. so Pete had a woollen shirt on. He was so warm he changed to a thin one at Mt Joli & we hadn't gone a mile or 2 further than a cool breeze off the St Lawrence & it was cold again. Must have been a difference of 20 degrees in 5 minutes drive.

There was quite a lot of Sunday traffic at St Joli but it got less the further east we drove. & we went right along the shore & most picturesque little houses of all sorts. Some towns were summer resorts. & other weekend cottages & others farms or fishing. &

About four we saw a very nice new motel with Restaurant overlooking the water & figured we better stop not knowing what was ahead. &

for sketching the town + harbor + rock
from the top of the hill. It seemed
dazzling with the sun on the water
+ too bright for just starting. We also
went up in 3 other directions, took
some photographs for slides + by then
it was time for dinner. Each had an
enormous lobster.

In the afternoon it was really warm.
Just nice day in 3 weeks. One man
painted a whole store during the day -
they are often small shingles, usually
weatherbeaten silver gray, sometimes painted.

We felt it was too glaring even with
dark glasses to go on the trip to the bird
sanctuary but when clouds came over
+ it looked stormy for the next day we decided
to go around the island of Bonaventure.
It turned out to be a most interesting +
worthwhile trip. Actually we thought late
afternoon wouldn't be too glary + then when
clouds came over went anyway. Being
dark the birds stood out against the
rock ledges very clearly. Went by the
Pere's rock first + then round the island.
Mirelia will tell you of it.

Am finishing this as we cross the
"Romeo + Juliet" Ferry to Campbellton.
Am writing this wherever we stop long enough.
Love later - Loads of love
Catherine (over)

May get to Bathurst N. B. tonight
then along shore to Moncton & across
to Charlotte town. Prince Edward Island
probably for the week end.

Just got yours & Harriet's letters
mailed June 30th Thanks so much
to-day is lovely again after rain
last night. Much love to all
Pete & Catharine

Carlton, P.A.
Wed. July 2, 1958

Dearest Mother.

We are getting an oil change so seems a good chance to start a letter.

Never told you about Monday & our wonderful day driving along the North Shore of the Gaspé. It was over cast but you could see well & nice clouds. We really enjoyed it. in fact so far it is the most paintable thing we have seen. Tiny hamlets & villages clustered around the church. No trees in the towns. too windy & severe a winter probably. but the little weatherbeaten houses, some newly painted a bright trim, fishing villages for the most part.

In a way we should have stopped but rather wanted to be somewhere over the holiday, July 1st, & of course we didn't realize that once round the end of the Gaspé Peninsula the towns weren't nearly as picturesque.

It was very scenic in parts with high cliffs & one drove right along the coast with really interesting rock formations & stratas

2

They are re-building one very high road & just as we rounded a corner with a car trying to pass from behind, a man stepped out about 20 feet ahead & held up a red flag. we stopped quickly & with that a big explosion, & a blast of rock & smoke, went into the air first ahead. Nothing hit us, but had we kept going & thought the man just giving us a wave, we could have had a shower of rocks. It was quite amusing.

We stopped for lunch at a tiny little place & had the most delicious cod fish we ever tasted. It was a fillet of cod & fried. Was moist & very delicate & came off in flakes. Not as we knew cod. The little restaurant was newly painted. Fresh & clean. A French honeymoon couple at another table. They were friendly & when the waitress went out after we ordered fish, got in a car & drove it off. The man remarked "Perhaps she has gone for the fish". We figured the car was parked in front to

attract customers. In we drove it to the back. Later a man came rushing in - a tourist. & asked "Does anyone speak English?" The waitress did & so did the young Frenchman. but both were so taken by surprise they first looked at him. So I said "I speak English but no French." so he came over & pointed to a miniature milk bottle that held cream for an coffee - he wanted a bottle of milk for the baby! The waitress understood better than we did.

Another place a man came up to ask us directions. He was from Lino!

We drove on to Gaspé town where we had a skip in the motor & discovered it must be poor gas. That was where I wrote you. They were expecting a busy night due to the Dominion Day holiday Tuesday. So we were anxious to find a nice place. Didn't care for that district so kept on to Percé which we felt would be nice to stay over in. As we approached, it started to clear & was a lovely evening & we strolled about until dark at 10 P.M.

