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#### *About the Institute*

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

# VAN SCHAACK AUTO SUPPLY

Complete Tire and Battery Service

WEST COXSACKIE, N. Y.

Telephone 83

5 Mar 1920

Thursday Evening.

Dear George:-

I guess you'll think that we have forgotten you. But with one thing and another the days go by leaving much to be done. We are back again to our old life. At first it seemed strange but now we are getting used to it. A letter from Eva today was the first we have received. Didn't contain much news other than the news of her arrival and the reception at the Boyds.

I sometimes wonder what it is all about but perhaps it will be the means of starting <sup>her</sup> on the road to something definite. Haven't heard anything from Auntie and Harold in a number of days. Of course Murchie wrote you that he wasn't looking for the Standard till anymore. Something happened but we do not know what. They were down to the spot to see Eva off. Received a card from Mr. Dumont this morning mailed at Sumnerville S. C. they open South for just



HEAR

The SEIBERLING SINGERS  
EVERY TUESDAY EVENING OVER THE RED CHAIN



a few days. you know William Lewis in Washington  
D.C. now and has some position in one of the  
departments. We are having real pleasure in weather  
weather now and the roads are drying up in good  
shape. Havent done much work around the  
place, cant seem to get the job. Earl and I  
cut some wood in the woods back of Mill Elderts,  
and I want to go another half day perhaps tomorrow.  
Cleaned up around the front of the house a little  
this afternoon, and peeked at the flowers they  
seem to have wintered very well, but it is too  
early to uncover them yet.

I think I shall order some rose bushes this  
spring. Did I tell you that we have a part of  
the Libby flag pole. They werent going to put  
it up again so I sawed off 38 feet of the small  
end and will make a nice pole if we ever  
get time to put it up. The hens continue to  
lay as well as ever nearly fifty every day.

We were down to Catskill on Tuesday I wanted  
to see the Farm Bureau Manager, before the new  
Lectures of Parsons Gange. Parsons meets on the  
22<sup>nd</sup> of this month and there is much detail  
getting ready for it. Next Monday night for our  
Lecture hour we have Prof J W Bushby of Cornell  
who gives an illustrated lecture on Landscape  
Gardening and hundred & subjects. Those you who

# VAN SCHAACK AUTO SUPPLY

Complete Tire and Battery Service

WEST COXSACKIE, N. Y.

Telephone 83

have seen it say it is very good indeed. I have become quite a Basketball fan there is a game to-morrow night between the High School and Tannersville, but I guess I won't go this time I've had some wonders with the team this winter they have won 10 games tied one and lost four. They are certainly keen. Monday night night and I was up to see the Grange play a team from Athens they were beaten by a small score. Our tire and battery business goes merrily on no better no worse just the same. Cleley Ray the old fellow who runs the filling station across from Conkey is buried to-morrow. The Kennedy has been his bed for some time now and I doubt if she ever gets up again. Your mother is in the throes of buying a curtain for the Grange Hall and calls on the phone or writes a letter every ten minutes. You can imagine if conditions remain the same in the Church situation with no solution in sight



SEIBERLING  
ALL-TREADS

HEAR

The SEIBERLING SINGERS  
EVERY TUESDAY EVENING OVER THE RED CHAIN



Last week Tuesday we had a meeting of the  
Rural Council out at Amber in Freehold. There  
were eight carriers there and we had a pleasant  
evening. As the time draws near for the  
Coast vacation I wish you were coming home.  
But I know you have a good reason for not  
coming. Better make up your mind to  
spend the most of the Summer with us.  
Well I seem to be out of news so I better quit

Love  
Father

SEVEN TIMES AND OUT—Seven is a cabalistic number; it is also a favorite of poets.

The seventh child of a seventh child is reputed to have psychic powers.

But a Greek professor has discovered seven to be destructive. Writing for a Greek paper that appears in Paris, he produces a mathematical curiosity, which we reproduce from the London *Evening Standard*:

"The magic figures are 142,857. If they are multiplied by two, the result is 285,714. That is, the same figures and the same sequence. Multiply by three, and the figures (428,571) and the sequence are still undisturbed. Multiplied by four, the result is 571,428. Here again the same figures and the same undisturbed sequence. Multiply by five, and the result is 714,285; by six, 857,142. In this last example the result is even more curious, because the two sets of three figures are exactly transposed.

"When, however, the doubtless weary figures are multiplied by seven, the magic formula breaks down, and the following curious result is achieved—999,999.

"I wonder if any of my Wrangler readers can produce a better mathematical curiosity than this."

Literary Digest Feb. 22/30

Dear George -  
I hope you will not  
think I have forgotten you - I  
think of you every day and each  
day want to write but can't seem  
to find the time. I really do not  
know when I wrote last - we  
have been so busy trying with Eva  
leaving - you can imagine  
it was some better & better time  
here last week before she left.  
It seems some time since  
we heard from you - I fear  
you are engaged in too many  
activities - I really do not see  
how you tend to them all.  
Just a month from today  
our Spring vacation starts - it  
will seem queer not to have  
Lou home - of course you will  
take just a peep at us soon  
you? Seems to me this is

the day you said Mr. Meedy  
leaves Europe - I wonder why  
Mrs F. does not come too - also  
just why they are leaving Rock-  
ester.

This has been a fine Spring  
day - soon the blue birds will  
be singing - and of course this  
means lots of other work. I don't  
know just how we'll pull this  
it but we always have. I guess  
it is getting pretty near time we  
cut out some of our program -  
this house is so big, there is  
always part of it that need attention  
But I'm not worrying & will do  
what I can & let the rest go. I  
traced yesterday & traced to-day -  
this may be the last in between wash  
as it will not be necessary every week  
now for several reasons. - Now  
In bed Good night very dear  
Romeys, Mother

1734 Cambridge St.  
Cambridge 38, Mass.  
March 28, 1930.

Dear Father,

This will have to be just a short letter - I had intended to write this afternoon but have just waked up from sleeping all afternoon and must now go over to Boston with Danae to have dinner with a friend of his. As you may imagine I have

all sorts of flowers in bloom -  
rhododendron, lilacs, delphinium,  
anemone, and scores of smaller  
flowers. It was very charming,  
but unnatural in the fact that  
such a profusion of growth  
could not exist naturally in  
such shade.

Not having heard from you  
this week I fear auntie has been  
worse and that you have been  
having to run back and forth  
to Albany.

I shall be coming home on

varieties of all kinds. There were many complete gardens of several size, some of them very charming. There was one quite large one - approximately twenty by twenty feet. It was a most amazing arrangement of a small space. At the back there was a portion of a covered house set among poplars and pines. The house made me think of the old house at Keefe's Corner. There was a lawn in front of it with flower beds at the sides. In front there was a spruce hedge in blossom and an old board fence. There

been leading quite a fact life this week - but tonight is the last event - Donald goes back to Danbury tomorrow and the next week will be quite uneventful, at any rate it appears so at present.

Yesterday afternoon Donald and I went to the Boston Flower Show. I wish you could have been there. Since the show started on Monday some of the exhibits were somewhat faded but most of the flowers were still in their glory. There were hundreds of Salix and

the sixth to stay until Monday  
morning Donald will call for  
me then and we shall drive  
out to Rochester that day. I  
am sorry that I shan't be able  
to stay longer. I have not had  
any offer of a summer job as  
it is quite likely that I shall  
be with you again this summer.  
I shall be very glad to be at  
home, though a job for a few  
weeks would help my finances  
considerably.

Well I must stop and change  
my dates. I shall write again  
in a couple of days when I have  
more time. I hope you are all  
well and not in too much  
trouble.

Danald sends his warmest  
regards to all of you.  
Love  
George

355  
1.75  
1.50  
x. 29

1734 Cambridge St.  
Cambridge St. Mass.  
Sunday, May 4th, 1930.

Dear Father,

I hope you have had as lovely a day as we have had. This is the third beautiful Sunday in succession. Last Sunday morning Raymond Tweedy called me on the phone and asked me to go for a walk. We started at 11:30 and walked until after three. We went out to Belmont and all over

all over the Archipelago. It was  
hard to believe that he, of all people  
had never seen them before, although  
the plant has been in existence since  
before he was born. It was even  
rarer there today than two weeks  
ago. Many of the flowering plums,  
cherries and crabapples were in  
full bloom, and in some places  
the air was heavy with the odor  
of viburnums.

Tuesday afternoon - And then I fell  
asleep, and have had no time to  
finish this until now. Today is

tomorrow. He is staying over in Boston  
with one of his former students and  
his family. I know the boy and he  
asked me over for dinner last evening.  
They live in an apartment hotel. I  
had never been in one before and  
did not know what to expect. It  
took five people to perform the  
various offices in getting me from  
the entrance to the apartment!  
Such non-cerebral elegance. After  
dinner we set out to the last  
Symphony concert of the season.  
This afternoon Donald and I walked

the hills and dales back of Arlington  
and Lexington. It was a great walk,  
but I was dreadfully tired out after it  
and slept for several hours after it.  
I had never been in the beautiful  
part of Arlington Heights before - the  
part I think you probably saw on  
your way to Wains and of which  
you spoke, saying it would be such  
a nice place to live. It is really  
very lovely. Just hilly enough, fairly  
quiet and nicely laid out.

Donald has been here this week-end.  
He drove up yesterday and is going back

another searcher. It is  $87^{\circ}$  here in  
my room and much hotter outside.  
It is very dry and we have had no  
rain in a long time except for a  
thunderstorm Friday night. As you  
know, all of Massachusetts has been  
on fire and continues so. I suppose  
it may be the same at home. On  
Sunday we could see from the Arboretum  
two different columns of smoke  
from forest fires only a few miles  
from Boston. Won't it be discouraging  
if everything is ruined at the beginning  
of the summer this year as it was at  
the end last year?

of that this evening.

I called on Professor Morse last night to find out if he would consider my working with him next year. I believe I wrote that I knew nothing of his subject and could hardly expect he would accept me. However he didn't say that he wouldn't accept me, nor that he would, but he immediately got down to brass tacks and gave me a big dose of reading for the summer. He said it was nothing unusual for his students to know

Even if we didn't have the weather to remind us that summer is on the way we should have other evidences of the approach of June. The reading period and general examinations began yesterday, and the seniors are wearing their gowns to classes, i.e. a few of them are, for only a few ever do. And tonight the Glee Club gives its first year concert on the steps of the library. It is always a popular event and with the fine weather there should be a turnout as well as tonight - it is often rather cool, but there is no danger

nothing of his subject when they  
came to him. I gathered from the  
way he acted that if I do the reading  
I can work with him next fall, and  
I can assure <sup>you</sup> that unless I do it I  
shan't be able to work with him ever  
far he is that kind of a man. Thus  
I have my summer laid out for  
me.

I am sitting here in my underwear  
perceiving at a great rate. It's  
nearly five so I guess I'll get  
dressed in my white knicker and  
go out and mail this. I hope I hear  
from you tomorrow. Love, to all  
George.

Ball's Pond  
Danbury, Conn.  
August 11, 1930.

Dear Father,

The calendar says that  
tomorrow is your birthday  
I wish you a happy one with  
many more to come. I'm  
sorry I shan't be at home  
to help you celebrate. I'm  
wondering if Eva will arrive

last few days.

Today is a perfectly glorious day - very clear and quite cool. The four of us are going to climb the hill east of the pond this morning. It is only a short walk - about a mile - but the land drops away on three sides so that there is a grand view.

