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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.

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

July 28/43

My dear George:

I am thinking of you all the time and hope you are having a pleasant trip. This is a hard day for me you know but I am trying to overcome. It seems so lonesome without you - we are both tired after our spree yesterday so are not doing very much real work to-day. We found it very hot in Albany - did a little shopping & then went to Dr Dodge's - Had to wait over an hour to see him - his office was full.

Then Mrs. D. went to her doctor
on Park St. + was in there 1 hr.
We drove to Coeymans Hallows
for a short call on Edith - we
did not bring Nansen home but
he is coming to-day + goes home
to ~~Boon~~^{Hudson} to-morrow.

We were shocked last night to
hear that Lawyer Warren died
yesterday very sudden tho' he has
been sick a couple of weeks.

It was so nice to have you home
and I have some very pleasant
memories of your visit. Had a letter
from Max - they can't get home in
Vermont so are in a cottage + on Lake
~~Chautauque~~^{Chautauque}. Letter from Laura, got a few lines
from Ma. Hope you get this when you
arrive. Much love, Mother.

Naval Section Base
Port Townsend, Wash.
August 3, 1943.

Dearest Mother,

It was so good to have a letter from you in the first mail yesterday - and then a card today. I am sorry, though, that you have missed me so much - not that I don't like you to want me, but it's not good for you to think too much on what you just can't have, now! So just try to feel you're well rid of me!

I reached Seattle in fog and a drizzle and found my way to the bus station - whence by bus, ferry and bus I reached here in three hours. I met a nice chap on the ferry who saw me right there and so to speak delivered me into the hands of the evening. The card shows my new home - my room is the double window third floor front at left - I say "my room", but

I have only one third of it and while it's a large room storage space is limited - but I now have everything stowed away and shall probably do quite well. This is a beautiful spot as far as scenery goes - we look out over Puget Sound & its islands, green with many evergreens - but the town is deplorable - I doubt you've seen anything I know to equal it - run down, very far down, at the heel - old dilapidated buildings - many of them decreed - just too far gone to repair even in this place where space is at a premium. But I shall not have to go to the town very often - we are on a hill overlooking it.

My status here is not clear - my orders say I'm in charge of anti-aircraft instruction - but there are others also with the same orders & others without orders - and the captain is a dick who hasn't back bone enough to straighten it out. It is really so ridiculous I feel like laughing. As for the present dir

lying low & waiting a day what
our fields. There is a lot to be done
but it is so disorganized we don't
know how to begin. Found one fellow
out here I'd met at San Diego - but
though he likes me his so dissatisfied
& early I'd rather he weren't around.
He expects to leave soon & I trust he
has. You must not worry about
me - I am not unhappy - I am pre-
plexed - as I say almost to laughing
- I am determined I shall get oriented
& I shall, - and by and large every-
one has been pleasant if not very
helpful.

Now I must get to bed. Hope all
is going well at home - I'm anxious
to hear how the pump is working.
Lots of love
Grace.

P.S. Tell Mrs. - I thought of her
as I went through Mantova - and
wondered how she lived in all
that uncertainty - we spent a whole day
crossing that state!

Bought 3 Tomatoes
to day for rocks
thanks to you

Cassackie W.V.

Aug 3, 1943

My dear George -

I know you must be
lonesome and maybe home
sick in a strange place and
so far from your folks. But
you will soon get acquainted
& make friends. - I have just
finished a letter to Eva & de-
cided to write to you too. Had a
letter from Laura last &
from Eva to-day - guess Eva
is improving - too bad they both
worry so much about their
garden. To-day has been
very hot. Yesterday we did
a big washing for me had been
washing to have the machine
fixed which it has and sat
away after going to Mont.
Trails for the night part.
This AM. we went down town.

after packing a case 7 eggs.
I was in bank 1 hour look-
ing over papers & selecting some
coupons to be sent away for
cash. I also arranged to have
you eligible to the Depository
Box in case some thing pre-
vents me from attending to it.
Edith said it will be alright
for you sign your name any
time you are here. Just as well
not to tell about this till neces-
ary. Have not heard from Cleve-
land in a week. Wish Harold
might be were here now to help
out in Warren's office. I was up
there to-day to see Peggy - Jimmy
is home but must return to home
the last of this week. We are
going to Jessies soon to celebrate
W's birthday - they could not have
it Sunday as they had other com-
pany from Albany. Its after 4
& I must get busy. Hope this
finds you very well & will hear
from you soon. Did you get the
Cards I sent? The henryck Cambridge
many thanks. Love Mother

August 7, 1943.

Dearest Mother,

Today has been the first really beautiful day since my arrival - the sun has been out all day and the air has been cool and fresh - and finally the mountain ranges east of here have been visible - as I sit writing I look out to the northeast at Mt. Baker, 10,500 feet & snow-capped, its summit pinkish in the sunset light, and and of my other window I can see Mt. Rainier, a huge & isolated mass, 14,500 ft high - all its visible part ^{covered} with deep snow - also glowing in the evening sun. - But though it is Sunday I have not been free, having worked from eight until four, standing the whole time, which is rather tiring. By Friday night both of the men I found here doing the kind of work I am assigned had been detached so now for the present I am in charge, which means quite a lot of responsibility and part of the time a great deal of work - Friday & Saturday, I

put in ten hours each and expect the same for the next few days at least. This day evening I strolled off for a walk and soon found myself in the woods walking along a path along a high bluff overlooking the sound - it was beautiful and quiet - but since then I've either not had the time or had the energy to go again - I have to stand so much I am glad to sit down when I finally get off duty. - I have had my room changed across the hall and now have a good bed - I didn't tell you, but my first bunk was a very poor one with a great hole in the middle - I could sleep only by putting my pillow in it. So now I feel fairly comfortable. Living this way is very cheap - two or three dollars a month living charge and only 70¢ a day for meals - which on the whole are very good - they vary a great deal, but there is always plenty to fill one up - and today for dinner we had beautiful thick steaks - the first steak I've had since April. - The cabin boy has just come in to put down the black and shutters - everything along the coach is kept pretty dark - one must drive with parking lights only - and

How one sees the coast I don't know. -
Was surprised to meet a fellow here
fairly old whom I knew at San Diego -
he's captain of a small ship which has
just come in here for training - I sup-
pose as time goes on one is always having
these unexpected meetings. - Had a long
letter from Eva today (yes, mailed on Sunday)
- how much she does write! She had entered
her garden in a contest, but had failed to
win a prize or even get honorable mention.
It's too bad, for it would have picked her
up - and I'm sure her garden deserved a prize
- but I suppose it was sufficiently out of moth-
er's to be thrown out.

I hope this letter will reach you by Thursday
- I know that will be an especially hard day
for ^{you} and I wish I could be with you.
But I know you ^{will} bear up through it as you
have borne up all along. We all realize only
too well how much you miss Father, and we
are all proud that you bear your grief with
such dignity and reserve.

Now I must get on my back and get some
sleep. Best regards to Mrs. W. & lots of love
& courage to you. George

Caspackie N. Y.

August 9/43

Dear George:

Received your card Friday
& letter Saturday & was I glad
to get them! The situation out
there seems to be rather mixed up
& I am anxious to hear how it has
been straightened out. The picture
of your "hotel" (that's what it looks
like) gives the idea you are liv-
ing more comfortably than in a
camp. I hope you will have some
cousads and ~~get~~ some real
good recreational times. Do you
have a chaplain? I hope so
and that he is one whom you can
admire. Tell me all about your
activities that you are permitted
to broadcast. Have not heard
from Clelland in 2 weeks neither
has Wilbur - Can't imagine why
they could not write at least
a postal card. I know Harold
is regretting he was not here to help
out at Harper's but I doubt that
they would have asked him to.

I will send you latest Cent.
Union news - perhaps you will
see a few interesting items (items)
We have just finished break-
fast dishes & after a few lines to
Eva I will get busy on telephone
bills. Weather has been cool for
several days but fair - recent
showers have pipped up the taurus.
Wilbur was here to surprise last
night - also Florence Sherman
who called in afternoon & staid.
Heard yesterday boy on pleasure
driving is off but am not sure it is
true. When it is, we may get out more.
Canned beans Thursday & may can
beets to-day or to-morrow. Am gaining
more veg. from garden - soon corn.
I am feeling very good now & sleep
fine without any pills in over a week.
Went to church yesterday - Wilbur &
I were the only ones in our pew. I was
so happy last week to have you with
me there. Hope you may have an op-
portunity to hear some good preacher.
Heard from Gordon - he is in Sicily. News
of war detestable, have been encouraging. Now
a few lines to Eva. Hope you help with
and will like your work. Much love, Mother.

August 15, 1943.

Dearest Mother,

It seems scarcely possible it's a week since I wrote you. I guess I have been too busy to make the passing of time. Actually I have worked every evening since last Monday at least until eight or nine and hence until after ten. Considering that I am up before seven and working from eight until nearly six I often wonder how I keep going. I do get tired, but not unbearably - I guess there's a lot of life in the old horse yet. Today was the first I have had off. So I slept late getting up just in time for dinner. After dinner I took a walk for about an hour - not as long as I had planned for I found it very hot - our first really hot day - and in full uniform, as we must be, walking is almost too hot in full sun just for pleasure. I finally got a full view of the Olympics southwest of here - a range about the size of the Catskills, but 2500 ft

higher - a number of the peats have quite a lot of snow on them, - and they are more jagged than the Catshills. - There is a peculiar plant growing all around here, six to ten feet high, with a bean like flower & pod - and today in the sun one could hear the pods popping on every side, their seeds flying wildly - it sounded like fairy fireworks

Yes, of course, I am living much more comfortably than in a camp - this building is an old marine hospital. At the moment I have a very good bed and am the only one in my room, although there are two other beds. Big and large it is relatively quiet here - I do hear noises from the radio room below, but most of the officers go about so much at night that I can usually count on being alone in my room in the evening - or even alone in the wardroom (Navy term for living-dining room). We eat very well indeed - we have the same food as the men, although we don't have to stand in line as they do. Our breakfasts vary, but there is always enough of what one wants. Dinner at noon is a huge meal - a roast, or

steak, or chops, or fish, a salad, potatoes,
three other vegetables, and dessert. The
evening meal is not so varied as a rule,
but again there is always plenty and it
is good - actually, I am eating quantities
- much more probably than I should.
There isn't much of interest I can tell you
about my work. I am supposed to be
giving refresher training to anti-submarine
warfare teams from ships which stop
here, - but actually we are running a
small anti-submarine warfare school
so that we have much additional work.
I show films, give lectures (about ones,
& not very formal) but chiefly teach
the tactics of attack. My students range
all the way from 3rd class seamen up to
commanders (3 stripes). And with it all
there is a certain amount of paper work -
reports, some correspondence, supply lists,
etc. At the moment I have only two on
my 'staff' - another officer who takes
care of the sea phase and the attendance
part, and an enlisted man to help things
running & do odd jobs - his feet a kid -
17 yrs old - from Holyoke - but a very

competent & likeable chap and very intelligent.
By and large the group here is not very in-
teresting - I think there are three or four I
may eventually find so, but one sees
little of them and getting acquainted is
a slow process - and there is a large
number of rather rough & uneducated
officers. But I am so busy I'm not
lonesome or unhappy - in fact today
was the first I really felt at ease with
- when I'm working I have no time to
think.

Very glad to get your letter Friday and to
hear how things are going at home. Trust
you have heard from ~~the~~ M by now. Sent
it straight how quickly the Harrows dropped
out - I wonder who will carry on - of
course for the purely business part the
girls can keep the place going - but they
need a lawyer. - Do let me know how
the pennys worked out. - Well it is after
ten - I worked again tonight - and now
I must get to bed. Tell Mrs. & daughter
I have heard from Gordon. Lots of love
George.

August 22, 1943

Dearest Mother,

Another week has passed - almost to the hour - and passed in some ways so quickly, although some of its hours have seemed long. I have not done a thing since I last wrote except to work constantly - every day and every evening - I did break off at five this afternoon and have been in bed since - too tired for food - but after three or four hours sleep in feeling quite fit again. So there is really nothing to report.

I was glad to get your letter - on Friday I think it was. I hope you are not worrying about your blood pressure. I feel rather sure it is not serious, and worrying about it would only make it worse. Just try to keep less busy, lay around more, and read more - how I'd like to have some of your time for reading! I do get in a few minutes pretty regularly every night just before turning out the light, but only a few minutes for I soon get sleepy - sleepy enough to drop off even though my present room mate has already started to move restlessly. He

makes a painful racket, but so far I have
not been much disturbed. - I hope the
treatment Mrs. D had in Albany has done
her some good - guess you will have to
make her go more often. - Glad to hear you
got the piano tuned and hope that Mrs. D
has found more pleasure playing since.
Trust the pleasure-driving hour will be
relaxed somewhat so that you can get
out more - it is rather dull having to
stay in so much - but you do have a
good place to stay. Trust you have
heard from Harold and Marge at last,
and hope that it has been good news.

Well, my roommate and another fellow
have come in and it is difficult to go on
writing - especially with so little to say! -
and it's clean slack too - so all now -
except to say thanks for the Union news
which came last week. Keep up your
courage - the war will be over some day
- though it sometimes scarcely seems
so. Lots of love.

George.

August 29, 1943

Dearest Mother,

Another week! I wish they dragged as little for you as they do for me - they simply fly past. The hours drag now & then when I have a difficult group to work with, but on the whole the days are so quickly gone. Have worked quite regularly since I last wrote. Took Friday evening off - was invited for the evening meal aboard the YMS 337 - a minesweeper here for training, whose captain I met at San Diego - a young fellow from Utah. Went over his whole ship after the meal. It's about a hundred scarcely five feet long and a maze of machinery - with very little room left for the thirty men & four officers. The wardroom (navy ^{officer's} dining room) is just big enough for a card table and four chairs around it. Unless I were the captain with a cabin to myself I'm afraid I wouldn't last long in such quarters. - Today I was technically off, but spent six hours out in the bay on a

I'm finding out how to conduct certain exercises which it may presently be my duty to conduct - at the moment there is another officer here to do it, but he is expecting to leave.

And that is just about all the news - except of course for the weather - mostly it is nice - always cool except perhaps for a couple of hours at midday - so far, little rain - a heavy rain last night - but we must expect heavy rains later on.

Glad to get your card a couple of days ago. Did you mean you had sent a letter just before? I haven't had it. Hope you are feeling well now and trust that Mrs. D is feeling better - I wonder if this chicken work may not be too much for her - too bad if it is. - Haven't heard from Eve in a long time - I suppose she is very busy running her garden and canning the fruits of it now. What do you hear from Cleveland?