Very exciting as you go towards
Percé. Up steep hills & down others.
Strange red cliffs & very mountainous.
One little Austin or Volkswagen
got stuck on one hill with a whole
family in it. They had ^{been} passing us
during the day.

We picked one of the first motels
& felt we made a good choice. The
"Blue Blanche & ~~Blanche~~ ^{Rouge}". One was a
new unit. The last one left there &
we had delicious meals in a house
across the road. Were right on the
sea. Most people were French on
holiday. We found them very
friendly & nice in every way & so
polite. We enjoyed them.

That evening after supper we walked
around, watched the little boats &
fishermen - & had a look at the town. It
was more of a summer place but
very quiet & nice - beautiful clouds -

Yesterday we were up early &
were going to sketch, but not a cloud
except for a few very high steady
ones so the light was really too bright.

when we were all settled in discovered
it was an hour earlier than we thought. ^{Justine}
So we could have driven another hour.
It was a lovely evening & we strolled
along the sand by the St Lawrence.

Dark was called Mataue. Sun set
about 9.30 & it wasn't dark by ten.

Next morning we were up early. It
had rained in the night & was over-
cast all day. but we could get a good
idea of things. Lots of puddles show up
most places had had rain. but not
actually coming down for us. even a
few spots of sunlight. One place they
said Sunday was the first nice day
in 3 weeks. & here at Percé on the
Gaspé. a man told Pete, yesterday was
the first nice day this summer. Started
clearing about noon yesterday & a lovely
sunset with big thunderhead clouds
last night. So we were really lucky.
Today has been very clear & no clouds
at all until this afternoon. Looks a
bit threatening just now.

Will post this to-night & tell you more
in my next. We go back to Campbellton to-
morrow & then to Prince Edward Island.

Loads of love

Catharine.

Prince Edward Is.
Thurs July 3, 1958

Dearest Mother,

We are waiting to board the Ferry for Prince Edward Island. A lovely day. We certainly have been lucky -

It seems to be hard finding time to write anyone but you. I keep this paper in my bag & if we stop during the day for an oil change or something like that, can just write a few words.

We telephoned from a little place in New Brunswick. It is often hard to find a phone & when the operator got through the first time the line was busy. However we will phone every few days.

Friday. Came over to P.E.I. So stupid of us not to realize the ferry ran on standard time. The schedule never mentioned it! So we missed a ferry by 10 minutes or more. However we got over by five something & found a very simple motel. It's a lovely day & we are so glad to have a chance to see this really lovely Island in good weather. Will stay over this weekend & then cross to Nova Scotia.

We have been moving along quite quickly. Such a temptation to see all we can of each place for goodness knows when we will be back to cover as much ground. However if we did come again we would know which places we like best & could spend a week or two. One section was the north shore of the Gaspé. But New Brunswick is a place we would only want to drive through.

Have just been to P.O. & got your nice letter. but what hot weather. Don't wonder you don't feel like doing anything. Never mind writing for we will try to phone fairly often.

Are going to try & find a place to stay long enough to wash up ourselves & clothes.

Lots of love & will let you know when to send more mail. later.

Catharine.

It's been cool here -



[July 5, 1958]

BR-24

Typical farm community along the open road in the gently rolling countryside of Prince Edward Island.

Courtesy of Prince Edward Island Tourist Bureau

Peacest. Mother. This island of P.E.I. is as pretty as can be. Never have seen such lovely countryside. Such meadows. Some filled with daisies & daisies. Most attractive farms. Trees between the fields. Quite hilly so one gets nice views in all directions. There always some water either pond or inlet from the sea. Like Maine at it's best & every bit so far inland seems to be in use. Also wonderful beaches with Sand dunes on the north. Haven't really seen them yet but glimpsed them

address

place
stamp
here



STANHOPE BEACH
Prince Edward IslandPUB. BY THE BOOK ROOM LTD., HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA
PRINTED IN U.S.A.

yesterday. Have a lovely spot to stay for the week end. Are leaving now to go to the east end of the island - have had wonderful weather lately just back from day's trip. This is such a beautiful place & we are really enjoying

MIRRO-KROME® CARD BY H. S. CROCKER CO., INC. SAN FRANCISCO 1, CALIF.

our trip. Most interested in this part. Wasn't as pretty east end but interesting first the same. Hope you are having lovely weather too. Heaps of love. Catherine

address

all as but

place
stamp
here

July 5 '58

Charlotte town
Bruce Edward Island
Sun July 6, 1958

Dearest Mother,

We are enjoying another beautiful day & a quiet Sunday afternoon. Listening to "Capital Report" on the radio which we usually hear while preparing dinner on Sundays in Bauff. & soon will be going down to Charlotte town. 4 miles from here. to see "Confederation Hall" in the Parliament Building where the Dominion was born, & maybe the art gallery. The Capital City is about the size of Salem & a nice sort of place. lovely trees in center.

