Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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Series: I. Correspondence

Box / folder: 6 / 73

Folder label: LLH and ESH to Lucelia Wetherbee (aunt of LLH), from Chaochowfu, Peking, Peitaiho

Dates: 1923-1932, n.d.

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Return to
E.S. Hildreth
Chaochowfu
via Swatow
China

Rec'd Feb 8
Ans. Feb 13

Chaochowfu,
Jan. 7, 1923.

Dear, dear, Bahnie,

I have been wanting to write you especially for a long time, but it has been a rushing time when I haven't been able to control time or thoughts so much as I wish.

Now about the hospital experience; it was not consciously omitted. You see, when in Peking, I wrote to Ellison Fully and asked him to mail my letters to U.S.A, after letting the Bebers read them. When I reached home, I found he had with-held two letters, the one written after the nose operation, and the one written after the curettage and radium treatment. Of course they gave more or less unpleasant details. He said, "I held these back questioning whether I should send them or not." So when I read them over I said to myself "Those things are too much in detail - I'll just send my calendar pages and that will

be better. But my calendar pages I wanted to use to put notes into my five year diary which I had not taken to Peking, and so I could not send them until I found time to transfer some facts. I did not realize at all that you would miss so much or be so anxious to hear. In fact, I did not realize the gap.

Now I'll read over your letters, and see if I can find out what you want to know most, and write that.

Alice is writing on waste basket papers on a little rough table by my desk. John is playing with dominoes in the next room. It is nearly time for me to go down to the Kie-than church to play.

I have ordered two books for you and Della, and Charlie & then hope they will be passed on to other members of the family — I am sure that the book on Auto-suggestion will help both you and Della — You can both be cured and with speed — There is no question about it. Give yourself over to the influence of the book, and do as he says. (Notice that he himself lived a Christ-like life! this gives you confidence in him) The other book has been a wonderful help to me, and

I think that you would appreciate. Put your name in the books, Aunt Al, and then let those who read the book write their names. It makes the book more interesting. (They are yours)

We have received another, in fact two interesting books for Xmas. One is "Christianity and Progress" by Fosdick - (Have read one lecture). The other is a "Musical Pilgrim's Progress" which Marion especially might appreciate. It is written by a friend of Mr. James (Rorke) and is creating quite an interest in England.

I must stop & go to church - Much love

Later - Children have eaten their mid morning oranges and are out doors somewhere with the nurse. They surely will miss these barren hills when they go to flat Swatow.

I do enjoy the enclosures from Ruth, Mary and Esther. I wish I could know them better.

I am concerned that Della is flowing again, but hope it will cease. Do keep me informed about it. I know it must stop soon. How old is she? It does make it hard for you too!

It is too bad that Miss Curtis is so narrow and uninformed. You have forgiven her a lot, Aunt Cele, and you'll have to forgive more as long as you are in contact with her.

I am glad you did not send anything extra for John's and Alice's Xmas. They had heaps of things and are so happy with them all! The telephone is a little old for them yet. In two or three more years maybe they would appreciate the value of such a toy. We shall be able to get electric supplies in Swatow, I am glad to say.

You shouldn't have ordered anything from Jordan Marsh for me. I have notice of two parcels in the City, but they have not yet arrived. This may be one of them. Thank you very much.

Would like to see picture of Lucile in coat and knickers.

I was so glad to get the letters from Ruth's on Thanksgiving Day, and am so happy that you were all together there.

I do hope that you and Della will read together for at least fifteen minutes daily. I know how hard it is to get it in, but any good book is such a help and inspiration.

The children love to read your messages in the letters, and John is always asking questions.

Pl. play as much letters to the uncle to - keeps of Cousins etc.

Personal - destroy

Dear Dahnie,

I want to tell you how brave I think you are - and how wonderful it is that you can help out at Bridgewater so! We all know that it is hard for you. I fear sometimes that it is too hard, but I don't dare think very much from this distance. I know that if you and Della together could conquer, so that you felt the strength, self confidence, and health that is promised by Coué's method - It is not a method of using will power - or struggling. It is a method of passivity - of training the subconscious so that it controls and overshadows the fears and weaker thoughts of the conscious. I do hope that it will help you - to happiness and content - so that you will no longer feel dissatisfaction with yourself.

You have done so much for my dear Cele. How can I ever thank you - or do enough to show that appreciation!

My deepest love to you.

Lottie.

File.
Lace for Ruth Bowen.

