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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.

Cassackie N.Y.,
April, 20, 1941

Dear George:

At last I am writing you a letter. The glasses came yesterday and I am getting used to them tho' I have not used them enough yet to judge. I wrote a letter to Eva before church this A.M. Fannie Fredell was here most of afternoon so I did not get any more written.

To-day has been uncomforably hot - just like July - it has been warm all week and everything is budding out - the forsetia is beautiful. Sherman was here 2 1/2 days to help clean up the lawns & gardens so we look quite respectable outdoors. Pa sees so much to be done he almost gets discouraged. We have not settled on the Wall Paper yet but must do so soon.

Had a letter from Eva + one from
Laura this week. Nothing much new
only that doctor thinks the injections
are helping. I will enclose letter.
Marge came back from Rutland
Wednesday + has been busy ever
since getting her play yard ready.
She has 2 rabbits in an enclosure.
A frame with 6 swings, a revolving
pea-saw, a slide and a frame
with 4 or five rungs on 4 sides
for climbing. This has been
vacation week + business starts
again to-morrow. In the
morning I must go to dentist
in Catonsville to have teeth cleaned
and in afternoon to dress maker.
I had such a severe + continuous
headache Thursday that we went
to Dr. W. G. G. for a check up -
he pronounced us both O.K. +
said he thought the head trouble
was just eye strain. He figured
that the attack of high blood pressure
in March was due to nervousness

one nice condition & the long
wait of 2 hours waiting to see
the doctor. Pa has had several
severe headaches & the worst one
last night.

Wilbur is head over heels in
work getting the place ready for
the dinner which has been pre-
chared in N. Y. He told Pa to-
day if it was a big success he
will give up the garage work.
Newbold seems to get business
right along tho' not much yet
of great value as far as cash
goes. We are wondering if
you have made any further
move to make a change.

Now about the photos - they
are here and shall I send
to you or Constance. I have
given to Mr J + H + M +
Mrs Delp - they all like them
but I do not - however it is a
relief not to have to go thro' the
ordeal again. I do not

think it wise to send to Fra - it
might upset her too much.
I will return the \$5 to you
& thank you for sending it -
it is only fair to give it back
after pictures were accepted.
Fra has just said it is time to pay
the \$100 & I agreed to. owing to
the car trouble & a few other
things our Florida trip cost some
more than last year. But after
all, it pays I think for a get,
so much out of it. I do, too, but
not as much as he does. I do
feel selfish about it though I know
so many folks who need the rest
& change it can't have it.
I hope it cools off for it is too
warm to work at anything. I was
able last week I do some cleaning
out of drawers & closets but some
how I can't keep up. Mothering very
long at a time - guess I'm getting
lazier. Hope you are well & not at-
tending too much. European news is so

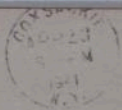
When we read & believe very little for winter.

*Flies From Lansing
To Visit Home Town*

Flying an Aeronca monoplane and circling over Coxsackie several times before bringing his ship down in the Cook estate opposite Phillips Wednesday afternoon, Richard Marsh arrived home from Lansing, Mich. for a visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George S. Marsh and his sister, Miss Helen Marsh.

Leaving Detroit about 8 o'clock that morning, young Marsh made several stops en route to Coxsackie, the last being at Utica for refueling.

Several friends, as well as his sister, enjoyed flights with Mr. Marsh.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Dr. George B. Van Schaack
247 East Lansing,
Mich.

Catsackie N.Y.

April 23/41

Dear George:

Very sorry I neglected
to put the check in letter I
mailed Monday. Found it
lying on the desk yesterday
and will send it next time.
Weather still fair but little
cooler and windy now for
three days. This fortunate to
have 34 baby chicks hatched
last night by a rat - found
the hole & hope to catch the
murderer in trap. He sowed
some early garden seeds for
today & is now planting peas.
Everything looks fine & we hope
no frost will come to destroy
things. Getting used to glances
& the daches have slackened
up. Getting some house clean-
ing done in between times. Hope
for all keeping well & will
hear from you soon. Love, Wirtie

April 24, 1941

Dear Mother & Father,

I see by the record that it is again longer than I had supposed since I wrote you. Since then until Tuesday of this week I was frightfully busy and the time passed more quickly than I thought. The trip to Chicago was very pleasant - we had fine weather and the meetings were interesting - I saw a number of old friends & met a lot of new people. It was the first I had seen the University of Chicago - it impressed me quite favorably - it is huge, but sparsely laid out - the buildings are all of limestone so that the effect is very different from some of the big eastern universities. - Last Thursday the department had a visitor from Harvard - a fellow I had known there - he gave a talk in the afternoon and in the evening we had a dinner for him - I had been in charge of the various arrangements which took up some time - but they were worth it, for my-

self alone, and for the Department - Directly following that the question of a preliminary discussion of course revision in the Department came up with a meeting scheduled for this last Tuesday. Pelous & I thought it so important, that we should write out our own opinions ahead of time. The task grew with our working on it so that all four of us spent about twenty-four hours solid work each and got out a nineteen page document. Grace received it with appreciation and as a result we are now each a member of the committee appointed - which is pretty what we had aimed at. - So you can see I have had sufficient to do.

We, too, have been having the most gorgeous weather, - clear skies & warm days - the earliest spring I have seen here. I am glad for you it has been thus warm - it would be hard to come back from Florida with winter just over.

I'm glad to hear about the photographs - I only hope that both of you will like them in time. I am anxious to see them. Send them to me, rather than to Con - and wrap them

well - so much mail I get out here seems
to have been man-handled.

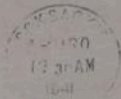
Thanks for sending the additional letters
from Eva and Miss Boyd - I am returning
the complete set in this letter. You seem to
have as much (or more) about her as I do - Miss
Boyd did write me after Easter - essentially
the same as she wrote you. I have heard
nothing more from the doctor - next month
I think I shall try to drive down & see him -
when I get my car out again. - I wonder
if you have given up the idea of coming
out to the square. I rather feel that you
may have to - when I saw Miss Boyd in
January she doubted that it would be
wise, but hoped that it might be. But
since then she has written that Dr. Peck
doesn't want me to go to Hallauel and I
suspect he would feel the same about any
of the family. I know it is a great trial for
you and that it is hard for you to under-
stand it - I'm sure I don't understand it -
merely realize it. I trust that in another
year it will be different.

I was glad to hear you had reached home without accidents - but sorry to hear of the trouble you had in Virginia - too bad. Also glad you found everything ok. at home with the house as you had left it.

I'm relieved to hear that your ^{new} glasses seem to be helping your headaches, Mother - you mustn't let your eyes go that way again.

You do seem to have a lot to do again as soon as you get home - but take it easy and have as much help as you can, both of you. Apparently Sherman is home again for you speak of his having been waiting for you.

Well, it is after midnight so I must get to bed - lately I have tried earlier bedtime & earlier rising - I think it has helped my eyes somewhat to cut down on work with artificial light. - Lots of love,
George.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Dr. George B. Van Schaack
247 Delta St.,
East Lansing,
Mich.

Catsackie Wey.

Apr. 29/41

Dear George:

We are so busy here
day it is hard to get at
letter writing. Myrtle
are too tired. Pa has gone to
Albany to-day to Conserva-
tion Conference - it will be
a change for him. Weather
is beautiful now every day
but we need pain very
much. We have the floor-
ing boards ready to be laid
in dining room just wait-
ing for Mr. Jones to come.
With painting & papering
we will be up in quite a
while. I am mailing the
photos to you. Sorry they
are so large - it wasn't
necessary. Haven't heard
from Cousin Sam & wonder if
he or the nuts I sent her
from Georgia - do you know?
Love, Mother.

Capehart, W. Va.
May 4/41

Dear George -

We have just come in from church and I will start this letter while waiting for dinner. I am enclosing last letter from Miss Boyd. You need not return letters I send you unless I request it.

Weather has been quite cold and we had frost Friday night. Apple blossoms have been at their best and it is feared many of them are ruined. Pa & I were up on the Mts. and drove through quite a snow squall - queer. After we had such very warm weather.

Had a letter from Constance which crossed one I sent her same day. She acknowledged receipt of suits. We bought them in Georgia & mailed from Abingdon, Va. We bought some home & they were extra good.

Was glad to hear Javis' fashu had
work at last. It is hard now for
farmers to get help - Sherman is in
such demand that now we can't
get hold of him at all & he tries to
do more than he ought to.

Wilbur is just busy with the dinner
business - he is superintending the
preparations for it - we were amazed
to learn recently that the outfit is
costing \$25000 - guess Ed Webb has
more money than brains. It ap-
pears that W. is expecting to quit up
his garage work in N. Mex. for they
will also have a filling station by
the diner.

We are not progressing very fast
with our housework, as usual the
carpenter & paper hangers don't do
what they agree to - so we are just
upset and waiting, tho' we find
time to do on odds & ends.

Pa Las a nice garden started and we have been eating asparagus for several days. Have had no pain since we reached home except one or two seeds. Thursday we were surprised with a call from Rev. Trumbull & William on way to Eslerville - they wanted to be remembered to you. Yesterday was Harold's birthday but there was no celebration here. We were too upset to Lane Company. We called them in afternoon found H. in back yard working. He had Frank James to plow garden & really expects to raise vegetables. They were going to Albany to have supper with the Hartford Manager who was in Buffalo White Hawk was. Well dinner ready & I'm about out of material & news. Hope you are well & happy - we look forward to seeing you in near future. Love, Mother.

P.S.

I forgot to tell you that we do not intend to go to Mich to Gen. Synod. Pa is keenly disappointed but is a good sport. We would not go and not see Eva and of course, we would not go to see her if doctor says no as I understand he has. Miss B. wrote to me to Florida about it & I wrote immediately to assure he we would not go.

Pa is peeved because he can't go and A. Price is going with Lindsay. Pa has always wanted to go and would this year if it were

being held any other place
no further away. Of course
I could more to see Watson to
attend the meetings.

I am glad you are using
more daylight than elec. lights.
I find I cannot use my
eyes as much at night as I
used to do. Have not yet tried
to read a book but catching up
on reading the magazines - very
little in newspapers - this only
upset me - so does the radio. We
know not from day to day what
the fate of U. S. will be but we
fear it will be war. I'm glad you
got on that Com. I'm sure you completed.
Love Mother

Holland, Michigan
April 29, 1941

My dear Mrs. Van Schaack,

Eva asked today about the money for the university and wondered what had been done about it. I told her then about your letter of last week and she was much relieved to know that you had taken care of the matter so promptly. She meant to write to the treasurer herself but writing is the hardest task to which she can set herself so she has been putting it off from day to day.

Eva made one suggestion which I am passing on to you. She thinks it would be nice if you would write to Dr. Livingston and tell him that the money has been paid and that he is freed from any further responsibility in the matter. Eva is very grateful to him for his kindness in this matter but is hardly able to write to him herself. She is writing a note to go with this in which she is putting his name and address.

Things have been a bit better so far this week and we are hoping that the worst may be over. Eva has been able to get along without luminol since Sunday and has not had any of the distressing nervous spells. I think the work in the garden and her interest in the many birds which come to the lake shore have something to do with her feeling better but last week nothing seemed to help.

I will not take time for more now. We are going to town to get some lettuce and do some other shopping before supper time. The asparagus is growing nicely now and we are enjoying it very much. That is one vegetable that Eva can eat freely so we are happy about that.

Love from both of us.

Laura-

Holland, Michigan
April 17, 1941

My dear Mrs. Van Schaack,

Eva and I drove down to Saugatuck this noon and ate our dinner there at a place which we had heard about but where we had never been. It proved to be a fine dinner for Eva because she could eat the things they had and we could get a dinner without a dessert and so did not have to pay for food we could not eat. Afterward we drove along the shore of Lake Michigan on what we call the "high road" and enjoyed the view over the water as well as the wild flowers growing in the woods on the other side of the road. It was a real treat for us both and I hope we may be able to make many similar trips as the weather becomes more settled.

This past week has been a hard one so far as we have been concerned. For some reason Eva has been more nervous than usual and it is hard when she has to suffer so. She has been some better the last two days and she very much enjoyed our little trip today. It is hard to say why she is so nervous some days and then again will seem much better able to control herself. The doctor has not been here this week but he will come soon. We are continuing the treatments he suggests and in which he has such faith. We are hopeful but find it hard at times to be patient. Eva keeps up her spirits wonderfully well and it is such a pleasure to have her here when she is herself that we can easily forget the hard times when they are once passed.

Our spring is coming on rather slowly but perhaps it will be more sure for that reason. We have had asparagus from the garden once and it was so good we wondered how we could have enjoyed the store variety. The lettuce and radishes are through the ground but we have not put in any other seed as yet but the garden is spaded and ready and we shall work at it soon. We have put the garden near the house this year so we can tend it easily. Neither one of us knows much about gardening but we have both heard our fathers talk about how to do it so we are going to do our best and see what we can accomplish.

The strawberry bed is not in bloom yet but there are many buds so we hope for a good crop. The rains have come at the right time all spring so we hope for a good season. Eva is starting a wild flower garden on the slope near the lake and we are having lots of fun working there. Eva enjoys doing such work when I am nearby but does not have much luck working out of doors when I am at school. She is out in the garden now while I am writing.

I asked Eva what messages she had to send home and she said to thank you for sending the books so promptly. She has been rereading THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS and chuckling over it. This is the first book she has attempted to read so perhaps this is a good sign-that she can concentrate a bit more. She wanted to ask her father about some flower seeds that

Eleanor had sent him. If he has any of the seeds now she wonders if he would please send her some so she could plant them here. The ones she mentioned were the English Mallow and English Campanula.

She wants to congratulate you on your office in the missionary society and hopes that the work will not tire you too much. She enjoyed seeing the program and was proud to see you were the president.

Everyone in Holland is busy now getting ready for Tulip Time, the Synod and the Seventy Fifth Anniversary at the college. We shall be very glad when it is all done for it means such busy days ahead and I begrudge every minute I must spend away from home.

I don't think I ever told you that Eva bought the baby bonds with the money from Auntie's estate. She got them in one hundred dollar denominations and had them made in joint ownership with you so there will be no difficulty in you securing the money at any time if need should arise.

Eva send her love and best wishes to you and to her father. I hope we may be able soon to tell of her more rapid recovery but until such a time comes we will be as cheerful and happy as we can and do all in our power to help Eva regain her health.

with best wishes for you both.

Mary
Anna

May 10, 1941

Dear Mother,

I was brought up short last evening by seeing a Mother's Day sign in a store window and realizing that I had not written you a letter for tomorrow. Not that I had forgotten the day, as I trust you will know by having received a small token from me, but having mailed the package I don't forget in the press of other things to write the letter I intended to send after it. I hope the 'ornament' reached you on time & that you credited it with being intended for tomorrow - I sent a lot of love with it, even though there was no written message to that effect. I hope you'll like it - I thought it was quite good-looking, - and it's so light you can wear it on practically any dress.