The old main highway goes by this Moty Court, a semi-circle of neat white clapboard cabins on lawn. The road about 200 feet away & then the farm land stretches away to the horizon, a lovely view, very green fields & dark spruce & other trees in patches. a few little farms. Sunday drivers passing by & a little while ago a horse & buggy. No cars at the time & really it did seem much pleasanter than the modern mode of

travel for such a day - The horse
trotting along & the man quite happy
you could tell.

They have trotting races all
through the Maritimes & lots of horses -
& buggies. They still use horses &
one man plows in some of the potatoe
fields. Haven't seen that for a long
time.

This morning we were out
on the beach where the sand dunes
are. The most beautiful beach
I've seen - 25 miles long & great
variety & inlets. Similar to
Annisquam & Ipswich. It is
now a National Park & so well
kept & open to everyone -

Will spend this day. The
sun is making me sleepy -

We are leaving here to-morrow
& crossing to Pictou Nova Scotia.
~~Then a short trip to Cape Breton~~
~~where Mary's house is & then?~~
guess down to ^{two} farmouth. I will
let Hanne know by phone where
next to send mail. Hope you are
having good weather. Montreal has
4 inches of rain. 1 inch an hour today -

Catharine

2000 2 of love.
98

Our address this week
7, Gen. Del. Halifax
Nova Scotia.

On the Ferry
from Woods Island
Mon July 7th 1958

Dearest Mother,

We are on the way to Nova Scotia from Prince Edward Island. Just caught the 11 AM Ferry with 20 minutes to spare. It is overcast & looks like rain - maybe the storm Montreal had yesterday. 4 inches of rain in 4 hours I think they said. It was as pretty as ever driving from Charlottetown. The next trim little farms & lovely green fields of many shades. Some full of daisies & sweet clover. you can smell it as you drive along. & lovely spruce & other trees. Many white or gray barns have red trim & red doors, different shades of red. I don't think we've ever seen a lovelier countryside. Many large fields of potatoes & every bit of ground in this part seems to be cultivated. The farms look fairly prosperous.

We went through the park early this morning, an old fort at the entrance to the harbor & lovely old house which is now used as Government House. Then we spent about half an hour seeing the Parliament Buildings

and Confederation Hall where the 4 Provinces met in 1864 the year you were born & joined together: Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island & Newfoundland. I am not up on Canadian History. A very nice Scotch man who was in charge told us all about every thing. Luckily 50 Girl Guides arrived to be shown around & we might still be there.

Yesterday we dined on the beach. Some people spotted our license & came over. The nicest couple from Montreal. He 80, she younger, but he looked 70 & in shorts. They come each year. She has a brother in Rocky Mt. House Alberta. We must have talked nearly half an hour.

Don't think I have told you very well of our trip recently. Some of it was a repetition from Campbellton back along the Bay de Chaleur to Bathurst, but it was nice to see going the opposite way. They cut around a point of land which we enjoyed as the villages looked more prosperous - mostly fishing places.

Then we caught the ferry to Prince Edward Island at Tormentine.

The first night seeing one motel filled up we took almost the first place we found. Clean enough but the lady was such a talker, took half an hour to get into the cabin so we could sit down.

Next morning we decided to start out early & find a place we liked for the weekend where we could "light house keep." There were several listed & we didn't know whether to get one central near Charlottetown or near the beach. So we looked them over & having an out dated map went about 40 miles around instead of 20 & then took the place near town we liked first. Such a nice family & a lovely spot. One lady came out this morning to wave goodbye to us hoping we would be back.

But by then it was noon, ^{Friday} so we
 made a bite to eat, then drove
 in town to the Information Bureau
 where we got a good map - a nice
 girl who talked to us, had been
 in Banff. Her father is driving to
 Vancouver this fall. We have
 met so many who have been to
 Alberta in the service or working
 in summer. Nearly every time
 we buy gas some one speaks
 to us saying where they were, or
 had part of their family live
 in Alberta.

