

Sept. the 3rd.
Box 92-15 Kunming

My dear Gladys:

You will never know quite how thrilled Sister Maria is about securing the embroidery floss you have sent up. Up to now I do not know if the Perkins' have arrived or not- We have lost contact with the world, it seems. All we have is rain- haven't seen the sun for days. Heston came in Sat. and is still with us- The Coloney is sick in bed with Bronchitis, Carney came back yesterday, heard a couple of weeks ago about Mull - and wonder more about it but Scott hasn't written a line. He cabled us all about it and then no more news. Hope your trip home is a good one. I practically envy you with all your shopping done and enroute home. I am afraid we are still going to have a time of it before we get home- and probably won't get one thing in either Indo-chine or Hongkong.

I see Darkie almost every day- He is a beauty. Somehow you kept him in the background out on the farm- and we never really saw him until Mary Brunke brot him down a few times. He walks into our house like it was his own- and he is a grand dog. They are wild about him- they went so far as to get rid of the other wonk they had. She is very busy looking for a wife for Darkie - says she must have a pup if she can't have him. He is so good to their baby toe---

Kasy has had more or less- mostly less- of a breakdown from gadding too much. Says it is her heart--- but I doubt that. I think she just uses up too much energy talking all day long and doesn't get enough rest to keep it up many more years. Anyway she has been sick for a month and still is much concerned about her "health".

Adair has again changed his mind and is returning- prefers to live in Kunming but if he does someone else has to go to Yunnanyi to replace him and we are definitely not interested- even tho we would at least have a house to live in- which we didn't before. I like it here- and our garden is producing more than we can use now-- and the ice box is plugging along with excellent results- Shortage of both gas and kerosene. We can get 6 more tins and then no more gas. We have not received our June order from Rangoon as yet- and I am merely living from day to day in hopes it will come forth anytime. Prices here are still going up- and the exchange is rapidly raising--- is now over 24- and still climbing. They have only (CNAC) made 40 trips last month chartered- for money alone-- carrying about 7 million each time to various places- and dumping that much on the market is bound to do something to the exchange.

Hestons say they are definitely leaving next March--- 6 days before we are. We have now decided again to ship all home that is in Hongkong and rather have it safe than lose it all - even tho we will go home in rags. I am ged up with the clothes out this way.

Your cook is now employed in Kunming at the Chinese-German club at \$140. per month- so says Mrs. Brunke. I don't know what has happened to your No.1 boy. Mrs. Brunke was telling me that Zack drove past the other day and went to Sutters and when Darkie saw the car he took off after him and chased him down to Kasys---- they called him and he came back- but he was pretty excited for a time thinking it was you.

Bill Law has finally moved into his house--- and Eich has gone back to Chungking. I am having a lot of fun making bread out of yeast sent up from Hongkong. It is excellent bread- thru no fault of my own.

I am still dabbling in French lessons but making little progress with no opportunity to speak it at all. No one knows just what is going on

in Indo-chine but something must be about near the breaking point.

Probably the nearest I will ever come to my cute chairs-- are sitting in yours someday. The Du lac is closing down this month- Chinese refused to renew the lease- going to take it over for either an officers club---- whatever that would be--- or turn it over to China Travel Service-- whatever it is the guests all have to move out in the next few days--- which will crowd the other hotels---

We have finally thru many sleepless nights gotten out thief. One night about 11 p.m. I had to go to the bathroom and walking past the bedroom window-- having heard something all evening- but it was raining--- saw a thief trying to get into our car- right outside the window. I called Bob and he laid down a barrage of fire as he climbed up over the gate and bamboos have fixed for a door for the car. Think the 2nd shot hit him in the legs as he let go and had to start all over again. Only a kid of 15 or less and Bob was being kind and aiming at the legs-- but the next time we are going to really plug him--- he had already been in the back side and gotten a few clothes hanging back there--- over the barbwire- and then had come around into the garden--- had not been able to get into the house---- Kasy had one again--took out a glass and then was frightened away but Joe looking out at him----- so it has started again.

You must look up Babe Johnson- 10 Mitchell Place in New York- I suppose you have her address already. Everyone is becoming alarmed at the thot of the Japs coming in next month and doing a little bombing for practice. The postoffice- main one- is moving out of town already- 40 lee out- where ever that could be---- and the missionaries are all thinking about leaving etc--- Chungking still catches it everyday with nothing left anywhere except across the river-----

Not one word from the Petros for months- and we are wondering what has happened to them. The tension down there must have them about down.

Someone said the Whites were leaving soon- I haven't seen here since the tea she gave for you and you couldn't come--- so I went for you. Outside of this I don't know any more news- Higgs is entoute back now to work for cnac. No news from Manila but of course, you have seen them only recently. What all did you buy and are there any places especially good-? if so may I have the addresses?-- I still hope I haven't sat out here nearly 3 years and got nothing pretty out of it.

We send our best to you both- Let us hear from you and what you are doing and you may expect us any time from now on--- things keep getting worse and more of it up here.

Affectionately,

Chris and Bob.

Did you get any furs?
Chris & Bob