



Samuel H. Graf

Letters

INTRODUCTION

During the early fall of 1998, I made contact with Therese Graf Tanalski when I was searching for family members of deceased Hall of Fame members. Therese grew up in Corvallis, attended OSU, and married a 1944 CE graduate, Theodore T. Tanalski.

During my conversations and correspondence with Mrs. Tanalski she indicated that she had a collection of letters written by her father, Sam Graf, from the period 1903 to 1920. Sam was a pre-freshman in 1903 and a senior faculty member by 1920. these letters are a wonderful documentation of life at OAC/OSC and in Corvallis during this period.

The letters were transcribed by Laurie Dockendorf during 1999/2000. Laurie also scanned many of the sketches Sam made in the margins of his letters. The college is very grateful to Laurie for the care and attention she has given to this project.

Chris Bell
May 17, 2000


1903

Corvallis, Sept. 24, 1903

Dear parents, brothers & sister:

I will give you a little history of what happened since I left home. Saturday morning I got on the train as you know and from then on till I got to Corvallis nothing much happened. Only lots of waiting all along, mamma said I should write and tell her what Independence looked like, well it looks just about like all the other places and I did not notice anything by which she could know it when she saw it, so she will just have to listen when the conductor hollers, well when I got off the train at Corvallis I rubbered around for a while, till a big, tall man asked me wether I was Mr. Sam Graf, I told him I was, then he said his name was John Cramer there was an expressman with him who took my baggage check and brought my trunk up to the house in the afternoon. When Mr. Cramer and I got acquainted we started out for home and got there about 1 o'clock and ate dinner. In the afternoon I went to the college and registered as a subfreshman (\$2.00 incidental fee) then went to the place where Mr. Cramer works (It is a large carriage and organ factory of which he is manager there I saw much wood working machinery and so forth we then went home, had supper and studied our Sunday School lesson. The next day (Sunday) I went to Sunday school and preaching in the forenoon, ate dinner, went to Y.M.C.A. preaching service at college came home, ate supper and then went to Young people's and preaching at the church. Monday I went to college and finished getting my papers signed for Subfreshman course, (there were no resitations on Monday). Monday Evening I went down town spent \$2.00 for books and supplies. Tuesday – first recitations – bought books & supplies 40¢. I also took examination in Arithmetic and passed now I take – Freshman free hand drawing instead Wednesday – recited lessons, took examination in History and passed now I take Freshman (shop) woodwork instead. I also had about 50 min to spare every morning so I got Freshman General History in there and Thursday I recited lessons, got all my papers straightened out for part sub freshman and part freshman work (sabby)? and spent \$2.75 for books. You will find account and my study schedule and so forth enclosed. I can say that I have not been a bit home sick for Mrs. Cramer is very jolly. I was the only boarder till Tuesday but now there are two each has his own room we are already acquainted and study in the same room using the same lamp so as to save oil.

Account

		\$	¢
17 or 18	Suit (\$7.50) Overcoat (\$10.00) Trunk (\$4.00) Shoes (\$2.50)	24	00
✓	Underwear (\$1.00) Hat (\$1.50) ticket to Corvallis (\$2.60)	5	.10
✓	Necktie (.50) Collars (.40) cuff and collar buttons (\$1.50)	1	.40
✓	Clothes brush (.50) knife (.50) Purse (.35) Pens & pencil (.15)	1	.50
✓	Overalls (.50) Carfare (.05) Candy (.05) Miscellaneous (.15)		.75
	Spent in Portland	32	.75
at Corvallis			
19	Registration fee at college (\$1.00) Board (\$3.00)	4	.00
20	Collection (.05)		.05
21	Books – Arith (\$1.25) Grammar (.60) stationery (.15)	2	.00
22	“ Speller (.25) Note book (.05) Postage stamp (.10)		.40
	Those No. 16 collars were too big like  that		
23	Collar (.25) (No. 15½) (Ordered Uniform) (16.50) (Not pd.)		.25
24	Books – General History (\$1.75) Composition (\$1.00)	2	.75
	Total	\$42.20	

Had \$172.75 Sept 17 (morning)
 Have now 130.55 “ 24 (evening)
 42.20 spent since 17th.

So you see accounts balance

I have ordered my uniform it will cost \$16.50 and comes from the east and may come any time between 1 month from now and Christmas. I think you better send me about \$10 I now have here only \$20.55 and board will soon be due and I will need some coal oil pretty soon it is only \$1.20-\$1.40 for 5 gal.

Schedule

8.00 – 8.50	Military Drill (It is quite interesting)
8.50 – 9.00	Chapel service. (Singing (reading bible) and making announcements
9.00 – 9.50	General History, don't know how it is never recited it yet.
9.50 – 10.40	Reading (Mondays & Wednesdays)
10.40 – 11.30	Grammar (baby work so far)
11.30 – 12.20	Nothing
12.20 – 1.30	Noon pretty long noon hour 2 hr.
1.30 – 2.15	Free hand drawing (Monday Wed. & Fri.) never had it yet.
2.15 – 3.00	Nothing for me in this period
3.00 – 3.45	Wood work never had it yet.
3.45 – 4.30	Spelling & Composition

Of course you see that there is no time for working for my board although jobs are plentiful. I worked at the college Monday made 55¢ I can work Saturdays but I don't know wether I will it takes about all the spare time for studying. I guess it's about time for me to quit (10.30 P.M.) Please write as soon as you get this translated.

Is mamma still crying?
 (she don't need to)

I got the examination
 paper you sent.

Address

Sam H. Graf

Corvallis

Oregon

Good bye.

Paper is precious
 (ink is cheap)



Orders to Ben Graf Mgr. of shop

Dear Brother –

I have answered most of your questions in the other letter but the rest I will finish here. I will tell you how to fix that lathe so it will work.

Go up to Jim some night or Sunday and have him turn you a pulley as per plan on seperate sheet then put that on and tighten the belt if it needs it by cutting a small part of it out where it is joined and then resplicing it again. If you should happen to move away from Montarilla be very careful of my things because a I will want them next Christmas of course not my lathe or in fact any of the tools as I have a plenty here but I mean the electrical instruments I have made and my wire and perhaps the batteries.

And in case you move don't forget to take down the telephone lines as the receivers, bells and batteries of them are what I want very badly. the doorbell of course you leave in but I think you might empty out the solution out of those 2 batteries that are in there now and take them along as they are worth \$1 each you can put in one of the dry batteries out of the telephone just so it rings the bell good is all that is necessary.

Don't give my Ammeter to Jim under any circumstances because I want it and please don't let the kids monkey with my instruments or that little dynamo. Oh! If I had only taken that little  along I could have some fun now. When you write please tell me what grade  you are in and If you ever intend to go to Corvallis you ought to get a book on Algebra and study algebra I think you could master it by yourself allright then you could enter freshman easy by taking exams. And save yourself a years work.

Its high living here coal oil is \$1.35 per 5 gal.

When I come I will show you how its done.

Jugglin rifles

Right Shoulder Arms



The 15 pounder I ...dle every day.

Hoo Rah! Hoo Rah! Farmers,
Farmers, Rah, Rah, Rah!


I just mention that so that
you can begin early if
you intend coming here.

Corvallis, Oct. 15, 1903.

Dear parents and brothers: —

Not very much has happened since I wrote, but I thought I would write anyhow.


I used only one of the books I took along and that is the reader all the others I might as well have left at home.

The Sub freshman class uses most of those books but I passed out of most of them so I am mostly a freshman, my expenses this month will not be as great as they were last month, I have split wood for some people, worked in the chemical laboratory at college (cleaning up) and while working there nearly spoiled my overalls with acid. One pants leg is about $\frac{1}{4}$ eaten off but I can use them yet, I used them mostly for wearing when I take woodwork for about an hour and a half each day, and I also am putting in the winter supply of wood for Cramer's I guess I can earn about \$5 on the jobs I have finished and started so far, I have yet \$21.95 and I don't think you need to send me any money for a while yet because my uniform won't come till about December. We are now drilling with the guns like they do in the regular army  I like it very well, it isn't near as bad as I thought it would be. There are about 450 soldiers in our army now.

There has been quite a bit of stealing of books here the fellow who boards here had a book on Chemistry stolen and Donald Paul had a book stolen and a fellow picked up my book on composition in one of the rooms while we were reciting I did not notice who the fellow was when he took it from the table where I had laid it but I soon noticed that my book was gone I began to look around for the fellow who had it and saw a fellow sitting back of me looking all through a Composition as though he had never seen one before. I did not recognize it as my book until he took out the papers upon which I had prepared my lesson, then I stood up and held out my hand for the book, he was greatly surprised but he handed the book over, that was 85¢ nearly gone. Ed Aylesworth and Hibberd came here Ed Aylesworth found a place where he could milk about 10 cows (so he says) every morning for his board and is here yet. Hibberd couldn't find a job and so went back.

There was a whole swarm of fellows trying to sell season tickets for football games etc. (\$1.50) but I did not buy any although nearly everyone did. I watched the two football teams practice tonight for about a half an hour and I did not see very much fun in it, two fellows got hurt even in that short time, not seriously but I guess they aren't feeling very good yet.

The college prints a paper called the "Barometer" it contains all the college news and also pieces and stories composed by the students who belong to the literary societies. I think it is published monthly and costs \$.75 so if you would like it I can subscribe for it and have it sent to your address. Of course I don't care whether you subscribe or not.

I have not told you yet that those two no. 16 collars are about a yard too big for me so I had to buy another collar 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ which fits but cost 25¢. My suit is none too small either I can tell you. 

We had a surprise party on Rev. Noble. It was what they called a "pound party" every body brought some provisions or something else for Mr. Noble there was quite a pile of stuff but

the party didn't seem very grand to me because very nearly all the kids that were there were under 14 years of age and of course didn't know how to play anything much.

I guess you saw the whole Cramer family when you were here, there are only three. Mrs. Cramer gets hot at Bertha once in a while and that's when I get homesick, see —

You need not save up the Youth's Companions for me because I can read them both here at Cramer's and at the Library in College. I just want to tell you about my troubles with that draft you sent. I went down town one night about 5.30 and the bank was closed of course, went another time and the fellow told me I would have to get somebody to identify me, so I told him that Mr. Cramer was the only one here who knew who I was and that he could not very well come down there so he told me that he knew Mr. Cramer and all that would be necessary was for him to sign his name on the back of the draft so home I went, got him to sign it and went down town again the next day and then had to pay a nickle for my pleasure before I could get the money. I could make pretty good use of a bicycle if I had one here.

What I miss pretty bad is my experimenting apparatus and the books on Electricity which I left at home. When I come on Christmas I am going to take a big part of my shop along because I have plenty of room here for a small establishment, not in my room but just outside it there is a big room that isn't finished yet and I guess never will be and I have the best kind of a chance to get good practice in making things as I can use the lathes or any thing like that at College or at Mr. Cramer's factory which is that Great big brown building just south of the college a few blocks, Mr. Cramer does not own it but he is manager and I have been there several times. He makes organs and carriages and wagons and I guess that will do for this time.

Zip! Boom! Bee!
Zip! Boom! Bee!
O.A! O.A! O.A.C.!!!

Yours respectfully—
Sam H. Graf
Corvallis, Oreg.

Corvallis, Oreg. Oct. 31, 1903.

S.E. Graf & family.

Ladies & Gentlemen ÷ Two weeks ago enthusiasm was at a high pitch here because there was going to be a football game with Seattle they even made up a song about it as you'll see. I will now answer all your questions ÷ I go to Sunday school, morning service, sometimes to young people's meeting and always to the evening service, on Sundays. I like it very much but I don't think that I will join the young people's. Mr. Noble was at the convention in Portland and saw Mr. Farn. Ask him what Mr. Noble told him about me, (you don't need to if you don't want to) Mr. Noble told me that he told Mr. Farn that I was a good boy and always came to church & behaved but then you know _____. I read the bible and pray every night, at first I forgot it once or twice but I don't any more.

My uniform will be here in two (2) weeks and I have \$10.25 so you know what will have to happen next time you write about \$20. Mamma needs not write to me in German for if she does I will have to get Prof. Schmitt to read the letter for me, I think she might write me a few lines in English, I am sure she would do no worse than Peter Heinrich at the cracker factory. I don't know about making furniture for Annie and am not in that business (but I may change my mind I'll see.)

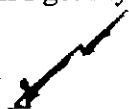
Will Beaty, who is the other student who boards here, and I send our laundry to Cauthorn Hall where there is a Laundry Agency, it costs me about 20¢ to get 1 shirt, 1 undershirt, 1 pr. drawers & hdkfs etc. washed we send our laundry once in two weeks.

You told me not to join the football team; you need have no fears. Need not send any more kisses. Too dry. Taste 'em yourself. *o o o o o o o o* see.

I wrote a letter to Uncle John sometime ago but did not get an ans. yet. I don't like to write letters so I think you might tell John T. the little news there is and save me the trouble, expense, and loss of time, I will tell you I have no time to spare if I want to finish my course in four years. Besides my regular studies I take Geometry from Will Beaty who is a Junior, a good friend to me and who has kindly consented to teach me Geometry so I can take the exam in it next year get out of it and be a Sophomore instead of a Freshman. I am also working diligently on my Corr. course having sent off two exams within a month. Will and I think that it is best to study in the morning so we only study a little at night, go to bed about 8 o'clock and get up at 3 o'clock in the morning. See "Early to bed early to rise makes men healthy, wealthy & wise." Will has a stove in his room and I have none and want none. I don't think Will has to pay anything for the wood and if he does I don't care I enjoy the heat from it just the same. In the morning Will gets up about 2.45 and builds a fire and then wakes me. Ben says that I should keep my collars till my neck grows a little larger I don't see how that will make them fit.



When I get my uniform I will have Will take a picture of me with my rifle.



I didn't like to waste this side of this sheet of paper so I use it to write to you on. I will send the rest of the story in some later letters.

Every time I would count my hair a big bunch of hair would come out I didn't like the idea of getting bald headed so when I got my hair cut I got some kind of hair tonic from the

barber this is the way he does it -- I just leave the bottle there and about once a week I go to the barber shop and have him apply it it costs \$1 I did not pay for it yet although I



have had it applied twice it has already removed most of my dandruff and I think it will do a dollar's worth of good alright. I would like to begin the mechanical drawing in my correspondence course but first I will have to have instruments, they will cost about \$10 of course that \$10 won't be just used on that course as I will have to take mechanical drawing in college for about 2 years and can use the same instruments, so any time that you can spare the money please send it. Enclosed you will find the account of the month Oct.

There is a band of people in this town that call themselves the "Holy Rollers." They bought a house here and then imagined that the lord told them to burn up all the things they did not actually need, so they burned up nearly all their clothes, sacrificed (2 dogs & a cat), carpets, furniture, all the partitions out of the house, the walk in the yard and the fence besides burying a bicycle watches etc. (They are crazy I guess). They also say that the earth will come to an end tomorrow (Sat.) so if you get this you will know that they were mistaken. In their services they just jump up and down and holler, scream and screech and pray just as loud as they can, I didn't go to see them but I heard it from people that have. I don't think there is anything more to write, so goodbye,

Your Son

Sam H. Graf

Corvallis
Oreg.

Ac't for Oct.

3	Board (6.00)	6	00	for 2 wks.
4	Collection (.10)		.10	I give 10 or 15¢ a week and subtract that from 25¢ and put down the remainder on a slip of paper so when there is any special collection I can give a little.
9	For cashing draft (.05) Laundry (.25)		.30	
11-12	Collection (.15) Paper for maps (.05)		.20	Special paper for drawing General History maps.
17	Board (3.00) Note book (.25), pens (.05) colored pencils (.05)	3	35	Note book for compositions (board covers) colored pencils for maps (actually required)
18	Collection (.10)		10	
20	Hair cut (.25) Stamps (.10)		35	
24	Gloves (.25) Laundry (.15) Board (12.00) Express for trunk (.25)	12	65	Board for 4 weeks or until the end of third week in Nov. White Gloves (part of uniform) (have to have them) for handling rifle in m. drill forgot until now to pay Mr. Cramer the .25 for bringing up my trunk.
25	Collection (.10)		.10	
			\$23.15	
	Earned \$5.05 from Oct. 1 to Nov. 1.		5.05	
	\$100 you have belonging to me		100.00	
	\$5.30 money left. (cash)		5.30	
	Total		110.35	of which you have \$100 and I have 10.35

You see my board is paid until the end of the 3rd week in November but I owe the barber \$1.00 and owe the church \$.55.

The uniform will cost \$18.50 complete. \$16.50 suit \$1.75 cap \$.25 stand up collar. You can figure out for yourself that it will take almost \$25 to last till the Christmas holidays, counting board, uniform and incidental expenses. Of course I will try to get a little work to do on Saturdays and so maybe earn my drawing outfit, for all the work I have done so far I got 12 ½¢ per hour. Please write soon.

Latest news – Two “Holy Rollers” in jail (Leaders)

Corvallis, Oreg. Nov., 28, '03.

S.E. Graf & Co. Portland, Oreg.

Ladies and Gents,

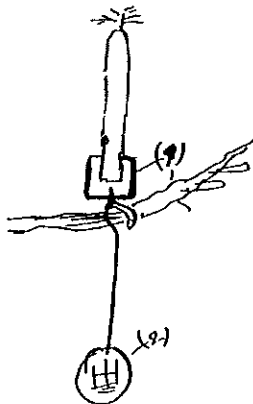
I did not intend to write again before Christmas (as I will need no more mun) but so many things have happened that I must tell you about them. My uniform and cap have come, I need not describe them as the enclosed picture will show their beauties (?) better than I can. Donald Paul, you know, had been boarding at a private family but he and some other fellows had too much fun and did not study so Donald had to move to the (Shack) Hall. His mother sent him a box of goodies for thanksgiving and he invited me to come over to his room last night and we devoured them.



Yesterday Donald and I took a walk to Old Baldy (as a mountain about five miles away is called) we climbed to the top and went into an oak grove there and found a lot of mistletoe which he brought home. We had no way of knowing what time it was while there so it was about 1.30 when we got home; of course dinner was over at the hall so Don came with me to Cramer's and we traded our mistletoe to Mrs. Cramer for some dinner. Last Thursday (Thanksgiving) I did not do much just walked around, studied, had my picture taken and so forth. In the evening we had a little party at Cramer's and made some taffy and had lots of fun. Will Beaty my friend was sick for a few days, he has the appendicitis and will probably have to be operated on later on but he is feeling all right again now.

I have not written to John Trout yet but you can tell him not to get mad as I have not extra much time to spare and hate to write letters anyhow or you can let him read this letter if you want to. Or tell him the news.

I have been pretty busy lately in the line of woodwork as I have just completed 60 candle holders for Mr. Cramer to use on the Christmas tree at our church. They are made like this



I had to turn out on the lathe the holders (7) and the balls (2) and had to bend 60 wires into the shape shown and I tell you it wasn't a snap. I don't think I will make any dinghousers for Annie as it is so much trouble to bring them home. I think I will take the boat when I come home Xmas, but I won't tell when I am coming as I don't want you to get anything special ready for me. I want to surprise you and see if you know me. We had a football game last Thursday and won 15 to 0 so we had a chance to rejoice and shoot the cannons



(but of course I didn't go to the game)

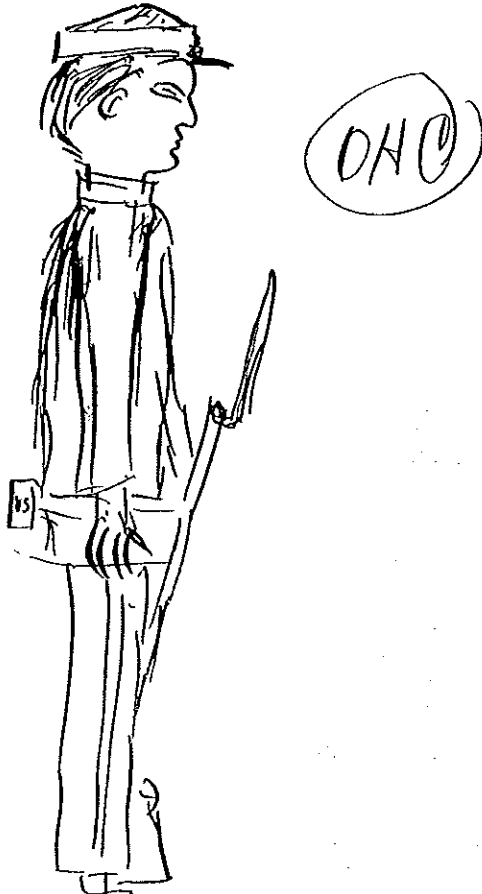
I have not been getting up so early lately but I will have it to do after Xmas if they will let me take all the studies I want to take then. I guess that is all the news. So Long,

Sam H. Graf.
Corvallis, Oreg.

After this I will try to make the letters look a little neater.

I thought that you might want the rest of this story I sent it. But do not think that the next letter is to be German only part of it is to be German. Please write me one more letter before Christmas you need send no money.

Please give the enclose stamp picture to Claude and tell him he must not expect me to write to everybody.



1904

Corvallis, Oregon,
Feb. 2, 1904.


Dear Folks: – I guess that you are getting pretty anxious for a letter from me, so I won't make you wait any longer but you know how I hate to write letters and that I am always pretty busy at the beginning of the term.

Donald is rooming with me now and has behaved himself pretty well so far.

Friday evening I went to the college Oratorical Contest and heard eight orations delivered by different students there were three prizes given. 1st. a gold medal and \$15.00 second, gold medal and \$7.50 and 3rd silver medal & \$4.50.

I have sent for my drawing instruments and will get them in about a week; they cost \$5.95 besides the express which will be about \$2.

I split wood for two days, earning \$2, and have a job of washing ceiling for next Saturday.

You said I should not subscribe for the "Barometer" because there would never be anything in it that I had written; they published a composition on Incandescent Lamps that I wrote in the January Issue, and I stand a pretty good show to have some more of my compositions published. 

I am not letting my experimenting dinghousers take any of my time that ought to be put in, in study. One evening about three weeks ago I took some crackers upstairs with me; so that I might have a little to eat in the morning when I got up so early.

I laid the crackers on the table and went to bed; about 2 o'clock I heard something nibbling on my crackers so I got up and found that a mouse had eaten almost a whole cracker. I resolved to have revenge.

The next night I set a trap for Mr. Mousie and was awakened at 2 o'clock by the mouse scratching around in the trap; I got up and connected up my induction coil and just simply electrocuted the mouse. When I went downstairs for breakfast Mr. Cramer gave me the deuce for making so much racket and disturbing his slumber.

Will had another attack of appendicboomber and he thought that it made it worse to get up so early in the morning so we decided to study in the evenings, I believe that I would rather study in the morning though.

One day we all had to write a piece of poetry in our Reading class and then get up on the stage and speak it before the class, I wrote five verses, it was thought to be a very (?) good poem and I got the loudest cheer of any. (I will get the swell head pretty soon.)

My candle holders, they say, worked fine and they had a pretty nice Christmas but the best part of it was that they saved up my candy up for me.

What is Mr. Graf Sr. doing now? Did he buy that farm that he went to see the day that I left? What is everybody doing????? Send me one of Ben's pictures.

Bertha Cramer and (my girl) had their pictures taken together and if I can get two of them I will send you one. I did not have time to make any more of my pictures but will make some as soon as I can.

Tell Miss Schultz that I am waiting just as hard as I can for her picture (and that I remain her's with love.)

I told Mr. Cramer about what we once did out in the country Sunday school – gave each scholar 10¢ to work with for a year and he is trying in our Sunday school; he got about 40 pupils to take the 10¢ (Mr. Cramer is Sunday-school superintendent).

I get along pretty well with Bertha but she is always fighting with Don and Willie. I'll be hanged if this ain't about as good as a newspaper. Time to go to bed so, good night.

SHG

Corvallis, Oreg.

How is everybody's health?

I have not been feeling very well lately but I am not very sick.

Donald and I have a little bible study hour every evening.

Molly Pitcher.
(My Poem)

'Twas on a hot and sultry summer day,
In seventeen seventy-eight they say,
That Molly Pitcher immortalized her name
And secured for herself a nich in the Temple of Fame

The fearless troops, of whom her husband was one,
Were dying from thirst and the heat of the sun;
Till brave Molly Pitcher, with compassion filled,
Brought water and their thirst patiently stilled.

She quickened her step, she neared him at last
When suddenly a British bullet whizzed past,
And her husband, before he fell dead,
And his cannon from the field was ordered to be led.

For one dazed moment she looked in his face,
Then quickly she went and took his place
Strong, skillful, and fearless by the weapon she stood
Till the battle of Monmouth was won for good.

Next day, Molly, no longer a furious Amazon,
Was rewarded by General Washington,
The French soldiers with her courage delighted, would fain
Give her some gold and christen her La Capitaine.

Write me a long letter soon. Please.
Write it in English because it takes me so long to read a German letter.

Do you put Ginger in pumpking or squash pies? don't forget to tell me.

Corvallis, Oregon
Feb. 18, 1904.

Dear Folks. – I have received your letters and Ben's picture, the picture is very nice and I am very glad to have it, and your letters are very interesting papa needs have no fears about "my girl," as I am not very deeply in love.

Mrs. Cramer said that she would board mamma for a few days if she wanted to come to Corvallis; I think that she had better come up here so I would hate to miss my classes by going to Independence. Please tell me when to expect her in your next letter so that I can go and meet her at the station. If I do not write again before she comes she might bring me the rest or part of my money so as to save the trouble of mailing it. I do not need any money just yet as I have been earning money right along.

When mamma comes she can sleep in my bed and Donald can sleep with Will Beaty and I can sleep on the floor, see? Will and Mrs. Cramer have plenty of extra bedclothes.

I finished my woodsplitting job; last Saturday I washed the ceiling and walls of the same lady's kitchen and next Saturday I will have a job making flower beds if it does not rain. I have also accepted the *exalted* position of *janitor* of the Baptist Church at the salary of \$2 hr mo. It is not much pay but it helps some; the work is not very hard as the church is small. I do not know whether I have told you or not that I have joined the Young People's Society. I have not joined the church yet and hardly know what to do about it.

Two weeks ago I got the Grippe but they dosed me with quinine, salts and one thing and another so that I was all well again by Sunday noon and did not miss any of my classes. Then after I got well from the grippe one of my teeth began to ache and kept it up pretty steady till today, it made me almost crazy, prevented me from studying and last night I did not go to sleep until 2.30 a.m. I doctored the tooth with carbolic acid, Laudanum, Chloroform, and every imaginable drug but all to no avail. So tonight I went to the dentist and had it jerked out. when he pulled it I thought my whole jaw was coming out but it did not. There is quite a nick in my jaw but my toothache is no more and I feel 50¢ worth better all right.

Mr. Cramer is now working at moving the factory and will go to work in Albany in a few weeks but he will not move his whole family until next summer so that I can board with Cramer's for this whole year anyhow. Mr. Cramer thinks that work will be steady in the factory but I do not think that it is best for you to buy any of their stock.

Did you write to Mrs. Smitheman yet? Did it come to anything? I saw Mrs. Smitheman several times but never had a chance to speak to her; she does not look near as pretty as she used to and does not recognize me.

How is the weather in Montavilla? It is raining almost all the time here. the ground here is not like the ground in Montavilla so there are big lakes of water standing in the streets and sometimes it almost looks like a second flood.

I have written a letter to John Graf but have not yet received an answer.

You can tell John Trout that I will write to him as soon as I get time. I do hate to write letters because I have to write the same thing over and over again. I think I will get me a copying machine so that I can write about 10 or 20 letters all at once; then send one to each of my friends and so save time. (Rubber) Wouldn't it be a good scheme?

I have received my drawing instruments and find them satisfactory. Have already made two drawings.

College seems very interesting this term and I think it will keep right on getting more interesting to me.

Does Ben ever work in my shop? his shop rather.

It is ten o'clock now and I have to write a letter to Jim yet tonight so I guess it's time to chop off here. Each one of you (Papa, mamma, Ben, Herman and, Anna) please write me a **long letter** Soon! Soon! See.

