Nanking, China
October 28, 1923.

My dear Flora Ann,

Answering your letter when it is almost a month old. Seems funny doesn't it?

I am so glad you like your work and the house where you are staying.

...yes, I like the idea of having a shed once a week. I think the younger this learn as much more that way. Doing a thing a second time especially on a large scale certainly improves their technique.

Are you starting in with a
some credit system? I made up my own system of credits - had repetitions a week and added a ten percent to their monthly grade and I know it was good for them. The mothers need to like it too. I kept it to the girls honest and don't believe they fooled me either - I heard some groups might.

Funny about the slow intelligence - what nationality are they? I had some beautiful children in Clayton and some real brains in my cooking class - although a part of them had to be taught how to take an eighth of a cup.

I have been expecting you to tell me some thing about the other teachers. Your sister, principal and other 14 teachers - is yours a high school and whom do you get with and what is she like? What do you do on Saturday and Sunday for excitement?

Don't be too sure about your probable life journeys being less than Phyllis Ann's. I have dreamed for you a nice dream - you know Mrs. Davis has a very good friend of hers here this winter - teaching her kids and music as well as the middle of many other delighted American families. And we all love Aunt Turley - she is a peach and a good sport and a regular guy. Well some seven or eight years from now
If your instructors is still in the East you'll be coming out here to find him and I can see you loving with us and running a semi-graded private school for our wonderful kiddies. There are these married couples there besides us and we mothers shall cooperate in teach our own till you get there. Doesn't that sound good to you? I don't see we could pay a huge salary but it would help towards a fund for travelling expenses and give you money to spend on the fascinating things the peddler brings around. How do you like my dream? It is fun to dream at any rate? And I know you'd get all sorts of thrills.
out of a year or two or three we
think. Mrs. Carvis' sister was out
here a while back and taught for
five years.

It's so much fun to tell you things
Doesn't make a bit of difference
whether we are half a world apart
or not does it. Our brains go night
on fitting in. every day I get new
 impressions and think I must not
forget to tell Florence Ann about that.

The seasons here are so different.
It feels much like November and
the leaves are falling and the grass
is mostly green but when you look
at the gardens you wonder if
your eyes deceive you for the
blue coated hair footed gardeners
are everywhere cutting out your
cabbage and every plant and they have flourished beds of carrots and lettuce and every cabbage and several other crisp looking delicious things - oh yes - spanische - we have it once a day at least and I love it for it is never better - two fresh vegetables a day have cured me of constipation - no wonder. I have learned to forget how things are frittered and swallowed my imagination each meal along with the well cooked food.

The flowers here are lovely - most everyone had beautiful borders of asters and marguerite and coneflower. I thought they were fine but they are as nothing compared with the cypress-rose moss roses. They flourish and the autumn last week the Ag college here had a flower show and sold their mums - six pots for a dollar each. (that means fifty cents) - great big gorgeous things - fine to seven foot wide on a pot - I never dreamed of having as many all my own. I have a pink and white pot which Aunt Melly gave Phyllis Ann and a big plant with five dozen colored big cabbage roses and a bouquet of red roses ones - I mean to get some yellow ones soon. They seem to have developed some new varieties here. (a la)

Home I heard about my daughter lately - she is getting to be the best and smartest little bubble I ever saw - I can hardly wait to get home.
She appreciates having attention because she is left alone to sleep as much and when I get home and go in to see over the edge of her bed, even tho she may have been busy counting the pictures on the wall she turns her head + greets me with the most ecstatic smile + begins to bubble + coo. She is that way every time her Daddy comes into the room too. They have a great crush on each other & she recognizes him way across the room. I never found anything so easy to love. She is at the mushy stage + likes me to squeeze her most to pieces and kiss all the wrinkles in her foot neck. She puts up her hands and loves my face and neck especially when the
is eating. I can remember having all sorts of fun with my dolls but this is a million times more. A sort of sound holy joy. I sometimes think I have all my life been looking forward to the satisfied happiness I have now. I suppose I shall keep on loving her harder all the time but I can’t imagine her at a more satisfying stage. She is never a bother now for I can always think her up in bed and know that after a bit of crying she will sleep for a couple hours. Next spring when she wiggles all over the place I won’t be so free. She weighs 16 lbs. now and has outgrown most of her dresses. I bought up a bunch of fine tatting last week from
an old peddler and mean to have some little duds fixed for his room. I have white cloth enough for about three, then I shall have to send home. Most all my baby duds will have to come from America. The British things hi Shanghai are so funny and cost like heck. I just got a pair of safety pins the other day and they were 55¢ per mix - the kind that are 5¢ at home. I think I shall have you & Sally do lots of fruit & dairy shopping for me.