Tonight is meteor night and we plan to put two couches out on the lawn and watch for the show. The

today or tomorrow or was until Wednesday. Was it last year that we went to the mountains on your birthday. Though the weather looks fair for tomorrow you would probably be gladder to have it rain. There has been no rain here since I came, and without the hose there would be little of the garden left on top of this hill. Two hoses have been going all day and nearly all night for the

number of melons is supposed  
to be increasing yearly until  
1933 so that there should be  
quite a number this evening.

We missed out on our usual  
Sunday job yesterday - freezing  
ice cream - somehow or other  
the batch got enough salt to  
make it briny so that the  
whole lot had to be thrown  
away -

Donald sends best wishes  
for your birthday and kindest  
regards to all.

Love to all

George.

Danbury, Conn.  
August 16, 1930.

Dear Father,

Just a few lines to let you know when I am coming home. I shall go to Poughkeepsie Monday afternoon either by bus or with Donald, catching the West Point car at Highland. You will probably have gone to Cairo busy as usual. Will you try to meet me. My

Danald is waiting to have  
me help him with something  
before we go down town churchly  
so that I will close and tell  
the rest later.

Love to all,

Jeane.

coming home will enable you to  
have the morning free for  
the fair if you wish them  
but I don't think you should  
go over there and wear your-  
self out.

Wed, we have had rain here.  
It rained all Thursday night  
and most of yesterday. I  
hope you had the same blessing  
at home. Everything cooks wonder-  
fully refreshed - people included.

1734 Cambridge St  
Cambridge 38 Mass.  
October 3, 1930.

Dear Father,

Just time to get a letter in  
before I must shave and dress  
to go to Professor Husar's  
for dinner. He is having all  
the part-time instructors  
to dinner this evening and  
afterwards will let us loose  
on each other to fight over  
any ideas we may have on

I can tell you that ten hours  
a day is a lot - and one  
mathematics book a week is a  
lot.

Last Saturday was such a  
hot day I called Raymond  
Tracy up and we arranged  
to go down to a beach in  
South Boston for the afternoon.

The water was quite cold  
but it felt good to get in  
the ocean again. We have  
had quite a change in the  
weather - it has been cool  
all week, getting quite cold

the subject of teaching. I'm  
hoping there won't be a formal  
roll call for me not in a  
fighting mood.

I called on Professor Moore  
last Sunday and when he  
found out that I was planning  
to sit in on several courses  
he advised dropping most of  
the plan and spending my  
time reading in school. He says  
I must read at least ten  
hours a day - a book a week.  
That's quite a schedule, and

at night - but still no  
rain. I suppose it has been  
the same with you. I enclose  
a couple of diagrams which  
tell you where I want the  
things that must be moved  
in order to plant the Tulips  
where I suggested.

I have had few fascinating  
appointments this week. In  
that one of yesterday I had to  
write from dictation two  
pages for a Jewish fellow  
who couldn't perform that

Manual labor on Yarn Kiffen.  
I was rather pleasantly surprised  
in the fellow for I had feared  
someone over Jewish, but he  
turned out to be very nice. He  
kept me writing pretty rapidly  
for the whole two hours.

I'm glad mother has lost  
that pain in her side. My  
funny headaches haven't  
bothered me since the first day  
here though I have had a  
pretty bad cold since then.

I sent the laundry yesterday  
but forgot to put in its two

Well I do hope for every one's  
sake that it rains soon -  
We haven't heard about any  
shortage here, but it is drier  
than in many years. - the  
Charles river is 8 ft below  
normal level.

Love to all  
George

things washed sent last time  
which came not mine - a pajama  
blouse and a pair of socks.

I'm quite settled now except  
that I still have my typewriter  
packed - I haven't any plan  
to set it. Now that I have the  
trunkcase just about full I  
wonder where I put everything  
last year without it, for I  
haven't very many more books  
now than I had last year - I  
guess it must have looked more  
like a book-shop around here  
last year.

[15 Oct. 1931]

Saturday evening  
6 20 P.M.

Dear George:

Just came in from  
picking apples and see that I  
must-get-this right off.

This has been a very pleasant  
day and Harold has helped  
with the apples.

Everything is as usual and  
Auntie shows very little gain.

Sorry you can't come home  
this week end. Glad to read  
the check.

Love  
Father

Roseton N.Y.  
Nov. 19, 1930

Dear George: Here I am really starting to write you a letter. I've certainly started on a large sheet of paper. Grandpa is fastening to "Uncle Al" and David and mother is mending your socks. We didn't wash till today but got home rather late on Monday evening.

Just now we are having almost summer weather and at last we have had a nice rain, while the cisterns are not full there is plenty of water for all purposes. Quite a relief after the long siege of drawing water. When it rained here we were enjoying sunny weather in the western part of the State. They had rain there just as badly as we did.

Well the great event is over and we are back safe and sound. We drove just about 700 miles and didn't either bump anyone or get bumped. We left Thursday morning at 6.30 and arrived in Rochester about 4 P.M. We ate our dinner in the Cafeteria of the Syracuse Hotel. We found very nice accommodations at the Ford all anyone could wish for and the meals in the dining room were very reasonable.

All the Greer County folks about thirty were  
at the Ford. it was a regular county headquarters.  
On Saturday afternoon we took the folks for a ride  
around the city, Greer Valley Park, Lake Arthur  
etc. We also called on the Holshaus and the  
Beeler. They were both glad to see us and  
Mrs. B. was particularly gracious. On Thursday  
evening we went to the Coctian, Greer and the  
Herald Lloyd in "Get Back".  
Was surprised to receive a call from Mr. Lueders  
on Friday evening. I was certainly nice & happy to  
do it. We left Rockwell early Sunday morning  
for the Falls, entered Canada by way of Leinster  
about our dinner in Canada. Left the Falls about  
three o'clock and drove clear thru Buffalo to  
the extreme end of the Penis on Lake Erie and  
from there to Betavia where we stayed all night.  
Sunday was like a summer day and there is no  
telling how many autos we saw in that sixty mile  
ridg. Monday we had to drive 300 miles to reach <sup>home</sup>  
that day, but we were home by seven again  
getting our dinner in Syracuse.  
While we enjoyed the trip very much the great of  
festivity was the Seventh Degree which it is every  
true stranger's ambition to receive. It was very  
impressive and will never be forgotten. Arthur and  
June enjoyed every minute. Arthur marvelled at  
my knowledge of the state and the citizens were

mi. Rochester has certainly solved the auto problem  
they have plenty of parking space and I used the  
car just as if I had been at home.

We stopped in Albany for a minute and found Auntie  
about the same, she is better but nothing to brag  
about. Harold had just returned from Africa I guess  
he and Mildred must have patched things up  
again. Walter Tueddell seems to improve very  
slowly. Harry Hamilton's wife is at the point of death.  
I don't know if you know Helen or not.

Walter doesn't know if she wrote you about Aunt  
Helen's death. She died on the 8<sup>th</sup> and on ~~Saturday~~  
Sunday I took grandpa up there. Harold went along.  
The funeral was on Monday, grandpa returned  
on Tuesday.

Basket Ball is beginning to be the topic of the day  
I understand Bosch is going to coach the Grange  
team. I finally moved all of the flowers that  
you wanted shoved except the Day Lily and the  
Agapanthus. It was so very dry I thought I better  
leave it in the cold frame till spring.

I decided I had better not put glass on the cold  
frame this fall as it might make them too tender.  
Might better put it on early in the spring. I kept  
them watered and they all grew very nicely. I planted  
the Narcissus and Tulip bulbs. Had nearly 350 of  
the tulips that were of blooming size I gave mostly

the small ones there must of been 200 of them  
I also bought a dozen Paper White Narcissus and have  
four of them started in the cellar now.  
When I dug the Gladiolus I found there were nearly  
375 large bulbs besides the Cuminus. There  
I also gave to Dorothy the were about 85 ysters  
I have some work I want to do in the garden yet  
raking up and putting some manure on it.  
The pullets are laying to beat the band they average  
about fifty eggs a day. The hen is still away but we  
must do some plowing soon.  
On Friday evening the Rural Census have a little  
Banquet at Freehold I have had ~~not~~ responses from  
nearly all of them and it bids fair to be a  
success. we are going out with Mr. & Mrs. Titus.  
We dont know yet what we will do for Thanksgiving  
To night Jessie has the Girls League at the house.  
Well I guess I've written most of the news the next  
thing is for you to read this scrawl. Oh by the  
way it's 10th Oct if we would be in our new quarters  
in a few days. The man is coming to install the  
equipment on Friday. We will certainly have our up  
to date Post Office now. Well good bye Love  
Father

TO THE GUESTS OF FORD HOTEL:-

It is well known that in the conduct of the affairs of any hotel, proper service can only be secured and maintained by unremitting care and vigilance on the part of the management. Despite every effort to avoid them, mistakes and omissions will often occur. We are therefore taking the liberty of asking you to kindly fill in one of our cards (which you will find in your room) giving us any suggestions or criticisms regarding the service or cuisine of Ford Hotel which you may at any time feel disposed to make. In this way we hope to advance the comfort and convenience of our guests by adopting improvements and correcting defects that might otherwise escape detection.

Very respectfully,

FORD HOTEL

FORD HOTELS—Rochester, N. Y.—Buffalo, N. Y.—Erie, Pa.—Toronto, Can.—Montreal, Can.

(OVER)

## TO MY SON

---

Do you know that your soul is of my soul, such part  
That you seem to be fibre and core of my heart?  
None other can pain me as you, dear, can do;  
None other can please me or praise as you.

Remember the world will be quick with its blame,  
If shadow or stain ever darken your name,  
"Like mother, like son" is a saying so true,  
The world will judge largely of "Mother" by you

Be yours then the task, if task it shall be,  
To force the proud world to do homage to me,  
Be sure it will say when its verdict you've won,  
"She reaped as she sowed, Lo! this is her son."

(OVER)

1734 Cambridge St.

Cambridge 23, Mass.

November 21, 1930.

Dear Father,

I was very glad to receive your letter this morning and to hear that you and mother had such a fine trip. It rained here all the week-end and I feared you had not had nice weather. Mr. Tweedy wrote me and said he had seen you and found you both in high good humor. He comes to Cambridge today to stay until

him. Moreover, if he has room - I don't know what kind of a car he has - I shall bring Sam Talley with me.

I have a term bill of \$1,000 which is due on Nov. 29. For some reason or other which I don't understand the dean will not loan the money as he did last year, nor will the Bureau make any arrangements except to defer half of it until January 1st. Consequently \$500 must be paid next week. I can raise half of that if you can send me the other half. If you can spare the \$250 I shall be very much obliged to you! I shall be very much obliged to you if you can send it so I can pay the Bureau Tuesday or Wednesday morning before

Monday. From what he writes he is planning to do three weeks visiting in three days so I don't know how much I shall see of him.

I hate to spoil the fun by making known my tentative plans but I should hate to arrive in Coxcachit next Wednesday night or Thursday and not find you there. I called Francis up this week and he says he expects, if possible, to go home Wednesday night or Thursday morning returning Sunday. He will not know definitely until Monday. If he does this I am planning to come with

I leave.

This week has been a busy and tiring one. Every evening had we same-old-Monday night we had a long meeting of tutors that lasted until midnight. Tuesday evening I heard Paderewski - he is certainly a marvel - at 71 he is still a tremendous pianist. Last night I saw the "Merchant of Venice", Shylock's part being very well done by a Russian - Moscovitch. He could speak English just badly enough to sound like a Jew - in fact I suppose he may be a Jew.