Am taking this evening off to write letters and later I hope to get some more over the radio - there is much more frost now on the radio here than in Michigan! - Had a nice box of fudge from the Melness last week. - All now, take care of yourself and don't work too hard. Lots of love
George.

Caspachie Wj.
Aug. 30/43

Dear George:

I am surprised to see it is a week since I wrote you a letter but I have sent two Postal Cards since. Well last week was what you call a "Pettie" one - neither Mrs D nor I felt very well and we were both lame too. But we are feeling better except we both have frequent headaches, I don't know why. Wednesday I was in bed most all day and also yesterday. I am due at Dr W's in a day or two but may go before - He seems to think my trouble is nerves + I am so tired of taking medicine. I begin to think my headaches may be due to eyes as it is over two years since they were examined - it is very

similar to the attacks I had in Lake
North in 1941 & the eye came as
soon as I got home & got new lenses
the head aches stopped - So I am
going to Albany very soon - Mrs D.
might also have another treatment.
My feet are behaving better just now.
I have lost my appetite completely,
but cram some thing down every
meal times. I am not alarmed &
don't want you to be for I will get
adjusted again - perhaps before
you get this letter. Sherman was
here two days last week & spent
it all on that new lawn - It looks
nice now. Sold 51 hens last
week & have 15 left some to can
& some for Jessie to can. Mrs D sold
52 pullets & hopes to get rid of
broilers soon - has one big order for
this week. I sent out last crate of
eggs Friday & some of them were Wilbur's.

So this finishes up my chicken
business but I will miss the egg
checks which have been in coming
every time. Hens have gradually
stopped laying so we have had
only about 2 cases in 3 weeks for
some time. The Jukes Well
is in perfect order & the water very
good. Had a nice rain last week
but need much more. To-day
we are making apple jelly & ef-
fect to get the chickens ready to
can in the morning. There are
no peaches in the County & I see
the price is \$ 8 a bushel so I fear
we will not can any but we have
about 30 cans on hand. We are
having corn now tho' cobs are small.
We have not been anywhere lately
except to church (not yesterday) and
necessary trips to town & one church
supper. I do wish that awful
car ban was cut out. I had a

letter Saturday from Harold - he
still seems to think he may be
drafted. He seems to like his job
and they have good times on the beach.
Eva writes often - it would be
better for her if she did not but I
would not think it wise to tell her.

I have not read much lately for
reading & writing always makes
my head ache + I think eyes are ^{causing}
I am so sorry to hear you get so
tired out - why don't you sit down
when you lecture - they'd hear it
just the same. Is there anything you
would like me to send you? Perhaps
you are not near stores where you
can buy what you need or want. At
me know & I'll do my best for you.

Can. is coming Thursday for a week -
it will be very quiet here for her but
I'll try to make it pleasant. - Now I
must quit & hope you are o.k. don't worry
about me I'm tough & love Mother.

September 5, 1943

Dearest Mother,

I was very glad to get your letter Friday - it was two weeks since I'd had a letter - I did get your cards, but I guess one of your letters went astray.

I'm sorry to hear you've not been feeling well again - I wish you could control your nerves better! At any rate you mustn't let these headaches go on, for they are very wearying on the nerves. I suspect they are due to your need for new glasses, and I hope that you have already seen about getting a new pair. - I hope too you have some appetite again - probably it's the hot weather has cut your appetite down & as soon as it gets cool again you'll be hungry. I wish you could have some of the cool weather we have here - it is really wonderful, practically never to be hot and always to have fresh air - the past week has been beautiful with sunny days & rather clear air - one night ^{or evening} all the mountains were visible - a

grand sight.

This week has gone quickly, though with some what more variety. Monday night I was detailed, Officer messenger to carry a message from the base to a British aircraft carrier in the bay here. I had to put on a belt and carry a revolver - which I kept in the holster! - and went out in a speed boat. I was aboard about forty minutes while a reply was being written and was entertained in the wardroom - a huge room, four or five times the size of our living room - although it was 8:30 nearly all the tables were filled with Officers still at dinner. It was quite fun and I'm glad I was thus detailed. Today (or rather this morning) I was working (i.e. teaching) with a team from a patrol craft which has a Jap submarine sinking to its credit. The captain was very affable and invited me out for dinner - when we went aboard, he took me to the deck and saw some of the items connected with the sinking. - Also, incidentally, saw several baby jelly-fish in the water - leaves parent blabs about the edge of a hand - outlined in white - this white circle & spots were continuously in very graceful motion. - Last evening I

was in with out to dinner to one of the
Officers apartments, where we later played
bridge. It was a pleasant evening but I
had one of my sea headaches, and was very
sorey - felt as if I wouldn't be able to
get up this morning but when morning
came I felt fine again. - I do little
lecturing - my teaching is of another
character - and anyhow, in the Navy,
one doesn't sit very much - an Officer
is supposed to be able to stand up
almost indefinitely. Don't worry about
me! - You want to know if there is
anything you can send me - thank you,
but my wants are so few in this life.
Actually the only thing I can think of is
a few pair of ribbed black socks - size 11.
How would you like to send me some
cookies - it's a long way, I know, but
I'm sure they'd be good, and I'd
love to have some - they'd be good to
munch on before bed. - Speaking of bed,
I must get there right away, for there's
a hard work coming. - Am glad Ann was
able to get up to visit you and I know
you have all had a very pleasant &
fruit week - too bad you couldn't see

gas to go about a bit. -

So allways, best regards to Mrs. Paep
- trust she is feeling better - and lots of
love to you - take it easy & relax!

Gray.

Happy Birthday





Having a swell time, wishing
Wonderful things
for YOU -
Not only for your Birthday
But for the future, too!

With much love
From Mother Sept. 13/43

Catsackie N. Y.

Sept. 8/43

My dear George:

I have had a very busy
time to-day and have just written
several business letters. Between
the stocks & bonds & income
tax report, I will come in, I
fear (this is only a joke)

I want to write you a few lines
so you will receive word from
me on Thursday the 13th. I will
be thinking of you all day and
will look back to all the nice
birthdays parties we had here.
I hope you are not so tired now
and with the good news of the
new situation to-day (Italy's
surrender) maybe we can look
forward to Germany's collapse
soon, too. Had a letter today

From Mildred Pierce to-day
telling of the serious illness of
her mother but she is recover-
ing now.

Sept 9th - Thursday - I stopped last
night to hear the President on radio
and then I was too tired to finish.
This is a cool morning but bright.
We are going down town on various
errands. I am feeling very good.

but must continue under Dr's
treatments until I'm a.k. again.
To-day is Auntie's birthday - she
would be 85. Have not heard from
Harold in over a week - Eva writes
2 or 3 times a week - she ought not to
but I don't think it wise to tell her so.

I must soon go to Catskill to get more
gas rationing - I guess I won't ~~guess~~
get any too much. We have been
careful & must continue to be.

Have not much to write about - not
ing exciting. Father has the big lounge
in good shape now. Sunday night we
were to Albin's & they were here Sunday.

Don. went home yesterday - She got her
dill picking up the leaves on lawn.
Now I must write a few lines to Eva.
Lots of love Mother.

No 1 Letter) Cassockie Wj.
Sept. '14/43

My dear George:

I meant to write to you last night but we had a very busy day & I was tired & nervous.

First we started to wash and the water ran out before the tub was full enough. I called Melvin after Mrs D worked to get another cistern to give water, for over an hour - Melvin came about 10 o'clock & worked till after one. He had to go down town to bank so it gave us no chance to rest. I also went to see Peggy to fix my income tax - she did not finish so I must go again this afternoon. I have figured & figured over it about & it has been very confusing. As Pa's 3 mos had to be

taken in, too, as joint income be-
cause we had joint last year.
I think I could figure out a
simple method & it would be
just as satisfactory. The estate
is not yet closed but Peggy said
after this income business is
over (she is rushed to death just
now) she hopes to get it finished.

We are having a cold spell
for several days - it is cold in
the house - we have fire in
fire place when we have time
to sit in there - 3 times have
used the electric heater while
we ate breakfast. Our tour stools
have not all repaired yet and
we covered them over at night.
Our heater is not in shape to use
yet but Wilbur says he will fix
it soon.

I heard from Eva that she had

sent you some ² cookies so I
thought a little later would
be better for you to send some.
I had thought of it even before
you wrote but was feeling so
miserable. I just could not
settle down to anything. I will
also get the socks when I go to
Catskill or Albany. We have
a few A stamps yet to use
and they must last till Nov.
so we go out only on necessity.
I must apply for a new gas
rationing book soon but just
dread it - the man is so cross. As
you know how much I miss
pa more & more every day -
so many things he did for me
that I must now do for myself.
Some days I feel I cannot
keep on very long without him
and yet I know I must. I have

so many problems to figure
out and I just can't do it.
I am afraid Mrs D. will not
stay with me if we leave this
place unless I raised wages
for she must either have a
place to keep chickens or have
money. I don't think I want to
buy a place & be bothered with it
and yet this place needs at-
tention & things done that I must
always call on Milnor to do. We
hope to get Sherman again soon to
cut the wood - I don't know if
the apples are worth picking that
will be up to Milnor too. Just now
he is so tied up in politics for he
is running for Councillman.

Four times I have cleaned
out the fungus on the big tree
but it always returns. I wrote
to the Dary people about it and

They sent a ³ reply. They said
Laujos has very bad for any
trees but a tree that had surgi-
cal treatment as our Elm did.
There was nothing to do for '3
Years, that would be 1945. But
if leaves were good yet it
cannot be in bad shape. I am
going to have Mr. Braughan get
me information about it -
Wilbur thinks that there must
be something could be coated
on the strip that was dodored
for the lightning attack. I would
hate to lose the tree but does
hate to spend so much on it, too.
We have had a few nice
showers so Lawns are all green
again but the leaves have been
falling several weeks. Lawrence
raked up the Lawns but they are
covered with leaves again.

The new lawn looks fine now -
my leaves are there but it is a
big piece to keep mowed.
If Bessie was any good at
all to help she could be of
some service here and I'd
pay her for it - but aside from
sometimes mowing the lawn (not
very good) she will not lift a
finger. She has been no use
to Fannie all summer but has
been on the "go" most of the time
it is well school has begun again.
I was glad to hear of your experiences.
It is nice you can have some re-
laxation & I hope you are getting
rested - sit down all you can. For
God's sake if all my letters do not reach you
I am going to remember them now so
you can tell if you get all - I write
at least once a week & sometimes more.
We are making grape juice to-day.
Much love, Mother.



September 14, 1942

Dearest Mother - I should be writing
a letter, but I am much too tired - it
is already 10:30 and I have just come
up from the school. I took all of
Sunday off - as my birthday - got up
late - took a long walk - smiles in
the afternoon & early evening - had sup-
per out and listened to music until
bedtime - since then & before then
I have been very tired down - I never
had more than ten hours at the school
and sometimes less - I am hearing
it, but I have little time to myself.
These are the Olympic moments which
I see to the west of here - though not
a great distance - Glad to get your
love and care and greetings and hear
you are not feeling too badly. Had
cards also from Eva & Mother - and
cookies from Eva - and a friend here
took me out for supper last evening.
Lots of love, yours

September 17, 1943

Dear Mother,

Sunday evening again and I am sitting down early to get some letters written. Work slackened a trifle the end of this past week and I was off again today - the second Sunday in a row. I slept till eleven, had dinner, listened to some music and then worked at some paper work in the school until supper. Except for last Sunday the three weeks preceding today were very hectic and I was getting very tired, but in the slack this week-end I feel I have come back. Whether those weeks reached the peak or not I don't know. I have been concerned with training Officers and men from ships newly commissioned in Seattle and they were coming along at a pretty fast rate - I understand the rate is decreasing now and perhaps from now on life won't be quite so hectic.

I have not had any particular successes since my work of last Sunday. The supply officer here, a young ensign, went along with me - we got the Navy station wagon

To take us about five miles out and then we walked to a bay west of here, called Discovery Bay - a quite beautiful narrow bay, from the shores of which, when it is clear, one can see the Olympians, but on Sunday those mountains were in clouds. Our walk back would have been eight miles, had we not caught a ride for the last two. This fellow is from Salt Lake, and turns out to be a great grandson of Brigham Young - his father, who just recently died, was one of the most outstanding men of the Mormon church. Until I came here I don't think I had ever known any Mormons, but so far since run into at least four. This fellow is by far the most congenial of the group here. On Monday, my birthday he took me out to supper to celebrate.

I was glad to get your letter yesterday - letter #1! As far as I can reckon it was only one letter of yours which failed to reach here. - I am sorry you seem to have had so many trials lately - the water pump, income tax, gas taxes, etc. There are misadventures, I know, and I wish you

didn't have to deal with them, but do
try as much as you can not to let them
worry you. Of course the main problem
of whether to keep the place or not will
always be with you until you no longer
have it - but that in itself is not suf-
ficient reason for getting rid of it. It is
very likely now that you will stay there
at least this winter, which I hope will
not be so severe as last, and I trust that
for the next few months at least you will
just try to forget the problem. Another
spring may be a very different situation
in many ways. Of course I know you
miss Father and realize to some extent
anyhow how much you now have to do
which he did for you. But you must not
think you cannot go on - for you know
you can - and in many ways you are
fortunate - you know his business, which
has made carrying on easier than it would
have been, you do have Wilbur near and
helpful, and you still have Mrs. Deep. Try
not to think of her going away - I realize
that sometimes she may, but for the
moment she will be with you and
when she goes will be sure enough to

deal with that problem. I think you'd
find it much easier if only you could
get out more - perhaps before many months
the gas situation will have been eased - I
can't believe Germany can hold up until
next summer.

I am about to have a tooth extracted -
about ten days ago I began having pain
in my upper left jaw and after one rather
restless night saw a dentist, who found
one of my molars dead. He has been treating
it and now I shall have it out shortly.

Well, this must be all now, if I am to get any
other letters written. Take care of yourself &
stop worrying - How many times do I have
to write this?! Lots of love
George.

P.S. I wish you could have some of those
marvelous pencils we get out here. I
bought a few yesterday and have been
fracturing on them.

Cold weather & Catsackie, N.Y.
furnace not ready, but
we use fire place. Sept. 19, 1943
Dear George: Number 2

Exercise pencil but ink is
about gone. First I want to
tell you I am so much better
and quite normal again.
I am going to Dr. this week
for a check up and probably
change of medicine or anyway
some Vitamin B. It is so nice
not to have headaches nor pains
in my legs, and I sleep so good
nights. But I am concerned
about you - too bad you must
get so tired - do you have to
stand all day every day? I
hope not. What a wonderful
tree on the card you sent
me! I wish I could see the
oaks in the west but I'm sure
you'll see well.