The photographs came through in excellent shape, thank to the good packing you gave them. I think they turned out a very good job of finishing them - it still seems to me that you look different to me than you do to a camera, but I can see now that it ^{is} immediately you and not someone else as it seemed at first. Anyhow I'm very glad to have both of the photos, and thank you both for having them made. Don't worry only that you found it such an ordeal - but I suppose long 'practice' at not having one's photos taken makes having it done seem a chore. Thanks also for the check, which helped to balance the exceedingly low state of my finances which seems to

be a characteristic of the past 7 or 8 years. Christmas, a trip east, two insurance policies, income tax & poverty dues certainly made inroads from December to June!

As usual I have been keeping busy! Last Saturday I went with quite a group down to Ypsanti to attend a second annual undergraduate mathematics meeting - the papers were all by students, and some of them were quite good - one even subtant was... I think, the best of the lot - Holmes had given him a good job of coaching. - Next year let be on the spot for this week I was chosen faculty director of the undergraduate club here. It is a job of considerable work and I could dispense with it, but I operate on the principle of not refusing responsibilities - by that method I seem to have got pretty much on the right side of June, which I trust will in time pay dividends of a permanent nature - it already paid some of the other kind, for I certainly got quite a lot of admiration paid to what I think should be done about this & that.

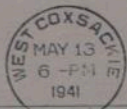
You have mentioned several times lately about being torn up, remembering etc without having said what you were doing - although I gather it has something to do with the dinner room. If so I'm glad to hear it - it's been many a year since that was done! Hey! I remember back to 1918 when the co-sidewalk was 'grained' by Mr. Lough - and didn't we think we had something - those were the days! - I was sorry to hear about your facing the chicks - I hope you have lost as many either by net or other means. Also sorry to hear father can't get help - he must not try to do so much alone - cut out something. Hope the frost didn't ruin any of the garden. I was surprised to hear

you had had cold weather - it has been colder here the last few days, but far from frost. - Millon's venture is certainly assuming proportions. I must say I can't see how they can spend \$2,000. Did he intend to replace all the restaurants in Caracas for that money - I hope you're not tied up in it in any way - it may succeed, but it's quite a gamble just now with the possibility that well all be so much poorer for that sort of thing - I mean, running around here & you and coming out.

Don't worry you have had to be disappointed about coming to Madrid - sorry on both scores, that you'll miss the celebration and that it's Eva's illness that keeps you away. Unless I hear from the doctor soon I shall write & ask him if I can see him again - anyhow I plan to see him before I come east. - And don't worry too that you're not coming because I'd like to have you visit me - I hope you'll be able to another time, for I'd like to have you see this place - and at this time of year when it's so beautiful.

Joan's father has another new job - this time a really good one - the best he's ever had. He's the lead draughtsman on the plans for the new naval base in Trinidad. It will be a job of considerable length and ought to lead to something afterwards - for the moment all is secure again.

Well, I must stop and get some sleep. I hope you'll have a fine day tomorrow and shall trust that I could be with you. Lots of love to Father & you. George.



THIS SIDE OF SARDIE FOR ADDRESS

Dr. George B. Van Schoaek,
247 Delta St.
East Lansing
Mich.

Cassaria Key
May 1841

Dear George -
So glad to get your letter
to-day - will write later
this week. We are to up sail
and still will be for
some time, partly waiting
for help. Sherman did
come to day after three
weeks. I have been to bed
most all afternoon and
fell better now - that is
spected but it is most sus-
picious. Mrs D. is having
one of her sick headaches
to-day & has been to bed
since finishing washing
man is happening at Hall.
Have not heard from Ira since
I last wrote. I had a word I
wanted to be in help to day
but could not make it. Weather
Beautiful but Cool - from last night.

Catsackie N. Y.
May 15/41

Dear George:

We are having a spell of very beautiful weather but also quite cold. The place is all slicked up out doors thanks to Thomas' work Tuesday, if we can only have him occasionally to slick up lawns etc. all will be ok. Pa does nothing so when he can't get help. He is busy now trying to get telephone line in good shape for service has been poor owing to old poles & old wire. He will feel better when that is done. For both our sakes, I wish we could get rid of that business but there seems to be no way.

Our indoor work is progressing. I told you what it was. A new hard wood floor in dining room wood work varnished & walls papered. The floor is very nice - best lumber - narrow white oak boards laid toward a center. Pa hopes Tom will come to - tomorrow to sand it.

Probs have not built garden as ground is so dry

Then it must be covered with wood
filler & varnish. The hall has been
painted & papered, also our bed
room. Kitchen must be renovated
too, when we get rest of house settled.
The porch is all cluttered up, also
part of living room & the lounge
area is getting on the nerves of all
of us. Mrs D. seems very much
unsettled for she worries continually
about Gordon going to war &
regrets again & again that she did
not stay on the farm so he would
not have to go. Consequently, her
health has suffered and she
admits it is mainly from worry.
We would not be surprised if
she left us suddenly as she is at a
loss what to do with her furniture &
feels she should make a home for
herself. Of course, we feel she is
short sighted for she is in no shape
to get so much income in any
other way - However, we are not
worrying over it for I may not come.
However, we do know we cannot
get along without help now or

this big house with the grounds, &c.
We have been quite concerned
at not leaving from Holland in
such a long time but by now to
noory. It is the first time since
Dra has been away from home
that she has not sent some
message for Mother's Day. And
that reminds me I want to thank
you for the nice pin. I wore it
on Mother's Day but for some
unknown reason I had diffi-
culty in getting it on & off. I had
a card & pretty talk from Holl.
& a box of Candy from Wilbur. We
did not go to church as we were
both tired & all filled up on
Mother's Day sermons as we hear
here. Jessie invited us to dinner.
Mrs. Wolf went to Hudson Sat. night &
dinner Sunday night. Harold & M.
came Sunday to supper & for evening.
I wanted to go to N.Y. to an Annual
Meeting of W.B.F.U. Tuesday but cir-
cumstances here prevented & I was
disappointed. While I was in Florida

For some unknown reason to me
I was elected a member of the W.P.T. & Co.
It was a great honor but of course
I cannot be running down here
to monthly meetings but I did want
to go to the most important one. Such
is life!

We were glad to hear you are gain-
ing prestige out there & hope it may
prove beneficial to future advan-
ments.

I was glad to hear of
the good luck Grant's father had -
he ought to prosper now with that
understand never clear - this story of
it is a new one to perplex us all.
Maybe it will be means of chang-
ing some of the terrible conditions in
Europe & lessening our perplexities
in this country - we hope so.

Now I must get busy tho' it is
hard to tell what to tackle first.

Have you made plans for some
time? It looks as if we will be packed
right here. The railroad lay out of
back this winter & spring must tend
to some recovery for a while. But
looking forward to your coming &
when to come another.

Catsackie Wy
May 28/41

Dear George.

Just a few lines now for
we are head on heels in work.
Cleaning the living room today
and it is a big job. R has been
putting down new Han carpet.
Had showers this AM. and it
is threatening more now. This
cleaning & repair work has been
a long tedious job - we all get
tired easily & cannot hustle
all day long. Mrs Deep's
brother Dan from N.Y. is com-
ing up Friday with his wife (he
was married in Feb.) - well no
doubt stay here all night. Yes-
terday Pat & I went to Calatell
mainly to get wall paper for
kitchen - that must be over-
hauled next week - then the bulk
will be over except odds & ends.
I am enclosing the last
word from Raula received
last week - Nothing from Eva.

R is coming home to home the spot removed from his face.
R is coming home & hoping to have the spot removed from his face.

Pa has had several pretty bad
head aches lately, but feels pretty
good otherwise - Has been taking
hypophosphite to brace him up.
Last Thursday Marge was taken
ill & I was there all day Friday.
That night Dr. Mealy took her to
Memorial Hospital for a few
days for observation & good care.
She really needed a nurse. She
came home Monday night &
says she is quite all right again but
I have not seen her since.
Edwin expects the big dinner on
Friday - He has asked Pa
to write a short history of Ed. She
pursed on back of menu cards.
We listened to the President last
night so will not be surprised at
anything from now on. It really
is a very serious situation but we
can't help it & will just have to grin
& bear anything that comes. I must
get busy again - Pa & Sherman just
huddled the pup in when it showed.
Hope you are keeping well & we look
forward to seeing you sometime soon.

Benie graduates from Pittsfield on June 20

Holland, Michigan
May 18, 1941

My dear Mrs. Van Schaack,

This is the first Sunday of Tulip Time and our little town is full of people. It took us almost half an hour to get to church this morning and we usually go in seven minutes or less. The crowds are always worse during the week ends but it will a week or ten days before the town will return to normal. Eva and I are hoping to go to the pageant Tulip Tales tomorrow night but we stay at home as much as we can to avoid the crowds.

The past month has been a hard one and we have very few good days to write about. Eva's nervousness does not seem to be much better although we try to do everything we can think of to help her. The doctor has been here several times and each time he assures us that we are on the right track and that we will soon see the desired improvement. This coming week Dr. Peelen is going to Boston for three days to spend the time in a clinic where he studied and he is going to see Dr. JOSLIN Joslin, who is the American authority on diabetes. We have made out a list of questions to ask him and hope to get some real help from his suggestions. The doctor here wonders if it could be the insulin which causes the nervousness since Eva looks so well and seems well in other ways. Her diabetes is no worse and she does not require so much insulin now as she did when she first came. We are not using the insulin for the present to see if that will have any effect. We are trying desperately to find the cause of the nervousness. We are convinced that it is not mental but so far all efforts to locate the cause have failed but we are not giving up hope and are trying to be as brave and happy as we can under the circumstances. Eva has gained in weight since she has been here and looks the picture of health. Her eyes are good now and she can concentrate better than she did but not for too long at a time. She read the book you sent and enjoyed it. Her teeth are also much better although there is some dental work which should be done before long.

Eva was sorry that she was not able to send you a message for Mother's Day but the effort was more than she could make. She spoke of it earlier but was not able to do it. She wants me to thank you for the check for five dollars and also for paying the bill at the university and sending her the receipt. The seeds for the mallows also came and she was glad to have them. She often talks about you all and wonders about all the family, Uncle George and Bessie as well as her brothers. She hears often from George and it is grief to both of us that we can not have him come often to see her but the doctor thinks it would be very unwise to put that strain upon her nerves now. We hope that in the fall we may be able to be more hospitable.

The cutworms and the rabbits seem to enjoy Eva's garden as much as we hoped to. We are making a brave fight to save the vegetables for ourselves and we will succeed in part. Tonight we are going to have the first radishes for supper and we have been enjoying the asparagus for some time. Eva has canned a few pints because that is one vegetable which she can eat often. Eva has made a nice looking garden and I hope that things will do well so she may feel successful. Neither she nor I know much about putting in a garden so we will probably learn a lot this year.

The strawberry seed looks fine in spite of two cold nights when there was some frost. We covered part of the bed and those plants are fine but the rest look better than we feared at first. It will be few weeks before we can expect berries but we are hoping to enjoy them later on.

We think your supper for the missionary society was a great success and only wish we could have been there to help swell the amount of money raised.

At the college we are very busy now getting ready for the close of school and all the extra activities that are connected with it. The pageant in connection with the 75th anniversary of the college is taking shape now. We have a man engaged who will put the production into shape and will provide the costumes for the cast. This question of costumes was one that had caused us a lot of worry but like most of the things we worry about it has turned out very well. The synod will make a good deal of extra work for the meetings are to be held on the campus so we will have to vacate class rooms etc. The prospects for beginning the work on the new science building are good and work will start soon if the contract price can meet the estimate. It is encouraging to think that the new building will come soon for we need it very much.

Eva send her best love and hopes that it will not be too long before she can write to you herself.

Lovingly,

Laura -

May 29, 1941

Dear Mother & Father,

I must write you something, but this can be only a note, for although it's not expected yet I must get to bed - to get up at 2:30! I'm leaving at four with some geologists for a week end trip up to the Strait of Mackinac - it is the annual spring trip of the Michigan Geological Society - and I'm going along just for the fun of it. We shall spend tomorrow on the upper peninsula around St Ignace, and on Saturday will be on Mackinac Island. I think it will be just what I need to set me up for the coming three weeks.

I was very glad to get your letter today and hear what you've been doing. You will have the house quite fixed up when you get finished. - Glad to have Miss Boyd's letter - though I must say I don't understand it all. But I shall see the doctor soon & hear what he has to say.

And now I must go to bed I'll try to write soon after I get back. Do keep well, and don't work so hard. Lots of love, George.

Coyackie, WY

June 5/47

Dear George:

Lately, it seems hard to get time to write letters. We are having a rainy time which is very acceptable - it is also very cool and has been for over a week. Pa is painting in kitchen & the whole house seems upset again. We were quite respectable over the week end. Dr Dan Moore & bride arrived Friday for supper and left Saturday a.m. taking Mrs D. with them to Hadson & then back to Bob's in Stratton Hall. We liked the girl very much - she is Sec. to a Dr. at the Medical Center, Columbia College. Ella is here this week so her mother can help her for the expense - she is quite back ward. Did I tell you Bessie graduated from grades on June 25. They were all here to call last evening. Dick has left Milton

to work in G. E. Schenckaday +
it has put W. in quite a fix but
he has another young man, the chance.
William is working too hard but
he can't be stopped. ~~Monday~~
night we were coming home at
11 P. M. + wondered what was
going on at Horse House. Street
was full of cars + many folks
indoors + out, also troops. Next
day found out Judge W. J. S.
was conducting a funeral.
We are having a small private
Lawn party here Wed. just Ladies
hope weather warms up, if not,
we'll have to have it indoors.
This is in place of usual monthly
Mrs. Meeting.

I am enclosing Laura's last
letter + it does puzzle us why
it does not improve her, but
we have not given up faith + hope.
Now I must write other letters.
Was glad to get your last + hope
you had an enjoyable trip.
Much love, Mother.

Holland, Michigan
June 1, 1941

My dear Mrs. Van Schaack,

It is nine o'clock and Eva is in bed but not settled down for the night as she is still looking at a paper. She says the noise of the typewriter will not annoy her so I shall write to you before I get ready for bed. You see we go to bed early because we get up early in the mornings. Eva is up before six nearly every day. She finds that she feels better when she gets up early and works before breakfast. I don't get up when she does but we eat breakfast at seven so I can't lie too long. We try to hold to this schedule every day even if it is hard to get up so early on week ends. The fact that Eva seems better for the early rising makes it worth the effort.

I do not know that there is much to say about Eva that is new. Her forenoons this past week have not been any better but the afternoons and evenings have improved some. Friday was a bad day all day but yesterday and today have been good, very good. A good day means one when Eva has had little or no sedative and has been able to keep busy without too great an effort and has thus been able to control her nerves. We are always encouraged when we have a couple of good days in a row for then we think that perhaps we can keep on that way. We try hard to be hopeful and to forget the hard times when once they are past.

Dr. Peelen is going to Cleveland this week and he expects to talk there with Dr. Josslin and some of the other men who have specialized in diabetis and perhaps he may get some ideas from them which will be a help to us. We have reduced the amount of insulin again but that may soon change. It seems to fluctuate.

Eva is busy with the garden and enjoys working with the little plants. We have onions and radishes and there would have been lettuce if the cut worms or rabbits had not had such big appetites. I think the garden looks fine and am sure we are going to get lots of good food from it. The strawberry bed is just beginning to give us some fruit now and the prospects are for a big crop. Eva can't eat many berries and those have to be real ripe to taste well without sugar. Most of the fruit trees in the orchard seem to be full of fruit so perhaps we will have a good year.