Then we went for mail &
 found the card from Gray
 Campbell saying that Eleanor
 was very ill & he had moved
 her from the Peicher Creek
 Hospital to Lethbridge where
 there are good doctors. We
 were worried & wondering how
 she was, so wired Gray

went back Saturday. She ~~was~~^{was} to have her operation to-day. so we are hoping everything is alright, but it sounded sort of serious.

We were going towards the western part of the island that afternoon but it was further than we realized. All the country is lovely though & so lush & green.

Saturday we made a day's trip to the eastern end & back by the House of Green Gables & the National Park, & Sunday we got some seen. Just enough. In the afternoon reorganized & wrote letters. & this morning we left.

It was overcast today but didn't really matter as the scenery was not too interesting after what we have seen. Have a nice motel to night & delicious supper. but such traffic, as we are on the main road out

6

of Halifax - but the lady says
- it dies down later. John on us.
As so often happens, we find
the railroad is just behind
the building where you can't see
it, just hear it.

Hope you can make out these
letters. I will try to type them
when we are more settled.

Loads of love - it was nice
to talk to Harrie tonight & hear
Mrs Raymond Emerson had
been to see you.

More love
Catherine

P.S. Pete was looking at maps & the Cape Breton part would be at least 500 miles more of driving so instead we are going towards Halifax. Around there somewhere. Will let you know in a day or two -

In the meantime you can have Harve send any mail to General Delivery - HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

We want to find a good place if we can to stay for a week any way. Have done enough travelling for a while. & Nova Scotia is nearer Concord too. Think we can fly to Boston in a couple of hours -

Tots of love from us both
Catherine



Dear Mother.

wed. July 8 '58

[1958] BR-79

We have found the nicest place yet. Lunenburg.

where they build the fishing schooners. The "bluenose" came from here & its captain now runs the dairy. We drove from Halifax via Peggy's Cove which is a most picturesque little fishing village.

LUNENBURG, NOVA SCOTIA
Color by Bureau of Information, Halifax, Nova Scotia

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MIRRO-KROME CARD BY H. S. CROCKER CO., INC., SAN FRANCISCO 1, CALIF.

artists painting yesterday. but no place to stay. It was foggy so we drove & liked the place so much. It's a bit like Gloucester in size, but more attractive & off the main road. Came out to cabins at

address: these good real on here
Place
stamp
here



APPLE BLOSSOMS

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Mason's Beach. will write
 more later about it. have
 one room with corner to
 light housekeep" in Bath
 room with shower. Rained
 last night but may clear
 today! The little bay
 here went over town with
 us yesterday & stayed at
 the fishing pier where

MIRRO-KROME CARD BY H. S. IRDCKER CO., INC., SAN FRANCISCO 1, CALIF.

they were unloading a
 large "catch". We went
 out & looked over the
 "Geraldine" in the card?
 will enclose for Harve.
 & spoke to the Captain. They
 are in port having an
 engine fixed. Will
 stay here several days.
 Lots of love Catharine

Address

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Lunenburg - N.S.
Thurs. July 10, 1958

Dearest Mother.

I couldn't explain well enough over the radio, that our chances of meeting Florence Fitzpatrick were very few, for we left Halifax the day before and Lunenburg is 65 miles away.

After leaving Charlottetown Monday morning, taking in the Confederation Hall and just making the 11 A.M. Ferry. We had planned to take the 1.P.M. Ferry as it is the newer one but as it was an overcast day and looked like rain we figured we better be crossing the Nothumberland Strait before any storms blew up. I was driving when we reached the pier and half the cars were loaded, sometimes you have to wait from 2 to 4 hours when it is busy. We had to turn and back onto the ferry so as to come off head first. The one going across from New Brunswick shore to P.E.I. we headed on and it wasn't very easy backing off so this was better. *We never even paused. they behoned us right M.*

It was a good crossing and smooth, we had lunch on board and then a good afternoon ahead, We landed near Pictou, Nova Scotia and were surprised to find so many of the buildings looking like Scotland. Stone ones exactly like some in Dundee and even the wooden ones looking the same. It was settled by Scotch as much of Nova Scotia is. The drive to Halifax was nice but not as lovely country as Prince Edward Island.