P. M. Jan 7, 1923

Dear Mamie

The book has just come and with the joy of prospective reading, is distress that you should send so much to us. I don't feel right about it. So please don't do so much again.

I shall look forward to reading it with a great deal of pleasure. and then I think we should send it to you to enjoy too. Would you like to have it when great is you?

I forgot to mention in my letter and don't know whether I mentioned or not, that I sent your birthday present before I left for Conference. It is a string of beads from Kuling. I am afraid it will arrive early but better early than late? which do you prefer?

I am sure

Ellison will enjoy the old
N. E. flavor in this book you
have written -
Many many thanks
dear Nannie -
Love
Lettie.

Trying to answer questions. Jan 7, 1923.

On Sept 28 - I had ether and curettage to find if the tumor was malignant or not. All findings seemed to prove that it was not.

Then 25mg. mgm of radium in a tiny glass tube was inserted in the uterus - Of course - I knew no pain because I was under ether. I had nothing to eat for forty hours or so - and suffered some discomfort from ether (not much) and had an uncomfortable night as one always does after a hospital experience (30 hours) Before the radium was taken out, it caused slight pains but nothing at all hard to bear. I was glad to get rid of it.

Formes method was to have two or three treatments with smaller amounts, but now they know how to give correct amt. in 1 dose. (I am thankful for that.) Dr. Maxwell told me I should have one profuse period and then no more, and that I must rest and be careful, but should expect to be O.K. after Xmas

I had the one period on the way home - and 2 weeks later another one. which caused the doctor's a little worry. Since then I have been more careful, and have not only passed - two times without flowing, but have had other symptoms of the menopause (hot flashes) etc

so I feel quite certain that I am O.K.
There should be not only full recovery, but I should be stronger than I have been for years. I probably had this tumor while I was at home, and I like to think that to excuse myself a wee bit, for letting folks and especially you, do so much for me. As I look back on life, I feel I have been all too willing to let Mother and you especially, and other folks, too, help me. I'll try to get more unselfish, and more independent.

The radium shrinks up all unhealthy tissue. I used to find it painful to stand up

after sitting awhile. Now that pain at base of spine - caused by tumors and backward tipped uterus is all gone.

Yes Alice Browne Frame was the one whose husband was taken with typhoid on the way home.

I am sorry you got news from and about Peking in such a strange fashion. Some letters must have gone very fast, and so got to you before my explanatory letter written on the boat to Shanghai arrived. Or maybe that letter never reached you. Did it? I remember I was glad that I could put off writing until that time, for you would have less time to worry, but I wrote a full explanatory letter on the way north.

Ellison appreciated your good letter to him written in October.

Now much much love
Sattie.

1923 Oct. 24
Various notes

Accomplished hardly anything all day except to pay the cook for Saturday trip & h.h. expenses to date, and to run around after John - and prepare baby's milk & putting strained oatmeal in for the first time. She seemed to like it - but I spilled nearly half of it this A.M.

Some home mail came to-day, a letter from Beth Sargent, one from "Dear Nahnie" - whenever Sarah John -, "who gets this to-day", no matter what it is, his first answer is "Dear Nahnie."

He sat for nearly an hour on the crib yesterday showing Teddy Bear the pictures in Black Sambo and Benjamin Bunny.

1921

Saturday
April 16

Mine had John most of the while I got flowers, table linen, clothes etc. ready for Mary. She came with the 2 children about 11:00, and we had a nice day. John squealed a good deal. Bakers started for Canton Miss Bess went to Swatow, but came over at night to stay with us.

1921

Tuesday April 19

Acet finished with cook
Cut out some work
John fell asleep at noon
I fell asleep with him in eve
I went out on hills with him after
tea & home about 6:00.
I wrote a little while John played
on accord file in Am
Miss Bosse - all in - after trip
to Swatow yesterday. We found
Mr. Baker's passport & sent it to
him. He had forgotten it
Sister did not take much milk.

1921

Wednesday
April 20

John had no nap and so went to sleep easily at night -
Ellison home for dinner. I left Alice home with nurse & he & I took John over to call on Mary after tea
Moon beautiful at night & day lovely - John out most of a.m.
We went down with E. in ell. to side of river - when E was starting for school, and nurse brought him back.. I cut out a suit for him.
Boys cleaned four upstairs rooms and the three bath rooms.
Sister was not very happy while I was away, nurse said.

