Dear Edna:

Your letter with the clippings arrived some days ago and more recently comes word from Peking that there is a package there for me. You are very good to me in spite of the fact that you don't encourage blue roses. The clippings are like a taste of Colorado and Kurdish bandits all rolled into one. Just think of Sir Harry Packard! And Frances of course will be Lady Packard--what will all the little Packards be? Do I understand that you were at commencement? Faith wrote me of the doings but as she did not speak of you save as being in Pueblo, I suspected that you were not in Colorado Springs.

I am much pleased with the success of the Arrow Maker--won't it be great if C.C. can attain a distinction as makers of plays? I'm hoping to get back for a Commencement some day, I know not when--this Rockefeller Foundation work is so new that they haven't yet worked out a scheme for furloughs and such.

Am so glad to know that you are reading William J. Ament--of course it is finished by this time--and you have a better picture of our life and work in North China. Mrs. Ament is one of my best friends. She mothered me all winter and I doctored her, for she isn't very strong--then when hot weather came and both she and I were ill, we came down here and camped out for ten days before anybody else arrived.

What else are you reading? I've done several bits this summer--mostly as follows: China Under the Empress Dowager, Bland and Backhouse; China and Her People, Denley; A Cycle of Cathay, Martin; Village Life in China, Smith; and Alice-for-Short, by DeMorgan.

That's all I think of at this moment. At present I am reading the Old Testament and have gotten halfway through Deuteronomy. I hope to finish before going home. In odd minutes I've studied Chinese, have done Mark as far as the Twelfth chapter, and several stages in the text book. When I finish Mark I'll send you a copy to see what it looks like.

I've still had time for exercise consisting mostly of tennis and swimming. Played in the tournament both singles and mixed doubles and was beaten both times. The water is my chief joy and I've made rapid strides--can swim 200 yards now without difficulty. I'll miss the Ocean terribly when I have to go to the Interior.
We've just gotten back from a trip to Shan-hai-kuan pass—the place made famous by the entrance of the Manchus in 1644, when they established their rule over China. As its name indicates it is a pass between the mountain and sea. (Shan, mountain; hai, sea; kuan, pass.) The mountain rises straight from the plain and is about as high as Cameron's cone is above the plain at Colorado Springs. The Great Wall runs down a ridge of this mountain and across the plain eight miles into the sea. It is a marvel of construction.

One realizes the more why the Great Wall is one of the seven wonders, when you see this brick wall that has stood the wear of centuries, and know that every brick had to go up on a man's back over a place so steep that we ourselves had to go on all fours.

We lived in a temple just under the crest of the mountain—a favorite place for Buddhist temples. I suppose the idea is that the worshipper gains merit in climbing to that height in order to burn incense. Also, like all temples, there was a beautiful grove, mostly of pines, but also oaks, momosas, acacias, walnuts, etc. These groves are a joy, for they are the only trees on the mountains, the idea of reforestation not having penetrated very deeply as yet.

Am sorry I haven't any pictures to show you—but there are some of the Great Wall at NanK'un which are similar, though the hills are much less steep. If there is anything I can do for you at any time in the way of furnishing material for the teaching of Chinese geography, I should be charmed. My ideas as to what is valuable are a little hazy it is true—but the spirit is very willing.

Incidentally since I am so willing to express my wants, you might tell me what things Chinese you long for. Would you like a carved wood image or a cloisonne bowl, a silk lace collar or some embroidery off a Mandarin robe?

Am sorry this letter won't get to you in time for your birthday, but I'll think many thoughts instead and send them by wireless.

Much love and many wishes that the beginning of this new school year may be most propitious. Affectionately, Amy