The General Synod meets here this week and the whole town is getting ready to greet the company. We are very busy at the college trying to get the class work finished in the midst of all the distractions. The Pageant will be given four nights this week so that means lots of work.

Eva wants me to thank you for the letter which came yesterday. She gets very lonesome to see you sometimes and I hope it may not be many months until she will be stronger and can see you. On the whole I think there is some improvement but we must be very patient and not expect too much in a short time. Eva was years reaching this condition of exhaustion and it will take a long time for her to regain the ground she has lost but I feel we are on the right road.



MADISON WISCONSIN



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Dr. George B. Van Schaack
247 Delta St.,
East Lansing, Mich.

Hotel Albert
New York City
June 9/41

Dear Geo-

Came here Sunday on after-
noon train in response to a
telegram that Sister Addie was
in bad condition with heart at-
tack. Have a woman to be with
her & hope to get one for night.
I have room across hall & she
slept all night owing to doctor's need-
iness. Corliss Frank has been here
all morning - Evelyn is coming
to take me to lunch. I am waiting
Addie's verdict now - he is in her
room. Brother Frank will come
to-morrow & I hope to go home
to-morrow afternoon if there
is nothing worse - She may get
over this attack if she stays the
week but she won't. I am feeling
out & Laura Frank will handle the
whole affair. So I can leave after
complete papers are ready to-morrow.
Love, Mother

Catsackie N.Y.

June 17, 1941

Dear George:

You see I'm home again, came up Saturday on train in afternoon. The reaction came that evening and I staid in bed all day Sunday. Probably Constance had written you about my seeing her & our talks on phone. It was nice to have contact with her & Frank & Evelyn also Bob. Frank, they were all very good to me and it lightened the burden I had. I was glad to get two nurses on the job and leave the oversight of the whole situation to Evelyn & Frank. Had a letter from Evelyn yesterday that there was still improvement & doctor said he thought she would pull thro' this time. However, I do not see how she can ever live very long so she refuses to do so much that is necessary and important for her bad heart condition. I had a nice room just across the hall & was there in retreat much of the time. I felt sorry to miss the lawn party all that I had planned and

arranged for, but they had it just
the same as it was not feasible
to postpone it. I have three
affairs for this week & it is too
bad they all had to be so close
to-gether - one was last night -
one at Jewett Thursday night
and on Saturday afternoon I
expect to organize a Juvenile
Grange at East Durham. This
has been in the air ever since
January and now the pre-
paratory work is done & all
plans made. It is quite an
achievement to get any
subordinate Grange interested
enough in Juvenile work to agree
to have one organized.

Suppose Friday night we will
go to the Yacheston as Besse
is one of the class but we have
not been invited yet.

Mrs. Delp has gone away for a
few days - she left this A. M. I was
a little annoyed because I was
counting on this week to have leisure
to rest out & still carry out my plans.

She has had a "bug" in her head for months to buy a house in or near Hudson & make a home. Her boys are urging her on and her brothers all advise against it. But if she sees what she wants, I think she'll foolishly invest what money she has. Of course, it will leave us in the lurch somewhat and yet for some seasons, I will not regret her leaving and will try to carry on a time for a while. I wonder sometimes if Eva would come home if Mrs. D. left.

This morning Pa & I went to Catskill - I want a shampoos & hair set and we needed a supply of A & P. Groceries. On our way home we stopped to see the new Dinner "Miss Soback's" which arrived on Fri. or Sat. It is model in every particular - the chef took us around & explained everything. But it will still be

a couple of weeks or more before
meals will be served - many
details inside & out to be fin-
ished up.

For over a week Pa has been
supervising & helping to finish
up the work on telephone line -
mainly setting a lot of new poles.
He is away this afternoon and
I am all alone. It is lonesome
but when I get my pep back
again, I'll find every odd to for-
get the lonely part. Will be glad
to have you & soon - when?

Just now we are having a pest
of bees - some^{times} only one & often
7 or 8 or more at a time in being
foam - We can't seem to locate just
how or where they enter. They were
none around all spring, so this
must be a new lot that has entered
the place in upper part of house.

Pa was pleased with your card & the
& your remembering him - he leans
to one to thank you. Now I must write
more letters. Love, Mother.

June 27, 1941.

Dear Mother & Father,

Glad to get word from you this morning, via card to Eva. I got in yesterday afternoon after a hard drive from just west of Gettysburg - I had stayed the previous night at a log cabin on the Appalachian trail, taking a short walk on the trail the night before.

The letter from Dr. Pelen, which you forwarded, also came this morning. When I saw him ten days ago he was just about to see Eva again and this letter was the report on that visit. He had told me when I saw him that in some ways Eva was improved, enough so that he felt encouraged and that he felt he should continue his treatment through the summer without forcing the psychiatric issue. He thinks some of this will clear up as the physical state improves - for the rest he hopes to build up in Eva enough confidence in him to have her ask to see a psychiatrist. The letter said that the additional good results he had expected had come and that he was more encouraged - Eva, too. felt there had been improvement and was quite pleased - she had had no nervous spells for a week. I really think he is quite clever in dealing with her and that we can look forward to his doing more. Did tell you more about it when I see you.

And when is this to be? I know you'll be disappointed when I say that we shan't be able to come until two weeks from tomorrow and will actually sorry to disappoint you. We must delay it only because we want to go to Washington and until September, the early part of July is the only time the Gillett's can have us. So we are going down there next Wednesday, returning on the 10th - bearing uncertainties will then come to Concordia on the 12th, which is two weeks from tomorrow.

Just a week ago I was being involved in the wedding - it went off ok., I didn't lose the ring, or drop it, got all the little items attended to that fell to me, etc. It cut into my packing time so that I worked furiously all day Saturday in order to be able to leave on Monday - Sunday was mostly taken up with social events in farewell for the summer. The trip east was fine - for weather, beauty & interest - but sorry I had to take it alone - will tell you about it when I see you.

Glad to hear Aunt Addie is improving and trust that all will now go well. Can say to thank you for all the communications you've sent since you went home and that she'll write soon - just at present she's very busy taking care of me! We're going in town now to buy me a summer suit & some other light wear - I must live in this climate. I must have something thin to wear - the humidity is pretty high right now. - So all fun now - keep well & bear up a couple of weeks more. Lots of love from us back, Gray. }
Addie - & Mr. Glenn Gillett
9 Summit Place, Belle Haven, Alexandria, Va.

Cassackie N.Y.

June 29, 1941

Dear George & Carola:

I hope you are not suffering with the heat today in the city. It is a hot day here but there is a fine breeze - I have been lying on the hammock, since dinner and Pa is asleep on porch. We were on the Mto. yesterday afternoon & evening and after such a spree it takes me at least one day to get over it - I did not get up till about noon.

We were glad to get your postal and your letter and hear you are safe again in N. Y. The news about Eva was fine and we do hope she may continue to improve. Miss Boyd's note that Miss Giben had been there & of course I can't get see what that would do effect Eva so much as to see you on reg. However, it is fine to know she is improving and is contented - I'll enclose Laura's last letter if I don't forget to do so.

The "Miss Cassackie Dinner" got in full swing on Friday. We passed there last night just before twelve

and it was full of folks eating. But
William has undertaken a big job
and will have to get more rest or
face a collapse, we fear.

We were planning to have you
here this coming week. But we glad
anyway you will be out of the
hot city. I am thankful I do not
have to be down there this hot spell.
Mrs. Delp was invited to Pa. with
Dan & wife but declined because we
expected you. So when your letter

came Saturday noon she wrote at
once to them that she could go. She
will leave probably Tuesday & be
gone one week Sunday. Guess you
can manage now that the such

of widow & outdoor work is over.
Mayer is closing up her school work
with a picnic on Thursday & she
plans soon to make a trip to see her
folks near Boston (Newtown).

I must write several more letters
as I am quite behind in all my
correspondence. Will look forward
to seeing you on the 12th Pa. & have
an engagement that afternoon for 3 or
4 hrs. But Mrs. D. will be here. Hope you
have a good rest & will visit in Virginia

Holland, Michigan
June 24, 1941

My dear Mrs. Van Schaack,

What a busy time we have had during these last few weeks. There was so much extra going on that the regular duties were sadly neglected. It is all over now and we hope to settle down again to our regular routine and get along without so much dashing about.

You will be rejoiced to know that Eva shows signs of being really better. There are still some days when we wonder if that is true but the good days are increasing in number and the bad days are not quite as bad as they used to be. Eva is very active, she gets up early in the morning to take her insulin and she keeps busy all day, sometimes I think she works too hard but she feels so much better when she can keep busy. Her garden is fine but is suffering now for lack of water. We are enjoying the vegetables every day and hope for more as the season advances. It has been unusually hot and dry for the last week and that has been very hard on all the growing things.

We were so sorry to know that you had had such a hard week in New York. We hope you have become rested after the trip and the anxiety over your sister. We thought of you many times the day of the missionary picnic and wished we could be there to save you some steps. I am glad it went off as well as it did and am sure the ladies appreciated your letting them come when it was so inconvenient for all of you.

Eva was very happy to have a letter from her father. She still finds it very hard to write but she has come to the place ~~that~~ she enjoys the letters especially when they tell about the family and the garden and all the little things that help to make up your every day lives. Last winter the letters used to upset her very much but now she looks for them eagerly. It is in just such little ways that we are able to see that she is improving.

Miss Gibson came for the commencement activities. It was a real joy to see her and Eva enjoyed her coming so much. They went to see the pageant on Monday night and had a fine time. That was the only one of the programs Eva attended and Miss Gibson was the only one of the visitors she saw. The doctor thinks it is better for her not to force herself to see people but to wait until she really wants to see someone. We have been acting on that advice all winter and it seems to be having its good results now.

Eva went to the dentist this past week and had her teeth examined and cleaned. There were only two small cavities so the job was not long or painful but we are glad it is done. Her teeth are much better than when she came last winter. They are firm in the jaw now and not painful about the base as they were. She takes calcium daily and gets a great many vitamins all of which helps.

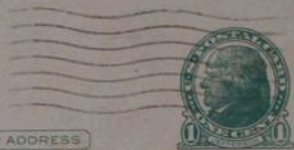
I must not write more now. We are in the midst of the cherry picking and that is always such a busy time with us. Eva and I are not picking but we have to answer the phone and keep the orders straight and that is quite a job.

With best of love and we will try not to be so slow in getting the letters written now that vacation is here.

Lovingly -
Rena -



photocopy of portrait that was
transferred to portrait collection -
George & Constance, Elmshade, Coxsackie
1940



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

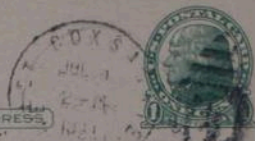
Dr. E. B. Chaack
9 Summit Place
Bell Haven
Alexandria, Va.

To Genl Gillett

July 2nd / 41
Steamboat, Haverhill
Vermont

Dear George -
Pa, Mrs D & I are en route
to N. Y. Hot day but nice
 breeze on boat. Suppose you
are well on your way South -
it is 1.30 now - have just fin-
ished eating a box lunch.
This is a sudden storm - Mrs D
was going to N. Y. to meet her folks
& then to summer home to Pa.
Wilbur wanted some body to
go to N.Y. to bring back a new
Poultice Can - so here we are.
Expect to drive round to New
Hav - H. brought us to Catekill
Plan to see Stealy's - night &
will probably stop in N. about
100 miles. We are now about
half way between Springfield & N.
Hav - ready to stop at 8. 6. 30
Mrs D. gets up at 12.5th of N.
I hope you have a safe &
pleasant trip - Love to you &
Mother.

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Dr. George B. Van Sledright
9 Summit Place,
Bell Haven
Alexandria Virginia.

Calif. July 4/41

Dear George-

Arrived home Thurs.
 by 5 and had dinner in the
 new dining room H & M. Had
 a delightful trip home on
 East Side - weather fair &
 cooler tho' it did rain some
 in City - in the Mill track
 and Evelyn in Hotel and
 bathed, rather over. As the
 condition may last a long
 time, it seems advisable to
 get the patient in hospital
 just now, the doctor will
 have to figure out. Evelyn
 is almost a wreck & she
 cannot carry on this job
 all summer - she has
 been very grateful & efficient.
 I may have to go down next
 week for a day or two. We
 will have some good going to
 dinner up in Chapel
 home, then.

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Dr. George B. Van Schaack
4312 - 47th St.
Long Island City
New York.

Cassachie, W. Va.

July 10/41

Dear G. & L.

Was very glad to receive
your cards yesterday. We
are having cooler weather
but still very dry tho' we
did have some rain Tues-
day. Pa has not been feeling
at all well for a couple of
days and yesterday I called
Dr. W. G. - & he pronounced
it Grip. So to-day he is in
bed but feeling much better
after having a good sweat
last night. He will probably
be out in a day or two. Our
appointment for Sat. has been
postponed a week. He will
work for you Saturday even-
ing. But let's see early morn-
ing. So we can't visit a little.
Love - Mother.

July 19, 1941.

Dear Mother's Father,

Meant to send you a line earlier, but got tied up! Our trip home was speedy & successful. We had a fine time and I wish we could have stayed longer. But our time schedule seems to have worked out just about right, for Cain's aunt from Allison arrived in town yesterday to stay with Katherine until Tuesday. So I was able to see her yesterday and now Cain can spend the next week-end up at Katoosuk with the three of them. I'm going to Danbury tonight and shall return on Tuesday. Danced & I may go up Salisbury way tomorrow to stay till Tuesday or we may just stay in Danbury.

I hope you rain of Thursday didn't peter out as it did as we came south - down here it wasn't raining, nor has it rained much - but it has been very humid.

Our movements after Tuesday are indefinite - so far as I know we're not going anywhere again very soon except your way, and that depends somewhat on when Milton gets the car. In fact I doubt we shall

make any other extended trip this summer
- we must economize and I must get
some work done.

All for now with lots of love from
us both.

Grays.

Catsackie N.Y.

July 24, 1941

Dear George & Lorraine:

Suppose you wonder why I
have not written before - no particular
excuse except that time flies
faster than I can keep up with it.
Was very glad to get letter on Mon-
day & hope you both had a fine
week end and will take it easy at
home. It has been quite warm here
and I suppose it is same in N.Y.
Saturday, Pat & I went to E. Durham
in afternoon to get our new juvenile
Craze well started with their first
meeting - we will not go again till
Sept. Sunday we all went down
to Catskill to hear the new minister
at Rfd Church. Marge went to see
her folks Friday and will be gone
probably rest of this week. Harold
came here for support the even-
ing on Sunday and again last
night. Tuesday I went to the
Lawn party of Miss. Society - of
2nd Church - there were about 30 there

The two ministers gave talks & then I was asked to tell about the migrant situation as I saw it in Florida. Anna Spoon was there - she is quite a sport for a woman over 70 - Miss Donk-berk & Miss Pau Denbury asked about you - they would both like to see you.