1921

Thursday
April 21

Beautiful day warm
Sunned some of E's things
waffed in newspapers, marked
& packed away. Changed Children's
dresses so as to give him one
more.

Worked some on accounts
and again in ev a little.
That candy is delicious. We
have a piece or two after each
meal.

Beautiful moon. Prepared
mail for E to carry - & told him
about errands & parcels

1921

Friday
April 22

Another beautiful day
Cleaned out my small business
drawers, and a few others.
Cut out a collar for J's waist.
John out until 11.00.
Carpenters here working on
sleeping porch.
E went to Swatow to preach
to-morrow.
I fell asleep w/ John in arm.

1921

Saturday
April 23

I went to church in
ev-leaving nurse & boy.
Alice waked at 10:00 &
John was not very happy
Alice very pretty all P.M.
with a n extremely short neck.
I took John out on hills
Men came to fix roof
gutters, but I told them
it was Sunday and they
could not work.
Saw little girls carrying
coolies' burdens in street
to-day.

1921

Sunday

April 24

Planned meals, prepared sewing for nurse, wrote note to Mary & looked over thin clothes trying to get things ready to wear.

E. sent word from Swatow that he would not come until Tuesday, and that our freight from America had arrived – 13 boxes.

Shall be glad to have a high chair and little chair and many other conveniences including mosquito netting for rooms and porch.

1921

Monday April 25

Our freight arrived from America, and John at last has a high chair to sit in

Ellison came about 2.10 & brought Mr. Whitman for a late dinner.

He also brought the remainder of our set of dishes that had been lent to Dr. Ross.

Very hot – very many mosquitoes. Does John only in a suit – & white dress in chaps & their shirt.

1921

Tuesday

April 26

Dec. 31 -

We felt no motion from Jap. earthquake (Sept.) that I can remember.

We do not see the Outlook.

Aunt Cele's thin envelope has come tho O.K., but don't seem awfully strong.

Does Gene develop musically? ✓

What is Ralph's new business in Meriden? ✓

Candy

Was there duty on X mas parcels? Of so, how much and on what? ✓

Jan 1. 1924.

Geraldine

P.S.

Should I have mentioned the lying in bed two days? I did not know whether to or not. I was flowing excessively. Mrs. Larkin says that the uterus was relaxed with the hot climate and had fallen a little but was not what you call prolapsed. I have had douches and ichthiol treatments and have been very much better. There was a little ulcerated spot, that is also quite well healed up & should judge by what she said.

I went down to see her when I had lunch at the Consul's.

I am having a nice time stepping on
mother's shoes — Dec. 18
get into Honolulu Sun Aft. Dec. 19

Dear Mabnie,

Love

Clarence

to see me.

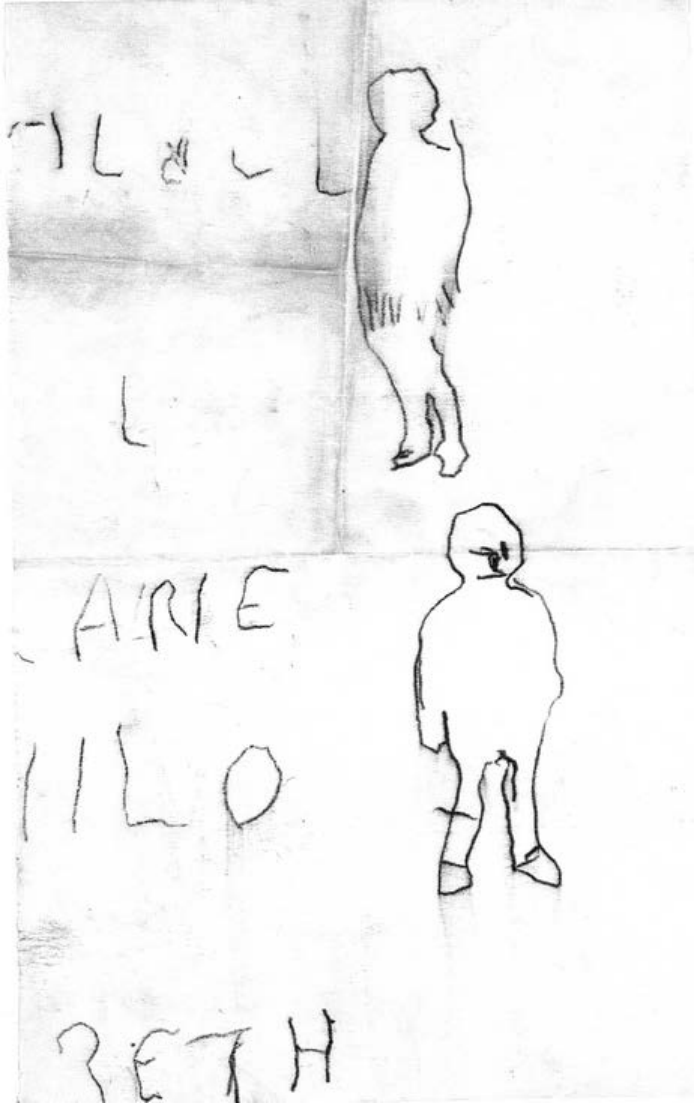
PACIFIC MAIL S. S. CO.