So long,

S.H. Graf
Corvallis
Oregon

Donald and I have awful times every once in a awhile over extra pieces of cake or pie but Mrs. Cramer generally gives them to me.

Bertha would only give me one of her pictures.



Corvallis, Oregon.
April 29, 1904.

Dear Folks. – I was very sorry to hear so much bad news all at once but hope that mamma has by this time gotten rid of her rheumatism and that papa has quit regretting his loss. You talk about moving back on the farm, this may surprise you, but I want to say that nothing would please me better than to work on a farm during my vacations unless I can work where I can learn something, which does not seem probable.

A few days ago I received a letter from Uncle John which was as good as a sermon, I never thought John could write so well. Mother also wrote me a letter in German; she writes such a good hand that it took me about two hours to translate her letter; it however was a long one.

Our professor in Algebra is sick with the rheumatism and did not come to class today so the President asked me to take charge of the class for today but I declined so he had us recite to another Prof. I am sorry that I did not take the class because I am sure I could have done it easily as I have the honor of being at the head of my Algebra class.

A few weeks ago you saw what the OAC boys can do, when they licked those other schools so bad at Columbia U. carrying off the Banner the Silver Cup and about 20 medals, representing about half of the entire number of points. This will not be the last victory either.

Ben asked me about work here. I am glad to say that I can find all the work I want and more too. I will be able to earn enough money to finish this year with and to come home on so you can rejoice that there will be no more drain on your bin of cash from this spout this year at least.

We had a grand Queen Esther Cantata here in the Corvallis Opera House but of course I did not go as it cost 50¢. I almost got to go free, however; it was this way: The President of the college gave to each class a certain number of free tickets to the Cantata which were to be given to those students who were supposed to be the best students of each class. He gave two tickets to the Sub-Freshman Class and our class elected two boys both very good students, I was third but of course was out of it. I don't want to brag but I don't think the election went fair. There is a gang of dandies in the class with whom I am not at all popular. But let that go, it would have made me no better a student nor a worse one.

I wish that mamma would not say a word about Donald to his mother unless she is absolutely sure it is so. When Don was in Portland his mother made him very miserable by telling him that you told her that Don was getting into bad company, now that is hardly so, there is hardly a night Don does not go to bed long before I do, and I don't think that he has been out after 9 once for as long as he has been here. He does not smoke, chew, or drink and does not go in bad company unless you call me such. Mrs. Cramer must have told you that about Don. Sue is the worst gossip I ever saw and I tell you just now that even if Cramers don't move away I will never hang out for another year there unless things change greatly which is highly improbable.

I will tell you a little about her. –

Last week she went to Albany with Mr. Cramer and stayed several days getting Mrs. Happersett who is Mr. Noble's daughter to come and keep house during her absence. Well, Mrs. Happersett was very good to us (better than Mrs. Cramer) and did the work in fine shape, nearly all alone too, as Bertha dear (?) is to young (?) to help cook but must set in the parlor making love to Don who is very glad to sport her. When Mrs. Cramer came home (don't tell about this) the first thing she did was to try to pump me and find out all that happened, I told her the truth about it that Mrs. Happersett was all right. Will Beaty now makes Mrs. Cramer believe that he is deeply in love with Mrs. Happersett and Mrs. Cramer is so jealous that she can't treat Mrs. Happersett decent anymore but is always talking about her and running her character down, by the way Mrs. Happersett did not take any pay for her work either. What kind of an effect would that have on you do you think to hear one church member run her sister down like that. It don't look good to me.

That is not by any means all, we poor fellows have to bear all Mrs. Cramer's family troubles besides our school work and they are not few, she and her old man don't get along at all like they should; sometimes the old man hardly says a word to her for days.

Will nearly got fired a few weeks ago because when he was working in Mrs. Cramer's garden he did not do exactly as the old man desired it. Mrs. Cramer had a little more sense than Mr. Cramer and talked him out of sending Will away on account of such a trifle. It was a close call. Will wanted to fight but Mr. Cramer would not.

I just wish Ben could go to college next year; if he could we would rent a couple of rooms somewhere and would batch that would be much cheaper and besides we would have only our own troubles to bear.

Do you know what is the matter with Jim I have not received a letter from him for about six weeks which is a very unusual thing.

You have no idea how slow the time goes for me, there are now only about 7 more weeks of school, but how I do long for the last day to come.

I have bought me a small color box (25¢) as I am going to learn to paint watercolor pictures in our drawing class. The girls only are supposed to do color work but as I am on very good terms with our dear drawing teacher I think she will let me get in on that. If I don't learn to paint beautiful pictures I will at least learn how to mix certain colors to produce others.

One thing more, I will be glad to come back to our simple fare as I am getting heartily tired of our food here although it is very good (it's too good.) I have learned that the best place is home after all, you must not think that I am getting tired of going to college, far from it. Please write soon. Time to quit nearly 1 a.m. o'clock.

With love your Son

S.H. Graf
Corvallis, Ore.

Corvallis, Oreg.
May 30, 1904

S.E. Graf
Anlauf
Oreg:

Dear Papa. – I have lost your last letter so if you asked any questions I am afraid I will not be able to answer them. Quite a few things have happened since you were here.

I got permission to work on the sticker and have now learned pretty well how to set and run it but I don't know as I could run one satisfactorily right from the start such things of course take practice.

The Advents are having a great Camp meeting here and Mrs. Freeborough is among them. She hunted me up one day last week and visited me; the next day I took her all over college and she was so favorably impressed by the greatness of this magnificent institution that I think Jim will get to go next year. And yesterday afternoon (Sunday) I went to one of the Advents meetings; it was very nice.

Your letter was very short and you did not tell me a thing about the sawmill etc. I suppose that was because you had not gotten acquainted very well yet. In your next letter you must tell me all about it, how you like the work, what you think I will get to do, and everything else (write about ten pages.) (if you want to)

Mr. Cramer bought telephones and wire and batteries, etc. with which to wire up their factory in Albany for a private telephone system, but when he came to the putting up part of it he had to give it up for he could not fathom the mysteries of electricity. He has hired me now to go with him to Albany and put the things in for him (just think of that.)

It will mean not only a few \$\$\$ to me but also a lot of valuable practice. I only hope that I will be able to do it satisfactorily, it is quite a large job there being eight 'phones to be distributed in three different buildings and connected so that any one 'phone can talk to any one of the others.

I wrote to Bethany a few days ago asking Uncle Willie to send me \$5 I think I can get along with that much alright and have some left.

In your next letter you must tell me all about how I am going to get to Anlauf and how I am going to get home from there. As school will be out on the 15th there will be time for only one more letter from you and probably one from me to you stating the date on which you may expect me.

As today is Decoration day we will have quite a march to make, for the O.A.C. battalion marches to the cemetery every D. Day and fire a few volleys, to salute the old veterans I suppose.

Mrs. Cramer told me that she is probably going to Albany next fall to teach school and will then of course not keep boarders. I have not yet found a place (not having tried very hard) but of course if Jim goes to school next year he will room with me or at least board at the same place so I am not going to be in a hurry about finding a place. It will be easy enough to find lots of good places next fall when I come back; that's the way nearly all the students do.

I must close because I know nothing more to say.

Your son,

S.H. Graf
Corvallis, Oreg.

Write immediately because if you don't I will not know what to do about coming to Anlauf.



Corvallis, Oreg.
June 14, '04.

Dear Papa, – Your long looked for letter has at last arrived. I was very sorry to hear so much bad news, and knowing that you must be very down cast and discouraged I thought I would write you a little letter right way to comfort you a little if possible.

I have no bad news at all to tell; everything has went fine. I have passed in everything, being excused from two exam's and getting P+, that is about 100%, in I think three subjects and very good grades in the rest.

The \$5 you sent me were really not needed because I have lately earned quite a bit by various odd jobs.

The job of wiring R.M. Cramer's factory was completed by my intellect and muscle in two days. I had a very fine time in Albany those two days, becoming acquainted with the town and also the surrounding country as I walked home after finishing my work so as to make more out of it. The distance is about 10 miles and was covered by me after a hard day's work in two hours and a half. Oh! but I was tired when I got home at 10.30 that Saturday night.

My work was entirely satisfactory and will be I think the means for a future job from Mr. Cramer. He is going to put in a dynamo next fall and wire the factory for electric lights and as Jim Freeborough is going to college next year I suppose the two of us will get the job if we want it. I forgot to tell you how much pay I got. Well it was \$5.00 but as I stayed at the Hotel, \$2.00 of that went for board, thus leaving \$3.00 clear for two day's of interesting, instructive, hand-blistering work.

I am not going to look for a boarding place until next fall because it seems that board is going to be higher here next year at most places. I think that by waiting until then I will be better able to find a place where the terms are moderate. Mrs. Cramer is not going to move away but as she is going to college herself next year she will not keep any boarders.

I think that when (if I go) I go to Portland I can get my job in the Cracker factory back, but I heard that work in Portland was rather scarce now so I don't know whether the foreman will give me a job but as he likes me pretty well he may. I will get about \$1.00 or \$1.75 per day, more likely the latter.

About our loss you must not worry too much; it will all come out all right I am sure. You have heard the saying, "It is worry that kills a man, not work." So please for your sake and mine do not let it affect you too much. Of course, I know it is hard to lose so much when you have worked hard and long for it but "it is no use to cry over spilled milk."

Praying God to help us out of our trouble I am your son.

With love, S.H. Graf
Where ever you send me.

Montavilla, Oreg.
July 14, 1904.

Dear Papa. – I received your letter yesterday and was very much pleased to hear that you like it up there.

My finger is quite well now and I expect to come up there Saturday, July 16; but something may happen so that I can't come till Monday so don't go to the station after me on Sat as I will be able to find the place alone very well. My finger is nearly healed up but is of course very tender yet and a little sore inside as the bone was injured; besides this a little matter has been forming every day for the last few days but I think it has stopped now.

Mamma sold some of her flowers for \$3.25 but I don't notice that they have been reduced much.

We have not yet sold the cows although we have been trying. mamma asks \$45 for Daisy and \$30 for Dolly. If she can not sell them here she intends to sell (perhaps at reduced rate or on credit) them to Willie.

The house, mamma has not yet succeeded in renting. She told Mr. Yarnell to try to get a renter and now he wants to know whether you would lease the house. Please write soon and let mamma know about that.

I traded my telephones and most of my junk out of my shop to Jim for some wire, a dynamo, and other things which will be useful to me next year.

Uncle Willie saw your stationery on his wagon and left it Bohi & Wetzler's where I got it the other day.

Mr. Schultz kindly soled your shoes for me as I could not have cut out the soles very easily owing to my sore finger.

Jim got hurt again. you know he was working at the Willamette Boiler Works as motor tender and oiler, last Saturday as he was putting some cement on a belt that had become a little loose, a set screw on a collar of a large shaft caught his sleeve and wound it up almost to his shoulder when he succeeded in tearing loose; as it was winding the screw of course hit his arm making a gash about 7 inches long which required 22 stiches to sew it up. It is not a serious wound but will of course lay him up for at least about 3 weeks if he has no trouble with it.

So yesterday we went together to the City park, attracting much attention as we went. Jim with his arm in a sling and I with a sore finger. There have been quite a few changes made in the C.P. since I saw it last.

Your son,

S.H. Graf

Montavilla, Oreg.
July 16, '04.

Dear Father. —

You will be surprised to receive another letter from me so soon but I thought I had been write and let you know that I cannot come even next Monday yet. The doctor took an xray picture of my finger yesterday and found that there was a little sliver of dead bone in there causing all that matter of which I spoke; so today a couple hours after I wrote this she will have to cut my finger open and get that bone out or it will never heal. I can not say when I will be able to work but it will not be before you come up here I am almost sure.

We have a renter for the house on condition that we dig a cess pool. This, mamma has promised them. The lady that was here looking at the house said that they might buy it.

Mamma said that you had better not buy that cow yet as we have as yet found no buyer for Daisy & Dolly. Mamma was at Anderson's yesterday and learned that Mr. Anderson's father had died.

With Love from Sam.

Corvallis, Oreg.
Sept. 27, '04.

Dear Folks. – I suppose you are all furious at me for not writing sooner, and I suppose, furthermore, that Mr. Hartman has told you a thousand times that a boy who does not write sooner than I did is not worth the money it takes to send him to school; he was a school-teacher and no doubt ought to know.

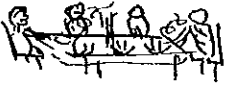
Well, when I arrived here I found Jim waiting for me, with the good news that he had found a fine place for us to board (he did not get my letter) and that he had taken all the entrance exams. We first went to Cramer's and showed Jim the room we were to have and then to the new place, which happened to be at the house of one of the Professors. Jim showed me the room, which upon examination proved to be very elegantly furnished and very small.

I saw that we would be much better off at Cramer's so I persuaded Jim to move, which was very easy to do as he had not taken his trunk from the depot yet. that will do for a starter; now as to the present.

Jim failed in his entrance exam's and had to enter sub. which was a thing he did not at all like. As he was very dejected because he could take no shopwork, I went to the woodwork Prof. and fixed it so he could take woodwork.

I am registered Freshman this year, but am in reality a Sophomore as I take all the soph. work except Mechanical Drawing (for which I have received credit) and Trigonometry which I will take next year instead of Chemistry, which, although it is a Junior study, I am now taking.

My studies are as follows,

8 to 8.45	----- Drill	Expenses	
8.45 – 9.00	(Chapel) No study.	<u>Special</u>	
9.00 – 9.45	(Sophomore) Rhetoric.	Ent. Fee	1.00
9.45 – 10.30	Chemistry (Junior)	Books –	5.25
10.30 – 11.15	Algebra (Freshman)	Board –	22.75
11.15 – 12.00	Elocution (“)	Lab Fee –	3.00
<hr/>		Other things –	<u>5.18</u>
12.00 – 1.30			37.18
<hr/>		Bal.	25.02
1.30 – 2.15	<u>Black</u> smithing (Soph)	Which with what I earn as janitor etc. will last till Xmas.	
2.15 – 3.00	Composition (Fresh)		
3.00 – 4.00	Chemical Laboratory (Junior)		

From this you will see that I am kept pretty busy, and that I have studies from three different years – a pretty mix up, is it not?

News.

Donald and Ed. Aylesworth are not back. George Card is here this year, but Hibbard did not come.

Bertha does not like me very well any-more because I don't help her wash the dishes, but as Mrs. Cramer likes me the better for it, I don't care.

I have subscribed for the Barometer because I want to know what is going on this year.

When signing up for my studies I was surprised at the consideration the teachers showed me. had it not been for this I probably would not have had my work arranged nearly as well. (Honest work is the best way to handle teachers)

Mrs. Cramer is now going to College too; she takes Latin and English Literature, being enrolled as a special student.

Beaty has returned, but dares not visit me because Mr. C. won't allow him to enter the house. (jealousy).

I have sent for a razor etc. as my beard was getting so long that I thought I had better hurry.

There are more freshmen and subs. than there were ever before, making the attendance this year the highest ever.

There are several new teachers here this year. Prof Tailandier, who teaches German and Music; Prof. Tartar, who teaches nearly all the sub. studies; a new Football coach, and a new wood work teacher.

One morning Prof. Tailandier was too late to Chapel to play the piano, therefore he is now known as Tailbender.

Before I left, papa said that if my manners were not improved greatly by next vacation I should not go to school another year, so, as I want to go at least a few years more I told Mrs. Cramer my tale of woe, with the result that she is now teaching me table manners and all other manners of Etiquette, in return for which I teach her German. I guess that's plenty.

I have asked you no questions as that would take space and valuable time, but nevertheless I expect, and very soon too, a detailed account of everybody's doings as they have been done since my departure.

Your boy,

S.H. Graf.
Corvallis
Oreg.

If anyone has been crying because I am gone they can stop it. That's all.

Corvallis, Oregon,
Oct. 29, '04.

Mr. S.E. Graf etc,
Lafayette, Oreg.

Dear Folks: You made me wait a long time for a letter and I have paid you back; but really so very little happened that it was hardly worth while to write. You do not need to expect me to write just to tell you that I am living yet, when something goes wrong I will let you hear about it.



Although we have had thousands of fights with each other Jim is still rooming with me. We have put up an electric bell in our room which they can start ringing from downstairs and we cannot stop ringing without getting up; so there is no "late to breakfast" this year.

We are not in the same room I had last year, but in Beaty's room, and have a small work bench where we can experiment and also a wider shelf for our instruments. The closet in that room we made into a store-room for junk etc. Several times we made so much noise at our experimenting that Mr. Cramer, who is now at home, had to give us the deuce but we are getting a little quieted down now. You people must not think, however, that experimenting is all we do because both of us have a great plenty of studying to do beside our correspondence courses to finish.

Will Beaty was working on the R.R. this summer and wrote to Mrs. Cramer several times, Mr. Cramer not knowing anything about it, I guess. Will left some books here during the summer the same as I did, so one day Mr. Cramer happened to run across them; this put him into a terrible rage and he told Mrs. C. that she should get the things out of the house at once and that Will was never again to darken his door. Mrs. C. took the books to a neighbor and wrote Will a letter telling him all about it. Well, this fall when Will came back to school he went to church just the same as before and treated Mr. Cramer awful good and now all is well again and Will comes to see Mrs C. every little while. He come here to study with her as they are in the same "Literature" class at College (Mrs. C. now goes to College too) Mrs. C. is studying Literature and Latin, also German which I try to teach her from Will's German book, which he used at college to study German.

If you have seen any newspapers lately you will no doubt have read about our great football victories -- four games have we played and four have we won, that is a little different from what it was last year.

I did some work for the Athletic Association on the football field one Saturday forenoon so I got a couple football tickets for pay, one I sold, the other I used for myself. The O.A.C. won with a score of 45 to 0. Three men of the other team were hurt (none seriously) but none of our men.

As you saw in my last letter I am now taking blacksmithing. I think it will be of great use to me if I ever work on a farm again where there is an outfit like at Lownsdale. I can already make staples, barn door hooks  , welds, chain and all sorts of stuff  .

I think I left that little Franklin Dynamo book at home when I left; if you have found it please send it in the next letter, I don't think I will send for the dynamo this term as I have already spent enough (not much) for experimenting this term. I am making a large induction coil 1 ½ inch sport



There was talk of a French class being started under a private instructor and I signed my name, the cost was to be \$5 a term, but it looks as if he did not get enough students interested as I have heard nothing more about it.

There are a number of the Y.M.C.A. boys from the higher classes who teach bible classes meeting once a week, I have joined one of these classes and find the work very interesting. We are studying the Life of Christ. All it costs is for the books, \$1.25 and I think it is worth it. I am janitor of the church again as might have been expected and also, although I am not worthy of it, they have made me chairman of the membership committee of the Young People's union.

I have paid my board until Christmas and think that I will have enough money till then but cannot tell for sure yet.

You folks (especially mamma) must be terribly lonesome without "your boy" but then he is where he will get wise quick. I sent him, upon his request, a couple of my old school books.

George Card is here at college now too, and is boarding at the same place as Will Beaty; at the place where they say the butter is so strong that it walks off the table all by its self.

Mrs. Cramer told me this morning that sometimes she was awful proud of me! It surprised me so that I did not even ask why? [*German phrase*]

Mrs. Cramer can't make decent pumpkin pie and I would be glad if Mamma would send a recipe. Mrs. C puts so much ginger into it that it burns the tongue out of a feller's mouth. About 12 o'clock at night so good night.

S.H. Graf.
Corvallis, Oreg.

Corvallis, Oreg.
Nov. 25, 1904.

Dear Folks, — We are now enjoying the holidays and although my money is all gone I thought I would not work, but draw and do some college work such as writing compositions and doing laboratory work. I will have to make several drawings yet before Christmas in order to get credit for next term's mechanical drawing.

Do not think that this is a hint that I want you to send some money. The cash rec'd was to last until Xmas and with what I earn at the janitor work it will.

Last Saturday, as you probably read in the paper, we had a great football game with the U. of Oregon of Eugene. Our defeat was due to the fact that three of our best players were "laid up" with various injuries received in practice.

I earned my ticket to the game by putting up a line of barbed wire around the top of the fence around the football field (to keep out "muckers"); of course I had some other fellows helping me.

In the forenoon before the game our band dressed up to represent a country band; then they had a parade through the town. You just ought to have seen them when they met downtown; they came in twos and threes from all parts of the town all playing different pieces. One fellow had on a old pair of gymnasium pants that just came within about six inches of his shoe tops, talk about high waters! Another fellow, the chief musician, had on a jacket made from a gunny sack. Nearly all had either their faces painted and decorated with false beards and moustaches or wore masks. It was all done to stir up enthusiasm for the coming game which nevertheless resulted in our first defeat this year. The game was very important as it decided the state championship.

I found the little dynamo book in one of my other books just the other so it was not destroyed after all.

Mrs. Cramer and the other ladies of the church are getting up a church-fair to be held sometime before the Xmas vacation. They will sell all kinds of fancy work such as lace hdkf's, lace collars etc. They are also going to make some college cushions thus four pictures of the different college buildings printed on cloth mounted on orange cloth and trimmed with black silk ribbon; and the college yell ZIP BOOM BEE O.A. O.A. OAC in the middle. These pillow covers are to be sold for \$1.50 we have already quite a number of orders and if mamma wants me to bring her a nice Xmas present she can send \$1.50 and I will get her one. There will be many smaller things also very nice for less money. The ladies expect to make about \$100.00 out of it, which would of course be a great help to the church.



Tell Annie that her letter was very interesting especially the picture of Bertha, which was indeed very lifelike, and that I would like to get a letter from her every time.

And that nixnutsiga Herman might let me know that he is alive yet too if he isn't too lazy.

I suppose Ben is still at the Villa. I am going to write to him just as soon as I get done here. Think his letter will be mostly a copy of this.

I have been thinking that if Ben would go to college next year we could rent a couple of rooms cheap and batch; it would not cost much more than it costs to board me alone; what do you think of it?

As I must write Ben's letter and clean and press my uniform yet this forenoon I will now close. Please answer soon.

Your Boy,

S.H. Graf
Corvallis, Oreg.

1905

Corvallis, Oregon
Jan. 6, 1905.

Dear Folks:

You ask me every time to excuse the shortness of your letter so I guess you will have to excuse me for writing with lead pencil this time, the fact is I am very busy nowa'days.

I got my promotion and am therefore now a corporal. Had to order a new uniform (\$19.50), but it has not yet come; this and the French Class and laboratory fee will make me short on money, about \$30. Being a corporal is not all play it requires a deal of study. In drilling my squad I got a little bumflusticated several times, but am rapidly getting used to the biz.

I understand Ben is now at home, and I hereby dare to propose that he loosen his purse strings a bit and make me a visit. Last year both papa and mamma also Annie came here and this year I guess no one will come unless Ben does.

A few weeks ago we had an oratorical contest here and the man from our literary society won the honor of representing the college in the state contest. Each fellow in the society composed a yell and these were memorized and then used on the night of the contest. The yell I made was hollered more than any other, it was:

Yim, Yam, Yum,
Yim, Yam, Yum!
Withycombe, Withycombe!
Yes! By gum!!!!

It is easy to learn and short and lots of noise can be made with it, so it was most popular.

Withycombe is the name of the orator.

Got P+, (100) in Chemistry test exam. the other day; this gives me a good chance to get out of the final in that subject.

They have been holding union revival meetings here and quite a number of people have been converted.

It has been decided that the OAC regiment goes to the Fair this summer, that is, at the end of the school year. We will stay 10 or 15 days and it will cost us nothing. I do not know any of the details yet; will tell you as soon as I hear further.

It was announced today that a camera club was to be organized here; I do not think I will join however.

Hoping to receive an answer soon or see Ben here. I am you know who.

Corvallis, Oregon,
Jan. 14, 1905.

Dear Folks:

I am now again completely installed for work, and things are running in the same old groove. Am taking a continuation of much the same work as I had last term, with the exception of two new studies Geometry and Higher Algebra, and the discontinuation of one of last terms studies, Rhetoric. This I had to drop on account of having every period of the day occupied.

The Physical Culture class has again begun, but we have hardly settled down to work. The French class is in full swing and is very interesting indeed; when I see a French sentence in some book I can already tell what most of the simpler words mean and thus get most of the meaning.

I did not yet hear anything definite about that corporal exam. and have therefore not yet ordered a uniform. Will not get one unless promoted.

The farmer's short course has now started, which caused Mrs. Cramer to get another boarder. He does not room with me but does his studying mostly in my room because there is no stove in his. Last Sunday I got acquainted with him at church and finding that he wanted a boarding place I took him along. He is O.K.

Another student now has the delightful job of janitor at the church, and I have been promoted to Librarian of the S.S.

Have deposited my dough in the bank as per directions, and find the banking system very good.

There will soon be a new building to be seen on the college grounds, a Y.M.C.A. building. I have enclosed a prospectus of it, so you can see what it will be.

Last night there was held a Boston Baked Bean Banquet in the Armory. About $\frac{3}{4}$ the students were present and there were many speakers from all over this country, that is, prominent Y.M.C.A. workers. \$3000 were pledged by the students alone for our building and we were all asked to write home and ask our parents as to how much they would give. What I pledged I expect to earn by working Saturdays. Some fellows gave as much as \$150-\$100 each.

Here is a chance to show your benevolence. $\frac{1}{4}$ to be paid when the whole am't is pledged, $\frac{1}{4}$ when the building is up, $\frac{1}{4}$ each six months thereafter until paid. SHG.

Please write soon.

Corvallis, Oreg.,
March 5, '05.

Dear Folks:

I received your letter some time ago and meant to answer it last Saturday, but was so tremendously busy that I could not possibly do it. It was after twelve every night last week when I went to bed. You folks think it's a snap to go to school, but I tell you it is a strenuous life indeed.

My new uniform has come and fits me very well but alas, it has left my bank account in a deplorable state; I now have only about \$16 left, and do not see much chance of earning any money here as I work in the Lab. some of the Saturdays, and on the others have so much work that I cannot think of leaving it.

A few days ago one of the students was fired from school for playing billiards. I am glad he is gone. He was a rip.

I now again have a room-mate, and am glad to say that he is better than either Don or Jim; it seems just as if we were made for each other; we get along so well. My room-mate's name is Will Loomis (I forgot).

As you already know we are going to the Fair next June. They now decided to charge each student that goes \$5. There has been much kicking against it, but I don't think it will do much good. Just the same it will be a valuable experience for all who go. I do not know the particulars about this matter yet but will let you know as soon as I find out.

It is now near the end of the second term and the exams are looming up before us again but I do not think that I have anything to fear; I expect to get out of most of my exams.

About your moving of which you speak I can't say that I will be very sorry to say "Goodbye El Ranchito"! as I am not very deeply in love with M.O. or with his place. I would be glad to see you move to the place of which you spoke (near Monmouth.)

It seems to me, however, that this is the right time for Ben to visit me, when he has no work; of course, if he can't afford it he must not come, but I would like to see him up here for a few days.

I opened my Sunday School Library today. Think I will enjoy the work.

It is now nearly 12 o'clock and I am pretty tired (my writing shows it I guess) so I will quit.

Corporal SH Graf
Corvallis, Oreg.

News.

A four mile race was run last Saturday and the man from the Sophomore class made the best time 25.75 minutes, pretty fast, isn't it? No admission was charged.

If the Girl's Basket Ball Team wins one more game with Albany college we will have the state championship.

The college asked for \$65000 from the state, and has secured the appropriation. This means a new Armory, with modern guns etc., and a new Girls dormitory, beside various other improvements.

This College is going to grow very much in the next few years.

Mrs. Cramer is getting so she can make pretty good apple pies now, and she gives me all the credit for it.



Now,

It is much more interesting to be a corporal than a private. Of course a fellow gets the dickens once in a while, but "Shimfa dtut nid weh, Brüglä wert nid lang."

Mr. Darby, whom papa will probable remember, holds the highest military office in the college. He is a Colonel, but is not so stuck up, but that he will talk with a feller.

I am now making tools in the black-shop. (If you would like anything made let me know.)

Corvallis, Oregon,
March 31, 1905.