If you asked what I wanted for my birthday - I'll tell you the things we miss out here. First - things to read. Magazines & papers are very precious. I have ordered Life, U.S.B., American & People here. So far we're well supplied. Garrison's, Harper's, Atlantic, Review of Reviews, New Republic. They are regular high bosses when it comes to reading. I read the whole outfit loud made when I had a sore throat & decided I could use a laugh & humor. I really enjoy Atlantic & U.S.B. But what I started out to say was that I had always enjoyed some books - especially now along child training lines. But we can send for them. I think and I can't glean new ideas for clothes. That's the most welcome thing of all from home. Women have tailors here & can get Butterick patterns in Shanghai but the tailor doesn't get the lines of a thing right unless you know how to make the fitting and home ideas as to finishing touches.
Our next neighbor had a grand time going over my plans when I first arrived and seeing how things should look. Pearl has a new serge dress that she wore today for a luncheon at the British Consul. It's good-looking but needs a side ornament that China does not seem able to supply. So what I'd love for my birthday will be something in the kind of clothes say a cotton blouse with a new idea or so as to how things look at home. What do you want from China—tapestry, embroidery, fine lace, or pongee?

I had a very busy last week with a bad throat—my old friend quinine. I had to have bandages and opened up Tuesday for half a week and I was almost ready to step in the well. I am going to have my tonsils out!! Probably Xmas vacation! Enclosed find a picture or so.

I love you—Grace
Hankow, China,
Nov. 8, 1923.

Dear Folks,

At last we have received some mail from you and that in a big bunch. You see the mails pile up waiting for the boats. Your mail comes only on steamer boats. The arrival of boats received considerably space in the Shanghai paper, which we receive daily. From now on we will try to get a letter on every mail boat. I have two this month, I believe.

The baby is very well, happy, and is going thru all the motions of crawling. We now give her a bottle of children's milk (about all we can get here) twice a day and water by bottle as supplementary feedings. She has been gaining 8 ounces a week until this last week, when she gained only one ounce. For Grace had a terrible case of sneezing again, and it was necessary to hand the process three times, and the baby...
didn't get as much to eat as usual, but Phyllis Ann wasn't a bit disturbed by Grace's illness.

Grace was back at language school for half of today's work after spending about eight days in bed. Now that she is well again I will be able to do something else than nurse her and bathe the baby out of school hours.

The Committee of our mission has ordered a house built for us at Tucumcari. $5,000 Mexican has been allowed for it. That doesn't sound like much (you couldn't have much for a house built for $20,000 in America) but here you can get a very livable house for that. It will be built in the compound which they already own.

We are fortunate in being able to make suggestions for our own plans. They won't be carried out altogether, of course, but I expect our wishes will be followed as nearly as possible with the allowance made.
We pay $100 a month, which includes board,
room, baby's daily laundry, our laundry,
light (electric), and water carried up to room.
We furnish our own fuel. I just bought
a ton of hard coal for $27 and 50. I left
for oil heat $1.40. As soon as the oil stone arrives
from America we will have it.

We have had only two cold days so far;
the weather has been fine with but a few
rains. We still have nuts, lettuce, beets,
beans and green peas from the garden, and
will most of the winter have too.

Our goods arrived in perfect condi-
tion. Nothing was scratched even. Only two
egg containers were broken. They were
humbly put in without being separated
on that last morning. The male, rat
and the phonograph just as it left Yale.
In beginning to think I have inherited
a little of Papa's packing ability.
Polly's enamel small pro fascin troth
and the last scar just came off. She was
once one day with it - she has no teeth
yet.

