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MOUNT ROYAL HOTEL
CANADIAN ROCKIES
BANFF, ALTA.
CANADA

OWNED AND OPERATED BY
BREWSTER TRANSPORT COMPANY LTD.
BERT McCALLUM, MANAGER

Saturday, May. 7 1932

Dearest Mother,

It seems ridiculous not to have found time for me to write you since we got back to Banff but somehow there have been so many people to see and things to do that we haven't had much time.

We are staying here until the house is ready. Earl began oiling the inside yesterday. It makes the place awfully clean and fresh smelling but means moving all the furniture out of the big room into the kitchen and bedroom which is quite a job and means a heap of trotting. However we did all the moving in about two hours and after lunch Earl borrowed Allen Mather's gun for painting and it works perfectly for oiling and drives the oil way into the cracks where a paint brush would never get to. However it makes a fine mist of oil and that and the drippings are enough to oil the floor. Pete seems over it with a mop and so there is really no waste of oil and its fine for the wood and makes things so fresh and clean. I suppose it will take a day or two to dry and then all the furniture will be moved back and the kitchen and bedroom oiled.

We were here all day Tuesday seeing about all sorts of things which does take time and then Wednesday we drove to Calgary Norman came with us to see his mother. It was a lovely day with beautiful clouds and so clear we could see all the mountains very distinctly even from Calgary. The prairies are beginning to look green and they are covered with purple crocuses. which look more like anemones than our variety of crocuses. We went primarily to see the tests of the film that Bill Oliver took. They were fine so I guess the film will be a good one. Bill had left for Silver Lake.

We have to go to lunch and the mail goes in a few minutes so I'll write you more of a letter maybe tonight but I shall pop out to the camp tomorrow but I shall stay here and look after the house. Hes only going out for a few things.

Loads of love

Catharine

PS. Tell Russ we got his wonderful letter and are making plans for even a better camp next year. We are so glad to have everyone so enthusiastic.

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Saturday, May 7, 1932.

Dearest Mother,

Perhaps now that supper is over I'll have a chance to write you a real letter. Even if the radio is going in the lobby and the person singing is singing one of those songs you can't help listening too.

Seems to me I was just starting to tell you about our trip to Calgary in my letter this noon. We really had a very easy day compared to an usual day in Calgary! For this time we went primarily to see Dad Bill Cleyn's pictures come out and also to see a Mr Brophy of the C.P.R. He wrote to the agent here for information about the ski camp etc and so Pete went to see him and had a long talk. The C.P.R. are getting interested in the idea of skiing in the mountains and are looking ahead to when they can run special ski trains and maybe special rates etc. Pete even spoke to him about the difficulty in packing skis and the extra expense etc. Some thing may come of it all. Anyway the Railways are getting interested which means a lot.

We had lunch at the Palliser. went to see the pictures. then to see one of the new Ford & its and were taken out in it. I felt a good deal as you do and couldn't see the difference between the new Ford and the old one. They kept saying isn't she quieter? doesn't she have more power? etc but I couldn't really have told very much from just sitting in the back seat. Undoubtedly they are much better than the old ones.

Then Norman took us to the movies. Pete left early to see the C.P.R. man but we saw the whole show. We had tea at four and were back here in time for dinner at the Mount Royal. It stays light until after nine so the days are nice and long now.

The next day Friday we spent down at the house We decided to oil the big room first and let Earl be chinking the outside while it was drying. So we started moving the furniture into the kitchen which took an hour or so of steady moving as you know how much there is. Then Earl started with the paint gun and had the big ceiling oiled by evening whereas last year it took a good many hours. Those paint guns are wonderful inventions. There is a motor and it sends a spray of oil through the gun which has a trigger like a pistol.

Then last evening we went to the movie here and after that up to Mr Harmons where he showed the two reels of the porcupine & Fossil Mt

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Dad Dave just came back. There are two more to come and they we will start editing all the reels so. they will be in one. It will be an awful job in a way but it will be fun doing it. Yesterday while I was waiting outside for Pete to come with the car Chappy came also and so went with us and then we all had banana splits together at the Greek's restaurant and Chappy told us about his trip to Vancouver and Vancouver Island. He motored around the island with friends and said that from where the spring flowers were blooming it took them a half an hour to go up to Grouse Mountain where there was every more snow than at Skoki I mean in depth though its not anywhere near as good skiing and not very open either. The road is cut out of the snow and rises twice as high as the roof of a car. You have to be dispatched up and down for there is just room for a single car and you even hit a rib the side of the snow going round corners. Chappy got a great kick out of the snow was the granulated sand and what Russ and Charlie had termed "perfect Klister snow" so when the people complained of the slow going he asked if they had tried Klister and they had never heard of it. Chappy gave

them quite a discourse on waxes and Russ will be able to imagine how he enjoyed doing it. He said they had rotten harness compared to what we all used. Chappy is working at the hotel as they are already starting things going. Its quite a lot of work opening as large an establishment. Dorothy Whyte is back and its fun seeing all the old friends again.

Sunday morning -

Pete drove up to Lake Louise this morning with the boys & Tex. and they will go in to the camp today. Cliff is going to bring our car back here tonight and then Barbara and I will drive up for them Tuesday. It saves train fare. We got up at six. I had planned to sleep but after Pete was up and it was a lovely day I decided to get up too. We had breakfast at the resteraunt and they all left soon after seven. I spent the next few hours straightening up our room and looking over letters. You know its quite a job.

Ever since Fern Brewster told us she was going to be married we have been trying to get a chance to ask her if she'd like to sell the lower part of her lot to us which is between us & the Crosbleys. It seems Mr Crosbly has first choice but we are hoping he won't have the cash at the present moment and as we would never build on it he would be safe. Just as we were thinking of this Jackie finds that the Ritchies are willing to sell their lot with the log buildings so we might buy Jackies lot from him and then he will buy the Ritchies which would be better for

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all concerned. We will know definitely about terms land in a day or two when she has seen Mr Crosby and the Ritchie thing may be settled soon too. What we would try to do then would be to swap the top end of our lot with the Whites for the lower end of theirs. It would be perfect then. I'll let you know what happens.

I've made a list of things you mentioned in your letters I don't think I've ever commented on so here goes for a disjointed lot of paragraphs.

I do hope Aunt Jane Brooks can find a nice little house by the sea and that you can visit her. cause I know you love the water. Do let me know if she finds one.

How nice about the baby in the Owen family -

I hope you find things going well in Gorham. I expect Aunt Nela will have her ups & downs, and if only the nurse doesn't grow tiresome. I think any nurse you saw so much of would tend to be waring no matter who she was. After all a stranger you see so much of is bound to get on ones nerves in some way. If Aunt Mary would only not suggest their outs. I'll bet a dime she's hinted to Aunt Nela about the nurses faults and if Aunt Nela didn't notice

them before she will now. The Nurse of course has outs but it doesn't help to notice them does it? Its funny Aunt Mary should be so down on divorced people when after all had she lived a generation later she might have done the same. To tell the truth I can understand how a person might seperate but as for this marrying right away after a divorce. Its more than I can see how anyone does it. I suppose people like Scotty Blanchard get married when they are so young the don't really know enough about each other and then they find they are interested in different things and they really don't see enough of each other in the kind of life business men lead now a days. When you think of it a man is away all day long and breakfast is a rush and not an easy leisurely meal it is in English plays even. Then the man comes home at night tired and they probably go out to dinner or something like that and they don't see much of one another. Each one does entirely different things in the day time and no time to talk things over very much. Then week ends are bound to be golf and lots of people and two weeks vactions aren't much. You don't wonder they drift apart & misunderstand but how they can marry again I don't know. Its funny but Pete & I are always together even doing little things like going to the store etc and its been horrid all these months not having any chance to talk things over.

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I meant to say how fine it is that both Ebles & Lewis have been accepted in the Law & Medical schools. I imagine Lewis will be at our house more another year. He is a nice boy-

I'm glad you lent the glass top table to Aunt Jane. I might use it in five years or so for I have a swell idea about a garden or field - Barbara loves gardening and if they build near we are going to have a garden in between our places. You remember there are a few spruce trees grouped around the end of the house where the stone fire place is. Well I thought some time I could flag it with Rundle rock which can be quarried in large flat pieces and then put those Rustic Chairs out there and it would be a lovely place to sit when its warm. for the trees would shade it and on cold days when the sun is warm it would be nice by the kitchen windows. The only out about it is we never seem to sit anywhere we're too busy at present. Do give all the pink dishes to Miss Everett & Miss Barrett. I'm so glad someone can use them.

What a funny time you & Jean had making calls that day.

I guess I'd better be going over to Barbaras and Jackies. I'm to eat a Roast Chicken with them today I don't want to miss it.

I hope now that Pete is away for a day or two I can make myself sit down and write some of the letters I've wanted to write for weeks but just never get settled down to doing.

Tell Ross we will answer his wonderful letter. My I'm glad he likes it out here.

Loads of love

Catherine.

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Thursday, May 12 1932

Dearest Mother,

I feel now as if I could almost get a job as furniture mover after yesterday. We decided that the oil had dried into the house enough so that we could move the things back into the living room and oil the bedroom and kitchen. My idea was to dust the things thoroughly as they were put back and then there seemed so little furniture in the bedroom and kitchen. We began with the things on top of the piled up big room furniture. First we moved the stuff out of the bedroom and before long the balcony was full. What with the draws taken out and the box spring and mattress on top of them and all the odd things too. Then I began putting books back religiously dusting each one. Pete hung pictures and after they were all up we remembered they weren't dusted. "Well nevermind we'll do it later" Then Earl wasn't doing anything special so he gave Pete a hand with the furniture and so that went in with only a blow to take dust off. It was lunch time and we were starved. Barbara came over in the afternoon and was the greatest help and we

soon had all the books in and most of the living room stuff in place. Pete decided we needed music and so went over for our radio victrola and we had the music from the Band Wagon going most of the afternoon. I was right about there not being much furniture in the kitchen but I had forgotten that there were so many dishes and cooking utensils. Such a lot of things there seemed to be. When we came to Petes carpenter bench we nearly gave up for you know the odd things a carpenter bench will collect. We finally covered the shelf underneath with some brown paper cause we just couldn't move any more and now the big room is jammed full of stuff. However in a few days now we ought to be able to get things put back where they belong and really the house does smell so clean and nice. Earl has finished rechinking it from the outside and so he only has to oil it now. We have the windows to wash before we put the screens on which ought to take some time. Its funny what fun it is though when you do things to your own house. The bedroom bath & kitchen are practically finished now.

You will be glad to know that Earl is going to build us some nice big cupboards at the end of the room to keep our canvases and paints in and then a window seat under the big window. It will make it a lot easier to keep things tidy. and also look better too. He also is making a model stand for us and some easels. and maybe another cupboard or two upstairs. I guess one never finishes making improvements do they.

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We heard last night that Mr Crosby was going to buy Fern's land next to us. He had first choice on it and has had it for years. So there was nothing much we could do. He wants it as his garden is on it and there really isn't much chance that he would ever build. We have twenty feet to plant spruce trees in between our house and the boundry and as Mr White is an expert at transplanting trees we will soon have a few large trees to protect us. The C.P.R. had him move a whole lot of trees for them many years ago from here to Medicine Hat. We also have arranged and are going to have Pete's uncle draw the thing up legally that when the property is divided that our lot and the Whites be subdivided and we will exchange the top of our lot with whoever has the middle lot for the bottom of theirs and in the meantime we can do as we like with the lower end, only when the lots are subdivided it means paying twice as much rental each year to the government. So things really look pretty well from our standpoint. It will be nice when we get the dead trees weeded out and the dead branches trimmed etc. and then if ever the Crosbys seemed too near we could always move the house over onto a new foundation - having plenty of land.

Friday -

I'm sorry so many days have gone by without my writing you. I had an idea there would be lots of time this week to write you in but goodness knows where it went. I took Russ Monday night but I guess it must have been Sunday when I wrote you. So I had better go back there and get it all as if I had told you about Sunday. But in case I didn't I'll be on the safe side even if I repeat myself.

Pete was at the Ski Camp. He left early in the morning and I got up and had a breakfast of hot cakes with him over at the restaurant. Then another breakfast here about nine at the hotel and then I went to Barbara and Jackie at seven they were just finishing theirs so I had another cup of coffee and more hot cakes with them. Then I stayed around until after dinner. Roast chicken. and when that was washed up Barbara & I went over to the house to see how the wash was drying in. Jackie came over after we had been there only a short time to see some Indians from Marley with some things Pete wanted to see. So back we went to see what they had. There was a lovely squaws dress. heavy with beads down to the waist and then a buckskin skirt and also some lovely blue beaded moccasins and gloves. So we kept them to see what Pete thought when he got back. It's hard to get squaws dresses. Barbara & I then went down to see Ruth & when we came back we found Jackie & some of the boys having ice cream at the restaurant so we joined them and then went for a ride in the car. I wasn't hungry enough to eat here before the

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dining room closed and so decided to accept Barbara's & Jackie's invitation to join them for a chicken sandwich. We took the car first and went out the west road to see the beaver first before coming back for the sandwich. We had no luck seeing beaver at work but its interesting to see the dams and all they are building. We saw a violet out.

I forgot to tell you about the birds that fell in Banff a few weeks ago. They were migrating to some of the large inland lakes or onto the prairie lakes and were blown down by a storm and fell all over the streets in Banff. They may have thought the wet streets were lakes or something. It seems this particular kind of bird needs 25 feet to take off in or they can't fly away and people went around picking up the injured birds and putting them in baskets and then taking them to the river. Some put them in the little pond in the zoo but found they required more water and so had to get them and put them in the river instead.

All day Monday I spent down at the house and raked a large part of the lawn and under the trees until I got blisters and had to stop. It has been sunny and warm all week. Perfect spring weather.

Tuesday Barbara and I went up to Lake Louise to meet Pete and the others with the car. They said the skiing was still good up at the camp but the snow is getting rather rotten as it does in spring. Everything was allright though up there.

Ever since Pete has gotten back we have been over at the house oiling. You have to wipe off the ceiling every day until it dries for the excess oil forms little drops that some times harden instead of dripping. and so we go over everything with a map. Wednesday as I have said we moved everything and it was quite a job. Then yesterday I oiled the Rustic Hickory chairs and rubbed them down. It sort of brightens things up to oil them.

Then last evening we went. Ferns wedding reception.

Have to go now. more later.

Loads of love

Catharine

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Sunday. May 15, 1932.

Dearest Mother. At last we have moved into the house and everything looks pretty natural. All my good intentions didn't turn out so well and a good many things went back dusty. The evening of Ferns wedding Pete was feeling pretty nice and asked some people down to see the house and he thought we would be moved in by Sunday - So we sort of forgot until last night when they said they would be down today and we were planning to move in today. However we managed to get everything back into place - the dishes as you may imagine weren't washed or dusted and the curtains went up without being hung on the line. however everything looks very fresh and nice. We will probably go to Calgary tomorrow and then Tuesday I will try to put away the clothes and straighten them out a bit. The people may come any minute now for tea but I'll scribble along until they do come.

Tuesday -

Did you ever. Sunday those people we expected never showed up - guess they thought we weren't serious. but Barbara & Jackie came in as I was writing all excited about living on the Ritchie property and Jackie is

to funny. thinks Pete & I know all about horses because this one turned out well and so has to have us approve of all his ideas. We spent the rest of the afternoon talking plans, having tea and going over the property with tape measures. Big moving the cabins together they are going to have an awfully attractive ranching house. By the way did Russ get my letter sent air mail about sending a draft of the equal of 4 months allowances to the Bank of Montreal. I always was it more I asked for. I always imagine an air mail letter might crash with a plane but I don't suppose it ever does really - then we had supper with Jackie and went down to show some pictures to Fred Brewster of the Moores and were there until 12 and then ran into Earl Brewer who wanted us to see a book he had made and Sunday evening was gone. Monday we spent in Calgary and didn't get back until late and then today we expected to really get settled but two Scotchmen came to see us at 9.30. Mr Rankin having sent them with a letter. He went to school with them and they were on their way around the world and ran into the Rankins at the

British Embassy in Japan. They are terribly nice and interesting gentlemen and we have spent the days driving them to Lake Louise and Emerald Lake (which is open and Louise is still covered with ice) and they have just gotten back from taking them to see Douglas Fairbanks in Around the world in 80 minutes. It's good and love the pictures of Japan so go if you ever have a chance.

