

Chunook Alta
Oct 13, 1912.

Dear Mother

I am glad that you are banking on coming here next summer. We are awfully anxious to have you here, even more so than you are to come. I hope you are planning to come early in the summer and stay all summer. It would be much harder for us to have you come the first part of the summer & stay, than to come for a few weeks only, at the end. I wish you would come the first of May. I wrote to Evelina in this mail asking her to be sure to come, and to get a month's

vacation. I think she ought to have a month's vacation. If she doesn't stop working ~~abroad~~ she will look like an old woman in a very short time. I hope you will try to persuade Evelina to come here with you, or be here at the same time, whether she comes & goes with you or not. I am sure she needs a change.

I don't believe we told you that I am going to build a studio in town as soon as the lots are for sale. I am expecting to get the agency for the Gray gasoline engines, catalogues of which you have probably seen me reading at Oberlin. The engines are for pumping, grinding feed and

running all kinds of small farm machinery. The Gray Motor Company & I have been corresponding with each other more or less all summer but I have not enough money to buy an engine for demonstrative purposes, which they will give me at cost so that I do not know whether I will be able to have the agency. They usually sell direct to the dealers but I want to act merely as an agent with a commission, and I do not yet know whether they will do it that way.

I will be living in town this winter if I build the studio. I guess I did not tell you that I belong to the

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Chinook Board of Trade. Most of the men on the Board are farmers & so ignorant that they give me a pain! I wish I had a little more bluff, or nerve and I would get along better. I believe the man that can successfully run a bluff is the man who makes a success in life, financially, I mean. Of course there are other things necessary to success too. I am getting a little of it ^(bluff) myself now. I have to do so when I take pictures of a big gang of men or I could never get good pictures. I am sure that I have just as good ideas as any of the other men on the Board but I am the youngest & hate to "butt in", but I am

going to do it whenever I have anything to suggest. I offered to furnish a few pictures of typical scenes here for advertising purposes free and that made quite a hit, especially as I have been a member only two weeks. We have no bank in town yet and I also offered to drive any bank representative around free, for a look at the country.

Will & I with our superior education laugh at ourselves ~~at~~ ^{at} everything! We read so many articles in the Saturday Evening Post about men who, succeed by their wits, by grabbing opportunities that other people don't see, that we are continually framing up schemes to make money but so far every thing has needed

capital, a thing which we have none of. We are hoping to some day get a scheme to make money without capital. We can see heaps & heaps of opportunities for a man with a thousand dollars but as yet we have not the wit to discover the opportunities for the man without a cent.

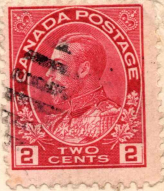
I think the Sat. Eve. Post is a fine paper. Will is planning to write an illustrated article on pioneering in the West, the illustrations being photographs made by you most loving
 Teddy.

Charles Selden Belden

Chunook Alta.

P.S. There is a telephone in Chunook now & there will soon be a newspaper.

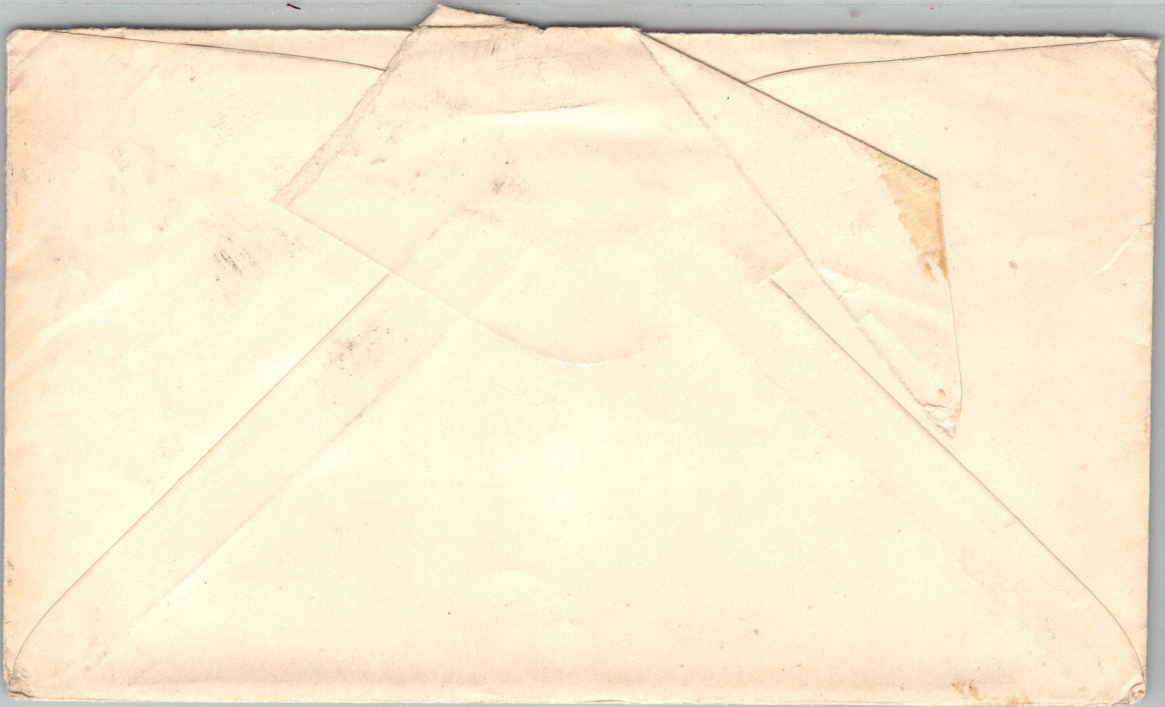
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Mrs. Wm. A. Belden
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Oberlin
Ohio

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OCT 13 1912

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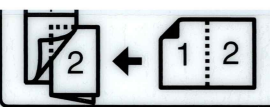
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