S.S. VENEZUELA

My new waist is invaluable and I am mighty glad that I went to hair-dressers and learned a different way in which to do my hair.

From John Oct 24, 1928.

Send to Aunt Ale some too. please.


ARIE
ILO
BETH

MOTHER DEAR,

LOVE YOU

JOHN

Thank you for your good letters.
I am anxious to hear more of Claire & Ralph and their plans.
Please give my love to Uncle Charlie and Stella. I must write them soon.

P. U. M. C. Peking
Nov. 26, 1923.

Dear Nannie,

There is time to write a little more in answer to your good letters of September and October. It was so nice to get them before the operation I think they both came. If not both then, then one was before operation, and one while I was still in bed.

I have been packing my trunk (what little was necessary) to-day, and now everything is ready for me to leave. I am just waiting for a kind Southern Baptist (Mrs. James) to come and get me and go with me to the room she has rented for me.

One always seems to meet kind people, and the only thing that worries me is that I never seem able to do so much for others as they continually do for me. It has been

so all thro my life. Look at all you have done for me - and how mean and insignificant - has been my return. Some day maybe I'll come nearer my ideals! I hope so. I do hope that you will have joy and blessedness these days. Do you find it helpful to re-read the small volume of Coué? I should think it would be. I intended to bring it here but couldn't lay my hands on it, but I have had so much help, that I really have not needed it.

I am so glad you had the trip to Straitsmouth this summer. Wish I could have been there too. I hope you folks won't blame me for not coming home. I felt I was deciding for the best, and I can't imagine what would become of E's work if it were broken into this year, and I can't imagine living either at Holyoke or Rockford without greatly overworking somebody and confusing the household.

I hope that time will prove it the right decision. Of course I wanted to come badly enough, to make it some temptation. I wish you could come to this fine hospital.

Just what are your heart attacks like and when do they come? I have been told that the causes of such attacks can be entirely nervous. Do you know whether yours have the nervous cause or some organic cause? Have you seen the book "Outwitting our Nerves"? I read it on the way up here. It is a little helpful.

I have read a little of Papini's "Life of Christ" but was a little disappointed in the first chapter or two. I did not read enough to form a judgment, but shall try to see more of it.

It would be lovely to be with Marion for a little while, wouldn't it?. You speak of her working. What does she plan to do?

I want sometime to send you a silk dress. I cannot probably get one like mother's as that was from India, but

I have ordered a bolt of heavy white crepe from Mat China and that can be dyed any color one wishes. It is always uncertain whether such orders will reach us, as there are bandits, soldiers and dangerous rapids to be passed before anything reaches us, but I have hope.

Oh, please tell Carol (I am going to write as soon as I can) - but I want to thank her for the box of hats which arrived safely. The box was crushed together but still the hats were not badly out of shape. Miss Boss was helping me and that silk tam o shanter we looked awfully nice on her, so I gave it to her. I brought the brown one - (the fancies of the two) - with me here. Mrs mighty glad to have the orange colored one for a pattern. Hope she did not rob herself.

I am so glad Mother has a nice coat. Tell Carol when she has time? (when will it be?) to make me a little sketch of mother's dress and her new one too.

Those colors of Dogtown, of the trees along the way from the trees, 1920 I shall never forget! Wonderful! Heaps of love Lottie

Encl. Carol's letter. | 96

American Board Compound
Peking Dec. 18, 1923.