So the days fly by - Tomorrow we will take them for a session before they catch the noon train.

I just got your letter with the sad news of Aunt Helen's death. I'm awfully sorry to hear it. It is and yet if she had cancer it is better she didn't have to suffer too long. It will be hard for little Helen and yet I imagine people will be awfully nice to her.

What a shame about the Mott Shaws house. When you think of all the ugly houses there are why did such a lovely one have to go.

We haven't had a fire on since morning and it's rather chilly setting down here writing so I will send this along and write you again soon

I hope. Once we get settled it won't be so hard to find a moment. The amount of things we want to do is appalling but they I guess its better never to have time to do everything you want to do than to have more time than you know what to do with.

Loads of love

Catherine.

30

Banff, Alberta
May 20, 1932.

Dearest Mother,

We are slowly but surely getting settled. But there does seem to be so many things to think of and people keep coming around to the house to ask questions. Russ will be glad to know that the last reel of film has come back and we are all ready to start editing it. In fact Pete got a second hand projector from Mr Harmon which he would sell us half price if we want it. We spent all afternoon trying to make the thing run smoothly and are beginning to see why Mr Harmon wants to get rid of it. Its aggravating for it goes perfectly for a minute or two and then something slips and the picture divides and you see half of it above and half below. You know what I mean. Then I'd have to turn on the light and we'd monkey with it and then I'd turn off the light and nothing would happen. So when we realised how the afternoon was going we decided to see Mr Harmon who was out. But perhaps tomorrow we can get his big machine to use. We have cement and everything for the cutting so it shouldn't be long before Russ gets the film. We are going to do ~~did~~ it before we do anything else. Oh. Tell Russ I

got the notice from the Bank of Montreal just after I mentioned it in my letter to you. and thank him -

X The depression isn't too bad out here. I traded a picture for a grizzly skin and it was pretty exciting. Pete was at Mr Lewtons store and saw the grizzly skin there. He had just gotten it from the Indians. It's a perfect beauty and the biggest skin you ever saw. I'll take a picture of it some time. They are not easy to get and this is an especially fine one. Mr Lewton had said last year he wished he could afford to buy my picture of Mrs Johnie because he knows her among the best of the Indians and so Pete asked if he would swap it for the skin and he was very glad to, so I feel pretty set up knowing I have the equivalent of selling a picture. We have hung it on the wall at the foot of the stairs

X and it looks awfully well. Then Earl gave Pete a Caribou skin which is one of the prettiest ones I've ever seen. We have it over the balcony. In exchange Pete's going to paint him a picture of a beaver. Then Tex has promised us a moose hide so all of a sudden we are acquiring a lot of skins. They look awfully well in a place like this though.

I'm awfully sorry that I didn't write Jean on her birth day. I honestly thought of it several times. First early in May - then I didn't seem to have time to write and when the fifteenth came I again thought of it but that was the hectic day we moved in. So you tell Jean I remembered her much more having not written.

It seems awful to think that a whole week has gone by and I had intended telling you all about Ferns wedding. Its the first one I've been too out here and it was lots of fun. Fern didn't ask anyone particularly except the family for there were so many old tainers and friends who she would have to ask if she asked anyone that she just had her own family which is tremendous and then told a few people to come round to the house afterwards. We never thought of going to the church as at home when you only have the family to the ceremony one takes it literally. However here it is treated in the same manner as a funeral and ~~the~~ I even if the time was 6,30 and everyones supper hour, practically the whole town turned out to see Fern married and it was a question if even the family could get inside the church though I believe a few rows in front were reserved. They said that

It was like a wedding in England
and she had to walk through a
crowd of people and went along
the street in the car waving to every
one. Its rather a nice way to have
it. and Fern being about the most
popular person in Banff seeing her
aunt Pearl Moore was married.
naturally everyone turned out to see
her married. We went around to the
house after supper and such a lot
of noise. All the little kids were
out in front banging on any kind
of tin can they could find, a sort
of shivaree and finally there was
so much noise that some one paid
them to go away. There were quite
a lot of friends at the house I
suppose about fifty in all and it
was great fun. We all drank the
couples health in champaine and
then spent the rest of the evening
drinking up a wonderful hot punch
as fast as Col Moore concocted it.
Russ might be interested to know
how it was made. 1 bottle of Rum
1 Bottle of Brandy and I think half
a bottle of ~~curacao~~ Curacoa and an
equal amount of tea. It was served
hot and was awfully smooth and
terribly good. I believe it is supposed
to be easier to drink hot and doesn't

have a quick effect. Anyway every one drank a lot and no one got tight at all. They had very substantial meat sandwiches and I imagine they helped a lot. A wedding is one time when you celebrate in Canada and I blessed the training I have had this winter. In Nassau especially. They have one custom out here which Mrs Rumpins doesn't think they have any where else and that is having loving cups with people. Everyone shares their drinks with every one else and if you are offered a loving cup you can't be impolite and refuse. It would be very rude. and so during the evening one is apt to drink a good deal as you may imagine. Fern & George were just about to leave when they found the battery attachment in the car had broken and after everyone had tried to fix it they took it to the garage. so Fern was later in leaving than she expected to be. After she went everyone else stayed on making merry. and really it was pretty funny especially to me. I wandered out in the kitchen with the rest where Mrs Ruth was washing ~~my~~ glasses as fast as she

could. Col Moore had given up making punches and so people were making their own and even percolating coffee. I was given a loving cup of Rum and then Mrs Ruth (who is rather an elderly woman who works for the Moores at Yoho) was given a little too much and she insisted on my having a glass of whisky and ginger ale or something anyway it was largely whisky. I knew it was a bad idea to mix drinks but couldn't get out of it she was so insistent. So I swallowed it on top of another sandwich. Then first before I went home Jim Brewster insisted I have a glass. a loving cup with him of gin and gingerale and I couldn't refuse that either and I just waited to feel tight. but the funny part of it is I didn't feel any different at all and even next morning I felt fine. Really I don't believe it affects me at all though wine usually makes me light headed. It was an awfully nice party though, so informal but lots of fun. Everyone felt sad to think of losing Fern as she will live in Vancouver now and then the news about the Lindbergh Baby had first come over the radio and one couldn't help feeling the awfullness of it.

I meant to finish this in time for the mail this morning but of course didn't. The Regatta is Tuesday and a holiday so I imagine there will be lots of excitement down by the river.

This must do for now as I have to go over and get some things for supper.

Loads of love

Catharine.

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Ptarmigan Ski Camp

Lake Louise, Alberta

Tuesday, May 24, 1932,
Banff -

Dearest Mother,

At last we have the movie film edited and will send it off probably tomorrow after we make enquiries about duty and all. It was a shame Russ had to pay such an awful price on the prints Mr Harmon sent. All mail goes through Minneapolis as its the nearest port of customs or whatever they call it and I don't suppose Mr Harmon realized they should have been marked not for commercial use. We will tell him for the future. Such a thing as we had splicing the films. The first thing we did was to spend most of Saturday tuning up the projector and then that evening ran off the ten reels. Early Sunday morning we started in cutting and splicing for in order to give the reels continuity they had to be arranged fairly well and some of the parts were pretty jumpy. One thing is very important be sure and run the reels slowly as it will be easier to follow and you will enjoy them more. We worked until some time Sunday afternoon when Pete had to go over to the boat house to superintend the aqua planing which is being run off today in the Regatta. They couldn't get the boat started so he promised to go back as soon as he heard it running from our house However it didn't go at all. We worked over the film until eleven at night and then next day started in again in the morning and worked steadily except for lunch and supper until one thirty

this morning. The actual splicing isn't so hard for the machine father had works perfectly but its the arranging the scenes. We cut several films apart and had each scene rolled up and marked until that big table was covered with little rolls of film. Then we tried connecting certain scenes like the porcupine and being called for lunch. They had to be rearranged so as not to jump too much and really it was quite hard. However its finished and we will send it to have the negative made. I will enclose the bits we had to cut off (if I can remember to) and you can perhaps get some idea of some of the shots.

I feel now as if I would have more time to write now this is done though there is still a lot of things to be looked over such as papers etc. Pete has an order for some picture frames which he is busy working on now but we have mislaid the paper with the formulas for putting on the gold stuff and it ought to be among our things somewhere so I guess I shall have to start searching for that the first thing I do.

I'm terribly sorry you have had such a time with your eyema this spring. Seems to me its been an awfully long siege of it this time. Lets hope you won't have another such time again. I wonder if you took a trip to warmer places during March if it would bother you, because it might be the cold damp springs that gets it going. I really think you would enjoy a West Indies cruise some time for most of the boats tie up alongside a pier at the various places and always the launches go back and forth very often so you could go ashore when

Ptarmigan Ski Camp
Lake Louise, Alberta

you liked and could stay on the ship the rest of the time I really think you would love it and if you had someone with you who could laugh with you over the funny passengers. for on those cruise boats they are amusing.

I thought when spring came your eczema would surely go but maybe by now it is getting better. I do hope so for it must be terrible to have and especially when you enjoy this time of year in the garden.

Today was the annual regatta. being a public or national holiday. It started off snowing hard this morning then cleared beautifully only to snow hard again at noon. However this afternoon about three the sun came out and though it was cold standing watching still they were able to have all the canoeing & rowing races and even the aqua planing, though they looked awful chilly in bathing suits riding on a little board behind the speed boats. There were two girls who rode an aqua plane each and both had a ducking in the river and had to be pulled out by Pete who was in another speed boat following for just such purposes. Rupert Edwards was the only boy who rode and he did darn well never having seen an aqua plane before last year and was only on one once then. He started in the shallow water of Echo river while the speed boat with an outboard motor was in deeper water and

in that way didn't have to actually get in the water at the beginning. He was in the water up to his waist on one turn and I was sure he would have to let go but he didn't and hung on. After two or three trips up and down in front of our house he finally jumped off and swam ashore I guess he had had enough.

Mildred and her children. Mrs White. Lila Cam Barbara & Jackie all came in to get warm and have tea and we could see most everything out of our window as the boys the small boats turned around were right in front of our house. Jackie & Barbara stayed to supper & Earl too. Earl has been eating lunch with us every day as he must get tired of cold lunches and his so amusing to talk too or listen to that we enjoy having him. He talks like the Specialist and yet he has darn good ideas and he thought our silver the nicest bid ever seen and liked the china too. It was interesting he should have noticed it.

I know there are heaps of things to tell you of & I always save them until the next letter and you never do hear about them. However from now on I may do better.

Thanks so much for the Magazine of Art we do enjoy it so much -

Loads of love

Catharine.

Sunday, May 29, 1932

Dearest Mother,

Its curious how all of a sudden people who seem pretty close to you die within a few weeks of each other. Like Mrs Shaw and Aunt Helen and now it seems as if Banff had been struck with several tragic deaths. First there was young Edwin Noble who was a great friend of Norman's Rupes and who died this spring while we were out at camp. Then Tom Wilson's son was drowned out at his ranch. Tom was the first white man to discover Lake Louise and the man whos portrait we painted last fall and then the hardest to bear of all Ruth Mather. Barbara's sister. Its been an awful shock to the whole town and it was so sudden too. There has been quite a bit of flu in Banff and some have been awfully sick and others have thrum it off comparatively easily. Ruth had a sore throat a week ago today and I saw her Monday night when we went down to see if Ellen could get the speed boat started to practice aqua-

planing. Ruth was standing around and as Jean would have said was speaking through a cold. The next day she was feeling awfully mean and went to bed. had a temperature and an ear ache. Barbara went down to take care of her Tuesday and Wednesday and then the Doctor thought it would be better for her to go to the hospital where she could get all the care she needed. She was pretty sick Wednesday but ~~Thursday~~ Friday she seemed ever so much better and even wanted to be put in a cheaper room. Barbara was in bed that morning having a bad throat but hers began breaking up which Ruths evidently never started to do. After lunch on Friday Pete went over to Allens to borrow a saw and the Doctor was there then and telling Allen that Ruth was much worse and would be like to send to Calgary for a specialist though there was nothing any one could do for her that wasn't being done already. Allen told Pete to get Barbara though they both thought Barbara had gone to Calgary with Jackie that morning. However Pete found her in bed and told her to go over to see Allen not realizing how serious Ruths condition was. Then he came back

here and sent me over to drive Barbara to Allen's. We went right over but found Allen at the hospital. I waited there until Barbara came out to say there was no hope as Ruth had developed double pneumonia and both lungs were so congested nothing could be done. It was awfully hard we sent a wire to Ruth's family in the east and then I waited until it was all over and brought Barbara back here. It does seem so hard when Ruth & Allen were so awfully happy and that Ruth & Barbara being twins could live so near one another. Somehow it just doesn't seem right and everyone feels it terribly. Pete went to look for Allen and in the meantime Allen came in with Barbara's Uncle Billy Warren who lives here in Banff. We had an awfully difficult evening and afternoon. It was about five when they got to our house and from then on until nearly eleven there was a continual stream of people. ~~Pete~~ Barbara bore up awfully well but Allen was so knocked he couldn't get control of himself and the people who meant well by coming only made it worse. I don't know why people think they

are any helps coming so soon after a thing like this happens. Somehow it seems as if you ought to give a person a chance to think things out a bit. Jackie being in Calgary and not being able to get back befor 9.30 made it hard for Barbara. and Allen came here instead of going to his brothers as he didn't want too much sympathy. Mrs White, Lila & Mildred came in just after Allen got here and they were all crying so it didn't make it any easier. Then Barbara's Aunt an Uncle came in for a minute. Cameron came down as we were starting to eat supper, and then Pete & I kept doing our best trying to talk about every subject we could think of to try & distract their minds just a bit, and we'd no sooner get them thinking of something else when there would be a knock on the door and some one else would come in all sad looking and everyone would break down again. Cliff was here when Allens sister Jenny & sister in law came in and when things got too strained Pete started showing them the house which they had never seen before and Allen went for a drive with

cliff, so that helped the situation somewhat.
Of course people didn't expect either Allen
or Barbara to be here and both Mrs Simpson
and Pearl Moore dropped in to say how
badly they felt and then found everyone
here. Even the minister came but he was
very good and didn't try to offer sympathy.
It seemed as if people came and went
all the time and Pete & I did our best
to talk about other things. Jackie finally
came and after a while they went home.
Allen stayed with us and slept on
the couch downstairs. Yesterday Barbara &
Jackie came over right after breakfast and
people again came and went a bit. But
Earl was here working and we also have
a man chopping up some of the wood that
is piled in back and so with things
going on it was easier. Also it was a
lovely day. I put up a lunch for Pete
and Allen and they drove out towards
Lake Louise for the day. Then Barbara
and Jackie decided they would drive
out that way too so I put up another
lunch for them. I used Earl's meat
sandwiches for Pete & Allen to help out.
So then I had lunch to cook for Earl
and me. Earl has been eating with
us lately and we do enjoy his company

as a matter of fact we haven't had a meal alone since we came. and the other night Thursday Dorothy White and Chappy came down for a steak dinner and the evening.

Pete had asked Pearl Moore to bring the Wilson family to tea yesterday afternoon as they wanted to see Tom's portrait and Pearl was to take them driving. So I stayed home in case they came before Pete got back. I also went over town and got a large supply of canned food as there is no way of telling how many may eat here. Jackie & Barbara were all here last night for supper. Pete & I make a great commotion over cooking every thing and Allen washed the dishes. Barbara & Allen were here before the Wilsons came and Allen stayed upstairs while they were here. The whole family came in even Tom & Mrs Wilson. Ada & the other daughter & the son too. Eddy. Then the three Moores as well so there were a lot of us for tea. They were awfully good about everything and stayed quite a while. The Warrens came after supper for a little while and we had on the whole rather a quiet

evening. Allen will stay with us for a while anyway. He's awfully nice to have around and fun to discuss things with. The funeral is tomorrow and it will be easier to settle down after that. Allen went over to work on a boat which will keep him occupied and Barbara and Mrs White are fixing up the house. It will be a pretty hard morning for her. I'm not sure whether they will be back here or not and so though its lunch time we are rather waiting to see if anything turns up. Barbara's mother was planning to come out for the summer but will not be here for two weeks when she is coming with Barbara's aunt & uncle who were coming later on in July. I guess they figured it would be best for Mrs Carpenter not to make the trip alone but I think Barbara thought she would be here sooner, but I guess its the best way maybe.