Ladies, gentlemen & little kids:

I was very happy to receive your long-looked-for letter, not only because of the news it contained but also on account of the dough that so unexpectedly appeared. I was strictly "hard up" and had just made up my mind to write you a letter with all the S's changed into dollar signs, \$am E. Graf. for instance; but thanks to your generosity the disagreeable task was not necessary.

Your advice about visiting Ben I am sorry to say did not reach me until after I had returned. When I was at Ben's the weather persisted in being rainy, so we had lost of time to visit. I was quite well pleased with the place; everything seemed to be going ahead properly under the hand of the young "farmer".

But to return to my school work. I was excused from several exams (all in which it was possible) and am glad to say that I passed in every study. This is something that not a very great number can say. My present room-mate failed in two subjects, and Jim F. failed in Algebra and has gone home. Donald P. got a C. in mechanical drawing [A "C." means a "condition" that is he gets another chance for exam in a month; if he passes then O.k. if not, otherwise, a flunk (failure).].

Have not quite so much work this term as I had last, so perhaps I may be able to practice "Early to bed," for a few times at least. I never practice "Early to rise." It is too cold in the morning to study.

I have again enrolled in the French class as I think the study of this lingo is helping me very much in my "English" work; Don't you think so too? Judging from this letter. I have done something that may seem very extravagant to you, but I am sorry that I did not do it before. I have bought a Webster's Unabridged Dictionary paying \$3.50 for it. a good dictionary is absolutely necessary to a student and I can't see how I got along without one as long as I did.

I had considerable trouble in arranging my studies this term on account of my course being so irregular part Freshman & part soph., but I finally got things to suit. I could not have done it if one of my professors had not been so good to me as he was. He lets me come to Geometry class, which he teaches, in two different periods. Mon. & Tues., & Weds. the second hour in the morning and on Thurs. and Fri. the third hour. This is not often allowed, but you see I've got a "stand in" there.

There is not much news from the military department, only, that it has been decided that the regiment will remain in Portland ten days commencing about the middle of June.

I had just been figuring up how much this year of schooling had cost so far. I found it to be about \$170.00 which I do not think is so bad when you take into consideration – the increased board bill, uniform, laboratory fees, French, etc. It cost just about \$205 last year. And it looks now as though it would be about the same this year.

I am just about running out of material so I guess I will close.

Thanking you again for the money sent just when I needed it so badly I remain,

Respectfully yours

S.H. Graf.

Corvallis, Oreg.

Don't wait a month again before answering, please.

S.H.G.



Corvallis, Oregon,
April 21, 1905.

Dear Folks: Do not be alarmed because I have written before receiving an answer to my last letter; nothing serious has happened. I just thought I had better write now before I forgot everything that has happened lately.

Last night our church had a "supper and social afterwards" and cleared nearly \$50.00. Mrs. Cramer did not cook any supper at home as we went down to the place where the doin's were and had a good supper for once (?) I had about 5 pieces of cake.

A couple of weeks ago I was transferred to the Artillery, so I should now change my stripes for red colored ones, but I don't think they will make me do it just for these two months remaining.

The military department has decided to change uniforms next year. The students will have to get the olive drab "khaki" uniforms now worn by the regulars. They are much more durable than the blue, and do not cost quite so much, only about 16.50 for the uniform, hat, leggings, and tan shoes, this is less than a blue uniform alone costs now. We will look like real soldiers next year not like tin ones.

Two companies will be formed to compete with the state militia and with other schools. All the men in these companies must get new uniforms already this year (in June). There was a measurer here a few days ago from a Frisco firm which is working for the job of making uniforms for the O.A.C. that is the new kind of uniforms. So a lot of the boys, about 150, ordered their uniforms then, and I was one of them.

I think we will get better goods for our money now than we would next year as they are catering for the trade. There is also another reason why I ordered a new uniform. A fellow stands a much better chance of getting into the "crack" companies. One of the officers took down the names of all the men who got new uniforms, and I think the boss had him do this so he could give the fellows who ordered now a chance to get into the crack company.

It would seem as though the fellows, like me, who just got new blue uniforms, are going to get souped; not so, we will be allowed to wear out our blue uniforms next year on the ordinary drill days while on ceremony days we will of course be required to wear the "Khaki"

I have today written a letter to Uncle Willie and one to Ben besides this one so I guess its time to take a rest.

Yours Respectfully,

P.S. How is everything, what are you doing, what are you going to do, are you going to move or stay with Hon. Sr????

S.H. Graf
Corvallis,
Oregon

Answer Soon.

Corvallis, Oregon,
May 20, 1905.

Dear Folks: Your letter of some time ago reached me in usual good health; by it I saw that you had not yet received my last letter, containing news of the new uniforms, etc.

I suppose that by this time you have started spraying and are now busily at work. I have just been a-jumping the last few days too. We had "Inspection" yesterday; there was a U.S. officer here to inspect our regiment, and for his benefit we drilled all day yesterday, part of the time in the rain. Our military instructor is trying to get an appropriation from the government to build a new, and much enlarged armory; besides this he wants to get a rapid fire gun and some pistols for the "Artillery", and some saddles for the "cavalry." While on the subject of military matters I might add that, as I have been transferred from the infantry to the artillery, I will have to change stripes; that is, get red ones instead of the white ones I now have. I have already sent for them and expect that they will cost about \$1.50.

All the particulars about going to the fair have now been arranged. The regiment will leave Corvallis on the 15th of June and will remain in Portland 10 days; we will each have to deposit \$3.10. Our fare to Portland and as far back as to Corvallis on either side will be paid; we will have free admittance to the fair all times we want to go in, also free admission to all athletic contests held there, free board, in fact, all our expenses paid, except that each one will have to buy a cheap mattress to sleep on. I think that as you folks cannot go to the fair I will buy a couple boxes of plates and will take some pictures while there so you can see what things look like.

Will Loomis, my room-mate left school several weeks ago on account of lack of funds. He made so many debts among the students and all over that he was not even able to pay all he owed. I am glad that I never lent him anything.

My Prof. in Algebra got a man to come here and lecture on Life Insurance and as these lectures took the place of our College algebra class I attended them. He explained how insurance companies were run, how the premiums were fixed and all about it, making a series of interesting and instructive lectures.

In my shop work I am now learning to make lathe tools. And, some time ago I started on a ¼ horse power dynamo (don't get scared; it won't cost me anything as the college furnishes all except the wire, and that I already have); I am getting along quite well with it. Tried to make some brass castings in the blacksmith shop but could not get enough heat and so failed; will have to take my patterns (which I made myself) to Albany to get the castings. I meant to borrow a bike and go today but it looked to rainy this morning.

One night, a couple or three weeks ago Victor Widerer, the other Swiss boy that is here, and I were walking along the river front, and as we came to the sawmill and noticed some rowboats there, the notion to take a boat ride struck us so we went and asked the boss for one of the boats; he let us have it, and we went rowing; neither one of us could row, so we had quite a time at first. The current here is quite a bit faster than it is at Portland and at first we could hardly hold our own. After about an hour's sport we returned and offered to pay for the use of

the boat, but the sawmill-man said that was all right and told me that whenever we wanted the boat just come and take it; so whenever we have time evenings after supper we go and row a little. We have gone about 5 or 6 times and are getting to be quite expert oarsmen. It is past, and both of us are alive; we may not go again, so don't worry.

Exams are not far away but I do not fear them; I know I will get out of the geometry exam and also some of the others.

I have to lead the Y. People's meeting tomorrow night, but it does not worry me much.

I have now sent you a lot of news, about all there is. So I will now come to the point of greatest importance. I am out of money, am already owing for a week of board; have just 45¢ left which is borrowed; below is a list of my expenses for the rest of this year as near as I can now figure it out —

Board from May 13 to June 15,	\$15.00
Uniform about	\$16.50
New stripes about	\$1.50
Deposit (for fair)	\$3.10
Laundry about	.75
Misc	<u>5.00</u>
	\$41.85

Of course if it does not take all this I will return the rest. Please send some right away, as I am rather bad off.

This college is improving greatly in nearly every way and I am sure that it will yet be the very best college on the coast. In many ways it is already the best. A large number of students are expected next year and provision for them is already being made, and will be made during this vacation. It is dinner time so I must close.

Yours with Love:

S.H. Graf

a horse, a cow, and a

Corvallis, Oreg.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.

Corvallis, Oreg.,
Sept. 23, 1905.

Dear Folks:

Now that I have gotten settled down and am started in my work, I will take time to write and let you know how things are.

I was able to take everything I wanted; so next year I will be a senior and will be able to graduate, that is of course, if I do not fail in anything.

The following is a list of my classes in their order:—

Military drill & Military Science.
(Chapel exercises).
Analytical Geometry.
Electricity & Magnetism.
Latin.
Descriptive Geometry.
(Noon).
Trigonometry.
Electrical Laboratory work.
Machine Shop work.

If you knew about such things you could readily see that I have a very hard term's work before me; it takes till half past ten or eleven o'clock every night to get my lessons, but I would rather work so much harder this year than go back a fifth year. This is all very nice news, but I know it is not what you are most anxious to know, so I will switch over.

When I got off the train it was about dinner time, and I thought the first thing to do would be to "bum" my dinner; so I went to Cramer's where I expected to find something to eat. I found everything there about as I left it, only they had painted and fixed up generally the two rooms upstairs.

After dinner Mrs. Cramer and I started to talk about boarding places and the result of it was that I moved into my (new) old room again, the rates being the same as last year, \$3.25 per week. You will no doubt be somewhat surprised at this, but when I took everything into consideration it seemed best so; thus far I have not been sorry.

Of course, "Vic" is rooming with me, and great times we have. In the little room two fellows – O.P. Wigle, a soph. and Don Morgan, a freshie from Portland, are rooming. They are good fellows and our gang gets along fine.

Last night the Christian Association's (Y.M.C.A. & Y.W.C.A.) gave a great reception to new students, in the Armory. We all went and had a fine time, getting acquainted with many newcomers.

There are not quite as many here as they expected but that will not hinder the work of those that are. I do not think Alex S. came and neither did Jim return.

About the matter of expenses, it is just positively awful; I had to pay \$1.50 for shop work, about \$8.00 for books and so much for other things that I have only about \$35.00 left, my board however is paid for about three weeks yet, so I may possibly have enough to last me till Xmas.

I bought me a Hart, Shapur, and Marx suit and am much pleased with the fit and style.

No much has been done in the military dep't. yet, so I cannot tell wether or not I am to be an officer this year.

Tomorrow night (Sunday) will be the election of officers in our Young People's Union and all indications seem to say that I am to be President; although I do not at all wish the job I will do the best I can if the honor is accorded me. The church is still in its dead condition, but we hope to get a new minister this year who will have activity enough to get in and dig.

It is nearly supper-time so I must close. With love to all: Sam.

I deposited my "dough" in the bank as before, getting it as I need it, by checks payable to "Self".

N.B. You will notice that I am taking Latin. It is not in my course, but as every student should know something about Latin I decided to take it.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.

Nov. 12, 1905.

Dear Folks:

I wa\$ very glad to receive your long deferred letter but the quality of news it contained made up for the long wait. I was glad to hear that at last we were away from the dirt, and so forth, at "red mountain."

I suppose Annie and Herman are both trotting to the old school every morning nowadays; what sort of a teacher have you there now?

The way papa ended up the last letter almost convinces me that you folks are nearly out of paper. He said, "Hello! three pages!! I must close!!!" If you need any paper just send the postage and I will send you some of M.O's. so that you can afford to write ma little longer letters. Ha! Ha!

I am working pretty hard now; one of my studies, "Analytic Geometry" is pretty tough. The prof. gave us 50 of the hardest problems in the book to write out neatly in a note book. All those that work 90% of them will be excused from exam. They are corksers but I am going to work them. (Have 10 already).

I am now at last working at my favorite business, that is, experimenting in the electrical lab. It is very interesting and I have learned a lot of new things. Am going to try some experiments on wireless telegraphy pretty soon.

I have bought me a \$lide Rule; although quite expensive, it is a very useful and necessary piece of apparatus. It is used for multiplying, dividing, and a great many other mathematical operations that I fancy you folks never heard of. By means of it, it is possible to multiply or divide, etc. large numbers without any mental effort whatever; it is not necessary to put down a single figure. I consider it quite a wonderful thing, and will bring it home and show it to you if I come home on Xmas.

Yesterday, as you perhaps will have read when this reaches you, the O.A.C. Football team got skunked by Eugene i.e. by the University of Oregon. All the fellows that board here except I went to Eugene to see the game; one of them is sick now and both the others aint glad they went. I heard that Don Paul lost \$20 on the game. This will no doubt shock you but there are a good many other fools here in C. that lost more than that.

That thief catching adventure I told Ben about did not amount to anything in the building. He probably escaped through one of the doors (as they will open from inside) while we were reporting the matter.

There were two visiting ministers here last Sunday, Mr. Riley and Mr. Dan's. Riley preached in the A.M. and Dan's in the evening. They stayed at Cramer's, and Mr. Dan's thought my young peoples' society was just fine; he complimented us in great shape.

The church is pretty badly off just now. You know they fired Noble but owe him several hundred \$ yet and can not get another man till that is paid.

I \$uppose you have noticed the dollar signs \$\$ along the way and have guessed what they mean. They don't mean that I am plumb busted for I have about \$8 yet, but if you could, I wish you would send me some money soon so that I won't have to draw all I have out now. It is now supper time and nearly time for Young peoples' so I must close.

With love to all

S.H. Graf.

See Box 170

Alect S. wants Ben to write. And I want Uncle Willey & John to write to me. Tell them.

Nov. 26, 1905.

Dear Folks:

I was glad to receive a letter so soon, but was sorry to hear that some of you have been sick. It seems like everyone, except I has, a cold or something else the matter here too. I thank you especially for the money sent, as I was needing it pretty badly.

Ben asked about Al's address; it is: Cauthorn Hall, Corvallis. I do not know how Alex. is getting along as I am not in any of his classes or course, and do not very often see him. You ask me about my bumbershoot; I have bought me a good one of the self opening kind, all you have to do is press the button. (\$1.50)

Not very much has happened since the last time I wrote, hence if this is rather dry you must excuse me.

The Oregon Good Roads Convention met here during Thursday & Friday last. I, as also many other students, attended the lectures, and learned much about road building, etc.

Last Wednesday afternoon while I was working in the Physical lab. I and another junior decided to make some experiments on Wireless Telegraphy. As nearly all the apparatus necessary is to be formed in the lab. it did not take long till we had set up a transmitting station and receiving station about 20 ft. apart. There were many seniors in the room, and they laughed at us and made fun saying that it would not work; and sure enough when we tried it, it did not work.

The other fellow had made a vital part of the apparatus himself and so I inspected that finding it in such a condition that it could not have worked. After fixing that, lo! and behold! it transmitted messages as slick as you please. Imagine the wonder of the wise seniors! Each one of them wanted to hear; so I let each one in turns take the receiver and listen. One of the smartest and most skeptical said, "That's plain enough for any body."

Oh! yes and what I almost forgot. The juniors and seniors have formed an engineering society which is expected to be a great benefit to us all. I was elected as one of the board of directors.

O.A.C. skunked Willamette University at football yesterday. 29-0

Expecting a letter soon I will close with love to all. S.H. Graf. Corvallis, Or. Box 170

We had an electricity quizz the other day and I made the highest grade in the class.

1906

1/14 '06.

Dear Ben:

You will find all the news in the other latter. I just wanted to ask how you are making it in algebra. I guess it must be easy sailing for you as I have received no tales of woe and question yet.

Keep me posted as to your progress and I will send you a little list of test problems once in a while. They are to be worked out in neat and complete form; you stating and working out every step.

Tell the folks to write soon I did not have room on the other paper.

İ. A DEE GRÜSA.

S.H.G

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.

Jan. 15, 1906.

Dear Folks: As I am again settled down to the old business I will take the time to tell you what has happened since I came back. I would have written last Sunday but thought it was a little too soon.

I did not reach Corvallis until about two hours after the usual time as there was a washout on the R.R. near McMinnville and we had to transfer to another train. It did not matter much for dinner was waiting for me when I got here. After dinner I went over to the college and got my card out and started to see about arranging my studies for this term. I went to see one of the professors about taking an exam. in that stuff that I studied while at home, but he said that I would have time to take it all right so I did not take the exam after all.

The next day I went around to the different teachers and "signed up" as is usual at the beginning of a term.

The following is a list of my studies,

Physics	Physical Laboratory
Calculus	Electrical Laboratory
Descriptive Geometry	Rhetoric (English)
Electricity & Magnetism	Military Science
Machine Shop work.	Military Drill.

It looks long but it is not so hard as last term's work so I am getting a little more sleep than before. The only subject that is entirely new to me is "Calculus" which is considered the highest branch of mathematics. So far it was not at all difficult.

My room-mate Vic. has quite college because his uncle who has been sending him money refused to do so any longer, saying that Victor was trying to run him into the hole and so on. It made Vic. awfully mad and he wrote his relatives in Eastern Oregon some hot letters telling them that the home circle would not be favored with his presence again for a few years at least and it looks as though he meant it; he is still boarding here and working in a saw mill down town. He is going to earn enough money to take him through college the two remaining terms next year and then the year after that.

The Engineering Society we recently organized had its first program last Friday evening and it surely was instructive and interesting. One of the Profs. gave an address and three of the boys gave lectures on interesting subjects.

The "Nachrichten" have come now twice and I am a diligent reader of news. I thank you very much for having them send me the paper. I think it will do me much good.

We had S. School. election last Sunday and I was re-elected librarian. Of course, I appreciate the honor (?) greatly but would rather not have it.

Our B.Y.P.U. is getting along fairly well again although our Vice Pres. has not come back yet and may never. He has the inflammatory rheumatism.

Martin has quit school (he may come back I don't know) because his brother was killed on the R.R. near Mc.Minn. not long ago. Martin's brother and three other men were on a hand car and a special freight ran into them.

I think I will close now as I have some more letters to write.

With Love. S.H. Graf, Box 170, Corvallis, Oreg.

I helped Mrs. Cramer make doughnuts yesterday and ate so many that I nearly was sick.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.

Feb. 5, 1906.



Dear Folks: Your welcome letter of Feb. 28 (that's what it was dated) received and contents noted. I suppose by this time Annie is all well again and is going to school learning fast.

I am getting along very nicely this term; as I have not gotten fully into the things that I studied in the Correspondence S. I am having quite an easy time and am getting much more time to do a little extra reading, that is of course, along engineering lines.

There is a book on Dynamo Design that I am exceedingly anxious to have as it is a very useful book. It is not a text-book required here in school but I could get very much good from it if I had it, and as it is not a regular text book I thought I would ask permission to buy it (send for it) its cost is \$3.00 and it contains over 700 pages.

You know when I was home on Christmas I was quite interested in the Slide Rule. Well I have invented a new "stunt" to be done on it. The "stunt" is to find how many feet there are in a pound of any size of copper wire. This is something very useful and reliable to know; my system is simple, and Roy Selleck, one of the smartest men in our class, said I should send it to some engineering paper for publication. I thin I shall do it. It will of course not bring any money but it will be quite an honor to me if it is published.

Will Beaty, who is now at the General Electric Co. Schenectady, New York, wrote me a long letter a few days ago, and told me about his work there. It is a kind of a school-shop where you learn the practical part of the business. He gets 1.50 per day more and a raise later on. The course is 3 years long, but when a fellow gets through he can get a job worth \$5 per day, and no joke for the company itself will pay it if you want to stay. You may hear more about this.

I have made a little advance in the military department. I had for some time been tired of being a corporal so I resigned. But the next day the Captain came around and asked me if I would accept the position of Company Quartermaster Sergeant. I told him "yes" of course. I now wear  on my arms .

Our first Sergeant has been promoted and some of my friends are trying to get me the job. This would be indeed a jump but I ma afraid that being as I was but recently promoted I will not get it. I must close now.

S.H. Graf, Box 170, Corvallis, Oregon.

(There are yet some things I want to tell you and I am about out of the other paper so I will use this.)

I have made a new friend, Roy Selleck whom I mentioned in the other part of the letter. He is one of my classmates, and is really a "wise guinea," and about his character you need have no misgivings, he is O.K. Last year and year before last I always looked on him with disfavor because he seemed so kind of distant and unapproachable, but last term we worked together on Analytics (which is a "stunner") several times and I got to like him very much. He seems all together different now that I know him.

Roy is also making a dynamo (I started him) some bigger than mine which will soon be done and ready to test. He wants to buy mine when I get it done and use it as a motor at home, where he intends to run his dynamo by water power and light the house.

If he buys mine I am going to use the money in making a bigger one (about 10 lights) which will be a really useful machine and will be worth \$50 or \$60 when finished. It won't cost that much to build it of course.

Selleck and I also work together in the electrical laboratory and we have lately been experimenting on Wireless T. We are going to make two portable stations and try it for longer distances on the college campus, say for a mile or so.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.

April 9, 1906

Dear Folks:

I did not get a letter from you for so long that I began to get uneasy, but since a letter has at last come to hand I will answer it at once. This letter will not be very long because it is now quite late and there is but little news which would be of interest to you. The main reason that I write now is that I need money just as soon as possible. I am already four days behind in my board bill and have only 50¢ in cash and \$1.29 in the bank.

I said before that \$80 would be enough to finish up but I hardly think it will now because it cost me quite a bit more for books, fees, etc this term than I had expected.

I have gotten well started in this term's work and can say that it is the most interesting and most practical so far.

I passed easily in everything last term as I expected. I made a (P+) in Physics and one in Descriptive Geometry. I made good grades in my other studies too but did not make perfect in any others. Many fellows here laugh at the idea of working for a P+, they say they are very well satisfied to get a bare P.

The following is a list of my classes this term.

8.00 – 8.50	Calculus
8.50 – 9.40	Electricity
9.40 – 10.30	Mechanism (Machine Design)
10.30 – 11.20	Politics (History of America)
11.20 – 11.30	Chapel Exercises
11.30 – 12.20	Drill
(12.20 – 1.30	Dinner)
1.30 – 2.20	Steam Engines & Boilers
2.20 – 3.10	Machine Shop
3.10 – 4.00	Physical Laboratory work
	Qualitative Analysis
4.00 – 4.50	Military Science

On May 4, I am going to give a lecture on "Wireless Telegraphy" before the O.A.C. Engineers Association of which I am now the Assistant Engineer or Vice President. It is going to be a fine lecture, with all the points illustrated by actual experiments, and I take pleasure in presenting to you all an invitation to be present at the GREAT event.

I worked last Saturday for five hours in the Armory and cleaned out about 75 rifles. We are soon going to have new rifles, the regular Krag which they use now in the Army. Please send check or money order as soon as possible and oblige

your boy

S.H. Graf
Box 170

Extra Edition

You will notice in my list of studies on page 3 of the other edition the subject "Qualitative Analysis". This is not a regular study in the Electrical Course, I am just taking it extra. It takes up the chemical analysis of mixtures of different substances. Qualitative analysis is very useful because a knowledge of it enables one to analyze water to see if it is fit to use for boiler water, etc. I thought it would be well worth while taking it.

"Politics" looks fierce on there but it is quite interesting; the President himself teaches it, and many funny things happen in the class. There are 70 students in it.

I have sent for a book on Wireless Telegraphy and am doing some experimenting along that line in preparation for my lecture.

I have now made up all my back work except one minor subject which I may get rid of by taking an exam in. It is sure then that I can graduate next year if I do not fail in anything. I will have done five years' work in four.

S.H.G.

(I am the youngest boy in my class. I don't know about the ages of any Junior girls.)

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.

Corvallis Oregon
May 7, 1906.

Dear Folks: I received your letter some time ago and with it the money. I got the check cashed all right in spite of the fact that papa forgot to write Forty-----oo/100 on it. Not much out of the ordinary has been happening lately so my letter is rather late.

I have been getting along very nicely in my studies so far this term making grade of 85 92 98 100 100 100 right along.

We have had four tests in Electricity so far and the following are my grades 100, 100, 100, 92, I am working for a P+. In "Steam Engines and Boilers." I am also making quite a reputation. One fellow wanted me to "tutor" him in that subject but I do not know whether or not he is going to come around.

I have completed the Wireless Telegraph outfit at which I was working. Have made quite a number of experiments with it in preparation for a lecture which I am to give before the Engineering Society on June 1st.

Owing to lack of funds my outfit is necessarily of but small power. When worked to its full capacity it will send messages over land for a distance of about $\frac{1}{4}$ miles or about $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi over water.

I am now working on a large induction coil belonging to the college. It got out of order and the Seniors took it all apart and tried to fix it but could not make it stick. The other night I and Mr. Selleck were in the Lab. all alone and I said "lets take out the coil and see what it will do" he said "all right" so we took it out and I connected it up a certain way (as I had told the Seniors to do it but they being wiser (?) thought not) and then lo! and behold! it made sparks 3 inches long with only a few dry batteries connected to it. Of course the thing was all taken apart, so I did not tell anybody about what I had done but went to the Prof. and told him I thought I could fix the coil. He was quite pleased and gave me the job. No money in it but fine experience. I will get credit on lab. work for the time though.

On May 19 every year the Seniors have an excursion from here to Newport which is on the Ocean. I have never gone on it yet and as you know I have never seen the ocean so I am going to take a day off and go this time. I have been digging pretty hard all this year so I think that I will take my vacation on that day.

That vacation proposition reminds me, what am I going to do next summer? Am I going to take up that agency business? If I am you had better send me the catalogue and that little book of instructions at once, so I can get at it and get some "speels" ready.

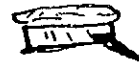
Vic Weiderer has long ago quit the business in fact he never sent for any goods. He is no agent. He was working for the new water company here but got sick while up in the mountains digging ditch and came home. When he got well he went to Portland to work, but I hear he again got sick and has now gone home, not to his uncle with whom he had a row but back to his real home.

Donald Paul went to Portland sick a week or so ago and has not yet returned.

Mr. Noble has found a new place to preach and so we are at last free from him. He is now somewhere in Washington. I was quite sorry for him but did not have much sympathy for him because he was very abusive to Mrs. Cramer and others here, and all because of his English bulldoggishness as far as I could see.

As you will note from this very beautiful writing I am using a fine pen; it is a Waterman's Ideal fountain pen which I found a couple of weeks ago in one of the college buildings. I have not yet found an owner so I guess it is mine. Just like picking up \$3.00.

You will see from the enclosed picture that we are quite well fixed for the hot weather. We are allowed to wear the rig to classes and all the time except on Fridays when we must appear in full uniform. The shirt is a blue flannel and the officers have their doodads right on their shirt sleeves, as you will see. Instead of the hat we must wear a cap to drill like this only some higher (not quite)



The paper upon which the picture is printed is some I sensitized myself with some gooey I made pretty neat isn't it?

I have bought me a light pair of pants and a pair of tan shoes to wear on dress occasions. I considered it quite necessary.

Does Ben find any time for his Algebra these days? I hear the call to Supper so I must close.

With Love,

S.H. Graf
Box 170

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.

May 30, 1906

Dear Folks:

Received your letter some days ago and was glad to have my summer's occupation problem solved for me.

As near as I can tell now it will be June 14 or 15 when I can come home. Mrs. Cramer asked me the other day why I did not have Ben come up here for Commencement (graduating exercises) this year. He has never been here and I think it would be a nice excursion for him if you could spare him. I would be very glad to have him come; it would not cost so much but what I think could be spared. He would have to come on June 12 and then go home with me on the 14th for I think most likely this is the day that I will come home.

Today is Decoration Day and we will have a long march to make today to Crystal Lake Cemetery. We that is the whole regiment will fire a salute that will make echos ring. It will be a pleasant march today because the roads are not dusty and the sky is lightly clouded.

I have not yet touched upon the main purpose of this letter and as I must soon go over to school to work in the Lab. I will come to the point at once. Yesterday the Commandant Major Edwards hunted me up while I was at school and told me that four of the highest and best officers have recommended me for the position of major next year and that I would have my choice between a captaincy and the position of major which is the next highest position above captain and is the third highest office in the military dep't here. I told him that I would think it over and yesterday afternoon I told him that I would accept the majorship. He said "that suits me fine" and I tell you it surely does me too. It is so far above what I dared hope for that I don't know what to do with myself.

