

Oct 30, 33

14 Kan Yu Hutung
Peiping

Dear Stan -

Don't you think it's about time you wrote me a letter just to prove that it's within the realm of possibility? Also to let me know if you're the same old guy or something different. Also to let me know what's on your mind if anything. Furthermore I am slightly interested in the general activities of your establishment, and due to the scarcity of letters I receive from W Centre St. you all might as well be non-existent. You might let me know too if the depression is still a depression or if there has been communal decision to chuck it. I am continually astonished at how little the depression has affected me personally. if at all: for the good, for it has kept me in Peking, always on the ~~the~~ verge of ~~the~~ financial bankruptcy but in the meanwhile living very comfortably indeed. One can still separate people from their shackles for the cause of Art, but it becomes slightly more difficult each day, as most of my work is stored away as capital for more booming times. I should think that the Duponts would be working overtime with all the rumors of war that are floating about. The only

safe place to be is in China where we are surrounded by soldiers who would be shocked at the idea of an honest-to-God fight. In my last letter to Nannie I did suggest that I might be visiting in America in about a year from now, but the thought appeals me. Furthermore it seems useless, furthermore I cannot forsake Peking. If I ever got to Woodbury what would I do but turn around and come back? Besides I'm spoiled by too many servants, too good food too large a house, too easily accessible friends, horses, and curios to be satisfied elsewhere. You really should try life in the East for once! nothing like it! Why don't Pu-pou start a branch factory here?

I have just had an exhibition in my private gallery, of the etchings which Nannie sent out to me and I actually sold several of them. There were ~~so~~ a number of etchings missing from the collection, prints of which I think exist in my trunk. One of these days I will send a list and ask you to look for them, as well as for duplicates of some now on hand. But not now - perhaps in the Spring. I am having another show the last week in November, of very recent work and about Christmas time I plan to ~~pick~~ ^{break} up camp and go to Macao for a few months. Macao, near Hongkong, was one of the very early Portuguese colonies in the East. Its revenue now is derived from gambling, smuggling, various other illicit trades, and from fishing. I have an introduction to the king of the underworld, so all should go well. You see,

Macao is still China. is mild in Winter, when prices here, and is even cheaper than Peking for living. My present idea is to return with the birds and the buds, about the first of April. and that will be the limit of my travels unless business looks brighter in the U.S.A.

It seems hard to write you about daily existence out here - it is all so very simple that you would wonder what the charm of it is that holds every one - the only thing to do is to come and see for yourself.

Seth.

What news of James (I dreamed of him the other night) and Walter?

I am not giving up my house: two P. G. will be living here to keep the home fires burning while I am in the South.

A Hindu living here tells me that James Cousins has left the University of the City of N. Y. and returned to Adyar. Did you ever see him again?

Oct. 30 - 1933

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