Dear Nannie,

Yours birthday is coming on next month and I want you to have a letter - since I had to send the small gift so far ahead of time. Your last letter was so dear! And I do appreciate them so much when I know you are so busy. I wish you knew what a blessing you are and have been to us all and especially to me. I am sorry that you felt badly at not having sent any gift with the package that Mother and Carol sent. Please don't feel badly - You know that the gift itself means nothing, in one sense. When it comes, it is a material pleasure, - but there is a much deeper spiritual pleasure that comes from the knowledge of your deep love of which we have so many proofs. The children not only will have more gifts than they ought to have, but I think I left some things which maybe I have laid aside at Xmas or birthday time, as things which they were not ready to play with, and have

Jennie, please return this note to E. Smith

given them anew at this Xmas. One I am sure was marked with your name, and one with Grandma Lane's. And they will forget ever having seen the thing before. So don't think that you will be forgotten by the kiddies on Xmas day - and don't feel surprised if you are thanked for something which you gave a long time ago, or which you have forgotten.

Those preparations I made for Xmas, are quite hazy in my mind - and I can't remember distinctly whether I left anything in particular "from Mummie" or not, but I think I did - and I'll hope it is true, for it is too late now to send anything from here. I know I left things for everyone else at Cebu - and if I left out my own kiddies, it would be rather queer.

Many times I have felt that you have spent too much money on us all. And I do beg you earnestly, if you must remember us, to let it be not your heart's desires, which would be something very wonderful, but just a slight token -

I have written in a very slipshod manner this fall. I hardly mentioned Christmas greetings to you - but I hope and know you will remember

how upset the days have been, and how my mind has been rather "half on the job" so to speak for the time when I was so busy, and the time when I was weak. After I ordered the magazine, I let it slip from my mind. I hope and know that you will enjoy it, if it is not too fine type for you to read.

I have just ordered another book for Mother's & Dad's anniversary, which I am quite certain that you, too, will enjoy, for the type is good - "The Outlines of Science" - Did Father enjoy the National Geographic? I thought that he might - and Marion's family too.

2

3

Oh - and I never wrote very fully of the parcel of baby clothes I sent on. How I did want to handle them myself and take more time about sorting and sending them! Among them was the little bath robe you sent to Alice unused. It was not that we did not appreciate it, but she happened to have others at the time that she could use, and I thought that there was no need of spoiling it to do such an ungracious thing as then it was not necessary. I did not mean either to send it back, but since it came back to you, won't you lay it aside as yours gift to some baby?

I know you will enjoy unpacking and handling the things.

I was so glad to hear of Carol's plans. If I had come home, I might have been able to attend the wedding, altho I fear I should have been in the hospital or just out - and the children would have been dreadfully in the way.

Now that I know that there was no malignant growth, it would seem simple, except from the point of view of E's work, to have come to U.S.A, but we couldn't tell at the time, and I feel quite sure that we have followed God's leading. I hope that you will not be disappointed. You say that if I had come home, it would have settled your problems, but I know it would have put too great a burden on you, before I was strong enough to take my share. I wish you could be out here with me this winter and summer and next winter. That would be wonderful!

I wish you could get some relief from the heart spells, for I know how troublesome and uncomfortable they must be merely from a nervous point-of-view, not to mention the physical - with which I am unfamiliar.

Can you eat any ~~more~~ less carefully? And do you sleep any better?

I hope that you will not take definite work. Would you be good enough to let me know once more about how you stand financially now and whether you need money?

I am going to make out another check for fifty dollars, and I don't want you to be afraid to use it for the things you want to do or buy. If you do not want to use it, put it in the bank where you can get at it when the day of need comes. Now don't feel any compunction at taking this. It has come with practically no effort on my part - thanks to dear Mother B - and it is for you. So please don't write me saying you feel badly - I want you to feel glad! When you loaned me money for college, you said you thought it was a good investment - but I never fulfilled your idea of that - and so let me try to fulfill it in the only way left at present - Maybe some opportunity will come some day to fulfill it better. I sincerely hope so.

What is the matter with John Lane's knee? Bert? referred to in Gladys's letter.

I do wish I could help Marion. Is she lacking warm clothes? or shoes? Do keep me informed about her. ~~I feel in~~

How is Della getting on? When I pray about her, I have a wonderful feeling as if my prayer helped her in a way that I have about no other person. Perhaps thought waves do help in some cases more than others.

George writes as if there were a little difficulty in the Swatow drawn work business. Do you know about it? I should be glad to hear details. I am rather disappointed - I am writing him as soon as I have opportunity. I hope he has made no mistake in estimating what to due him on price. He always has estimated it too high when sending money to me, and this and too much and if there is any little ~~disagreement~~ difference in figure or interpretation, it sometimes is very embarrassing in money matters especially. I wish I knew enough detail to advise him.