I will not wear the blank shoulder straps of a second lieutenant, or the single bar of the first lieutenant, or even the two silver bars of the captain but the golden oak leaves of the Major!



Every commissioned officer must of course have a sword or rather a saber and this is why I write. One of the present officers, Bradley, my noble Captain wishes to sell me his sword; it is nearly as good as new and will do very well. A new saber costs about \$14 or \$15 but I think I can get B's for about \$10 which will be quite a saving. I have also had to spend more money than I expected to for various things of which I can of course give satisfactory account and have therefore not quite enough money to settle up; must therefore ask for \$20 more as soon as possible. I do not think it will take all of this but pretty close to it anyway.

Now I will tell you some of the news. Donald Paul has quit school. The mortgage on their house in Montavilla came due and there was not that with which to pay so they lost it and as

the rent is what Don mainly depended on he had to quit. He was getting pretty punk in his classes anyway.

One of the Captains, Dave Little stole a platinum dish from the mining lab. and got expelled from school. This was really too bad because he would have finished this year. Another fellow who has been here three years also got fired for stealing a short time ago.

We have been having services in our church lately. Mr. McAllister a student from McMinnville came and preached for us several times. Mr. Noble has found a new place somewhere in Washington.

I must close now as it is time for me to go to the Lab. I am getting so I can analyze an unknown mixture of chemicals pretty well. I am going to analyze our water here pretty soon and see what I have been drinking for these three years.

Please write just as soon as convenient and let Ben come.

Your Boy: S.H. Graf, Box 170.

Silver Lake, Oregon
Aug. 25, 1906.

Mr. B.D. Graf, etc.
Portland, Oreg.

Dear Ones: The horses are all well and hope you are the same; they ought to be satisfied for they are living on rolled barley @ 3¢ per lb. and alfalfa hay @ 1¢ per lb which is quite terrific. We are letting them rest this (Sunday) forenoon in a feed barn at Silver Lake; this afternoon we will proceed on our journey to our ranch which we will reach by tomorrow noon.

Although some of the country we came through was a pretty dreary lay out the trip on the whole was quite pleasant. In the Cascade mts. and in some other parts the scenery was very beautiful in spite of the smoke from forest fires.

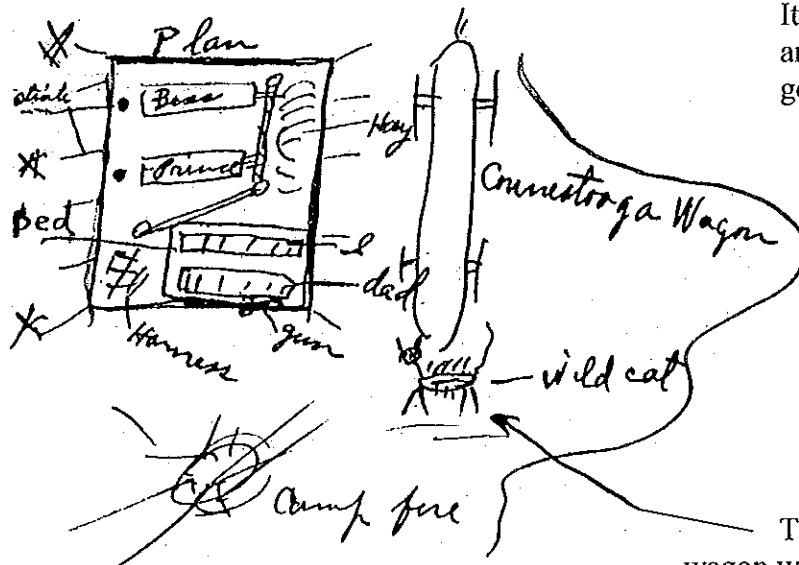
Contrary to expectations game was very scarce along the road; have fired the rifle but twice and that was at a wild pigeon which I missed.

In the mountains game must be plentiful at some distance from the road, for we saw several camps where they had deer and bears hanging up. Have not seen the least sign of rattlesnakes yet, which is O.K.

In our travels we have run across all kinds of people some are obliging and some are not. In the Valley one man even gave us feed for the horses free. We have had to pay all the way from 15¢ to 75¢ for hay overnight.

A couple days ago while on our way from Bend to here we run across a regular Smith Brothers and no mistake.

From the place where we camped at noon on that day it was 17 miles to water where we had to camp that night. When we reached the place it was nearly dark and as we had our own feed dad asked the man for water for the horses, and the fellow said "10¢ a head", what could we do? it was 14 miles to the next ranch and the horses were tired and it was dark. So dad said "O.k." and asked the man what he would charge us to stand our horses in his barn; he said, "\$1 a span", at that dad told him we had our own feed and just wanted to use his barn (it was very cold) and the S.B. said – "Well if you've got your own feed I've got no room for you." So we watered our horses and drove on a ways into the pine timber and raised our tent for the first time; it was quite a job in the darkness, but by tying the ropes on one side to the wagon and on the other to sage brush and trees we finally managed it. We then built a big camp fire, dad got out our stove, etc and went to work cooking supper while I housed the horses in the tent and made our bed.



It was a rather uncomfortable night and did not smell "rom besta" but we got through with it.

This really was. It jumped on the wagon while I was driving along to the camp ground dad had selected, and the beast prowled around the tent for some time; we could however not get sight of it so as to shoot it. I must quit relating adventure or I will use up all my ink and paper which must not be for I have yet a number of other letters to write.

The country around here looks very pretty and I do not doubt but that the land is O.k. around Xmas Lake. The crops around Silver Lake are good this year they say, and the hay stacks and herds of sleek cattle to be seen bear out the statement.

Must close. With infinite love to all I remain yourn

S.H. Graf
Lake, Lake Co. Oregon

N.B. Write right away or we may be gone before your letter gets here.

Did the stuff from McGilley & Co come? If it did send to Corvallis Address S.H. Graf c/o J.A. Cramer Corvallis, Oreg.

Also send magazines that came. Letters forward to Lake, Lake Co. Oreg.

(Oh! Such Dad Burned Paper)

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.

Sept. 26, 1906.

Dear Folks:

Am now all settled in my old nest again, and as I have a little time to spare (out of my sleep) tonight I shall try to do my duty by you and write you a little letter to let you know how I am getting along this year.

In the first place I could not arrange my classes just like I wanted to: there were not enough who wanted to take French so I am taking advanced German. They will not make a class for less than six. Also I could not take Mineralogy because it came at the same time as the German. Below is a schedule of my studies.

		(days)
8.00 – 8.50	Military Drill	All
8.50 – 9.00	Chapel Exercises	All
9.00 – 9.50	Electricity (Advanced)	Mon. Wed. Friday
9.50 – 10.40	Political Economy	All
10.40 – 11.30	Mechanics	All
11.30 – 12.20	Mechanical Drawing*	All
Eat.		
1.30 – 2.20		
2.20 – 3.10	<u>German (Advanced)</u>	All

Saturdays 8.00 – 12.00 Electrical Laboratory.
(Also Military Science once a week)

*The Advanced Drawing is not in my course; I am just taking it extra because I want to get on to it as good as possible.

The German has been easy so far, – being simply reading and translating into English. I can do it as well as any in the class without studying my (I study though) lesson; but it will come harder soon when we start on the Grammar.

Military drill is very interesting to me this year as I do not have to do anything but march around (looking wise) and give orders to my Captains when I see something out of whack in their companies. I am going to have a gold Battalion by the end of the year because I as lucky to get good captains.

As I said, I am taking the second year German; the Prof. gave me credit for one year's work on account of my native ability.

There are about 600 students enrolled now. D. Paul is not back. Two brothers of Will Beaty started in this year; they are both very nice fellows.

You will see from my list of studies that I get out fairly early now on afternoons. About a week ago one of the Professor's stopped me and said: "Do you ever do any work"? I told him, "Oh! Yes, occasionally I have been known to do such things." He then said: "Well, I mean, do you want a job?" I said then: "Well, it depends altogether on the job." So he told me that Ed. Wilson one of the lawyers down town had a job of Mech. drawing he wanted done and if I wanted it O.k. So, of course last Saturday I went to see the man and I now put in all my spare time in the Benton Co. Court House at professional work, which requires great skill. No joke. I do not know yet how long the job will last or exactly how much I will get, but it is very interesting (practical) and instructive work. What he has laid out now for me to draw will take me at least a month. I can put in only about 12 hours per week as the Court House offices all close at 5 P.M. but as the pay for such work is good I can make quite a bit.

That reminds me of money. The starting in expenses were quite heavy more so than I expected even. \$4.00 - \$2.50 - \$2.00 etc. for one book count up. I have paid my board up to the last week of Oct. and as I have coming (ordered) about \$8.00 worth of textbooks yet I will soon be out of funds. So if you could spare some \$ it would come in handy to me in the near future as I must have an overcoat and umbrella; when those are paid for the money will not go so fast any more.

I have not developed the pictures I took yet, but will have one of each finished so as to send with the next letter.

How did papa get home? Did he have any misfortunes? Tell me all about it. If he brought any old shoes home they would be good for Herman yet. Josse's were very kind to me. They let me take a bath at their house but did not take my trunk to the depot for me. Little Louis is no good though I can tell you. He hangs around the Billiard Halls till midnight about every night, and associates with a tough class.

I have rec'd all the mail matter (forwarded) that I expected. There may be some more magazines come; if there are Ben can send them as it costs only 1 ct.

Our church is flourishing; have now a missionary pastor, will soon have a regular man.

Must close 12.10 A.M.

With love to all I remain

S.H. Graf

Box 372, Corvallis, Oreg.

(As you will notice I started this letter last Sunday Oct 22. Eyes hurt had to stop.)

**Oregon Agricultural College,
Corvallis, Oregon.**

October 26, 1906.

Dear Folks:

I do not think I owe you any apology for not writing sooner because you waited long enough with your letter, I had had to borrow money already. The grapes you sent came to hand O.K. and tasted very good, but I would suggest that the next time you pick grapes to send away pick them when they are dry and don't pack them so tight and so many in one compartment, use smaller boxes. Many of them were bruised and did not keep very well. I picked those out at first and I had some of the others left yet just a few days ago.

I have been halfway sick for about a week now and have a D—I of a headache now. I hope I will not get sick but I have been afraid I would. It started in by my eyes giving out; I could not study near as much as I should have for some days but now my eyes are O.K. again and I have a headache nearly all the time instead. another thing, I am nearly always cold even when other people are fairly melting.

Ben asked me how I was getting along with my Battalion, well I tell you I am getting along fine. I was able to get the four Captains I wanted and although we make mistakes once in a while we get along first class. I just wish you could see me drill those 4 noble companies about next April or May when we get all the kinks out of the Rooks. Even now our outfit looks pretty good and the Freshmen are really quite intelligent considering who they are and the chance they had and where they came from and everything else. The boys nearly all say that I have the best Battalion and that I give my commands better than the other Major.

Of course you will say _____

But I will say in reply: _____

That reminds me of our German class. I am taking the advanced or second year German as I believe I told you before and it is indeed very much fun besides being of considerable benefit to me. I have again learned to write German as you noticed. I wrote that without looking at the alphabet but of course you will say that it's a pretty poor article for German writing. The only thing I can say as an excuse is that it's at least as good as my English writing and that is pretty good for a Senior in college as anybody that knows will tell you. I will tell you a remedy, let me get a typewriter and I will print your letters. But without joking I am going to have a typewriter one of these days. I forgot to tell you before, I had a private class in German for a couple of weeks a while ago. There were five in the class and I charged them 10¢ a piece a time, that made 50¢ an hour while it lasted but the Prof. had to get a new book, a grammar, and as I did not know as much about that as my class I gave it up. I made several dollars that way.

You know that mechanical drawing job I started to tell you about, well I am still working at that (of course I did not go some days when I felt worst) and am getting 30¢ an hour at it.

It is for the Willamette Abstract Co. and is very nice and instructive work.

You said in your letter that the money you sent should last till Christmas. For a while I had hopes it would but now as I don't seem to be able to do more than I just have to I don't see how it can.

I have bought me a good overcoat and a fairly good suit. As you know I needed a coat anyhow and I noticed that the pants for the suit I had were beginning to look pretty poor so I thought it would be better to buy me a suit for Sundays, etc. and use my other one for other days when I don't wear any uniform. Of course I know you will kick (you always do) but I have made a reputation for my self here that many envy and I am not going to go around looking like a beggar even if I am not a millionaire. Most fellows wonder how I get through with as little as I do. As you know I got board 25¢ per week cheaper than anybody else could have gotten it here, and there are mighty few places that are cheaper nowadays. The hall charges \$3 per week and all the boys kick about the grub.

The Engineering Society in which I take very great interest is progressing very satisfactorily considering who the Chief Engineer is at present. We got lots of new members and have lots of money in the treasury with which we are going to get a number of Engineering magazines when our subscriptions run out. I am not going to subscribe for any magazines this year because I hardly ever have time to read them anyhow now. (All new members must pay 50¢ to get in. Old members no pay.)

The Professor in Electricity told me a short time ago that if I had graduated last year he could have gotten me a good job at wireless work and other similar work repairing delicate instruments such as meters etc. He also says that he will try and get me a job as assistant instructor in Physical Laboratory work next spring. That would be fine practice at teaching and would also bring enough perhaps to pay my board.

Selleck and I have already started in on our Thesis work; we sent away 18 letters one day to different companies asking them to send us samples of insulating materials to test. Most of the companies have answered already and all are glad to send samples. Many very liberal samples of different junk have already arrived. yesterday one sample (worth at least 50¢) came by express prepaid. Most of the companies request us to send our results of tests which we will of course do.

(Tell mother to write me a letter in German and that I will answer her.) Willie and John might also write. They will have to write first as I can not do more than is just necessary or my eyes will be on the bum again.

Hoping that this l—o—n—g letter will make up for past sins I will close. S.H. Graf, Box 241, Corvallis Oreg.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.

Nov. 8, 1906

Dear Folks: Am glad to say that I had entirely recovered my health before your letter came and in fact before the Edelweis arrived. I feel as well as I ever did, and have not used any of the tea which you so kindly sent.

I think that the less medicine one can get along with the better it is; and this is the doctrine I practice. But I am going to quit the doctor talk right now. The last three letters I got were full of it to the exclusion of all news, and I would appreciate a letter from Ben once in a while because he would write something besides rules of health and morality. I do by this however not deny that I need this good advice but college students get so much good advice that if they were to follow it all they would never get any time to eat and sleep. Every high muck-a-muck that visits the college must make a speech in Chapel and must have some piece of good advice. Every letter from home contains a good bit of it, and every professor thinks it his duty to be liberal with directions for proper conduct, until the poor student gets so that he listens politely to all and then goes and does as he pleases.

I do not have to pay any thing to get the milk checks cashed. If you have a wad of them you wish to get cashed please remit at once. But really without joking about \$15 or \$20 would come in awfully handy just now. My job at the Court House is I think about done now and unless I can get another good job (which is not very likely) I will need all of \$20 more till Christmas.

You undoubtedly think I am using a terrible lot of money this year and I admit it is a little more than for any year so far, but you must remember that it costs more for the Senior year, there are many expenses that do not come the other years. Books and expenses about the college such as fees and so on alone cost over \$20 for this term. Of course it will not take near so much for the other terms as it did for this one.

I was talking with one of my classmates who stays at the "Shack" (or Cauthorn Hall) and who is quite careful about his expenses, and he said that it would take him \$165 till Christmas. Nearly all the fellows spend more than I do and yet you kick all the time. I have earned about \$20 since the beginning of school, which is more than most fellows can say.

If the Prof. in Electricity can get me the job as Assistant Instructor in the Physical Lab. for the next two terms it will be a great help. He said he would try.

I was talking with him a few days ago about coming back here for the Graduate year work next year, but he said that he would not advise it if I could go to some other school, because this college has not a good equipment for advanced work in the Electrical Dept. He thought I ought to go to Stanford University in California he is from there and if I could get as wise as he is it certainly would pay. It does not cost much more to go there than here. The R.R.

fare is \$15. He also said he thought that if I went and graduated from there I could come back here and get his job, which however I might not want to do.

Have started on my correspondence course again and am going to finish it up as soon as possible. There is not much more to it. I notice that the price of the same course I got for \$17 is now \$65.

You asked me about the magazines. Well the subscription of one of them has now run out and I will get only one more of each of the other two as it would be no saving to change now. I am not going to subscribe for any Engineering magazines this year because I have very little time to read them and anyhow I can always get them from our Engineering Society Library when I want any special ones.

Ben is still figuring on coming to the Short Course is he not? It will be very nice for him as I am rooming here all alone and he can room with me. My room is very comfortable when I build a fire but so far I have done nearly all my studying down stairs.

It is getting quite late now and I have written a much longer letter than I intended so I will close.

Please send me \$20 if you can spare it now; if not I will get along on borrowed capital until I get paid for my work. But you might as well send it as I will have to have at least that much yet before Christmas.

S.H. Graf
Box 241,
Corvallis, Oregon.

How are Annie & Herman getting along?
Herman should write to me and Annie too.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.

Dec. 2, 1906.

Dear Folks:

I have just finished writing a letter to mother (in German) and an arduous task it was I must say. Although I have not yet received the promised letter from Ben, I will tear myself from my studies long enough to let you know that I am still kicking.

We have had a few days' vacation but it was hardly a vacation for me as on Thursday I did various school work and on Friday I mended and pressed clothes all day and Saturday Selleck and I worked on our Thesis all day. We have the instrument designed now but of course I do not know yet that the Prof. will accept our design; it may cost too much to suit him (about \$40). As we are going to leave the machine here the College is to pay for it.

Is Ben still figuring on coming to the Short Course? I would be very glad to have him come and things are as convenient for him this year as they ever will be. The course will begin Jan. 8 or right after the Xmas vacation and lasts I think about six weeks.

If he will come let me know in your next letter as I can then make arrangements for his admission to the course. I am sure that it would be worth while for him to come.

The Christmas vacation will start Dec. 21 and last until Jan. 8. I am however not coming home until about Dec. 27 or 28 as I intend to write my oration then. It is not possible for me to write that at home because I must have access to some books which I could not at home. If I could get a good job during the vacation I would be glad, I shall look for one.

If I can get the job of assistant in the Physical lab for the next two terms it will help some I have not talked about it any more to the Prof. but I will see him again about it. The job would bring in about 25 or 50¢ per day according to the time I would get to put in. (25¢ for 45 minutes or one period.)

I am worrying quite a bit about what I will do next year after I graduate. It is hardly worth while to come back here to school unless I could get enough classes to teach to pay my expenses, and to go to the General Electric company I am yet too young.

I got a catalog from Stanford University a little while ago and I see that the courses there are about as good as those in Eastern schools at a less cost. Stanford also has a fine reputation on this coast and the graduates from there have no trouble in getting positions paying from \$1200 per year up. If I could go there I believe it would be a paying investment. It would take about 1½ school years to finish the course there.

I would like very much to have the matter regarding what I will do next year settled as I could then prepare better for it whatever it will be.

If you have been reading any bad reports of the O.A.C. in the Portland papers lately do not believe them. We held the University (Eugene) down even (0 to 0) in a game of football and they are very sore and are accusing the O.A.C. of all kinds of things. They expected to beat us easily and bragged too much, you see. I must close as it is about supper time.

Please write very soon and answer the questions I have asked.

Yours Respectfully

S.H. Graf
Box 241.

1907

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.

Jan. 13, 1907.

Dear folks:

I arrived here without any trouble and as Sam soon arrived at the station I was escorted to our home where dinner was about ready. By the way I have thus far had no great mishaps at the table and have also had plenty to eat, so you need not be afraid that I am starving.

After dinner I went with Sam to the college grounds where I went to the Agricultural Hall to find out the course of proceedings which were to follow.

There I was shown into a room in which a number of short course fellows had already assembled; here we each signed up a card either for the agricultural or dairy course. Then we went into the test laboratory where we each received a drawer equipped with the necessary number of bottles and other things used for making the different tests.

Tuesday we went just to lectures because some more students were expected and also to give us an idea of the nature of the work.

Wednesday we commenced our regular course of work. First in the morning we hear a lecture on Bacteria then we go to the laboratory, where we make tests cream, milk or skim milk, until noon. Some of us separate milk; about 3 to a machine I was on one day our machine was The United States Separator. We take about 100 lbs. of milk which we must separate one must take samples of this milk and also of the cream and skim milk the other two clean up the machine weigh the skim milk and cream. We always receive blanks to be fill out with all these things. Those that are not separating are in the laboratory making tests of different kinds.

In the afternoon we have 3 lectures, these lectures you must understand come with the regular agricultural short course and will (I think) quit at the end of next of this week or when the course does. Most of these lectures are very instructive.

There are about twenty five dairy students and nearly as many agricultural.

They claim this is the most they have had so it is making the laboratory pretty crowded.

There are about 14 cows not all fresh here to supply us with milk. They also have some young stock 2 bulls and 6 head of horses.

I went to see the milking machine work one evening it seems to do good work. They only use it on a few cows.

I will not buy a hat here you may exchange that one for one just like it of about 7¼ also get a bill with it so if it is unsatisfactory I can still return it. I hope Herman has fully recovered. I will close with love to all.

B.D. Graf

DEPARTMENT OF
MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
GRANT A. COVELL, M. E.,
PROFESSOR.
J. H. McDUGGAL, A. B.,
ASSISTANT IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING.
M. CLYDE PHILLIPS, B. M. E.,
INSTRUCTOR IN IRONWORK AND DRAWING.
MARK D. MCCALLISTER, B. S.,
INSTRUCTOR IN WOODWORK.
WILLIAM M. PORTER,
INSTRUCTOR IN BLACKSMITHING.

State Agricultural College OF OREGON

Corvallis, Oregon,.....January 14,.....190 7....

Mr. S.E. Graf, and others.
Portland, Oreg.

Dear Folks:

Having a little time to spare this Sunday afternoon I thought I would dirty some of the Professor's paper with a short letter to you. It will not be necessary for me to say much about what Ben is doing because he is at present engaged in telling you about it himself. He has been a very good, mannerly boy (somewhat bashful) so far, and does not seem to be so very homesick as yet.

I was somewhat disappointed at first because I could not take German again this term. The advanced German is not required of the Electrical or Mechanical students and the class comes at the same time as "Mechanics" which I have to take to graduate consequently I had to let the German go. However I am not troubled because I have too little to do; I have more work than ever before as the following program will show: -

	8.00 - 8.45	drill.	5.
	8.45 - 9.00	Chapel Exercises.	
*	9.00 - 9.50	Metallurgy of Iron and Steel.	5.
	9.50 - 10.40	Psychology.	5.
	10.40 - 11.30	Electricity	3.
	11.30 - 12.20	Mechanics	5.
	12.20 - 1.30	Noon recess.	
<hr/>			
*	1.30 - 2.15	(Mondays Wed. Fridays)	Tues-Thursday.
		Surveying (3)	Electrical Lab (2) (5)
	2.20 - 3.10	Electrical lab. (2)	
*	3.10 - 4.00	Materials of Engineering	Mondays Wednesdays and Fridays
		Surveying	
	4.00 - 4.50	{	Tuesdays and Thursdays.
			Field work

The starred ones I take extra that is beside the work required to graduate. Notice Surveying especially.

The numbers on the right show the number of days per week I go to that particular class.

I have been working quite hard this last week; till after 11 o'clock every night and
_____ either as Ben will tell you.

The job in the Lab. I did not get because the college is very "hard up" (as they are building a new Girls' Dormitory) and could not afford to hire an assistant in the Physical Lab., furthermore there have not as many signed up for Physics as was expected consequently the Prof. can handle it alone O.K.

Things are going along in their usual order and nothing unusual has happened. Ben I see is writing you a long and undoubtedly very interesting letter so I will close with best wishes for all.

Yours respectfully,

S.H. Graf.
Box 241,
Corvallis Oreg.

N.B. The spoons have arrived, proved satisfactory, and
I have rec'd. pay't.

S.H.G.

NB #2. Write soon.

S.H.G.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.

Feb. 6, 1907.

Dear Folks:

I suppose Ben has told you all the news and as I will have to be drilling my army in a little while I will have to be quite brief this time.

I am now quite busy which will explain why I have not written to Uncle Willie and the others. I have more studies now than ever. As I told you I am now taking surveying and will soon be able to survey our farm correctly (if I had instruments).

A couple days ago Prof Covell asked me if I wanted to take a class of students in Physics (not lab. – textbook work). They are some who are behind and want some extra help. I don't know yet how many there will be but imagine that there will be quite a number and that it may bring me 1.50 or 2.00 per week.

I am having to buy quite a number of books now but this will soon stop I think.

One of the purposes of this letter is to tell you that we are about out of funds and our board has run out. \$

You said in your letter that I had better not go to Stanford next year and Christmas when I was home you practically gave me to understand that I could go. I would like very much to go and think it would be the best thing even from the money stand point. But of course if it is impossible I will have to stay put and work for a year.

Ben is getting along pretty well with his course; he is especially interested in testing and you can expect that when he comes home he will want to invest in some testers, and will find out which cows are worth their feed. He is thinking now of starting a cheese factory.

It is 15 minutes to eight and at 8 I must drill my army so I must close.

Your boy.

S.H. Graf.

Notice → Box 476
Corvallis, Oreg.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.

Feb. 6, 1907.

Dear folks:

We received your letter and are always glad to hear from you once in a while so don't be afraid to write when you feel like it.

From the reports we hear that you must have had a quite a cold snap up there doing considerable damage. Since the cold weather we had when I came here it has been very mild here. It has been raining rather steadily though. The river is very high here about as high as last time when we had that big rain which was as high as the river has been for years. Everywhere you look here is water, water, water. The town is nearly afloat in places.

The course now consists of work in the laboratory in the forenoon and a lecture in Bacteriology, one on Cheese making and a recitation out of a text book called "Milk and its Products" in the afternoon. Saturdays we make cheese, we would make cheese oftener if we had the milk but we get milk from a man who lives across the Mary's river and can not get over here on account of the high water. We tested some of the cheese with the Babcock tester and also some with the mouth tester which I think was the best way.

The short course students have been dropping off one by one right along so there are only a little over half of us here yet.

We received two new separators which are to be set up to-morrow (Feb. 6) one is a Delaval and the other a Simplex.

I took a walk over the farm yesterday. They have a well sprayed young orchard which however has one fault; the trees are very close together and every other one will have to be taken out in the near future. They also have a quite a drove of sheep and a heard of swine quite a number of which are young about 5 to 10 weeks old some of these are about as broad as they are long, very fine young pigs.

We devided the money up between us that I brought with me I taking \$20 and Sam the rest as he was a little in debt already and had quite a number of books to buy. Well I have been out of funds for quite a while so I must have a little more you see, I have been living on my looks for about a week already.

My course closes the 15th and if I have to go to Salem I will not be ready to come home until a few days after that. When you write let me know what day you will be in Portland or any other arrangement you want to make.

May be you do not need me at home now any more so I might try to get a job in a creamery or cheese factory hä?

I noticed in the paper that the eggs and potatoes are up again; I like to see that especially the potatoes.

I suppose Herman is pretty well broken in by this time and will be able to hold up his end after this.

I will close wishing you all good health my best regards to all of you.

Your Son,
Ben D. Graf.

c/o Box 476

Corvallis, Oregon.
March 12, 1907.

Dear Folks:

I guess it is about time somebody was doing some writing, and although I appreciated Anna's letter very much I think Ben ought to be ashamed of himself for telling me he would write as soon as he got home; it is about a month ago now and as I have received no letter from him yet he must still be in Salem. I hope he is enjoying himself there.

I suppose you noticed the "northern lights" Monday night, that is if it was not cloudy. It was the first display I had ever seen and seemed quite wonderful.

Well, another term has rolled into the past and I will soon commence my last term at old O.A.C. Examination time is now in full blast but I am resting easy for I do not fear that I will fail in anything. This term has been of considerable benefit to me in many ways, for one thing I can survey a farm now all right. I am going to take surveying again next term and expect to go out and get some practical experience in farm surveying here in the neighborhood (of course not for pay).