I had a cheerful letter from Eva this week so I guess she is all right. Well, it is class time so I'll stop, hoping to see you next week. I'll stop here Monday night or Tuesday morning - Love to all  
George.

M. B. VAN SCHAACK  
ELMSHADE  
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

[4 May 1931]

Sunday morning

Dear George:

Sorry you had to miss  
the customary letter this week but  
we have been pretty busy and it  
slipped by. Dad ~~did~~ go to church  
this morning we are planning to  
go to Albany this afternoon for  
a little while you know it is  
Harold's birthday.

Monday we started on the sitting  
room and now it is all finished  
Monday I took the paper off and  
Tuesday varnished the woodwork

and then Mrs Roberts papered and  
then I finished the floor. It  
looks very well indeed. During  
all this John Bruce was making  
the porch and between his and  
grandpa and the work it was  
some time. He has the porch  
nearly done and while it is  
very plain it will be very  
serviceable. We have decided  
to enclose it with screen.

John will make the frame and  
we will be able to put on the  
screen cloth. It will be so much  
better to free of the flies and  
mosquitoes. I received the Annual

flower seeds on Thursday and they  
ought to make a good growth by  
the middle of June. If you see  
the row of shrubbery and junos  
that are bedded out in the  
field you would think it a  
small nursery. The last of the  
shrubs came last night they  
are very fine indeed and look  
as if they would grow. The  
Barbery is the poorest but the  
most of it will be all right  
I expect to give my time to getting  
it out this week. I shall try to  
get Joe Catalano to help me in  
the afternoon. The specimens are

M. B. VAN SCHAACK  
ELMHURST  
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

all looking fine. Yes the <sup>new ones</sup> ~~toppals~~  
did show ~~up~~ <sup>up</sup> all of them but  
I think there are ~~some~~ <sup>some</sup> or ten  
and one is in flower. I have made  
a little garden and want to make  
some more this week. Pretty cool  
for things to grow yet.

I would like to go to Albany  
tomorrow for there is a League  
meeting in the interests of getting  
the State convention to come to  
Albany. But I shall not rather  
I shall write a note pledging  
cooperation and interest in the  
work. The burner is still un-  
sold with very little prospect of  
ever selling. I really believe he

M. B. VAN SCHAACK  
ELMSHADE  
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

intends to go very soon. I wouldn't  
be surprised if she went to get  
a divorce. That in itself wouldn't  
be so bad if he were right other  
wise, it is a sore trial and  
nothing that one can help.

Eva's problem and I hardly know  
what to say about her I wouldn't  
mind her not getting a job if  
she was so dissatisfied when  
at home. I feel like you do that  
she might better try the Newark  
proposition. Perhaps it will all  
come out right in the end.

Just now Dean Brown & wife is  
starting his sermon and I'll have  
to ~~stop~~ and listen. Will be had a  
wonderful sermon, as usual. I  
could listen to him every Sunday  
with pleasure and profit.

Benny Layman was here on Friday  
evening while Jeanette was at a  
Gulf League meeting. We had  
a good visit he is a very fine fellow  
I know he is certainly on the way  
with the Jack Diamond fur  
I suppose you hear some of it.

Well dinner is ready and I must stop  
and get ready for Albany. Did enjoy  
your letter so much, and the sentiments  
expressed. Love the boy for the blue jacket  
Love Father

Stareighton 24  
Cambridge 3<sup>rd</sup>, Mass.  
November 3, 1931.

Dear Father,

Just a note to speak about something I have forgotten several times. I don't believe I told you where I want the new lily bulbs that we are supposed to receive this fall - from Elliotts, is it? As a matter of fact I don't just know now where they can go, but

Private way

Road

#2

#1

There are already ~~markings~~  
like's near where I have  
marked but I think the  
new ones bloom at a  
different time. As far  
as possible get them  
next in toward the  
center of things, near  
some thing solid and  
close the buds.

I think you will find some  
room when I indicate below in  
red. You can set them in two  
lots of three each or in just  
one lot as you choose. If the  
latter put them where I mark  
#1.

I enclose a check to pay for them  
as nearly as I can remember the  
price. Dale enclose a check for  
the loan and the mail check. Thank  
you again for the loan. I'm not in  
any great need of money just now  
and am getting paid weekly by  
Mr. Hays so that I may get them  
November alright. Thanks for offering  
to help with the plants. I may need

you yet. Raymond Tweedy insists  
on my taking his piano if Mrs  
Fields won't let me have hers!!

Mother's letter came today. Sorry  
to hear about grandpa's being sick  
and that he is better now. Did  
glad the insurance is settled -  
was it satisfactory - to me it  
seems like quite a sum of money.

Yesterday and today have been  
hard with ten lectures. Yesterday  
I talked for over eight hours. But  
now it's all over for two weeks.  
I relax tonight by going to the  
theater.

I received a very poor picture which  
Sam took. We have to give the graduates  
school three for their records.

Love to all

George.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

George B. Van Schoack  
Stoughton 24  
Cambridge 38  
Mass.

Dear Geo:

Friday P.M.

This has been a hectic week. Work  
was taken with diggy spell went to bed. Du-rum  
and found her in the shape tired out. Betty was  
but still in bed not quite just resting. Family  
meeting went over big had many con-  
-pliments on my ability as a Chor. Last night  
Installation at fall fine time big crowd.  
Too bad mother couldn't go. Had a nice  
visit with the Sustaining Officer Mr. Patton and  
that helped some. Hannah is much better  
and is looking lovely. Margaret has been here  
quite a long time. Will be tomorrow but wash  
the dog Love Father

M. B. VAN SCHAACK  
ELMSHADE  
COXSACKIE, N. Y.

Oct-6 1932

Dear George:-

Just received a  
lecture from mother on the  
subject you never write a  
letter, so here goes. At last  
we have had a real rain  
in fact a small flood. All  
three cisterns are full. Mother  
went to the Massena meeting  
at Ruskatom, to day and I had  
to get Wilbur to watch the  
cisterns. Jessie came with  
him so I had come on to get  
Lynn. Wilbur has been here

almost every day since we  
returned from our vacation  
and there is lots to do yet.

The young roots came in due  
time and they were very  
nice ones. Set them out in  
good shape. Also transplanted  
the perennials all except the  
Sweet William and they will  
get a good start before winter.

Last Saturday we journeyed to  
Halcott Garden. Took Mrs Boehm,

Mrs Moore (C. G.) and Mrs Roberts.

It was rainy when we started  
but the day proved to be fine.

I never saw the foliage so  
brilliant in the Catskills

M. B. VAN SCHAACK  
ELMSHADE  
COXSACKIE, N. Y.

the maps were a riot of  
color. Harold stayed at that  
house while we were away,  
he had quite a bad cold.  
Last night was Harvest Home  
a rather tame affair compared  
to former years. I had the job  
of ticket selling. Lydia Miller  
was buried yesterday. The village  
was shocked on Thursday night  
by the suicide of Bill Kennedy  
who threw himself in front of  
Fred Green's auto. He had been  
despondent for a number of days.  
He was just about Harold's age.

Had a long letter from Eva today  
she arrived in B. all right and  
is getting back to work. Well  
the political campaign is  
getting more and more inter-  
esting. There hasn't been a  
campaign in a long time with  
so many angles to it. Both  
parties in this state have ex-  
cept law tickets, but it looks more  
and more like a Democratic  
year. Mother is waiting to hear  
about the Kurbanis before she  
forwards the rest of them. Well  
I guess that's all.

Love  
Father.

M. B. VAN SCHAACK  
ELMSHADE  
COXSACKIE, N. Y.

[3 Feb 1933]

Tuesday evening

Dear George:-

I know you will be looking for a word from home. Well the flu has finally got you, mother. She commenced to feel a cold coming on last Friday and it seemed to develop slowly. On Tuesday we had the doctor and he succeeded in stopping her cough, but she hasn't improved much if any since then. The doctor has just been here and he seems to think she will get

on all right. She has had no  
fever but he says she must stay  
in bed a few days yet.

No one has been here to help this  
week but I presume Margaretta  
will come to-morrow unless  
she gets cold feet. I am feeling  
good so far. Will try and write  
some more but must mail  
this now.

Love  
Father

M. B. VAN SCHAACK  
ELMSHADE  
COXSACKIE, N. Y.

Feb 24/33

Dear George:

Mother and Farmer  
Trusdell have gone over to  
Oley Farm for a meeting of  
some kind, and I was told  
to write to you. This is a  
glorious day here and each  
day seems to try to outdo the  
others. As I sit here there is  
just a few patches of snow  
to be seen. Soon I shall have  
to go to work at trimming trees  
and other odd jobs. I guess  
I'm getting old for I hate to

start in. We spent Washington's  
Birthday in a very pleasant  
way. I took a notion it  
would be nice for us to go  
up and visit Mr. Dummit.

We started about nine o'clock  
and left there about half  
past four. We found him  
real well and just ~~as~~ as  
cheerful and happy as ever.

He is seventy five and his mind  
is as active as ever. We stopped  
on the way home at - Amherst  
to supper.

Everything just the same up  
there. It is all a jog over  
opening a Law office in town.  
Mr. Scully and the same company

M. B. VAN SCHAACK  
ELMSHADE  
COXSACKIE, N. Y.

down yesterday to look the  
rooms over and suggest any  
changes that might have to  
be made. Everybody seems  
to think it will be a good  
thing, we shall have to wait  
and find out. The scarlet  
fever has abated and Bessie  
started to school this morn.  
Mother is feeling very good but  
is not herself yet. She tires  
easily and says she lacks  
pep. Washed yesterday and  
sent your laundry this morn.  
I am getting well used to my  
new job in the Sunday school

Next Tuesday the Albany County  
Parsonage sheets and the Freeborn  
plans to be there we may  
go up. I am reading quite a  
bit - and shall have to give it  
up when work comes on.  
Daddy arrived from the South  
yesterday and I guess McQuade  
was glad for he has had a  
very busy time. Was last letter  
seems quite cheerful. I wonder  
what will become of her next  
year? Well I guess I've written  
all the news I can think of so here  
goes. Love  
Father

Stallis 7  
Cambridge Mass.  
April 24, 1934.

Dear Father,

According to Mather's last letter you will be going to Albany Thursday or Friday of this week. So I write to tell you that I wish you good luck and as little pain as possible. I wish I could have been at home when you went, but I reckon it is wisest to have the operation now and get over with it. I hope you

have been resting up here last few days - you ought to be in good form you know.

I wish mother would telephone me after the operation to tell me how it went. She need only call Parker 1179-W, charges collect - it is unnecessary to call me by name for there is no one else to answer the phone.

Best of luck to you, and lots of love.

George.

P.S. I shall be out Thursday evening until about 10:30, and also on Friday from 4 until 8 P.M. g.

Hollis 7  
Cambridge, Mass.  
May 1, 1934.

Dear Father,

I had a letter from Mother this morning telling me of your progress. Although she had to report that you had a rather hard time from Saturday afternoon until Sunday night, she said you were feeling back to some sort of normal on Monday. She also said you were somewhat flighty on Sunday - which

are able to read some already.

I hope you aren't worrying about how things are going at home - I'm sure all is well - Mother wrote that she and Harriet were managing very well.