You have already heard, I am sure, how your letters arrived just in the nick of time the night before my operation, and how they kept me busy every waking minute - and how I had a wonderful night's sleep the night before op.

I wasn't nervous at all. And I certainly had fine care, and was saved from all unnecessary pain. There was only once when the gas pains were so bad, that I shouted, and the nurse was rather slow in coming. Every other time they were very prompt, and so kind and thoughtful and attentive -- Chinese nurses - and American head nurses. It hurt pretty badly when they changed the dressings the first time, but it was late in the day and I was too tired to stand pain easily, and I had not met Miss Gould and learned how to bear it, at that time. I felt as if one ought to show them there was a pain and where it was, as if they could be more careful for knowing that it hurt. But - gracious - they know that well enough - and are as careful as can be.

If you had put Dr Maxwell's name on an envelope addressed to Peking, it would doubtless have reached me, for he is very well known.

If I had gone home before the operation, the Met. Com. would have sent a nurse or children, too, but if for any reason they should judge I needed to go home I can't say. They would not send me unless I really to go, and if I needed to go, I might need help. But they have no

intention of sending me home now.

I do feel that you are in the right place at Lane's Inn. And I feel so much happier than to have Mother alone especially in the winter time.

How is Frank now? Was he always kind and grateful? I feel certain that that is what he would want to be.

Carol will enjoy the trip West and the new sights. I hope that she feels more like her old self now. It is about two months and a half for her now. Too bad she had to spend so much money unkindly 88 (?) - same as we have to - but we have to pay only first 100 mex & 20% of remainder of the medical expenses - so it is much better.

Ruth had laryngitis by the last letter. Is she constantly overdoing? I do hope not.

And I am anxiously waiting news from John and Gladys. I do hope that all will go well with them. I was pleased to see the letter you enclosed.

You're right, it is hard for Ellison to have no home - and to be buffeted around. The worst of it is that I thought for a time that Dr. Maxwell would send me south for the winter - and then had to destroy those hopes! It was hard luck!

Her little walter trouble with mastoid bone? Too bad if it is so. Very much love,

Lottie.

Love to Mother & Carol

U.S. P. Office in Shanghai has been established and all mail now to China requires the five cents!!

Jan. 21-

Dear Nannie,

For more than a month now I have been turning over in my head thoughts about your coming to China. Even tho ~~Altho~~ you would like to, I do not know whether you want to, or whether you would think it possible - but will you consider it? I will run briefly over the details that I have thought of:-

1. Expense of trip. Elliott and I have always promised you - and I talked with him about it before I married him - He can manage that to the full extent I think.

2. Even tho the spring is an unusual time to come, there are always folks coming to Peking and the Board would make every effort to find some

one for you to travel with.

3. Then you could spend the summer with us in the north, the winter in Swatow or Chaochowfu. If by that time you (spring of 1925) you did not like it, you could return with folks from our mission. But if you did like it, you could spend the summer with us at Thai yong and stay until the next spring 1926 without suffering from climate or work. Then if you still liked it, you might stay until our furlough is due.

It would be wonderful for us. Whether it would be too lonesome for you, I don't know. Whether the trip would be too hard or not, I am not sure.

It can be done fairly easily with someone as companion who knows:- Take Canadian Pacific to Vancouver or Seattle. 5 or 6 days. Take a swift Pacific boat

to Shanghai. 14 days. Take train to Peking. 3 days. He could give you full directions from here, or you could easily get them in ~~Peking~~ Shanghai. In any case - if you come, send letters telling the name of boat and route - so that we could have mail awaiting you. Shanghai will meet you and take care of you and put you and your baggage on the train and feed you and put you on board ship in Peking.

4. Clothing:

Coming this route clothing would bother you very little - The wedding dress for a dinner dress - and another dress for every day would be all you would need, as it is cold all the way - You would need a steamer rugs - a new trunk - and I don't know how you are for shoes and hat. Winter coat would do.

For their clothing and even for most of underwear, you could probably do better out here than at home -

I enclose a letter to the Board, and an order on the Bank. Please destroy both if you do not use them.

With love
Lottie

Please feel perfectly free to use this money for you.

I think it would be best to cable (thro the Board) — if you were coming this spring. They have a code and could put it in 3 words.