Yesterday we all went to Catskill in A.C. - I had dental appointment - cleaning & X-ray & must go again next Wednesday. Last night Pa had to go back to Catskill to a meeting of A.C.P. This AM we got up early to catch 50 chickens which Pa took to Catskill to butcher. At 9.30 AM left for Albany with Mark Scully to attend State R.D. Convention. Mrs D & I are not doing much today and may go out to Thomson Station Hill this afternoon. Had a very nice letter from Ma Saturday - maybe I'll enclose it - but return. - Mother has assumed the position of boss in dinner - things better. I asked

him about car & he said he
would write to you but he had
heard nothing from Pittsfield.
Maybe you have heard from
him by now. We all think
it is too bad you can't invest
some more money and
get a new car which would
last you well for more years
than a second hand one
which frequently has to be re-
paired so often. Nelson says
the new ones are a \$50 asset
right at the beginning.

Pa has not yet arranged for
his jaw operation and I am
tired of trying to get him to
attend to it. I urged him to
see Dr. Melock to-day in Albany
but he would not promise. He
did go to see Dr. W. H. Wade Tuesday
for a check up & he was O.K.
Perhaps you have heard of the
County defense program and

now there must be a County
Agricultural Defense Com-
mittee or Association and
the Chairman of the A.C.P.
Committee (of which means
Ia in this County) must act
as Chairman. So he has quite
a busy time running the
government, the defense, the
crops, the Grange etc etc etc.

It is still very dry here & every
thing is burnt or dried up in
spite of a few showers we've
had since Jan 1st. We just
missed some heavy showers
that greatly revived the country
South & West of Lee.

Guess you have all the news
now and we are looking
forward to your return. I don't
have't heard from W. Better write
to him as he does forget some
things. Love, Mother.

Catsackie N.Y.
July 26, 1941

Dear George:

Sorry I forgot to enclose
Eva's letter on Thursday but I am
losing it now.

Pa actually saw the doctor on
Thursday in Albany & made a date
for 11 am Friday. What I went
up with him and the note on
his face is no more. He came
out fine and has had very
little discomfort. When we got
back to Catsackie, we drove to
the Store to get a lunch and
had quite a visit with Milburn.
He has lost his mechanic at Gas-
ap and Ralph has been carrying
on alone for a week. He is trying
to get rid of the old cars & intends
to close up as soon as he can.
He said he had heard nothing from
the man in Pittsfield and it was
very hard at this time to get hold
of good second hand cars. I
wonder if he had written you and

he said he had not yet had time.
He is on the go constantly & rarely
if ever, gets home from Denice be-
fore 2 or 3 a. M. + is back at 9
after getting things started in garage.
Marge will not be home till Mon.
day & Harold is very independent
& going it alone. I just talked
to him - he has been in Catehell
the last three days. He is com-
ing here to - morrow.

I wish you would buy a necktie
for Pa for me to give him for his
birthday. He wants a brown
summitie - best kind, for he
hates one that immediately gets
"squeel-geed" (can't find this in dictionary)
that is what he calls it. You gave
him a nice blue one last year &
he likes to wear it, but occasionally
wants a brown one to match shirt
suits or socks, as the ^{younger} Takshim.
I don't have opportunity to get much
unless he's with me. Hope you
can both be here for his birthday
celebrations not + very dry but a nice warm
breeze this morning. Love to you both. Mother

July 30, 1941

Dear Mother & Father,

I trust you are not sitting too sorrowfully considering that you had expected us home tonight rather than still here. After getting your letter on Monday with the word that Mother had so far heard nothing from Potsfield I sort of took stock of the situation & began to realize that perhaps it might be difficult to get a car at all, and that if no good used car was coming along perhaps I should get a new one. So yesterday morning I went to two Chevrolet agencies here in S.D.K. and was told at one place there would be no cars till mid-September and at the other only one. At this second place I didn't get too good an offer so I thought of coming up & looking around Greene County - cause of the first telephone call. Then it seemed best before getting out of this neighborhood to look in New York itself, so I went to the biggest dealer I all and he said he had only five cars he could become of before mid-sept. So when he gave me what seemed a reasonable offer I took it. - And now for the moment we're without any car because of license difficulties - I'd not outline them but simply say we may not get a license before the end of next week.

- I hope not any later. As will plan tentatively at best to come to Coxsack a week from this Saturday, that is, on August 9. Fortunately we had made no plans for going far away this week-end we were going up to the Creightons in Katauck and shall go anyhow for we can go with them.

I wonder if you have had any of this rain - we've had quite a little lately, it's raining now.

I took a room over in a Columbia dormitory last Thursday and have been over there working every day since then. I had feared it might be noisy, but so far it has been quite satisfactory and cooler than night here, as it usually is on Mountain Side Heights.

My trip with Daveed was beautifully planned for fine weather and we had a good two and a half days in the hills from Danbury north to Coxsack - but not a great deal of walking - although he is quite well enough to walk - his doctor told him he could do anything he would normally do - he is afraid & nervous about it, - but I think he did gain some confidence, for our last climb was somewhat more ambitious than any of the others.

Glad to hear of the success of your operation' Father - now how about getting a good diagnosis of those headaches? In this day of medical science somebody must be able to find out what is the matter and do something about it. Take care of yourselves & slow up! Lots of love from us both, George.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mr. Geo. B. Van Schaack
4312-47th St.
Long Island City
N.Y.

Dear Geo.

Aug. 1/61

Glad to get your letter to-
day also the from Cass.
recently. Yes, we had two
days of rain and now per-
haps things will pick up.
Father's case etc - we were up-
to Dr. Welch's yesterday to
have stitches taken out. He
you will be able to persuade
him to get after the head
trouble too. He is having them
removed quite lately after a little
respite. Letter yesterday from
Laura but nothing new in it.
You might see Sam Moore
at Columbia but I think he
is taking vacation this week.
I feel like a vacation too,
but guess not. Getting warm
again. You were the only one I
spoke to for hours on Tuesday & I was



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Dr. George B. Van Schegack,
4312 - 47th St.,
Long Island City,
New York.

Catskill, N.Y.

Aug. 15/41

Dear George -

Very sorry I forgot to put the check in the bank - I thought I did soon after you left. Hope you had a safe & pleasant trip down. Mrs. DeLoe & I have been visiting and after lunch we are going to Albany for her to have a treatment. She has been very lame again. Then we are going over river and back by way of Hudson Ferry stopping here for a call. It has been very cool here ever since you left quite cool & cloudy till days.

Love I both - Mother



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Dr. George B. Van Schaack,
4312-47th St.,
Long Island City,
New York.

Ocean Park, Maine,

Aug. 24/41

Dear George & Ann -

Arrived at noon to-day
257 miles - shortest route. It has
been very cool here but warm to-
day - nice ocean breeze. We
have a room at "The Blake"
for to-night but will go to "The
Curtis" to-morrow - will leave
for home probably Friday.
We almost got up causing our-
selves to Jerry's trouble at home
and Mrs. at the Diner - Mrs.
D. had to help him out through
a woman thing, cleared up some
so we got ready after lunch
Friday + left town 2:30 -
Spent in Calista in night, last
night. We took full time &
it is a great treat to be at the
beach again + shore of all re-
sponding to us for a few days.

Love, Mother.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mr. George B. Van Schaack,
4312 - 47th St.,
Long Island City,
N. Y.

Ocean Park. Ore.
Aug. 27/4'

Dear George.

I have just written
to Tra, so and sending you
only a postcard - have not
written much - time has
passed so rapidly. To-day
we received 2 cards from
home. Mrs Cooley is falling
sick and Mrs Oelp had to
help in Dinner Saturday and
Monday in Jennie's place.
Chef is in hospital & help had
to get. So we have decided
to go home to-morrow instead
of Friday - we feel we must
be needed for this was much
Mrs D. was attend to & no
knowing what may have hap-
pened in Melvin's house. Will
expect you Saturday will you be
home for supper? Love Mother;





PHOTO-TYPE
Post-Card

Ms. Mrs. S. P. Hay, Schenck,
4312 - 47th St.,
Long Island City,
New York.

MAINE
PORTLAND
AUG 25
4 30 PM
1941

FOR BY H. J. BURROUGHS CO. PORTLAND, MAINE

Ocean Park Maine
Aug. 25/41

NO LIGHTS, CAPE ELIZABETH

Dear S. P.:

Very cool! - You remember the picnic on these rocks 2 1/2 years ago. This town is packed about like. Many new folks and some old acquaintances. No air any where like this. Hope to see you Sat. They may write again. Love Mother & Father

4312-47th St
Long Island City, N.Y.
September 9, 1941.

Dear Mother & Father,

I trust you have long since concluded we reached here safely! - I had every intention of sending you a card, but it kept slipping my mind. We reached Danbury in good time, took Betty out to lunch and then went up to the Pond for a swim & a look around. Pam Betty is not very well - she has some sort of heart trouble. She asked after you, as did Ann & Mr. Tweedy - Mr. Tweedy was away so that I did not see her.

Dinner has asked me to drive him & Betty to Rochester on my way west. I have concluded to do it, although I wish I had known it sooner so that I would not have promised someone else - I have asked the fellows to meet me in Rochester the morning of the 10th.

Yesterday I took the car over for its 1000 mile inspection & spent the day shopping about, buying practically nothing! I bought a pamphlet on China which I shall send you soon. It's a souvenir program of a movie 'Kerker' which I think you ought to see if you do come to New York next month. It's at the World Theatre on

49th Street between 6th and 7th Avenues.

Thought we have dinner with the Creyghtons -
it will be my first glimpse of Joan this
summer - and my last, for she and her
mother are going to Albion on Thursday.

The rest of the week will go very quickly
- probably will spend Saturday in Princeton,
although so far I've had no word from
my friend there.

Have been enjoying all the good things
you sent along with us - Can was especially
pleased with the jam & jelly which she
had not seen you give me. Many thanks
for the good week we had with you. Take
care of yourselves & don't work so hard.
Lots of love,
George.

P.S. To Father: when you're in N.Y. next
month how about seeing a good diagno-
sician - you must do what you can about
these headaches.

Cassackie W.V.

Sept. 11/41

Dear George & Can.

I am writing to-night for to-morrow will be another busy day. Was very glad to get your letter & hear of your trip and safe arrival home. I did think if green we did not get a card but felt sure all was ok. ~~George~~ ^{George} & Harold were here Sunday night & Mrs D. came back then, too. She is going over again to-morrow for the week end & before the end of next week Gordon will be in Mitchell field.

Mrs Coakley continues to fail very fast & we expect to hear of her death any minute. Monday we canned pears & after dinner I went up to Jessie's & helped her can 1/2 bushel.

Tuesday all we canned 1/2 bushel of peaches Bob Moore sent us. They were large & sweet. In the afternoon we got 9 roasters ready to can wednesday. They were all cut up & filled one shelf in refrigerator. Friday they made 17 quarts & 3 pints. Pres. will go to a meeting of the Committee on farm debts or securities or something.

Last night he was away again help-
ing at Grange for the clam bake
to- night & again up there to- day
but not at the bake to- night. H.
& M. stopped in for tickets on their
way out. To- day we made grape
jelly & to- morrow can come again.
Mayer & Harold lost skipper on
Tuesday. Her eye got very bad &
the doctor advised pulling her
to which they consented. But M.
is heart broken - so is H. But he
does not show it so much.
Charlie Shattuck died last night -
he has been very miserable for a
long time.

Had a letter from Laura yesterday.
Things all about the same.
The improvement is barely noticeable
from day today but considering
the number of months there is a
big change. Hope speaks next
week, so the schedule will change
again. Let me know as soon
as you hear from the doctor.
Yesterday was a dreadful hot one

and to-day has been just the op-
posite and very windy. Had a
very severe thunder & lightning
storm last night, so the clean
cistern has some water in now.
Pa is opposed to going to any
clinic - he feels sure there is no
cure for his headaches & hates to
waste any more money.

I am glad you both had a good
visit here - It was hard for me
to see you go & know I would
not see you again for so long a
time. The boys here come
so seldom, they might almost
be living further away. Oc-
casionally Pa & I consider
selling out here but the very
thought of leaving the home
forever is not very pleasant
& we quit talking about it
till the next time.

I am enclosing a check
which I want you to use for

a birthday present - you know
better than I do what you'd like
or what you need. I hope
you will have a happy
birthday and a nice trip
to Princeton - We came thro'
there on our way home last
Spring.

Last night I wrote a long letter
to Ma & sent her a check
to help buy some new cloth-
ing. Now that she goes out
occasionally she must need
her wardrobe replenished.

Well I must stop for I am
quite tired - sat at desk all
morning working on telephone
bills & accounts & spent most
of the afternoon in jilly mak-
ing. Pa wants to play auc-
tions so we'll have to start
soon as it is now 8 P.M.

Love
Mother.

P. S. Friday 10.30
am

Just heard from
Harold that Mrs.
Coakley passed
away a few
seconds ago.

Don't know if
other funeral will
be. He thinks
maybe best for
flowers would
be a big piece
from the S. family
including you & M.
& H. & M.

We are head over heels
in coming down
cleaning house. Over

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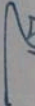
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your copy to you by return mail.

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Cordially yours,

 M

Mrs D. is not going
away to-day.
In Love - Mother



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mrs. M. B. Van Schaack
Coxsackie
New York

Aberlin, Ohio
Friday morning

Dear Folks -

Have just had breakfast here, having driven 110 miles from Jamestown Pa this morning. The weather has been beautiful all through, and now in another fine hour I should be in E. Lansing. Traffic seems to be very light so I make excellent time.

Stayed in Rockledge Wednes- day night, spending the evening with Miss Cummings. Saw Rothaus + Wells - all sent their regards. Hope everything is ok. Love
J. Lane. 9.

Copsackie NY

Sept. 20/41

Dear George:

Glad to get your card today from Ohio. Hope you reached your destination ok. It was fine you could have a visit with the folks in Rochester. Sometime send me Mrs. Hill's address, if we ever get to R. I'd like to see her. Pa was on the jury Tues. Wed. Thurs. Friday & the last day from 9 AM till after midnight when the case was settled - verdict "no cause of action". It was a long trying ordeal to go thro' - he must report Mon. AM. but may not be on a case. Mrs. Delp & I have been shut in all week - we plan to go see Grace this afternoon. Had card from Grace - she & Kate come next Tuesday for rest of week. I have spent some time cleaning up the three stone rooms & manage to discard some small things.

Mrs D. Has not heard from
Dan yet, so don't know for
sure if he has bought the
house. Pa would like to
take a trip to see foliage for
a couple of days but ~~that~~
can't plan as July duty may
last 2 weeks yet.

Have had some very cool
weather this week but to-day is
mild & beautiful. Wonder if
you saw the Aurora Borealis
on Thursday night - it was won-
derful here - the grandest we've
ever seen it.

Sherman is here to-day &
we want him next week to
pick the apples. - To-day
we canned 6 qts grape juice -
So many grapes here & can't
get time to pick them & give
away. Weather very dry &
flowers are suffering from it.
Now I must get dressed & go
out. With very best wishes for
your success & much love
from us both - Mother.

Mother, A big thyme from my garden, And much love and
many, many thanks for the present. Give Jesse my love and
congrats to her. Eva.