Grace would like to have the "Delineator"
magazine, and the "Literary Digest" and
"Saturday Evening Post. We have access to
Don't you think that this would be a

lovely house?

We are very comfortably located here. We

have three rooms and a new wash room and

bath tube and toilet. One room is bedroom,

the other (where we have all our books, phonograph

stand, table, porch, library) and we for nursery.
Ben Schmidt returned a few weeks ago from Peking where he was being examined to try and find what was causing the continuous pain in his abdomen. He had had his appendix removed for it with no help. From the symptoms and the lab findings at Peking I believe he has the same kind of trouble that a patient of F. T. Lee has, a chronic colitis, and auto-intoxication. TB was ruled out altogether and finally at Peking.

Ben liked the guns and the photo.

The kitchen was just like the one they had broken or matched the set. He was glad we didn't bring the mitten.

I bought a bike for $25. Richardson eats up about $3.50 a month so I thought I'd save this. It is an English make.

Here it is the first week in November and already we must send off our Xmas box if we wish to arrive at their destination before Xmas. We will try to send one type of Christmas things in one box to you. I will send this tapestry to you for part of year.
present.

Dear my second letter to the Church in the last preceding this letter and in it stated a few of my impressions of Nanking. I have shown more ideas and impressions on the life of the missionaries here and the natives, which I cannot yet translate into sentences. Somewhat, I hope I'll be able to write them down for your benefit. I'll try to start doing that. There is so much to write about that is different from anything I have seen before that it leaves me bewildered for a time. But we are recovering, and soon will have a perspective.

Love to all of you.

Douglas.

P.S. More luck to Benjamin than she has bad in the past.
Nanking, China,
Nov. 16, 1923.

Dearest Home folks,

We just received our fourth home letter today, from the U.S. Boosters, saying that you had received your fourth letter from me. Well, we have them coming now and we ought to have one or each boat going both ways from now on. We get sure the day after the Shanghai paper announces the arrival of a Seattle boat. We don't get mail from you on the Monday or the Vancouver boats.

I like the idea of your questioning with them. I don't know the things you are interested in being enlightened on. Some of the things you are most interested in are not the things I usually write about. You like details, and I write on general things. So keep the questions coming and if others in the church have questions I will do my best to answer them.
The baby too enjoys excellent health and is again gaining an eighth ounce a week, after the week and a half standstill when Grace had gummy. She has not cut any teeth yet, but some of the upper are very near the surface. She is 5½ weeks old and weighs 16½ pounds. We are giving her a little Nestle's brand water by bottle before two feedings each day, and she gets water by dropper at other times. We are enclosing picture.

Taken Nov 14th.

Grace is well again, and has more than Phyllis ever ate.

No water in China is fit to drink without boiling. All vegetables that are purchased must be boiled; all fruit is scalded before peeling for use, because there is so much dysentery. Only vegetable, such as lettuce, grown in one's own garden can be used for salads; for, you know, all Chinese gardeners make their gardens spring up and grow like magic by daily watering each plant with a ten to one mixture of water and human and hog excreta. Every day
on the 15 minute walk from home, too often language school we see these four men or women with a basket and hoe hunting for little shreds, which are so thoughtfully deposited beside or in the middle of the path or road. There are open air toilets (most of them fully visible from the street) along the roads, but a greater share of the children and the small population think nothing of squatting down in full view of and with in a few feet of passersby and making their contribution to some indelicate gardens. It is quite shocking to say the least, which at first the girls just out from America, have unwinding and turn to me sick a bit to keep from hitting them with the stream as they pass by, I now almost got hit one afternoon while walking home from school with one just two blocks from home.

This seems like strange language to be writing in letters, but you wish to know something of Chung and this is Chung, undecorated.

I'm not going to cover up a thing but tell you the facts as they are.
Now that we are talking about dirty things I might contribute a few more facts. As you walk down the narrow, dirty streets where the refuse is thrown and where only an ever-present cloud of a nauseating fume is present, one is at first driven with the sight of gaily head scarves and bicycles, especially on the heads of children. I should judge that only about one in ten of the children are without head scarves. When a sore develops the Chinese mothers stick a dirty black patch of paper or cloth and the pus oozes out and flows down the child's head and soils its already dirty clothes.