Do not feel you must write
me a letter when you are so
tired - just a card will please
me and keep me in touch
with you. Too bad you
must have such late hours
but it is better than being
right in the battles. Better
not take such long walks
if it makes you tired, too.

The last week has been a busy
one here - did lots of canning
corn, beets, tomatoes, etc + making
grape jelly + juice. Had to
go down town three afternoons
to bank + to Harris' office. Peggy
made out my income tax
report - how complicated +
vague the instructions were
and also I think they laid on
pretentious ~~pretentious~~ ~~pretentious~~

ever I'm glad it's over and
I dread the annual that
must come again in
December and March.

The care of stocks + bonds
is quite a burden for me -
Pa always attended to it
and now most every week
our corporation is making
a change or calling in the
bond etc. I wish the money
could be in a bank if
a good interest could be
paid. Sometime soon
I'm going up to see Mr. Weston
+ get some things straightened
out. I have filled out
a check for gas coupon
but I fear I will not get
anything for the show

trip I never make. It is very
inconvenient to be tied in
so much. Oh, I never tell
you I called an Anna Spore
Friday on way home from
Landing. She asked about
you & said she was so glad to
have you call. She is a sweet
as ever but does not go out.
We still write 2, 3 or 4 times a
week - I guess she thought I'll
keep me from loneliness - she
has not mentioned her health
in a long time & I do not ask.
Seldom hear from Harold or M.
but did have a letter last week.
They were next month to a furnished
house here. From office - He
also has a new car belonging to
the Company. Wilbur helps often
but not here every day. Howard
I am going with Red, Guy & father
some prospecting in Athol.
Lots of love, Mother.

No. 3

Catsack, W.V.

Sept 28th 1943

My dear George:

I have just finished baking the cookies & now Mrs. D is making another kind - We are going to send some to you and also to Gordon. I hope to get to Catskill either tomorrow or Thursday as Mrs. D must get her license renewed, and I will try to get the rocks to send with cookies. We were very glad to start a little summer fire Saturday and so. We have been comfortable ever since. Have had several light frosts but not much of our remaining odds and ends in garden were hurt. The apples and pears are a failure all over this section and no peaches at all. The fruit is wormy & most has dropped or going the way later be able to buy a few apples from Cary but how we will miss the fruit!

Last night we went to Grange, the first
since February - I had to break in
sometime (tho' I do not usually do
very often) & as it was a special meet-
ing & State Master & wife were present.
I felt it a duty to go & give a short
talk on Juvenile Work as requested.
I was heartily welcomed and I did
not get nervous at all as I feared
I would.

I am still trying to
get more gas coupons - 3 miles my
application had been returned for
some trivial reason last night
I sent another one for fourth time.
I may have to go to the office in Court
house & do some talking. This is one
of the things I miss for, I never
had to think of it even.

Yesterday had a short letter from
H. & M. from Pittsburg Pa. where
they had gone to take back the new
car. They are moving on Oct 1st and

the new address will be 3054
Euclid Hqts. Blvd, Cleveland Heights
Cleveland Ohio.

Eva still writes 3 or 4 lines a
week usually 2 or 3 cards & one
letter tho' sometimes 2 letters - she
has said nothing about her health
in many weeks and I hear nothing
from Laura. The last news was
they had a buyer for house if the
price was O.K. Eva thinks it is a
bad time for them to make the change
and I feel it would be very upsetting
to her.

We are having very fair
weather but we do need rain so much.
We cannot copy the same custom
nor the north well so we have to
carry water as the other customs have
very little in them. But I think it
will have to rain good before long -
No equinoctial storms yet but I

We go out seldom but find every body
at home. The ground is covered with
leaves but Dr. says I must not rake
them nor do anything that tires me.
am really feeling very good now but
will continue to see Dr until he
says I'm all right. I did say last week
I was a very well woman & my trouble
is due to the strain I've been under
and the worry. Had recent letter
from Evelyn & her husband here
has been very well all summer - my
Frank is away again & Aunt Addie is
living in a hotel on 103rd St & does
for herself - remarkable. I hope the
let up in your strenuous work has
continued - how I would like to
help in on Jan. Mary & H. want me to
see them but I think it better to stay
home for various reasons - it is an expensive
trip & I don't want to leave Miss D alone. She
has been very piling chubbery & is expecting
a baby here - say Jennie Miller is not
all well - had little fever today. How I must
miss this. Look forward to your letters. Hope
but all please feel better soon.

Coxsackie Native Dies In Hudson

Former Supreme Court Judge Aaron Van Schaack Cochrane, native of Coxsackie and one of Hudson's most distinguished citizens, died yesterday at his East Allen street home in Hudson, following a brief illness.

Judge Cochrane had served with distinction in many official capacities, as city judge of Hudson, as district attorney of Columbia County, as a member of the 55th and 56th Congresses, as a justice of the Supreme Court, as associate justice of the Appellate Division and as presiding justice of the Appellate Division 3rd Department.

Born in Coxsackie March 4, 1858, he was the son of the late Francis Cochrane and the late Barbara Van

(Continued on Page Six)

Coxsackie Native Dies In Hudson

(Continued From Page One)
Schalek.

Judge Cochrane received his early schooling in the district schools of Coxsackie and then entered the Hudson River Institute at Claverack. Following his graduation from the Institute, he studied at Yale and was graduated with the class of 1879.

Judge Cochrane represented the 19th Congressional District, which embraced the counties of Columbia and Rensselaer, in the 55th and 56th Congress, serving from 1897 to 1901.

He was elected a justice of the Supreme Court, Third Judicial Dist. in 1901 and served two terms from 1901 to 1915 and from 1916 to 1929. He was appointed an associate judge of the Appellate Division and later became presiding justice of the Appellate Court.

He was a former director of the Farmers' National Bank of Hudson and served as president and vice president of the board. He had been a trustee of the Hudson City Hospital and the Hudson City Savings Institution of which he was a former vice president.

After retiring from the Supreme Court Bench, Judge Cochrane served for a number of years as an official referee hearing many cases in Albany, Troy, Hudson, Catskill, Monticello and Kingston.

Judge Cochrane married Miss Margaret M. Hawver of Tarrytown on Oct. 10, 1882. She died in 1933. Surviving are one daughter, Mrs. Margaret C. Ferris of Hudson, a son, Francis A. of New York City, two grandchildren, Charles C. Ferris, Hudson, who is in the U. S. Coast Guard, and Mary Ann Cochrane of New York City; also one sister, Mrs. Helena C. Gates of Coxsackie.

Funeral services will be private and interment will be made in Riverside Cemetery, Coxsackie, with the Rev. Harvey B. Hoffman, pastor of the Hudson Reformed Church, officiating.

September 29, 1943

Dear Mother,

Am afraid you'll be beginning to wonder why you don't hear from me. I am now in my sixth day without any wash, and it is only because I have felt so frank that I have not written earlier. Last Thursday afternoon all ships here were suddenly ordered back to Seattle leaving us without any wash. At almost the same time I was struck with a particularly violent cold - I kept up through Saturday & Sunday because I was senior duty officer, but did nothing but lie around - by Monday the captain suggested I stay in bed for a day - which I did, sleeping & reading - I felt so much better yesterday that I got up again but had no pep for anything all day long. My cold is definitely disappearing, and I expect I shall soon feel all well again. Of course it would have been wiser to be busy & work both, but it seems a shame to have felt so bad in the only extended leave I've had off. - I don't know how long we shall be without wash - I doubt there is any hope of any more.

Am glad to hear you are feeling so much better, - I felt sure you would as soon as the weather got cooler - hot weather is very tiring - I wish you could live in a more equable climate - such as it has been here since I came - only one or two really warm days and no warm nights. But I believe the weather here has been exceptional - we have had little rain - much sun shine, though that probably won't last and October shall have rain, fog & wind - Sunday it blew for several hours, for a time at 60 miles an hour. The old building shook up here on the hill.

Apparently you will not want for canned food this winter, since every time you write you seem to have been canning. Wish you could have some of the marvelous peaches from here to can - I have brought a few lately and peached on them - but even here that are expensive - three or four dollars a bushel. Hope you are getting enough meat etc to eat - I note the label price value of butter is 16 cents - that is very high - there must be a great scarcity, so far we have had our one fat a week regularly, which is much more than our share.

The chief excitement here lately was a
big fire a week ago - the old high school
building having the catlanning boards, etc.
caught fire late one afternoon in a
high wind. It was very exciting for a
time, and quite dangerous, for burning
shingles blew all over - but the local
firemen plus the Navy boys kept it
from spreading but couldn't save the
building, which made the best blaze
I have ever seen. No one was hurt
in the building and practically all the
records were saved - one man was
killed by falling debris.

Today I had my tooth out - a fairly
simple matter and since I've so far had
no complication I guess it is going to
heal up without any trouble.

Well, it is warming up outside and I
guess I should go down to the school
for a little and see if anything can be
done there to help dry our places which
were varnished last Friday and are still
sticky. - Take good care of yourself,
don't work too hard & don't worry.
Best to Mrs. W. and lots of love,
George

No 4

Catsackie, N.Y.

Oct. 1st 1943

My dear George:

Hope you received No. 3 which I sent a few days ago. I am sending this with a package which I hope you will receive ok. We went to Catskill yesterday afternoon and I tried in every available store to get the socks you wanted. Some stores were closed on acct of Jewish holidays. Some stores had these stockings but in all colors except black. I finally purchased the only two pairs I could find tho the size is not 11 but 10 1/2 - I measured them on another colored pair & the difference was so very very little I thought I'd risk it. Now if they are not what you want I'm sorry but there must be some one ^{could} wear them. I don't know when I'll get

meant to put card in package but forgot - but you know if carries my love.

to Albany, maybe next week & maybe
Nov. I meant to buy you 3 or 4 pairs
but as I said couldn't find only 2 for.
We have been doing some house
cleaning this week - Wednesday the
living room and to-day the dining
room. Weather is much milder so
we have let the furnace fire die out.
Wonder if we can get all the coal we'll
need - ordered 8 tons in May or June
(that is W. did for me) & so far have had
only three tons. I did not want to
wait longer to send the socks as the
cook-hits were ready to go - Hope you
will enjoy them & let me know
when you want more - Mrs D is
going to send some to Gordon - how
he may be in Italy perhaps near
Naples. Rain has not come yet only
a light sprinkle yesterday so we were
starting for Catskill. It is so recent

Since I wrote to you there is not much
to tell. Had a few lines (very large
letters) from Sister Addie - She is
in a hotel on 103rd St. - wants me
to go see her but I do not think I'll
go away anywhere for some time.
Harold & Marge urge me to go
see them but for various reasons
I think I better stay home at
present, much as I'd like to see
them. Traveling is so uncertain
these days on train or bus & I do
not seem to care to go so far alone,
also don't want to leave my D.
alone & also I hesitate to spend the
money now. Had another long
letter yesterday from Eva - the first
time she has referred to her health in
many weeks. She said she had gone
to bed one night at 9 o'clock when she
went out & she slept right thro' - Said
she is improving for she could not do that

Previously. Perhaps she has had
fear of the change they have
to sell and tho' she dreads the
idea of sewing, she seems
to think it would be the right
thing to do now. She has been
disappointed about her crops
& yet she must have a large
quantity of canned stuff.
Now my dear I must do some
washing of all the doilies etc.
As our water is so scarce we
may have to go to Jersey next week
& to wash the necessary things.
We did that twice last year when
the washing machine was out of order.
If there is anything else I may
order say, let me know, I will proba-
bly get to Albany a few more before
real winter if I can get the coupons;
I have made 4 requests & 3 returned, last
one not answered yet. Much love, Mother

October 4th, 1913

Dearest Mother,

I was glad to get your letter # 3 on Saturday and to hear you are continuing to feel so well. I trust now you are in shape again you can keep so. - don't work too hard, try not to worry, get plenty of rest & don't take cold. I too am feeling pretty well again although I shall probably have some of my cold in this climate for some time. Just after I wrote you last Wednesday I felt very tired & achy and went right to bed for twenty four hours, which seemed to do the trick, for by Friday morning I was feeling quite fit.

We are still without any regular work, although I seem to find a lot of odd jobs to consume time - in particular I am now mace business which is a pain - a lot of bookkeeping over a small amount of money. - Saturday & yesterday were essentially holidays for me. On Saturday the captain sent me and another officer off in the station wagon to find a suitable walk or hike for some of the soldiers over yesterday. The disease about

seventy miles south to Quilcena where we got a lot of information from the forest ranger and then drove up into the mountains - the foothills of the Olympics, finally climbing one of them - Mt Zion - about 4000 ft high - a climb of perhaps 2000 ft. We found a fine look-out up there, manned by a middle-aged couple - they will stay there through the winter, being snowed in for four to six months. They were most hospitable and made coffee & sandwiches for us. The view was poor because of large cloud banks in nearly every direction, but they said that on a clear day the view was very fine. So yesterday Dick & I set off with seven of the enlisted men to make the same trip. There was little fog and we were well rewarded by the view - to the east we could see the whole Cascade Range from Mt Baker in the north to Rainier & Adams in the south - and also see the nearer Olympics. We took along a lot of food in knapsacks & cooked a meal on the mountain top. The men behaved very well and seemed to have a grand time - a joy you can imagine I did. I was grateful to find that I didn't get so very tired - even at forty I seemed able to climb

as at thirty!

Friday we had a band drive at the base, the Officers & men being divided into four teams. I was surprised at the amount paid, - over £4000 - my own section won, which for the men, at least, means an extra 48 hours of liberty.

Had a long letter from Eva today - she now doubts that the man who was looking at the place will buy it after all. I have mixed feelings about it - it is a hinder for Laura, but on the other hand it is a gain for Eva and hence for Laura, and winning would be an awful job. However I don't believe in worrying about it - Laura has always made out and I'm sure she'll do so again, more or not more as the case may be. Eva says she is making ^{progress} some.

Am sorry to hear you have little or no fruit this fall. You must plan to buy some apples at least. - Alas that you are having a water shortage. It is very dry here too - much more so than usual - though the air is damp enough to keep everything green yet. However we still blossom in profusion. Yesterday our men had went out to a flower farm and brought in large quantities

of apples, roses and sweet peas - imagine
apples & sweet peas at the same time of year.

It would be nice for you to visit Harold
& Marge were it not that travelling is
pretty hectic these days - still I think
you should go some time - perhaps next
spring - anyhow you must at least have
the money - if, when you want to go
and the money's hoarding you had let
me know.

You will probably receive this on
Friday - I hope it won't be too hard a day
for you - try not to grieve, but rather
to look back over all those years and
rejoice that you & Father were able to
have so many of them and that in them
you were able to do together a great many
of the things you both enjoyed.