Missing you the best of luck & much love.

George.

P.S. I had supper with Miss Hayes on Sunday. Although I was there for several hours the only thing I got a chance to tell her was about your operation and the fireplace - I was a week when I left.

9.

is an advantage you have over most other people - you are only partly conscious when you don't feel well. I reckon you will be alright now until the next operation - and that ought not to be so bad. It seems a bit ridiculous that you have to have two operations but I suppose Dr. Keelin knows what he's about - and it's better to make sure now before the wound heals than to have trouble later on.

I sent you a book yesterday that I think I remember hearing you express a wish to read. I looked at it a bit before packing it and found it very interesting - I must read it myself sometime. I hope you

Harris 7  
Cambridge, Mass.  
May 9, 1934.

Dear Father,

Just time enough before dinner to write you a line which I can drop in the mail box on my way over to dinner. A card came from Mother yesterday saying that you were feeling much better on Monday and that you would probably be on a general diet in a day or two. I hope they weren't fooling you and that you have by now had a good solid meal. But don't overeat, get your strength back gradually and don't let Dr. Healin perform the next operation

until you feel fit.

We have had two, or rather three, nice cool days this week - I hope it was cool in Albany also, for it's very irritating to lie in bed when it's so hot.

When I came past Prof. Palmer's house in the yard this noon I noticed they had cut down all the privet bushes around it - they had been so badly hurt by the cold that it was sensible to cut them down than to prune them. But with such large roots I reckon they will make a good growth again this season.

I saw Miss Putnam in the Georgian cafeteria this morning but she didn't recognize me. However she did seem to feel she had seen me somewhere before. I reckon I shall see her there again - possibly then she will have remembered who I am.

I was very glad to get home to see you last Sunday, and the time went very quickly. I hope I may do it again. Anyhow I have you on my mind constantly. Keep up your courage ~~best~~ <sup>best</sup> ~~friend~~ <sup>friend</sup>.

Helen  
Cambridge, Mass.  
May 23, 1934.

Dear Father,

Mother's last two cards say that you are feeling so much better and that you have been able to go up to the roof for several days. We have been having glorious weather for that sort of thing. In fact it seems to me we have been having too glorious weather - I can't remember that we have had a real rain here in a month. It has got ready to rain several times but then has only sprinkled for a couple of hours. The first concert by the glee club was held on the steps of the library last night at seven. During the whole concert the sky became blacker & blacker, until toward the end it was so dark one could hardly read. But it was all only a change

go to Dullealy in the afternoon to see Danard's  
niece. I tried to go last Friday, but on  
phoning found that the girls can have  
cashes only on Saturdays - and Barbara was  
to be away last Saturday.

I made out my renewal application  
for driving licence this afternoon. Don't  
forget to get yours renewed.

All for now. Hope this finds you  
feeling still better and just about  
ready for the next operation. I'm  
sure that won't be as hard as the  
first one. I should like to get home  
to see you but I doubt that I  
shall be able to before school starts.  
But I think of you often and know  
you're being well taken care of.

Lots of love,

Geary.

of wind. It was a funny spectacle though.  
to see a couple of thousand people in  
summer attire sitting & standing about  
on the grass, in such threatening weather,  
listening to a group of boys sing. The number  
who left because of the weather was amazingly  
small.

I am sticking quite close to my room  
these days - my one & only exam comes a  
week from tomorrow morning. After that I  
shall have ten days before I give exams.  
During that time I must prepare my room  
for leaving it over the summer. I shall  
probably have a room in another dormitory -  
belonging to one of the other practices - and I  
shall have to sort out what I want to  
take over there with me.

This Friday evening the freshmen have their  
jubilee - that is annual dance - every practice  
has to go for one hour - my turn is from  
midnight until one o'clock. It's a notoriously  
cheap affair and I abhor it going - but so  
I must.

Mr. Hagg will be down on Saturday and I  
expect he will have lunch with me. I may

# VAN SCHAACK AUTO SUPPLY

Complete Tire and Battery Service

WEST COXSACKIE, N. Y.

Telephone 83

[1936?]  
Saturday noon

Dear George:

I suppose you are wondering what became of the Insurance proposition. I wrote them in the minute and just received the reply. Of course I wrote as if you were living in Coxsackie and they sent a check for Dr Van Hoosen, but if you wanted the Disability Insurance you could suggest a Cambridge doctor. You will note that they will attach a rider to the policy waiving premium at age of 60 in the event of total disability. This is a good thing and very reasonable.

Now as for the policy issued by The Postal National to pay you \$500 amount in event of total disability for but annual premium of \$10.90. it seems to me a good proposition but you must use your own judgment in the matter. I will enclose all the papers you better attend to it next week. Sorry you had to be disappointed about Evan's coming. But if she



SEIBERLING  
ALL-TREADS

HEAR

The SEIBERLING SINGERS  
EVERY TUESDAY EVENING OVER THE RED CHAIN



goes to Holland it seemed most too much for  
her to go to Cambridge also. This afternoon she  
is going to Batehill with Eliza. We are all about  
as usual. We are having very cold weather  
just now yesterday morning it was 15° below.  
We are looking forward to our trip unless the  
snow should come in such quantities as to  
make the mail route impossible for Malen.  
Just now while we have quite a bit of snow  
the roads are just like summer. Will I might  
write more but I must go.

Love

Malen.

Dear Father,

[1936?]

I address you ~~alone~~ <sup>in</sup> this  
letter because it will ~~reach~~ <sup>reach</sup> you  
upon the last day of service in  
carrying the mail, and I trust  
you ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> have

I have been thinking of you and an  
all week of you and of this  
Saturday which will mark the  
end of your long service in  
carrying the mail. And I have  
thought <sup>have been</sup> with a certain sadness,  
not because I am not glad that  
you are to leave the mail - reward  
of retirement, but because I  
am sure that the change which  
~~comes~~ you now make will be in  
a certain sense a cause of some  
sadness to you. You could not  
have worked day in and day out  
for thirty years at one job

when you saw day after day, and  
when ~~of~~ lives were in many cases  
were a less burden upon you -  
you <sup>have</sup> believed not only the mail -  
you <sup>have</sup> brought courtesy, kindness,  
friendliness. ~~For~~ For thirty years  
~~to that have~~ the route  
has had a friendly service not  
surpassed by none, and when you  
do not return <sup>to it</sup> on Monday, you are  
going to be missed as you so  
well deserve to be. ~~I hope that~~  
~~you will be the~~

I ~~hope~~ <sup>hope</sup> you'll think some of  
these things that they may  
often be best. And I want  
you to know that to me there  
is no one more deserving of  
having said of him the following  
lines, ~~from~~ <sup>approximately</sup> ~~that~~ engraved on  
the facade of the central post  
office in New York "No snow

without feeling a real pang at  
finally leaving it. I realize that  
it was not exactly what you  
really wanted to do, but when  
you finally looked upon it as your  
work you devoted yourself  
to it with the same devotion  
you would have accorded a  
job originally more to your liking.  
~~You may be surprised to know~~  
I would probably surprise you if  
you knew how many times in the  
past dozen years I have recalled  
the words you sometimes <sup>and impatiently</sup> spoke  
when I showed annoyance at  
the habits & customs of some of  
your patrons - to you they were  
patrons to whom was owed the  
best service possible, regardless  
of ~~them~~ how annoying they might  
be, - and most of them were  
<sup>names</sup> ~~names~~ they were your friends,

Now rain, now heat of noon-day sun  
they these carriers from the  
swift accomplishment of their  
appointed tasks.

Now rain, now heat of noon-day  
sun  
they these carriers from the swift  
accomplishment of their appointed  
tasks.

[1936?]

Dear Mother & Father,

I was very glad to get your letter yesterday - it was so long since I had had anything from you directly. I am glad that you seem to be keeping well and hope that the very hot weather these last few days has not had any bad effect on either of you. It has finally cooled off here and today is beautifully clear & comfortable.

I hadn't realized that I hadn't made it clear I should return to Rochester after my trip. The trip was partly made to find living quarters for next year so that I would know how to put up here. I doubted that I could take anything along for it was unlikely I should find any place quite so commodious as this. And so it turns out - I shall have much less room next year and shall accordingly

Send a lot of my things to Cassardin.  
It has been so terribly hot these past  
few days that I have made no progress  
with packing, but I am going to make  
an effort to finish it up by Thursday  
night if it stays cool.

I made you so briefly while away on  
my trip that I wonder if you have  
noticed any change of job. I have  
resigned the position at Purdue and  
accepted one at Michigan State  
College in East Lansing. I shall see  
you here to come about when I see  
you. The <sup>new</sup> job is quite similar to the old,  
but the teaching load will be considerably  
less and the subject matter somewhat  
more interesting. The salary is better by  
a small amount, \$200, but that was  
not a deciding point. The place is  
beautiful and the college appeals  
to me much more than did Purdue.

I don't think I have made a mistake  
in changing.

I'm sure you have been wondering  
about my plans for the summer.  
I have said nothing about them for  
they have been only half-formed vague  
and subject to some change. But I  
think it <sup>sure</sup> only right that I should keep you  
the probable course of events. I hope  
you will not be distressed by them,  
so surprising and superficially disturbing  
as you may find them. It is practically  
settled that Constance & I shall be  
married, probably sometime early in  
August. I am afraid that you have  
deduced this outcome and I can only  
say how sincerely I wish you might  
not have done so. I ~~could~~ ~~hope~~ to  
~~don't~~ expect to convince you in a few  
words or a short time that I am  
not acting foolishly, but I do hope

that in time you will come to see  
that I am not being unwise. I know that  
some Courtship ~~is~~ <sup>seems to you to</sup> belong to a  
different world from yours, but  
I think no more so than do I. She  
was brought up in a home both  
parents of which you would have  
been <sup>very</sup> happy to call your friends  
and despite certain superficial  
differences of viewpoint which she,  
~~as I have~~ <sup>as I have</sup> has naturally acquired,  
she is as ~~much~~ <sup>as</sup> worthy a child of her  
parents as am I of yours. But quite  
aside from this I know you will  
realize that <sup>our</sup> genuine love & devotion  
of each of us for ~~the~~ <sup>each</sup> other is a  
~~and sufficient~~ <sup>and sufficient</sup> basis  
for our marrying, ~~and~~  
I feel certain that such exists.  
~~I don't think~~ <sup>I don't think</sup> ~~my~~ <sup>my</sup>  
~~can~~ <sup>can</sup> be said to be acting in  
fear, for we have known each other  
for years and have had most ample

opportunity for making a decision  
wisely. ~~It shows you can~~

I know you will try to see this  
all clearly and I earnestly hope  
that you can see it in a way to  
save you more than momentary  
happiness. I am so anxious that this  
marriage should place nothing in  
the way of a barrier between us —  
~~It may be difficult both for you  
and for me to speak naturally  
of it at first. There is no valid reason  
for its being so very near them  
my marriage to anyone else. I am hope  
afraid you won't feel reluctant to  
talk to me about this — I know, of  
course, that you won't try to  
dissuade me, but there will be  
things you will want to say and to  
ask, and I hope you will ~~of~~  
say & ask them quite naturally.~~

So much for now for the major  
event affecting my plans. I want  
of course to be at home for a time  
and to spend some time with  
Donald in Danbury. Had I only  
been able to leave here earlier  
I should have had more time  
for both of these, but I have  
had to stay here so long that  
I shan't be able to have as long  
a time at either place as I had  
wished.