The eyes are very prevalent, and such terribly fiery red, swelling, many eyes they are.

None of the Chinese children have any seats in their pants. This causes changing. I try to get a picture of these ubiquitous bottomless pants.

One almost despairing of teaching these people sanitary methods of caring for their food for they aren't enough...
clean water for all the million to wash
clothes, vegetables, slop jars, etc., in even
the they did know better and had
a sanitary consciousness. On every
hand there are large open pans
of water, green, dirty, odorous water;
where sickly sickly women are washing
(rather whacking) dirty clothes, chop
buckets, or spinach, sweet potatoes,
or rice, perhaps with bread or a huge,
dirty sleepy buffalo who guin
ching his thirst.

The Chinese (lowest class) homes are made
of matting hung over a few bamboo poles,
and in the winter time covered with
mud and with thatched roofs. I sent
you a picture of one of these better ones of this
kind, I think.

Here is a picture taken from the wall,
on the south of the city,
of some middle-class homes.
As you will see from this one
in the foreground the homes
are made of stone, with the
roofs. The buildings form
a rectangle with a courtyard of larger or
smaller dimensions in the center of the
groups. There are no windows on the inside, save for a few small ones seen in one of the roofs. Usually there are a few openings into the inner court, but often nothing but a door.

Inside there is nothing comfortable. The floor is bare, usually the dirt ground. The beds are hard, the chains (if any) are straight-backed and uncomfortable, and the table, too, are anything but beautiful. All is dark, dank, dirty, and cold, for there are no stoves. When the weather is colder a few more cloths are put on. The weather is spoken of as "two-coat," "three-coat," or "four-coat" weather.

In the picture here shown, I have marked "A" below a small wall built in front of the front door. This is the spirit wall. All devils are supposed to fly through the air in straight lines only. So if a wall is built even at a considerable distance away from the front of the entrance the devil will be unable to enter if the houses are opposite each other in the street, no devil-wall is needed. To one protects the other, and if the devil flies fly by he is going down.
the street and not being able to turn corners all one safe path I have been through I can
up from those places to describe them later.

How about the things we can buy to
cat?

We get very good flour and we have white
and graham bread.

We cannot get steaks from any kind.

Chickens, eggs, pheasants, rabbits, and
duck are very plentiful and cheap. Eggs
at 15¢ (14¢) each are 23¢. Pheasants 2 for 91¢.

The thing that please us most is the fine
variety of excellent vegetables we can
get here, even in the winter. Right now
we are getting sweet potatoes (white, yellow, purple, white maid), rough potatoes, spinach, beets,
bean sprouts, Chinese celery (it is cooked
and creamed beet), and the vegetables seen
in the snake dance described on the other
sheet, which is (I would judge) a cross between
spinach and celery (it looks like celery but
tastes like spinach and beet-tops). We get all
kinds of delicious beans except navy.

We have peas, radishes, turnips, carrots,
green onions, and lettuce from our own
garden only. Cucumbers are plentiful but
don't taste like those at home.

We can get apple from Hood River, Oregon, which
cost 10¢ each, 2 oranges at 20¢ each, tangerines 10¢ each a dozen, Chinese pears (which look like peaches & feel like a mixture of a plum and apple & have the snap of an apple), peaches, and grapes. One of the best new fruits is the fruit melo. It is the size of a large grapefruit and looks like one, but the yellow skin is a half inch thick and the inner sections are much more distinct, and it is almost as sweet as an orange with the flavor of the grape fruit. You never use sugar in eating it. Bananas are plentiful & cheap.

Today is the one month birthday of our wash-cook and his wife and servants. This is a big event in the Chinese and they stocked all of us and many of their own relatives in a feast. Mrs. Lam has told them not to include me because of the expense, but we ate as we served up in true Chinese style, with broths, chopsticks and all.