All now - keep well and don't worry.
Best regards to Mrs. D. and lots of love to
you.
George.

How very generous they were! lucky
we had 4 A's still. Saturday
we drove to Catskill after dinner
and went to Jewett (Pomona Club)
with Mr. Miss Brougham. We
drove up the Cone road and I
never saw a more beautiful view
in the fall - everybody seemed to
think the same. It was not a
very easy thing for me to be at
the meeting indeed for I was
completely overcome on my
bravery. I did not break down
but I had a heavy heart. I was
very cordially welcomed & every
one seemed so glad to see me &
have me there. Hays Miller was
elected the new Deputy & his wife
Jew. Deputy - I nominated both
of them. Pa had said I was several

times he hoped Hays would be
his successor. I was nominated
for Dept. but I declined - for
I had planned to drop this
work this fall - My office holds
till Dec. 14 the date of State Day.
I felt it a duty to continue as
there are several things to get
finished up which Mrs. Miller
knows nothing about. I shall
miss my contacts but at my
age & in my circumstances, it was
the best move to pull out now.

Had a letter from Anna Betts
last week - She is coming down
for the day with Amy some
time soon. Also a letter from
Jimmy Miller - she has been
sick ^{in hospital} all summer & in bad
shape yet, tho she is home now.

3

Wilbur came yesterday & fixed the electric unit once more - it is a relief to know that says all is short. He has brought the boards for the back hallway but has not yet had time to put them up. There are many odds & ends to be done before Muriel sets in. Wilbur is so full of politics now, he will not be able to do much here probably till after election. I wish we had a very strong wind to blow away the thousands of leaves that are on lawn & around the house. Every day I feel like shaking them up but don't dare as Doctor told me not to do such things. I usually sleep right thro' the night till 5 or 6 AM, but did not sleep well last night. Think

I have taken a little cold but
not bad. Got up at seven and
feel quite o.k. Am going to try
to finish up the telephone bills
before noon - I started this job
yesterday but had a headache
and quit. It is a good thing
I have it to do to get my mind off
of other matters. To-morrow
I will have quite a group of ladies
here to the Mainland meeting.
Do we have a Chaplain out there
on any church meeting? I
am still wondering about my
future moves but try not to
worry about it. Expecting to buy a
dealer from Albany to take Mrs D's
last 50 chickens. This is helping around
100 pellets - they will lay many more
eggs. Feed is out of eggs & eggs are very
high. Hope you received package & they
will come to order.

No 4 Cassackie N.Y. Oct⁵/₄₃
Dear George:

Have just finished washing dishes (9 sets) and am all alone. Mrs. Delp has gone up to Jessick to do our washing as we have very little water here. Had one rain last week but it was not enough. Weather fair mostly - often windy & cold enough to have furnace fire. It was so good to get your letter yesterday; you were fortunate to have several off days while you had such a cold. Hope you are all ok. Now there will be no more rushes. How nice you ought to have something to do part of time. I am glad I have some things to do & am able to do them. Last week we cleaned the

Living
room and dining room.
The rest of cleaning will not be so
hard & we will do it off & on.
We still are getting some vegetables
from the garden - Julia says Mrs D.
Canned more tomatoes. It does
look as if red line on canned
vegetables this ~~week~~ winter. Had
a long letter from Eva yesterday -
it is too bad she feels she must
write to me so often for it must
tire her out. Harold & Mary
want me to visit them but I do not
think I better go for several reasons.
Do not want to leave Mrs D alone,
do not want to pay the price and
traveling is not dependable nor
very pleasant these days especially
for one in my position. I am
feeling good most of time but am
not cured of nerves yet. I had
a reply for my request for 300
coupons & received 1 B coupon -

No 5 Cayaschie N.Y.

Oct. 14/43

My dear George:

It seems a long time since I heard from you - hope you are not being rebuked again. Saw Mrs Van Duzend yesterday & she asked about you - in fact lots of folks inquire about you.

Time seems to fly rapidly - I see it is 8 days since I wrote you tho' I have sent 2 postals since then. No rain yet & water is very scarce. We go to Jannet's for drinking water and are very careful of the little we have - keep several pails in house carried from N. well. To-day is like November - cold & windy and also cloudy - we hope rain is near.

To-morrow is the annual Hayrack Home & the Committee have bought 30 roosters from Mrs D. for the Sup. Gen. A group are coming here to pick

them this afternoon & Frank Jaeger
will be here to cut Leads off. I will
not enter into the work for Jan
hoping to gain & not lose weight.
Saw Dr. Monday & he thinks I am
coming ok. - medicine cut down
to one liquid - I sleep very good
but am usually awake by 5:00 AM.
Have been feeling quite good. Dr.
says maybe we can finish up
next call when medicine will be
all gone. Was down town an er-
rands Friday afternoon and called
on Rev. Van No & wife in way back. Anna
Betts & Amy were here & we just
missed seeing them - too bad. On a
special visit from Mrs. C.
Worce & Phineas we attended a
meeting of the W. A. R. at Park House
on Saturday - she is the Regent.
Yesterday we had our annual
Merriman Conference in 2nd Church.
I had the honor of entertaining.

over Sunday night a lady
Missionary from China. She
is home on furlough but is
going back. I was surprised
to find out she lives in Holland
and knows Miss Boyd - has
2 boys in Hope College. She
has been or will be away for
a month speaking at various
County conferences in this State.
We enjoyed visiting with her &
learned much about the situ-
ation in China especially in
the Missionary section. She
was a very fine woman & made
herself quite at home - She gave
an excellent address at yesterday's
meeting.

Monday we plan to go to Albany.
Mrs W. has an appointment for
10.20 a.m. at doctor's for treatment
I must do some shopping (necessary)

and will also try to see Mr. Winston.
Wilbur has not been here since
last Saturday. There is much to
be done but he also has much
at home to do. Have not
heard from Harold in over a
week. Of course he is very busy.

Have just written to Eva &
Will. I'll send a few lines to Harold.
Eva still writes Glen - she
is so afraid I am too close - Will
I am but fight against it all
the time. Sunday Mrs. D.
expects Dan & family here.
I hope to hear from you
soon and pray you are
well and having some good
recreational times.

Good bye my dear - How
I long to see you!

Much love,
Mother.

October 14, 1943.

Dearest Mother,

I am sorry you are not going to get this letter this week - I hope you won't be too disappointed, and especially that you won't worry - Having been lazy Sunday & Monday, I suddenly found myself in a series of engagements which have taken all my leisure time since then. ~~Monday~~ ^{Tuesday} evening I went out with a crowd to the movies at Fort Warden about a mile or a half from here - to see the picture 'The Match on the Rhine' - a very good one, of which I had seen the stage play in New York nearly two years ago. Fort Warden is a large army post with quite a nice movie theatre - the only trouble is that most of the shows are not up to my standard, so I've been only three times since coming here. - After the show Dick & I walked home in very beautiful moonlight, with fine evergreens silhouetted against the sky. - Last night the two of us were invited out to Lt. Turbitt's house for dinner. John (i.e. Lt. T.) is a

rather dull soul, but very warmhearted, and with a wife equally so. They have a very bright & well behaved boy about five years old. After dinner John got out the boys electric train, and the four of us played with them for a couple of hours! And then we played bridge & records until midnight - again walking home in moonlight - about two miles. - So far this climate has been very fine - I wonder when it is going to get bad.

Yes, I did get the package, and thank you so much. The cookies are very good, some the broken ones, of which there were some, unfortunately - guess they must have disregarded your 'fragile' on the package. The socks are very nice and I'm sorry you had difficulty in finding them. I shall save them for herb - one can't get washed sock here - but I have found I can get from the ship's store plenty of good cotton socks for every day - for 20¢ a pair! and also a number of other items of clothing for about 50¢. cool!

I have been keeping busy with work since I last wrote, but at a fairly decent pace - no evening work - at present we have no chips in and I am frantic

name of the Officers stationed here at
the base - which is more interesting than
my usual work.

I'm sorry you're having trouble
about gas. - I don't understand what
the ration is - but apparently they are
keeping you right down to bare necessity.
Last this week the gas ration has been
cut here by 25%.

Am glad you were able to get out to Juvet
I'm sure it was hard for you, but also
good for you to do it - and certainly
Father would have wanted you to go.
How interesting that Floyd Miller will
succeed Father, the two of them having
been brought up on essentially adjacent
farms.

I trust you had a good day for your
morning meeting - I'm sure you gave
them a good time. But I hope not all
the days have been rained, for you ap-
parently need rain badly.

Well this must be all said - I am invited
out again this evening and must now
change & dress. This is a farewell party
to one of the Officers & his wife, who

are leaving here on Monday. - Keep well,
don't work too hard and don't worry.
Best regards to Mrs W & lot of love
to you.
George.

No. 6. Cayasackie, W. Va. Oct. 20/43

Dear George:

I got quite a thrill when I received your letter yesterday. I had not worried at all but began to think may you had been moved to new base. So glad you are feeling better and having a chance for some recreation. Rev. Van Es was so interested to hear about your situation for last winter he made a tour of all that section tho he did not get to the exact spot where you are. Guess by this time you have received my last letter - also sent a card Monday. Glad to hear you received package but sorry the cookies were broken - I thought I packed them tight enough. If you want more socks let me know - I may get them at the store (Gents Furnish) in Coldwell - it was closed the last time.

We left for Albany Monday shortly
after nine A.M. & had quite a full
time that day. Mrs D's stay in doctor's
was just an hour & read & rated in Coe.
Then at 11 we shopped some (can't
get only about 1/8 of what you want)
and after a lunch I went to see
Mr. Wriston at Spencer Mack's. He
had written me to come any time.
He explained some things to me
& offered to help me with problems
whenever I wanted. Then we did
some more shopping & was home by 5.
I am feeling very good most of the
time & sleep fine every night. I
am using my own bed since Coe.
was here & have never enuf to have
the window open too. In Albany I bought
a few things at Mack's Drug Store among
them Vit. B. capsules - Mr. Keen & Robbins.

They cost ^{\$}1.98 a hundred & I take
2 a day. Dr. W. J. does not think
most of the advertised ones are ~~not~~
very good but he said McKeens was
O.K. I first had a prescription he
gave me for Vit-B. at Marsh's
Drug store - for \$1.50 for just
36 capsules (18 days) I thought
that was pretty high but I guess
they helped me.

The Harvest Home was a big success
cleaning over \$300 - I had the easy
job of sitting by table & selling
the dinner tickets - sold much
over 100 & more than that had
been sold by Committee but mostly
me. There is always a big crowd for
our church meals - Mrs. D. sold them
the chickens (30) & they prepared them
behind our barn. The chickens

Work is much easier as she has
the layers behind field room now
and a few roosters back of garden.
To-day is fair but very windy and
quite cold. Yesterday there was snow
on Mts. & that made a very chilly
air for us down here. I had to go
Peggy yesterday & also go to bank
a few other errands. I will be so
glad when estate is cleared up - there
is so much red tape to it. Do not see
much of W now as he is head over heels
in politics. Soon there will have to be
some thing done here preparatory to winter.
Saw Miss Quetta lately - she wanted to see
me here & I saw - she has failed some but
talks the same. Have had some rain
lately mostly at night, so our supply has
grown a little - we get drinking water at
Darius. I do not think it will be wise for
me or Mrs. D for me to go away now the cold
weather is here. Dr. W. had he would advise me
to stay home for Darius & see how the cold
weather is.

THIS ENVELOPE FOR BALLOT ONLY

Ballot from

To the Secretary of the

AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY,

531 WEST 116TH STREET,

NEW YORK 27, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
American Mathematical Society

Three Hundred Ninety-ninth Meeting

NEW YORK CITY

October 30, 1943

Program

The three hundred ninety-ninth meeting of the American Mathematical Society will be held at Columbia University on Saturday, October 30, 1943. There will be sessions at 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. in Room 301, Physics Building.

At the beginning of the afternoon session there will be a business meeting at which the Council will present to the Society amendments to the By-Laws which are necessitated by the inauguration of the series of monographs, *Mathematical Surveys*.

Following the business meeting, by invitation of the Program Committee, Professor W. T. Martin of Syracuse University will deliver an address entitled *Mappings by means of systems of analytic functions of several complex variables*.

Lunch will be served at the Faculty Club at 12:30 P.M.

Columbia University is at 116th Street between Amsterdam Avenue and Broadway, and may be reached conveniently from the lower part of the city by the west side trains of the Interborough Subway, which has a station at the University: take a Broadway-Seventh Avenue express or a local train marked Van Cortlandt Park, Dyckman Street, or 137th Street and Broadway. The Physics Building is in the northwest corner of the campus, facing south, at 120th Street and Broadway. The Faculty Club is at 117th Street and Morningside Drive.

October 21, 1943

Dearest Mother,

I seem to have written you last a week ago to-night - not a great deal has happened since then to report on - perhaps the weather, which has now become quite variable - it changes often and rapidly from sunny to rain, calm to windy, etc. On Saturday we had a very high wind, about 40 miles an hour in the morning, and still a fair wind in the afternoon. At the latter time I had to go out in a boat to an air mail-carrier in the harbor - what with the wind and waves it was quite exciting. Sunday was beautiful again and Bob (a young man from Endicott, N. Y.) and I went for a long walk - I don't suppose we walked as very far, but we were moving all the time for about two and a half hours - from fields to woodlands & back again - all this territory has a very abandoned look, as if it were once something, but has ceased to be - we can across an old fair grounds, so old we had some difficulty in recognizing it - it has long since been a cow pasture.

We've not had much work this last week and have spent some time getting some studying done on my correspondence course in Heavy Regulation. I

which there are furnished assignments, one to be finished every two weeks - I am now caught up to November 26. It begins to look as if my days here are numbered - in fact it is definite that I shall be moved, though the date is not fixed, - nor the destination - as I told you before it may be anywhere, - at the moment rumor has it in three different places, San Diego, Seattle, and Kodiak, Alaska. I am trying not to bank on any one of them, because I know the Navy enough to expect last minute changes. But I think it is unlikely I shall be sent farther than Alaska, if that is any consolation! Actually that is a fairly safe place now, the chief drawback being the long winter - I shouldn't mind the isolation as much as I would the crowding of having to be in any of the west coast cities.

Anyway you mustn't worry about it, for it may not come to pass, and even if it does, worrying can't help.

I am wondering why you have to keep going to the doctor - I hope it is just your nerves - and I'm glad you keep reporting that you are feeling better. - How had your missed seeing Anna & Amy - why didn't they let you know they were coming? Glad you had the nice visit with the missionary from China - I'm sure all there if you enjoyed it. - Had a letter from Con yesterday in which she said how much she had enjoyed her visit with you. - Trust you have had some relief by now so that your water problem is solved. Best regards to M. and much love to you. George.