I maybe shouldn't have written you all this but its so in my mind I can think of nothing else and if I don't write for a day or two you will know its because we are so busy helping all we can.

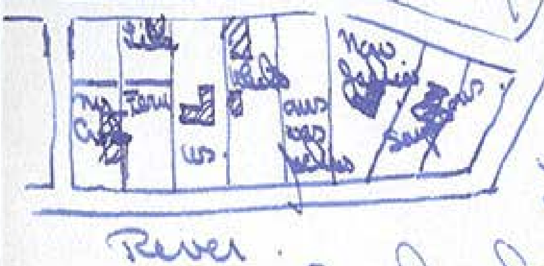
I got your letter about the Northfield supper in Concord and what a good time they must have had. I really think they as a group would enjoy it more than any other group I know of. Wouldn't those society girls make you mad. It just shows what an awful sort of outlook one can get living in a city. I imagine they thought they were being smart or something pure thoughtlessness and so darn selfish. It makes me swear to think of it, and when Nell and Mary Ford and people like that work so hard! I'm glad Molly Harlow was such a help. I know she's very good in town helping at suppers. You remember how I used to remark on how good some girls were waiting on table and how awful others could be. The supper sounded so good and I'm glad the sun shone.

Do tell me all about the day when your garden is open for the M.S.P.C.C. I wonder how many will be there. I wish I could be there to help even if it does mean running up and down the hill with groups of people. and mostly deaf or lame old ladies -

It was so stupid of me to write as I did about the money. You know I wrote Russ to send the money to Calgary when there was a chance of buying Fern's land as well as the other lot and so I wrote the air mail letter asking to have it sent. Then I always wonder if the airplane my letter is on will burst into flames and so I thought I would mention it in your letter but knowing everyone reads my letters to you I decided to express it as so many months allowance. Then I mentioned the wrong number of months and no wonder it made you both think I wanted more money and I probably mentioned the wrong bank. I'm plain stupid I guess. and I hope it won't make any great difference. Thank Russ and tell him I'll try not to be so stupid next time. and that its all right the way it is.

Mr Crosby who lives next to us has already begun to fix up the lower end of Fern's lot which he bought from her. He is planning to make a Badminton court and more garden and we are going to take down the wire fence in between

this is the way the block is from left to



right Mr Crosby's house and lot then Ferris lot the upper half with the house Lila lives in and the lower half Mr Crosby has bought. then our lot and house then the Whites. the lower half to be left to Pete in exchange for the upper half of ours. then Jackies lot which we have bought from them. then the Ritchie lot which Jackie has just bought. then the Sempsons and another lot and then the road. As long as Mr Crosby is just going to build a garden its just as well for him to have it.

Jeans letter has just come saying you have gone into the Phillips house. I do feel terribly your eczema is so bad. I do hope Dr Greenwood can find out what is wrong with it so you will be able to stop it whenever it starts. I hope it isn't because you try to do too much. I got a letter from Aunt Mary saying Aunt Ula is to visit you. You certainly are saving the situation for the Flemming family this year. I'm glad to think that you can help in such a nice way and Aunt Ula will be so appreciative of everything and so have interested

If you get too tired, try going down to Aunt James for a day or two change and then go back it might help a lot. There doesn't seem to be much to write about just now. We were getting pretty well straightened out a day or two ago. Things put away and the desk cleaned out when all this happened and now I suppose I shall be busy doing things with Barbara until her mother comes. for in a way she will miss Ruth almost more than Allen. as they were twins you know. and of course saw each other every day and told each other everything.

When we get the cupboards finished we will take some movies of the house to show you how it looks, and of the spruce trees we are going to plant. Earl has made us some easels. and they are fine ones like Mr Rungeiser.

I'll send this along and will write again as soon as I have a chance.

Loads of love always.

Catharine.

33

Banff. Alberta.
Tuesday. May 31. 1932

Dearest Mother.

I intended writing you a
little last night but just as I was settling
at the desk a minister called and stayed
nearly two hours. Then there was the
supper dishes to do before we went to bed.
We decided yesterday that Barbara &
would go to Vancouver for a few days
and are leaving on the train this morning.
It will be easier for her as every one
feels so sorry for her that it makes it
hard meeting people on the street you
know how it is. Then her mother is
coming in about 10 days and after that
Barbara will have so much to think
of in planning for her that everything
will be allright. I'm not sure how
long we will be there but I expect we
will be gone about a week. We are going
to right now. Pete will forward all mail
to the Hotel Vancouver.

The funeral was yesterday morning
at 10. It was very small and only
the relatives were there so it wasn't too

had to get through. Everyone came around here afterwards and had some sherry and then Barbara Allen & Jackie went & lunch & supper. I most all day. Allen will stay here with Pete & Jackie may too so it really makes a good arrangement for everyone concerned.

Must go & cook a check etc so will scribble a note to you from Vancouver.

Loads of love

Catharine.

34

HOTEL VANCOUVER
VANCOUVER, B.C.

Canadian Pacific Hotels

Wednesday June 1, 1932

Dearest Mother,

Here we are in Vancouver and in one of the best rooms in the hotel. We are one floor below the roof garden and look over the city to the harbor and mountains beyond. When we went to the desk to register this morning, the first person we saw was Mr Robbins who was Ass't. Manager at the Banff Springs last summer & who is ass't manager here now. Then the clerk was evidently an old friend of Peter and together they fixed us up with a lovely large room on the 14th floor overlooking the harbor as I have said. We didn't dare ask how much it would be knowing that usually they give one a good rate when they "fix you up" as an old friend.

We left Banff yesterday morning and it was a bit hectic. We had six to lunch - even more for tea and five for supper and before we got the dishes washed in the evening Mr Montgomery, one of the ministers came to call & stayed over an hour and a half. We did wash

the dishes after he left but it meant I had to pack in the morning. However it wasn't as hard as I thought it would be and we were ready in plenty of time for Barbara & I to catch the morning train at 11.15. It was a cloudy day so the mountains weren't quite as nice as sometimes but all the same we had a nice trip. We ~~the~~ most of the time ~~[illegible]~~ lunch, tea and dinner. It was interesting going through the Connaught tunnel which is one mile above sea level. one mile below the top of the mountain it goes through and five miles long. It cuts off a lot of the snow sheds around glacier where we went in 1916. It was getting dark as we neared Sicamus where we may stop over a night on the way back. The little school house is still there across from the hotel. but quite a summer colony has sprung up on the little inlet across the track and ~~[illegible]~~ east a few hundred yards. We were both pretty tired so went to bed early and it was nine when we reached Vancouver.

We spent the morning window shopping, buying a few kitchen utensils one can't get in Banff and having great fun. The clouds were low so we didn't think it a good day to sight see and anyway window shopping is fun. This afternoon we discovered all the stores closed as Wednesday is a half holiday so by the time we discovered the stores were closed we were quite a few blocks away. We came back took baths and mended the holes in the stockings we had worn.

I wrote Fern Brewster we were coming and she is going to drive us around tomorrow afternoon and take us home to her house for supper. Then one day we want to go to see Allen's Mather's mother who lives 65 miles away but its only a bus

Canadian Pacific Hotels

side and so near enough to go and make a call. Then we are going to Victoria for a few days and might even go to Seattle. We have just decided to take a ferry ride tonight so I must stop.

Loads of love
Catharine.

Sunday - I burned the end of this with the intention of mailing it last night and I cause forgot to take it. When I went out we had a fine ride on the ferry over to Vancouver and back. The lights were lovely on the two cities reflected in the harbor.

I do hope you are feeling better with you eczema. It must dry up soon and I wish there were some way I could help but there isn't.

I forgot to tell you about an American lady on the train who was volunteering information to everyone. We nearly died laughing to her and she was telling some one about Boston and when they asked about the people she recited the poem about the Lowells and the Cabots and then said she'd been told

that" in Boston you couldn't tell the difference between Shop girls and ladies -
It's time I go down to breakfast and Barbara is all ready -
Loads of love always
Catharine -

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HOTEL VANCOUVER
VANCOUVER, B.C.

Canadian Pacific Hotels

Friday June 3 1932
The Kings birthday

Dear Mother.

You will think Barbara and I had never seen a shop before in our lives the way we have been window shopping last day or two. We have been all through some of the big stores like the Hudson Bay and seen some of the smaller ones we have looked all around. The Hardware stores are fascinating. Yesterday morning we window shopped and then Fern Brewster came for us and took us all around Stanley Park which is lovely with beautiful woods and lots of tremendous fir and Cedar trees. She took us all around the Residential District which was lovely. We never seen such gardens in my life. Lots of Rock gardens particularly in front of the houses where perhaps there was a Banking down to the side walk.

Even where the houses were close together as they are say in Brookline or Salem where Aunt Jane used to live. They always have as many flowers as possible. There were some large houses that were simply covered with roses and really everything looked so pretty especially when spring is only just coming to Banff it all looked much nice in contrast. Its funny weather out here for after the clearness of the mountains it looks like rain all the time and the mountains are covered across the harbor with clouds. We thought we wouldn't take a bus or boat trip till it cleared up more and then Fern told us it never really cleared

We went to Ferns ~~[illegible]~~ after driving around all afternoon and helped her cook supper and then spent the evening sitting around and talking. George. her husband is terribly nice and very Scotch. was born near Edinburgh and only came out to this country a short time ago.

We go there for lunch again today and then tomorrow may go to Chilliwack to see Mrs Mather. Sunday George & Fern are going to drive up Grasse Mountain and then Monday

Canadian Pacific Hotels

we will go to Victoria
for a day or may be more.
and then go home Thursday
or Friday.

They evidently have had an awful lot of
rain in Banff, Calgary and the river in
Calgary rose 4 feet in 4 hours.

Don't tell the Webbers that I was in Vancouver
and didn't look up Frances. Another time when
Pete & I are here together we will but this
time didn't seem the best time to do it.

Barbara has slept until nine so we
are going to breakfast now.

So ado for now & do hope you are feeling
better.

Catherine.

36

May 7
27

HOTEL VANCOUVER
VANCOUVER B.C.

Canadian Pacific Hotels

Sunday. June 6. 1932.

Dearest Mother

We are at present waiting for George & Fern to come for us as we are planning to go up Grosse Mountain 18 miles from Vancouver, where they ski so much. George said he heard there had been some bad slides and so we may not be able to go. too much snow. The Chalet is 4000 feet above the Harbor. We have just been down to the docks to watch the Empress of Japan sail. It really was quite thrilling for there were lots of streamers and the band played all the time. Right on the dot of eleven the gang plank came down and the ship soon began to back away. The band played Aloha and I got all choky feeling as if I were loosing my best friend or some thing. It was an awfully pretty sight with the sun shining on all the colored paper and the white ship against the blue & green

mountains that lined the harbor on one side. There were no tugs and the ship simply backed out into the harbor and then began to go out through the Narrows.

Monday.- George and Fern arrived as I was writing this and after they had lunch with us we started for Grouse Mountain. We went on a ferry across the Harbor and then drove through North Vancouver and up the mountain. It's quite a twisty road and within about three miles of the top there is snow piled high on either side of the road. In the ship it was barely wide enough for a car and one would scrape the sides. There is still lots of snow under the trees and there is still skiing up at the Chalet. and its quite a good lovely one in the mountains. The drive is a cedars through forests full of tremendous trees and fir trees. The view from the top was lovely looking out over the city and you can see mountains in all directions and the Fraser river and St Georges Bay. The Chalet is most attractive. A building built by the municipal government for people to use in summer & winter. It is run as an inn and they will accomodate people there and its quite a place to go on week ends. especially for skiing. They have a jump and several hills cleared in the trees but I don't believe there is any really open skiing

HOTEL VANCOUVER
VANCOUVER, B.C.

Canadian Pacific Hotels

We had tea there and then on the way home picked some lovely yellow broom which grows wild here. The gardens we passed were so lovely. They have quite a lot of stores here with nothing but slips of rock plants you would love it.

Pete hasn't forwarded any mail from you yet so I only hope you aren't feeling too sick from eczema to write.

We have to go now to catch the boat. I had an idea I might write quite a few letters while I was here but we keep on the move all the time.

Loads of love and will write you from Victoria.

Catharine.

37

EMPRESS HOTEL
VICTORIA, B.C.

Canadian Pacific Hotels

Monday evening.
June 6, 1932.

Dearest Mother.

We arrived in Victoria this afternoon at four o'clock. It was a lovely trip and I had forgotten how much of it was going between islands and so close to shore in several places. It was rather hazy but you could see land and mountains all around, even the Olympic snow capped peaks in Washington but could be seen quite easily with clouds below them. As soon as we had washed up a bit we went out to "have a look" at the shops. We found some awfully attractive ones and expect to have a card time resisting some things, especially old silver. Pete has an uncle living here so we are going to look him up tonight.

I never told you about the day we went to Chilliwack to see Allen's mother Mrs Mather who lives there with a friend on account of bad blood pressure. She can't stand it in the mountains any more. We took a bus leaving about noon and had quite a trip. 65 miles but we were there before the scheduled time at 3.30 It was a very pretty trip especially the end near Chilliwack. It was farming land in the Fraser River Valley and though there were mountains on both sides of the valley the valley itself was as flat as near Detroit. It was actually pretty. Coming back at 7.30 on the bus we were much amused by a baby who was seen off on the bus by two country friends just the nice farm Chilliwack. She had been given a huge bunch of flowers. the same pink flowering shrub as we have at home on the lawn below the old rose garden near the house. She sat down on the seat next the door. the lovely pink flowers hanging over the edge of the seat. We stopped and four men clambered in brushing by the flowers and brushing several blossoms off. Then the lady moved them to lie over the arm of the chair. The girl got up and walked forward just as she

EMPRESS HOTEL
VICTORIA, B.C.

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Bright she was reaching her stop and as she stood in front of the ladies seat the bus stopped suddenly and the girl landed sitting in the middle of the bunch of flowers. That didn't help them look any brighter. It was the kind of bunch that is pretty spreading as a bunch of lilacs would be and so there was hardly room enough for the lady & the flowers side by side. However the lady decided to stand them on the floor in the corner might be best. and that worked for quite a while. We saw the bus filling up one by one and still the lady kept the whole seat to herself. finally she had to make room for another passenger which meant the ladys feet just had to be in the flowers. When we reached the terminal and she struggled trying to get the branches out with out breaking them it was a sorry bedraggled looking bunch she had. with only a few weary and crumpled blossoms still sticking on.

We had a nice call with Mrs Mather and she gave us tea for our lunch had been very sketchy. It wasn't an easy call to make as Mrs Mather had never seen Ruth and then to she wanted to know what had happened and was apt to be teary. Barbara had been wonderful about it all though I know she feels it all terribly.

That night we went to see "The Grand Hotel" and awfully good movies - well done in every way. That morning before we went to Chillicothe we two went shopping in a funny little watch shop with a window full of old things. under a shelf sort of round the corner of the window where a stairway went down to a boilers shop was a lovely copper tea kettle which I had seen several times when we went by. It was marked #5. and looked pretty nice. We went in Saturday morning and asked to see it. The man wasn't awfully enthusiastic about showing it and really hated the idea of selling it. He also had just marked it down from ten dollars and maybe felt badly about that. He says its over a hundred

EMPRESS HOTEL
VICTORIA, B.C.

Canadian Pacific Hotels

years old, but then you never can tell. However he pointed out that it was a good dove tailed one and sure enough the bottom & side are all dove tailed together and the workmanship is awfully good. It has brass uprights for the handles and a copper cross piece. and also has brass trim on the lid and a brass knob. It shows where the fire has been bolter behind. And the front shines so - Its really a beauty.

We are about to go to the Butchart gardens this morning with some relations of the whites. Just as we were about to go and see them last night Barbara said. "I bet they think you're me because you are all in black." So I changed my clothes 'cause it would have been embarrassing. Then we thought what fun it would have been to pretend we were each other. but we didn't dare.

Must go now.
Heaps of love Catharine.

37.

Canadian Pacific Railway
EN ROUTE

Friday, June 18, 1932

Dearest Mother.

At last we are on the train headed east and I think we are both rather glad to be going back. To tell the truth I get quite homesick off like this but it did seem the least we could do to help out the situation. Barbaras mother is coming in a week so there won't be too long for her to wait.