That reminds me, you remember I told you in my last letter that I was to tutor a class in Physics; well, I am sorry to say that that fell through. I suppose those that wanted the class in the start backed out and no class was formed.

It may interest Ben (for he is now an O.A.C. graduate) to know that there have been some fierce basket ball games here lately. The Crescent Five of Chicago (champions of the World) played here. In the first game they beat us 34 to 28 but in the second game last Wednesday we beat them 38 to 34 which is goin' some.

As you have very likely heard the O.A.C. received an appropriation of \$125,000 and also a raise in annual running expenses to \$75000 per year I believe. There will be several new buildings next year among which will be a new Mechanical Hall.

I have had my picture taken in my war clothes and full military regalia, so if you will place your order by your next communication I will see what can be done towards favoring you with the desired goods. The pictures by the way are very good, they make me look even better than I do. Ha. Ha.

I would be highly pleased to hear from Ben and would also be glad if he would state what progress he is making with the Math. and also whether or not he has set up his testing laboratory yet. How many unprofitable cows has he already "absgshafft"?

Before I close I might just incidentally mention that I am out of dough and that my credit may not be good enough to supply me with bread indefinitely. Also if you hear of any body that wants to hire a good man for next summer just please to refer them to me. I can give any recommendations asked for.

Have you noticed what a fancy letter this is? I use this paper in my business correspondence.

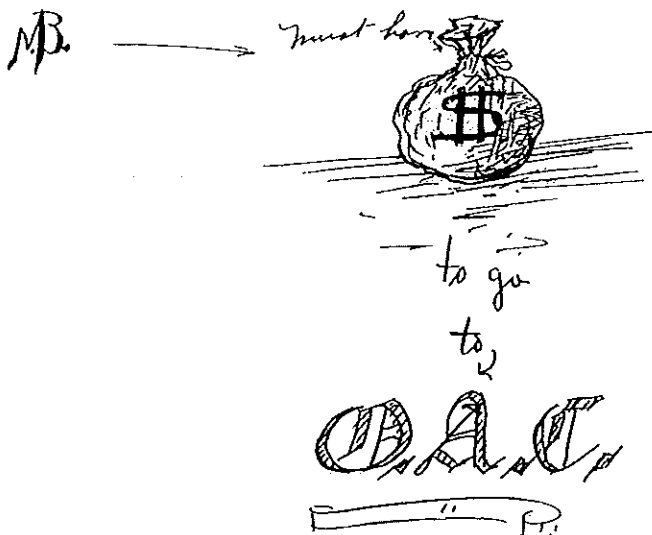
I wish Ben would send that tripod up when he gets a little time; I have a chance to sell it and might as well take the chance as the tripod is of no use to me or to anybody in R.F.D. #2 either.

I was very glad to get a letter from Annie and will write her a special letter in a short time – next Sunday perhaps. I hope also that mamma has by this time gotten over the pain that “hurts her in the hip.”

I think that I should now in a short time receive a long letter from each one; this is certainly a masterpiece and considering the fact that it is pretty cold here in my room now I think you ought to be satisfied.

My feet are about frozen and it is bed time so I will close.

With best wishes for all
S.H. Graf.
Box 476. Corvallis, Oreg.



Excuse me but it can't be helped.

Corvallis, Oreg.
April 8, 1907.

Dear Folks:

I received your letter several days ago and I suppose carefully put it away after reading, and now when I want to answer it I can't find it; so if there were any questions in it they will have to go unanswered.

The tripod which you sent has come to hand and will soon be sold the proceeds going toward some books which I must have.

Great things have happened since you last heard from me. Prof. McDougal whom Ben will remember as "Whistle breeches" has resigned and gone to California where he has a good position. This promised to leave us without an electricity Prof. but we did not miss a single lesson as the very next day after "whistles" resignation another man came. He is Hawley, one of last year's graduates who has spent nearly a year with the General Electric Co. N.Y. where Will Beaty is. He is not really a fit man for the place as he is not up on the theoretical part of the work sufficient for such a job as here. He was in the same class as I in "Analytic Geometry (having failed the year before) and was not very good either.

As we have completed the usual course in Theory of Electricity it does not matter so much to us and we are learning quite a bit anyhow and like the new man so far O.K.

A few days ago Prof. Covell, the head professor in Mechanics and Electrical Engineering offered me an application for going to the General Electric Co. Schenectady, N.Y. but as I was below the age limit (21) I had to decline. The G.E.C. has a practical course through which they put a certain number of College Graduates each year paying them 20¢ per hour the first year and more later. It is a good thing and the fellows who are already there all like it. there are now quite a number of O.A.C. Graduates there, many that I know.

My board is paid yet for a couple of weeks I believe, but as my pictures are done now and must be paid for, and as I must get some books which will cost nearly \$10 I will have to ask for more money as soon as you can spare some.

You said something in the last letter if I remember right about trying to get me a job for next summer. If you (papa) think that you could do it, it would certainly help some. I would like to work at any electrical work except outside wiring (climbing poles) which I have made up my mind never to do. Or mechanical work, as in a machine shop, power plant, or drafting room (mechanical drawing) I would like.

But for the summer to kind of toughen me up I would just as soon as anything like to go with a surveying gang either for land or railroad surveying.

I do not think that it will do much good to go to companies and men that you do not know. If you wish I can write to any you may name and send references if necessary.

Ben – that great speaker Griffin is now president of the O.A.C. Sociological Club. The one you liked so well, you know!

I have just about decided to join the Fiske Teachers' Agency so that if I do this I may have a job teaching in some high school or college next year, in which event I would of course try to get work this summer along the line I am going to teach.

The only trouble is that there is not enough money in teaching; as I must save enough in one year and one vacation to go either to Stanford University or Cornell I cannot afford to work for nothing.

If I could only find a big gold nugget or a diamond so that I could go to school next year I would not have all this worry.

Ben!! it is about time to send in another exam!

Hoping to hear from you very soon I will close.

Yours

S.H. Graf
Box 476.

N.B. How many of my pictures do you want? (I have 2 ½ doz.)

First Regiment O. A. C. Cadets

FIRST BATTALION	COMMANDANT	SECOND BATTALION
STAFF	MAJOR F. E. EDWARDS	STAFF
Major C. G. BROWNELL	REGT. FIELD AND STAFF	Major S. H. GRAF
First Lieut. Adj. J. LINGAAS	Colonel M. V. WEATHERFORD	First Lieut. Adj. F. R. MILLER
	Lieut. Colonel. W. E. FORSYTHE	
	Capt. and Adj. J. G. KELLY	

Know him?

Corvallis, Oregon, April 22, 1907.

Dear Folks:

I received your doubly welcome letter a few days ago and was happy to note contents, firstly, your well-being, and, secondly, the funds, which were badly needed.

This letter will no doubt be a disappointment to you as the beautiful weather has very seriously affected me and I cannot think of anything to write or am too lazy to do so. I have been reading _____ all the time I was at home today (Sunday). We use this book in our German class for translation and I got interested in the story and read it clear through, now I am afraid it will not be very interesting in class, as usually I do not study my German lesson at all before coming to class because then it is more interesting you know.

As I told you before we have now a regular minister here at the Baptist Church, that is, he does not live here but comes up from Mc.Minn. every Saturday and stays over till Sunday noon; they having prayer meeting Saturday evening and preaching Sunday forenoon with Sunday School preceding the preaching service. Well, what I started to say was that in spite of this the Baptist church does not seem to be picking up any; in fact, it seems to be going backward all the time. This morning I went to Sunday school and there was hardly any one there so I did not stay for preaching (I was tired of hearing Mrs. Cramer's solos) but went to the Congregational Church instead where they have a pipe organ and a decent choir. The singing was fine although the sermon was not very good.

I do not think I told you yet that for the benefit of some of us Seniors who are pretty well up in German Prof. Tailandier has started a class in Scientific German. There are five boys in the class and it meets twice a week (but our lessons are long enough to make up for this and I have to study a little on it, I must confess.) The cost is \$5 for this term which is reasonable as we are learning all about. _____ and are thus finding it fully worthwhile.

But to drop the foolishness and to come to business: I do not know yet what I will do next summer and there-after; the trouble is I am too darn young. I cannot go to the Gen. Electric Co. because of this and I hate to tackle a teaching job for the same reason; what I ought to do is go to school some more but of course if impossible then impossible but I wish we were rich so I could.

I have written for an application blank to go to the Westinghouse Elec. Co. in Pittsburg, the layout there is similar to that at the G.E. Co only I think better in some ways as they promise

you a permanent position when you get through with the apprentice course (from 1 ½ to 2 yrs.) and also because Pittsburg is a better city than Schenectady being the home of the great steel companies and other vast industries. Here of course the requirement is also 21 yrs. but I shall go anyhow if I can make it.

I have received from a teachers' Agency (to whom I was (highly I guess) recommended by one of the Profs.) an urgent request to register with them, they sending a stamped envelope and offering to register me without my paying them any fee in advance as is usual. I am going to wait till I get my application from the Westinghouse Company after which I will go and see Prof. Covell and decide what I will do.

The whole business is a very perplexing problem and in spite of the fact that I am supposed to be a good mathematician I cannot seem to bring it to a satisfactory solution but time will soon tell.

I am sending you the 6 pictures you wanted by mail. They are of Major Graf in case you do not recognize him.

Most of the boys are having graduation suits made but I have decided to wait till I graduate from Stanford or Cornell till I get me a special suit made and perhaps then I will know better than to do so. I was however running short on coats my everyday suit having now become quite shabby so I have invested in a spring suit.

This letter is now about fifteen times as long as I thought it would be and looks like Rooky's work so I will close with love for and best regards to all of you.

S.H. Graf
Box 476.

N.B. I would like to hear from Ben pretty soon if he is not too busy making tests etc. It is time for another exam.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.

May 23, 1907.

Dear Folks:

I have been expecting a letter now for some time, and if you knew how much time I waste in going to the Post Office for nothing you certainly would not disappoint me again.

Things are now drawing to a point and my college days, at least for this trip, will soon be ended. The inspection which was awaited with so much fear and trembling by us officers has come to pass and all are yet alive. I was certainly proud of my noble Battalion on that day for they certainly made the other Battalion look like recruits just from the farm; of course this is due no doubt to the good officers in the Second Battalion as you may readily imagine.

The thesis on which I have spent many wearisome hours also is completed and will be handed in today.

I have put in nearly my full time in surveying and will have only one or two classes a day after June 1st. (and no more drill). Just now there is much debate about next year's officers and we are working hard on our lists of recommendations.

Commencement Day is June 12 but the graduating exercises are always strung out over several days and as soon as I know the exact program I will let you know so that whoever is coming to see me become a B.S. will know when to come.

I would like to have at least some of you come, but I don't think you ought to come the way Ben said you were going to when he was here; he said you were all coming in the top wagon and would camp out on the campus. Ha! Ha! That would be going some. The graduating exercises here are hardly what one would expect in a college. You would be disappointed for they don't make any more fuss about it than when graduating from Public School, hardly as much. Of course the class-day exercises and other stunts that come off them are very interesting.

Papa and Ben will no doubt remember Mary's Peak which looms up over Corvallis in the west; well, last Friday Jack, Ellsworth, Walter Wagner and I started off to climb the lofty mountain. Friday evening we camped about 12 miles from home and the next day we made the climb. It was certainly grand. There was a tearing wind and the way it slung the clouds around the top of the peak was something that I had never seen before.

The weather was cool and rather blustery and we did not get a good view of the country but when we returned home Sunday afternoon we all voted that we had had a dandy time.

I was the chief cook and as we had a fine camp rigged up and a roaring camp-fire blazing before it, the two nights we spent there were very pleasant. My trip to Eastern Oregon gave me many useful pointers which I applied with success.

I have now given you a great deal of what we would call "superheated atmosphere" but I am afraid it is talk that is not money; see below.

With love to you all
S.H. Graf
Box 476

N.B. Am flat broke. Will need \$35 to clear up business.

First Regiment O. A. C. Cadets

FIRST BATTALION
STAFF
Major C. G. BROWNELL
First Lieut. Adj. J. LINGAAS

COMMANDANT
MAJOR F. E. EDWARDS
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Lieut. Colonel. W. E. FORSYTHE
Capt. and Adj. J. G. KELLY

SECOND BATTALION
STAFF
Major S. H. GRAF
First Lieut. Adj. F. R. MILLER

Corvallis, Oregon, June 5, 1907

Dear Folks:

I received your letter several days ago, part of the content's was good news, part was bad, but I hope that papa is feeling better by this time.

In a very few minutes I must go to Scientific German class so this letter can not be very long, but as there is no particular news it does not matter. I just wanted to say that I am sorry you cannot come to the exercises. Could not Ben come next Monday and stay till Wednesday when we will both come home?

The graduating exercises will be held as you will see at 10 A.M. June 12 (Wednesday); if they are over in time I will come home that day if not, it will be the next. I am quite sure that I will have time to catch my train O.K. Well this will have to be all; write at once, do not wait till Sunday; Ben can write if the rest are too tired.

Yours in haste,

S.H. Graf
Box 476.

Corvallis, Oreg.
June 10, '07.

Dear Folks: —

Have received your letter and am sorry that no one can come, but as I said before you will not miss a great deal, the exercises being only short and unpretentious.

“The great event” as you designate it has no terrors for me as all I will have to do is sit on the platform and look wise and I can do that to perfection already.

I have packed nearly all my stuff and expect to get away on Wednesday directly after the exercises. If you take the hack to get me you must have only one seat on it as I have a good sized box beside my trunk and you must send a “man” and not Herman either, for the box of books is heavy 300-400 lbs. I guess. (It is coming by freight.)

Well I must close as I have a great deal to do this forenoon so goodbye.

S.H. Graf
Box 476.

Corvallis, Oreg.
Sept. 28, 1907.

Dear Folks:

I am here and all settled down again, but note, it is NOT in my old stand and I am already in love with my new boarding place. It is up on College Hill and is about the same distance from college as Cramer's, perhaps not quite so far.

I had a terrible time getting a place and then it was another fellow that got me this one. It is as Uncle John said – only worse – I don't know what the fellows will do that come next week. Mrs. Cramer I heard is not keeping any roomers this year at all and she charges \$3.50 per week for table board alone. It is just marvelous how boarding house rates have gone up this year. The hall charges \$3.75 per week and the prices around town are from \$16 to \$20 per month or from \$4 to \$5 per week. One place I asked the lady wanted \$7 a month just for room-rent. I struck it lucky yet as I got this place only because a fellow that was expected did not come to board here. I have to pay \$4 per week and as the room and board and people are all fine I am in luck.

My room-mate is a Mr. Luse – Junior – and a staunch Y.M.C.A. and Church boy, so I am in good company anyway. Three other fellows board here, one is quite a humorist but the other two are satisfied to let him do the talking. One is a "Rook".

The new prof. in Elec. Engineering has not arrived yet but is expected to be here in a few days. He comes from the University of Illinois now but has also taught in Cornell and several other schools of note.

The man's name is Gardner and as he has also had practical experience he is O.K. I have heard that his salary is to be \$4,000 but hardly believe it.

Signs of activity are plenty around the College now. The buildings have all been repaired and repainted, the new girl's hall (Waldo Hall) is nearly completed, a large new mechanical and electrical building is being put up and will be completed before the end of the year, the Y.M.C.A. building is to go up soon, and in general O.A.C. is making giant strides forward in every way.

This afternoon (Saturday) I went to the College to see Prof. Covell about my work but could not find him. I thought however that I had better see him before the rush on Monday so I went to his house and finding him at home I proceeded to tell him my troubles. He said that he could see no reason why I could not take the work of both courses if I had German completed, but that he thought I had better only take one degree either M.E. or E.E. and so it was settled – I have registered and have my card of studies out having on it the work of two courses. You may now (especially mamma) comfort yourselves – they are not going to send me home.

You have now the main points of interest and as I am a bit tired – having been busy at fixing up the room, etc, all day I will close with the promise of doing better next time.

Yours

S.H. Graf.
Box 504
Corvallis, Oreg.

N.B. I forgot to tell you I believe, the name of the people I stay with is Belknap.

Corvallis, Oreg.,
Oct. 14, 1907.

Dear Folks:

It seems my first letter is going to go unanswered so I will try again, for the Professors have not yet decided to send me back home and the chances are that I shall stay, there being contrary to (your) expectations quite a lot to learn yet.

The new professor in Electrical Engineering has been here now over a week and I am quite well acquainted with him already. He is very genial and sociable and not in the least "stuck up". He is "delivering the goods" too, when it comes to teaching and I am mighty glad of the opportunity to be with such a man for a year.

Donald Paul is back this year to finish his course and I am to tutor him in Calculus during nearly the whole year. Professor Covell recommended me to him without my knowing anything about it. I think I can earn enough by it to pay for my tobacco anyway ha, ha.

Also an agent was here from Eugene Dietzgen Co. and wanted one of the Prof's. to handle slide rules for the students. Prof. Gardner was too busy to do it, so he sent him to me. I am getting about \$150 worth (whole sale price) of slide rules on credit and will sell them to the students that are required to have them. Eleven of the rules came already and are sold, also half of the rest are already spoken for, so that I will have no trouble. (Prof. Skelton endorsed me financially to the agent.) There is not a great sight of money in it but I think it will buy my candy all-right, ha, ha.

I was glad to see such good weather for so long; I suppose the clover seed was safely threshed and the potatoes are about out. Herman does not need to despair – the globe sight will be made tomorrow and will soon reach him. I did not have time to think about it hardly so far.

I have not gone back to Cramer's to board yet, although I have been there several times to visit and we are all on very friendly terms in spite of my deserting their boarding house.

The longer I stay at my new place the better I like it. I was certainly lucky to find this place. The food is better and is cooked better than at Cramer's and although we do not have as much pie and cake we never miss it for the rest is so good that we don't think about pie and cake.

Mrs. Belknap takes care of our rooms – makes our beds etc and even fills our lamp. We have a bath room – hot and cold water - and can take a bath whenever we want to. Can press our clothes when we want to and even do our own washing, that is, sox, underwear, and such. Everything is better than at Cramer's and only 50¢ per week more than Mrs. C. now charges for table board alone. I forgot, we also have a study room separate from our bed rooms.

They are going to get a new minister at the Baptist church here and \$500 per year has already been pledged for his salary. I promised to give \$1.00 per month.

The O.A.C. has grown at a tremendous rate – 850 students here already. This is more than there were all last year, counting short course men and all. There will be over 1,100 this year I believe.

My type writer has not come yet although I have heard from S.R. & Co. concerning it and am expecting it soon.

I clerked in Gearhart's Bookstore one day during the rush at the beginning of the term. I took the drawing instrument department and sold about \$175 worth of supplies in one afternoon. Gearhart did not want to do it himself because he does not know much about drawing instruments and was afraid he could not make the students believe that his instruments were better than those the other stores handle. He bragged me up in great shape and certainly I surprised myself when it came to the manufacture of "hot air."

Well I must close, below is a list of my studies.

Your boy,
S.H. Graf.
Box 504.

A.M.
Spanish (new class)
Hydraulic Motors.
(Analytics Review)
Electrical Engineering.

P.M.
Thermodynamics.
Physical Laboratory.
Electrical "

Saturday A.M.
Mechanical Laboratory

Saturday P.M.
Washing

Corvallis, Oreg.
Oct. 24, 1907.

Dear Folks:

Your long looked for letter at last put in its appearance and yesterday, and the substantial which were to follow it have also come. I am at present doing two things at once: eating grapes and writing and it works fine.

I hardly know what to write; things have taken their usual course and there is nothing very unusual happening.

I am soon to finish up my slide-rule deal and will have sold \$144 worth making a profit of about \$15 in all. If all the money I have handled since I have come there this last time were mine I would say "let the \$250 limit stand", but since it is not mine I do not say "Let the limit stand."

You will remember I told you about clerking in Gearhard's Bookstore one day. Well, that day I fell in love with one of his sets of drawing instruments and traded mine for it paying \$9.00 to boot. It is a \$16.50 set and you will notice I got \$7.50 for my set for which I paid \$6.75 in all last summer. The set I now have is a fine set and I think I made a good deal.

I was not going to tell you about the above transaction but since I have been making so much money I feel safe.

That old suit of mine which I expected to wear every day is simply too shabby to wear to my classes and I have been wearing my best suit for the last month or so. I will have to buy a new suit in the near future.

I am now so fearfully busy that every minute of the day from 6.30 AM to 11 P.M. or later has its duty. This may surprise you but it will not when I tell you that I am teaching three (3) hard subjects beside doing my own class work (all in two courses you must remember). I have Don Paul in Calculus. I tutor him 50 minutes a day and get 25¢ per time; this is because of a special arrangement with the Prof. in mathematics by which Don can take the Calc. from me and then take exam. from the Prof. and get credit just as though he had taken it in College.

The second class I have is 15 fellows who are finding Mechanics too much for them and who have engaged me to give them some extra instruction. Mechanics is a Senior study and is mighty hard; it is making me hump to keep from getting caught up on some of the problems. We meet from 7 to 8 in the evening in one of the class rooms at college (4 evenings a week) I get about 95¢ a time for this work.

My other class is in Descriptive Geometry a junior study and not easy. This class meets from 4.50 to 6.00 on Mon, Tues, Wed. and Fri. evenings. For this I get the same as for the second about 95¢ per time.

In all then while it lasts and if I can collect it all I am making about \$8.00 per week, and might welcome it is for the money I had to start out with is nearly all gone and some books and Lab. fees to pay for yet. Of course the money I receive is not the only compensation, the experience is worth equally as much if not more. I tell you it isn't easy money; it feels might anti-funny to get up before a lot of students and to know that it is you who has to know how to work the problems and how to explain the principles and that there is no one to help.

Don't bank too much on the money I am making for it will only last a few weeks or until the fellows get caught up. That is the last two classes Paul's will last 2 terms. Good bye.

Sam

Please write soon. Ben too.

Corvallis, Oregon,
Nov. 6, 1907.

Dear Folks:

It is very late and I am quite tired out with studying, but I will never-the-less write you a few lines to let you know that I got your sad letter and that I am getting along nicely.

I am going to write to Mama too when I get this letter finished; it must be very hard for her to stay there in the Hospital by herself so long with nothing to do but worry and suffer, although I suppose the latter is not so bad now.

You will remember that I told you in the last letter that I was tutoring three classes. Well, I have had to give up one of them; the one in Descriptive Geometry. I had too much work and just simply could not stand it. The numbers of students in one of my remaining classes has increased, there being now about 19 or 20 in it so I still earn about \$6.00 per week.

I just love to teach and have about made up my mind to take it up for good; that is, when I know enough.

I have finished the correspondence course and am expecting my diploma any time now. Also I put in a petition to the Faculty of the O.A.C. to be allowed to enter the candidacy for Master's Degree (M.S.) and the petition was granted without any trouble at all. Some others who asked for the same will have trouble I understand because they do not know any foreign language. It's lucky to be a "Dutchman."

Next Saturday will take place one of the greatest events of the year for O.A.C. The football game with the University at Eugene. All is excitement here now and a fine game is expected. O.A.C. has not beaten the U. of O. for two years, last year the score was 0 to 0 and we hope that this year will bring us the victory. It would mean much to O.A.C.

Tell Ben to write to me too. It is now nearly 12 o'clock P.M. and I am tired so I will close, hoping that everything will come out right.

Yours with love,

Sam.

Corvallis, Oregon,
Nov. 6, 1907.

Dear Mamma:

This evening when I got a letter from home I thought: "My, what a nice long letter," but before I got very far along with reading it I wished a hundred times that it might have been as short as usual. It made me so sorry that I felt like crying all the time I was teaching my class in Mechanics this evening. It was hard to keep my mind on the work, and now when I think what you must have suffered it makes me feel just awful, and here I was all the time enjoying myself and not knowing anything about it. I am very glad to hear though that you are now getting better, and I suppose that the suffering is not so bad any more. The worst is I imagine that you worry yourself about home a great deal. This is useless for things will be better soon.

I am getting along very nicely only I have to work too hard. I have had to give up one of my classes because I could not stand it any more. I had to keep on the go from half past six in the morning to half past eleven at night and then I could not do justice to the teaching and my lessons both.

I can tell you I have plenty to learn yet even though I am a Post-graduate, and what is worse the Professors think it ought to be easy for me to learn and give me about ten pages a day apiece to study, and it certainly keeps me out of mischief.

I was at Cramer's again last Sunday for a visit, and it seemed to do Mrs. C. lots of good to tell me her troubles like she used to during the past years.

It is now practically settled that we are to have a new minister here soon. They have already picked out the man and I understand that he is a very able preacher.

I suppose that out of consideration for the people I write to I should typewrite all my letters but I do not like to typewrite a letter of friendship; it seems too business like.

It is after midnight and I am tired, will write again soon. With love your son

Sam.

Corvallis, Oreg.
Nov. 21, 1907.

Dear Ben, etc:

I was glad to learn that things are progressing at such a rate at home, and that the spuds and apples yielded so well. I suppose you got quite a bit of sowing done yet before the rain. We have had some rather heavy rain here; how about you?

You know, the O.A.C. football team are now Champions of the N.W. The Eugene game certainly was a dandy; the teams were very evenly matched and both played for all there was in it. We won by a score of 4 to 0. The excursion to Eugene was also a success in every way; about 1200 people went from here and nearby towns and there were enough O.A.C. students there to make the wearers of the Lemon look quite scarce. We also out yelled them, which counts a great deal.

I have still, after giving up my class in Descriptive Geometry, about all that I can do; but my Mechanics is about to peter out and then I will have time for writing up notes and Thesis work which have been sadly neglected. The Mechanics is getting easier now and the fellows can do it themselves so we are going to "cut out" the class at the end of this week.

Of course my original money supply was gone now some time ago, yet if all the fellows that owe me some would pay right away I would not have to ask for money just yet, but as it is I will have to ask you to send some as soon as convenient. (Send money order – checks hard to cash).

I have graduated from the Correspondence school – have received a graduate's button but not yet the diploma; I expect it about tomorrow. My average grade was 93% which they claim is very high.

It may interest you to know that there have been some changes in the courses of the O.A.C.; the Agric. course has been subdivided so that a person can specialize in any branch such as Horticulture, Stock Raising, and so on.

How is Herman making it? He might answer my letter if he is a gentleman. It almost seems that he can't write. I will write to Annie one of these days and will "sure sure" send the Pepsin.

I will have to close so goodbye and remember that it is necessary that you write soon.

Your brother

S.H.G. of the O.A.C.

(Box 504.)

1908

Corvallis, Oreg.
Jan. 9, 1908.

Dear Folks:

I have arrived safely and am again settled down to hard study. First of all I want to tell you that I received the pressing cloth O.K. and thank you for sending it so soon. When I left I forgot that little green paper covered book about the tests in the General Electric Company's shops and if you would send it I would be very glad (I need it in the laboratory work). I believe it is on the "Kamsen", or else upstairs in Ben's room, or else on the little shelf in the kitchen. Please send soon.

I have so much news that I hardly know where to begin, but I suppose the proper thing to do is to begin with when I left home. Our trip to town went O.K. only it was hard "den Schulz zu unterhalten."

I reached Mr. Hedley's about 11 o'clock and Don came home about noon. After dinner we talked a while and then started for Montavilla where we visited the school. Mr. Bowland was very nice and showed us all around. The school house is more than twice as big now as it was and is fixed up just fine. Mr. Bowland took us to class with him and introduced us to the youngsters. It was quite an experience.

After this class school was dismissed and we watched them march out. It was fine; in fact, they got a prize – a silver cup – at the fair (I believe) for marching.

Then we hiked to Bowlands office and talked for sometime; he told us that Al. Ehlers either had gone that day or was going the next to where do you think? To college to learn Civil Engineering ("get \$10 a day" you know). When we heard that we decided to go and see if he had left yet. He had not, and so we stayed there a while. He went to Corvallis the next day – Friday.

In the evening Don took me to a show. The next day we walked around town nearly all day to see the city and that evening some people visited Hedley's making a pleasant evening.

The next morning I got up quarter to six, ate the breakfast they had set out for me and went to the city where I caught my train and so ended a pleasant day and a half.