Cassackie N. L.
Oct. 26th 1943

Dear George:

How nice it was to get
your letter this afternoon when
we got home from Catekill.
It has been a very rainy day
such as we haven't had in
many months. I had an ap-
pointment for cleaning teeth
with Dr. Gardner at 10.30 AM.
It was not raining so hard un-
til we started to do shopping
after having a lunch in Putnam.
But the mist was coming home
so we could hardly see ahead.
The rain was so heavy & there was
also some hail. We meant to
make some calls but did not
except to see Mr. Brougham in
office - He was worried about you.
His boy entered the service last
week - He hopes it may be Maimed.
Yesterday I had to see Peggy
So we drove down after dinner.
I had to go to Bank, too, to get some
of the stock certificates of Pa's so

Glad to hear from you.

they can be sent in and new ones made out; I think Peggy means to get the estate finished up soon. It is remarkable how many papers she has for it - quite a pile, & I have had to sign my name so very many times. It will be a relief when all is settled; the corporations have been slow in replying and have insisted on having so much information that it doesn't seem reasonable.

On way home we stopped at the school to get ration books, also ~~gas~~ A book for gas. Guess we'll have enough if we don't drive our much more than we have. 3 gal a coupon means 120 gallons and 15 mi per gallon will be 1800 miles. Then we also stopped to call at Jaucus's; the baby has grown fast & is quite fat - almost walks alone tho' only 9 mo. old. Wilkes was here yesterday noon just to call.

Heard to-day that Ned Brand^{son} left for Army yesterday. I expect every day to hear that Harold has been called. I am sorry you are not to come nearer the east instead of four feet - cut locality but, of course, I must take it all as I know there is nothing can be done about it. Will it mean a promotion? I did not know you had to study more but it must hurt you. I will not worry about you - I am praying for you all that you will be kept safe. Sunday Mrs D's folks from Rheinbeck, were here to a chicken dinner. I went to church with the ~~Brand~~ Jaucus & they were here an very return. After dinner we all drove over to Bob Moore's to see us and the baby, now 2 yrs. I will assure you again I am feeling quite - no very well. I have more hope & ambition but I am

and always will be thankful.
Dr. wants me to see him occas-
ionally so as to keep my blood
pressure down. The Sciatic
trouble is a problem - it may be
due to knee trouble, blood pressure
or my foot trouble. However
it is not serious - the pains are
few and far between, some days
none at all & usually only one
or twice a day for a very few minutes.
It comes anywhere from my ankle
up above the knee. Have not
taken only one knee pill in several
weeks. Liquid medicine before
meals & Vitamin twice a day.
My friend tells me how much better
I look than I did in previous.
We will appreciate the rain - it
is still (F.R.W.) pouring & the sound
of the rain falling in distance is a
great comfort. We have not washed
in 3 weeks but hope to do so soon.
Don't worry about me - I sleep fine
& am not nervous - rest in day time
but just I cannot be put to sleep
nothing to do for me in this place. Hope
you keep well be carefully be good, and
I'll see me posted. Love's of one Mother.

My friend tells me how much better I look than I did in previous.

October 28, 1943.

Dearest Mother,

Very glad to get your letter day before yesterday and to hear that you are feeling good and sleeping well - you must keep that way. And you must not worry - you say you aren't and that is good - now you must keep the technique, for you may actually think you will have cause to worry! In other words I have some news for you which I hope you will not let worry you. I am to be transferred and if the orders go through I shall go rather further away than I suggested in my letter last week. I am slated to go to Adak - you must know the name, for it has been in the papers somewhat. It is one of the Aleutian Islands, due north of Midway, only two hundred miles further north than I now am, but quite a ways west. It is a huge army and navy base, but still far removed from the scene of battle - I feel quite sure it is wholly safe - I understand it isn't even blacked out, so they can't expect any bombing. My concern at going is chiefly for you, that you will worry and be distressed that I am so far away. But I might have been sent further and to a really dangerous place. It will not, of course, be a very pleasant place this winter,

I don't think it is any colder than in Cape Cod, but it very bleak, - there are no trees or shrubs, only grass, there is much mud, and the wind blows quite furiously at times. But if some hundred thousand others can live there this winter I guess I can too. So I am not looking forward to it with any fears. - I do not know when I shall be going, probably shall be able to tell you - it may be in a few days, it may not be for weeks. My equipment was shipped out of here today, but how soon it will reach Adak I can't guess. I just hope I am not sent there ahead of it to wait around a couple of months. At any rate you must decide not to worry - you will hear from me quite as regularly as you have been, though of course there may be a gap while I am on the way. I am hoping I may go by ship from here to Kodiak at least, for the trip up there along the west coast is said to be one of the world's finest. Try to remember how thrilled Father would be if he knew I were going, and be equally thrilled.

Last Friday evening I called on the captain & his wife - I was very warmly received and had an enjoyable evening. He is a kindly man of about 56 who has been in the Reserve since 1909, and in active duty since 1935. I learned from him that last year in Oregon one of his assistants was a professor of geology whom I knew quite well at Harvard, and that the latter had been right here in Port Townsend Harbor

for several days since I have been here without my
knowing it - what a shame - he is now gone west
somehow, being the navigating officer on one of the
new aircraft carriers.

Had a letter from Donald yesterday. Poor Betty has
been working too hard these past months and has
finally had three heart attacks in quick succession
- he is taking care of her as best he can with the
help of someone to do the housework.

Had a good letter from Eva a few days ago - ap-
parently the likelihood of selling the house this
fall is now rather small - in some ways I think
it is just as well.

Glad to hear you have had rain at last and trust
you will soon have a good supply of water. Hope
also that you have laid in a good supply of wood
for the fireplace - I shall probably envy you that
fireplace this winter!

All well - I hear my roommates approaching
which means the end of quiet - though they are very
good fellows and I am sorry to have to leave them.
It's time for bed, but first I must collect my
laundry & try to get it done in the next few
days. - Now don't worry - think of Mrs. D with
Jordan right where the fighting is. Send regards to
Mrs. D, and lots of love for you.
George.

November 1, 1943

Dearest Mother,

It was so good to hear your voice last night, but I am sorry it was so late. I should have started to call earlier, but with so much to do I didn't get to it. And now I must dash.

I enclose an envelope marked #1 to be put in your deposit box. Also a \$500 bond to put there. ^{See below} Also a cashier's check for \$750, with which I want you to purchase two \$500 bonds issued jointly to me and Eva - see the enclosed bond. Put these in the deposit box & send me the numbers of them so that I have a record.

For the present address me here. My mail will be forwarded.

Love later when I've more time. Don't worry & lots of love,

George.

P.S. Am also mailing you a small

package - first class - it is letters I want to save - put the package in my best upstairs.

Also mailing a large package containing summer clothes etc. Unpack and hang + keep record of where small articles are put - I may have to send for them some time. Many thanks.

P.S. Instead of sending check to you are having First American National Bank, Port Townsend, Wash. send it to First National Bank, Coxsackie for your account. Check on this soon and if it doesn't arrive contact the bank here. After its arrival, buy the bonds above mentioned.

I think this is 8
Forgot to put 7 on each

Cassackie, N. L.,
Nov. 2nd 1943

My dear George:

I am wondering when you
are to-day and think of you all
the time. I hope you will be lo-
cated in a safe place and will
be well taken care of. I pray for
you every day that you will be
kept well and safe and some day
will return home as well as when
you left us. Sunday night when
the phone rang so much, I was
only half awake and kept counting
each ring "one, two, three, four, five"
and wondered why the right person
did not answer - finally I heard Mrs D.
come down and when I heard her
say "George" I thought you were near
somewhere and coming home. It was
so nice to hear your voice - it was as

clear as if you were in same room.
I hope you may soon be able to let
me know where you are and how
you are. It is not very satisfying
not to know how where-a-abouts
but I am not complaining for I re-
alize thousands of mothers must
be under the same cross. I hope
you will meet nice people and
make some good friends. If
you are in a cold climate be very
careful not to catch cold. Weather
here has been cold lately but mild
in middle of day.

This is a big day for Milbur and it
will be a relief when it is over I am
waiting patiently for him to do a
few very necessary things here. We
will do our voting this afternoon
after returning from down town; I
must go to bank & to doctors. Hope

this may be my last for a while;
it will depend on blood pressure.
I think it cannot be too high now
for I have not been dizzy nor
had any severe head aches.

Every day I think I may hear
of Harold being drafted. Well Braulson
has been called; it was rumored
that he had gone but he is still
here & running for Supervisor. If
he gets elected, his wife will supply
for him - what a farce that is!
So there seems to be quite an excite-
ment in Cal. & the country about
the election of various officers.
We went to Milbur's on Sunday,
Jessie invited us to supper &
we went at 5 & home was ten.
Milbur seems to be busy or asleep
all the time he is home. Very little

chance to visit with him. Bessie
is very independent and bossy
and gives Cross which is not
very pleasant. She comes & goes
as she likes & has a quantity of
beans. I was surprised to hear
she has a job Saturday morning
cleaning an apartment of 4 rooms
occupied by 2 new teachers.
Nothing from Harold in several
weeks but Marge writes occasion-
ally. Eva's letters so usual - she
had a slight attack of grip & neuritis
but is ok now. - I have had
several bad back aches - I think it
was the cold but it may be Sciaticum -
however, it is not frequent and I do
feel very good most of time. Will
eagerly await to hear from you.
I'll wait till after mail to-day and
maybe I'll get a letter.
Much love to dear George.



HAPPY
BIRTHDAY,
Sailor

Just wishing a Birthday
That's second to none
To a Man who's a
Sea-going Son-of-a-gun!
A Man who is wearing
The old Navy Blue —
Good luck and smooth sailing!
We're rooting for You!

Willen & family



No. 10

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

Nov. 4th 1943

My dear George:

I wonder how long it will be before you receive this. Anyway, I must write to tell you I received your little mailed Sunday Oct. 28 on Wednesday (yesterday). It was so nice of you to write so much when you were so busy and upset. I want to tell you not to worry about me for I am going to try very hard not to worry about you. I do hope you will keep well - you are so apt to get a bad cold in winter so do be very careful and doctor at once if you feel one coming. I wrote you a letter Monday. Maybe you will have received it before this one. I studied the War Map last night and easily found the Midway Islands & could see where Odate is. It looks not very far from Japan but of course, I know it is a long way. There does not seem to be any broadcasts about that section but I'll keep my ears open.

Well, I guess Wilbur had a bad disappoint-
ment Tuesday. All this sentiment & more
of the State - went Republican. Of course
maybe that is a good idea but I did not
for Wilbur & he was so sure he would be
elected. Haven't seen him yet, but he is
killed out for he has neglected sleeping
enough for some days. Neal Brandon
was elected Supervisor again and yet
is on way to Camp. Such a force! How
his wife will again probably fill his Chair.
Tuesday I went down to Bank & forgot it
was closed on election day. I also saw
Dr. H. G. so I had just taken last of medicine.
He says I'm all O.K. but he seems to fear
the Blood Pressure may rise again if he
doesn't keep track of me - so I have more
medicine & expect again in 3 weeks. Nurses
have a good deal to do with giving the
pills so I am doing my best to help
them quiet and am succeeding quite
well. I think of you all the time and I'm
sure you will be well cared for. Your surgeon
is interesting & the end may come as a surprise.
Be good, make good friends & take care of your self.



43. CONCARNEAU. — LE PORT. — La Pêche au Saumon.
Débarquement du Poisson sur la Digue. — 11.



ADDRESS

W. (Jr) Geo. B. Van Doren

Section Base,

~~Post Hammond~~

Washington.

ASW UNIT
APAK, ALASKA

Corrigible, Md. Nov. 9, 1943

Dear George:

The box and small pack
are received yesterday. Hope
you received the two letters
I wrote last week - will write
again soon. All ok here -
More rain after 2 Indian Sun-
mer days. Hope to hear from
you soon. I am not working
but hope you'd keep safe and
well. Much love, Mother.

[Nov 9, 1993]

Dearest Mother,

We are going to be able to send mail soon, though there's very little we can write - my last letter brought the news I can write you just about up to date.

I trust I shall hear from you that you received the letter with enclosures - and also the letter from the bank in Port Townsend containing the check while in Seattle I bought you one of the miniature cap devices which you can wear as a pin - I hope it will be sent on to you from the shop where I bought it.

I did not call Eva up, though I thought of it - I couldn't decide whether it would be wise - it might upset her more than just having we leave without calling.

I've been wondering how Nathan came out in the election - I suppose he won - I'm not just sure what a commitment is at home - I don't remember there being any years ago. I trust now that election's over Nathan will be able to help you get settled for winter - hope you have been able to get some coal - I suppose the states have had something to do with the shortage of coal. It seems rather criminal to abide at the present time

My new address for the present is Comalcoo,
F. P. O., Seattle, Washington. I have sent this to
Dick in Port Townsend, so I shall get my
letters you send there.

All now - its time for chow - and after
chow I'm tired I shall have to cease letters.
Tell Maud I was glad to hear her voice the
other evening and to hear that she had
good news from Jordan. Lots of love, George.

Cossackie, N.Y.,

Nov. 10th 1943

My dear George:

I just want to write to you every day but I would not have much to tell you. I wouldn't wonder just where you are each day but I do not worry for I have confidence of your safety. Of course, the further distance makes me feel alone lonely but every time I hear of the allies' successes in Europe, I feel sure the war will not last as long as some folks predict.

The box you sent arrived in perfect shape on Monday, also small package. I just opened the big box and will take best care of your articles.

On Monday I received a note from the bank stating you had sent them \$750 for deposit on my account. At first I was non-plussed but finally figured you want me to take care of it for you which I

will be glad to do.

Just had a call from Milburn. He is still so busy he cannot get time to come here to work. He was here Monday just for a short call. Did I tell you all Greene Co. and in fact whole State went Repub. Clean last week, so Milburn was not the only one of his party, who did not get elected.

Sunday Mrs Delp had her folks from Hudson here - the children are attractive but getting pretty lonely. Harold has not written in a long time but Mary sent a few lines last week. This week she is having her teeth all out & a false set put in. Every day I think I'll hear it is dead but have not heard that yet. Had a big rain Monday & all night - it is fair day & quite cold. Mrs D. is going to lunch in her church & at 2 o'clock come home to take me up sheet to Mrs. W. many meetings. I am feeling quite A.C. but must keep busy at something to avoid loneliness. ^{much love} Mother.