The joke was on us that night for we picked what seemed like a nice Motel, which it was, on the main road going into Halifax near Bedford, It was after five their time so we figured the traffic was the five o'clock rush, but we were wrong, it was the usual thing. We had a very good dinner at a little restaurant run by the same company which owned the two motels, one all booked up when we arrived and the other with made over older cabins and a shower instead of a bathtub and \$3.00 less a night, (maybe \$4.) It was just as nice for us. But though the lady said it grew quieter later on we didn't notice any difference, it was just as noisy about 2 A.M. as earlier, and then we had no sooner gotten to bed than a noisy train went by just back of the cabin, we often have that happen, you don't think of a railroad when you pick your motel and next thing you know there is hooting and noise and a train roars by. Well we got used to the noise and then in the middle of the night woke to hear voices and someone running on the gravel, we didn't think much about it and then were no sooner dozing off again than Pete woke and said "there are two men behind the cabin with flash lights." We peeked out and then realized one was a mounted police. He was with a young man and they seemed to be searching, perhaps for foot prints. Then someone called, and next thing the police backed his car practically into our cabin and sped off. We went to

sleep for a bit and dozed I guess, for next we knew there was much shouting back and forth and a truck on gravel, looked out again and found the milk truck up a hill opposite delivering and two young lads helping by going to different houses at the same time, both were running back with full bottles of milk and much chatter. So we gathered that they were having trouble with boys stealing the money people put out for the milk and perhaps someone was nearly ~~the~~ caught ~~that~~ night, before. By that time it was almost time ~~to~~ get up.

Very foggy that next morning, Tuesday, so we decided it wasn't a very good time to visit Halifax for a view of the city from the Citadel and that we would see what Peggy's Cove, a wellknown fishing place looked like.

So on we went and turned off at the sign, not realizing that after about 10 miles of good road we would get another ten of awful gravel, so rough we had to go 15 or 20 miles an hour, Little inlets and one really nice fishing village which we thought was part of Peggy's Cove and so didn't stop to take pictures as we drove in, when it might have made a good one in the fog. There were lots of people about and children, little peaked buildings and a few little boats in the harbor. From there it was another few miles to Peggy's Cove which is often painted and photographed, a quaint little place and 3 artists at work, one with a beret and flowing tie, We took a few photographs. The harbor is tiny and built right in among the rocks, in fact it all reminded us of southern Norway. The native people we spoke to were very friendly, one lady came back from the pier with two fish, said for her two Tom Cats, they eat a fish a day each, I should have told her they were certainly doing their bit for the fishing industry, they were good size fish too. *Road back to main highway was good.* There was no place to stay there and we thought Lunenburg might be our best bet, so we kept on, very pretty little inlets and houses all the way, but so many are out of character, or summer places. We got here in the early afternoon, it is quite a way off the main road and we liked the town as once. Stopped at the information office as we came into town and asked the way. Just then a young lad came to say his mother's place had three empty cabins, and as it was where we were thinking of going, he said he would show us the way. He is so like Sammy Newbury, the way he talks and his great wealth of information, We followed him on his bike until we came to a steep hill and then we went on ahead. It is a mile from town and on a little bay. We have such a nice cabin and can cook what we want to, a bath with shower. We have the end cabin and a lovely view over a fresh water pond in the bull rushes to a little house and barn on a hill beyond.

That first afternoon Rolf showed us around the town and we went to the fish pier and watched them unload a big catch, the men using a kind of pitch fork to load the fish into a boxlike thing where the fish were weighed and then two other men would lift this big box of fish by handles like those on a wheel barrow and dump it into a waiting cart and they were wheeled into the fish packing plant. We also went and looked down into one of the Lunenburg ships and spoke to the captain. It is all very interesting. They are the boats which go out to fish on the Newfoundland Banks and when they get their catch, every 2 or 3 weeks, then they bring it in and set off again. Had been out since January this year with the periodic trips in to unload. They use radar for all sorts of things, and even to find the bouys on their lines in the fog. All sorts of modern things.

Yesterday was quite foggy in the morning. Due to the rough roads Pete thought we should have radiator fixed as it sprang a leak, so we went in about that and did some shopping and had an early lunch and phoned you and then later set out we thought to sketch, but we couldn't find a very good place. Might be all right on Sunday but no good on a week day, we did a lot of driving around and got lost too. We hope to get a few sketches but find the light pretty bright and one can't paint with dark glasses, so perhaps we will just call this a trip to see the country for future painting, and when we do come back we will have a good idea where to go for the best subjects. Our favorite so far in the north shore of the Gaspé and the little villages.