Holland, Michigan
September 14, 1941

My dear Mrs. Van Schaack,

This is the last Sunday of my vacation and I am trying to do all sorts of jobs that I have been putting off in a vague sort of way all summer. For one thing there are four or five notes that I have been going to write for Eva to some of her friends who have written to her from time to time but who have not had answers. Writing is still such a task for Eva that we both feel it is unwise for her to attempt it. She wrote a letter to George for his birthday but it took her hours to do it and when she had finished her face was as hot as if she had a fever and she was so nervous all that day that she did not know how to control herself. In fact she has been much more nervous ever since that day but I am not at all sure that the writing is to blame.

Eva was so pleased with the generous check you sent her yesterday. She laughed and said, "Mamma said this was for some new clothes but I will probably spend it all for medicine." She needs some every day shoes and stockings and there will be plenty of money to meet all her modest needs for some weeks. She got a little money from the University for the teaching she did last fall but I did not want to see her spend that so she put that into postal savings. When she is able to teach again she will need a little to get started on and I felt that she should save this bit of her money for that purpose.

This past week has been an ordinary one, some good days and some when she was very nervous. We went to Grand Rapids on Wed. and laid in a supply of insulin and some other medicines so we have enough on hand that we will not have to go for some weeks. Last night we took our suppers and went to the beach and watched the sun set. Yesterday was a hard day but the quiet evening by the big lake seemed to do her good and she slept fine but today she is nervous again. She did not go to church today but I did. We think it is better that I go away some times so she will get used to ~~me~~ having me away.

College opens on Wednesday morning but I will have to go tomorrow and the next day to help with registration. The prospects are for a large enrolment and that pleases us all. There are more out of town girls than we have ever had before and they are having some difficulty finding places for them to live because the dormitory and the annex are both full.

The garden is doing fine and we are living on the fat of the land. Eva enjoys the vegetables so much because this is almost the first time since she has had diabetes that she has been able to have all the vegetables she wanted. She has been canning some corn and beans and a few tomatoes. We hope to can a great many tomatoes because they are good for so many things in the winter and Eva can eat many of them. Ours are late and have suffered from the drought but they are full of green fruit so if we have enough hot weather, like today, we may have a lot of them after all. We have great pleasure in the preserving tomatoes which Eva raised from seed. They are of various colors and sizes which adds to the

September 25, 1941

Dear Mother & Father,

Goodness, here it is a week tomorrow since I arrived, and I've sent you no word there of - which partly goes to show how busy I've been.

I reached here Friday afternoon after an easy ride from Abeelin. Found everything ok. here, with Mrs. Jensen apparently about the same as when I came first three years ago. The week-end went largely in getting partly settled and visiting - I had lunch & spent Saturday afternoon at John's, shing raking over the new baby, and Sunday afternoon with the Beluers, shing & raking over the two & a half year old - the latter seems to be a little genius - his vocabulary is phenomenal, literally hundreds of words, which he uses in complete and essentially correct sentences. But his grammar is something of a holy-terror. - Monday morning the fray began and through yesterday I was very busy with my eighteen freshmen. On the whole they seem to be a reasonably good bunch, rather better, I think, than two years ago. The rest of this week is going in getting ready for classes

to begin on Monday, and, for me, in getting
the work of the undergraduate work club
organized for the year - in the faculty
direction this year and have a program in
the making to increase the interest if possible
- it's going to be a lot of work, for which I get
no reduction in schedule - as a matter of fact
I guess will all have an increase in schedule
for it looks as if there'll be little decrease
in total enrollment, and probably an in-
crease in each enrollment.

I crowded quite a lot of visiting into my
few hours in Rochester. Wednesday evening
Dorcas & Betty took me and Miss Cummings
to dinner, and I spent the evening with
her. The next morning I had breakfast with
D&B and then called on the Halls & the
Bells. The former seem about the same,
still struggling along, in fair health, and
at present with a full house or table. They
asked about you, of course. The Bells, too,
are much the same - Mr. Bells is 81, and
has finally left the stage, though not
because of any especial ill health. They
asked about you, and I know they'd
be delighted to see you - they're living
at 21 Thayer Street - though they may
move - but you could always find
them in the telephone directory - E. A.
Bells.

Thanks for enclosing the letter from
Laura. It's hard to evaluate what

she writes - I'd like to see her alone for
a little while, but I don't see how to arrange
it. I think, though, there must be some
improvement, for Eva has taken to writing
again even if it's hard for her - she had
a very nice note writing for me here when
I arrived. I shall try to see Dr. Paalen
soon and let you know what he has
to say.

I hope you have had a pleasant visit
for Grace & Kate to be with you - I'm
sure it meant a lot to both of them.

Now I must write one more letter
then to bed. I'm feeling ok. and expect
to start next week with a bang. Keep
well, - and you, father, stay a good
diagnostician! Lots of love,
George.

Sept 29, 1941

M. B. VAN SCHAACK
ELMSHADE
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

Dear George:

Your letter received Saturday was very welcome and we were glad to hear of your movements since you left home.

Grace arrived last Tuesday but Kate did not come. As Pa was on jury duty all week, we were pretty well harassed up. Two or three afternoons I was wann enough to sit on porch but we had fire in fire place every evening & part of some days. Thursday Pa was excused at noon & in the afternoon, we drove up to Mont. Wards to try to get our washing machine ^{fixed} - been settled. We received a capital ^{2 weeks ago} but not the right one after waiting since July. We could not seem to get in touch with the right person tho' we were at the

adjustment took one hour. We finally
took the check offered & came home
quite disgusted. To-day, I wrote a long
letter of explanation to the General
Manager, so we must just wait results.
This morning Pa & Mrs D. took our
clothes up to Jessie's & packed them
from 7 to about 9.15 AM - then Pa had
to rush to Catkill & was home at 3.30
Grace went home on Sat. Saturday
afternoon. I was sorry we could
not go out more but Pa did not want
Mrs D. to drive Dan's car as it has no
insurance. We did get over to the
nursery school for a short time one
morning when Pa took an old car
from garage - that afternoon we went
to Albany. Pa took Grace to see Jessie
and then to Harold's, Saturday AM. - he
had that day home.

M. B. VAN SCHAACK
ELMSHADE
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

It is still very dry and we are getting so low on water we must be careful and conserve every drop we can - will probably have to carry drinking water all winter unless we have some cloud bursts. The pump was out of order last week so we had to carry water & this was so inconvenient for the Fatherson, especially with company. Archie Bellingh fixed it after H. Rea failed to do so. One a week ago our big lamp gave out after cutting up "skins" all summer but by Saturday for it in shape again. You see what draw backs we've had. A brand new catastrophe - a result of the severe dry spell - is the destruction

done to all our lawns by skunks - they
have dug their noses here & there all
over the lawns on all sides - to eat
up the bugs that flourish or died
up grass - it is quite a sight and
means some job must spring to get's
all in good shape again.

Jessie & Beattie were here yesterday
afternoon & evening.

Harold had several cases in court &
pa had the opportunity of hearing him
try some of them. One very important
one for the Harport Ice Co. which he
lost, tho' everyone but the jury (he was
not on that one) thought he ought to have
won ~~one~~ but the witnesses lied so much.

Mrs Deep is going to N.Y. Friday to stay 1 mo. - but I
fear she may be persuaded to stay longer. The 24
pound baby arrived a week ago unexpectedly - the
mother is in a very serious condition in hospital.
To-day we did the last canning - 18 quarts of Lima beans.
We started furnace to-day - we look for frost to-night.
Try not to overdo & relay as much as possible. I have ^{now} ~~not~~
heard from Carl since she was here - know she is very busy.

Much Love,
Mother

Oct. 9, 1941

M. B. VAN SCHAACK
ELMSHADE
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

Dear George:

Most the weekend again - how the time flies! We had a terrific hot spell over the weekend - Sunday over 90° at porch but now it is cool - we've had furnace going about 10 days. Still is very dry; have had only a few very light showers and we are just about out of water. For several weeks we've been conserving every drop even of waste water and no rain in sight - this is the worst drought we ever had - even N.Y. City has very scant supply. Had a frost last week that finished up the flowers & did much to destroy the Veg. We had a delightful ride up the Mts Saturday to Halcott - the foliage never was prettier or more colored. Mrs.

Deep left at 9 am. Friday last and I began
at once to get in the hammers - not so easy
after letting up for 2 1/2 years but I
have learned to let some things go. Liza
has a letter yesterday from Mrs D. Her
sister-in-law is very critical in hospital -
even she cannot see her - the baby is do-
ing fine. Mrs W. is quite puzzled as to
her future movements but it looks as if
her working time here is about over.
Pa & I will go it alone if she does not come
back, until the Spring & see how it goes.
We have not yet got the washing machine
in order - must go to Trent journey next
Saturday & see if we can get information
from some one in authority. We may
go in a. m. & also drive up to see Rev. Demark.
Mrs Butruski was here this AM - the
first since last Spring - She is going to
do our washing next week. Pa & I are
going to dine at Leonia Monday, that

M. B. VAN SCHAACK
ELMSHADE
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

in A.M. and visit at Graces till
next morning. I want to attend a
Missionary Meeting from 10 to 3.30 at
Travellers Church 29th St & 5th Ave.
Then we will go to see Aunt at Hotel
& drive home that evening. We want to
stay at Graces that night too, but I
want to attend an important before meeting
in Albany on Wednesday.

Yesterday was our anniversary &
also the annual Hawes Home.
But as there was a Farm Bureau
Meeting & supper at Pop Van Winkle
Log Cabin on Birds food - I wanted
to go there. We met folks we know
from all over the County. The meal
was a 20! - Turkey supper with

all that goes with it - all paid for out of
 F. B. Treasury. We were greatly sur-
 prised when it was time for desert,
 to have a beautiful large white
 frosted wedding cake brought in &
 placed in front of us - Mr. Brougham
 announced it was our 39th Anniv.
 & we were the honored guests. I
 saved the ornament on top as a souvenir.
 It represents a bride & groom with a little
 bell over their heads. Well its nice to
 have good friends & we have many
 scattered over the County & State.
 We will have a busy Nov. as the Defense
 Com. must contact every farmer in
 County for information on food supplies
 for 1942 - what is what farmers will grow.
 So I will probably be alone here but I'd
 not mind as I have much to do & plenty to read.
 Had a nice letter yesterday from Eva. Saw Hank
 & Wilbur a few minutes last evening on our way.

Just received from Helen on phone - Hants - 53 minutes for lunch

October 11, 1941.

Dear Mother & Father,

The deaps have got away from me without my knowing where they have gone. I've put in a perfectly furious three weeks - I doubt I could keep this pace up a full term. I guess the chief trouble is that I'm a son of my parents - I take responsibilities and then feel I must live up to them - and make some of my own where some others wouldn't feel they needed to. The biggest extra phase has been directing the undergraduate mathematics club. I have spent literally deaps getting the whole thing organized for the year, making a special effort getting track of all who could possibly be interested - when I finally gathered the list together I had about a hundred twenty five names - only about forty of those would conceivably show interest enough to become or remain members but one could pick them ahead of time. And then an

Tuesday came the picnic, which needed quite a lot of organization - it was largely because of that that I forgot to write you greetings for Wednesday. After a torrid rain Tuesday morning - the sun in a week - it cleared off beautifully for the picnic in the lake afternoon & evening. It went off very well, with the biggest attendance since I've been here - fifty, I think - I had lots of help in the actual work at the picnic, but that was only the first stage. I hope all this is acquiring me merit - considering all the time it takes when I'm not working.

I was glad to get your letter yesterday and learn that you had received my telegram - it reached me Wednesday night when I remembered it was your anniversary and I had sent you no word. I'm glad you had such a pleasant evening - I wonder how many were there, if any, whom you knew thirty-nine years ago - these last ten years have certainly brought you a host of new friends - I'm glad you've been able to move about over so wide a territory and to find so many interesting people and

interesting things to do. I really don't see how you can be bored with staying home, for you don't stay home long enough! Have power to you!

I'm sorry you're having so much trouble with the washing machine - I hope you'll be able to get a washer (or is it agitator?) finally - I've heard they're now making them of plastic since there's a shortage of aluminum. Also sorry you're so short on water - with you had some of our rain - we've had the wettest fall since I've been here - last week it rained two inches in one hour.

Today was a fine day and I persuaded Louis Roy to ride down to the Dutch Hills with me - they are a group of glacial hills about sixty miles south of here - the best in the way of hills there are in the southern peninsula - they are pretty, but not very impressive as hills. We climbed the highest one - about as high as Lampman's Hill! - there's a good view from it - rather different from any

Line ever seen, for the horizon is almost level all the way round and one feels as if he were at the center of a bowl rather than on top of a hill. This trip probably marks my one & only for this fall for pure pleasure - I plan to get down to Kalamazoo to see Dr. Peeler soon and would like to get over to Holland to see Laura alone - I've written her to see if I can meet her next Friday morning, but so far have no answer.

Well, it's nearly midnight and I must get to bed - not a great deal accomplished today so tomorrow I'll have to buckle down. Hope you'll have a good trip to New York. Keep well & take it easy. Lots of love,
Gray.

Coxsackie N.Y.
Oct. 16, 1941

Dear George:

Found your letter in the
mail on our return from N.Y.
and was so glad to hear from
you. You surely are a son of
Sam Yasha & he is amused
to hear you are doing just
the things you declared you
would not do. Only
please don't run the risk of break-
ing down from over doing.
Had a letter yesterday from
Laura - a little more encouraging.
After 4 real summer days we
are having a cold winter day -
frost hauls & comes in every crack.
Saturday we went to Albany to try
to get the Mosher fixture - met
very civil & efficient employees
in Gen. Wadsworth's office - they

No rain yet - we are nearly out of water

promised to send a service man
here to-day to install the agitator.
visited Rev Sumner - Rachel
was home for week end - had
a nice visit & a chicken supper
at church then before returning
home. Left here about 4 P.M.
Monday - stopping at hand-
ing on errands & at Truyston for
church - reached Leonia 4.30
Had a lovely evening with Harry
& Ethel on hand but the latter
had prepared a sumptuous re-
past for us all. Had a tele-
phone call there from Mrs Delp-
She said she was having trouble
with her back - was going with
Dan Gies. to Penn Lane has not
heard from her since. Baby is
fine & Gene improving, both
still in hospital. We left
Grace's at 8.30 A.M. - I reached
3rd Ave & 29th St. - just in time

at 10.15 - Pa got off bus at Central
Park & spent some hours at
Historical Museum going to Hotel
Albert at 2. I enjoyed the
meeting immensely - met
a number of folks whom
I knew in a crowd of over
400 women. Evelyn met
me there at 4 & we went to-
gether to Hotel Albert. Found
in lobby Pa, Frank Jr. & Sr.
and Aunt Addie. The latter
is still very weak but gets
about with help - has constant
care most day & night nurses
but not trained ones. Peculiar
situation - Frank Sr. pay all
bills - doctor visits every day &
hundreds of dollars already has
been spent & she will not have
situation changed - she may
live some years yet & may go
any day. We all except Aunt
had dinner at hotel & we left

for home before 8. Car was
parked in N. J. at Bridge - we
reached here midnigh.
Yesterday Pa was so well, in
Albany & must go again,
to-morrow. From now till
Dec. 1st he will be busy on the
defense work & I will be alone
often.