We expected to go on the same train yesterday but Fern & George Clarkson insisted we stay

overnight and we found it too difficult to refuse. It was a lovely day which actually warm. We did a few errands for Fern in the afternoon and went for a drive and then in the evening went to the movies. They are a terribly nice couple and such fun. Fern is a great cook and Doug is a real old fashioned so we can't help but enjoy ourself.

We had quite a busy time in Victoria. People are so darn nice to you out there. The Armstrongs drove us out to see Mrs Butchards gardens which are quite celebrated and really are lovely. one especially which

is built in a cement quarry - and has water running through it. little paths and flowers high up on the walls of rock as well as in beds on the floor of the quarry. Some how we will have to plan some way you could get out to see them. You would love Victoria its quite a bit like New England with lovely vistas of the sea and snow capped mountains in the distance We even saw Mount Baker quite clearly - The Armstrongs are Pete's Aunt and Uncle. We got back Tuesday morning just in time to meet Hazel Mather (Allen's sister) for lunch and she toured the Antique shops with us in the afternoon. That

evening we went out to see the Armstrongs Auto Camp they own which is really the nicest one I ever saw. all kinds of cabins and all sorts of accomodation. When we got back to the hotel we met Mr & Mrs Hodges & a Harold husband, all old friends of Pates. The later gave us a pass next day for a 4 hour bus trip which we didn't take in the end. Mr Hodges is the Manager of the hotel, sent fruit up to us and the next afternoon he & Mrs Hodges took us for a drive a tea .. 65 miles or more to the loveliest place quite a long way out of the city. It was terribly nice of them. Two other friends of theirs went with us and we had a very good time and delicious tea

Canadian Pacific Railway

EN ROUTE

When we got back we met Uncle Sam Armstrong in the lobby and went back with him for supper then came back to pack to take the night boat. Mrs Hodges wanted us to see the Crystal Gardens so we went over there. Its quite lovely a 150 ft swimming pool and covered with glass like a greenhouse beautiful vines. Fuchias and that blue flower Aunt Mary has a soft blue which has a flower like a flox. They had all kinds of tropical things too. The moisture from the pool being very good for them.

We took the night boat which was most comfortable.

The train has started and we have left Vancouver so I will stop for now

Later - we had the hottest trip today but it was through lovely country. following the Fraser River. My pen is running dry. will write you from Banff

Love

Catharine

38.

Ptarmigan Ski Camp

Lake Louise, Alberta

Monday. June 13, 1932.

Dearest Mother.

This is my birthday and it seems an excellent time to write you a letter. Saturday the day we came back from Vancouver really seemed more like my birthday than any time for your letters were here with the wonderful check and all and Jean's package which I opened as I know she believes in opening things right away. She was right about the book but I can't seem to find it anywhere so maybe someone has borrowed it. You might save the "In Search of Scotland" you have until I know definitely whether its gone or not. for I'd hate to be without it. Pete had all sorts of things done when I got back and he painted a picture for over our mantel which really looks awfully well. Its of an Indian Encampment with all the tupees in a circle and the mountains behind as at Indian days. It just fits over the mantle and looks much better than the Chauncey Ryder which really was lost in such a large space. We have it now over one of the book cases. Then the cupboards at the end of the room on either side of the big window were all finished and stained and make that end of the room look so much better with all the painting stuff put

away. The eaves were stained too. The same color as the dresser in the kitchen. Pete had also made a sketch of his Grand father and besides that he had looked after Jackie and Allen who did help a little but because Petes time was his own they were apt to leave dishes and things and I guess it wasn't too easy. However Allen & Barbara & Jackie are all moving down to Allens today for the summer anyway and we are going to try and get things all finished up, then leave for Yoho where we can paint undisturbed and when we come back no one will have the habit of being here quite as much. Its not that we mind people coming but really its so hard to get anything done when people drop in all hours of the day and night. Of course Allen has been here all the time and Barbara and Jackie have the habit of coming over any time but once they are across the river it will be different. Barbara's mother comes July 2nd. We are also having Earl put Tentest on the bathroom. Its a building board like Celotex which is advertised so much! We will shellac it and it will make the bathroom soundproof & water proof as well as warmer. Its awfully powdery stuff and upstairs is rather a mess while its being done but Earl is almost finished. We also have a shower. The connection was there before and we had Mr MacConnel put it up. Mr White & Allen went out and dug us 20 trees which we have planted

Ptarmigan Ski Camp
Lake Louise, Alberta

between us and the Crosbys. I wish in a way I could have been here when they did it but I had put in stakes where the trees should be so they are where I wanted them. I suppose one can't be here all the time. The yard is all cleaned up and the wood neatly piled and even the lawn cut so everything looks pretty well. We have some of the movie reel left and when everything looks all picked up inside, we are going to take some movies of the house for you. Oh another thing they did was to put the long mirror we got for upstairs (so I can keep in style with the lengths of my shirts) in the space by the bathroom door. Its built as a door so Mr McConnel can get into the bath tub adjustments any time with out the danger of 7 years bad luck. and also by opening the door and swinging it. you can see yourself any where you choose to stand. Pete also made a frame for his Indian Squaw which is up at the Banff Springs with mine. He really did a lot while I was away, but the funniest part of all was that the day before I left a letter came from Harriet Gilbert saying that a friend of hers and (Lee Nashes to) was coming through from the Junior League convention. Her name was Nancy Jaynes. So Pete went down to meet the train last week and he asked the first girl he saw if she knew Nancy Jaynes and it happened to be Nancy herself. He had quite a

time entertaining her and several of her friends and everyone has been teasing him about it ever since. Another girl was one who was on the Empress of Australia when we came back from Jamaica. Its funny how you run into people. Nancy may come out here to ski next winter.

Well here I've gone rambling on and never mentioned how terribly I feel to think how sick you've been and that I could do nothing to help. I really think next spring you will have to take some one and go on a West Indies cruise. You wouldn't find it too hot and there is so much to watch. I'm sure you would love it. Pete and I are planning now to drive east in November and be in Concord for Christmas. That is if everything works out well. We could go down by way of Denver and show our things to Mr Cranmer, stop in Minneapolis and see the Kingmans and show them the skiing pictures and sort of work the painting end & skiing together. So you can plan on us being in Concord sometime before Christmas.

You shouldn't get so upset ~~over~~ and worry so over our being sick. As a matter of fact Pete's best friends are doctors and he always believes in going to one if you have some feeling you cant explain or get rid of. What he doesn't believe in is people who live as Lila does, who doesn't live the proper kind of life and naturally is never very well. She never gets any real exercise or the right kind of food and is forever getting a doctor. We always take care of colds and to tell the truth I've never been as well

Ptarmigan Ski Camp

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as I have the last two years. I haven't had a cold all winter. It would be hard to say how Ruth got double pneumonia but wasn't that what Miss Shaw had and she had all the care one could get. You mustn't worry for after all think of the people who are killed in the east by cars and things. I really believe in fate and if you aren't killed as a boy you will be another. Anyway don't worry it doesn't do any good, does it?

I've spent almost an hour writing this and there are so many things I should be doing I don't know where to begin. The amount of letters I should write is hopeless and there is a heap of things to be done in the house so I better get busy.

Thank Aunt Julie for the telegram which arrived as we were eating breakfast. It was very exciting.

Thank you Jean so much for your birthday presents. They were awfully nice of it.

Loads of love and I'll write again soon

Catharine.

Monday afternoon -
June 13, 1932

Dearest Mother,

I went over to the store this afternoon and found your package. The customs man tore off the tag and so there was no duty to pay. It was mighty nice of him wasn't it? I guess if there aren't too many packages coming in its allright and its best to mark it low. Wasn't it funny it should arrive on the day. I had such fun opening it. I don't know why I love presents so. Each one was done up so nicely in different colored ribbons. The candy was wonderful and then all the sizes of those nice kind of safety pins. Then the adorable pin cushion, and the awfully good looking dress which is just the kind I needed terribly in weather like this. I haven't been able to try it on yet as Earl is working in the bathroom & our room but I'm sure it will fit perfectly. Then that awfully pretty basket which I can't quite decide which of various needs it will fill. It may hold sewing, gloves & keys on the table. The whole lot were much appreciated and I feel as if I were having a real birth day. I had to go to the store again and met a young

married couple just married from Minneapolis and they were told to look us up by Mr Aubrey who was out here skiing. They are terribly nice. came for tea and the Rungeins dropped in too. We are going to see the McCalls at the Banff Springs tonight.

Must start cooking supper. I really think we have almost as many people coming to see our house as you have to see your garden.

Thanks again & loads of love

Catharine

P.S. I haven't decided what to use the $25. for yet. but something awful nice.

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Friday. June 17, 1932.

Dearest Mother,

Perhaps the time will come when I will have time enough to really answer your letters. But it seems as if some one were always dropping in for one reason or another. From breakfast until ten o'clock at night. Tuesday we were going to have the MacCalls and Cyril Chapman down for supper but as Pete wanted to Shellac the bathroom Earl had just finished lining with the Ten Test board. We put them off until Thursday. Wednesday I spent all day cleaning the upstairs thoroughly and putting things away and it does look pretty clean and nice. Then (yesterday Earl finished the model stand and also scraped down that old seamans chest which looks awfully well now). Then the 2 MacCalls from Minneapolis friends of Mr Ankneys came down to supper with Cyril Chapman. It turned out to be the best supper we have cooked yet. Small steaks. Boiled new potatoes, fresh asparagus and cut up fruit. You would have thought it was a Thanksgiving feast the way they talked about it. But it did

taste awfully good. Vie came in as we were eating and stayed all evening. We showed them the movies of Bill's that he took last year and then when we drove them up to the hotel and stayed for a cup of coffee. Today we are going up there for lunch. Vie came to see us as we were having breakfast and with one thing or another we are always busy. Just now some people are coming to see the house.

We think we will go to Yoho for a week or more tomorrow or the next day where we can get a good start painting. The house is really beginning to look awfully well and as soon as we can we will take a movie of it for you - inside and out.

This isn't much of a scribble but is about all I can write now. I received all the fine letters of Jean - Francis, Eileen and yours too.

Loads of love Always

Catharine.

P.S. We were much excited to see in the journal that Russ won the Golf Tournament. I'm sure the skiing must have given him better control of his muscles.

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YOHO VALLEY BUNGALOW CAMP

TELEGRAM AND RAILWAY STATION:

FIELD, B. C.

POST OFFICE: FIELD, B. C.

June 21 1932

Dearest Mother,

We came up here yesterday and will probably be here a week or more depending on the weather. We had thought of coming up on Sunday but we slept late and then had an early lunch and after that decided to say good-bye to the McCalls. Their week was up at the Banff Springs and so they decided to come up here with us for a day or 00. We had quite a lot to do before leaving so thought it best to wait over until Monday, which we did. We had supper at Jackies and then gave the new trees a good dose of water. It stays light until long after nine so that if you spend the evening watering trees its almost bed time when you come in. The trees really are a great improvement. Pete's father and Allen went out and got 20 or more and they were all planted when we came back from Vancouver. There are three tiny ones in a triangle in front of the tepee to keep people from driving over the lawn. Then there is one in front of the group of trees by the house to keep the milkman from walking on the grass. He had one path pretty well worn. The rest have been planted in an irregular row along the side next the Crosbys. And the ones outside the big window are taller than me so they already hide the house fairly well. They are

all budding except one which may be a more backward variety so they must be growing all-right. Being so few feet above the river level must give them plenty of water so I guess they will grow allright. Petes mother had planted some canary fine which came up and she give me two to plant on either side of the door. They are supposed to grow very fast. Next year I hope to have hops which come up year after year. I also have two large larkspurs and two caragana shrubs started so the garden is progressing. The field by the tepee is full of flowers: purple vetch, a few Indian paint brush and a white flower which is even growing in the tepee. The rose bushes are coming up all around and really it looks much better than last year and the lawn is green having been cut and watered well. The yard in back is all tidied up too and the wood cut and neatly piled. When we get a day with good light we will take a picture of it all for you with the movie camera.

Here I've sidetracked about gardens when really I started telling you how we came up here. We went up to the hotel and got the 2 Mac Calls about 10.30 came down to the house, packed up and left in time to reach Lake Louise for lunch. We went down to have a beer in the tavern (not me but the rest of them had one) and Fred Armbruster came in. We had rather avoided him in a certain way not knowing how he would get when we first met. But he evidently thinks he got us in for a lot more money than he should have and was afraid we were peeved at him whereas we had thought he might have been

YOHO VALLEY BUNGALOW CAMP
TELEGRAM AND RAILWAY STATION:
FIELD, B. C.

POST OFFICE: FIELD, B. C.

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peeved at us. So we are the best of friends now and really feel mighty sorry for him. Olive isn't coming back to Lake Louise this summer as he said he couldn't afford to pay her anything, but he has the wife of a man working at Lake Louise Chateau to do his coloring. I imagine they had some sort of a time at the end of the season. He may have found out that she was out for all she could get. He seemed in rather low spirits and we did feel badly for him because I don't believe he means to be anything but kind and yet he trusts the wrong kind of people and it makes it hard for his friends. He had lunch with us and our friends thought he was delightful and so he is. We got up here around four and spent the rest of the day talking up at the Moores cabin. They have only been here a week and so there aren't many guests here as yet. We haven't had a chance to really hear about their trip around the world before now. Col Moore is east at present but Pearl and Edmie were here. They really had a wonderful trip. I wish you could hear them tell about it. They went on the Empress of Britain around the world. Four months I think it is. Everything was as luxurious as possible and the very best service one could have as the whole crew was the pick of the C.P.R. boats. They went a few hundred dollars above minimum which was $2000.

and after they were out about 10 days or two weeks they were moved up from their staterooms into rooms that were really $5000 $10000 rooms. Yet their niece paid only $2000 and had all the service and everything they had in the way of tours etc only her room wasn't quite as good. They do everything for you and the only extra charge is for liquor. If you want to give dinner parties every night you can in private dining rooms and all. With no extra charge and the side trips are all planned and the accomodation everywhere is the best that can be gotten. All you do is to pack your suit case and leave it in your stateroom and it is tagged for you and you find it in your train or room or wherever it is you are going. It really is an ideal way for people to go with everything done for them. I'll tell you more about it all sometime.

Its raining hard today but I don't mind so much for it is a chance to write some letters which I haven't found time to do for ages. I guess you know how busy one is keeping a house going especially with people coming in and out all the time. I think I could count the meals besides breakfast that we have had alone on one hand.

I was awfully glad to get your letters and all the other lovely ones people have written you. Its nice to live in a town where your friends think of you and not in a city where people are so busy that they either wouldn't know you were sick or else merely order flowers at a florists and let it go at that.

YOHO VALLEY BUNGALOW CAMP
TELEGRAM AND RAILWAY STATION:
FIELD, B. C.

POST OFFICE: FIELD, B. C.

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It does seem such a shame that you should be suffering so still. I had an idea that when the warm weather came and you could get out in the garden that it would clear up. As I remember it, when you used to have it so badly about ten or more years ago, it was usually the worse in March and then would gradually go. I really think another year you will have to be more careful not to get too tired and worried. Its awfully hard isn't it for you not to worry over things and yet I imagine that's what keeps it so bad. There doesn't seem to be anything I can do to help and I'm glad Miss Potter is with you. For she is good company. I do feel guilty to be having such a wonderful time every minute when you are so miserable at home, but there never seems anything I can really do to help.

Tell Jean if it keeps on raining she may get a letter from me to day but I never can hope to equal her wonderful letters. She said that you had sent a book, which hadn't come as yet but really the box of things all done up separately with colored ribbons was the nicest kind of birthday and the check too. The dress is going to be very useful and I love that kind. Its going to be so nice to wear

when anyone comes to dinner and I don't want sleeves and things getting into the boiled potatoes and cut up fruit. The other day I cut up a whole bowl of fruit. oranges. bananas, and grape fruit and thought I would chill it by putting the bowl in a basin of cold water. so I ran the water into the basin and was stirring something on the stove and when I looked around the water was running right into the bowl of fruit. It seems that after so much water had run into the basin it floated the bowl and then the running water drew the bowl under the faucet. It certainly made it mushy. We had a meal of asparagus the other day. It was only four or more days old but my excellent cooking !! made it very good to eat. any way Peter father said it was the best he had ever had.