I started this letter this morning.  
Before I had finished it Mr. Wells  
asked me down to dinner. After  
dinner I asked the Wellises if they  
wouldn't like to go for a ride since  
neither of them has been out of the  
city for months. They were quite  
glad to go so we took quite  
a rapid ride not getting back until

start soon about. Then they  
 asked me to supper, and said it  
 is after nine. I am going to bed  
 early, and try to get a good  
 night's rest before starting out in  
 earnest tomorrow to pack. I have  
 found it hard to sleep well lately  
 for it gets light so early, and the  
 birds are so noisy. But if I get  
 to bed early perhaps I shall be  
 ready to get up early.

With much love,

J.

M. B. VAN SCHAAK  
ELMSHADE  
COXSACKIE, N. Y.

[around  
4 Mar 1937]

Wednesday P.M.

Dear George :-

It's time to take  
Margaretta home but just a line  
was so glad to get your letter yes-  
terday morning, opened it read a  
little & it was found it so long  
that I thought I'd leave it till  
noon. Put all our mail together  
with a rubber band around it and  
in some unaccountable way I lost  
it. We looked for it yesterday and  
today but no trace of it.  
I'm so sorry because I enjoy the  
letters so much & wonder if they  
turn up yet. If there was anything  
in it you wanted us to do for you  
let us know.

Mother is gaining very slowly but I  
think will be all right soon. She was  
up to Albany Friday night and came  
home with it on Saturday.

Wilbur surprised us by coming in  
Sunday morning. They returned on  
Tuesday. Don't making it go any  
too well. Grandpa is fine!

Elliot Williams came into see  
us this afternoon he looks fine  
and is doing very nicely. Mr. Boykin  
was also here about August fallen  
for a few minutes so you see  
it has been visiting day. Spent

Washington But today up in the wood  
lot - had Will Day and Will Eldred  
to help me cut a nice lot. Will I  
could write more but must stop.  
So sorry about the letter. Love  
Father

May 20, 1937.

Dear Father,

I have been very glad to have Mother's various communications this week saying that you are improving so rapidly. I hope that by this time you are able to be up for a little while each day. But please don't try to get around too quickly, for you must be quite weak. And why do you have to go back to the route? I simply don't see the reason for it - unless it involves your pension in some way. The total difference in income for the year remaining is only \$200 - a tidy sum in certain ways, but

The shrubs in the parks have been and still are very beautiful. There is a great variety of kinds - Forsythia, lilacs, flowering peaches, plums, apples, etc. etc. and a great deal of dogwood. The Hawthornes are still to come - there are literally hundreds of them.

When Darned was here he asked me if I would undertake to keep an eye on his house and the new tenants - his agent - a woman, Mrs. Merchant by name - has been too ill and busy to keep track of it. The new tenants are Jews of ordinary type and wholly unaccustomed to living in such a house on such a street. I was over there the other day and found that the grass had <sup>not</sup> been touched - it looked quite like the devil. I said nothing then for the man was not at

met enough to risk getting sick again for. I wish you would seriously consider not going back.

Tell Mother that the package of asparagus came this morning. We were very happy to have it and are much indebted to her for sending it - especially when she must have been so busy. We had some of it for lunch - we have been getting it from the store now & then, but none so tender and juicy as this.

We have been having a very late spring this year - or so it seems to me - certainly much later than in Cambridge or New York. We have had several cold days of late and much 'cold' rain - so much of the latter that they say the farmers are having difficulty in getting on the land - there is a great deal of level land here which doesn't seem to be well-drained.

home, but I must go over tomorrow  
and tactfully suggest to him that he  
get the grass cut. - I don't suppose he  
has noticed it.

The superintendent of the girl's private  
school here called Elizabeth today to  
ask her to substitute next week. It  
was something of a surprise, for when  
Elizabeth interviewed her last fall, she  
gathered that she had been cut off  
the list.

All for now, - I do hope that you  
are not worrying about the outside  
work - I know that the children are  
being well-taken care of and that is  
the main item - just let the rest go  
and don't plan to go back on the coast!

With love to both of you,

George.

Friday, May 28, 1937.

Dear Father,

I have been glad to have Mother's cards this week bringing the news that you are improving steadily. I am glad that you have already been able to be up a part of the day, and hope that the next word I hear will say that you have been out of doors. But do be careful, and don't try to get around too rapidly. Get out in the sun and warm air when you can, but because of getting a cold.

And for heaven's sake give up the idea

my picnic areas, at a bend in the river, on the banks high above it. After lunch several of us went for a long walk, down into the canyon and below the Lower Falls. At the latter point the whole Gennessee runs between two rocks not more than ten feet apart - it must be very deep there. The Middle Falls was best, rivaling Niagara, though not as wide. There was a huge cloud of mist, and standing in it, with the sun behind me, one could see a complete circle of rainbow.

This has been a pretty busy week with Elizabeth at school every day. On Tuesday evening we had the Moore's in for dinner. On Wednesday night we went out for dinner. Tomorrow evening we go to Carson's for dinner & bridge, - a friend of Elizabeth's

of going back to the route - certainly of going back before you have had a vacation. You will not be strong enough to go back for some time, and after you are about again Mother will be pretty well laid out. You ought to plan to go away for at least the month of July. I know there are all the chickens to be taken care of - well, that can be washed out somehow. If there is no other solution I will stay in Coxsackie and take care of them myself, - but you two must have a good long vacation.

Last Sunday we went to Lehigh Park on the Math Club picnic. The day started cold and cloudy, but by ten o'clock the sun was breaking through and the day was beautiful. We reached the park about eleven thirty and had lunch at one of the

Frank Graville is visiting there and  
has asked us down. Harold & Mary  
wanted us to go there for the week-  
end, but I felt just too tired to go  
for the whole time. I have written  
them that we shall drive over Monday  
morning for the day. I think I  
can find a back road and avoid  
most of the traffic.

What a tremendous accident you  
had in West Co. a few days  
ago! I saw about it in the New York  
paper.

My 'missionary work' for Dances goes  
on - I spent a large part of last Satur-  
day afternoon looking up a good second-  
hand gas stove to replace the old one  
at the house. I finally found one for  
\$25 and have had it installed this week.

Eva writes that she will be going home  
late next week. I am glad for I know  
how glad you will be to see her.  
Please take things slowly - both of you -  
and plan for a vacation with our love George.

Halls 7  
Cambridge 38, Mass.  
June 1, 1934.

Dear Father,

I gather from an advertisement  
which I saw in the paper this morning  
that Sunday is Father's Day. So I'll  
just write a few lines to tell you  
that I know of it and will think of  
you 'extra' that day.

I found Mather's card on the floor  
yesterday after I wrote her. I'm much  
relieved to know that you are now  
getting on so well, and that the next

life without taking the consequences!  
I haven't seen him since last December.  
He is connected with one of the Recovery  
Administrations here - E.R.A. I think -  
He has the title of 'regional engineer' -  
but he seems to spend most of his  
time out of this region - a couple  
of weeks ago he was in Kansas City -  
this week in Maine and next week  
in New York. I hope to see him  
before I leave and find out what  
he is doing.

I have spent today going through  
a lot of junk - papers - I have carried  
about + collected since I was a  
freshman hoping some time to have

operation will be trivial in comparison  
with the first. You have been having  
lots of fine weather for sitting up on  
the sun porch - and what a grand  
place it is - the hospital was the  
last thing of Albany which I could  
see when I came back here on the  
train four weeks ago, and although  
I had been on the sun porch just  
a couple of hours before I hadn't  
realized what a tremendous view  
it commands.

I was talking with Raymond  
Tracy on the phone a couple of days  
ago. When I told him about you he  
replied, 'Well, a man like your father  
can't expect to live such a distance

a chance to put them out. I think  
I may be able now to get the job  
done in these few days before I  
leave for home.

Are you getting much reading done -  
how are you getting on with Bradford?  
I have a life of Sherman which I  
read last year and found quite  
interesting. I think you would  
too - would you like me to send it?

Best wishes for a pleasant Sunday -  
and continued improvement!

With much love

George.

324 Canterbury Rd.,  
Rochester, N.Y.  
October 28, 1937.

Dear Father,

I have been thinking off and on all week of you and of this Saturday which will mark the end of your long service in carrying the mail. And my thoughts have been mixed with a certain sadness - not because I am not glad that you are to have the well-earned reward of retirement, but because I am sure that the change which you now make will be in a certain sense a cause of some sadness to you. You ~~have~~ <sup>for thirty years</sup> have worked day in and day out, at

more or less bound up with yours. You have not only delivered the mail - you have brought courtesy, kindness, cheerfulness, friendliness. For thirty years the route has had a friendly service, surpassed by none, and when you do not return to it on Monday, you are going to be missed as you so well deserve to be.

I hope you'll think some of these things and that in thinking them you'll find the break easier rather than harder. And I want to say that to me there is no one more deserving of having said of him the following lines, more or less inaccurately quoted from those engraved on the facade of the central post-office in New York - 'No rain, no snow, no heat of noon-tide sun, stay these carriers from the swift accomplishment of their appointed task'.

one job without feeling a real pang at finally leaving it. I realize that it was not exactly what you wanted to do, but when you finally came to look upon it as your life-work you devoted yourself to it with the same devotion you would have accorded a job infinitely more to your liking.

It would probably surprise you if you knew how many times in the past dozen years I have recalled the words you sometimes spoke when I showed annoyance and impatience at the habits and customs of some of your patrons, - to you they were patrons to whom was owed the best service possible, regardless of how annoying they might be, - and most of them were more, they were your friends, whom you met day after day and whose lives were in many cases

I believe it is two weeks since I have written a letter home - but much & little has happened in that time. Much, for I never seem to get caught up, little, for nothing very special has taken place. I have been here in Rochester the last two week ends. On both Sundays Dr. Warslawski, one of the new math instructors - a very nice young Jew, exiled from Germany - has been over to have dinner with me. On the first Sunday we went out for a ride off southeast of here - on the way back I saw a hawk - but here near the road as we stopped and collected nuts until our pockets were full - it was the first I had collected any in a good many years. Last Sunday afternoon we went up near the lake to have tea with <sup>the family of</sup> another exiled German Jew whom I met several times last year. I sometimes think there must be something Jewish about me - the Jews

always pick me out and I usually get  
on with them very well. On Tuesday  
Miss Cummins had me to lunch with  
a small group of teachers from the  
Eastman School - one of them I had  
known when I was in the school - Gay  
Max Robt, for he was my piano teacher  
for a while. I found them a pleasant  
lunch and I was invited to come along  
and lunch with them any day that I  
should wish.

On Tuesday afternoon I had my bed-  
cases, books, papers, vials & trunk  
delivered from storage. I have part of  
them unpacked - the rest are in the garage -  
and my rooms are looking quite pleasant.  
I hope to have them all fixed by the  
time you come. I am looking forward  
to your coming and hope that you  
may be here several days. You will be  
able to stay right here for Mrs. Wells

Have been enjoying them.

Now I must be going to bed and get some sleep in preparation for a very busy day tomorrow. M.H. will come to you next,

George.

P.S. When I talked to Harold Taught he spoke of there being an issue of the 'Union News' with an article about you. I wish you would send me a copy. 9.

will have plenty of room for you.

