

March 5, 1933

Peiping
17 Kan Yin Hsiung

Dear Mother -

A letter has just come from Mrs Seymour telling of her very pleasant visit with you, and that Peggy Persons and her friend Eleanor Campbell too went out to see you. Mrs Seymour seems to have much the same feeling about Tacoma as I: that she never wants to go back, I hope that she will take life a bit more easily now - at least give up stoking furnaces! Do you hear from many people in Tacoma? Mima has written me and also Ceta when she was last there but that is all, I do feel that sometime I will go back to Puget Sound or Alaska or British Columbia to make more pictures of that type of country which I love so much - at present there is such great wealth of sources for me here. I wish that you could have the experience of living in a Chinese house. You would be waited on hand and foot, there are so many servants at one's beck and call. We (Harold Acton and myself) have four and with a ricksha boy five, but stay long on the job. Acton's Cantonese valet speaks much better English than mandarin or Pekingese since he has been here only two months and a half. He will know much more before he leaves since Acton has consented to teach modern poetry and literature at two Universities in the city which will keep him here at least six months. When I

gave a show, a couple of weeks ago, for the students at Yenching University, he was generous enough to give an address, the summary of which was published in the Peiping Chronicle, of which I am enclosing the clipping. I made no attempt to sell as all the Chinese are too poor or their standard of prices is so low that it is not worth while for me to meet their pocket books. I am not selling many things here but am keeping prices high, which I think is the best policy.

Acton (author of "The Last Medici" "Humdrum" etc etc) is one of the few people of keen artistic talent appreciation who is interested in using contemporary life as material (Most students here are so archeologically minded that they think they are living in a museum!) and we will probably do some collaborating while he is staying with me. His father who is a well known art collector in Florence is acquainted with the Roaltas.

The war is close upon us now. Yesterday the streets were deserted as three thousand rickshas had been commandeered to transport provisions to Jehol. If the roads were in good condition one could drive there in three hours or less, so it won't be long now before the Japanese are in our midst. Of course there is no danger, the battles are nothing as the Chinese generals sell themselves before they get hurt, and they have no adequate means of defense anyway, or any sense of organization.

Asia Magazine has at last accepted Juliet Bradon

and my article on Jehol so watch out for it.
The text was mostly leaflet but it was pieced out
with extracts from my letters, which has made her
furious. The drawings are long panoramas in pens
and ink, done on my trip to Jehol in June 1931.

Later in the Spring I may go to Chingwantao or Shanghai-
Kum and do some real war reporting!

I wish that Stan or Nanny would write me
about their European jaunt. Did they visit my
studio on Ave. Ruelle and what about it? And
what else did they enjoy besides German sausage?

Much love

Scho.

All my albums of clippings and of portrait photos
and are some of my etchings being sent out to me?

There will be an exhibition of the work of Zuggenheim
Fellows at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New
York in April. Watch for press notices!

Scho.

March 1933



Mrs. R. E. Handforth
514 West Centre Street
Woodbury
New Jersey
U. S. A

Thomas Handforth
14 Kan Yu Hutung
Peiping
China