Sorry I did not telephone
to Catherine but I left it till after
supper & then it was late & I
thought she might be out. I wrote
to her ^{Saturday} ~~Sunday~~. I do not know
exactly what Laura means by say-
ing I had she was so pleased that
one thing I had written against that
would do her good - Can it be she
meant because Mrs. D. was gone?
I'm missing her very much & I can't
imagine her wanting me to be left
with all the work. I am just letting
slip by so many things but true will
have to be a general cleaning up some
day. I get very busy but real flat.
Love, Mother.

Holland, Michigan
September 28, 1941

My dear Mrs. Van Schasck,

It begins to feel a bit like winter and we are dreading the first killing frost and hoping it will not come for some time yet. We had a big rain this morning and it is cooler now than it was before the rain. We have both been in the house all day. The rain was such a good excuse for me not to go to church and Eva did not intend to go. Next week I will begin to teach my Sunday School class so there will not be much chance for me to stay at home after this.

This past week has been rather a hard one. Eva has been nervous and has found it hard to get along. We think there may be two reasons for this, one the fact that I am gone so much of every day and she misses having me here to talk to, then this is the week end when she should menstruate and that always makes her more nervous and confused.

Eva has tried to find peace, as usual, in canning and doing other such tasks in the kitchen. She has canned some vegetables from her garden as well as fruit. Tomorrow she plans to can some tomatoes and make pepper jelly. Nothing seems to calm her nerves more than to cook.

It was so good of you to send Eva such a generous check. She has only spent two dollars- for accident insurance- but she has great fun talking about how she will spend it. You need not send more for a long time because she does not need much and now she feels that she is not penniless. It is true that she did have a little money that she had had in the bank in Baltimore but she has put that into Postal Savings so she will have something to help her get a start when she is able to look for a job again.

X I was very much pleased by one item in your letter and when the time comes that the plan becomes a reality it will do Eva a tremendous amount of good. I have said nothing about it and think you are very wise not to say anything until it is an accomplished fact. Eva worries a good deal about home and wishes she could see you but she realizes that it would be foolish for her to attempt such a thing yet. She can not seem to get used to having anyone around. A perfect stranger who comes in to do some work in the yard does not bother her but callers are more than she can bear.

We are having a new furnace put in and are looking forward to a comfortable winter. We thought we needed some minor repairs on our furnace but when the men came to look at it they said it was in need of lots of things so we are having a new oil burner. It is a big expense and one we had not expected to have but I am sure we will enjoy the automatic feature.

Eva had a letter from George saying that he had arrived in Lansing for another winter. I hope we may be able to drive over some day and see him for a couple of hours but we will wait until Eva suggests it and until she feels able to go. It takes so little to throw her off her routine. We took our supper to the beach twice this past week. That is one pleasure that Eva never tires of.

She was glad to have your letter and she sends you and her father her warmest love.

Sincerely,

Holland, Michigan
October 12, 1941

My dear Mrs. Van Schaack,

Eva is cutting up some parsley to dry to use this winter in soups and such things. Last year we tried to rîsse some in a pot in the kitchen but it died before spring so Eva thought she would dry some now when there is so much of it and then we would not be caught again.

We have not had a frost yet but we got all ready for one on Friday afternoon and picked the lima beans and tomatoes as well as the squash but it warmed up and now it is warmer than it has been for some time and we hope to have still more from our garden. How greedy we grow at the end of the season and how we dislike to see the plants freeze that have served us so well during the summer.

Did I tell you that we have had a new oil burning furnace installed? We thought there were none slight repairs which should be made on the old furnace but when the men came to fix them they found so much that needed to be done that we got a new furnace. It is very nice to have heat so easily and we think it will be an even greater convenience in the cold weather. It is too soon to tell how efficient or how expensive it is going to be but we will hope for the best.

This past week has been a little easier than the ones that have preceded. We do not know whether the new medicine is responsible or not but we hope so for that will mean that we are getting at the real cause of this terrible nerve tension which causes Eva so much pain. We are very hopeful now and trust that we may not be disappointed again. We try to be as careful as we can and you may be sure we will do everything in our power to take advantage of any means which will help Eva to regain her health. It will be months but if we can see some real improvement we shall pick up heart.

We shall be thinking of you going to New York to the Board meeting. It is so nice that you can go and we are sure you will enjoy all of it and have lots to tell the ladies at home afterward. This is such a lovely time of the year I am sure the ride will be a pleasure to you both.

We are sorry that you are having such trouble about the washing machine and hope you may have succeeded in getting the new parts before this time.

Eva wants me to thank you for the check which was in the last letter. She is always so appreciative of all your help.

It seems too bad that you good people could not have some of the abundant rain that we have been having for the last three weeks or so. Now the weather is perfect and we hope it may remain so for some time. It is very unusual for us not to have a killing frost before this time but we had such an unusual summer that we expect almost anything in the way of weather now.

Eva sends her best love to you and to her father.

Sincerely,
Sara

Arkana 23, 1941.

Dear Mother & Father,

Thursday night again - and the likelihood of
your getting this letter this week about gone - but
you'll get it Monday at least. The fare here has
slackened a little - as regards the things that
must be done by a certain time, but there is of
course plenty to do - always more than there is
time for. Took a night off last week to go down
to Ann Arbor with three others to hear a math
talk - otherwise nothing but work since my
journey to the Dutch Hills.

Glad to hear about your trips to New York and
to see Mr. Demant - I hope you remembered me
to him - it's a good many years now since I have
seen him. Are sure you had a good time in
New York. Aunt Addie has certainly had some
size - she seems to be exhibiting the Booth
shamina - what with the Van Lebacks and
the Booths it look as if she got still about
fifty years to percolate around!

Am sure I don't know what Miss Bayl used

be referring to in her letter - especially since I don't know what you wrote her. I find it hard to believe that she could have referred to Mrs. Deaf. She has not written me anything to indicate what she might have had in mind. She did write me that Eva had had four good days in succession - a record so far - but that she (Lama) could not let me come to Hallard to see her alone, for Eva would somehow or other find it, and she had promised Eva not to say anything about her without telling her. I wrote Dr. Peckham some ten days ago to ask him for an appointment, but have not heard from him. I know he is planning to take some blood tests on Eva, and perhaps he wants to wait for a report on them before seeing me.

I am a little concerned at present over my own living situation, which may change at any moment. Mrs. Jewison is certainly much less steady than a year ago and I wouldn't be surprised were she to have a shock or a heart attack any day. However I'm not trying to cross that bridge until I come to.

I hope you are keeping well, and not trying to do too much now without Mrs. Deaf. Also hope you have finally got the water fixed - what a nuisance it has been. How far saws milk and rather earlier to bed than usual. Lots of love, George.

Oct. 23/41

M. B. VAN SCHAACK
ELMSHADE
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

Dear George;

About 10:30 AM. and I am
resting by writing - just put a cake
in oven & must not forget to look at it
soon. I am getting accustomed to
doing the work but have not yet at-
tempted anything very strenuous.
Pa helps some but he is so busy with
other things just now. He had quite
a crop of Baldwin apples & he paid
Sherman to pick them in Sept. Now he is
sorting them over & has more calls for
them (put sd in binva) than he can fill,
but no wonder @ 50¢ a bu. His expense
com. of which he is chairman proves
to have more to do than they expected &
from now till Dec. Pa will have to

be away from home a good part of
the time but the work is not hard only
tiresome. Yesterday we spent all after-
noon driving out ^{through} the country from
here to Greenville & then north & then east
interviewing various men to get their co-
operation in the work.

We have had beautiful weather
most of time all fall but everything
in this section is dried right up. It is
actually starting to rain now and it
looks as if it might succeed but we
have had several similar prospects
that amounted to almost nothing.

However, with the little that falls and
our strict economy of every drop of water,
we are still pulling thro'. The washer
is fixed at last (it took the service men
about 5 minutes) and we hope by Mon-
day we will have enough water to wash.
We are very little of either wood & their

1 P.M. - Clouds have scattered - walks just damp & sun is out - too bad!

M. B. VAN SCHAACK
ELMSHADE
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

Wives - Haven't even heard Margie's voice in most 2 weeks. Jessie has had to help out in dinner as the fellow who washed dishes hurt his foot & Jessie & Milbu are doing his job.

Tuesday we were in Cortland as usual. Pa had work in the office there & I attended a Conference in Rfd Church. During the noon recess I had my bath cleaned so as to save an extra trip. Haven't done any house cleaning except the drawers & closets, maybe we would do much as we did it so thoroughly in Spring. I enclose letter received yesterday - not very encouraging - I am eagerly awaiting Pa's report from doctor.

I hope you are not neglecting to take
care of yourself even if you are so
busy. You ought to relax on Sunday
and sometimes attend church
services - there must be some very
noted and interesting preachers
in Lansing or vicinity - it would
be a complete change from your
daily work.

Well I must get busy now
for it will soon be noon. It is
dark in the house as the clouds
are so heavy but we can stand
most anything if it would only
pour rain for a few hours.
The situation is tragic - Greenville
School was closed for lack of water.
Love, Mother.

My dear Mrs. Van Schaeck.
Eva and I are going to bed early but there will be time for a letter before we go. We usually go to bed early and then read a little if we are not very sleepy. Eva's light usually goes out within ten minutes. She sleeps well the early part of the night but sometimes wakes very early - three or four o'clock - and can't sleep any more. Going to bed later does not seem to help much.

This past week has been a very disappointing one because every day

still hearing and Eva says some more
every few days. We've got so many tomatoes
that I think we will fill all the cans.

I do hope you have had some good
rains before this. It is so hard to be
short of water. We have had much more
rain than usual and much warmer
weather. Even the weather now seems to
be going strange things.

Ever's lawns are still pretty and she keeps
the rooms gay with them.

We were glad to know that you had
such a nice time in New York at the
Board meeting. You certainly did a great

man a nervous one. We got our
hopes up too soon over the new
medicine, I guess, but we try
not to be discouraged but to
keep on hoping. "tomorrow will be
better."

Eva wants me to tell you that
she made some ripe tomato pickle
a week or ten days ago. We had
some for dinner today and it was
very good.

We have not had a killing frost
yet so we're still enjoying the
garden. Yesterday we had corn,
patty-pan squash and egg-plant
for dinner and today we had
lima beans for me and green
beans for Eva. The tomatoes are

many things in a short time and I am
sure you must have been tired when you
reached home.

Con wants me to send you both her
very best love. She wished so much that
she could write but the effort is too
great for her just now -
Yours with love. Laura.

Oct. 30/41

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

Dear George -

Another week has flown by and soon it will be November. Had a little rain Monday but we are hoping for a deluge to fill up the Artinis. Sherman has been here 3 days helping pa to get things in shape for winter - storm windows - porches enclosed, leaves raked up, old hills burned etc. etc. Yesterday pa was in Catskill all day - the A.C.P. held a School in Saugan Hotel to instruct the workers for the farm survey next month - business starts after election. Having a spell of very cold weather - 32° yesterday - not quite so low today but we are very comfortable in the house. Monday we took the laundry up to Jessie's to wash and Tuesday I ironed all but the shirts - which Jessie helps to do. It was not

a large washing or I could not have done
all in 1 1/2 hrs but I do ev'ry thing to ease
ev'ry single wrinkle as Mrs. D. did.
By the way she was here Sunday after-
noon. She + her sister in-law + baby
are spending a short time at the new
home (old house) in Rhinebeck which
Dad recently purchased. Mrs. D.
says she will not live there perma-
nently nor does she like life in N. Y.
So I don't know just what she'll de-
cide to do - acted as if she wanted to
come back here - she has been very
home sick also has had some bad
back + hip trouble - while in Penn.
she had an osteopathic treatment.

Saturday we attended the funeral of
Myron Perry - the man who runs a
summer boarding house near Green's
Lake + has a winter home in Lake Worth.

M. B. VAN SCHAACK
ELMSHADE
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

We saw him occasionally last winter & he was very kind to cash our checks any time so we did not have to be identified or pay for cashing at bank. We did not really relish his Company but he was good-hearted & his wife was very pleasant and agreeable.

Tuesday evening I & spent at Jessie's as Pa was attending a meeting in Catskill. Bessie was at a Scout meeting & went to sleep on couch when she returned at 9. She is getting right in the Seven since entering High School to-morrow she will join the local gany on her 8 fall foot ball game in Milburn works about 4 or 5 nights a week besides most of day time - as much as he wears a white suit & has

and is counter man. Last week when
Cook was sick one day, Milbur made
a cake & muffins - he says it's easy
just follow receipts. - He is learning
to make pies - imagine that?
Housed & Marge have had Paul
back again in the death of "Pantlois"
the new dog. Under Dr. Parkes's treat-
ment she got worse & then Marge
took her to Saugerties but it was too late -
she died Saturday. Mrs Murphy is
visiting here now for a few days. We
see very little of them - Marge is con-
nected up with so much outside work
she's ^{is} not catching up to Pa. I have
done no house cleaning & don't mean
to do much - my desk work for Pa &
myself with getting meals & resting, con-
sumes all the time. Was glad to get
your letter Saturday. Yes Maudie, John
& you all & wanted to be remembered - so did
Rachel. Much love - Mother.

November 5, 1941

Dear Mother and Father,

My good intentions, not to have the gaps between letters as long seem to get tangled up with so many other intentions - I really had no idea it was two weeks tomorrow since I wrote. Aunt in the business of teaching goes so rapidly - one is always preparing for two or three days in advance and before one is ready those days are gone.

I guess when I wrote last Mrs. Jewison had not yet become definitely ill. A week ago Sunday she had to call me before I was up, to help her, and before night she had hired a nurse - who left two days later, to be replaced by another. During that week she got up every day, but she has not been up at all this week. I know the doctor is giving her digitalis, so that her trouble is with her heart, - whether she is getting definitely worse I don't know - I think she sits up part of the day but doesn't get out of bed. I'm not thinking of leaving except to realize that I may have to, but I earnestly hope not.

I don't believe I have told you what I did with the money you sent me for my birthday. Since coming here I have collected and a library that I simply had to get some book-cases, and I put that money with some more to buy some. None of the proper depth, etc. being available I had two made which serve my purpose exactly, and which can easily be duplicated in the future if I want more. Early in the fall I interchanged my bedroom & living room - to get my study into the best room when it would be quieter - it is a smaller room, but more pleasant and I now have everything in good shape for work.

Saturday evening I was invited out to fill in a place at the department bridge party. Ten of the married couples in the department have such a party about twice a month - Cur's not being here spaces me at least the agency of that kindly ordeal. This party was at the Beluers and accordingly more pleasant - they are the only ones in the whole department who have a really nice house - and they are very nice people. I distinguished myself by winning the very lowest costly prize - a one-cent Halloween gadget.

Had a nice letter from Eva yesterday. But still no word from Dr. Decker - I'm wondering if he got my letter. I don't know whether to write him again or not.

I wish you were getting some of our rain - in

October we had over seven inches - a record of
some kind - and it is raining pretty hard
again tonight. But it has been so warm that
some of the shrubs have been frosted - I found
three spring shrubs on the campus in bloom last
week - not many blossoms, it's true, but some.
I'm wondering how the shrubs will stand it
when real cold weather comes.

The news of Milburn's coaching was something
of a surprise - I never expected that. I reckon,
though, he may be good at it.

Midterm grades are due this Friday, and for
one I'm ^{day} ahead of schedule - which is
a marvelous feeling.