In the afternoon (at College) when I had finished "signing up" I looked for al but could not find him. But Sunday I after considerable trouble hunted him up and we took a long walk into the country during which time we had a good visit. I guess he was pretty tired when we got back for he has been sick and looks very pale. He worked too long inside at book-keeping for the O.R&N.

I am glad he came and he seems to like it fine so far; he did not have a bit of trouble to get in but will of course have the work of the first term to make up. He is taking two hours wood work a day so as to do two term's work in one.

We had our first chapel exercises today and Mr. M.O.L. honored us with a song. He is here to lecture to the short course men. Of these there are quite a number, how many I do not know yet. There are also some here taking the short mechanic arts course.

My own work I got arranged as I expected and am already engaged in it in full swing. I spend most of my afternoons in the shops working on that "ding house" I am making.

By the way, I almost forgot that I have had an offer of a job here at college teaching Physics and Physical Lab., but needless to say I refused. I have however now two fellows to tutor (2.75 per week or less) and the promise of work for one of the Professors helping him with the test examinations he gives his classes. If I had more time I could get enough work now to pay my way, but that's the way it goes, now when I could pay my way I am about done with school at least for a while.

I have not yet bought that suit of clothes, and have also about decided to not move.

One of the fellows I am tutoring wanted me to tutor him two hours a day or rather two periods (one period = 45 min) but I could not spare the time and so I sent him to Mrs. Cramer for one period. I charge 30¢ per period. Purty good, hey?

Mabel was married during the vacation and not to me either, so you need have no more fears. Must close. Write very soon and be sure to send that booklet.

Your Boy

S.H. Graf Box 504

Corvallis, Oregon
Jan. 17, 1907.

To Ben and Herman
particularly and the
rest also.

Greeting:

I have received a paper from the American School which may be of very great importance to some one of you if properly used.

Herman is always wanting something to read and as you all know never has anything (or seldom) which is of any real benefit. Why not have him take a correspondence course? He is now nearly through Public School and could very easily master one. I started in when younger than he is now and I can say from absolute knowledge of the matter that a correspondence course faithfully done is worth two years in college; that is, of course from the stand point of knowledge gained. There are things to be gotten from a College course which can never be transmitted by correspondence, such as acquaintance with the teachers and other men of affairs one meets, self reliance, and so on. In the clipping from the letter the School sent me you will see the why and wherefore of their offer and of this letter.

Of course I do not mean that Herman should start in to study Electrical or any other kind of Engineering, in which he plainly is not much interested. But the course which I hope he will want to take and which I hope will be allowed him is what could be called a High School education. It comprises

Arithmetic	4 books
Algebra	5
Geometry	2
Trigonometry	2
Logrithms	1
Mech. Drawing	6
English Grammar and Rhetoric	8
English Classics	2
German	3
U.S. History	4
Chemistry	7
Physics	<u>1</u>
	45

As you will see it contains more than is taught in the Portland High School in 2 years. For further information Herman can look it up in the bulletin I left around there some place. I believe he has it in his room.

The price of the course is \$75, but owing to my graduation I can get it for \$30 now and in \$5 monthly payments at that.

As you will note there are other courses; they are all offered at about 2/5 price in this Scholarship but I thought that this High School course or College preparatory course would probably be what Herman, Ben, or Papa would probably want the most, so I suggest it.

It is really an opportunity for the school has grown much since I first knew it and a course in it really means something. The time allowed is 5 years and at one examination paper a month it can be easily completed in that time. And one examination a month would not take much one's time; Herman wastes more time now than it would take, and I believe that it would really be the best thing possible for his development.

I suppose Papa and Mamma will think it funny me writing this way, but I am really anxious about it and would rather pay the \$30 myself after I get out to work than see the boys pass up this chance. I believe Herman needs it most but if he does not want it, it would do Ben no harm. I can assure you that whoever does take it may call on me for help any time he needs it and if I can give it, I shall be very glad to give of what I have received through the bounty of you all.

If (as I hope) one or the other ventures to make the step send the name and course at once and I will make the transfer and will send you the certificate. It must be mailed (back to the school) before February 1st. '08.

Please write soon.

Yours with love S.H. Graf
Box 504.

Enrollment now at O.A.C.
1103 students.

P.S. There is no Reference Library to buy with this course.

P.S. Have just rec'd. check for teaching I did. It was \$5.00 for 10 periods' (about 8 hours') work. Pretty good, hey?

American School of Correspondence

CHICAGO, U. S. A.

Jan., 8, 1908.

Mr. Saml. H. Graf,
Corvallis, Oreg.
My dear Mr. Graf:

Your graduation left a vacancy in the ranks of our students. I ask your co-operation in filling that place, and enclose herewith the means. This Wage-Earner's Scholarship will give you, for a nominal sum, ^(very) the postgraduate course that you have been wanting; or, properly transferred, it will start some other ambitious man on the road to success.

Corvallis, Oreg.,
February 3, 1908.

Dear Folks:

As my last two letters were not really letters, I will take up my pen today to scribble up a little paper for your edification. I suppose that Herman's course is all arranged already and that he has already begun to study. If the first instruction book has not yet come he can use the one Ben has, Arithmetic part I.

Mr. Learn was here and I took him around to show him the wonders of O.A.C. He is going to Alaska to take charge of an orphanage there and was here to make a speech to the church to raise some money. He travels all over and speaks in all the English Baptist churches. He sends his best regards to all of you.

I did not go to hear Mr. Learn's speech for on the same evening Homer Davenport lectured at the College, and I went to hear him. You know he is the greatest cartoonist of this country, and is a native Oregonian. The subject of his lecture was 'The Arabian Desert' and as Papa is very much interested in life in Arabia I will tell you a few things he said. He told about one time when he was eating with some high chief, how the rice, which is the main diet, was placed on a table cloth made of bread dough which is afterwards eaten, and how they proceeded to eat. He did not know just how to go at it, so he waited until some of the Arabians started. Then he did as they did - rolled up his shirt sleeves, dove into the grub with his hands drew out a handful of rice, gave it two squeezes, and a dexterous flip into his mouth. The two American companions who were with him did not like the idea and asked if there were no forks, he told them, of course not, but they did not like the Arabian style and nibbled with their fingers. After the meal he overheard some children talking and asked his interpreter what they were saying. He told him that they were saying that Mr. Davenport was all right but were making great sport of his companions. Then after that where ever he travelled the news had gone before him and he was hailed as a great man. I guess it pays to get into practice doing these Arabian stunts, for Mr. Davenport was presented with two most beautiful Arabian horses, which all the American millions could not have bought.

But to return to news; the short course was very well attended, there being about 75 persons enrolled. The total enrollment in the College for this year is about 1125 now.

I have had a terrible financial reverse. One fellow that I was tutoring in Algebra has "durch gebrant" without paying me. He owed me much and Mrs. Cramer about \$5.00. I have hope however of catching him yet and getting from him the dollar and 20 cents he owes me.

I have a nice job now every Monday. Prof. Johnson (Mathematics) has hired me to superintend the examinations in his classes, and it does me good to watch the poor fellows knit their brows in great perplexity as they come up against something that looks strange. Prof. Johnson visits the classes of his Assistant Professors while I am conducting the exams.

I have asked now in every letter about a certain little booklet which I left at home Christmas and which I would like to have. It tells about the testing of electrical machinery at the

General Electric Co. It has a green cover. If you could find it I would be very glad if you would send it to me.

How are you all getting along? I have been having quit a severe cold for the last two weeks but Mrs. Belknap doctored me so well that I have now quite recovered.

Herman might write to me once in a while now to tell me how he is getting along with his work, and I imagine that there will be times when he may need some help too.

I have not done any studying for tomorrow yet and have one more letter to write so I will close. Please write soon.

Yours with love,

S.H. Graf
Box 504.

P.S. Have not moved yet, but am not entirely over the notion.

Have not bought the new suit yet, although it is getting very necessary. S.H.G.

Corvallis, Oreg., Feb. 17, 1908.

Dear Folks:

I was very glad to get such a good letter from you and noted with pleasure the various occupations of the younger ones in their pursuit of knowledge, but I did not quite understand the significance of all. What was meant by Annie's going to high-school and by Ben studying the "art of taxidermy"? Is he really doing so? About that much talked of "book with green covers" – do not trouble yourselves about it further; Prof. Hawley has given me another one of them, so it is O.K.

In my school work I am getting along very well. My pardner, Mr. Emily, and I are going to make some tests on the heating value of coals, wood, fuel oil, kerosene, gasoline, alcohol, etc. for a while now, and from these results we are to figure out and see if it would be cheaper to burn fuel-oil in the power house here instead of wood as they do now. After that we are going to make a test of a gas-engine, as well as some steam engine and power plant tests. My work is very interesting and instructive, and the year is going "dahin" altogether too fast.

I don't know whether I told you or not that the college is building a new barn. It is almost done now and certainly looks fine. I have not had time to go through it yet but expect to do so soon.

Our President is gone on a trip to the East now and there does not seem to be much news. The real purpose of this letter is, as perhaps you have suspected, is to ask for some of the yellow metal or green paper. I have not yet bought a suit, but cannot put it off longer. I am even ashamed to go to church or any place else. Also please write at once as I do not like to go behind with my board fill. I have at the present writing just 49¢ and one button, with debts amounting to about two dollars.

I wish Herman and Ben would write some time. I will write to Annie soon. Hoping to hear from you very soon I close,

With Love,

(Box 504.)

Sam

Corvallis, Oregon,
March 6, 1908.

Dear Folks:

Although this is Friday evening and not my regular writing day, I feel just in the right spirit to write and will therefore do what I should have done a week or two ago. Ben will have to consider this as an answer to his letter also, as I have hardly time enough to repeat the news in a special letter.

There is so much to write about that I hardly know where to begin, but the thing that is most noticeable to me is that I have moved. I am now staying at Bodine's (Ben will know where it is) rooming with Frank Becker, who is certainly a fine fellow. He is from Philomath (5 miles from here) and his parents are German, although he does not speak German very readily. I don't remember whether or not Frank Becker was boarding at Cramer's already last year when Ben was here. If so, Ben knows him.

A few days ago Frank's brother was here for overnight and we had quite a time – three in a bed. Frank's brother or rather half brother (Carl Dittmer) lives in Kennett, California where he runs two newspapers, a lumber yard and I don't know what else. He is making quite a lot of money it seems. Also I might say, he is a Stanford graduate. Last summer Frank was down there working for his brother, and Carl said that next June he was coming back up here for a week's visit and to see me get my two sheepskins, after which he would take us both along with him; Frank to work for him as last year, and me to a job in one of the large smelter power houses, with the head men of which he seems to have considerable influence. If some one of the other things I am trying for don't pan out I might consider the matter of working there awhile, as it is a fine country. Prof. Phillips (of O.A.C.) who is a very good friend of mine was in Chito, Cal. Last vacation and says that it was very enjoyable there. He offered me his job last fall when he came back to teach but of course I did not care to give up school for the year to go.

About moving – my new place has some advantages over the old and also some disadvantages, but all together I think it was a good move. It is certainly much more enjoyable here, and that too without any foolishness or waste of time as you will of course at once suspicion. My former room-mate does not take the electrical course and if I would say something to him it would not interest him or if he would say something to me I would not care particularly to hear it. He is not even interested in the course he is taking (mechanical) and spends all his time fooling with orations, newspaper articles, and other literary foolishness which never or seldom brings him anything. He is good enough but we simply did not fit together and I am glad I moved. I have found that it is not so terrible to move, I only wish I had had the courage to try it about three years ago.

Ben wishes my opinion on Taxidermy and he shall have it; I think there are lots of studies that would have been of much more practical benefit, although perhaps not more interesting, than Taxidermy. Yet, in judging men the line of work they do does not count for much; it is not what a man does but how a man does. If he can do the Taxidermy stunt better than any one else he is as truly a great artist or even scientist as the man who can successfully accomplish a great engineering feat. But I am not studying to be a preacher, editor, or lawyer and so will come back to earth.

Earth reminds me of money, for from the earth is where it all comes from and not out of dynamite or off of telephone posts. Papa said that I should give notice some time before I need money and hence I make use of this opportunity to give the required notice.

There are pages of "guff" that I could scribble off about the College and about my work, and such, but as it would not interest you very much I will not do it.

Once there were two deaf-mutes who were seen working their fingers at a racing speed. A bystander asked another man "What are those two fellows doing there?" The man said, "Why, they are correspondence school students and are giving their college yell!"

Has Herman learned his College yell yet? Here it is in case he does not know it,

Ink-a-mess!
Ink-a-mess!
A.C., A.C., A.C.S.!

How many exams has he done already? I wish he would write once in a while when he can manage to make it possible to permit himself to drag himself away for a moment from his most absorbingly interesting studies. Did Annie get my card? Saturday is no holiday for me, so must close.

With love yours

N.B. Are you all well? Write soon!

S.H.G. (504)

Corvallis, Oreg.
March 26, 1908.

Dear Folks:

It is about time that somebody should be writing, and as you seem to have disowned me I will have to do the writing myself. After a couple of hours of machine deigning I will be done with this term's work. None of the grades are out yet so I do not know whether I passed in everything or not, but I would be considerably surprised if I had not.

Frank and I have been up very late the last few day as we had a great deal of work to finish up for this term. I had my notes on the Experiments I have been making to finish, we each had a dynamo to design, and I finished up my thesis ready to hand in, although I have not passed it in yet as there is a thesis fee of \$1.00 (Joke).

We are going to have a long vacation of one day before the next term, but it will not be much of a vacation for me as I expect to make the drawings for the dynamo I have designed.

Next term I am going to take up the Second book of Steinmetz in Electrical Engineering and it certainly promises to be fierce. Another thing I will study is steam turbines. The rest of my studies will be just a continuation of my present work.

Frank Becker lives only about five miles from here (in Philomath) and goes home over Sundays. Next Saturday evening I am going out with him to see the great city of Philomath and the magnificent (?) college there. It is the United Brethren College.

You will see from this letter that I am in a great rush; it is so rambling first one thing and then another, but this is also partly due to the weight on my mind, but as I gave you warning and as you no doubt expect it and did not write for fear of making it come sooner, I will gave to come to the sad part. I will have to have more money soon. This seems to come pretty often but you know part of the last had to got for a new outfit of rags. If you will figure up you will see that it has not been as it seems, taking into consideration that I have earned over \$60 this year. My last student (Don Paul) has now left me. He passed safely and needs instruction no longer. My present financial stringency is due also partly to him as he has not yet paid me for the last two months.

Also I have not yet received my pay from the College for taking charge of examinations for Prof. Johnson. Has Herman graduated yet or when is he going to? How is he getting along with his Correspondence course? Whey in the world can't he write to me once in awhile and Ben too; and Annie too after I sent her such a bee-utiful card? I suppose though everybody is busy with his own troubles and does not happen to have a pen in hand while fighting with them as I do.

I am working on a design of the pulleys, belts, and arrangement of motors for the new blacksmith shop of the O.A.C. and if I get the job done this afternoon as I must I will have to conclude this most beautifully penned epistle.

The drawing I am working on is a practical problem, and the best arrangement figured out in our class (of 3) will be installed. I think mine will be the one. Well, please write soon, yes very soon. And while I think of it don't always wait till I need money before writing and then kick because I never write without asking for the yellow lucre. Well, so long.

Yourn

S.H.G.
(504)

Corvallis, Oreg.
April 10. 1908.

Dear Folks:

I have a little time to spare this beautiful Saturday afternoon and will use it in writing you a short letter. It will have to be short as it is now not far from supper time and as I am going to the beautiful town of Philomath after supper. Frank goes home over Sundays and has invited me to come out to stay with him and his folks tomorrow.

I have received my grades for last term and must say that I was agreeably surprised. We have now a new system of grading: A = 90 to 100, B = 80 to 90, etc. E = 45 to 60 a condition, and below 45 = F (failure). I took six subjects and made the following grades:

Spanish	A
Elec. Engineering	P (old system)
Gas Engines	A
Machine Design	A
Experimental Eng.	A
French	P (graded by old system)

You see I made A in all my subjects that were graded at all. An A is what a P+ used to be.

I am getting along famously in my school work but am not a little worried about the future. The money troubles do not seem to be over yet in the East and the large Electric companies are not going to take on any test men this year. I understand also that in California there are many men out of employment so that Frank's brother, Mr. Dittmar may not be able to get me a suitable job.

I have about made up my mind to apply for a position here at college to be one of those despised Brotfressors. There would not be much in it, but it would be handy because if I did not do it I would have to come back here for a while anyway, to work on the thesis for my Master's degree which I expect to take in June 1909. After taking that I will have finished O.K. but I will not know yet all there is to know.

There is an auction sale going on in Bodine's warehouse across the street and if I make some mistakes or do not make the letters plain I hope you will pardon me as I am trying to keep up with the auctioneer.

Over last Saturday and Sunday a Mr. Charles Thompson from Mt. Tabor stayed here with me to look over the College. I met him last Christmas while I stayed in Portland with Don Paul. The kid is coming up in a few days to prepare for entrance next year. I am going to tutor him in Algebra, Physical Geography, and Arithmetic and Mrs. C. will give him the other subjects. That is to say he will come if he does not think our rates are too high. If he does come I believe I will blow myself for a Spring suite this year, a thing which I had decided not to do because expenses are quite high I realize, and it is going to take about \$80.00 yet to finish up this year.

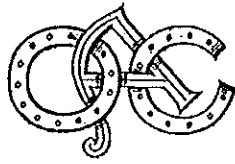
If I get a job here for next year I suppose I will want to work at home during the summer if there is a job for me.

I have not heard from any of the kids yet. They do not seem to realize that "Dear Folks" also includes them. If I did write to each separately what would I say? I might make carbon copies of the letter and send each one a copy. Make them write. I must now close. Write soon.

Yours with love,

Box 504.

S.H. Graf.



Corvallis, Oreg.
April 26, 1908.

Dear Folks:-

I expected a letter from you last week but did not get it, although it seems that where there are so many who might write one of the number might think enough of the sohn in der ferne (not in the ferns) to write once in a while.

My school work has been going on in about the same rut as usual. I am getting more and more interested in Power Plant engineering, and as a sort of start I am going to run a test on the O.A.C. Power Plant. I have engaged six of the best students I know to help me and it will take us all of one day (from 8.00 A.M. to 11.00 P.M.) to complete the test. Of course I do not have to hire these fellows; they are glad enough to get off from their classes for a day and then they are willing to do it for the experience. This test will be quite an undertaking as it involves a great deal and is something that has never been done before here.

An Engineering Journal has been started here and is going to be a regular thing. Only one issue will be printed this year but next year it is to appear monthly. I have been asked to give my Thesis for publication and although there will be no money in it I guess I will let them have it to help the good cause along. I have also been asked to write up the Power Plant test for the first issue next year. I will be getting to be quite a journalistic contributor if I do all this.

But now I have used nearly a sheet of paper and have not begun what I was going to tell about. The Board of Regents have held their annual meeting and the decisions which have been made public are really quit startling. To be very brief there were elected 24 new Professors for next year and it was decided to make an addition to one of the buildings. Besides this there were a number of minor changes, and I imagine there were also a number of changes of importance which have not been made public and which would be rather startling. But we will see later on.

Some of the new Profs are the following:

Four ladies as Instructors in the Dep't. of Household Science.

A new Prof. in Commerce (Business course) also in this dep't. an instructor in Shorthand and Typewriting.

Physical Culture teacher for the girls and a noted man as Physical Director of the whole school.

Debating and Public Speaking. This subject is to be included in all courses when the school begins on the new standard.

Animal Husbandry (about which I cannot give expert information).

Physics. A fine prof. with Doctor's degree from University of Wisconsin. The dep't. of Physics is to be build up greatly next year.

Pharmacy and Chemistry. One of our old '07's who has spent his year at University of Michigan.

Machine Shopman.

Spanish.

Mathematics – one of Will Beaty's brothers. Class of '03.

New Director of Music.

Now for the part which concerns me most. There have been appointed a number of Graduate Student assistants. Of this number I am one – to be Ass't. in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. I will be expected to put in about half or a little more of my time in teaching and the rest in my work for the Master's Degree. I do not know definitely what my pay is to be yet but can say that it will be enough to pay expenses, so that you will be able to get that gasoline Engine, that auto, and that trip to Europe, all of which have been postponed on account of me.

Frank has written to his brother in California about me to remind him of the promise he made to get me a job down there in a power plant. I do not know what success he will have as labor conditions are not of the best. Yet if he does not help me out, I suppose I can come and shovel hay again although I would prefer to see a little of the engineering world before beginning my work in teaching, even though it is not likely that it will be very necessary in the classes I will have. What I would like to do is to travel around a little and see some of the large power plants of the West. I could get letters from Prof Covell here so as to get permission to inspect these plants carefully and thus gain much valuable information.

My plans for the future may be somewhat visionary and may seem about as possible as flying but I will tell you what they are, as Wilhelm Schmidt would say – “Wims ich gesund bin und Gott es will” I am going to complete my work here next year getting my M.S. and a year's experience in teaching (also a reputation if possible) then I am going to refuse all offers to return and am going into engineering work for two years and then having saved enough money I am going to Cornell to work until I get the Doctor's degree in Engineering. After that I will be ready to receive offers of positions.

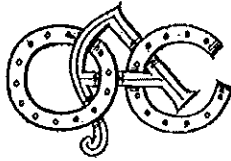
But to return from the clouds – that fellow from Portland has come and I have started to put him wise so that he can enter next year.

There is also a minor matter which is of grave importance and cause me much grief to make it known to you and will make you the same grief. I am BROKE! (almost).

Yours lovingly

Sam

N.B. My watch has ticked its last. I am waiting for the fourth of August, 1908.



Corvallis, Oreg.
June 9, 1908.

Dear Folks:

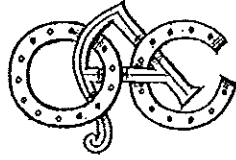
Some things which have been in doubt thus far have been decided and I thought I would write and let you know. I am busy now almost night and day as I am taking Prof. Covell's work. There are so many things to look after at the end of the year as it is that I have enough to do to keep me busy. Well Frank's brother, Carl, has come from California and he has gotten me a job in the machine shop of the Mammoth Smelter and I have decided to go there for the summer. It is a fine country and Carl, who by the way is quite influential, tells me that there is a fine chance for work up in the Smelter. If I go there this summer I will get acquainted and may get on to something pretty good.

Frank is going down a week from next Friday (that is on the 19th) and I think I had better go with him, he having been there before several times. It would make the trip much nicer because he knows the different places, etc.

The commencement exercises are on the 17th (Wednesday) and I would come home Wednesday evening, stay over on Thursday, catch the south bound train at 8 A.M. Friday and meet Frank at Albany from where we would continue the trip together.

I am of course sorry that I cannot spend the summer at home, but it is about time I were getting some practical experience in my own line of work and I will be able to save just as much or more, my pay amounting to about \$90 to \$100 per month – board is about \$25 per mo. I do not expect to work longer than about to Sept. 5 or so, after which I want to see some of the large power plants in Shasta Co., also those about Portland, and then I want to spend a few days at home before school again opens. Just by the way, you know. I will have to borrow about \$25 for R.R. fare and to start me. Will pay back as soon as possible. Must close – write soon.

Yours with love, Sam.



Corvallis, Oreg.,
June 16, 1908.

Dear Folks:

I am coming home Wednesday, June 17, evening by way of Hillsboro. If you are very busy do not bother to meet me as I can just as well walk. Of course if it is convenient I would like to have some-one meet me.

We have decided not to go till a week from today, so that I will take the train at the Union Depot Tuesday evening.

I like this better as it will give me more time at home, also I may go to Portland and see the plants at Estacada and Oregon City before I go. This would give me opportunity to make some comparisons with the power plants in California some of which I expect to see.

I am going to be mighty short on money instead of having some left as I expected. Just yesterday the graduating class received the cheerful news that there would be a \$5 diploma fee so of course I had to plunk down a ten as I am getting two degrees and two of the aforesaid sheepskins. Well I am in a hurry and will see you soon so I will close.

Yours with love

Sam

COPPER OUTLOOK
C. F. DITTMAR, PUBLISHER
KENNETT, - CALIFORNIA

Kennett, Cal.,
July 12, 1908.

Mr. S. E. Graf, etc.,
Portland, Oreg.

Dear Folks:

I have intended to write for some time but every evening when I got home from work I felt so tired that I could not conjure up an inspiration and so the letter remained unwritten. I hope that this effort although tardy will fill the bill.

Perhaps the best way will be to start at the beginning and tell you of my experiences in Portland. The first day I saw Station E in North portland, hunted up Jack Fairchild and bummed a night's lodging from his folks. The next day I saw the Home Phone Co's. central (That is the Automatic central where they have no "hello girls"), the Oregon City plant, and the wreck of the Cazedero plant about which you no doubt have heard. Although it was forbidden (I did not know it at the time) I got some pictures of the wreck. The camera which I bought is OK as Ben can tell you.

On the evening of the same day I boarded the train for the sunny South. The scenery along the road is very fine, especially when you get down near Mt. Shasta. So much for the preliminaries, you no doubt wish to know about how I live and so on more particularly and in order to gratify that wish I will at once to it.

As in all parts of the country work is not rushing here and I never would have gotten in if it had not been for Carl Dittmar's influence; as it is I am not working in the shop yet and I never may, since my present job, although not along engineering lines, suits me quite well considering circumstances. The Mammoth Smelter is a great establishment and a person has a chance to learn a great many things no matter what his job is. At first I was put in the bullion room where the bars of metal (copper and gold mixed) are weighed and loaded into cars for shipment to the East where the various constituents are separated and refined.

The percentage of gold and silver in the bars is not large, the mixture being worth about 25¢ per pound. At present the value of electrolytic copper (refined copper) is about 12¢ per pound, so you can figure if you wish how much the gold in a pound of mixture is worth.

The average out-put of copper (mixture) is at present about 125,000# per day (24 hrs.) and there are three of us to weigh and load this. We start at 7 in the morning and work until we get through which is usually at about 2 in the afternoon (not stopping longer than necessary for lunch- we could of course take regular "union" time if we wanted to). One fellow, the boss, weighs and I and another fellow truck and load the "gold bricks". The bars are about 2ft. x 3ft. and about 4 or 5 inches thick and weigh from 200 to 500 pounds the average weight being about 320#.

So far I like it here very well although before the tenth of this month the truck-men had to go out into the yard and work the full time 9 hrs. after finishing the Bullion room work; under the new arrangement our job is OK as we get full time no matter if we get through at noon as we have a couple of times.

Perhaps you are wondering what I do with all the extra time- well, I do not spend it in the saloons of which there are a whole street here. I am working up the course in mechanical drawing which I am going to give when I start professoring. This is very stiff work as my hands are all out of shape for lettering and such work.

There are quite a number of students here from the University of California and there were a few from Stanford. These must return to school about the tenth of August and I have no doubt that I can get into the shop then if I want to. I may be so lazy by then that I will not want to work at all although I would make about \$1.50 a week more there. However don't be misled, I have to work pretty hard where I am, or rather we always do so as to get away early you know.

To describe the smelter would be a very tedious proposition for me and might not be of any great interest to you so I will not attempt it. If you would like to know what a smelter looks like tell me and I will try to give you some idea in the next letter. Needless to say it gets quite warm here, when it does not reach a hundred in the shade we think it is remarkably cool! However it does really not seem hotter than it used to seem sometimes in the fragrant hay fields of Oregon.

My meals and lunch I get at a restaurant, it is the only way here, and I sleep on a spring mattress and bedding belonging to Carl, and I sleep not in a luxurious chamber but what is far more desirable here, or the upper porch of the hotel. Thus far the nights have always been cool and they tell me that they are always so. There are quite a few beetles, bugs, and other winged insects here that are new to me, but as none of them have any especial taste for my flesh it is very agreeable on that score. There are no malignant gnats.

It costs me about \$25 per month to live here hence I will be able to save about \$100 beside the fare back. Frank and I are planning to go to San Francisco and then to Portland by steamer. It would not cost much more and would be more interesting than going back the same way we came.