The copper kettle will most certainly be a present from you and it will be much nicer for that reason. It cost $5. Then I got 5 chinese soup bowls for $1.75 which are awfully pretty. blue green inside and each one different on the outside but just right for soup. I also got a box shaped like a man which opens and opens until you have dozens of little boxes one inside the other. wooden. I used to have one when I was little. I also got an awfully pretty old silver caddy spoon which I intended sending to someone for a wedding present, but which I like so much myself I haven't sent yet and which now I may not send at all

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YOHO VALLEY BUNGALOW CAMP

TELEGRAM AND RAILWAY STATION:

FIELD, B. C.

POST OFFICE: FIELD, B. C.

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but keep as a present from you. When I was in Victoria I got a pair of awfully pretty old English candlesticks which I sent to Jim Angell. never having sent any wedding present to him. and its so hard unless its old.

There is still quite a lot of snow around in the woods and in shady places. but this rain will melt it a good deal.

I wonder if Aunt Nela has come yet. the time goes so fast here that I can hardly realize June is nearly gone. Some how it looks as if we would have quite a lot of painting time this summer. We may have two weeks here. Then will go down to Calgary as they want us to send two pictures to the exhibition and we will take them down. Then we may paint Indian portraits until Indian Days and then go out to the Trail Ride which goes to Assiniboine.

This is quite a scribble. I'll write again before long.

Loads of love to you all and I do hope you are feeling better.

Loads more love

Catharine.

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YOHO VALLEY BUNGALOW CAMP

TELEGRAM AND RAILWAY STATION:
FIELD, B. C.

POST OFFICE: FIELD, B. C.

Friday, June 24 1932

Dearest Mother,

We really have had wonderful weather since we came up here and have done quite a bit of work. The first day it rained hard all day but I felt it was worth it & I managed to write off lot of letters I had neglected for some time. The next day Wednesday was lovely in the morning. We drove the McCalls over to Field to catch their train east and hated to see them go. They are an awfully nice couple. It clouded up before we got back and after lunch we had no sooner got out sketching near the Trapeau Falls than it started pouring. We came back and sketched from the piazza of the cabins. Mine turned out as well as any I've done which was some how. The next day, Thursday was perfect. Bright blue sky and beautiful big white clouds. We started sketches which be finished this morning and then while Pete did two and sketches I made one which will need more done to it later. Then today besides finishing that one we did some more. It looks up again but may not stay. It certainly is nice to be sketching again and really the only way to do it is to go off like this with no help on your mind but painting. They seem to turn out

X better when you can concentrate.

The camp is pretty busy for so early in the year. Maybe you have seen the advertisement of 6 1/2 days in the mountains for $60.00 Its a wonderful rate and includes everything starting with lunch at Banff Springs, a drive to Lake Louise, two nights and days there with a drive to Moraine Lake or a horseback ride, then a night and afternoon & morning at Wapta, two days and nights here at Yoho and then a day and night at Emerald Lake. Lots of people are already taking advantage of it. If you did the same thing independently it would cost you at least $100. with all the drives etc.

I shall include a letter to Helen Anderson which maybe you could forward for me as I don't know where she is.

When are all the babies due. Bo's and Eileens? I do wish I could have seen Olive but perhaps we will be going to England before awfully long. Did Russ think to show Alec the ski pictures? You know Alec is a great ski enthusiast. Have you seen the movies yet? We didn't have the mail forwarded up here as the busses aren't very regular yet and its apt to get sort of side tracked and we weren't sure how long we would be here as June is usually very rainy.

I do hope that I find letters in Banff saying how much better you feel for really I can't bear to think its still so bad.

It will take me ages to write to Helen Anderson so this will be all for now.

Loads of love Catharine.

P.S. Will enclose letter to Helen later -

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Wednesday June 29, 1932,

Dearest Mother,

I'm beginning to think that in order to write you often enough I should make it a practice of scribbling a few lines every time I brushed my teeth and then you would hear every day. I meant to write you Saturday night from Yoho and then we went to Field that evening with Edmée and Betty Painter to the Beer Parlor. They are on Pacific time in Field so it was open late and then Sunday Jackie & Barbara drove up with our mail and we decided to go back to Banff the next afternoon as there was to be a movie with lots of skiing in it at the theater. We worked hard monday and finished up our sketches and reached Banff in time to have a glass of milk before the show. It was the best movie we have ever seen. Tell Russ not to miss it if it ever comes to Boston. "The Doomed Batallion" is about the Austrians in the war holding a position

on a mountain that held back the Italian advance and is terribly exciting as well as having beautiful pictures of mountains. It was so good we decided to go again the next night. Yesterday we were busy all day it seemed washing out clothes etc on my part and watering trees. We expected the Simpsons to tea but they couldn't come. We went up to see the Belmore Browns who are going out on the trail next week and then had supper out and went to get Dorothy White and Chappy to take them to the movie. We also asked Earl and his wife who never feel they can afford a movie show and it was such a good one we knew Earl would like it. Pete went up for them and they were so excited about going. They were all dressed up for the occasion and Earl told Pete that it was such an occasion that Mrs Spencer had even washed her feet which showed how much she cared about going. They did enjoy it so much and we were glad to see it again.

This morning I was sure I would get a letter written and off to you on the noon train but as we were washing the breakfast dishes Barbara's Aunt Mary Warren came to ask me to drive to Yoho with her & Barbara this afternoon and for supper and I didn't want to refuse and besides she's such a character that it will be fun. She sat and talked for over an hour and by then the noon train had nearly gone. However the night train is nearly as fast.

The movies arrived today and we are so glad to get them. Do tell Russ to let us know what he thought of them for we are crazy to know. When we come east we can explain what everything is to you - and who is who.

I've gotten all your nice long letters full of news and will really answer them soon for just now I'm expecting Aunt Mary any minute to come for me. It certainly was fine to hear that Aunt Nela arrived and made the trip so successfully - and it must be so nice having her there. I wish

summers were longer so I could drop in on you but November isn't so far away and we really are getting such a good start this year in sketching. Dow fine Ebbs has got a job for after all $200 saved is $200 earned isn't it? Tell him I shall write him soon if he is still in Concord. We were much amused by Cousin Kathies letter and the hints. I'm glad its Sidney going to Wheelers for she is the most attractive of the girls. Pete wanted to know what good so much education would do in selling Fords but of course we know Sam is doing anything he can to admire him for that.

I do hope your eczema will quiet down. it seems as if it must soon. Maybe with just you and Aunt Nela alone you will feel quieter and more relaxed so to speak.

They are coming so must stop Loads of love to you all.

Catharine.

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Monday, July 4, 1932.

Dearest Mother

Yesterday was rather a funny Sunday and again no real chance to set down and write an honest to goodness letter. Maybe I should go back several days so you will know what's been going on. I guess I'll have to go back to Wednesday when we went up to Yoho with Aunt Mary Warren. She's a real character if ever there was one but it's a long story. She's been coming out here ever since the first trains went through and has lived here the last few years. She has lots of interesting things to tell about but having been through this country so much doesn't think any-one could know as much as she does about it. She's something like Sid in telling stories & making remarks that she doesn't care whether one believes or not but of course aren't true at all. She's quite a gossiper and gets things quite twisted but for all that she really does an awful lot of nice things and is a good scout. We had an amusing ride to Yoho. She talked all the way and even when we were up at Pearl's cabin she still talked steadily. She had a bottle of cocktails with

her as a gift to Pearl and really got awfully funny. we nearly died laughing at her. It was late when we got back and Pete was up at the hotel running off the Ski pictures which came that morning. I had expected to be back at nine but it was nearly eleven. I went up to the hotel and we brought Francis James the singer and her husband down here for a little while and then it ended by our realizing it was after twelve and our wedding anniversary. They spent the night with us sleeping down here by the fire and being in evening clothes they went back in the morning in our clothes. Pete sold a picture at least its almost sold. They want to give Mr Key (who has been the head of the music for years at the Banff Springs and who has had to leave this summer) some sort of present and thought they would like to buy a sketch of Petes which was rather nice for us.

As they were about to go back to the hotel Aunt Mary came down to bring me a lovely plate as a present which really was awfully nice of her. It was one continuous line of people all day though

I can't remember who they all were or ~~maybe it~~ Victor was here and Tex Woods in the afternoon and Carl Remains who came as I was watering the trees and sevearing out land at persistent mosquitoes. They have been thick as high water came after the ponds were covered with oil and they haven't oiled them again. Aunt Mary wanted me to go for a drive again that afternoon but I decided I had better not as we were having five to supper - The Adaskins. Barbara. Jackie & Allen. They were later than they said they would be and still the supper wasn't spoilt and everything was eaten eventually - Charlie Beal came down during the afternoon as well as Tex Woods so we were busy all day and after supper Mrs Rumpins and her niece came to call. Then we went to the movies and so ended our anniversary.

Friday I swept & dusted the upstairs which had gotten fairly dirty in two weeks time and then as we had been kept away from 2.30 on that night with mosquitoes that were little enough to get through the screen one at a time and would hum in your ear every

few minutes so if I didn't wake up to hear Pete killing one he would wake up to hear me slap. I made a net to go over the bed and finished it that night. It turned cold and the mosquitoes didn't even try to get in.

Saturday morning I planned to clean the rest of the house but as we were washing up the breakfast dishes Barbara & Jackie came in to say that the big car the Whites have had for years wouldn't go properly & they didn't see how they could get to Calgary in it. They were to meet Barbara's mother Aunt & Uncle & drive them back that night. So there was nothing to do but lend them our car which is the only one large enough. We don't lend it very much as they would always be borrowing it for some member of the family and if we do lend it one of us goes with it. So I went along with them to Calgary. We didn't get there to the middle of the afternoon so there wasn't much time to shop or anything and it was quarter of twelve when we got to Aunt Mary Warrens where we all had to sit for a while though I was rather anxious to be home. Then Yesterday was Sunday

and it rained hard all day and is even raining hard again today. However its awfully good for the woods. We were late getting up and then decided to sweep & dust the downstairs which we did before lunch. and everything looks nice and bright now. It doesn't really take very long if you just go at it quickly. In the afternoon Barbara & Jackie came around asking us to supper if ~~they~~ we gave them tea at four thirty. It seemed a fair exchange but the fishe was on us. It cleared off for a while in the afternoon and Mrs White & Lila were down, then we went over to Barbaras at the appointed time 6.30, but her stove wouldn't heat up properly & it wasn't until 7.30 that the Roast was ready. and then by the time the dishes were washed up it was after nine. Jackie had to go to the store & Allen to the boat house so I asked them over here thinking then we would have an uninterrupted morning and they stayed until after eleven. Mrs Carpenter was so interested in seeing the house and then they sat for ages. Now this morning I've been doing one thing or another. Went over to shop and now have lunch on. fresh peas and

I'm trying Jordan Pond 6 potatoes.

I thought I would answer your letters but now that I'm all ready too I can't find but one I must have cleaned up too thoroughly yesterday. Your letters have sounded so much more cheerful lately that I just trust you are getting better. What a time you have been having and I know its the worst sort of thing. Poor Patch does hate thunder doesn't he. I think all dogs do for Jigs gets scared if you even mention it.

I'm so glad Aunt Nile seems to be getting on so well. Isn't it nice that someone is really enjoying the upstairs porch for after all it is such a lovely place to sit and we so seldom use it to do anything but dry hair and cook strawberry jam. Its away from the telephone and all the housekeeping noises and really is a lovely place to sit.

Mysterious Japan looks awfully interesting and I hope to be able to start it soon.

Do tell Russ to write how he liked the movies. I hope he thought them allright. I'm so glad he couldn't sell the boat for after all he does deserve a place

to be on like that and if he doesn't think he should afford it tell him I'll contribute.

Now that Frances & Ebbs have gone it must seem quite quiet in the house - and you won't have so many to think of - You & Aunt Nela must be having fun together and I wish I could sit with you - and sew. It might help my mending situation a bit. What in the devil should one do with silk stockings which are perfectly good but will wear out at the back of the heel?

We've had lunch and the potatoes weren't recognizable as the Jordan Pond variety but they were very good. The peas were perfect. fresh ones -

This will have to go to the mail now -

Loads of love to you & Aunt Nela & Russ and Jean & Patch -

Catharine

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Banff, Alberta,
Friday, July 8, 1932

Dearest Mother,

It seems a long stretch since I last heard from you and I only hope everything is going well. We are still wondering if John Edward and Eileen have had a baby yet and if Bo will have twins. Perhaps there is a letter over at the store now telling us but as we had a light lunch today we haven't been over there yet. It must be several days since I last wrote you but as usual we've been very busy getting ready to go out sketching and trying to entertain people at the same time. I think I wrote you about what a funny day Sunday was with people here a lot. as I remember it all the days have been fairly funny. I can't remember what happened on Monday maybe I'd better begin and go backwards.

Today I spent the morning "about the house" dusting, putting away laundry, picking flowers etc. Pete went over town and found the panchos had come. They are made of water proof canvas and are square with a whole for ones head in the center and are not what one would call exactly

becoming but the advantage is that one can put them on over a pack and keep dry and can also use them for a ground sheet under ones sleeping bag when one sleeps out doors. They look like this on.

and one feels as if one had stuck his head through the top of a tent and walked away with it. However they are more practical than a rain coat and much easier & lighter to carry. I don't know as I told you our sketching plans. We expect to go out for about a week at a time into the mountains in the valleys in from Lake Louise, Moraine Lake etc. taking with us besides our sketching material a sleeping bag each. Victor is going along to carry a small tent and food. Then if we plan to stay a day or two in one place he can go back for more food while we are painting. In that way we can go into places no one has been able to paint in before. Every week or so we will come back to Banff to check up on things, have a Bath, get more sketching materials and then will set out again. Its really a good way to get off by ourselves and besides being a most healthy sort of life it is a most economical one. It also will give Victor a job for the summer and will enable us all to get better acquainted with the country -

Yesterday was Thursday & we drove Victor up to Lake Louise to check up on an unlicenced guide who had gone into Skoki with two women and he isn't supposed to have any scruples about breaking into camps. Then we delivered some films to Fred Armbruster at the hotel and were back here in time for a late lunch. I had planned to write some letters but it seemed such a good chance to discuss things with Pete that I hated to think of him driving back alone when I really didn't want to write much. Went shopping in the afternoon for canvas to make a cover for a box holding our sketches. We had supper over at a tea place at the boat house which is very reasonable and awfully good and then went to the movies. Saw Allen Mowbray in a picture. He used to be at the Copley. The other night we saw a movie which was supposed to be pretty amusing and was. But the funniest bit of all was where E.E. Clive said about a dozen lines as a steward on the boat. He got the biggest laugh all evening and yet he only made the one appearance. After the movies. Mr & Mrs White. Cameron & Mildred came down to see the moving pictures of skiing so it was late when we got to bed. Lela had to go to Calgary this week to have an operation. Something that had gone wrong inside when Paved was born last summer

So Mrs White is busy looking after the children.

Wednesday I spent the morning figuring up the Ski Camp accounts and how much was spent for this and that. It cost just as much to pack each article in as the article cost in Banff which means that everything is worth just double the amount when it gets out there. We are figuring how we can cut things down for next year. I'm going to write Russ for his advise soon. In the afternoon we made panels for sketching by gluing the canvas on to card board and then Cyril Paris came over for tea and we made him sit on the pile to press them down. as Pete hunted all over town in the morning for a press and couldn't find one anywhere. Cyril stayed until nearly six when I had to dress as we were going to supper at Jackies that evening. Barbara had been over borrowing a few things that day. We had loads of fun. Frances & Murray Gdaskin the singer & her husband who plays in the trio at the Banff Springs. Mr & Mrs Atkins who are also members of the orchestra (he is) Chappy & Dorothy White were all there. We had a cold supper except for coffee & fried pine apples. The latter were delicious

canned pineapples fried in plain butter-
ney they were good. Chicken Salad. cold ham.
and stuffed celery and such things. Then
we had wonderful strawberry layer cake.
cake with a sugary frosting with mashed
strawberries in it. Pete washed the dishes
and Dorothy White & Mrs Atkins & I dried.
We got awfully silly about it. Chappy
played the piano with Barbara & the other
three from the hotel had to go back to play -
Then Pete & Chappy went over to come
back an hour later and we all decided to
come over here and see the movies. Victor
appeared and ~~Frances & Murray~~. Mr & Mrs
Atkins came and Chappy bringing Stanely
Martel a singer and Mr Gooey the press
representative. They were crazy about the
house and had to be shown all over it.
Leslie Atkins felt terribly that we hadn't
a piano as he said that they would have
given us an evening of chamber music
some time. He's the head of the trio. Mr
Gooey was so interested in the skiing. knows
~~the~~ Mr Keiler who is responsible for
bringing the Oxford-Cambridge Skiers over
to Montreal this winter. and ~~the~~ Mr Gooey
says he wants to bring them here year
after next. Really it was a funny
evening. Dorothy White thinks it would be

a good idea to run sightseeing trips down here to see the house and charge admission. I believe we have almost as many to see the house as you do to see the garden only it means the bureau draws stay messy. As people come after we have changed our clothes in a hurry and we have to stuff things into draws & closets as I turn the lights on.