We had boiled rice, tea, one dish of shredded whiteworm of chicken and noodles in soup; one cold chicken, pork, in sauce, chicken and chesnuts fried in deep bean city, pork and...
Last night I had supper with Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Marx, secretary of the Ching Pruners Board, and Dr. and Mrs. Frank Veil, of Lincoln & New Haven. We fell in love with them and especially with the Dr. He is just the type of fellow I had had as my best friends during college life. He is something like my roommate at Amherst, Edna Lewis. We are going to get along famously together. He has a head of corn of his own and invited me to come in as partnership with him in the business. That will be great to have our own milk.

Our new house will be started at once. We worked out the plans together last night. They are somewhat different than those I sent you in the last letter. I am going up to Stanford with Mr. Marx next week.
Thanksgiving vacation and several extra days of school, to pick out
the sight of the compound.

Veitling gave me the impression that
the Rockefeller Foundation is footing
the hospital at Trenckow in a very
comfortable financial way, and that
this hospital has everything needed
in equipment but X-ray and all
the medical supplies necessary.
They now have a new 30 volt Delco electric
light system for the hospital and Veitling
told me that they will later provide them
for the homes also.

Dr. Veitling also is a graduate
of the U. of Cincinnati Medical College. He
graduated the spring of 1919, and I really
took that fall. As we have much in
common to talk about,

and like Miss Veitling very much
for the introductory meeting. She is
the mother of three boys and a girl.

I have your statement that you had
to pay $6.75 to customs on the tapestry.

That is an outlandish price.

We paid only $2.75 in your money for
this thing. We are wondering how much
duty you will have to pay on our Xmas presents just sent today to you. At that rate you will be paying over twice as much for them as we pay. So I will have got you the amount we paid for them in gold (your money) and I would like to you to tell me as soon as possible what the duty is. But I am sure you will be so pleased with the presents that you will be glad to pay these taxes what we paid in the duties. Most of the things couldn't be purchased even in Seattle.

For Mother and Dad:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 hand made Swedish embroidery tablecloth</td>
<td>9.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 napkins</td>
<td>1.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 silk stripes with silk embroidery</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 tapestry pillow embroidered for rack</td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bernice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 pairs embroidered butterflies</td>
<td>.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 yards of Shantung pongee</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 carved bone pendant</td>
<td>.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mae and Roy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hand made Swedish embroidery tablecloth</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 yards of tatting</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hand carved bone pendant</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This totals $13.20 gold, and all but you pay high duty. The next day they are easy on the Xmas presents. But if we send you presents we must get used to having you pay duty.

We have not seen Effie McCallum yet, she is at Franking's but at Maunslow. But we see Jimmy and his wife frequently.

One day last week we had dinner with Ben Holroyd and wife. He lives right across the street from Miss Ley's girl school. They are very pleasant people and we expect to like them a lot. They go home next spring on their first furlough (after winter in China).

We have a fine, congenial bunch at the language school. Almost half of the class married. There are four bachelors and the rest old maids.

We are now starting work on the year book this "linguist" and I and the photographer because of the expense I have made with my pictures. I have made some money on my pictures and about the cost of $15.00.
have made a bargain with Brownie, the Photographic Shop, where by dividing classes, matric with good negatives and then to Brownie who makes a sample print for me with a number (as A26) and I tack them up on the Bulletin Board so anyone may order by number. Brownie in return gives me 5% off on my account, also 5% of all money taken in by him from language school students if it amounts to over $400 a month, and also he will charge 20¢ more on each print made from my negatives and give me credit for that amount.

Ben Schmidt is back in Hankow again on his way to his station at Munching (or something like that). He will be about the far south of the Yangtze River, or we are north of it. He is feeling some better. Ben has turned over a little pin money job to me (this is on the R.T.). Occasionally I will buy me some tapestry for some women in Shanghai and make $4 to $6 on a $40 or $50 order. It's best not to say too much about these little side jobs money affairs, for people may...
get the impression that you and doing that instead of your missionary work. But it takes a lot of time and anyway the idea of coming to your done, and you get such wonderful opportunities that it would be criminal to let them go to waste; and anyway people with families (and all of these have good sized families) need much more than the children's allowance. Many have to do something like this to pay tuition for the children schooling. Anyway I'm going to try and make a little more this year if possible, for we need much more than our salary will afford to furnish our new house.

This is most likely what our house will look like.

If you need money it is best to send a draft.

Love always from all,

Douglas.