No 11

Cassackie N. Y.,

Nov. 14, 1943

My dear George:

"The letter that layed for
came at last" - What a joy
it was to me when the mail
yesterday contained your letter
written from ? and when ? It
was good to know you are located
and to have a permanent address.
Since you telephoned to me I
wrote you two letters and a
card addressed to Post Lowmud -
hope you have received them.
We are having very winter days
and nights - this a. m. the ground
has covered with snow but it
soon melted in the sun - the
north west wind is fierce & creeps
into this house when the storm
windows are not on.

Had a nice letter from Harold.
He thinks you are having quite
an experience & he wished he had
more than he got at St. Justice.

He seems puzzled because he is
not called & wonders why? Real
Branden must go on Nov. 22nd
Had a nice letter from Mrs. Knapp,
guess she thought your transfer
was worrying me but it is not
for I can't afford to worry as
did in the summer which was
the cause of my break down. I
realize more & more, I must
keep up courage or I will come
in. Last Thursday I attended
a peace meeting down town and
had a little part in it on request.
Not many there but it was not
advertised enough. The debate
by 4 men on candidates of peace
was very interesting. Mrs. D. & I
went to support him as the Pompe-
not that I wanted to but felt I
must show up sure in a while
for Pa's sake.

Friday had 2 letters from Gra-
She really writes too much. Won-
der if she has told you Laura
Sold the house and bought

another one in Holland. I think
it may be a good more ride
from the awful task of moving.
Hope they will not break down
through the ordeal. Eva has
not mentioned coming home
for Christmas & I wonder if she
means to. If so I think Hanna
ought to come with her. I
dread to think of seeing Eva in
such a state as I did in Holland
several times & helpless & helpless.

Tell me what you refer to about
the letter with enclosures - I don't
know just what that means. The
bank check was sent to our bank
here & they notified me - it is ok.

The cap device has not been re-
ceived yet but will probably soon.
Thank you so much for it.

Eva told me you had written
her and she says she is not

Worrying - she, too, has decided
she will reconquer power if
she does not marry. Probably
by now you have my letter in
which I told you Wilbur had lost
also every Democrat in County
lost out. He took it calmly &
perhaps it is a good thing for
he certainly has much to do. His
house has been painted ^{by a painter}
& it looks very nice. We have
enough coal for a while - have
not had more than the three
was delivered in July. I am trusting
we will get more - if not - I don't
know the outcome?

Yesterday I received a Christmas
greeting card from Gordon - it is just
a plain green card with "Wishing
you a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
from Daley." Mrs. D's husband just
beginning to lay out so far only 2 or 3 a day.
The chicken feed is to plague for lack of it.
Every poultry man feels this is a fact.
Much love & hope for good health & good com-

W. D. D.

No 12

Cassackie, N. C.

Nov. 18, 1943

My dear George:

I think you will probably receive letter I wrote Sunday in a day or two & you may wonder about your letter to me with enclosures. Well, it came to-day, dated Nov 1st. It contained all you sent. The bond & other sealed envelope also die charts about buying 2 bonds. I have it all straight in my mind & will attend to them & purchase the bonds as soon as possible & put in deposit box. I was down in bank yesterday nearly 2 hours to have a Federal report made out for 3 pieces of Pa's securities in Canada - If it were my own, I could have done it myself but being an estate it was very complicated - was most as bad as income tax. Edith Dowser & Salisbury figured it out but even they had a job to understand all the instructions which were numerous. Had snow storm Monday afternoon but it soon melted. Again Tues AM. It snowed but was over before night tho' it was very cold.

Wilbur was here a while yesterday
all day & Therman here all day. They
put up the storm windows & doors,
also porch covering, carried out
a pile of furnace ashes, raked
up part of the leaves, emptied the
pond & covered it up - Mrs. D. helped
& I washed windows - it is a relief
to have these things done. To-day
is quite cold but sunny. We must
take our car up this afternoon
& leave it to be overhauled & ready
for winter wear.

I just had a telephone call from
a man on Long Island - the best
I could do was to give him address.
Wilbur is studying on Insurance and
expects to take examination Dec. 15
You write they are packing up things
for moving but does not know just
when they will move. I hope the ex-
citement & work will not affect the
box of things & small package of letters
are here and safe. The first was
mailed to Mrs. W. B. You S. S. Jessie
received it some time ago but did not
tell me. She thought you wanted it & kept
it for me till Christmas. I have not seen
it yet, but it is safe. Hope to receive letter from
you soon. Much love, Mother.

No 13

Cassackie, N. Y.

Nov. 23/43

My dear George:

It is just ten days ago since I had your letter which gave no date and no place - so I am still wondering where you are and how you are. No doubt you are having some winter weather as we are. It snowed all day yesterday after a rainy night but some of it melted or blew away in drifts. To-day it has snowed hard all day - it is very unusual this time of year in this section. I have not been out doors since Saturday. Did not feel extra Sunday so just lounged around all day - at. night. Mrs. D. has sold a few roosters that were to be delivered to day but now we do not know how to get them down town. Have no place for Thanksgiving and it seems odd, no one to come. Mrs. D. ellp wants to go to Danville & Audlem but it may not be possible for her to go. I will probably go to Millers. Days like this are very tedious to me - I find odds & ends to do and read all I can find - Have just finished reading "All this & Heaven too" it was very interesting. I hope you

have received my letter sent Friday telling you of receipt of your letter sent Nov. 1st. I have not been down town yet, meant to go to-day but weather prevented.

Melbur's family were here Saturday for supper - Jessie brought the fur you sent me and was mailed to her, though I think the W was meant to be an M. I am so pleased with it and will enjoy wearing it - is it the same symbol as gout hat has? Thank you so much, my dear.

Nd hear & read about the hard times many of the soldiers & sailors have & I wonder if you, too, are suffering.

This is pretty tough weather for Melbur to be traveling to & from work. He did not get home this AM till 10 AM. They were delayed by bad drifts and to-night will be worse.

There have been a great number of lay trains full of the boys every day for some time. Do not see many freight cars with war supplies, guess the army must have enough now. I don't have much to tell you, Eva writes often - she is packing things up but Laura has too much other business to attend to. Hope to hear from you soon. Am not worrying. Much love, Mother.

[Nov. 23, 1943]

Dearest Mother,

The arrival of this will tell you of my safe arrival at destination, for I shan't be able to mail it until I get there. I am still aboard ship and don't know how much longer I shall be. There is almost literally nothing I can report to you - neither the weather, nor what I have seen, nor where, etc. I am well, and have been so all the time. I have spent most of my time on my back in my bunk, reading, sleeping, making up problems for myself, talking some - once in a while cursing for a couple of hours, and every other day standing two feet from water. By and large it has not been very unpleasant and it has been quite a long rest. I am glad I

thought to bring along enough to read,
for reading matter is not very plentiful
aboard.

You ask what I want for Xmas. How
about a trip back to New York State? Yes,
I know, the only reason you don't give
it to me is that you can't. I understand
that mostly what service-men in cold
climes want for Xmas is warm clothes.
I shall be fixed up with so-called foul
weather gear - warm outer garments for
working attire. I think I could use
some woollen or part woollen black socks
(size 11) (I have some, but not enough),
or a pair of navy blue knit gloves (size 8 I
think), or if by any chance you should
run into them some knit pyjamas - the
best kind is Skijams - they have ^(wristlets) wristlets
on both arms + legs - but I doubt you
could find them - they are very scarce
- the size is B, I think. A piece of fruit cake
would be swell - from what I've heard
that seems to be fairly commonly
received up here - guess it's because it's

sure to keep, - and, of course, always good.
I reckon I won't make much of Xmas
this year - I did get hold of some very
nice cards, but I'm not going to try
to send any presents - I don't think
there's anything up here worth the postage!

I hope you have had my address long
enough so that I shall find some
word from you when I arrive - it
seems a long time now with no word.
I trust the word from you will be that
you are continuing to feel well and
that everything is going well at home.
Best regards to Mrs. Delp, and love to
love to you. George.

P.S. If you are able to get the Skijaws or
something essentially the same buy three
suits and I will send you money for two
or all of them - I would really like to get
them.
P.S. One thing I'd like to forget to bring - a package
of toothpicks! The round variety.

P.S. 2 On a separate page, for the
cessor may cut this out. We are
at destination - I have been ashore
for a few hours but am back aboard
again for we have not been debarked.
Today was beautiful, from sunrise
to sunset. This morning the snow-capped
peaks all around were tinged with red
as the sun rose. This is a beautiful
spot - but life here is rugged - nothing
you read in the papers about the
wind is exaggerated - in fact it has
to be seen to be believed - even on
seeing it, it is so phenomenal one
has to laugh.

P.S. 3. Am still looking this letter trying
to find where to get it enclosed - hope to
get it off tomorrow. - Was delighted to
find few lines from you waiting for
me, though it did seem strange to
see that familiar handwriting way off here.
Also had a letter from Doreen - or rather
just a card, saying Betty had gone
to the hospital, having had several
more heart attacks, but that she had
improved since being there. Also a long
letter from Ernest Holmes telling all the
gossip from East Lansing.

Have found now that I am here that I
have an address different from the one
I gave you - although I shall get any
mail you have sent. My correct address
is Navy 163, F. P. O., ~~San Francisco~~ San
Francisco, California.

Not much news that I can write about,
though there's plenty I can't. Was sur-
prised yesterday to run into a fellow

I'd known as a teacher in Exeter and
hain't seen for 10 years. Have already
run into a few people I'd met in Port
Townsend - Law we do get around.
All just now, except again late 3

Done. George

P.S. Tell Milton I'm very sorry he lost the sketch -
I'm sure he was very much disappointed.

Lt. (jg) George B. Van Schaack

Navy 163, F. P. O., San Francisco, Calif.

No 13

Catspaackie, N. Y.

Nov. 29th 1943

My dear George:

I think I have the right number above but with all my thinking there day I may get things some what twisted. I'll start where I stopped writing last Wednesday. Mrs. Delp went to Hudson Thursday morning and at noon Milbur came after me & I staid up there till 9 P.M. Mrs. D. got here at 10 P.M. It was quite a hard day for me - only once before in 41 years I was not with pa - that was when I was in Trenton for months & hor. - I've forgotten what year. It is very hard for me to get adjusted to present circumstances especially in winter weather. Last few days have been fair but still very cold - 10° above this a.m. at 7 o'clock. Some snow of a week ago is still scattered around - it was fortunate we got ready for winter the previous week.

Friday afternoon I went to Bank and
purchased the two bonds put
them in an envelope marked with your
name and then put all your papers
in the Safety Deposit box so they
are absolutely safe. Saturday
we went to Catchell Fabrics Jackie
and Bessie + Baby with us. The
shopping was not very satisfactory
as articles there looked cheap and
cost dear - we bought little aside
from groceries which are almost
out of sight in price. It is hard
to buy things when you don't know
what to get and then can't pay
the high prices. I wanted to get
you some black socks but did
not see the kind I got before. I went
to Ralph's Store (gentlemen's furnishings)
where Pa + Harold had been trading
and bought only 1 pair which they
say are the regular navy socks.
I will get you more if these are
O.K. - If not, send them back - they
cost more than the other ones.
You will need more warm socks
if you are in a cold climate.

I wonder all the time where you
are and hope everyday I will
hear from you if only a postal.
I am going to send you a sleeveless
woolen sweater which I hope
you can wear under your coat
to help keep you warm. It is
one that ~~we~~ got for Christmas
last winter but had worn it only
a very few times. It had one little
spot on so I washed it out and
will send it with the socks if
the P.O. will accept it - they have
so many rules I can't keep track
of them. I would like to send you
something else but don't know what
you need or want - I'll try cookies
again some time. Eva has said
nothing about coming home and
probably the moving will be all
she can stand. Sometimes I think
I'll write to Laura & then I don't
know just what to say. It would
be alright for E. to come if K. came
also.

What do you think about it? It
is an expense but for a short
time and at present, I do not
feel like trying to pay law.
I went to doctor's Friday but
he was not in office so I am
going again to-day. I have
had considerable headaches
lately but I think they are due
to my eyes. We plan to go to
Albany some day this week &
I'll have eyes examined.
Had letters from Harold and
Marge also a Thanksgiving Card
from them last week. They
spent Thanksgiving with Lucinda
at Akron Ohio. Marge recently
had teeth out. They seem very con-
tented but Harold marvels at
"not being drafted, all for now and
will wait eagerly for some word
from law." "The kind match between the
land and you while we are absent from the
outlet." Much love, Mother.

Wednesday - P. 5. 9.30 am
Sun shining to-day - lots
of snow everywhere - the roads
are being scraped to-day -
New England and New York
have quantities of snow
breaking every previous
record for this month.
It is now 10 A. M. but
Wilbur is not home yet.
Driving is not very safe
and so we will not get
out to-day, I guess. I
will be thinking of you
to-morrow and hope you
will enjoy (not eat too much)

the wonderful news
all the service men
will get to-morrow.
We are not planning
anything here - we may
be here and we may not,
don't know yet.
Nothing from Harold in
2 weeks. We are comforta-
ble in the house but have
had fire place burning for
several evenings when it
was extra cold but doors.
Now a letter to Eva and
lots of love - Mother.

No 14² Casackie, N.Y. Dec. 3/43
7 P.M.

My dear George:

How glad I was excited up to get your letter from ? and know you are safely landed somewhere. I can imagine where it may be and I hope it will not be too hard for you. Just before I got the letter I had taken a cake out of the oven for you - I sent it to you to-day and there is also something in the box that Mrs D. made and something else Jessie made - you'll guess which is which when you see them - I also enclosed the box of work-picks you wanted. I will try to get some of the other things you mentioned and will send them as soon as I get them. We were in Albany Tuesday & I wish I had known then but I'll try anyway for I want you to be warm. I will be so glad to hear of your trip when you are permitted to tell. Hope you will soon receive the package I sent you Tuesday also the 6 letters I have written in Nov. Weather stays cold & now threatens to

snow. We still have received no more coal but Mr. Thomas said Monday he hoped to have a car full soon - other people in town are in same fix.

Shopping is very unsatisfactory even in Albany - Can't get many things & help is scarce & inefficient & prices so very high. You are wise not to send Christmas presents. Eva writes they will probably not move till College closes on Dec. 17 - she has said nothing about coming home & I haven't either. Melba has not been here this week - his car was out of order - water in gas that froze - and his car has been in garage - Guess he was to get it to-day. When in Albany I went to Dr. Merrill & had eyes examined - he found no change so just adjusted glasses which ought to have been done long ago. I have not had a head ache since. Since Dr. W. G. Monday & he gave me another check up & all is O.K. - I am feeling fine most of time tho' I do

get tired sometimes & then I lie
down & rest awhile, & I also
occasionally get thinking too
hard about the past & the problems
and that leads to nerves, so I quit
thinking & get busy at something.