Tuesday I cleaned more silver and Chappy was here for tea. & that night I figured out accounts.

It is now after three and we are expecting two people for tea and I must go over town first.

Give my love to everyone and I do hope you & Aunt Nell are both behaving well and feeling fine.

Loads of love
Catharine.

49 -

Saturday July 10, 1932

Dearest Mother.

I really intended spending at least an hour this morning writing you but just as we were washing breakfast dishes Jackie & Barbara appeared to say that the big car they were going to take to drive to Calgary to meet ~~this~~ Mrs Carpenter in wouldn't go right and so I'm driving them down in ours and am leaving any minute when they come.

How exciting about Zella Cole being married I shall send her a present and also Henry Keyes. I can't really converse about it. Your last letter seemed to have lots of news in it. We were going to take the movie today of the house but never mind we will may be tomorrow. It rained yesterday.

We are making plans now for going out on trips into the mountains to paint but will write more about it next time.

Here they are now so must go.

Loads of love Catharine. P.S.

got Jans nice letter. am so glad
Aunt Nela seems so well -

45

Sunday July 10, 1932

Dearest Mother,

Just after writing you the other day I got your fine long letter and was awfully glad to get it as it seemed ages since I last heard. We've been busy as usual doing various things. Today being Sunday we seemed to do nothing but eat. We got up rather late as it was quite dark and we were late getting to bed last night. Then at breakfast we started discussing religion hearing the church bells and after making the bed I started to wash the dishes and it was twelve o'clock and our usual lunch time. Pete's father came down with a letter from Denver, from the clearing house or something asking for a recomendation for Cousin Bert. evidently there is a chance of a manager's job somewhere in Wyoming. The store will write a letter as well as us. We had lunch at one and then we'd just about finished that and a political discussion with Mr White and it was nearly time for tea. I did a few things and changed my dress as Pete had asked Norman's mother & sister down to tea. Harry Knight

Norman's older brother is a champion rider as we have probably told you before. However only two came in the end. Ethel Knight and a person Paddy Ryan who is a world's champion cowboy. that is he does everything, roping, riding-bulldogging and all. We didn't know it at the time and he didn't really look the part. very Irish red hair and quite small. He seemed to think skiing looked pretty exciting. We showed them the scrap shots. He said he'd been on Ike's Dog team once and they nearly got hung up on a telegraph pole but he said "Here goes nothing. Let her go." He was most amusing and terribly nice. Vic came while they were here and after they had left for Calgary Vic talked to Pete about Ski Camps until Norman Knight came for supper. Vic stayed too and I managed to cook what they thought was a wonderful meal. Then as we had promised Norman to run off the movies we told him he might as well go and get the rest of the boys and any who would be interested. That was when I started to

write this letter and now its Wednesday so I might as well go on where I left off. Norman came back Sunday evening with Rupert & Chessy Edwards, Cyril, Ted & Fat Paris. Agnes Hammond (who wants to come out skiing next year. a boy I had never seen before and I guess that was all. After they had seen the films I made coffee and then we thought they would leave but they had gotten so interested looking at books and magazines that it was long after eleven when they left. We were planning to go to Calgary next morning at 7 A.M. so we washed the dishes and went to bed.

We got up about six Monday and were on the road to Calgary by 7.15 Having made breakfast packed etc. We had planned to take all sorts of things down to see about but hadn't time to measure things so of course didn't. We decided we wouldn't take anyone with us this year as last time we did and consequently didn't do any of the things we wanted to. You know how it is if you have any others with you. it makes it hopeless to

see any of the things or people you most want to see. and we were mighty glad we didn't in the end. It was a nice day and we got down just in time to park the car and see the parade begin. It really was the best parade they have had yet and was great fun to see. When that was over we went to the hotel to get a room. One advantage with parades in Calgary they go down 7th Ave and around the block at the end and then come back the same way so it not only gives the people in the parade a chance to see each other but if you want to see it twice you can do so without moving. Its rather a family affair anyway as all the spectators have someone they know to wave at. Then the cow boys love to rope girls along the side walks and that makes it amusing. Some time you will have to see it.

As we went into the hotel we met Gen- and Madame de Panet from Montreal. The people we had lunch with there last year. He is head of the C.P.R. Police and they conducted the King of Siams Party across Canada last year. They are terribly nice and bought one of Pete's sketches last fall.

just as we were talking to them a cow boy started singing songs in the center of the lobby and everyone made a circle to listen. As we were standing there several of Lord Rothermere's party came along and we were introduced to them by the Panets. They are all press men from England and came to Canada for the Imperial Conference or something and went across Canada as well. They are pretty important newspaper men in England and awfully interesting to meet. When the man stopped singing Madame Panet insisted we go up to their room for cocktails which we did though we were rather dusty from the drive down. Several of the Englishmen were there too and a Mr Monty Black who was in charge of the party and a very prominent Winnipeg man. The English people were so enthusiastic about the parade and wanted to know all about the Indians and everything. They said they had heard of us in Winnipeg which was most amusing.

I'll go on with this later and mail this now -

Loads of love
Catharine.

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CANADIAN PACIFIC
BANFF SPRINGS HOTEL
BANFF
ALBERTA
CANADA

Thursday -
July 17, 1932.

Dearest Mother

I mailed an unfinished letter to you this morning as I wasn't sure when I would have a chance to finish it and now having come up to the hotel to get a check book at the bank at five o'clock we stayed to supper with Frances James and it is now nearly eight and I let them as I did want to write you some more before going on the walking expedition tomorrow I got your letter and am so glad you are going to Rockport for at least

a week and maybe you can go to the shore later because I should think the change would help you an awful lot. We were so excited to hear about Natalia's arrival and goodness me who ever would have expected Bo to have twins. Russell's letter came and we knew how busy he must be I really have meant to write him for a long time but just haven't had a chance to really concentrate on a letter about the ski came. My letters to you have been more scribbles than anything.

To go on about the stampede. I think I left off telling you about having cocktails with the English press men. After they had left the Panets room. Gen. & Madame Panet insisted we have lunch with them and we ended

by all going out to the Stampede together afterwards. They are the most charming people and why they should be so nice to us I don't know. We had great fun watching the various events that afternoon. Betty ran into my old friends and so we went to their house for supper and then headed back to the Stampede to see the seven heats of chuck wagon races which are without a doubt the best ones you ever saw. The show they have every night was awfully good. Its like a vaudeville act was a wonderful one. even a Chicago Opera Company instead of the terrible type one usually hears. It was after eleven when we got back to the hotel pretty tired.

The next morning we attempted to do a few errands we had planned doing. We saw Bell River, ordered a pair of boots to be made to my measurement as riding ride. They are to be made by the people who make the best ones by so it's and will be waterproof as well as fitting me exactly. Then we hunted for a tailor who made Pete's riding pants 10 years ago. and finally having asked all the people we saw he knew, we found him in a room was back in some building. He makes all the Mounted Police uniforms and thinks it too much of a nuisance to have his name in the telephone book. He took all my measurements and by the time I'm fixed up I'll look pretty snappy.

CANADIAN PACIFIC
BANFF SPRINGS HOTEL
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There was a parade of Indians and the Dude Wagons were set up on the main street. I don't know they are used for cooking etc and there was the odor of frying bacon and coffee. All the beer parlors have trays of hay & water outside for the horses and its really rather fun to see them hitched up outside while the men are in having a drink.

When we got back to the hotel we found Madame Paquet had been trying to get in touch with us and she came down and had lunch with us. Gen Paquet having left for further west - went to the Stampede in the afternoon and we enjoyed it as much as ever. We went to the

at exhibition and had a most amusing time. Calgary is quite proud of her artists. Mr Leighton, an English artist is really a good water colorist but every one in Calgary who studies under him paints in the same way the same subjects. We didn't want to exhibit with them but when Queen Betty wrote and asked if we would like to exhibit with a group of artists who didn't paint in the Leighton manner but were very serious about their work we didn't know what to do. Lots of people thought we should send an Indian drum, but Pete was slow about answering the letter and then Queen was up here and didn't get it until two days before the pictures were to be

hung. So we planned to take our two Indians down which are up here at the hotel. However the framing material didn't come and we had nothing to put in this place and so decided we just wouldn't send anything to Calgary and when we saw the exhibition we thanked our lucky stars alright. Mr Kingins had sent one painting and in with the Calgary thinks it looked terribly. Like a good picture hung badly in an Independent Show at the Barn in Boston and when we saw the group we would have exhibited with. We fairly trembled to think how we had escaped. If you thought Lauren Harris paintings were awful you should have seen these. Given Hutton's were the worst too

Hutton's

We saw a photograph of one of hers but of course the color didn't show. The worst of it was if we had exhibited with them we might have been identified with their group. I guess there must be a good Lord looking over us or something for when we got back to Banff we found that some people were interested in our Indian portraits and had made inquiries. However they were busy playing golf and when we came up here this afternoon they were just checking out. Dorothy White caught them just in time and Pete went down to the house with them and they were crazy about the panel over the fireplace and also liked the portrait of Hector. Had we had a pair they might have taken them but

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they have given Pete a commission to paint a pair of portraits of an Indian & Squaw looking at each other. Three quarters and want them for their hunting lodge in Michigan. Isn't that pretty good though for a depression. They are to be finished by October -

Madame Panet went to the Art exhibition with us and as Pete was talking to two of the artists who had painted some of the worst modern paintings she came in and never thinking who the two men were remarked on some of the awful things in the other room. I winked hard and just then the lights went out and we were left in total darkness. We decided to leave

and come back later, and it saved Pete for he was getting so involved in saying the right thing to the two men.

We had decided to go home right after supper that evening so went back. Saw Lila who was to leave the hospital the next day then to the hotel where we checked out as we thought if we ate at a tea room we wouldn't see any one we knew and so not become involved. We ran into Ethel Knight who was going to eat with us when we were getting into the car Paddy Ryan came along and of course we ended in going up to his room and seeing Harry Knight and a lot of other cowboys. They really are an awfully nice lot of boys and not a bit the type one would expect to

find them for really they do lead a life requiring as much nerve as any one could have. Nearly all of them have lost several fingers by having them cut off with ropes when they were roping calls. It was lots of fun and after staying there a while Pete Ethel & I went off for supper Paddy Ryan joining us later and then we gave in to their coaxing and checked into the hotel again, getting the same room. Every time we went into the Stampede grounds we would have to pay so much for the car & for each of us so we four began figuring what we would do. Ethel & Paddy having passes. We contemplated putting the boys in front and

Ethel would sit under the cover in back but we weren't quite sure how we would make our appearance from under the cover after we had gotten by the gate. They were sure some of the boys would have extra passes and so Ethel & Paddy went to look & returned with a pass for me and a button for Pete that each of the cowboys wear entitling them to go through the gates any time. So Pete pinned on his button with the name Fernie ~~Collar~~ Hubbard Collar. Washington written across it. We undid half the cover and Paddy sat with Ethel in back telling Pete to drive right through the gate. The man must have known the passes weren't ours and that Pete wasn't Fernie Hubbard for we

CANADIAN PACIFIC
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had gone through the same gate three times before. He never said anything but punched Ethels & my pass and then said "Anyone else under the cover" and he looked. How would it have been if when he pulled the cover back, Ethel & I would have appeared. He was really joking. We stayed until the show was over and Paddy loved it. My he was funny. Pete took the passes & got seats by paying 25 cents more and we sat in the second row right in front. It pays to be a cow boy at a Stampede. Then we went to Ethels for coffee and it was after midnight when we got back.

The next morning we left before we ran into anyone & brought Mr Cherney the press representative here back with us. Then we started getting packed after lunch for this trip of ours. The MacDonalds came for tea and stayed until six. We went out to supper and then Barbara & her mother came over & then Dorothy White & her sister to see the house etc. Then Francis James & Murry called & it was after twelve again when we went to bed

Today we packed etc all morning came up here at 4 and then after taking the people down to the house, we were so excited we sort of stayed on. Frances wanted us to stay for supper so we did. then while Kate listened to her sing I wrote this to you. Now

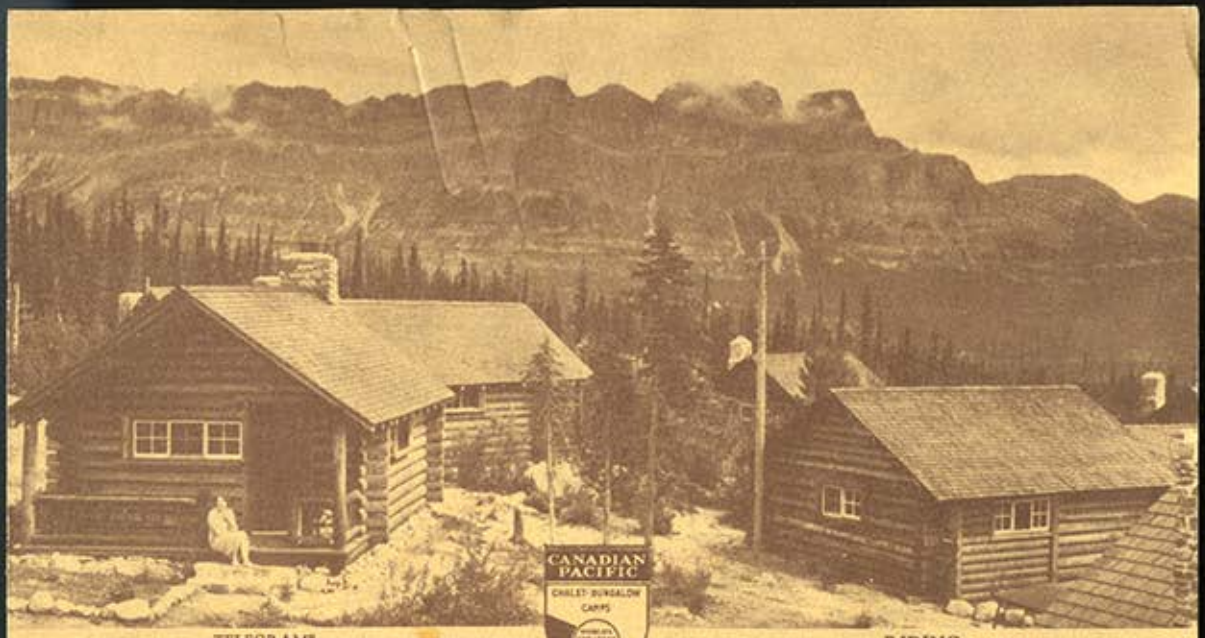
its nine and they have just come to say we are going to the movies. Its really an awfully good way to live! I ought to go home water the trees, make mosquitoe nets. Mend stockings. Get ready a bit for an early start tomorrow but it doesn't seem to matter if we don't do it until after the movies. It certainly makes one take things easily & after all worrying doesn't help.

We are going to stop at Castle Mountain Saturday & I will try to write you from there.

Loads of love as I must tear. Do tell me how you & Aunt Nela are & all the babies.

More love

Catharine.



TELEGRAMS
BANFF, ALBERTA

RIDING
HIKING - FISHING

Castle Mountain Chalet - Bungalow Camp

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RAILWAY STATION AND POST OFFICE
CASTLE MOUNTAIN, ALTA.

July
Sunday. 17, 1932.

Dearest Mother.