I am going to spend this week-end in Clinton with David & Beth. I wish it weren't so long a drive for so short a stay - it is about 135 miles each way, and I shan't be able to start until about eleven o'clock Saturday morning. I think that if I go again I shall go by train. I had a telegram from George Taught asking me to go to Buffalo for this week-end, - I called her up and told her I would try to go two weeks from now.

I am wondering if you received a package from me this week - you should have had it by Tuesday or Wednesday - if it hasn't come let me know. The package from you came a week ago Saturday. Thank you for the apples - they were fine and I

[1938]-

Tuesday afternoon.

Dear Father,

Well, I have just had my last class as an undergraduate. I have left but two examinations, on the eighth and tenth, and I wish they were over. We are having some pretty hot weather just now, but I hope it will cool off for next week.

We stopped in Plymouth to see  
the rock. It was quite disappointing  
to me, for it is very small,  
scarcely more than four feet the  
longest way. Despite the continual  
mist the landscape was lovely.

There are many old apple trees  
which were all in blossom,  
and besides those the road is  
fairly lined with a wild shrub,  
peach-plum, which was one  
mass of white blossoms.

I spent the week-end at Cohasset as  
I wrote I should. There was also  
there a girl whom I knew as Eastman  
and her husband, who were here  
playing in Eva Le Gallien's Civic  
Repertory Theatre company. They  
are both very nice and we had  
a good time. It rained some on  
Sunday but we took the trip  
on the cape just the same. We  
drive the whole length of the  
cape, that is, out to Provincetown,  
a distance of over a hundred miles.

A great part of the whole arm  
of the cape is covered with sand  
dunes, many of them a hundred  
and over feet in height. They  
are partially covered with  
scrub pines, put there to keep  
the sand from shifting. I  
enclose a few cards and a map of  
the cape.

Provincetown is an old sea-farers  
town built "all over the place"  
with very narrow streets and  
quaint old houses. The whole

Cape is quite an artists' haunt  
and we passed the summer  
places of many famous writers  
and painters.

The Pilgrim Memorial at Provincetown is a grand monument. We ~~were~~ <sup>tried</sup> to see it, but the top was shrouded in mist so that there was no need of going up. On a clear day one can see most of the Cape from its top. We also visited the coast guard station, and ate our lunch there. We had to do the

to get a Ford. I don't think you would make a mistake if you did.

To return to the more serious.

I wonder if you can send me twenty-five dollars. I shall be getting considerably over two-hundred dollars within the next four weeks but exactly when I don't know. I hope to get the money for correcting papers within a few days.

last in the car, however, for the flaw is very exposed, and there was a sharp wind from the sea with a misty rain which kept everything wet.

We made the trip in one of the new Ford four-door sedans. The car rides unbelievably well and keeps the road remarkably. Beyond that it has all the speed and get-a-way that most anyone could desire. I wonder if you are planning

I'm wondering when you and mother  
will get to Cambridge - Wednesday  
afternoon? Can't you plan to stay  
through Friday ~~night~~ at least?  
Thursday will be taken up  
so much with Commencement  
that we won't have time to  
see much unless you can stay  
here Friday. I shall plan to have  
you stay at Miss Hayes, in fact  
I think I will walk up there now  
and call on her.

I have received my license -

it came this morning.

The scholarship matter asks about is the one I have held this year. The public announcement now comes until the next spring.

Well I guess this is all for now. I'm awfully sorry to hear about grandpa's eyes. I hope he can still read the paper a little. Love to all  
George.

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Mr Geo B. Van Schaack  
Ball Pond Vanburg  
% Ronald Luedy Trmer  
R. W. L.

Dear George :- Thursday P.M.

We are now ready to start for Albany. Eva arrived last night as per schedule. She seems quite well. Received your letter yesterday. I went to the Sunday School picnic yesterday. Very warm here just a trifling rain yesterday. Regards to Mr. & Mrs. [unclear].  
Love Father

Williamstown, Mass.  
August 11, 1938.

Dear Father,

Just a brief note to bring you  
my very best wishes & love to  
you for your birthday tomorrow.  
I hope that it will be a happy  
day for you and that you will  
be feeling quite well again. I'm  
sorry that we shall be at home  
to celebrate with you.

We have just had lunch, having  
not started from Williamstown  
yet. It has rained all morning

Sunday or Monday - there isn't  
the time to write there, but I shall  
cut at the N. W. part in case you  
have needed to telegraph.

I must terminate this scrawl -  
my own pen is deeply pained & I  
can't make this one of Constance  
slide across the paper. Constance  
was very much pleased & fawned  
with the four-leaf clover and  
sends you her thanks.

I hope all is well with all  
of you. Again best wishes  
for tomorrow, and am love  
to all,  
George.

and there seems no promise of  
clearing this afternoon. We had  
hoped to climb Graylock today -  
partly for fun, partly for scien-  
tific - you know, Mr. Rogers was  
a Millimanian, and had often  
climbed Graylock.

We are planning eventually to  
get up to the region around  
Mt. Washington, but have  
just decided to delay getting  
there until after the coming  
week-end. But if you have  
sent any mail to North Con-  
cord we shall pick it up later.  
We shall stay around Newport  
New Hampshire until sometime

May 24, 1939

Dear Father,

Unless Mother has sent you my letter to her in Baltimore it is a long time since you have had any word of me. I had a card from Mother today, from Baltimore. She is apparently having a good time, and I am very glad she is able to get away and have this change. The long ordeal of auntie's illness must have been very hard on her, and this holiday will go a long way toward resting her. I have been glad to hear that she stood the strain as well as she did, for it indicates that she must be in essentially very good health.

I've heard very little this spring about

How you feel - I hope that means  
that you have been feeling as well as  
well as usual. Mother wrote that  
you are hoping to take the whole month  
of August to get away to Maine. I'm  
glad to know that you can plan such  
a vacation & to hear that you are planning  
it. But see to it that you don't work  
so hard before then that you'll need it  
just to get rested in.

Mother has said little lately about  
how your work is going this spring.  
I trust the chickens have turned out  
much better than last year. And I hope  
you've learned how to handle the  
tractac so that it doesn't wear you  
out. - I don't know much about weather,  
but it appeals to me that if you have  
had as little rain for the last month  
as have we that you may have been  
finding it too dry. I have been  
amazed at the long succession of

five days here. I do not remember  
ever before seeing the like of last  
fall & this spring - although the  
natives here think they have had  
weather as a rule.

I have just come in from a depart-  
ment dinner - a farewell dinner for  
the head of the department who retires  
this June. He has been here twenty-  
six years and is finishing forty years  
of teaching. The dean gave a long talk  
outlining his many activities in the  
college, the many changes he has been  
a partaker to. He has his faults as we  
all do, and one is frequently forced  
to disagree with him, but he is a man  
of strong convictions, quite unselfish  
and always subjecting himself to the  
same discipline he requires of others.  
So far no one has been appointed to  
follow him, and indeed it is unlikely any-

one will be appalled who combines the  
virtues of deep interest in the department  
and the perseverance to promote these  
interests.

Our term is drawing rather rapidly to  
a close now. There are only two weeks of  
classes after this week, so that in less  
than a month I shall be on my way  
home. I'm looking forward anxiously  
to getting to Carlsbad, though I'm  
not just sure yet when Constance  
I shall get there - but as soon as we  
can.

I hope you're taking good care of your-  
self in Mother's absence, and that Jessie  
is seeing that you get a dinner now & then -  
you must be rather too busy to do much  
real cooking. - I must get to bed in  
preparation for a lot of work the  
rest of this week. Must love,

George.

HAROLD S. VAN SCHAACK  
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

Dear George:

June 3 1939

Just had my nap and now I'll pen a few lines to you. Do - a pleasure to neglect you so. But the days are so filled that one neglects to do the things they should. It seems a long time since the women left and yet the days go quickly. I have been particularly busy for I have had no help outside. Mr. Shepman mind is pretty bad again. I think he could work if he thought so, but will not for Melba's sake.

But don't think that I'm killing myself for I take lots of time to rest. There was several things I wanted to do while they were gone but have had to let them slide. Had only a small garden and Frank is doing the rest. Had the elms sprayed yesterday by the Davey Co. I go to Wilbur's to pupa nearly every night. They are so upset with moving and flying the house over. Jessie is not well a bit - has low blood pressure.

I don't <sup>know</sup> whether anyone has told you that I  
have succeeded in getting the Riverside Cemetery  
to take over our Cemetery. One of the candidates  
was a new fence called Wilson and I am  
dickering for it now. It will be a fine thing  
to know that it will have perpetual care.  
We have to scratch around and get about  
\$175.00 more than we have now.

The next Tuesday there is a Conference  
meeting in Albany and Mr. Brougham and I  
will attend. The next week there is one  
similar to the one in the winter in Albany.  
I suppose that will be a two day meeting.  
The weather is very nice here now but getting  
very dry. I suppose you are looking forward  
eagerly to the close of school. A letter from mother  
from Cumberland Co. Tenn. <sup>this a.m.</sup> said they were about  
60 miles from Mc Kee where the museum field  
is located. If nothing happens they plan to  
start back home Sunday and may reach here  
either Sunday or Monday. I wonder if you can  
read this as fast as I am in a hurry. Love  
Father

August 11, 1939

Dear Father,

Though I shall send this 'air-mail' I fear it won't reach you tomorrow as I had intended it should. But it brings you mine & Constance's best wishes for the day, many happy returns and much love. I'm glad that you are feeling so much better than you were a year ago this time and hope that you will keep your good health.

The happiness of tomorrow may be somewhat diminished by your concern over Eva, but I don't think that you need to be unduly concerned. Dr. Tilghman seems to me very capable and deeply interested - I feel sure he will do and have done the very best for Eva. - He went to Baltimore yesterday to see Eva and to have a conference with the doctor. Eva seemed markedly well contented and reconciled to being in

the hospital. Nervously, of course, she seemed rather shaken, but that is natural since she has finally 'let go' now that there is no need for keeping up appearances. - The doctor is a little stumped at what to do for he <sup>had</sup> hoped to have the help of a psychiatrist - but that is probably not possible now for all the psychiatrists in whom he has confidence are away on vacation until about September 15th. There is one exception, a full time resident psychiatrist at the Phipps Clinic whom he may be able to interest in Eva's case, but he is not sure that she (the psychiatrist) would be able to find time to see Eva. So it is likely the matter of the psychiatrist will have to wait for some four or five weeks. But that does not mean Eva must stay in the hospital until then. In fact Dr. Tilghman thinks that 10 days or two weeks will bring Eva around physically so that a longer stay would be more a detriment than a help. But after that she must leave.

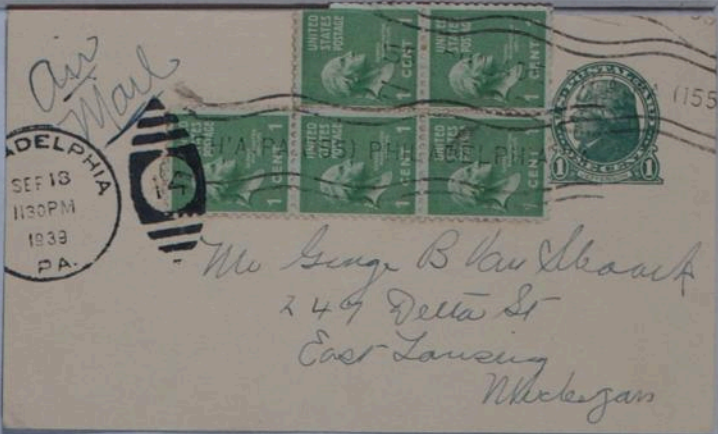
Baltimore for a time. He assured me that when the time came for her to leave the hospital there would be no danger in her travelling alone - these recent spells of pseudo-syncope are the result of over-exhaustion and will not recur after she is rested.