We may go to Halifax to-morrow if a nice day and around by Grand Pre the Evangeline country and back, a circular trip, be here over the weekend and then head for Yarmouth and see what that part is like. We will have missed Cape Breton but just didn't have time unless we drove every day, to see it all.

Hanne said Rusty may get leave so hope he does by the time we get back so we will have a chance to see him.

Have had the two boys here watching me type this letter so I have found it hard thinking. We are going in later to pick up the car but am afraid I have missed to-days mail.

No use sending any more mail to us, unless you want to get us a message at Yarmouth.

Will enclose instructions for Hanne

Loads of love

Catharine.



Dearest Mother.

Sat. July 12th

BR-67

[1958]

Had a lovely trip yesterday. Went to Halifax early in the morning in job but it left as we arrived about 9:30. Spent over an hour in the Citadel on top of the hill overlooking the city harbor. It is a fine old fort in good shape & they have used the barracks rooms & officers quarters for a

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MIRRO-KRL 4 © CARD BY H. S. TROCKER CO., INC., SAN FRANCISCO 1, CALIF.

museum. several in fact. lovely ship models. thing to do with shiping & another section building and another historical to show our Art Gallery. Well done. We had lunch in the outdoors & then a long drive to see Grand Falls & the Nova Scotia Computer which we have heard of

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BR-22

Farms in Sunrise Valley, on the Cabot Trail, Nova Scotia, are sheltered by the tree-covered slopes of the North Mountain.

COLOR PHOTO BY NOVA SCOTIA BUREAU OF INFORMATION

about. The other card shows the church built to hold a historical collection set in a Sunday school. The old windows, trees are the only original things left to the district. It was very dry - hot down the Annapolis valley but must

MIRRO-KROME © CAPD BY H. S. CROCKER CO., I.I.C., SAN FRANCISCO 1, CALIF.

address

be lovely in Cape Breton this season. I took the bus. Though this card is of Cape Breton. Then back by 6:30. It was a long day. Actually we should have made this just a night. Sweet trip I gave a list. Don't see things well photo of scene. Call or write.

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Garmouth N.S.
Mon. July 14, 1958

Dearest Mother,

Just a few lines to let you know we are in Garmouth. Would have planned to night but can't find a place near here. So will try to-morrow.

We have a reservation for the "Blue nose" the Ferry that goes to Bar Harbor direct, saves some 600 miles of driving. Will go to Digby to-morrow & spend the night there & see that shoreline on the Bay of Fundy then back here Wednesday. Hope to see Lucy Jarvis & Helen Wild who have a tiny cottage here where they paint. We were over there to-night but the pad lock ^{was} on the door. Their neighbor said they hoped to be back to-morrow from the States.

Then we take the boat Thursday afternoon for Bar Harbor. Spend the night at Southwest & then head for Cavendish. Hope to be there by Saturday.

We really enjoyed Lunenburg
& got very much attached to Rolf -
the yamp had 12 years old. He was
unusually bright & thoughtful.
They were a nice family.

Did a lot of letter writing yesterday
that had to be done. Wrote 12 which
was pretty good. mostly the business
kind. It rained a bit & was rather
dull & very hot.

Hope it won't be too warm
when we return. we have been
lucky with mostly cool weather.

Never realized how full
of history Nova Scotia is, all
connected with New England -
Pete is reading guide book &
finds Thomas Edison's family
came from Digby.

The trip today was down
the Atlantic or South Shore of
Nova Scotia. Road is inland
most of the way but touches
at a few interesting spots.
They have built a causeway

over to Cape Sable Island & we
drove on a fine road to the end.
Past Clarke's Harbor to Wolf Point.
It was fun for we were in fog
at the eastern end & could hear
the Fog horn on Sable Island
plainly. All fisherman's houses
most of the way & few trees.
Quite different from other parts.

Always remembered Mr & Mrs
Surrette came up here to try & find
where his family came from -
must have been Nova Scotia for
we passed a Surrette Island
where the last Acadian died at
the age of 110. So maybe
his forefathers were from here.

See you soon & will
have lots to tell you.

Loads of love

Pete & Catharine.