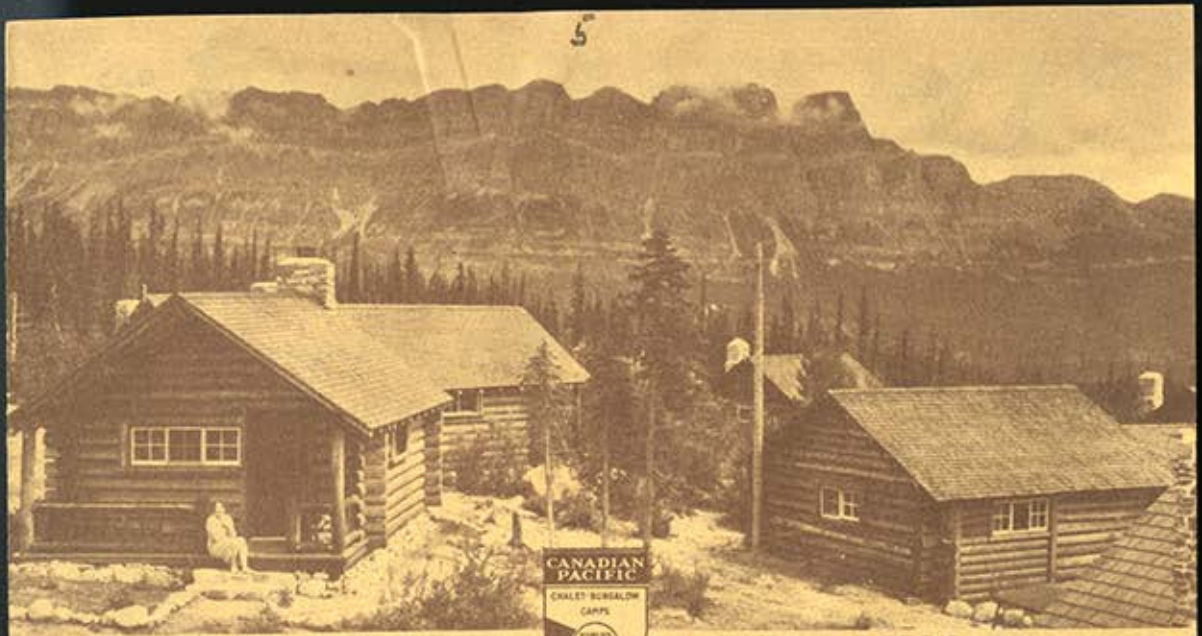
As you see we have gotten this far successfully and are having a fine trip. After writing you ~~Sat~~ Thursday night at the Banff Springs we went to the movies with Frances & Murray Adaskin and took the horses with us. He is the manager of the Bank there and his last winter both of their children died and of course they are having a tough time of it and we could pick a sad pathetic move with a little child dying and so we all left in the middle of it and really it was a rather

difficult time. We took them down to the house and tried to cheer them up a bit and showed them everything and then when we drove them back to the hotel The Jonses insisted we go up to their room which we did. It was funny though because we thought even if we did go to the movie we would be home fairly early and it was nearly one when we got back still not ready for the trip. We also saw some San Francisco boys up at the hotel when we went up. Charry was showing them pictures of the Skiing and Pete took the movies up the next morning. They are terribly interested in skiing and say there is nothing in the states like the high country we have.

We seemed to get things fixed up Friday morning and after a bite of lunch early Jackie brought us 11 miles out of Banff to Massive where at 1.30 we started in to Shadow Lake. Victor is with us to help pack the sketch panels and the food to small tent. Pete has some food his sleeping bag and sketching materials

and I have the 5 pound sleeping bag Cliff used coming from Jasper last winter. My sketch box to clothes, we each have the poncho and though my pack sack doesn't weigh more than 30 pounds. Victors is over 50 and Pete's almost as much. Our plans are to go up into the high country and camp a day or two in a place and then Victor can go down to the nearest place and get us more food. We have 36 lbs with us. bread butter. tea. honey-bully beef which is like corned beef. Norse soup which is in a powder form but very concentrated. Bovril essence of beef broth. cheese & crackers. Vitone which is like chocolate malted milk but in powder form. and some bacon. Its all very concentrated stuff but nourishing. It took us 4 1/2 hours to reach the hut at Shadow Lake and it must be 11 or 12 miles and steady gradual uphill work. Not very steep any of the way. It was like walking

through a ~~flower~~ strawberry patch the first few miles. I've never seen so many or such large strawberries as there were all along the trail. The flowers we lovely took. Whole fields of wild larkspur. The mosquitoes were thick as well but we only noticed them when we sat down to rest. It was our first real exercise since the slump so we felt rather weary when we reached the cabin. The C.P.R. have a hut there very much like our half way cabin with bunks & some food. However we used our own food. We lit a fire & had some hot soup-bread & honey & tea and it tasted fine. We had hoped to sketch that evening but it started to rain just as we reached the cabin and it settled in to rain all night. It was just as well we had a cabin the first night out. We went to bed early and slept until quite late the next morning with a great many interruptions from humming mosquitoes which are awfully bad this year. Also some deer kept wandering round



TELEGRAMS
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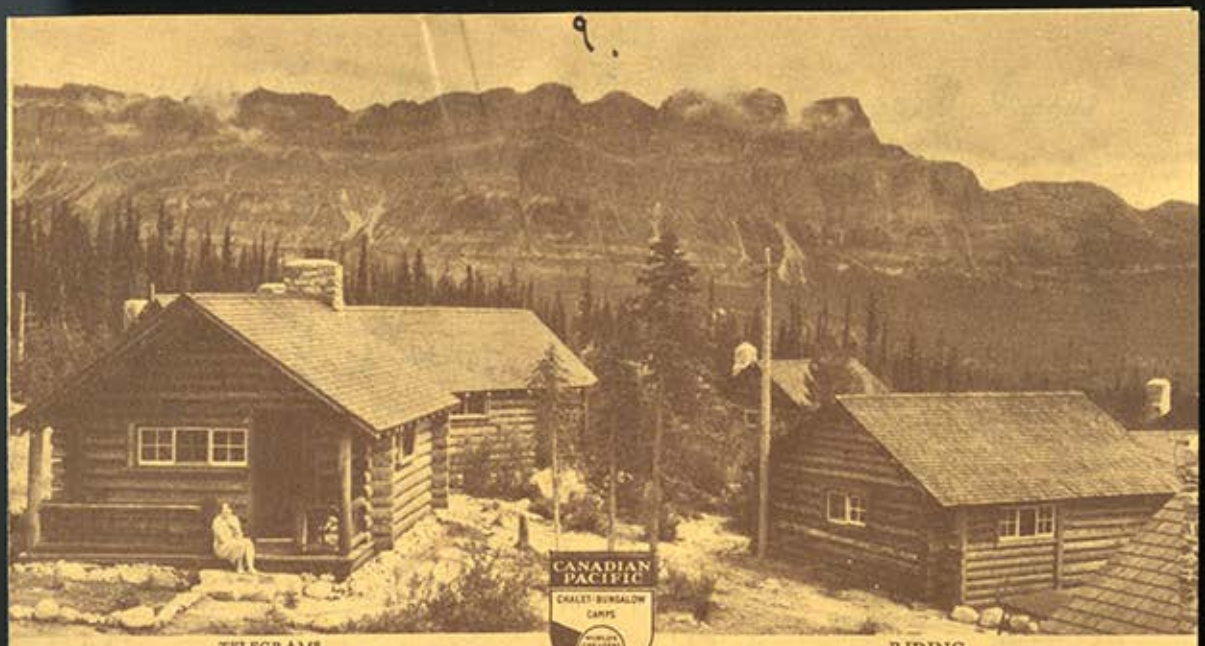
the cabin. We had Vitone. Bacon & bread & butter for breakfast next morning and left the cabin at quarter of ten. It was a lovely day with beautiful clouds. We had told Frances & Murray that we would be at Castle Camp Saturday night for a party they were having to celebrate their wedding anniversary. People were coming from Lake Louise as well as from Banff & they seemed very anxious we should be there too. We planned to walk to Twin Lakes in the morning paint there in the afternoon and get here in the evening

but things didn't turn out just as we had planned. Victor didn't have any job this summer and we wanted to try him out again as a guide and also help him a bit & it makes it inexpensive for us. We knew he had been to Shadow Lake before and were quite surprised to find the map he had with him didn't cover that part of the country. However he had made inquiries about the trail over and we knew it was a blazed trail. However he heard one went to the end of Shadow Lake and then up and thinking he knew where he was going we naturally never questioned him. We did go in the right direction to reach Twin Lakes as the crow flies but not as the trail goes. The lake was about a mile from the cabin and it is a lovely spot. We think we will go in there in the fall sometime and paint the country is lovely and the valleys being low the mountains seem tremendous. They are pretty high & have glaciers too. We saw

a most unusual thing. a water spout on the lake. The water was whirled up in the air the way dust is often whirled into a column by wind. We also saw a birds nest full of eggs in the grass. On the map you can see pretty well where we went we followed up the creek at the foot of Mt Ball. The trail we were following just dissappeared as trails do sometimes but thinking we were going the right way we kept on. It was hard going over boulders & fallen trees and then we came to a meadow and Vic started working up the hill to the right. It was the toughest sort of heavy timber to go through but we finally reached the top with lots of short rests as the mosquitoes were too thick to rest long at a time. We reached a lovely Alpine meadow at the top and then we could see what looked like a pass above us. We had a quick lunch of hurry beef & bread & butter and after a 15 minute stop went on again. up & up.

The meadow was pretty high but it looked as if we must go higher Pete was sure Storm Mountain was on our right but Victor thought it was on the left so up we went over loose slide rock and patches of snow. It wasn't easy but we took it in short hauls. From the meadow the pass didn't seem to look so high. But as we got up we could see there was a wall of rock and it was sort of a blind draw. We hated the idea of having climbed about the level of 9000 feet for nothing and so at Pete's suggestion we decided to circle what he thought was Storm Mountain known as Twin Lakes was at the foot of Storm. It wasn't as easy circling as it looked for it was all loose rock we had to scramble over. We got around the corner in about an hour and of course there was still another corner so we kept on going and always there seemed to be another corner where we would be able to tell where the pass was where the trail went.



TELEGRAMS
BANFF, ALBERTA

RIDING
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Castle Mountain Chalet - Bungalow Camp

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CASTLE MOUNTAIN, ALTA.

I must say I was getting pretty tired and none of us expected to make Castle Camp and maybe not even Twin Lakes. We were by this time just above the the cabin we had spent the night in but a long way above and we didn't want to go back. First then we saw Assiniboine in the distance and that sort of gave us lots of courage so we kept on round the next corner. Then we saw some pink snow. really pink but it was below us and we didn't want to loose the altitude Then we came to an Alpine meadow

and there were 23 goats drinking at a little pond. They scampered off when they heard us, but it was a large flock to see. We were awfully thirsty having gone quite a way without having one so we stopped in the lovely alpine meadow and had some chocolate as well. It seemed to be the right pass this time so we went to the brow of the meadow and sure enough we found lots of blazes and the trail going down into the valley below it was 5.30 by then, and we started down thinking we would camp at Twin Lakes. The trail was such a good one and we seemed to feel fine going down hill & knowing we were on the trail made us feel awfully good. It was about 7 ~~went~~ when we reached the lower twin lake. We mixed cold Vitome which was surprisingly good and some chocolate and decided we would keep on to Castle as it wasn't more than 5 or 6 miles. So on we went. There was quite a hill to climb, and

then when we got over the ridge we went down [illegible] a steep trail that it was almost harder than going up hill. We rested frequently as the boys packs were really too heavy to add a trip. I didn't feel as much sympathy for Vic as often all he should have had a nap but still we did feel he felt badly about it himself. At quarter of ten we reached the creek below the camp and then there was a steep climb up and we were here a little after 10:30. It was quite a days trip and we don't intend to do it again. What we do want to do is go into Carol Valley which is an hours walk from Moraine Lake - Then we will camp there a day or two. We can go back for us. It was really a great experience yesterday we probably went into country that few people see and it was lovely. We thought we'd arrive in the midst of the party & they would all have given up & gone up us and then we would come,

We would rest outside for five minutes and then they would think we were as fresh as could be. The joke was on us for none of them had arrived. We went to a cabin & washed up had a little rum to warm us up & then lay down on the bed until we were dry. I wasn't as moist as Pete. We both dozed off. When Murray came in with a drink & hot rum & lemon just a little you know but it livened us up considerably. It was after eleven by then. Every one was here and we all had supper and coffee and we certainly woke up. It was all heaps of fun they danced & even Pete & I did too. and they sang and as the car drivers took the girls here for a drive it was after two when they all went home. We must be in pretty good condition for we covered over 25 miles yesterday and it was all up & down and over half of it as hard going as one could find. Still we woke at 8.30 this morning only a little stiff in the back of the legs.

Its pouring hard this morning so its first as well we got here. Its no use

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camping out in the rain. Its allright when it rains after you get camp. Eddie is driven up to us but we will see if it does take several days of rain or just a few hours.

Did I tell you I am wearing my kilt. It works awfully well. Keeps warm to sit on and yet is cool to walk in and lots of freedom -

I got your letter from Rockport & also Jean's which were fine to get. I do hope the change will help you. Couldn't you either stay a little longer if its doing you any good else go some where & take some lively person with you. Jean could

look after Aunt Nda who I'm sure would want you to do whatever would help you. I believe worrying is the worst curse in the world. Barbaras mother Mrs Carpenter has what they call a back and whenever she worries & feels badly about anything it goes to her back and she is back in bed and can hardly move. But there is nothing really wrong it all comes from being nervous. I imagine most people who have troubles like that get them from being nervous. and if you never can seem to tell them that what it is. I hope Mrs Carpenter feels better for there is so little she will be able to do here if she feels that way.

I'm so glad Eileen & the baby are getting on well. What fun Aunt Julie will have. It is fine Bob is doing so well. I thought that they were devoted to living on Beacon Hill but I imagine they may be tired of the city and Edith isn't going to keep on at the

back I imagine she will want more of a place to look after. We really do pretty well with what housework is done but in Banff a maid seems more nuisance than she is worth. Also Banff is a very gossipy sort of place in a way you can imagine how stories would travel. I think the best thing we could do would be to build a combination studio garage & workroom on the other lot. Then have a little house some where for a couple to live in. The man could do all sorts of odd jobs about there we would a place maybe in a garden & then the women could clean, bake and wash up. Also a little laundry and yet we could live in much the same way we do now only it would give us more time.

This seems to be quite a long letter. I had thought I'd send Zella a check but if you think she would rather have silver I would love to join you. Fern

Brewster had quite a good idea. She got four of everything one would need of silver & glass in a standard pattern so she can have two in for a real dinner anytime & then well add to it as time goes on. I should think 6 or 8 would be a good number. Will you let me know which Zella would rather have.

Give my love to all and I do hope you are feeling better.

Lots of love always

Catharine.

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Banff, Alberta,
July 20, 1932.

Dearest Mother.

I wrote a few letter to Russ yesterday about the Six camp adding his advice and it looks as if we would go out today to our painting expedition. It has been very showery ever since Sunday but the clouds seem lighter today. I mean lighter.

Jackie & Barbara came up to Castle Mountain on Sunday to take us to Moraine Lake but it rained so hard we decided to come back here until it cleared up. It's not so bad camping on dry ground they say. It's not raining but when you camp on wet ground its not worth it. Four friends of Barbara arrived in town on Sunday and were there to supper. We were on our way to the tea room but Barbara insisted we come in to supper too. You would have been amused to see the supper. Fried bacon & canned chicken - grilled canned sweet potatoes & canned carrots. It all tasted delicious. There were ten of us. I should say that one of the girls was a friend of Barbaras She was actually nice though Jewish but the other three were so typically the type that they were funny - Uncle Harold & Aunt Hazel (Barbaras relatives) were coming over in the evening to see the house and so the whole bunch came.

Monday we were busy and I cleaned house again. Mr & Mrs Oakes, who are the elderly couple who come to the Banff Springs each year from Boston, came down to tea and to see the house. They came last year when we were painting an mean and so didn't stay and so we asked them this time. I made some cheese crackers and had

cake and they each took some very politely & then said they were very sorry they couldn't eat any thing in the afternoon so I had to hide the extra plate in the kitchen before they saw it.

That evening we went to the movies and then met five friends from Calgary and they came over to see us about ten. They were crazy about a log house and were awfully nice about it. After they had gone we counted for the fun of it how many different people had been in the house since the middle of May and there were over a hundred that we could remember. Thats quite a lot when you think of it and nearly all of them have had tea or something.