Ellison's name — one word
Ellison's address — one word.
Coming " "

you need not sign, for we would understand.

If I do not hear, before the middle of April — or say April 30, I shall know that you think it best not to come this spring but will still look for word about the fall. Our funds — is not due until spring of 1928. I'm sorry!

Please note that Dad has Bank book at Gloucester. Please destroy letter & Bank if you do not use.

Shanghai
June 1. 1924

Dear Palmie:

This will be lovely if you can do it. We
you suppose you can? This is exactly the year
for you to do it. If you can see your way to
cross the Pacific. which really is peaceful. for
an ocean. and all the rest of it. We shall
wait impatiently to hear from you.

If you cable, you can do it in plain language
as Lottie has suggested. Or you can have the Board
put it in code. They have a wonderful code. For
instance. if they were already sending a telegram
out here. the addition of one word would mean

~~O I Z E~~ j biezd — OIZEj
aunt (of) Mrs C J Hildreth

e e f of etc without looking it up in more
will come detail > think a message
like this. Mrs Hildreth's aunt Canadian
Pacific Shanghai June 10. could probably
be put in 2 words. Or if the cable-
gram was sent to me direct. it would be
addressed Hildreth Swatow. and then the
date of arrival and the line of steamers could
be put in one word. or two at the most. Of
course when you cable you may not yet know
boat & date.

Please excuse hasty note
Much love
Elbson

Ruth WB

212 East Cliff
Peitaiho, Chihli
June 20, 1924.

Dear Mabnie,

If you are really coming on that boat that leaves August 14, I haven't many more chances to write you. It seems too good to be true, and I hope and pray that we can make you happy and comfortable. Word just came from Ellison yesterday that we can go back to our own house at Chaochowfoo by about the first of October, and that would fit in very nicely with tentative plans we have made.

I do hope that you have secured passage on that boat and with good friends. Then you can see a little of this lovely Peitaiho which fascinates the children so, and which reminds me so of home.

I shall watch the mails anxiously. I don't see how the folks at home are going to get along without you. They will miss you terribly. I hardly dare hope that we shall be so fortunate as to get you really here. And I only hope and pray that we can make you very happy. Never fear for an instant that you will be a burden,

but I am sometimes anxious lest my old tongue won't talk enough.

I see John and Alice now approaching from the beach with the nurse. They have had a lovely time filling a new basket I bought this AM for 10¢ - with sand. We have not been in bathing to-day, because John has a cut on his foot, and because I took a long walk, not returning until 11:30, and felt a little tired. It is so cool - that they have sweaters on - Alice the little white sweater with a blue edge which you sent over in 1915 - and John a white sweater which Mrs. James made for him. By the way I have just received two pounds of wool from England - I ordered long before I had any idea you would come, - but you will not need to bring a supply, will you?

I wish I knew what you needed. I think I had better send you another check for fifty dollars. If you need it, please use it. If you do not need it, at that end, bring it along and we'll use it for part of your fare South in late Sept. or early Oct.

How is Mary Cottie now - much stronger I hope
So sorry the new High School was lost in Rockport. It
is so necessary!

I was so glad to hear that little George was getting on
all right, and I hope that he gets back much strength this
summer. So nice that George has a good vegetable garden!

I am just sending your letter of Mar 7 - to Ellison. It is
such a nice letter.

To-day I had a nice walk - seeing a Russian monastery,
a Chinese temple, and a Chinese light house. -
Now the supper bell is ringing -

Much love,
Lottie.

Cabot, Vermont Jan 20, 1932.

Dear, dear Nahnie,

We are thinking of the birthday that is coming this week, and how thankful we are that you are spared to us. Can it be possible that it is the 75th.?

I shall be fifty next year, and I cannot realize it, for I still feel young and undeveloped from one point of view. There are so many mistakes that I can see that I make, (things that I can improve), that I feel as if time were running away with me. At any rate I am very thankful for these years in Vermont; they have helped me physically, mentally, and spiritually. And I hope that the spring days, will make it possible for you to get here, and live with us for awhile.

We have no car yet, and E - yesterday started out walking to Hardwick, nine miles away. He got a lift from trucks or autoes both ways - and it was lucky, for he was carrying thirteen pounds of lead type! Now he wants to buy trays and galleys for them.