I am not at all sure, nor is Dr. Tilghman, where Eva should go when she leaves Baltimore. She will want, of course, to see you and Mother, and you will want to see her. But both the doctor & I feel that it is doubtful she should go to Maine to be with you where her sense of responsibility for part of the work would be against her having the rest she should have. What she does must depend to a certain extent on what she intends on doing, for she must be allowed her own way enough to let her feel she is not being forced. I have thought of her going straight to Miss Boyd's from Baltimore, returning to Baltimore by way of Cape Cod about the middle of September. But about that I am not sure of it, mind you. For the time being I suggest you make her no suggestions - she

doesn't even know yet how soon she  
may be able to leave the hospital.

Since it is pretty certain now there  
is nothing further I can do here, we  
shall leave for New York on Monday  
morning, stopping to see Eve on the  
way. I have complete confidence in  
the doctor and have told him to do  
as he thinks best. He has both my  
address & yours and will let me on  
the side if he knows what is to be  
done. - We expect to leave New York  
on Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup>, stopping near  
Greenfield that night & reaching Boston  
on Sunday. We have dentist's appoint-  
ments on Monday & Tuesday. Since  
I can't give you any address there  
I would like some phone number  
when I could call you if necessary.  
I reckon we may reach Ocean Park  
the 23 or 24<sup>th</sup>, though I'm not sure.

All for now. I have several other  
letters to write and must then go in-  
to Washington for lunch. Hope you  
are all continuing to have a fine  
vacation & that you'll have a celebration  
tomorrow - with me could be there.  
Love to all,  
George.



Dear George:

Monday night  
at the hospital

The women had their  
operations this A.M. They came thru  
all right. Mrs D. has been very sick from  
the time your mother had a local  
anesthetic. Mother's operation was different  
from what we expected, but I have  
perfect confidence in Dr. Sidney. I am  
very pleasantly located right near the  
hospital. Don't worry for everything will  
be all right. Love Mother

September 9, 1939

Dear Father,

Mathie's card & Evi's telegram  
came this morning as surprises,  
but pleasing ones. I'm delighted  
the operations are over and that  
Mathie is doing so well, - as I hope  
Mrs. Deef is also. I'm sure you  
must be greatly relieved - I  
wish I could send them word  
directly, but I don't know their  
address. I enclose a note to  
Mathie - a check which I'd like  
you to use in buying some flowers.

For both Mother & Mrs. Delp  
from Courtauld & me. I trust the  
check is big enough to cover pur-  
chases on two occasions.

I'm glad to hear you consented  
to try a treatment by Dr. Sedney  
and hope that the absence of head-  
ache after it was due to the  
treatment. Please keep it up - it  
would be wonderful if you could  
be cured.

There is brief news of my trip etc.  
in the note to Mother. I'll write  
more later when the air clears - at  
present I have a hundred directions  
to travel in.

Eva said she was well - Hope it's  
so. I look far ward from you to-  
morrow. Must close,  
George.

September 19, 1939

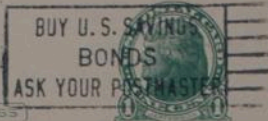
Dear Mother,

I am distressed that you have had to be so long without word from me - especially no word from me at this particular time. Had I only known the hospital I would send you at least a telegram.

Your card of Sunday came this morning as something of a surprise and a relief. I had not supposed you would have the operation so very soon, but I am glad it is over and that everything went well, as I knew it would. Regarding it I have <sup>only</sup> Eva's telegram this morning saying Father had telephoned her all was well with

you, as I hope it is also with Mrs.  
Delp. I think it's fine you two can  
have the same room - you'll keep  
each other good company and thus  
avoid one of the more unpleasant  
aspects of being in a hospital - having  
no one to talk to most of the time  
who really cares.

I reached here yesterday afternoon,  
having dropped Steve in Jackson.  
The trip was uneventful but rather  
harder than usual - partly due  
to so much driving into the sun  
on Saturday & Sunday. I'll write  
you more of it later. I have been  
swamped since reaching here and  
see us let up for 48 hours at least.  
I think I should really have come  
a day earlier. - I do hope I'll  
hear from Father tomorrow when  
I can reach you directly. Must close  
and take a message. Good!



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Geo B Van Schoack  
247 Delta St  
East Lansing  
Mich

Dear George: Friday evening.

Mother had a letter  
I had yesterday but seems all  
right again; my week Dr. Sedney  
assures me she is all right. Evad  
comes tomorrow to stay till Sunday.  
Constance sent beautiful flowers  
for both of us. Don't worry. Love  
Farker



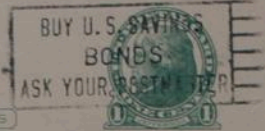
THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Geo B. Van Schaack  
247 Delta St  
East Lansing Mich

Dear George:

Wednesday evening.

Here I am sitting between  
the beds of the patients. They are both fine  
Mother says not to worry as she is going  
away today. Last night I went down to the  
Duff's kitchen for the night, and came  
in time for supper. I met Robert's former  
cousin at supper tonight he is a resident  
of the city his name is Lewis Whitson, a son  
of the house. It has been delightful weather  
lately but to day it rained a little. Love  
sent my D. a box of powder and told you she  
wishes you and G. would come. Father



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

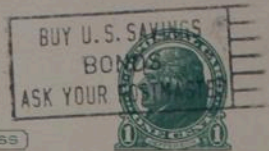
Dr Geo B Van Schaak  
247 Delta St  
East Lansing  
Mich

Dear George:

Friday A.M.

The women are still on  
the gain. I can see improvement every  
day. They are beginning to get ~~anxious~~  
about getting out and are counting the  
days. If nothing happens they may go  
next Thursday. Love

Fallen



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

George B. Von Schoeck  
247 Delta St  
East Lansing,  
Mich.

Dear George:

Wednesday evening.

Had my last dinner at the  
fareway tonight. It has been very pleas-  
ant here. Received your nice letter  
was to have a treatment tomorrow but  
have decided that it isn't the thing.  
I shall talk to Dr. Hedley first tonight.

We expect to leave tomorrow night by  
train. It has been damp and heavy  
since Saturday. Hope tomorrow will be  
bright. Address Landenberg Pa

Y. S. R. Co. Fair



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mr George R. Knapp  
247 Delta St.  
East Lansing  
Mich

Dear George:      Landenberg Pa  
Oct 6 1939

Well we arrived safe  
in St. Petersburg. They food the  
trip good. I think for the time they  
have out of the hospital they are  
fine. I have found out about a  
diagnostician whom I think I  
shall call this P.M. and make an  
appointment with. Beautiful weather  
here now to L. P. Cox      Love Father



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Dr. George B Van Schoeck  
247 Delta St  
East Lansing  
Mich

Dear Geo:

Lancaster Pa

The patient are making  
a satisfactory recovery, but they feel  
that it is very slow. Tomorrow they  
are able we get to Philadelphia to see  
Dr Hedberg who is wanted to see them  
tomorrow. We had thought we might  
leave here next Monday, but all depends  
on their condition. I think when we do go  
we will stop at Lerney and make it in  
two days. The weather here is like summer  
God bless them this A.M. Love Father.

October, 1939.

Dear Father,

In a sense this should go to Mother, but in a sense you rate a letter too, so I'll address it to you or you'll read it to Mother.

The first thing I want to say is about your headaches. How is the treatment working? I'm sure that it didn't seem to be working too well - that a week ago today you had a terrible attack, such that Dr. Gedney didn't really know what caused the headaches. Now I haven't any doubt Dr. Gedney

knows what he's doing about a good  
many things, but you can hardly  
expect him to know everything. But  
I'm sure there is some one in Phila-  
delphia who does know what causes  
your headaches and I think you  
shouldn't miss the opportunity  
to find him, now that you're  
there & have so much time on  
your hands. The person to find is  
a first-rate diagnostician, whose  
business it is to diagnose trouble  
& send you to the right man to  
get it fixed. Please look one up  
at the best & biggest hospital  
you can find. If you don't know  
where to look call up Mrs. Rogers  
& ask her - she would know.  
The name is Mrs. Eliza N. Rogers,  
205 South McAlpin St. West Phila.

What do you do with all your time?  
I hope you've found a good place  
to rent books, for you must have  
a lot of chance to read. And of  
course you should see some of  
the sights, - Independence Hall,  
the University, Franklin D. Roosevelt,  
etc. I'm glad Eva took you to  
the planetarium. It's a great thrill.  
I reckon they change the program  
at the beginning of the month  
so that if you went again you'd  
hear something different.

How is your weather? On the  
whole we're having very fine  
weather - clear, warm in the day  
& cool at night - nearly down to  
freezing last night, with hoar  
frost on some things at midnight.  
But it ought to rain - it's very

dry - though not as bad as in  
Ohio - whole groves of trees there  
were brown two weeks ago.

I asked last week that my policy  
on goods at home had expired. I  
wrote at once to Frank Warden to  
renew it - he answered you had  
taken care of it. Many thanks -  
what is the bill?

Send me a small check for  
some flowers for you & Mather  
for your anniversary next Sun-  
day. I hope by that time Mather  
will be able to sit up & enjoy the  
occasion. Trust I'll have some  
good word from you tomorrow.  
Regards to Mrs. Deep & lots  
of love to you & Mather,  
Grays.

June 13, 1940

Dear Father,

I address this to you alone chiefly because Sunday is Father's Day and I think you should have some special recognition, though most of what I write will clearly be for both you & Mother. I hope Sunday will be a good day for you, better than some of the past ones and the beginning of a lot of good ones. I'm sorry to hear you're having those terrible headaches again. Have you kept strictly to the diet and are you sure you are not working too hard? I do hope you'll find some relief soon, and that if you don't you'll plan on seeing another diognostician. - I have sent you a small package for Sunday, containing something I trust you have not seen - I ran upon it quite by accident and felt at once that you must have it.

I have waited until the last possible minute to write this. If you are to get it Saturday - and even now at one o'clock (A.M.!) I must run out and wait it if it's to catch the early morning Air mail,

which is collected somewhat before this lately  
to have breakfast. I spent all of yesterday  
and a good part of today packing up here -  
I can now finish in a few hours. I would not  
be so pressed had I not to go to Ann Arbor  
tomorrow. I shall leave here Saturday  
noon and hope to reach Salamanca Sunday  
evening. I expect to meet Donald there and  
spend a couple of days 'doing' Allegany Park  
with him. On Wednesday I shall drive to  
Rochester to meet Courthouse and on Satur-  
day we shall set out for Ann Arbor. My  
address this Wednesday will be Administration  
Building, Allegany State Park, Red House, N.Y.  
in Alban will be staying with Dr. Sutton -  
I can't remember his first name - it makes no  
difference - the address is East Ave. - I'm  
glad to have Bob's address for Jim counting  
on seeing him. I have written Harold  
to tell him to drive out if he can while  
we're there.