Yesterday I worked on Shi Chulp figures. The clam things won't quite balance. and then in the afternoon the Simpsons came to tea and we discussed pictures and things. They have always been interested in Peter's painting.

Pete is over in town seeing about several things there always seems to be so much to look after. We will have an early lunch & then go out. We ought to be back in about a week I should think.

I saw in the Journal Miss Houghton was having a Removal Sale, what does that mean? Is she going to some other store or what?

I guess I had better start finding some socks unholed. will write soon if I can. Tell Aunt Nela I know she must see my letters to you and so won't write her until I have more time. Goodness knows when that will be.

Loads of love
Catharine.

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LAKE O'HARA CHALET-BUNGALOW CAMP
HECTOR, B.C.

Monday. July [24?] 1932

Dearest Mother.

X The sketching trip has been most successful and we arrived here just after lunch today and go to Lake Louise tomorrow morning X sometime. It's rather cloudy out right now so though I'm sketching I thought I might as well write you and then have a bath.

I think I wrote you the day we left for Moraine Lake. It looked a bit doubtful as to weather but this seems to be what they call a "wet summer" and it may shower any time and you never can tell when the good weather will be. So we decided we might as well start. We drove to Moraine Lake and left the car there You remember Moraine don't you where Nell & I walked into Consolation Lake and then we all had tea afterwards. The camp there is run by some English ladies and they are very nice but can't understand why so few people go there and yet when we asked for tea the other day all they gave us were some tiny little scones all buttered about 3 apiece and each only a mouthful and the whole thing cost us $1.75 three and in Banff one can get a whole supper for $.45. We didn't have quite such heavy packs as before and Victor went back to the car next day for the extra stuff. All I have with me is my sketch box, a pair pyjamas sleeping bag, an air pillow you blow up, a towel, tooth brush, paste, comb, tripe. Bar of

odd hair pins mending stuff and scissors.
a sweater. my parka I wear skiing. a hat.
two pairs of extra socks. gloves and mocasins.
Also the rubber pancho which is a square
piece of material with a hole for your head
and which goes over your sack and also can
be used as a ground sheet under the sleeping
bag which makes it dry & warm sleeping on
the ground. I also have some mosquitoe
nitting & chocolate. It doesn't weigh too much.
Then Pete has about the same with food and
some Rum. bandages etc and the silver etc.
Vic has his own [illegible] as well as the rubberized
silk tent. the box with 24 stretching panels
which is heavy and then most of the food.
We started out with 37 pounds of food at
Shadow Lake but have cut it down considerably
and another time can eliminate quite a bit.
We had about six loaves of bread which as
Vic says goes farther after its a week old.
Several tins of bully beef. It comes in tins
and is like a meat loaf of beef all pressed
together. One tine was just enough for a
meal. We had enough bacon for breakfast &
some times oftener and we even had eggs
when we were camped near Moraine Lake.
though someone evidently sat on them without
our realizing it and we couldn't use them all.
We also had several cans of sardines but
we forgot about them and only used 2 tins.
We had two jars of honey in the cristalized
form which goes further than jam. also plenty
of butter in fact a pound too much. We had
Norse Soup which comes in concentrated
powder form. is light to carry. easy to make
and very nourishing. You just crumple the stuff

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up and put it in boiling water and then with some Bovril which is concentrated beef extract it made delicious soup. Vitone is very good. Its almost like cocoa. comes in a powder of chocolate malt I guess it is. and you just add that to hot water too. We had tea as well as Jersey sugar for that and then we had cream in both powdered and liquid condensed form. the Klein powder we never opened and the other we had an awful time keep up and finally ended by drinking it today. Next time I don't think we will bother taking it. We found we had plenty to eat by having bread-bacon. honey tea & Vitone for breakfast. tea, soup, & Vitone for lunch with bully beef bread and honey and the same for supper and as everything tastes twice as good out doors we thought we fared very well.

To go on with our trip. The first afternoon we reached Larch Valley, which is above Moraine Lake and opposite the ten Peaks, in an hours climb from the camp. It is mostly up hill in fact a pretty steady climb. We found a nice place to camp right near a creek with plenty of fire wood. The higher up you are the fewer mosquitoes (if the wind blows) and there are always dead trees which form excellent timber but are a little too hard

a struggle. The tent worked well and gave plenty of room for Pete and me with our belongings as well. We hung the food up on three poles in case some coyotes or other animals decided to sample it and Pete picked a nice rock to sleep on as he said it would be so nice and flat. He evidently didn't mind the hardness. It began to cloud up quite early so we didn't try to stretch that night. However I don't remember that it rained at all.

The next day I was so sleepy I couldn't keep awake in the morning. We had a good 10 or 12 hours sleep but the combination of a hot sun and the altitude were too much for me and I actually slept for over an hour before lunch. Pete made two sketches and then after lunch we decided to go further up the Valley to a ridge where there was still quite a bit of snow lying from a big cornice which had been formed last winter. It was a few hundred feet above our first camp and really as high as the trees grow there. It was a lovely spot a ridge on one side dropping down to the glacier which melts into Mckenzie Lake and all the ten Peaks stretched out in a row in front of us. On the other side was Larch Valley with several creeks of running water. a little to the Eiffel and Pinnacle Peaks on one side & Sentinel Pass between Pinnacle and Temple and then to the ~~West~~ east the Bow Valley and Castle Mountain. We loved

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it so much up there that we decided to move camp. Victor had gone down to Moraine in the morning for the extra food, but he managed to move all camp in two trips while Pete & I made a sketch. You would have thought that we had the place to ourselves but we saw two people walking up towards sentinel pass and then late in the afternoon Chris and a lady climber came over the pass and seeing our smoke yodeled and we could watch them all the way. We went down the ridge to see who they were and found they were to climb Pinnacle mountain next day.

The Ridge proved one of the nicest places to camp of all. It is terribly windy and didn't mind at all going down for water for the creek was just below us about two or three hundred feet and it was steep enough to throw a stone into the water below. As we lay in our tent we could watch the sunrise and see the color of the sunset and there was only a little group of trees directly in front of the tent and it looked as if we were on the edge of a cliff for you couldn't see the ground directly in front. The wind blew pretty hard except when it was dark which in summer is only a few hours but the mosquitoes weren't too bad.

We had very good weather and though the sun was hot still it was lovely with a cool breeze. We watched Chris and his fat lady

tourist most of the way up Pinnacle and they we could see them standing on top and they even yelled to us though it was quite a way off. After lunch we thought we would go to the top of Sentinel Pass and look over into Paradise Valley but as we were crossing Larch Valley we saw Chriss and the Lodge staff down and watched them until it was too late to go up Sentinel. We asked them to come & have a cup of tea with us but the fat lady (she was fat too) didn't think she could climb the ridge and as a storm seemed to be coming up we went back just in time to get the food under cover. After a very brief shower we were sketching when Paul McCowan the lecturer, suddenly appeared over the ridge from the Moraine Valley with a camera all opened ready to snap pictures and a small pack. He was anxious to get a certain picture before the next storm came over and so he couldn't stop either. All he said was that people came to Banff went into the Hot Springs took the Tunnel Mountain drive and saw the Buffalo and thought they had seen the mountains. It's true too, of most people. It rained several times that evening. Thunder storms but we didn't seem to get the worst of any of them. We went to bed before eight

Next morning having gone to bed before eight we managed to get up at seven. We had breakfast & packed up and started for Wenkchemna Pass over which we were to go then across Prospectors Valley and over Opabian Pass to the meadows above O'Hara. We cut down from the ridge until we reached the trail below and from there it was mostly a walk until we reached the foot of the pass where a lot of

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switchbacks took us up quite easily. There were several patches of snow we had to cross but it wasn't a hard climb and we only rested once or twice. Going down the ridge we surprised four lovely deer who bounded away down the hill into the trees. It was interesting to think that deer will go down a mountain for safety where as goats or sheep would go up.

It was so windy on top of the pass that we couldn't really stay and sketch and going down the other side was pretty hard work on the legs. It was what is called scree, all loose rock which slides with you. With an ice axe you can sometimes break yourself, but with packs it was harder keeping your balance. It was quite a long way down about 20 minutes of it and when we reached the bottom we had our lunch of Sardines & chocolate and an orange. We had a couple each with us. Then we had to climb again though quite gradually up Opabeon. There was a large glacier to walk over but the snow wasn't deep enough to make it hard. It was cloudy most all day but lovely looking down from the pass towards O'Hara. It was funny to see on the ice all sorts of bugs. evidently blown there by high winds, also goat tracks. We slid down the snow on the other side which was fun. You can almost skate in it. After we got down off the glacier we did a good deal of wandering about not knowing quite where to camp. Its really our old stamping ground

up in the Opabin meadows where we go so much with the Sinks in September. We found an awfully nice place to camp on a sort of ledge above a creek. very protected and mountains all around. It looked as if it might rain but we had the tent up and a mea in us before it did rain about four thirty or so. We had a transcript with us which we read very thoroughly during a heavy shower. Then about seven we had some Vitone and went to bed. It rained a good part of the night but we didn't get a bit wet or even damp.

Pete had a mouse try to get into his sleeping bag but Vic had a worse time the next night when a pack rat actually got into his sleeping bag. and we were all awakened by some mild curses. Vic hung up every thing he could and put the rest under his pillow but the rat managed to carry away our bacon and but it its place a stick. They always put something back in place of anything they take.

Yesterday was a lovely day and we sketched pretty steadily Pete doing four and I three. though mine were pretty rotten. We could see boats on the lake and Vic called them the Swiss Navy and we never realized that Barbara & Jackie were in one of them. They came up for Sunday. We were late going to bed last night. it was 8.30 when we crawled in

Today started out by raining hard, but by sleeping until 8 the sun was out when we got up. We ~~[illegible]~~ packed up after breakfast as everything was dry and we didn't want a shower to get things so damp that we couldn't

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pack them very well. I also mended Pete's pants. You would have laughed could you have seen us. He was stretched out on his tummy while I endeavored to patch the two holes he had made sliding over rocks. They were pretty obvious and I really made quite a nice job.

We went across the meadows to sketch and just as we were almost finished a black cloud came over the mountain. You really have no way of telling how bad a storm it will be until its right over you and the first thing we knew it was hailing and then a perfect down pour. We had our umbrellas so slipped our sketches and really we must have looked funny. Pete & I sat on our packs with our heads stickey through the hole in the ponchos and holding umbrellas over us. Vic even had his head under his poncho and there we sat like hens sitting on eggs only we didn't cluck. The storm passed over eventually and while Vic & I packed up all the food we could Pete finished his sketch and then we came on down to the camp.

It was too funny for as we came in the Perennishes who we knew were just leaving and they were trying to go and wanted to find out where we had dropped from. They did feel our packs and wonder how we ever carried them. The joke is they look bigger and feel heavier when you lift them with one hand

than they are on your back. Victor has a hard time lifting his as to his back but can carry it long distances without much trouble. There were some other people with looks out at us queer creatures and really it was funny.

We have our old cabin on the lake shore and it will be hard to leave tomorrow morning for Lake Louise. We evidently have struck the best weather they have had for five weeks. So we really are lucky. September the 15th are coming back this year then, so it will be as nice as ever up here then. The camp seems busy during the last few weeks of the season.

I mustn't write more now but will write you from Banff. though there may be a trip to Calgary in between.

Loads of love always.

Catharine.

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Wednesday. July 27, 1932.

Dearest Mother,

We got back here in Bath late yesterday afternoon after the most successful painting trip we have had yet and really we were feeling awfully strong and fit. Painting does develope muscles.

There were two letters from you here and one from Jean and I was so distressed to hear that you had had another awful attack of eczema. Somehow I had hoped that the change of going to Rockport would start it getting well again and then with no one in the house to think of you would soon be feeling quite your old self again. Maybe being at a distance makes one more pessimistic about its improving. Pete wondered yesterday if it would help if you could come out here for two or three weeks if the house is settled enough now so that you could really stay with us. Yet then I wondered if you ~~would~~ weren't too sick to make the trip. Would you like me to come home for a while? If it would help any I'd love to. If you would like when you get this letter for me to come. I'd leave on the next train. I'll send this letter air mail so you will have it soon and then if you send a wire the minute it arrives I'd be in Concord in a few days. It really would be awfully nice to be home even if it was hot. I have shelled peas here but there seemed to be so few to do compared with the large bowls of them we used to shell on the piazza when it was cool in the morning. I'd love to see the garden again too and the

all Concord is pretty darn nice even if it is a bit hot in summer. Maybe you could tell me how to cook a few things too for my repetoire is very small and I'm rather timid about trying things in the cook book. You know June is one of the nicest months in a way though you never can depend much on the weather. Still it is usually nice. I was thinking that next year if you could come out then we could have lots of fun around the house. You could help me landscape garden the place for some how I never get around to it myself. and then there seems to be more time to do things. This summer we have accomplished so far much more than we did all last year for then as you know we never got properly started. The only way to paint is to get off by ourselves in the mountains and go to it. And this year both at Yoho and on this last trip we have really done a lot.

Yesterday when we got in there was word that they wanted to see us at the hotel so we went up right after supper and were busy until midnight seeing people about things. More things seem to happen all the time. Mr Pollard wanted us to splice the ski movie which has been shown four times in the last week at the hotel and had broken in several places. We also are cutting off the bottle scene for the general public. Then he was incensed because some man's painting of an Indian had been hung with ours at the hotel and its a dreadful thing painted from a photograph by a Canmore miner and it makes

ours look as if we were pretty commercial. Murray Aladkin was pretty upset about it too, so we are going to find out today what the idea was in their acquiring it and maybe take ours down. They we saw Mr Palenski a Chicago artist who is an old friend of Pete's and he gave us both criticisms on our pictures which were awfully fine. We also saw the Lakes and George Vaux and then Murray came down here to see the pictures we have just done to see if there was one they would like for Mr Kay's present.

Then this morning all sorts of things seemed to happen. Mr Kay's man from Minneapolis left word he would be here Friday to make arrangements for next year skiing. Pete said Mr Gibbon who has guaranteed us passes anywhere on the C.P.R. to drum up skiing parties and was awfully interested in everything. Peter was around wanting to borrow sleeping bags, and then Mrs White came down to give us a message & stayed a while to discuss where Victor should stay. He has been sleeping at Lilo's but it crowds them and also he has been there a long time & you have no real privacy with a person in the house most of the time. There seems an awful lot to think of some times. Mr Palenski will be here for tea this afternoon and also a lady from Honolulu who is anxious to come skiing next winter. We may go to Calgary tonight as we have several things to do and the Pauets arrive this weekend. However I could get away very easily the first of the month which is Monday and leave Pete to paint two Indians and with Victor go on another sketching trip. So

Please write P.D.Q. if you would like to see me. At least I would love nothing better than to come.

Frances letter was so nice and I was amused about the Manners. Imagine all the people they had staying there. You'd think they might have a little left entertaining so much. It's harder to understand them every day.

I guess when I get home I shall have to do as the Doctor & someone did when they were called upon to admire the new baby and say "My! What. a baby" There seem to be so many new arrivals I can't be truthful and say they are the loveliest baby I ever saw. to each one. It's nice Edith is to have one & that they are taking a house in this summer.

Wasn't it funny that Henry Stebbins should have come out I knew he was going to Medical School but didn't realize he had been there long enough to be a Doctor. It would be fun to see him again.

I forgot to mention the press. We would love it but perhaps if we waited until we were coming we could check it and so save express. Imagine it being so heavy it might cost quite a bit.

What a shame Uncle George Dixon had a stroke. It is too bad for I imagine he was feeling fairly well and spry. It's fun having the Record journal to read about everyone. But of course they never mention any sickness and so I didn't see why Miss Hampton was having a sale. What a shame she had to give up her

what will people do now without her store.
Is she very ill?

Your letters have been fine and full of news and things, still it is hard to tell everything very fully in letters unless you write the kind those ancestors of ours did that cross & recross each other and which noone has time enough to look over.

I'm really getting quite excited about the prospect of making a trip east. Somehow I hadn't thought of going unless you asked special until we went before Christmas but now the more I think of it the nicer it would be and really we have done so much in June & July and still have September that really I wouldn't mind missing most of August here. Then all the mosquitoes will be gone in September and they are pretty thick now.

Remember to write immediately if you want me to come and if you don't I'll just wait until you do. so you had better right off.

Loads of love always

Catharine.