Now I must write a few lines to Con and
then get to bed. Hope you are keeping well,
and are trying not to wait very hard. Lots of
love,
George.

November 21, 1946

Dear Mother & Father,

Another large gap than I realized - the days slip past with not enough accomplished to make me realize how many of them go by - they are all so much one like the other. I meant to send you a Thanksgiving message, but the holiday was upon me before I thought, and as a consequence no one had a special message from me - and I had only one, from Eva - a special delivery yesterday morning. A year ago tonight Miss Boyd and I were just reaching Baltimore. It has not been a year of very great encouragement either for us or for Eva. But I do think there has been progress enough so that we need not feel the future is hopeless. Most important Eva has cooperated very well with Dr. Peck and I believe has as much or more confidence in him than she had last February. And he has found out some important facts, has begun to deal with them, and has cleared up certain irregularities. About a year

ago Eva had ceased reading and for months practically ceased writing - both of these she has now resumed to a certain extent. All of these are hopeful signs, and by another year I believe we may expect more significant progress. I am glad that you are thinking of paying Dr. Peelen something - I doubt he will send you a large bill - I hope not - but I believe it will be better on all sides if it is understood that his services are not charity.

I had one invitation out for dinner yesterday - in St. Louis! A friend of mine here wanted me to drive home with him, but it would have meant a trip of eleven hundred miles and I simply did not feel equal to that strain - which for me it would have been. I had no special dinner, largely because just before I went to dinner Mrs. Jewett insisted on my eating some ice cream & cake - which of course completely ruined my appetite. So far I have spent the vacation washing and getting some extra sleep. I shall take tomorrow night off to have dinner and spend the evening with a young Melba who is in the music department here. I had quite a talk yesterday morning with him at breakfast - the first I had ever seen him alone. He is pretty unhappy here - the middle west is a

poor substitute for Cardiff, Wales and he is thinking
of going back next year.

At the present Mrs. Hewson seems to be recovering
- for several days after I last wrote you her
doctor expected her to die at any time, but
last week she began to pick up and is now up
every day for some eight or ten hours, - and
feels well enough again to fight - she has had
two meetings with her housekeeper lately and
now the latter is going to leave next Tuesday.
So Mrs. J. must find another, and that task
will probably partly fall on me.

I heard from Donald last week that Henry
Nutt had died - presumably of a heart attack.
Poor Elizabeth is now left to struggle on
alone - though I'm not sure he wasn't more of
a burden than a help for he cannot have
brought in very much money these last ten
years. I was fond of him in a sentimental
sort of way and I shall miss seeing him,
but certainly not so much as I should miss
seeing her - I hope we may get up there again
next summer.

I was in Detroit last Saturday with a lot of
others from the department to attend some
mathematical meetings at the University of

Detroit, - a smallish Catholic institution. We had
quite a good time, and at lunch I had my
introduction to 'Chicken in the Rough'. Have
you heard of it - I doubt it, for I don't think
the institution extends into New York State.
You are served fried chicken and chocoeling
potatoes in a basket, without silver ware
so that you must eat with your fingers. It's a
perfect rage out here - the idea is patented so
that the number of places serving that way is
limited - at some of them you must reserve a place
days or three days ahead if you want to get in
at a regular meal time.

I'm glad to hear Harold got the South agency -
that ought to set him up. I'm also glad to hear
Mrs. D is coming back to you - and I'm sure
she is glad.

I read about the National Garage being in
Marion this week - I'm wondering if you are
there - you didn't say anything about it.

Now I must collect some laundry to take
tomorrow, wash some coats & get to bed.
Keep well and keep up your courage. Lots
of love, George.

Cassackie, N.J.

Nov. 21 / 41

Dear George:

Sorry I could not get this off sooner but it has been a very upset week. I planned to have ~~W & H~~ families Saturday tho I did fear it would be quite an undertaking. However, Pa was home & helped a lot. I was somewhat out of shape Tuesday when I intended to do much of the preliminary work. I doctored my self all day for indigestion & at night in desperation, I went to see Dr. Lett. Gads. I had had the "gulping" of food about 16 days & all remedies failed to cure. It was a gas condition & nothing serious but very annoying - guess he has fixed me up ok. To help matters over Jessie has been miserable all week with a bad cold & not able to very much. Pa brought her here Saturday but she had to lie down most of the time. Another big help was Pa's aspirin beads but he went off this little with-out one. The somewhat nervous. We will be glad when the farm survey is finished & hope that will be by end of next week. Weather has been very favorable for the traveling

around - never knew a Nov. month to
have almost every day like Indian
Summer. They just have been giving
me considerable trouble, so going
for even a short walk is out of
the question. Last Saturday Joe
took me out in afternoon & then
we had supper at the diner. Busi-
ness is not very rushing here now.
& Father has contacted help so he's
there himself 4 nights a week besides
daytimes - the garage business is
practically at an end tho' Ralph is
still putting around here.

Poor Jessie is very blue over her long-
some life for Bessie is away about
all the time - too bad everything had
to happen at once with Jessie she
does miss her mother so much.
Bessie is getting right in the swim
with other young folks since she
has been in high school & it costs
money, too. Saturday this & to
N. Point to see game.

I had a letter a week ago from Maudie
she said they were returning to N. C.
this week end & she would return here
in a few days after that.

I am looking to-day to re-people

after a lecture week. It was nice to
have the boys here yesterday and
I only regretted that Eva could
not be here, too. I confess I was
depending on help from Jessie &
I know she would have done so
if she had not been ill.

I wonder when you celebrated
yesterday & we are also wondering
what about your Canada Day.

There has been no real house
cleaning here & the bulk of it
must wait till Spring. I would
like to work but fear breaking
down, so I just let things slide.

We are looking forward to
going to Rochester Dec 8-13
& hope there will be no R. R.

strikes for we do not relish
driving car out there in Dec.

Getting very dry again - I am just
on saving of water as I can be.

Situation is serious all over this
section. Did I tell you the

washing machine is fixed &
works fine, better than old gyator.

All radios are all "gluey" so we do not listen in very much however keep track of world situation which does not improve much. Wish you were

here now & I could give you an excellent roast chicken dinner from what was left yesterday - the rooster was quite a monster - the last one we have. Have about 20 laying hens & get from 14 to 18 eggs a day - we did get 25¢ a dozen in exchange for groceries but now Milton gives us 40¢ a dozen just what he has been paying by the case.

Now I must get busy, it will soon be time for dinner - glad for does come home at noon some days. I hope to hear from you soon & look forward to your visit home in December.

Love, Mother.

Cassackville
Nov. 27/21

Dear George -

Just scubbled a few lines
to Eva - had Lamma's letter yesterday.
I'll enclose it. Glad to get yours
on Monday - you surely lead a
busy life & so do all the U. S.'s
in our family. Pa has been
out every day this week and
hopes to finish up to-day. Weather
more wintry - very dry again but
no snow yet. Just empty water
in Curt's dam for 1 week yet.

Last Friday evening Pa & I were
out & all we ate was a small
piece of chocolate cake & some
jello. I was taken very sick at
3 AM - acted like ptomaine &
for over 2 hrs I was in misery.
I used the medicine I got an
Med. from Dr. W. G. - staid in
bed until Monday 4 P.M.

Feel quite normal now & today
is the first I've had any pep
at all. We felt rather blue
& perplexed Sunday wonder-
ing what we would do this week,
as Pa simply had to finish
up his job and I needed some
care. At 7 P.M. he sent a
telegram to Mr. Delft to come
if possible, next day - we thought
she was in N. Y. At 9.30 she
walked in - she was in Hudson
for week end - it was fortunate
she arrived & seems glad to be
back - I have done no work all
this week but can help out from
now - I have considerable desk
business to catch up. I did
not tell Eva Mrs D. was back
for I don't know whether
reaction will be - however

pa & I have both concluded
we cannot get along
without help - not in this
place. I will write
Mrs Boyd soon & tell her
& if she thinks best she
can tell Eva. I think proba-
bly my recent trouble was
partly due to over work all
fall tho' I tried to do just
absolutely necessary work.
Mrs Delp is going to clean
house in a wild way, the
coming 2 weeks - many of
the usual performances will
be omitted. Now she is
going to wash my head -
she really tries to take
good care of me & perhaps

It is ^{the} best way I can keep
in normally good health.

Pa has had considerable
head trouble lately at times -
he thinks he will go some where
& have treatments for sinus.

Hope you will not have
colds or any trouble this
winter. Jessie is better but
coughs yet.

Today is Mary's birthday -
they are going to Albany to meet
Luffaloes for a celebration.
Much love,

Mother.

Good to hear Mrs — is better.

*We were so sorry not to have
George here for Thanksgiving
but just thinking about it
made Eva so much worse -
The Dr. says, "Wait."*

Holland, Michigan
November 23, 1941

My dear Mrs. Van Schaack,

We got up late this morning so it is not time yet for us to eat supper because our meals have to be spaced at the same intervals so far as possible. I have been trying to have a sore throat for this past week and Eva let me sleep this morning. I am not sick but don't feel quite as well as usual. Eva showed signs of a cold for a day but then they seemed to leave and she is herself again. I am so glad for a cold is a serious matter with her. We shall try very hard not to let her get this sore throat of mine and I shall try to get rid of it as soon as possible.

The past two weeks have been rather discouraging ones for us in some ways. Part of the time Eva has been so nervous that we have felt that we have not made any progress in the past year but we know that is not true and so pluck up heart and go on. Eva wrote a letter to George last week and for two days afterward she was in such a nervous state that I was at my wits ends to know what to do. Letter writing is too much for her. She knows that but sometimes she likes to try and she does not seem to be able to write a note and let that be enough but she keeps on until she is exhausted. I am sorry it is this way for she could get so much pleasure from writing if she could do it easily.

The doctor was here a week ago. He is pleased with the effects of the new medicine and has increased the dose from one pill every third day to one every other day. The blood tests show that Eva lacks the particular thing that is in this medicine so we hope to see results after a time but it may be months before we see much change. Eva asked the doctor about his bill because we have not given him any money so far and he has been here ever so many times. He said the theelin she took cost him \$17:00, and since she gave it to herself that was the total cost. For his visits he said he would not make a regular charge but if we wanted to give him thirty dollars for all of it that would be all right with him. That would be \$17:00 for the medicine and \$13:00 for his visits. We do not know how many trips he made and he has kept no account of them because he does this work for Eva as a friend but still we do not feel right not to pay him something for his time and trouble. It is round trip of a hundred miles for him each time but he does not come just to see Eva, he has other patients in town here and his wife's people live near. We feel that his charge has been more than moderate. Eva has suggested paying part of it from the money she earned a year ago for her teaching and she is willing to do this if you find it hard to meet the payment at this time. This does not pay for the new medicine nor the blood tests those will come later but it pays everything else to date.

Eva and I want to thank you for the Thanksgiving card and the extra gift. It was so good of you and we shall enjoy a treat at your expense soon. We had our dinner planned when the letter came and we have to be so careful about the amount of extra at any meal that it seemed wiser to wait and have a second celebration. We were at home alone on Thanksgiving but we had a nice dinner with a baked chicken and carrots, Eva had salad for dessert and I had pie which she had made.

December 1, 1941.

Dear Mother & Father,

This is a step in the right direction! - I was sorry to hear you had been sick, Mother, but glad it was no worse. I wonder what it was - you two seem to get sick more often on food than seems reasonable! You can't count yourselves lucky you don't have to eat the stuff I sometimes force down - despite eating in one of the best places, I actually sometimes wonder if I won't be sick - I don't know what they do to the food. Last Saturday night I had the best meal I've had since I left the east - Charlie's wife was away for the week end and he asked me over to cook some dinner with him. I got some good lamb chops and made one of my cauliflower which came out exactly right - with some baked potatoes, broccoli and fresh pineapple to boot we were all very well.

Mr. Jensen seems to continue to improve, but

has perpetual warts trouble. At the moment she has the face in a week! It is very hard to find anyone at all good - anyone worth anything can get a lot more money washing in a factory now. I think the one who is to come on Wednesday may last awhile - she has been working in a large factory and with so little work to do here I think she'll be willing to take quite a lot from Mrs. J. in the way of criticism. I hope she'll last through the holidays. I'm tired of helping look for a wart. Presumably I'm going to ask to be put in the will!

Father, have you recently considered your eyes as the cause of your headaches? I think you should - but to check up satisfactorily you would have to see a real oculist - want you, please?

Dr. Peelen changed just about what I expected. I think we are most fortunate in his interest in the case. I am wondering why he has not succeeded my little - perhaps he never got it.

Glad you're planning on going to Rochester & hope you'll have no trouble with transportation. I'm sure any of the Halls, Beales or Wells would be delighted if you could call. The last one at 29 Thayer St. I believe (The name is Edward Wells). - Two weeks till finals & very hectic ones. Lots of love, George.

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

Dec. 5/41

Dear George -

Received your letter early
in the week and was glad to hear
from you. You are having quite
a time with Mrs. Jennison but I
am glad you can help her out in
her dilemma - I'm sure she needs
some one and you know just how
to do it. I'm glad you had a chance
to cook a square meal since and
only wish you could have your
own home and good meals all the
time.

I am enclosing the last news
from Halland - Not very good news

and, of course, a mother cannot but
 be concerned over the situation. I
 try not to worry but at times I can't
 help it. - We are having a spell
 of cloudy & foggy weather - this is
 the third day but no rain and
 not at all cold. - Here is a secret
 which I am almost ashamed of -
 we have a new Park and Car - I
 thought if we did not get it now
 we might not for some time. The
 worst is the other is not yet sold
 but Milbrun is sure he can sell it. We
 were out to Jewett Monday night -
 that is probably our last trip this
 winter. Pa is through his survey work
 but must go to Pine occasionally - he is
 going now - second trip this week. I am feeling
 good now - rest plenty. Leave on noon train
 Monday for Rochester - will send you a card from there.

much love, Mother, when will you be here?

Holland, Michigan
November 30, 1941

My dear Mrs. Van Schaack,

Your letter came yesterday and we were so sorry to know that you had been sick. How I wish we were close enough so we could come and help you. We are glad to know that you were feeling better and hope that you have quite recovered by this time. It seems strange what could have caused it.

The weather here has been so nice lately that we find it a bit hard to remember that today is the last day of November. Friday noon we took a lunch and went to beach and ate our sandwiches in the car. Afterward we took a walk along the beach and then Eva went farther down the beach and climbed a hill where some wild flowers grow that she wanted for her wild flower garden here at home. I went back to the car and sat in the sun there and waited for her when she was gone longer than I expected I went to look for her and found her on the sand. She had an insulin shock and although she had eaten two sugar cubes which she carried with her she was not able to get back to the car. I ran back and called to the outlook for the coast guard who sent the men out in a surf boat and brought her in. They took her to the hospital without consulting me because I was on the other shore of the lake and then they sent the boat back for me but when the look-out told me through the megaphone that they had gone to the hospital I got in the car and drove so that I got to the hospital as soon as they did. The doctor gave her glucose and she soon revived and came home. I made an extra trip to get some warm dry things for her to wear. We did not sleep very well that night but yesterday we had the best day that we have had since early in the fall when we had four good days together. Today has not been quite so good. Eva got upset this morning when she discovered that the ham we had planned to have for dinner was gone. Once in a while when she is very much confused Eva will hide things or destroy them and later we find that they are gone. She is always so distressed when this happens because she tries so hard to take good care of everything. Just now Eva has gone out doors to work about a little because that nearly always makes her feel better.