We have been having a phenomenal spell of  
rain - not as prolonged as yours, but very  
intense - it rained, by showers, for three  
days, some of them very heavy, the temperature  
high, so that it felt like what I reckon the  
tropics feel like. But I think the farmers

herabouts have been more fortunate than  
you for we have had good enough weather  
for them to get things started. —

Mother asks about Venetian blinds - I  
don't know much about them. I think they  
would look very well in the living room.  
I'm inclined to believe that the wooden  
ones would be just as satisfactory as the  
steel, if they are well finished and won't  
warp - I should think ~~that~~ warping was  
the chief danger - the part that wears out  
is the threading.

Well, I must run along if I'm to get any  
sleep tonight. Mother writes that you worry  
so over the war - I know it's hard not to,  
but I think you'd better not worry if you  
can help it - there's no doing anything about  
it, and it hurts you to worry.

I can't send you any address in Ann Arbor  
yet. Until you get one write here for we'll  
be coming here probably three or four days  
after we get to Ann Arbor.

All now - again best wishes for Sunday,  
and lots of love to you both.  
George.

{20 March 1941}

Thursday afternoon

Dear George:

I have just wakened from my nap and the first thing I'll do is scribble a few lines to you. The weather is usually very sunny, but the past two days have been cloudy, but the temperature is 70 now. Somehow we escaped the cold weather of the past few days. Mr. Delf's son, who is at Chanute Field, Mo. wrote it was so windy there so I suppose you got some of it, too. His storming paper said the wind reached a velocity of 56 miles an hour at Albany. So I suppose we had rough weather up home. It seems hard to believe that it can be cold and stormy anywhere on earth.

We have been leading a rather  
quilt life these last few days for  
two reasons. Your mother doesn't  
felt too good, but seems to feel  
much better now. And the other,  
that I had to leave the valves  
ground on the car. It hadn't  
been working good lately and  
when they took it apart, they  
found a cracked valve. We  
are going out now for a short  
ride to get milk and some things  
at the store. While the weather  
has been grand, there hasn't been  
very much real good beach  
weather as there persists a cool  
wind from day to day.

This town is very crude in many  
ways, and the next ten years  
will see a great change in it.  
It will be better in some ways and  
others not so good. It will begin to  
get too big, for you have no idea

What a lot of building is going on.  
There is <sup>a</sup> new house going up across  
the street from we and one up the  
street away. There were nearly  
250 houses built last year. Most  
of them are family houses.  
It's really funny to see the operation.  
They just a <sup>put</sup> light concrete founda-  
tions down and in a few days you  
have a house. In fact it only takes  
about three weeks to finish one.  
They know how to charge for  
them; there is one new one right  
near us that was sold yesterday.  
They wanted \$4500 for it. I don't  
know what they got.  
A letter from Jessie said they were  
all well up there. I haven't heard  
from Waze and Harold in quite  
a few days. We send more letters  
than we receive. According to your  
mother this is the right number one

I have written, besides any number  
of cards. Our time is drawing to a  
close very fast. We plan to start  
home on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April if nothing  
happens. It will take us a good  
week as we shall stop in Virginia  
on the way. We could stay here  
for very little till the first of May  
but I think we better get home.  
There will be much to do and I  
suppose help will be hard to get.

There seems to be no deferment  
of farm labor in the Draft - and  
this is going to work an hardship  
on the farmers. What a mess we  
are in, aren't we? Are hardly known  
from day to day in this country.

I have finished Oliver Maxwell and now  
I am reading Mrs. Minerva out loud to  
the folks. But it is your own fine  
it gives you some idea of the reality  
of the British to the war. Also read How  
Green is my Valley. Well here I am, to the end  
of the page. Metal and love and greeting. Father.

M. B. VAN SCHAACK  
ELMHADE  
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

Aug, 9, 1942

Dear George :-

I don't believe you will find mother's letter very newsworthy. After she had written this letter, she gave it to me to read and then forgot to put it in the envelope.

When I received your letter I was not very much surprised for I always felt that it just would not make a go of it.

You will never know what a bitter pill it was to swallow when your marriage with Elizabeth came to an end.

We liked her very much and  
felt that she would make you  
a good wife. Had Constance  
stayed out of the picture, I  
feel sure you would have  
made a go of it.

You remember that you came  
down in the garden and told  
me that Constance was a virgin.  
That was something I couldn't  
understand at the time and  
have pondered on it ever since.

Of course now it is all as plain  
as day. The wonder to me is  
that you would submit to such  
a situation for four years. Also  
it seemed to me if Constance

M. B. VAN SCHAACK  
ELMSHADE  
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

really loved you she would  
have been willing to go where  
you was and if necessary even  
sacrifice some of the things  
she had hitherto enjoyed.

Now I'm not overly fond of  
Marg, but you have to know  
it's for her for the way she has  
stood by Harold.

I feel very sorry about the whole  
affair. I had feared to like  
Constance in any way and I think

she is somewhat fond of me.  
Like your mother, I hardly want  
her to come here at this time  
for as frank as I am I should

have to tell her I would have  
done the same as you have.  
Of course, there may be some-  
thing we do not understand  
but certainly she seems as  
healthy as a bear.

Now I have no idea what you  
plan to do about this affair, and  
I am sure you realize there is  
nothing we can do. So coming  
that you will not see your little  
summer, but such is life. Just  
you will have a pleasant time  
on your trip and return safely.  
Perhaps mother will add a note.

Love  
Father

MRS. M. B. VAN SCHAACK  
ELMSHADE  
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

Aug 16/42

Dear George:

I am writing to-night as I may  
not get a chance again till the last  
of the week. I hope you have received  
our letters by now. We had a very  
heavy rain this AM. - almost a flood.  
Since then the South wind has blown  
continuously and it has been too warm  
to have everything shut up. We went  
to the M.E. Church this AM. as the 2  
Pfd. churches are closed this month.  
Have spent the afternoon visiting &  
reading. Had a big day yesterday  
caulking seams and elderberries. Pa  
has been very busy all week trying to  
get odds & ends of jobs finished be-  
fore leaving. Our pullets are laying  
now and when we get home we will

Have so many ~~of~~ we'd have to find a food  
market for them; just now we made  
them in for groceries.

We had a nice lawn party Wednesday  
for Father's birthday - I had hoped all  
Kendrick's were would be here on that day.  
We had table set on lawn near the  
flag pole - H. & M. & Lattie's Aunt from  
Fray were here - also Wilbur, Jessie,  
Bessie & the Young Woman & baby who  
boards there. After supper four of us  
played Croquet - Pat & Jessie against  
Harold & me - then we sat on porch  
& played verbal games till after 9.  
We were quite tired and next day I  
did not try to do much. Friday,  
Pat & I went to Catskill in afternoon -  
I wanted Dr. Gardner to see that my  
with Mrs. K. While in there we had  
a terrific rain so I was there over an hour.

MRS. M. B. VAN SCHAACK  
ELMSHADE  
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

Harold has just received his questionnaire for the draft from the Buffalo Draft Board. There seems no reason why he should not be drafted and yet it gives me an all gone feeling to think of it. Neil Brandow who has no children - wife gets a big salary, is classed in the dependency class which does not seem fair. However, I do feel for his mother who already has 2 boys in the army. Milton was here a few months to-day. He looks better than he has in a long time - I guess the freedom from business responsibilities and problems, besides his diet, has been

beneficial to him. There is a long  
list of boys going again soon  
and many from this town. The  
farmers all having a hard time to  
get help due to the draft and  
the defense works. There has  
been so much static on radio to-  
day we have not been able to get  
news. The successes in the Paci-  
fic are encouraging but there is  
+ has been so much discouraging  
news lately. - Did I tell you we  
must go to Maine by train to Boston  
& then by either train or bus to Old Orchard  
Beach. Grace is up there now it will be nice  
to have her company. I leave Wed.  
A.M. - address "The Curtis". Have not  
written to you yet - I hardly know  
what to say - My heart aches for both  
of you. Much love & hope  
Mother

M. B. VAN SCHAACK  
ELMSHADE  
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

Aug 16 1942

Dear George:

Just a line to add to mother's letter. It was nice of you to send me best wishes on my birthday. It arrived about seven o'clock. As mother says we had a pleasant time but missed you. I have pretty busy doing this and that. If it doesn't rain in the morning I want to <sup>take</sup> a man down to the cemetery to mow it. This has been a wonderful year for things to grow. It seems a pity to leave such

a nice garden and eat-store  
vegetables in Miami. But I guess  
maybe the trip will do us both  
good. Trust you are having a  
pleasant time, and that you  
will return safely.

Love  
Father

Last letter  
from Fisher



Am  
this  
packet

Dr. George B. Van Schaack  
626 M. G. C., Ave.  
East Lansing,  
Mich.

The Christmas Cactus is in bloom at last - It is wonderful.  
The storm's wind is over and it is a bright day but very  
cold. Not much news from Holland lately but a card  
saying all is O.K. - <sup>mother</sup>

M. B. VAN SCHAACK  
ELMSHADE  
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

March, 3, 1943

Dear George:

We are having one of  
those rip roaring winter frosts again.  
It has snowed a little all day and now  
it is blowing and is very cold.  
Mother had been writing to Eva and  
she wanted me to write you a bit.  
I was so glad we had good weather  
in Boston. I wonder whether the  
trip paid in benefit to me, but  
anyhow we had a good time and  
the visit to Mrs. Hoags was certainly  
worthwhile. So far all I have for my  
money is forty cents worth of pills &  
Exodity. My parent reported to Dr.  
McLellan. I was going down there to

might, but this is Doc's might of.  
They certainly do a rushing business  
at the Clinic. It sort of makes  
me feel like a gamma peg.  
The Delf was to visit us this week  
end, but to day we received a letter  
stating it would not be possible to  
come. She said she was in tears  
and we felt badly about it.  
Nancy is up and about and her  
back seems better. What will be the  
outcome of her arm disorder.  
Her mother is there now to stay till  
Friday. Harold still hears nothing.  
I imagine he is having some work  
now with so many having to make  
out income tax blanks. See so letter  
of Nelson that he might live a long  
distance away on Sunday the Puff  
garden the Pastor of the Second

church asked me to take a load  
of young people to Albany to a  
Sept. 10th <sup>M. B. VAN SCHAACK</sup> <sup>ELM HURST</sup> <sup>COXSACKIE, NEW YORK</sup> ~~Sept. 10th~~ <sup>meeting</sup>. I was  
somewhat of a sacrifice but I was  
glad to help him. Spent yesterday  
in the office and attended Rotary  
with Harry and Brougham. It  
was really worthwhile for we had  
as speaker a young man about your  
age a Mr. Hoshida who came home  
from Japan on a furlough where he  
had been a missionary. He talked  
on race relations and gave the men  
something to think about. I go down  
to Catskill tomorrow where we  
have meetings of the P. A. & C. the  
A. D. T. the A. C. P. and the County  
Agricultural Defense committee.

To day I sold some of the hens to  
make room for little chicks. I  
suppose I shouldn't have any duck  
but thought I would try it. I may  
be able to get Mr. Sherman to  
work now this year. I still have  
a lot to do on War food production  
fair survey. I had a nice letter  
from Inst Steele who is in the  
Army in Missouri and a long  
letter from Mr. Gurnout who is in  
Florida. Well I guess we covered  
all the high spots and perhaps  
you mother may think of some  
thing more Love

Thus Am.

Father

Dear Sis. I would like to write to you but I never  
pa has covered the ground. I had to write 4 letters  
last night (business) after I wrote to Eva. Now I must get  
busy on Telephone bills & accounts. Pa is going to town to catch up

after dinner.