We are sending a little parcel from here which is hardly worth opening - a wee gift the children took delight in making. They washed their hands carefulously two or three times, but I am afraid their finger prints still show. They wanted me to make an angel cake and frost it and put three figures on it, but somehow the figures did not seem steady enuf. John's artistic eye saw a snow scene!

I wanted to make the cake too - but I'm not sure enuf of results to be too keen on trying that or frosting.

Cabot, Vermont

Thro the National, I ordered three white nighties for you. – and I don't even know whether you need them, but they had long sleeves and collars and I knew that you liked that kind. The price was low and I hesitated to get them on that account, but I could find no collar on any other type, and so I thought I would try them, since cotton is so much cheaper now.

I asked them to send you a catalog, and so you can exchange them, for anything else you need. Don't hesitate to order anything else up to between 2. & 3.00 if you wish to exchange, and I will pay the difference.

We hope you'll have a wonderful birthday, and we wish we could be there.

Tom Orne's trip to Boston was postponed.

I have put in my calendar pad which I no longer need for Carol to dispose of - It will give an idea of my activities.

I also put in a little jeweler's box two pieces of jade which I hope to sell. I bought them from a girl in China who wanted an Education and had no other way to pay for it. I want Marion, if she is willing, to have these valued for me in Boston. They may not be worth the 7.00 mex which I paid - but on the other hand they may be worth a little more, and so I want to know their value.

Tell her not to hurry, but sometime when she has to shop (and even so, she is always hurried I fear,)

I wish she would take them in to some dealer or dealers in precious stones. and ask them to value them so that I can price them correctly.

Dinner time -

E gave a weenie party to his 4 H boys at Lower Cabot last Sat. and we have a few left, also a little chicken and potato, and I have added vegetables and dessert.

Much love - and may this New Year bring the greatest of blessings - to you -

Lotti

For Marion
& Jennie

Aug. 18 -

"Want to write a letter to Nahnie come home."

"Want dear Nahnie to cum hooome, (emphatic) Howard." (playing with him all the time.)

"Oh, let me write it!"

Yesterday when I had cheese balls for dinner, John was quite insistent to have some.

"Don't you remember what an awful face you made when I gave you a taste of cheese before?" I said.

"I'll make a good face, Mamma," he replied.

Aug. 23.

Dear Nahnie,

How are you? We are all pretty well and in the gay whirl of the liveliest time of the summer with invitations about every day and sometimes twice a day. In about ten days most of the folks will be gone and they want to make the most of the time here. A large party started off on the twelve mile trip to the canyon this A.M. but

the day is not proving very good - some showers. I do not take many of the trips this year, but my time will come. It is lovely just to be here.

Last evening we had the unmarried young folks here for a sing and it was jolly - There is always difficulty in the mixed crowd that the English and American will not mix well but each did ~~their~~ their part last evening - We had eight men and more ~~girls~~ girls - perhaps about a dozen, some solos, some quartets, some choruses some popular music some not. Miss Boss brought her mandolin and that was nice.

To morrow (21) Aylen Edmunds (about Johnie's age) has a birthday party and Alice may celebrate with her altho her birthday is about a week away.

To-day Mr. Speiches and Ruth Page took dinner with us.

We have seen the carpenter about an addition to our room - a bathroom 8½ x 8½ - and verandah 4 x 8 - and we can have it for about $65. - so that I think we shall do it - There will be a lower room 8½ x 8½ for the nurse too - and roof over verandah

Dear Aunt Cele,

Your letter was awfully good? Is John getting money enough to pay you a little regularly now? To help the boy's manhood, you ought to insist on his paying 1.00 a week or more - at once and regularly, if he does not think of it himself.

Strawberries sound good. I don't suppose we shall see one or a blueberry until we return.

Why did you call us a family of four, Aunt Cele? We are only two. The servants eat their own food. We don't provide them $

I wonder if by any chance you got to Boston Convention, and saw Mrs. Stafford or Dr. Foster, or Mr. Hildreth.

Thank you so much Jennie for letters - your father's was full of news too. Hope you can get on to R- this summer.

Has Marion had examination yet?

Ruth's note via J.M.W- much appreciated.

Marion, how is that finger that you put the machine needle thru? Wasn't it awful!!! I am so sorry!

Heaps of love
Sattie.

Aunt Cele we are writing Mr. Butter to send you a check for $2.00. Will you take out the 1.15 for the stockings and send Papa stamps for the purse he bought me to give E- and keep the balance for postage and expense in doing the little errands I ask you to do so often.

For Ruth.