We have had a bad week this time but in spite of it all we can see improvement and we will not let ourselves be discouraged. I hope you will not let my telling you about the reaction worry you. It is not apt to happen again and we try to be very careful but sometimes the reactions come very quickly as this one did. We think that Eva may have made a mistake in the morning and taken too much insulin. That is the only way we can account for it, she had had more food than usual at noon and we had had lunch a half hour later. She ate two sugars and that has always been enough to keep her going. We can't see any reason for it but you may be very sure that we will be as careful as we know how because we do not want such a thing to happen again. I try never to be away from home for more than four hours at a time-I have to stay at the college that long for my classes-and when I am away I call her on the phone to be sure she is all right. She looks the picture of health and all her bodily functions seem to be normal and right. We shall surely find the cause and cure for this extreme nervousness which is the root of all our other troubles.

Eva has been reading some lately and she wants me to read to her every evening and we could not do either of those things a year ago. Her eyes are good now and seem stable, but she sees well without glasses. Her teeth are still bad and we shall see the dentist about them soon. I am sorry we had to make this trip to the hospital but it seemed the best thing to do because I could not care for her without help when she was unconscious. Then too I was afraid she might have taken cold but she did not and today feels no ill effects so we have much to be thankful for.

Please do not worry about Eva. We are sure she is doing all right and we are trying our best to help her in every possible way. I am very sorry that she does not feel like seeing George often but she cannot bring herself to see him and the doctor says it is not wise to force such things for when her nerves are better she will be able to see him without strain but now it would take all her little strength and put her back ever so far.

I have told you all this because I want you to feel that you know all about Eva and her condition.

With love and all good wishes from us both.

Lovingly - Laura -

Dear Mamma,

If you know where my flat-heeled galoshes are, perhaps you had better send them. It is possible I sent them to the Greenfell Mission or that the rubber is worn out and they are not worth mailing so don't institute a long hunt. Don't worry about winter shoes. When I get more stable nervously I'll be more aware of the initial symptoms of one. I used to look after myself very well. Laura was very lame after her hurried trip through the sand but is better this morning. She looked a hundred

when I came to at the hospital Friday night
and it wasn't until Saturday that I realized how
shaken she was. — I am so sorry you
had that upset and glad it wasn't more serious.
Am so glad Pa's work is past the week and
have been interested in the progress and
letters. Must not go on now. Much love to
you both and to the boys and their families.
Guess wire-haired + carriers are favorites!
Eva



BUY
DEFENSE SAVINGS
BONDS AND STAMPS



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mr. George B. Van Schaack
247 Delta St.,
East Lansing,
Mich.

Rochester, N.Y.
Dec. 9/4

Dear George -

Reached here at 7 or 7 1/2 last evening - 2 bag loads of trunks on our train - snow in Utah Section & fair here - snowing & dark to day. It was a beautiful day at home when we left at noon. We have a very nice room on 2nd floor in Swiss Hotel - the hall is several blocks away so I will have some exercise but some of Lakens will be in ball room right on this floor. Big crowd here. If possible get the time if we may make a call as 2 on the old friends. Had a good rest last night & feeling fine. I had to come here & send a little before we had lunch - expect for any minute. Much love.

Mother.

1 > 31

Mr. J. S. - Saw in yesterday paper that
 the North Kensington & Albion had been - you know it was
 the man from Carthage from we gave both



THE SENECA

ROCHESTER NEW YORK



Dec. 10, 1941
 S.P.N.

Dear George:

Before this reaches you you will have received the card I sent yesterday. Pa & I are staying in to-night as we did not want to go to that Sixth Degree at the Hall. Last night we went to hear the orations by representatives (Boys) and from each Agricultural (State) school in this state; they were all very good and most interesting. I had thought that maybe we could get one or two calls this afternoon but Pa had to attend a meeting and I spent most of the time resting. I did not think it was wise for me to wander around alone looking for places, especially as it is very cold and in some places icy walking. It snowed this a.m. but that disappeared before night. We are very cozy in a nice room here and though it best to get rested well to-night & ready for the next two days. Pa has a slight cold but bromo quinine is curing it. I am sorry we could not see Mrs. Wells & the Saulichans but without our car and with so many obligations to attend meeting, it seems

IN THE  SYSTEM

NEW YORK, N. Y.
 THE ROOSEVELT
 PHILADELPHIA, PA.
 THE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
 BOSTON, MASS.
 THE BRADFORD
 NEWARK, N. J.
 THE ROBERT TREAT

HARRISBURG, PA.
 THE PENN HARRIS
 ERIE, PA.
 THE LAWRENCE

PATERSON, N. J.
 THE ALEXANDER HAMILTON
 AFFILIATED
 NEW LONDON, CONN. - THE LIGHT HOUSE INN

ALBANY, N. Y.
 THE TEN EYCK
 SYRACUSE, N. Y.
 THE ONONDAGA
 ROCHESTER, N. Y.
 THE SENECA

TUCSON, ARIZ.
 EL CONQUISTADOR
 SEATTLE, WASH.
 THE OLYMPIC
 TORONTO, ONT., CANADA
 KING EDWARD HOTEL
 PUERTO RICO, SAN JUAN
 THE COMBARD

impossible. If there is a let up to-morrow, I will try to find out just where "Low" for Hayes St. & Wick Park A. are. You, no doubt, are familiar with location of this hotel which is very large and the lobby has been full of folks most of the time. Had a card from Mrs. Deep to-day - everything all at home. Ella Moore is staying with her for company. Monday piece sent to Albany with us, Mrs. W. drove & they had to shop & drove car home.

Well, at last we are in the war and it looks very serious due to all the bombing by the Japs. It has come suddenly after all and we can hardly realize that we are actually in the fight. Last Sunday night, Gordon came at midnight to see his mother & say "good bye" tho' he was not sure when or where he would be sent. To-day's news said Mitchell field was evacuated for a time due to rumors that enemy planes were near - just a base field alarm. We do not know for sure but think Robert Bogardus might have been on one of the ships at Hawaii that was sunk. Of course, we have given up all idea of going West and will probably stay right at home all winter. The future is very uncertain and there is no use to plan from day to day. Pa is quite upset over the situation throughout our country & the world - it seems to unnerve him at times. It is so much closer than we ever thought it could be, that it is really overwhelming. I must stop now & write a few lines to Eva - I hope conditions will not worry her & upset her more than she is.
Much love, Mother.



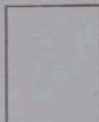
Palm Bungalows - Lincoln Hotel

Franklin, N.Y.

THE PALM LOUNGE
SENECA HOTEL
One of the Seneca's
Three Superlative
Restaurants
"A UNITED HOTEL"



[with
Dec 10, 1941
letter from N. Steyer]



POST CARD

December 11, 1941.

Dear Mother,

This is first of all to wish you a very happy birthday on this important anniversary. I send you much love for it, and shall be wishing I could be with you to help celebrate it. I hope that you will have received from Con a joint gift from us - I asked her to find something for you because she is about the same as often and can do so much better than I can here - I gave her a few suggestions, but she has not written me what she chose.

I hope she will not have forgotten in the excitement of this week. We are now all the way in with the whole Axis. It is exciting, terrifying and horrible, but I'm glad there is no longer anything to wait for. But it is

going to be a frightful experience of long duration,
and what can come out of it I'm afraid I don't
see very clearly, - surely a wholly different
world, whether we win or only draw - I fear
the latter is possible, although not likely. Poor
Mrs. Sells must be very much frightened - her
boys will surely see the real thing very soon. These
boys from one of my classes go next week and
by next fall I reckon will have perhaps only
half as many (or fewer) boys than we have
now.

I was glad to get your letter last week and
and this morning I'm glad you're leaving
that sailing at Rochester - future years may
not right away be that possible. The letter
about Eva is upsetting, but we must keep as
calm as possible - I don't believe that under
the circumstances there is a thing to be done
that is not being done.

I have been a week from Toronto and shall go
from Montreal on Tuesday via the new Empire State
reaching New York that night. - The plan to come
to Cambridge between Xmas & New Year - probably on
the 27th.

All news - except again best wishes, congratulations & love to you both.

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

Dec. 18/41

Dear George & Constance -

Very glad to get both your letters
and want to thank you too, for the
beautiful necklace - guess I shall
have to get a new dress to match.
A package from Mary Sales ar-
rived some time ago but can't
tell yet what Santa put in it.

I am thinking of George now on his
way home - he will enjoy the ride
in the Empire State as we did last
Friday. We left Rochester at 2.35
and in Albany 6.40 - home about
8 P.M. We skipped away before the
last session Friday afternoon for we
did not want to land in W. Cal. at
midnight. Rochester had typical

Weather all week - very cold, windy, icy
slushy and either rain or snow, about
all the time. I came home with a
very bad sore throat (mucous form)
and it developed into a very bad cold
in head & chest and I was in bed
till Tuesday noon - dependent
and miserable. Feeling better & up
doing as all my Christmas prepara-
tions are behind. Not very peppy
yet but want to go to Catskill to-
day and may be to Albany to Mon-
day if fair & not too cold - to-day is
beautiful. We will be very glad
to have you bring Joan when you
come and will expect you on the
27th - let me know if you will get
here in afternoon. I must get busy
now or Laura will be here before I'm
ready. No headaches for 24 in Rochester
but back again here. I wish it would go
to the Boston Fair or some where. Love, Mother.

P. J. - Hays saw an account of
a Mrs. Sutton's death in Albion
last week - he thought it might
be Constance's Aunt - No it is.
We saw account of death of
Mr. Schmitzer White in Rochester
this clipping from Daily Mail of
Catskill - has picture.

J. M. Schnitzer, Teacher, Dies

(Continued from Page One)

schools of the village, a position he filled most satisfactorily, and upon the resignation of John T. Kaemmerien, who went to Haverstraw to become superintendent of schools, Mr. Schnitzer was unanimously appointed by the Board of Education to succeed him as superintendent of the Catskill schools in September, 1935.

Mr. Schnitzer was graduated from the Penfield High School as valedictorian of his class. For three years he taught rural schools in Monroe County and had complete charge of the teaching and administration of these schools.

Graduates With B. A.

From 1914 to 1918 he attended the University of Rochester and was graduated with the degree B. A. At the end of his first term he was granted a scholarship for high academic rating, which he retained throughout his Theta Chi fraternity.

In 1918, Mr. Schnitzer enlisted in the Navy, as an apprentice seaman and was stationed at Newport, R. I., Hampton Roads, Va., and Pelham. He was selected by competitive examination from a group of 300 students to attend Princeton University. He received an honorable discharge from the Navy in 1919, after which he accepted a position to teach in School 24 at Rochester. Later he was appointed to School 27, Rochester, having 2,000 pupils. He taught in all grades from three to seven, inclusive. He had charge of auditorium work, consisting of teaching music, art, visualized instruction in all subjects, public speaking, assembly programs and dramatics. He had charge of planning, supervising and executing this phase of the school's work for three years.

Transferred to High School

Then Mr. Schnitzer was transferred to Madison Junior-Senior High School, where he taught English, oral English, mathematics and assisted with the weekly assembly programs, frequently assuming the entire responsibility for the latter. He also had charge of the Boys' Senior Class, a group of over 200, graduated twice yearly, whom he advised, directed in school activities and disciplined.

Mr. Schnitzer's other experience as an instructor and in school work, include teaching of evening school in Rochester, preparing aliens for American citizenship, from 1914 to 1931, senior citizenship teacher and principal of an evening school.

Mr. Schnitzer was chairman of the Sons of the American Legion Committee and was one of the organizers of the Sons here.

Dies Suddenly



JOSEPH M. SCHNITZER

J. M. Schnitzer, Teacher, Dies

Former School
Head Here is
Heart Attack Victim

Joseph M. Schnitzer, head of the dramatics and public-speaking department of Albion High School, and former superintendent of schools here, died yesterday after a heart attack at the age of 48. He was serving his third year as a member of the faculty, having gone to Albion from Catskill.

He leaves a widow, the former May Williams, and a daughter, Ruth.

Mr. Schnitzer came to Catskill in 1931 as director of the elementary
(Continued on Page Eight)

December 20, 1941.

Dear Mother & Father

I am wondering why I haven't heard
of you since you returned from Rochester, -
are you alright - of course I reckon so, for
I know Mrs. Deep is with you.

Now for some details. First - did you get
the birthday present? Can had it sent to
the Seneca Hotel from McCreep Store
- it should have been sent out on Wednesday
and ought therefore to have reached you
not later than Friday. If you haven't re-
ceived it you better write the hotel at
once.

Also, did you get Lou's letter which was sent
to Rochester - she thought you were staying
over the week-end in Rochester. Is it she
asked if we might bring Joan with us again
this year - of course I feel quite sure
you will say 'yes' so we shall operate on
that basis unless we hear from you by Tuesday
to the contrary. We are planning to come
up a week from today - that will be Saturday.

I trust either you or Marge can meet us in
Kudcan. We shall arrive there at 3:06. ?
that is convenient - there is another train reaching
there at 4:57, if you can't meet the first
one.

I reached here last evening after an all day
ride from Detroit - on the new Empire State
- the train is quite comfortable so that the
day was not unpleasant.

Now I must dash over to New York to see
Annie who had a tumor removed from
her throat last Tuesday. Tomorrow we
are dancing & Betty at Town Hall, ^{Club} where
Dorand is in charge of a musical program, -
etc. etc. - Am long string of events.

I do hope neither of you is ill and
that will hear from you very soon.
Lots of love from us both.

George.

P.S. Had a nice talk with Eva on the
phone Wednesday evening. I thought
she conveyed it very well and she seemed
quite happy about it. Of course she sent
you all lots of love.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Dec. 23/41

MRS. M. B. VAN SCHAACK
ELM SHADE
COXSACKIE, NEW YORK

Dear George:

Glad to get your letter yesterday just
surprised you had not received the one
I wrote to you & Can and mailed the 17th,
probably you have it by this time. Glad
to hear of your safe arrival and pleasant
trip. Very cold here but we enjoy it. Pa is
liking the tree - last night he decorated
the mantle - an entire new set up.

I am feeling quite ok but have still
the tail end of the cold evident in the
phlegm I raise. Sunday was a beautiful
the cold day, we went to call at Thompsons
on Catskill & I did take a little more
cold, I think. Today Pat & I went to Albany
but it was a hard day for both of us.

Saturday my folks took me to Durham
to attend the Juvenile Christmas Party -

That night he had the S. S. party.
Maize is entertaining her children (23)
at lunch to-day. We called here
Sunday in tray home and Maize
was busy being up the gifts for the
Lumpkins - she works so hard & I
think does more than is necessary.
Her aunt will be with her Thursday
for a few days. We are invited to
go to Jessies but perhaps wont be
home much of the day, I fear.

We will plan to meet you Saturday
at 3.06 P.M. If we are not here when
train arrives, wait in waiting room.
Will be glad to have Lou being Joan.
Pa has the tree mounded & it looks
nice. Now I must get busy for
there are many odd ends to see to.
Mrs D. is ironing. Love to you both
Mother