Wednesday evening we went to
a meeting in 2nd Rd Church,
Brook Jessie too. The speaker was
a returned Missionary from India
& he had an excellent address ac-
companied by moving pictures.
I never before realized that the
country in India was so rich in
foliage, flowers etc - much as we
saw in Florida - also the snow
capped Mts. as you have seen
them in Western U.S. - Then we had
a social time with refreshments.
We have enough A coupons to
allow us to go about everywhere
we want to - did not start using
them till Tuesday. To-morrow
we plan (if weather permits) to go to
East Durham to Panama Meeting.

It will be my last time to attend
as an official officer & I will
pass my sack over to Mrs Miller.
After this I will probably be less
& less active in Grange work.
I do not regret & cannot go to
State Grange for after going
7 years, I am fittid up an it -
would probably feel different
if I were younger.

This morning I heard that Mrs.
Swartout (Margaretta's mother)
was ⁱⁿ very bad shape & is prob-
ably ^{not} expected to live - she is 87 but
has been quite & up to last
Saturday when she had a stroke.
fell off the chair. Now I will
close don't have much news to
write you. If I think of anything
more I may add a P.S. in morning.
Sat. A.M. Beautiful day but cold. Just
heard that Mrs. Swartout died last night.
Be good & keep warm & don't get a cold.
Much love from Mother - M.M.B.

Navy 163, F.P.O.
San Francisco, Calif.
[Dec. 4, 1943]

Dearest Mother,

Since I wrote you I have been transferred again, though when I mail this I think I shall have reached my final destination. And I hope that there I shall find some mail - I have had only the two letters I wrote you of late. And since I wrote you, nothing has taken place that I can write you about.

So I am writing chiefly to keep up the habit and make sure you get at least an envelope from me! I keep quite well - though a little bored at times at being so long inactive - however that will probably be corrected when I get going

again.

I am wondering if Eva is still thinking of coming home for Christmas. I try to feel it will be right, whichever she does - and I know it will be hard for both of you, whichever she does. I think it is probably best if you don't try to dissuade her from either course - I don't think she will try to come home unless she feels equal to it, even though she may not be - though I think if she does come you will not have any trouble - though she may have to pay for it afterwards. At any rate, try not to worry about it, - we are all pretty powerless to do anything except act natural.

All right now. Hope Maud has had good news lately, and that you are both well. Love of course,

George

Dr. J. G. B. VAN SCHAAK
Room 163, F. P. A. San Francisco, Calif.

Navy 163, F. P. O.

San Francisco, California

December 5, 1943.

Dear Mother,

I trust the mail service will function well for the next week or so so that this letter will reach you by your birthday. Should it fail you will still know that I am thinking of you, sending you love and wishing you a much better year than this last has been. I know it will be harder for you this birthday without Father and without prospect of seeing either Harold or me at Christmas time. But I know too you will be your usual brave self and make the best of it.

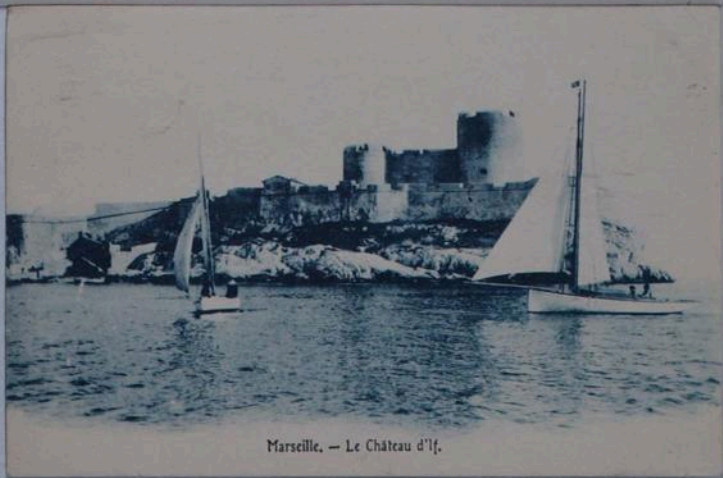
When I reached here a few days ago I found a letter and a card from you, but nothing more recent than November 10. That is probably because of my frequent change of address, and now that I am in a permanent station mail will come through more regularly, - at least I look for another letter very soon. - I had one from Eva here - she mentioned the possibility of going home for Christmas, but was not very sure that it would be the wisest thing to do. I think she will be sure about it.

I am beginning to find my way around this

hall. I do not have any permanent quarters yet - I am in a large but like structure with fifteen or twenty others - it is warm and we have a fairly good bed, but that is about all - our lives are out of a suitcase or bag. However in time I expect to be moved to something more comfortable. Our food is not exactly what you would get in the Waldorf Astoria, but it is good and there is enough of it - despite our distance from the States we have some fresh fruit & vegetables and even eggs once in a while. - My working quarters are being planned for ^{but} ~~and~~ though they may be ready within a week or two days, it will take much longer to get entirely set up.

Have found a few people here I have run into elsewhere these last few months - and also met a man from Poughkeepsie - a Robert Alquist - who said he had known George Hubbard for many years - that is the closest I've come to finding any one from Greene County.

I trust you are not worrying too much about Harold's being drafted. I think it is rather unlikely myself - at least unlikely that he would get into any combat duty - the war is getting along, and although by no means finished, I doubt there are many of Harold's age who are yet to be drafted, who will get any far out of the States. - All news, again lots of love and best wishes. George
Lb (jr) J. B. Van Schaack.



Marseille. — Le Château d'If.



CARTER POSTALE

Adress

Lt J. Geo. B. Hand & Co
No. 163, F. P. O.
San Francisco,
California.

COXS
CARTER POSTALE

Cal. U.S. Dec 9/43

Dear George -
I am mailing you today
a package which I hope
is what you want & need.
It was the best I could do
in a hurry, could not
get exactly what I wanted
so had to be satisfied. I wish these
articles are scarce now. All etc.
Hope to hear from you soon
and I will write in a few days. Love
Mother

No 15 or 16 Cassackie, N. Y.,
Dec. 11/43

My dear George:

I was a great joy to receive your letter to day but I'm so sorry you did not receive all I sent 7 since Nov. 1st and three boxes which I hope you'll receive soon. Wish you could put in the date of writing and I hope soon the destination. We are having a terrific wind all night & all day - it comes in every crack and we are far from comfortable - only 5° in dining room though the radiators are most so hot one can barely touch them. Rucky Melbur came here yesterday and boarded & plastered the walls in back stairway - even now the ~~back~~ "play room" is like an ice box tho' that radiator is so hot, too. I'm sure I've never been so cold here except the first winter when there were so many bad walls & holes to let in the cold & no storm windows - how did we all survive? - Melbur's job was completed a week ago & now an

I hope you will receive all these but it does not seem to help.

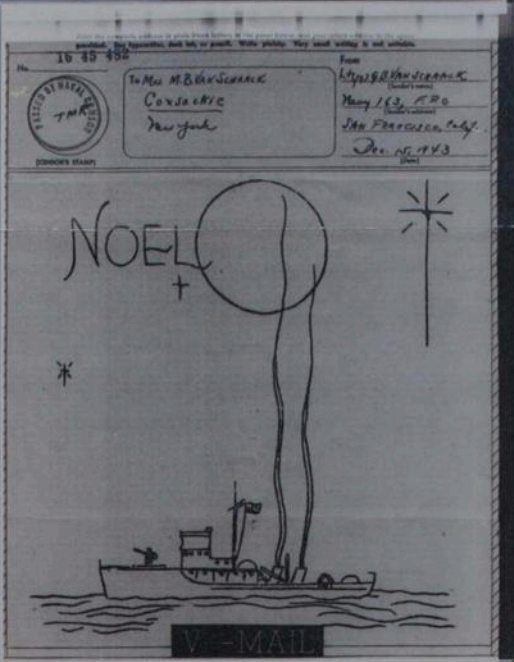
Monday he begins on a new job
in C. I. & will work from 7 to 4 p.m.
I guess he is tired of night work.
We were shocked Thursday to hear
that Donald Vincent who lived next
house to Kilbur's, died Dec. 4 in
England - he was an air pilot but
no details yet whether he died from
illness or bombing - he was 22 yrs.
The past week has been a busy one
I was out one afternoon Thursday
evening to Kilbur's - Mrs D. went to
a supper in her church.
Eva has said nothing about com-
ing home - they were to move yester-
day and I guess she will be suc-
cessful to stay out there - it is a
bad time to travel now. Have not
had a word from Kama since June
or July. I am keeping very well
and so is Mrs. D. She hears frequently
from Gordon but they letters are always
written days & days before she gets them.
He is evidently moving along in Italy
with the Army. No news of young Ben Warren.
Patry is here for a few days - she is very
quiet & respectable busy - she goes home
to-morrow. Heard recently Joe Berlin
has been drafted. No news in one week
from Harold. Hope to hear from you again
soon. Much love, Mother.

No 17?

Cassadock, N.Y. Dec. 15/43

Dear George:

How surprised and pleased I was yesterday to receive your letter mailed Dec. 5 I am glad to know you are safe and well and kept warm. Sorry you have not received all the letters I sent you - maybe some of them are still in P.O. in Seattle - hope you will get them all sometime - also the three packages I sent you. You ought to have the Sapsinas before spring. Yes, I thought of you and all the others on Thursday - it was a hard day for me in several ways and I kept crowd-
ing the train back all day. Our cold weather continues day after day - just zero this a.m. at quarter to seven when I got up to turn the fan on. We are trying to be saving of coal for we have very little left - though Mr. Lantz has cold in the house part of time - the fireplace is a life saver. I went in to see Thomas on Monday and he said he had no coal and did not know when he would get any - Wilbur says there is none in Coal nor other nearby places. He is trying to get some from Sager, Pine St. If not, we'll burn wood for a while & may finally have to shut up the house but we hope coal way be in town soon. Don't worry about it - we are very cozy now for the severe kind of several days has let up some - I never was so cold here since the furnace was put in. But I am quite well and thankful for that - I only didn't have the coming problems to think about & try to solve.





George A. Engel
© 1910

[Dec 15, 1943]

Dear Mother, No more word from you since I arrived, but I keep hoping a letter will come any day. - I'm sorry I didn't get anything off to you for Christmas before I left the States, - I hope the enclosed will help make up for my failure. - There is nothing much I can report from here - I'm well and get plenty to eat - and expect soon to be busy getting set up - at the moment I'm waiting for a building. Saw a very amusing movie last night, and afterwards a pianist I knew in L.A. and a violinist from Los Angeles played for a couple of hours. Have as happy a Christmas as you can and don't worry - you know how much I'd like to be with you.

GREETINGS

FOR CHRISTMAS AND BEST WISHES

FOR THE NEW YEAR

+ + +

1943

Navy 163, F. P. O.
San Francisco, Calif.
December 16, 1943.

Dearest Mother, Had my first mail in
two weeks today - but still nothing
from you nor Eva dated later than five
weeks ago - I wonder where your letters
have gone, for I know you have been
writing me. It will be so good to hear
from you again.

One of my letters was from Donald - he
wrote that Betty had improved in the
hospital and later at his cousin's house,
but that as soon as they got back to
the apartment the burden of it was
evident again. They have now gone off to
vacate at a hotel for a while to get away
from the need of running a place. If only
they could get respectable help.

I have recently moved in to more permanent
& spacious quarters and feel quite comfortable
- despite certain lacks. One of the men leaving
with me is from Carthage, New York - was

recently a principal somewhere on Long
Island and had Estlin Sherman as
one of his teachers! Another charming
teacher with me is the fellow Shuck at
Exeter - and the third one is a young
Virginian.

Since some of your letters to me may have
gone astray, will you answer the following
again. Did you get a letter from Post Townsend
enclosing a \$500 bond - and an envelope (sealed)
with my name on it - held for deposit in
your safe deposit box? And also what were
the numbers of the bonds which I asked
you to buy with the money I sent?

I wonder how you spent your birthday - did
you have Mother & family down as did they
have you & Mrs. Deef up for the evening? I
hope it was not too hard a day for you - I
thought of you often and wished I could be
home with you.

What does Mrs. Deef hear from Jordan - and
Mrs. Berlinski from her boys? - When you
see Mr. Bramham give him my regards.
All news, for there is nothing new that I
can report to you. Lots of love, George.
Lt (19) G. B. VAN SCHAACK

No 17?

Carsackie, N.Y.

Dec. 19, 1943

My dear George:

I have just finished supper and am settled down for the evening by fire place. I received your letter stamped Dec. 5 on Dec. 14. I think I answered it at once. I do hope by now you have received all the letters and the 3 packages. We are still having extreme cold weather but not around zero to-day though the South wind is strong and creeps in every crack. We are still without more coal but use what we have sparingly and substitute some wood. Thomas has again promised us coal but he does not seem to get it; however he also promised me some free coal soon - so we are feeling a little easier. I did not go out anywhere since Monday but up N. Cav. yesterday on a short trip for supplies. We spend lots of time trying to keep warm, listening to the war news, receiving & sending Christmas cards. My Christmas work is through and we have decided not to have a tree as there will be no one here to visit. We had an invitation to go to Rhinebeck but I have a steady one to spend the day at Milbuss. Mrs. D. will probably go to Hudson. She seems to keep quite well in spite of all the jobs she has with chickens & furdace, etc. I am keeping well but have been quite nervous & upset about the coal but I guess it will come - if not, I'm going to Milbuss & Mrs. D. will get Haynes but don't know what about the 100 or more here. They are laying very good now - almost 50% to-day we had caudal chicken - meat is so high & even then it is mostly bone & fat.

Had a long letter yesterday from Eva - she helps telling me all the details of the moving - I do hope she hasn't upset her nerves by working so hard. It almost seems she can't be so very bad nervously if she can do so much & endure the upset & also write so many letters. She said nothing about coming home - I could not guarantee a warm house for any body. I wrote to Laina over a week ago but have had no reply.

Well I think of you every day & wonder when you are and what you are doing. I saw 24 empty cars in one train go up north to-day to bring bays back & will be before dark 17 cars went down full of bays. This afternoon the village organization held a memorial service for Ronald Vincent - the first soldier from our Co. to die. No one knows yet if he was killed or died from sickness. There is an epidemic of flu or Grippie all over but doctors say not serious & every body seems to get better. Mrs. Sherman had word last week from the government that Henry was in a hospital in San Francisco with a nerve trouble - I wonder they don't all have it. Have not heard from Cleveland in 2 weeks - He must be awful busy. Malbon & Jessie were here ~~Friday~~ Friday evening - he likes his job - has plenty of his work to do home most every night. I do not know if he has Christmas off or not but he has every Sunday home. To-day I went to M.E. Church with Mya W. - she usually goes to our church. I wear the Navy pin a good deal - every body likes it. If I think of you more to write I'll add a P.S. to my next & I wish you could come home as you did last year but I'll think of you all the time. Love, Mother

24 53 2



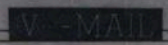
To Mrs. M. B. VAN SCHAACK
COXSACKIE
New York

From
MRS. B. VAN SCHAACK
NAVY 143, F. P. O.
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.
December 21, 1942

Dear Mother, Well see if using V-mail will break
the jinx - there is still no letter from you or from
anybody else - I am tired & more of body by
having so many addresses.