Well, for this time you ought to be satisfied and as I am getting tired of hammering this rattletrap I am going to close. I hope you will not think that this is the best I can do with a typewriter for I can write just as correct as anyone if I want to take the time. My regards to the Kids, Ben included, and tell Herman that his Cyma is alright, it is a fine time-keeper as I have not had to set it since leaving Portland. Well, write soon.

Yours lovingly,

S.H. Graf.

PS: Tell Mother and Uncle John that I am getting along nicely and that it may be a few days yet before I get rested from the task of writing this letter enough to be able to do my duty by them, but like Christmas, one is surely coming.

S.G.

Kennett, Cal.,
Aug. 19, 1908.

Mon Cher Frère et les Autres:

A letter does not seem to be forthcoming so I will write as it is about time. I received Ben's letter but did not suppose that it was to take the place of the other one -- at any rate this will be an answer to all and you may consider yourselves as each owing me a letter. Things here are just exactly as the last letter left them so there is excuse for "guff", there being nothing else to write.

Although I like it fairly well here I am beginning to count the days yet remaining; as my plans are now I will work to the 15th of Sept., go to San Francisco the night of the 15th arriving at 11 A.M. on the 16th, then I expect to spend the remainder of the 16th, the 17th and 18th in viewing the burg, also I will go to see Berkeley (Calif. University) and Stanford, both of which are not far from San F. On the 19th at 11 AM will take steamer for Portland where I will arrive about evening of the 21st., then I will go to St. John's and home probably in the morning Sept. 22. Then finally to Corvallis on the 24th, arriving at noon ready to start herding "Rooks" on the 25th. which is the first registration day.

I suppose Ben rec'd the new OAC catalog and noticed the names of the members of the Faculty.

I forgot to say that as things are at present Frank will not go with me to S.F. etc.; as he wants to spend several days at home also we would have to start earlier which would not be beneficial to my financial status, nor would it suit Carl, since Frank gets "so much" for his Summer's work.

How did the grain show up in threshing? Did the wheat come up to what it promised? How are things in general?

Is Papa going to Southern Oreg. soon? and will he be at home when I come thru on my lighting tour of the West?

Have been feeling fine all the time and am even gaining some weight. It must be the Calif. weather and sleeping outside, also it may be my easy job. It can't be the grub for Heaven knows that is poor enough. But I can stand it as I have something scrumptious to look forward to -- at least in the grub line.

Well, if there were more of this you would have to get an eye doctor and that would be too bad. But fortunately there is absolutely nothing more to say.

Yours Affectionately,

S.H. Graf

N.B. I was somewhat disappointed in not receiving a letter "gratulating mir zum geburtsdag."
(Note what I inclose.)

COPPER OUTLOOK
C. F. DITTMAR, PUBLISHER
KENNETT, - CALIFORNIA

Sept. 5, 1908

Dear Brother and Folks:

I do not know what to write, as things are about as the last letter left them. But in order to give a _____ I will dash off a few lines.

It is much more enjoyable here now than it was during the hottest part of the summer. At present they are having some trouble with the "converters" at the smelter and the copper output for the last few days has not been as large as usual, hence I have been enjoying short hours. Today we finished our day's work at 9:45, or about three hours' work.

A couple days ago I went to Coram with Frank. This is a small town about five miles away where there is a large smelter – new – to be put into operation in about one month. It will have a capacity slightly larger than that of the Mammoth and as there are some differences in the equipment of the two smelters I saw a number of things which were of considerable interest.

According to present plans Frank is to come to Bethany with me and that will make it necessary that someone comes to Portland to get us as we could not very well lug our baggage over the Mt. I think that the boat reaches Portland on Monday evening but as we have some shopping to do we will want to come out on Tuesday Sept. 22. It will be impossible for us to stay more than a day or two since school opens on the 25th and Frank wants to go home (to Philomath) before classes start on the 28th.

You – Ben better find out what the schedule time is when the steamer is due in P. – the dock is the one just to the right hand side of the Steel Bridge; it has a sign on it saying San Francisco #5. or at least it did have. Please find out the next time you go to town if convenient and let me know at once – I can't find out because I do not know the address of the S.S. office in San F. But even if you don't find out it doesn't matter much as we could just as well leave our baggage in Portland and go back there instead of to Hillsboro. The latter would be the most convenient thought as I would like to take along a box or two of apples.

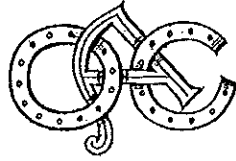
Did Papa get my watch yet? I could not find out yet what jeweler in P. handles the Howard. My card that I sent to the company must have been lost – perhaps it was never mailed as I always put my mail with that going from the Copper Outlook office. Well – write very soon – only ten days more before we leave the beautiful city of Kennett.

With love yours,

S.H. Graf

Hello! Everybody

(Your Boy)



Corvallis, Oreg.,
Oct. 5, 1908.

Dear Folks:

I thought I would not write until I could catch up with my work but I see that this may take a week or more yet, so I suppose it would be more advisable for me to dash off a few lines to let you know how the world is treating your prodigal son.

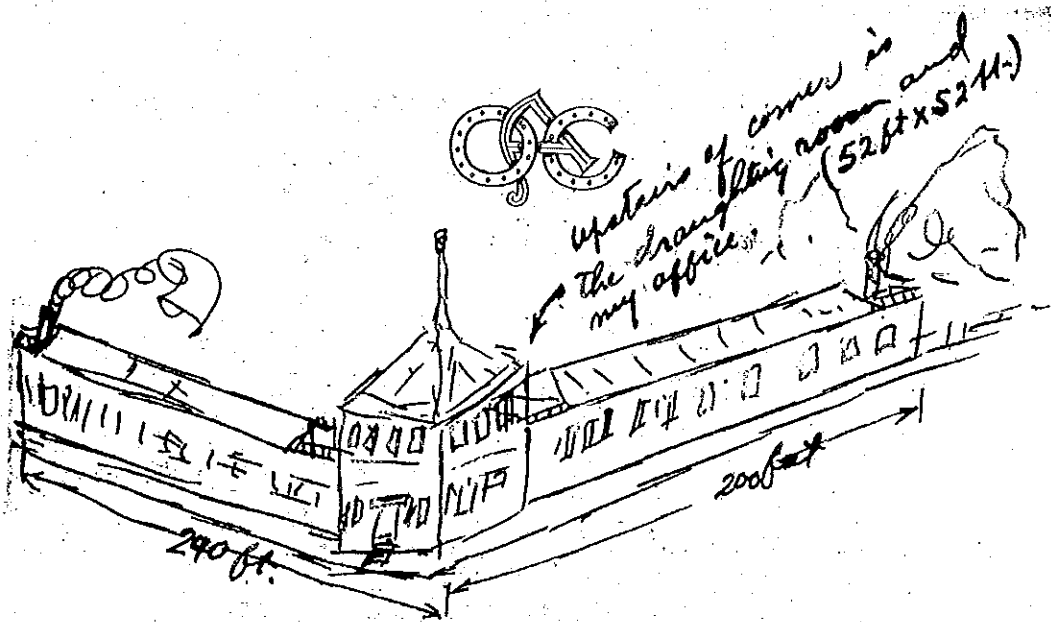
In the first place – Frank and I have moved again; they raised the room rent on us so we hiked out. The place where we now room is very good – electric lights, bath, a large clothes closet, heat, a very nice room for \$9 per mo. We walk quite a ways for our meals but they are worth it. It is the best grub I ever had while boarding out – the pie is quite satisfactory. It costs us \$3.50 per week which is a medium price, a common rate being \$4 per.


There are several hundred more students now than there were at this time last year, but I doubt that the registration will reach 1500 as expected.

I have been on the jump continually since arriving – we had to move – I had to help with the registration, I had a job at lettering in the College Library – I had to get my classroom in shape and had to start working up the course in Mechanical drawing as we are not going to use any book. Prof. Phillips and I are going to write a book on Mechanical D. suitable for this school and I am shaping the work I am giving the fellows with this in view.

Beside Mech. D. I have a class of Seniors in Experimental Engineering, but so far I have been so busy that I have had very little time to do anything with it.

As is usual at O.A.C. there have been many changes during the vacation. The Administration building is being remodeled, the new Agricultural Hall is about completed, the Y.M.C.A. Bldg. is going up, the old blacksmith shop has been turned into an assay lab., and the new Mechanic Arts building has for some days resounded with the activities of amateur machinists, blacksmiths, and other artificers.



This rough sketch represents the Mechanic Arts building where I hang out. I am very proud of my draughting room and the way it is furnished – you just ought to see it and also see how I rule the fellows with an .

I have not yet registered as a student and am not taking any classes. If the work keeps on coming as it has been I do not expect to take any regular classes – of course I will do some studying along advanced engineering lines to get my Master's degree. I am planning to use the Mechanical Drawing course I am getting up as a thesis. I do not know yet that it will be accepted.

Those apples I took along are not quite ripe enough to eat yet and they are a constant eye sore – they are here and yet not to eat. "not yet but soon." How is everything? Has Papa returned yet?

Give my regards to "Mother" and Uncle John – tell them that I am so busy now that it may be a week or more before I will have time to write.

And now as I should at this instant be at work I will close with love to all of you.

Yours,

S.H. Graf
Corvallis, Oreg.

(305 – 14th St.)

Corvallis, Oreg.,
Nov. 2, 1908.

Dear Folks:

Received your long looked for letter sometime ago – have been waiting for something to happen, but since nothing seems to be on the road I will have to get busy and write anyhow. Of course you know there is really nothing to write about now even though I am about \$40 in debt.

I have been so busy, and interested in my work that I have not written to anyone – except such business letters as I had to write; I am not in a very literary mood tonight, but will have to write letters if I expect to get answers.

There are now a few over a hundred students in my classes and so far I have not had my bluff called; they don't seem to realize how little I know and I don't intend to tell them.

Instead of half time for which I was hired I am "putting in" full time – have tried to get a raise and think I will succeed before long. If I do I will of course get my back pay since I have worked full time from the start. I expected to have only the Mechanical Drawing but when I got here I found out that it was Experimental Engineering for me in addition. There are about twenty fellows in this work – all seniors or postgraduates – so you see my classes are pretty classy. Mech. Drawing is a sophomore study now but I will have the Freshmen next term – there will be about 150 of them beside the 100 or more that I now have. Of course I will not be able to take care of them all and will probably get my roommate and pardner as assistant.

The new Agricultural building (Agronomy Hall) is nearing completion and it as well as the Y.M.C.A. Bldg. will be ready for occupancy before very long.

On the 21st of this month will take place that important annual event – the Eugene game – it will be played in Portland and I will be there but I suppose the excursion will return to Corvallis on the same day. I am again teaching a night class in Mechanics and am making pretty good money with it – also I have one fellow to tutor Saturday evenings – but no matter how much I make I am always some in the hole. Just wait though I will have a bank account in a few weeks, and it won't consist of debts either.

You remember I was supposed to do some studying for a higher degree this year – well so far I have not registered – I intend to do so as soon as I get the necessary \$7 ahead. – ha! Ha!

Oh! I nearly forgot – a great honor has been heaped upon me – I was elected to the exalted position of "Chairman" of our branch of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. The branch promises to become quite an active association; we have had one excellent meeting which was not only instructive but interesting to all as well – (I was on the program).

Those apples I took along are not all gone yet and are certainly good. The only trouble is we have such a fine boarding place that we don't often get hungry enough to eat apples.

Please write soon and tell Ben to write also. There is of course no use to ask any of the others. I do not know of anything more to write that would be of special interest so will close for this time with the resolve not to wait so long the next.

Yours with love

S.H. Graf.

1909

WRIGHT-DICKINSON HOTEL CO.



CHAS. WRIGHT, PRESIDENT
M. C. DICKINSON, MANAGER

Portland, Oregon, Jan 6, 1909.

Dear Folks:

I am sitting in the luxurious parlors of Hotel Oregon and have nothing to do that must be done. Will make use of the time by writing a letter to you. It is such nice white weather that I don't want to be roaming around outside.

The two exams I finished were easy although one was pretty long, neither one was what I expected and so even if I had had time to "bone up" for them I would not have studied the right things. If I should get the job I believe I would quite O.A.C. and take it. \$1200 a year wouldn't be so bad considering that I would be learning a mighty fine business at the same time.

Undoubtedly the house is now ringing to the tune of "Redwing" till everyone is seeing Indians in his sleep.

I thought I would go out to see Hugo but it is so cold and disagreeable outside that I will take a trip to the City Library instead and study a little on the dope I will have tomorrow.

By the way, Frank may quit College in a few weeks now himself. He may take the job of running a little electric light plant which is now being put in in Philomath. He would work at that a year or two and then finish up his work later. In many ways it would be to his advantage as he would get much more out of the work when he does come back.

If I should get my job right away I don't know what I would do. To quit now would mean no Master's degree and a loss of quite a bit of money; but I am not worrying much about it; it is better not to trouble trouble till trouble troubles you.

Now that the weather has turned so inclement can't Ben attend the Mechanic Arts Short course? He could learn all he needs to know about Blacksmithing, Woodwork and laying out plans of buildings. I think it would really be worth while. His work would be nearly all done in the fore noon and afternoons he could take in the Agricultural lectures he can.

The total expense for the six weeks would not be over \$40. R.R. fare \$5.20, Board @ 4.00, \$24.00 Misc. not over 11.00 - in all \$40.00 which is very cheap.

Please write soon and let me know what was to be seen at Lebanon.

How is Herman making it with his course? It should be easy for him now.

Your Boy,

S.H. Graf
c/o O.A.C.
Corvallis, Oreg.

State Agricultural College

School of Engineering and Mechanic Arts

Department of Mechanical Engineering
S. H. GRAF, ASSISTANT

Corvallis, Oregon, February 6, 1909

Messrs. S.E. Graf & Co.,
Portland, Oreg.

Dear Folks:

I must humbly acknowledge that I have been shamefully negligent in my correspondence; not only with you but with everyone. There are about fifteen letters lying here on my table waiting to be answered, and I can really say truthfully that I haven't had won't have the time to answer them.

You see we now have only two terms a year and the first term is just over; of course we are all very busy getting out grades, correcting papers, etc. Then too, the Legislature paid us a visit a week ago and tomorrow a committee from that august body comes to inspect the Engineering departments to see what ought to be done. That means stick around and peddle the heated article.

Perhaps Ben is wondering why I have not set a time for him to come; it is just this way, I would very much like to have him come but would not be able to entertain him much for the reasons named; also the people where we are staying are not what they might be and I do not see how we would have room unless we slept three in a bed, or one of us went visiting with some single friend during the time. This could be arranged, and if Ben wants to come the best time would be say come Thursday – stay Friday, Saturday and Sunday forenoon during any week now as there is always something doing and it is impossible to know what it will be very long before it happens. Let me know what day it will be and I will be at the train to extend the glad hand.

To return to things as they are here – I am satisfied with the work that I have done this term, considering what I had to work with, and am certain that if the Legislature does the proper thing by us I will have a good “posish” next year, and decent pay too. If they don't “come through” I have nearly made up my mind to quit and spend the money I will have saved on another year's schooling at Cornell or some equivalent school. I would rather however wait until I get enough ahead so that I can spend say three years, or such a time as it would take me to get my Ph.D. (This will take at least \$1500). It's foolish of course—

In addition to my regular college work I will have (next term) a class in Electricity. The class will be similar to the Mechanic's class I have been having and will be Juniors. They will pay me a minimum amount of \$150 per class of perhaps an hour or an hour and a half. This will

be a few plunks too and then as a side issue I am teaching an engineer down town the art of mechanical drawing. This also adds an occasional plunk to my educational fund and helps to fill in the weary hours from supper to breakfast. That reminds me – today at dinner Prof. Knopf remarked that Prof. Weniger and I must never sleep and asked us when we did sleep if we did at all. I told him that I used to sleep a little but now since I have begun coming to breakfast again I have to give that up too.

It is now about 12 (mid night) and the evening was wasted as far as work was concerned as I attended a “housewarming” given by one of the Profs. About the whole Faculty (and wives where there were any) were present. We had a very pleasant time, but my strong line is not along being a social butterfly, and I came mighty near not going. The Ass’t. Prof. of Mech. Eng. who is also not a social lion thought we ought to go and wanted me to go with him for protection. He always smokes 10¢ cigars and is not stingy with them, so I went and if this letter has a delicate perfume of Carabanas you will know why.

Of course it is safe now to smoke as I have my long hoped for pocket clock – and a fine one it is too. It ran a little slow during Jan. about $\frac{1}{2}$ min and I moved the regulator just about by the breath of a hair on a gnat’s heel and as far as I can tell it keeps time now about to the second, which is about as good as can be expected.

This is rather a disjointed letter, but next I am going to say that at last I have begun to do some of the Electrical Lab. work I am signed up for and it is very interesting. Owing to the fact that I am nearly always busy afternoons during week days or work on Saturday P.M. and evening, Prof. Weniger and I working together.

There is no end of news to tell about but this will serve to let you know that I am still at O.A.C. and have not gone to Timbuctoo for the Civil Service. I have not heard my grade yet but expect to any day.

I will try to do better in the future along the line of writing. For now I must close.

Yours with love,

S.H. Graf

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS
ENGINEERS BUILDING, 33 WEST THIRTY-NINTH STREET, NEW YORK



OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE BRANCH

S. H. GRAF, Chairman

C. CHRISTIANSEN, Secretary

CORVALLIS, OREGON, April 3, '09.

Dear Folks:

Your letter rec'd and read with some surprise. The request for money makes one feel almost like some Carnegiefeller, but I do not know whether we can do any biz. or not; you see my money is deposited as a savings account and according to the rules of the bank. I cannot withdraw the amount I now have without giving three months' notice. I will go down and see if I can get it and if so you may have \$200, this being all I can spare now. The bank pays 4% and you can have it for the same as you have to pay elsewhere (of course). The time would depend on what I am going to do, which is not decided. If I stay here there would be no hurry; if on the other hand I were to go to Wisconsin Univ. (as I may) I would of course need the money perhaps nine months or a year from the present.

The amount is so small that it would perhaps not be of any help; it would be more but I have not yet collected all there is due from students for notes + blue prints, being about \$100 more.

Write at once and let me know if you want it and in what shape I should send it, and meanwhile I will see if the bank will let me have it without the previous notice.

Everything is going nicely except that I have too much work.

Yours

S.H. Graf

State Agricultural College

School of Engineering and Mechanic Arts

Department of Mechanical Engineering

S. H. GRAF, ASSISTANT

Corvallis, Oregon, May 2, 1909

Dear Folks:

Have been waiting patiently for that "l o n g" letter Papa was going to write – I suppose you are all afflicted with the "spring fever" now that the weather is so nice. Have you begun haying yet? – I was a load of hay coming into town the other day and wondered whether it could be new hay already. Rec'd Annie's card – it is a "beaut."

The year's work will soon be over now and I will be able to rest up a bit. I am not going to work like I did last summer, you can bet. Have not planned my summer yet but will have to stay here at least the first six weeks of it to teach Mech. Drawing summer school – a new wrinkle just started. Most of the departments will give some summer school work and I got stung.

As to next year I know very little definitely since the matter of salaries has been postponed until the latter part of this month however, Prof. Covell – head of the Mech. Dept. said that when he recommended changes for next year the President did not make any objection to me, or to the salary I asked. But then that may mean nothing. At any rate if I am here I will not have to teach mechanical drawing again except in a directive sort of a way. Mr. Karstetter, who is now doing some Assistant work in drawing will have charge of the actual class work, and, by the way, is going to work up and compile a "Farmer's and Mechanic's Short Course in Mech. Drawing" as I have gotten up a general course. He is a very pleasant fellow and does dandy work.

I am to have charge of the classes in "Steam Engines and Boilers" – "Materials of Engineering," and Mechanical Laboratory – See all of page 117 – Catalog. This will be quite "classy" and could not suit me better, that is if I am treated right otherwise.

At present I am engaged in the final "windup" test in Engineering Laboratory work for this year. It is to be a complete test of the engine and one of the boilers in the College power plant. Has been working all day yesterday and today getting things ready for the test. I wish you could be here to see the wheels go round and get a taste of the sweatbox where the feed pump for the boilers is; gad, but its hot down there! And then up over the boilers where we have to go occasionally to change some of the steam connections – it makes me think of Kennett and the smelter.

That reminds me, I gave a talk on the Mammoth Smelter before the A.S.C.E. of which you will recall I am Chairman. Evidently my fame has spread for a few days ago I was asked to repeat my "spill" before the Mining Engineers.

A number of Soph's have organized a Slide Rule Club" and meet every Tuesday evening for practice and instruction. They engaged me to dole out the information to them and it is really enjoyable – A treasurer to collect my \$1.50 a lesson – nothing to study up – a pretty smart bunch to talk to and everything lovely.

The O.A.C. Regiment is going to the Expo for a week in June – this will give me a fine chance to clear up my work – I expect to go some time during the summer and will combine it if possible with a little vacation visit to Uncle Willie's if he should care to have me come. Are you planning to take in the A.Y.P. Expo? If so, when?

I often wonder how Herman is getting on with his educational plunge – on what instruction paper is he now working? If he could only realize as I do the importance of digging in he would be good for nothing else. I don't point to myself as an example – for I would be a poor one but no one will deny that the man that gets ahead nowadays has got to know his business no matter whether he is a farmer or a banker or even a preacher, altho I hardly expect that Herman will every occupy a pulpit. When he does I will call around and put a penny in his collection. Just the same I will venture to bet that if I had Herman where I could get at him he would work on his course.

There is one little matter of business I would like to bring up. It is simply this – I do not expect to stay at O.A.C. if they do not pay me what is just. I would like to spend a year at the U. of Wisconsin and my funds would hardly cover it but I know that it would e a fine investment and would like to ask if you would help me out with such small sum as might be necessary to finish up the year in case I should not have quite enough. Of course before I go or even decide to go I want to be sure that I can finish up the year.

As usual I have already "talked too much" so will close still hoping to receive that **L O N G** letter and expecting sometime to see Herman's Diploma hanging in splendor on the wall.

have not mentioned – Sam.

With love to all, also Ben whom I

State Agricultural College

School of Engineering and Mechanic Arts

Department of Mechanical Engineering

B. H. GRAF, ASSISTANT

Corvallis, Oregon, June 7, 1909

Dear Folks:

I will soon have no use for some hundred or more sheets of this beautiful stationery and will therefore take this opportunity to write you, knowing as I do how adverse you are to waste of any kind. The fact is, I should apologize for waiting so long before writing, but I was putting it off in order that I might have something to write about when I did write.

There is no occasion for alarm, however for things are still rather unsettled, although I have learned what my salary is to be. As soon as opportunity affords I am going to see the President about some doubtful details, which if settle satisfactorily will finally decide me to remain here. Of course there is great occasion for optimism since our appropriation was not held up, but as I believe I explained this does not help the salary question much and my stipend is not what it should be. I can however add something to it by outside work as I did this year.

We are waiting on the apportioning of funds after which I will get busy ordering the equipment for the Mechanical Lab. Then while the goods are on the way I expect to take my vacation – coming home for a while and perhaps taking a run to the great AYP Expo.

One thing that pleases me not a little is that I will not have any official connection with the work I am now in, and that my students will all be juniors and seniors. I will not have as many hours per week then as now. This year I have had 30 hrs/week all year, where as, next year according to present plans I will have 18 or 19. This is not a direct comparison however, since part of the work next year is lecture work and requires more preparation; also the lab. will require a considerable amount of attention outside of actual class periods.

To change the subject slightly – the last few days have been pretty strenuous, since we are busy making out grades and I have some 225 students in my classes and with my assistants. One of the aforesaid assistants has left me to take a \$75 (to start) job, on what he learned from me – I'm doing some good in the world anyway hey? Even if it don't come my way.

This P.M. (Friday) the cadets leave Corvallis to encamp at the Expo. for a week. On the 10th I believe they are to march in the Rose Festival Parade in Portland. Those who do not go to the fair will be required to continue class work, but as there are not many in my Dept. I will have time to work on my thesis for my M.S. while they are gone. I have some 5000 words to write yet, and have little inclination to do it.

Well I must close. Please write soon and tell me how everybody is progressing – especially Herman with his correspondence course – is he nearly through yet?

Also give my regards to the folks in the “cabin”, shameful as it is I have not written to them for a couple of months or more.

Your boy

S.H. Graf

N.B. Is Ben married yet? And has he set up housekeeping in Willie’s house or Bauman’s?

State Agricultural College

School of Engineering and Mechanic Arts

Department of Mechanical Engineering
S. H. GRAF, INSTRUCTOR

Corballis, Oregon, June 17, 1909

Dear Folks:

Since things have now come somewhat to a head I thought I would write and make some more definite plans. Up to the present I could not get any information as to what was expected of me, etc. and hence could not make any plans. Today I went in and had an interview with the President and was given the following information:

That I would receive \$840 for the school year of about 8 ½ months. That is: roughly \$100 per month. (Next year)

That I would have the summer off unless called upon by the Dean of my department for work, in which case I would receive extra pay in proportion.

I also arranged to have the new pay come in twelve installments – of \$70 each – beginning with July '09 and ending with June '09, and the \$125 still due me (in three installments) on this year's work to be paid in addition, making my August and September checks \$111.66 each.

The salary offered is not what it should be, but the college will be short of funds this next year because the increased appropriation for maintenance does not begin at once, thus making next year a critical one.

Incidentally I might mention that I graduated again yesterday – with the degrees of Mechanical Engineer and finally Master of Science. This will be the last time at O.A.C. The M.S. is the highest degree granted here.

Prof. Covell (Dean of Engineering) has asked me to stay a couple of weeks to design the Mechanical Lab., of which as you know I have charge. I will have three or four thousand dollars of the poor Oregon Farmers' money to spend, in such a way of course that their ambitious sons may get the most benefit there from.

After this is completed I expect to come home for a month or less, and would take a job for that time. Following this I will take in the A.Y.P. and will spend some weeks in inspecting the steam plants in Seattle and Portland. Perhaps I will try to get a job as a fireman for a day or two or even for a week. Of course my pay goes on just the same, but it would be very agreeable to me if I could make any vacation self supporting.

About the first of Sept. will see me back at O.A.C. setting up the machinery which will have arrived by then.

Hoping that the above information and account of my intentions will meet with approval I am looking for a job, "your Boy".

S.H. Graf
c/o O.A.C.

State Agricultural College

School of Engineering and Mechanic Arts

Department of Mechanical Engineering

S. H. GRAF, INSTRUCTOR

Corballis, Oregon, June 30, 1909

Wampoo Ranchito,
RD#2, Portland, Oreg.

Dear Folks:

Have not received any answer to my last letter but suppose it is because you have been expecting me most any time and also perhaps partly because you are having a few other things to think about. Well, I have finished the design of the Mech. Lab. and am now engaged in straightening my affairs for the vacation. Arrangements are also under way for the printing of the Mechanical Drawing course (of which I am the author) for use next year. Prof. Phillips and I have gone into partnership on it for the reason that he is head of the department and has agreed to take over the business end of the deal leaving me to see to the making of the blue printed specimen plates of which there are 28 in each book. I expect to return to the College for this work about the middle of August or sooner.

Things are pretty dull here now and I will be glad to get away. Frank is going to California again to work for his brother; at present he is here yet finishing up his thesis. He did not have it quite completed although he did get his degree OK.

Mrs. Gray tells me that I was the least bother of all the boys that stayed at her place, and that although she had not intended to keep roomers next year I might come back if I chose. She is a pretty good landlady – minds her own business and all that --- and I guess I will stay there again this time however without a room-mate. Her rate is also very reasonable, she charging me the same now that I am alone as she did when we were both there. I do not expect that though next year, it being only 4.50 per month and the house fitted with modern conveniences and all.

It will be necessary for me to bring some books with me and to do some studying this summer as my work next year is largely new and not very easy. There is also a stack of copy to get out for the printing office as I will have to get 15 or 20 additional Laboratory blanks printed, besides a number of small instruction books. I will try to earn my board however, as it will be good exercise.

Will come next Friday on the West Side and will be at Hillsboro about 3-30 or 4-00 PM (The time has been changed you know) Would come by way of ST J. but will have a rather heavy suit case etc.