It seems hard to realize that it is four days
to Christmas - though I guess for most men
here there is enough mail to make them realize it -
there has been great piles of packages arriving.
There is naturally not much in the way of Christmas
decorations, but I was in the chapel's hut
today and saw ^{her} some fir and Xmas trees hanging
about.

I would like to have the last page of one of the recent
Union News to see if there is any one I know
likely to be near here - Hope this reaches you
quickly - let me know the date with lots of love
George



No. 18

Cassackie, N. C.

Dec. 23rd 1943

My dear George:

Yours of Dec. 8th received yesterday and of course I was delighted to get a message from you - our chief pleasure these days is to get mail especially from our Service boys. The card is very suitable and I am so glad to get it. Thanks also so much for my check - I will be glad to use it for perhaps a new Spring dress. I have had no new clothes except a pair of shoes and a night gown. Your letter took 14 days to reach here so I suppose mine takes same time. I am enclosing a list of letters and packages sent to you since Nov. 1st so you can check on them as they arrive - it must be by now you have received some of them. Have been waiting to hear if that last pair of black socks were O.K. - How many more do you want and which kind - like the first two or the last one pair - let me know. I hope by now your quarters are completed and you are comfortable and feeling fair fit. I know how it is to have too little to do - I find it so here many a day. Having severe weather day after day with terrific winds. It is impossible to keep the house warm when the wind blows so hard. At 7 o'clock

to-day I was just zero but temperature
has gone up since the sun came out.
Just enough snow to remind us it is winter.
Monday we went down town to do a
little shopping - it was so very cold we were
glad to get home again - we could not
get butter - have had none in a long time,
no fish, no good cheese etc. - it is very
disappointing but we won't complain - it
is nothing compared to the experiences of
the service men.

I have been in the living room
ever since breakfast - Mrs D made a
fire in fire place and it is very comfort-
able here - the rooms with north win-
dows are not fit to sit in even tho'
the radiators are so hot one cannot
keep hand on them more than a second.
I hope Jan. & Feb. will fly quickly so we
can soon have Spring.

I heard on Tuesday that Mrs Wheller
110 years old died in bed Sunday night.
I don't want to live to be so old.

We were so glad to get a ton of coal
delivered, here on Tuesday - it is not the
best wheat coal - a little larger but is
ok in our furnace. So it will probably
last us a month by using some wood
and maybe then we can get more - the
situation is very serious here & everywhere.
Hope you will not take cold - the flu
is all over here yet & many are sick
in bed tho' not for long. We are both ok.
A ham & 10 cans with boys in front wear up.

I see them go every day and my heart
aches for them and the mother who
misses them so much.

I had a card from Fredy this week -
I had sent them one - I hope Mrs. T.
is better & at home again. I have
received 50 cards & have sent 58 cards -
I have lots of friends but most of them
are so far away I do not see them very
much. Of course we are not having
a tree - Mrs. D. has some fine branches
in a large vase and we have the elec-
tric light in the window as Pa always
did. We are going to Milburn Sat.
morning & in the afternoon Mrs. D. is
going to Hudson with Wayne's family.
I do not see Milburn very often now as he
has so many things to do every evening.
I have not heard from Eva this week
but had a large package from her
yesterday - will not open it till Sat.
I have not been out since Monday
except to walk around the house
once yesterday & was glad to get in
out of the cold & wind. Now I must
take this to mail box - Mrs. D. usually
goes but I want to get the air
occasionally.

It was nice you have met two

of your friends from Sweden -
The world is not so big after all
I think everybody realizes that
since the War started.
Have had no word this week
from Harold or Mary. But
suppose they are very busy.
I will think of you all on
Christmas - in fact, I think all
the time - I do come in once in
a while but try to check it for
I realize it is not good for my
health. I am feeling very well
and have had only 1 headache
since I had my glasses adjusted.
Well, I must stop - you will be
tired of reading this - O! I must
tell you I had a card from Grace
Van Schaack + she sent greetings to
all of you - wasn't that nice? Well
Tuesday night we heard on radio from
Lund and where the Swedes were
having a Christmas party - 1 fellow said he
received 15 shaving cream but he shaves
only once a week. Now I must stop
as it is now noon. Hope you have my
letter + the package + May you have a
blissed time. I always - Love, Mochi

Letters to George
Written since Nov. 1

Nov. 2nd ✓ Nov. 4th ✓

Nov. 9th ✓ Nov. 14th ✓

Nov. 18th ✓ Nov. 24 ✓

Nov. 29 ✓ Dec. 4 ✓

Dec. 11 ✓ Dec. 19 ✓

Dec. 23

Packages sent to Geo
Nov. 30th Socks & Sweater
Dec. 3rd Cookies, Cake
and Fudge.

Dec. 8th 3 Pairs Woolen
Pajamas and a Pair
of gloves.

No. 55 66



ZIMMER'S DAILY

 To Mrs M. B. VAN SCHAAK
 COXSACKIE
 New York

 From
 HYDE PARK
 NAVY 113, F. P. O.
 SAN FRANCISCO
 December 23, 1913

Dearest Mother, It is so good to hear from you again - I have just received your letter of nearly three weeks ago - the 2nd of December - and it is just three weeks since I heard from you. I have three letters dated November, so there apparently did slip three on the way - The postage has not come, but that will of course take longer - but next best to leaving it is to know that it is coming and I look forward to getting it. - The news of Eva and Laure's moving was of course, 'news' even if now stale, for I suppose they are now pretty well furnished with it. I am sorry they have had to do it, but hope it is for the best. I trust I shall have some details of it in time, and also trust they will have found a place where Eva can look forward to having at least some garden. - Glad to hear your eyes are better and that she's gone. Best to Mrs D and love I love to you.

V-MAIL

Navy 163, F. P. O.
San Francisco, Calif.
December 25, 1943

Dear Mother,

Christmas is nearly over, and of course it has been the strangest Christmas that many have ever spent. And for some it has been very bleak - not a few are now spending their third holiday away from home - even in prison camps. So while it has been strange for you to have me so far away and for me to be here, there has not been any real tragedy in it for us. Fortunately I am enough like Father as regards the outward forms of this holiday that I have not been lowered in spirits by the complete absence of any cards or any packages. Of course I have known they were only delayed in arriving - which is very

different from not knowing any were
on their way. So I still have part of
my Christmas coming.

I have thought of you often today and
been wondering how you were spending
the day. I do hope my card reached you
at least by yesterday, so that you had
at least that much of the thought me.
I have spent the day much as all the
rest - mostly putting in time working -
having a few odd bits, but nothing very
important. For our Christmas dinner
thought as many as could be used up
(usually we are in shirts or sweaters) and
we all sat down together, having the
meal family style. I enclose the program
- or rather menu - so you can see we
didn't go hungry - the quantity was
great and the quality very good.

I am a little concerned about your
coal situation - I do hope you have
had the good Christmas present I have

more coal. How much wood have you
got? You really ought to try to get
enough to carry you through the
winter should you have to use it in
the furnace - no matter what it costs,
and I suppose it is now rather high.

Am glad to hear that you can get enough
gas to take you where you must go and
some extra. If you could only realize how
much gas + oil are used at such advanced
bases as these you wouldn't wonder
at the charges at home. We are utterly
dependent on it for everything - should
the supply fail we would be stranded
for everything.

All news - with high hopes of getting
news word from you soon. With lots
of love,
George.

G. B. VAN SCHAACK

No 19?

Catsackit, N. Y.

Dec. 27/43

Dear George:

Christmas is over and weather is milder just 3rd day. Had sleet yesterday afternoon & rain all night. Sun has just come out. I do hope you received the packages before Christmas - also more of the letters. Mrs D. has not heard from Gordon in a long time & is getting anxious. We went to Milbur's Saturday - Jessie had her usual small dinner - the Maup family were at table too. Mrs D. went to Hudson late in afternoon with Rayne & family & home at 12.30. Jessie, Bessie & I went to see "Without Suspicion" - as I had read it, I enjoyed seeing it. Milbur has had a bad cold for 3 weeks. When he seems to be better, he gets worse. So he was not very well Sat. & I hid indoors all day yesterday & is home today. He has no fever & he may be all in a day or 2 - I wanted him to have doctor but he would not - hope he will be well soon.

I received 12 Christmas gifts - Eva sent a fruit cake and a lot of pine cones for fireplace. Of course Christmas was not to me as in former years and I was dead to help the letters away but I did not care in at all. Don't glad it is past.

There is little to tell you as I wrote
to you Friday. Went to church
full day morning and in afternoon
went to a Union Service in Episcopal
Church - main thing was singing
Christmas songs by representative
members of all the churches. As we
were up late Saturday night
we went to bed at nine o'clock. It
is remarkable how good I sleep
every night - usually wake around
10 AM but do not get up these
days till 8 o'clock. Mrs D's hens
are laying fine - she gets more than
50% of eggs. Your Cactus plant is
in bloom & more buds to open. The
Yellow cat has become quite a pet -
we indulged him during the very
cold weather and now he is quite
at home lying on a cushion under stone.
He is very large & fat now. We gave
baby snooks away. Mrs D. is going
to mail her row of 12 close. Hoping
to hear from you soon and also
hear more about Tom about work.
Much love, My dear boy,
Mother.

No. 24?

Cossackie, N. Y.,

Dec. 26, 1943

Dear George:

Received your letter written on Dec. 18th on Tuesday the 28th just ten days in coming. I am so puzzled about my letters not reaching you - but may be some of them have since you wrote back. And I do hope the 3 packages have reached you so you can see their contents. I am glad you are having permanent and spacious quarters now and companions who are genial. When I see Mrs. Sherman I'll tell her about Estel's principal - she has been married several years and lives in North Carolina. Now I'll answer your questions which I have answered in former letters. I received your letter with enclosed material on Nov. 18th and on Nov. 26th went to bank - purchased the 2 government bonds and put all the papers in Post^{er} box with your name on envelopes. So sorry you did not hear this sooner but I suppose the Post office mail has been a mess all fall. I don't remember now the numbers of bonds but will try to remember to look at them next time I'm in bank, probably next week.

My birthday was a quiet one - home in afternoon I went to see Peggy about the income tax and Mr. Jerry's picnic came in the evening & brought ice cream and a birthday cake - they did the same thing last year. I had cards & letters.

From H. M. & Jean. It was a sad day
for me but I kept from breaking down.
I, too, missed you & the rest. Could have
been here - hope some time we can all
be together again. We were to meet
for Christmas & they are coming here for
dinner N. Kaiserling. Melrose has
had a hard time with cold in head &
throat for 3 weeks - finally he started in
house 4 days & yesterday went to work
again - have not seen him since Sunday
but talked on phone last night - he is
about well now, hope he is careful.
Yesterday Mrs D. heard from Gordon after
several weeks - he is well & off in Italy.
Have not been to Catskill in a long time, so
do not see Mr. Bingham much - the last
time was at Amoy Dec. 4th - he always
asks about you - his boy is now in Service.
Peggy told me yesterday that they have
heard from Leonard Warren this an English
Soldier with whom he escaped from the
Concentration Camp. The Soldier is in England
& wrote a letter to Leonard's wife - I saw it
yesterday. Leonard is hiding in Italy, and
is well cared for by the Germans - he is wait-
ing for the allies to join them.
Heard last night that Will Wheeler dropped
dead yesterday - heart attack I suppose.
Tom Wheeler 16 yrs old died about 10 days ago -
just as great grand mother did in bed.
Ella Maack has been here since Tues - she is
visiting her relatives this week - she lives in China
help and goes to school and also takes care of
a house where there are 2 small girls & boys
in a really poor. Ella is tall & looks good. Weather
conditions cold but no snow - plenty of sun.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. I am so sorry about Mrs. Wheeler as a young one. Much love, Mother

December 30, 1943.

Dearest Mother,

It was so good to get mail from you again today - it seems Thursday is the day I get mail - it has been ever since I left the States. Today it was two letters and a card - of the 9th, 11th and 12th - still your remembrance letters haven't come. Nor the packages, - but they haven't been on the way long enough yet.

I was hoping I would hear that you had got more coal. I am not worried but I am concerned that you must be so uncomfortable - apparently we are warmer here than you at home. I wish you wouldn't be cold, even if you have to move out after all the fuel to you - the bad months of the

you are coming and I don't want to think
of your taking the chance of getting a
bad card. Can't you bring some wood?
Do please, at any price, & send me
the bill.

I wish I knew how to advise you
about whether you should move. I
don't want you to have to go through
moving without me if I can possibly
be there. And I trust you are not un-
prepared for the statement that it is very
unlikely I can be there for another year.
At present, regular duty out here is for
18 months - that may be changed, or I
might be called back for a special reason,
but if not I still have 16 months to go.
I know that Melburn is anxious to have
you move so that he can see you com-
fortably settled and not dependent on
the whims of Mrs. D & other keep. And
as would I be, if moving were a simple
matter. But it would be a colossal

job, which even the help of Jessica would
give you would still leave large. And
I feel strongly we should not attempt
to keep you. Of course if Mrs. D. will not
stay with you until I can get back for
a leave it is perhaps likely you will have
to move. But I wonder if she couldn't
be persuaded. I suppose she wants more
money - does she want anything else? See
if you could find out either directly
from her or through Mildred, how much
more money she does want. Other
things being equal I would rather pay
the money and have her stay, than to
have you move. However, I am far
away, and realize that money can't
solve all difficulties. In the end you
will have to weigh everything and make
the decision and I know you will realize
that I should take any exception
to whatever decision you do make.

The apartment at Wilkes is small,
and comfortable, and your going
there might well be the best thing for
you to do for the present. You'd have
your own home, and yet not be alone,
and you'd be accused of being warm.
Oh dear, I wish I could be there to help
you figure it out. But don't worry
about it, my dear - it will come out
somehow and for good, even if not for
the best.

There is nothing new to write about from
here - I'm still waiting to get to work.
The interior of our hut was painted today
- grey blue walls and grey white ceiling -
makes our furniture look very shabby. But
the Navy must paint! They paint everything.
All new - even of my bed-makes are
in & looking loudly as I could think. Am
very well and quite contented so far as
things here are concerned. Take care of
yourself - and don't be cold. Best re-
gards to Mrs. J and Capt. & Mrs. Gray.