So long till then,

Your boy Sam

State Agricultural College

School of Engineering and Mechanic Arts

Department of Mechanical Engineering
S. H. GRAF, INSTRUCTOR

Corvallis, Oregon, August 19, 1909

Dear Folks:

Have arrived safely and have begun my labors at the old stand. Have not done much today but have gotten things into readiness for big doings for the next week or two. My 450 yards of blue-print paper was awaiting me when I got here and I can begin without delay. The "proof" for our book came to hand yesterday and Phillips and I have gone over it for the last time before it finally goes to press. The book is going to be pretty neat and nothing to be ashamed of.

A cause for considerable gratification are my Lab. tables. They are almost finished now and are fit for a KING'S parlor. Especially the graining in my desk is superb; Rodgers, one of the instructors in Woodwork did all of the work on the desk and made a master-piece of it. A gasoline engine has also arrived and other things will be stringing along before I am ready for them. Prof. Covell has been in Portland buying machinery but is back now, I think. Have not seen him yet. Last year he shaved off his beard, and now I am told, he has parted with his moustache also.

Mrs. Durrell has just returned from her vacation is cleaning house. She will open her boarding house next Sunday; at present I have taken up temporary eating quarters elsewhere. The palatial abode of Mr. Gray I found deserted and forthwith installed myself in my cell. The latter was dunged out and ready to receive me; I assume that my nest will now go unmade for a few suns or perhaps moons.

Things are moving rather slowly around College these days on account of the difficulty in getting men. There is lots of work to be done yet and I am afraid that many things that should will not be ready when school opens.

Corvallis is to have a new High-School building and a new Pres'n church, both of which have been started.

Well, that is about all the news. Write when you feel like it and let me know how the harvest came out.

Yours affectionately,

Sam

P.S. I hope this will prove legible.

SHG.

State Agricultural College

School of Engineering and Mechanic Arts

Department of Mechanical Engineering

S. H. GRAF, INSTRUCTOR

Corvallis, Oregon, October 22, 1909

Dear Folks et al:

Well, I have begun although I hardly know what to say; at any rate I am well and hope you are the same, also we have been having a bit of rain lately and that reminds me---- Just to show you how busy I am and have been, I have for two weeks intended to buy a new suit, overcoat, shoes, etc. and have actually gone around with wet feet as I have just simply not had the time to walk half dozen blocks down town to get the rags. However my Lab. is getting to be the envy of most of my contemporaries and the students in my work take an interest that is good to behold, that is, at least some of them do.

Have spent some 3,500 up to date and the remaining 1,500 will be gone before so very long. You know--- "The fool and his money etc." the road materials apparatus has arrived and I would like to get some samples of rock from different quarries over the State and if you could send me samples from the crushers that get out the rock for the roads over the mountain you would be doing me a great favor as well as doing something, indirectly of course, towards forwarding the good roads movement in Oregon. About 40# of coarsely broken stone is required for a complete test, and the sample should be selected so as to represent the entire quarry as fairly as possible. Would it be too much trouble to you to freight me say two samples from two different roads and to give the location of the quarry and a statement of the roads on which the rock was used?

The TW is already in its box awaiting shipment. I have lost or mislaid the directions for its use and as soon as I can unearth them I will make shipment at once. I am also including a few items that may be of interest.

Papa may note an apparent fulfillment of his dire prophecies in the following: We have this year less Engineering freshmen than sophomores and there has been a great increase in all branches of Agriculture. That is as it should be; Oregon is primarily an agricultural state and there are already too many poor engineers just as there are too many poor farmers. The few engineering students we have the more attention we can give them and the less will the labor market be overstocked with engineering graduates. The agric. grad. usually has the home ranch to fall back upon and has therefore a great advantage over the engineer who must depend upon some company for a position. It is no wonder that so many of our engineering grads. are not doing as well financially as their agricultural classmates. Then too, farming is not the "dumma bure" proposition any more that it use to be. Of course due to scientific advances brought about mainly by our colleges and Govt. experiment stations. But, what I was driving at---- we of the Engineering School are not quite as overloaded with work as formerly and will be able to raise the standard of the work some. I have only 16 hours of class work a week now and many have

less. In my case the class work is now not a very large item; I expect to build some 500 or 1000 dollars worth of apparatus during the year beside the setting up and arranging of that purchased.

Have put in a bill for 125 \$ extra work and will be able to put above amt. to my bank acct. soon. On account of the small number of Eng. freshmen Phillips and I did not do as well on our book as expected. However, there is no loss only we will have to wait a little for our profit. Have been able to get a little outside machine and testing work, also have started a slide-rule class. All this adds a few groschen to my scant income.

The day is waxing old and my bed-time is approaching, so hoping that Herman is pursuing his studies with diligence I will close.

Be sure to write a long and detailed account of all the happenings around Box 46, RFD #2 very soon.

From the tougenix,

Sam

State Agricultural College

School of Engineering and Mechanic Arts

Department of Mechanical Engineering
S. H. GRAF, INSTRUCTOR

Corvallis, Oregon, November 22, 1909

Mr. S.E. Graf, et al,
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Folks:

It is getting late, but as I may not have time during the coming week, I will hammer you off a few sentiments.

The lab. due to constant labor is beginning to look like something. I bought some films a few days ago and will send you some postals of my hang-out. However, the Thanksgiving vacation starts Wednesday noon and lasts for the remainder of the week. Would be pleased to have for instance Ben or Herman to come and visit me. I will beherberg him (either) and the expense will be only the RR fare. It would surely be worth it only to come and see my laboratory.

Of course we got beat again the U., but really it was expected and nobody seems to be shedding tears over it. Our work is neither increased nor diminished by the defeat.

I suppose the TW came to hand when due. I hope Annie has not worn the ends of her fingers completely off as yet. The key-board is the same as on the larger machines hence practice on the old rattle trap is really not wasted time.

Nobody seems to be very keen on writing to me any more; have received only one short letter from Papa, and a few postals from Ben. I have had so many things to think about and to do that perhaps I have not done my share, however you have much more time to write than I have and could write longer letters when you do write.

Just to illustrate how I work at times: Friday I did not go to Eugene, but hired a man to help me put in the gas and water pipes for the lab., and also to set up some heavy machinery that had arrived lately. We finished the job last night at 2.00 AM. We had to get it done and expected to work till it was done.

Of course you know that a large number of the experiments I am giving the students this year I have never done myself; this means that I must go over the test myself first in order to be sure that I understand it thoroughly and that the apparatus is all in order. This is mighty fine experience but means a lot of extra work. Then too, I get out a "dope sheet" of directions for each experiment and as there are some forty of these it helps to keep me out of mischief. So far

my students have shown fine interest and I have enjoyed the work very much. If I am here next year I will have things in better shape and may be able to enjoy life a little more than at present.

Did you notice the book I sent with the TW? The course is giving mighty good satisfaction and the Eugene Dietzgen Company has been considering the matter of buying the course from us, or publishing it on a royalty basis. They are also investigating the Slide-Rule stunts that I wrote as a thesis for my EE.

Have not bought our launch yet, and have practically given up the idea of the cycles. I am at present thinking somewhat of going East next summer for Summer School at Wisconsin University or some place of equal rank. It will all depend on the raise I get, as will also the answer to the yearly question of return to OAC.

Well, I am getting tired and sleepy and must close; so here goes, hoping that one or the other of the boys will be able to tear loose for a brief visit ..

Yours with love,

S.H. Graf

1910

State Agricultural College

School of Engineering and Mechanic Arts

Department of Mechanical Engineering
S. H. GRAF, INSTRUCTOR

Corvallis, Oregon, Jan. 10, 1910

Dear Folks:

Guess I will hammer you off a little letter to let you know that I arrived safely and am again in harness. Also, the box of apples came to hand as expected. Thanks.

I got a good deal of work done during the holidays but owing to the cold weather I spent a lot of time on the ice. Have learned to skate fairly well. The first time I went out I fell down a lot of times as might be expected, but I never hurt myself any to speak of. The second time I went it was in the evening, and I ended up taking a good old tumble. I was batty for about half an hour and as a result of the fall I carried a black eye for about a week. My right cheek also was badly swollen, in fact, my right cheek-bone was pretty well battered up and is still a little sore; for a while my teeth did not fit together--- but it was worth it, and did not keep me away the next chance. Went out five times in all and will again if there is any more ice. It certainly is great sport.

Have been expecting a card or letter in reference to that visit Ben is going to make me. When will he come? The facilities for his entertainment are all in order.

Frank Becker is now working in Portland for the Pacific States Telephone Co. Have not heard from directly as yet, but understand that he had bad luck in that he got robbed of his suitcase containing a suit of clothes, drawing instruments, books and other junk.

The short courses are not on in full blast- we have a bunch of the Reubs at our hash-house and if I am not an expert agriculturist at the end of six weeks it will not be their fault. Two of the Agric. Profs are also in the bunch--- but they are not so bad. I am teaching Engine Running to the "short horns" on Saturday AM's.

Well, news of special interest seems rather scarce and I am about out-spielt. Write soon.

Yours affectionately,

S.H. Graf

State Agricultural College

School of Engineering and Mechanic Arts

Department of Mechanical Engineering
S. H. GRAF, INSTRUCTOR

Corvallis, Oregon, April 7, 1910

Mr. S.E. Graf,
Portland, Oreg.

Dear Papa and Others:

In order that you may not forget that you have a prodigal son somewhere "in der ferne" I will scribble you off a few lines. I realize fully that you would be entirely justified in disowning me after the shameful neglect, but, since Ben no doubt told you, I have been quite busy – with both work and play – that however is a poor excuse at best.

Have had some pleasant times lately – as you know Frank was here – then Ben – and the last week my last year's assistant in the mechanical drawing work – Jack Karstetter was my guest.

Am getting along nicely in my work – will have the Engine Laboratory all fitted up at the end of the year. We have just begun work on steam for this year. The work in this division of the subject is mighty interesting but means some hot old afternoons in the Engine Room. As far as my relations with my students are concerned they have always been of the pleasantest; for instance, my Wednesday lab. section boys always take up a collection and one of them goes across the street from the lab. and gets the treats for the bunch. All such little things help some.

The matter of next summer is beginning to be a leading question again – thus far I have decided nothing, except that I will start the vacation by a more or less lengthy stay at the beach at Yaquina or near there. Hawley and I are planning on a little fishing and camping trip there and expect to live the primitive life for a few weeks.

Karstetter and I discussed the matter of starting a Blueprinting and Drafting Office in Portland, but we came to no definite conclusion except that we were sure we could make a go of it.

Frank is now in Seattle working for the Pacific States Telephone Co. – he is making good pay and has fine prospects.

It may be of some interest to you to learn that a Canoe club has been formed here, and that I am a member, having invested in a canoe a short time ago. We are just putting up a club house and expect to have some dandy times. At the present time the canoes are stored away under the Corvallis Flouring Mills and we make use of their mill race to get to the river (Mary's).

the Willamette is a little too swift most of the time to be much fun – it is too hard to paddle up it – of course coming back is nice enough.

Also, it may be of interest to you – that I have recently had my “picture took” – will send you a couple as soon as some are finished – they are food only I look to natural (grouchy).

Well I have palavered much, and I hope you will forgive my shameful neglect, and write as soon as you get all of this letter read.

Yours with love:

Sam

State Agricultural College

School of Engineering and Mechanic Arts

Department of Mechanical Engineering
S. H. GRAF, INSTRUCTOR

Portland
Corvallis, Oregon, June 21, 1910

Dear Folks:

I have been so busy lately that I have hardly written to anybody for a month, so you will have to excuse me.

Have been in Portland twice within the last month but did not have time to come out either time. am now settled and have started to work, hence this letter.

Am working for Fairbanks, Morse, & Co. – in their machine shop. Today I helped put in a “deep well” pump on Capitol Hill. The well is about 300 ft. deep and the pipe for the pump is 6” in diameter. The pump is operated by a 15 HP gasoline engine. The job is not yet completed and I expect to work on it again tomorrow.

I like my boss pretty well and am sure the work will be mighty interesting. At any rate it will be good experience and always something different. The manager of the company is very anxious that I should stay with them and not go back to teaching – however that remains to be seen and will depend on what he has to offer this fall.

I would have liked to work on the ranch this summer as the change would have done me good but I simply can't afford it – I have to get engineering experience whenever I can if I am to make good in teaching. If I possibly can I am coming out next Saturday evening to stay until Monday Afternoon.

At first I thought I would be awfully lonesome if I were to work in Portland – but I find a good many people I know and expect to find my evenings and leisure moments pretty well occupied. yesterday evening I went to see Mrs. and Mr. Miller – Mrs. Miller is Mrs. Durrell's daughter or my sister-in-law in other words you know. We certainly had a dandy time because they are fine people and she can play the piano simply “_____” Mr. Miller plays the violin and Miss Miller – a sister of his, sings. They also own a launch which may help some. The Fairbanks Morse Co. also owns a racing launch and if my boss is at all decent I will get to go out perhaps. Also one of my Portland students owns an Auto and has promised me some rides – so you see my facilities for entertainment are not as bad even in der ferne.

Well, I will see you soon and as I have a number of other letters to write I will make a hasty close. I am “just dying” for some cherries – have had practically none this year.

Yours with love,

Sam

851 E. 6th N.
Portland, Oreg.

1911

It Is Our Mission to BOOST for BENTON COUNTY, Oregon

Corvallis Commercial Club

OFFICERS OF CLUB
 WILLIAM FREDERIC GASKINS, President
 A. P. JOHNSON, Vice President
 CHARLES A. MURPHEY, Secretary
 A. R. WOODCOCK, Treasurer
 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
 WILLIAM FREDERIC GASKINS, A. P. JOHNSON, CHARLES A. MURPHEY,
 ROBT. JOHNSON, A. B. CORDLEY, G. O. BARRETT, VICTOR P. MOSYER

Corvallis has good transportation facilities in every direction—river and rail—besides 10 churches.

Corvallis is not a "butter in" but her creamery turns out more butter than any other in Oregon—Practically one-half million dollars paid to our farmers for cream during the year 1910.

Benton County has the smallest County Jail in the State and it is usually empty.

In 14 years The Circuit Court has been in session in this County on Criminal cases less than 26 hours all told.

Corvallis has the largest and greatest industrial and technical training Institution in the Northwest—Oregon Agricultural College—a State Institution which has doubled in enrollment in three years—now having 1700.

Corvallis has a Commercial Club—that's true. Strangers in our city are guaranteed their fare back home if our hospitality is disappointing. Isn't that fair? If you can't come, write. ¶ Corvallis has a new Cannery. It made its initial run canning kickers with decided success. Quit kicking or get canned. : : : : :

¶ Corvallis,
 sloganed
 the "City
 Beautiful"
 is the
 County
 Seat of
 Benton
 County, which
 County has
 won the
 Blue Ribbon,
 first prize,
 three times
 in as many
 years at the
 Oregon
 State fair,
 1907.
 1908.
 1910.
 There was no
 exhibit at all
 in 1909.
 ¶ No
 epidemics
 have been
 caused by
 impure water.
 We have a
 gravity system
 of pure
 mountain water
 None better
 anywhere.

CORVALLIS, OREGON, Mar 4 1911

Dear Papa:

Herewith you will find the desired note – I see Patti made it out dated Mar. 4 and I have let it go – will make up difference if you will sent bill – ha! ha!

Am going to have mortgage recorded this P.M. and will send it as soon as finished – the changes in that may make up the above interest.

Well, I must close – am working on boat toady – hope you are some better by now – regards to all –

Yours

Sam

IN OUR NEW CLUB ROOMS BUSINESS MEN MINGLE AND THE WEARY ARE AT REST

Corvallis Commercial Club

OFFICERS OF CLUB

B. W. JOHNSON, President
N. R. MOORE, Vice Pres.

W. F. GROVES, Secretary
A. R. WOODCOCK, Treasurer

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

B. W. JOHNSON, N. R. MOORE, W. H. SAVAGE
W. F. GROVES, W. F. GASKINS, ROBT. JOHNSON, A. B. CORDLEY

Corvallis is "dry" but not thirsty; for we have the finest mountain water in the world.

Corvallis is not the Eden we read about when we were boys, but the apples are just as tempting.

Corvallis is not the largest city in Oregon—or even the next—but we are next to something—education for instance.

Corvallis has good transportation facilities in every direction—river and rail—besides 10 churches.

Corvallis has only one postoffice, but it is so complete that we graciously submit to the monopoly.

Corvallis is not a "butter in" but her creamery turns more butter out than any other in Oregon. Four tons per day is going some, I guess.

Corvallis has a new cannery. It made its initial run, canning kickers with decided success. Quit kicking or get canned.
Corvallis has a commercial club—that's us. Strangers in our city are guaranteed their fare back home if our hospitality is disappointing. Isn't that fair? If you can't come, write.

April 5, 1911

ARTICLE XII

Section 2. Each member of this Club shall pay as dues the sum of one dollar per month payable in advance; provided that the dues of non-resident members shall be six dollars per year payable quarterly in advance.

Section 3. All indebtedness incurred by any member to the Club, or to any person enjoying by contract a concession from the Club for the sale of refreshments or other goods, shall be due and payable on or before the first day of the next succeeding month:

Provided that no member shall be allowed to incur any indebtedness in excess of five dollars.

Section 4. If any member should neglect to pay his dues or any bill due the Club on or before the tenth day of the month in which such dues or indebtedness is payable his name shall be posted on the bulletin board in the Club rooms with the amount of his indebtedness set opposite his name, and forthwith the Secretary of the Club shall notify such member to pay same. If such indebtedness is not paid by the last day of the month such member shall be deemed delinquent and suspended and shall not be entitled to the privileges of the Club while in default.

If such indebtedness is not paid as well as all subsequent accruing indebtedness and dues, within thirty days from the date of such suspension such member shall cease to be a member of the Club.

Provided always that the Board of Directors shall have power, on good cause shown, to restore such member within six months after such loss of membership.

Any member posted for non-payment of dues or any bill as aforesaid shall not be allowed to incur any further indebtedness until his former indebtedness shall have been paid. Provided, however, that no non-resident member shall be deemed suspended for non-payment of dues until three months after the posting thereof.

Dear Folks:

Guess it's about time I was writing – but really I have been so busy the last month that I have not written to anybody – in fact it has been one steady go all the time.

Last week I made a big drawing for the Auto-Truck Co. – from Monday to Saturday night in my spare time I made \$35.00 besides tending to some work I was having done on the house, etc.

By the way – did you ever get those legal papers? – You never acknowledged them which is not good business If I know anything – ha! ha! I guess if you had not received them I would have heard about it.

This week I am working on the city Map which I am drawing for the Benton Co. Abstract Co. and goodness knows I ought to be getting that boat built – have only done about four day's work on the hull. The power plant to go into it is all ready though.

Speaking about the house – my renters are all settled, and Mr. Frederickson has his watch making and jewelry shop in operation. I put in the electric fixtures, had the garage painted, all the roofs stained dark green with creosote stain, put in stationary cement wash tubs in the wood-house and did a lot of little miscellaneous jobs about the place. In all I am about dead broke – would like to have the walls put

in so that we could get a lawn started and the yard fixed up – it would cost about \$200.00 and will have to wait a while.

As for general news there is really not much to say – Washington County seems to be a little against our appropriation – of course you will do all you can to educate the populace – it would be a blow to the school such that it would not recover from for many years to come.

Ben – in a recent postal expressed a desire for some "rural scenes" – as soon as I get time to print some pictures I will run off a few such and satisfy his desires – I will also include some of Annie among the cats and dogs.

Ben will be slightly interested to know that a new canoe house with room for 48 canoes has been built and will soon be ready for occupancy.

By the way – Mr. Glass – that I bought the house of has gone East on a trip – he expects to be gone about a month. He has told me several times that he is sorry he sold as he has been told a number of times that he was a fool and that the place was worth at least \$3500. This is true, as a number of people have estimated it at that – including a house furnisher here in town who put in the blinds for me.

Well – let me hear from you – it was really your turn this time you know. Give my regards to “Mother” and all the rest that may take an interest in this prodigal son.

Yours affectionately,

S.H. Graf

State Agricultural College

School of Engineering and Mechanic Arts

Department of Mechanical Engineering
S. H. GRAF, Instructor
Engineering Laboratory

Corvallis, Oregon, June 19, 1911

Mr. S.E. Graf,
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Papa:

I suppose Ben is gone by now and you are quite busy. He wrote me about the strawberries, and no doubt cherries are beginning to get into their prime. I had hoped and expected to come out home for a few days yet before my trip, but it seems impossible. Weniger wants me to go when he does - June 28, - and as I have never been East before I would like a traveling companion and so I had better go with him. He is also acquainted at a number of the Schools I wish to visit and had offered to go with me.

At present we are working hard at the boat (School being over) and expect to have it in the water by next Saturday. It's a shame that I won't get to use it at all scarcely this season for it surely is a beauty. We have had no end of compliments on it and an old friend of mine who teaches in the High school at Klamath Falls offered to trade me his auto for it. He has had the machine a year and says he has made about all the auto trips one can from Klamath Falls and he would like have a launch on one of the lakes. As I have a garage at my house I could keep the machine without trouble or worry, while the boat will worry me all the time I am gone. I did the best I could - got one of the Instructors who expects to be here all summer to look after the boat - however I think if we can come to an agreement and if the auto is in pretty good shape I will trade. The machine is a 1910 Hudson and cost \$1400. The boat has not cost me \$300 - not counting labor. Of course I could not duplicate it at anywhere near this figure as I was lucky with the engine. Its value is really about \$750. (counting labor).

Weniger is quite interested in boats and is staying over longer than he has to, just to help me finish it.

While the paint is drying on the boat I expect to move my belongings into the house. One of the rooms is not used and they call it my room, so I can chuck my things into it and avoid paying room rent during the summer. I expect to live in my own house next year, as I can more than make up the slight loss in rent money by fixing up the place - getting a lawn started - walks built - trees planted - etc. I will just furnish the down stairs and get only such things as we can always use. If you are considering sending Herman to College next year his room rent will be just nothing as I would be more than glad to have him stay with me. I expect to get my own breakfasts and get lunch and dinner out. This will be very little trouble as I will have to connect up the kitchen range for hot water anyhow. Herman could get plenty of work for exercise about the place.

As to prospects for next year I do not know yet. I am to see the President some time the latter part of this week and hope to find out then. I have asked for \$1400 and an Asst Prof title. The outlook is quite favorable – the student assistant I wanted I got O.K. and I am sure of quite a sum for new equipment. Today they began work on the new foundry and soon the campus will ring with construction work – 6 new buildings are to be put up and equipped.

I have not heard from Mamma since she left New York but suppose she is all right. As you noticed I will be leaving before my June pay is due; this will make one me extra short. I am practically broke now as I have spent some right along on the boat, on the house, a suite of clothes for the trip, some new books, etc besides what I have saved with the Equitable Savings and Loan Ass'n.

I expect to buy my ticket as far as Chicago and return here and can get enough for that, but will have to rely on your generosity to meet me in Portland and help me out with a loan to cover the rest. If you will be so kind as to bring a note along I will sign it and pay back the amount as early as possible – you see I will have about \$375.00 coming in while I am gone. This will come pretty near covering my expenses.

I hope I have not struck you at a time when it is very inconvenient, and wish you would write right away and let me know. I will write again and let you know the exact train on which we will leave.

It is late now and this is really the longest letter I have written for a long, long time, so "good night."

Sam

June 23, 1911 –

Dear Papa:

I am sure that you did not mean all that you said in your letter to me – you wronged me if you did, because I am not as heartless as you make out. I know that I have been a pretty regular beggar lately, but really it is the time of my life, if ever, when a little help does the most good. I am trying hard to get me a good home of my own, and the things that count for solid citizenship. I know that you think I am wasteful and extravagant but it is an honest fact that I am ashamed of myself with Patti because of the few times I take her to anything or give her anything. Since I have bought the house I have been a veritable “tightwad” and really I have saved considerable and gotten a great many things for my home. I am not doing anything in a business way unless I can see a certain gain. Of course anyone in the teaching business can never get rich simply by teaching, although he can be comfortable. Those that accumulate money do it by trades and business deals outside of the regular line of work.

As to the Eastern trip – if you imagine I am going for a “good time” you are mistaken. I would far rather stay here – part of the time with you and part of the time here – my friends here think I am crazy not to look forward to it with more pleasure. It is simply that I must go to keep up with my line of work. I must visit some of the big Eastern universities and see how they arrange their laboratories, etc – I will have about \$10,000 to spend during the next two years and it is only fair to the people of Oregon that this money is spent in a way that will further the work of my department the most.

I have enough money coming in during the summer to pay my way – with what I have, but when one goes so far from home he hates to depend on strangers to send the money – I hoped to borrow (with interest) \$300 from you for the summer. I did not take your promise to pay my way across the ocean seriously so long as I could not go with Mamma as well as come back with her. It would be too much to expect and I never intended to accept it.

I know that you are not in a position to let me have much, and I will make arrangements to get along without anything, only, please do not think that I consider you simply as a convenient source of money, because that is not so. You are my father and have been more than good to me and I love you deeply, although it sounds shallow to say so on paper.

I am not fixed so I can take up part of your work, and the most I can do is to try to do my chosen work well and be a credit to you where I am.

I expect to leave here on the 28th Wednesday, and hope to see you in Portland. Will write again.

With love,

Sam

Oregon Agricultural College
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND MECHANIC ARTS

DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

GRANT ADELBERT COVERL,
Dean of the School of Engineering,
Professor of Mechanical Engineering;
MARK CLYDE PHILLIPS,
Associate Professor of Mechanical Eng.
SAMUEL HERMAN GRAF,
Assistant Professor of Experimental Eng.
FREDERICK WILLIAM GREVE, JR.,
Instructor in Mechanical Engineering.

ELMER POLIC JACKSON,
Assist't Professor of Technical Woodwork
CARL LAFAYETTE KNOFF,
Instructor in Machine Shop.
WILLIAM MCCAULLY PORTER,
Instructor in Forging.
ROBERT HENRY RODGERS,
Instructor in Pattern Making.
AMBROSE R. RIDENOUR,
Instructor in Foundry Practice.

Corvallis, Oregon,

August 20, 1911.

Dear Folks:

As you know I am back in Corvallis again. Have been busy fixing up the two rooms I am going to live in this year. My study room faces south and there is a dandy view of the woods south of town and of Mary's River. The bed room faces north and from there I can look out over the whole city and the College. I bought the furniture and such things and Patti and Mrs. Fredericksen fixed up my bed clothes and the curtains, bureau scarfs and the like.

I want you to notice the letter head I used – it is the latest and has my new title on it – not a “full fledged” but getting there.

The main reason I wrote is to find out if Mamma is home yet. If she is I may come home next weekend. Write at once and tell me.

I am in the best of health and spirits and hope this letter finds you the same.

With love,

Sam

N.B. Have sold the launch. (At a small gain).

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Instructor in Pattern Making.
AMBROSE E. RIDENOUR,
Instructor in Foundry Practice.

Corvallis, Oregon,

Oct. 13, 1911.

Dear Folks:

It is about time I were writing – has been for a long while – but I will not stop to apologize. It was not due to lack of affection, but I have really been busy.

Things are now running smoothly in their proper course and although we have done little in the way of adding new equipment, conditions are much better than ever and my work is quite enjoyable. As you know I now have an assistant which helps a great deal.

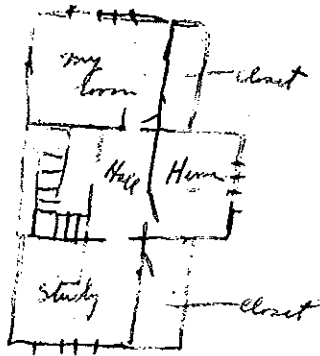
Herman is settled in his room and is buckling down to his studies in good shape. He seems to be real serious and does not waste any time so far as I can see. He has tackled Mrs. Durrell's woodpile for his spare time, and believe me, it's a job that might make a bigger man quail. Ten cords I think – to split and pile in the woodshed.

As to his expenses he has not bought a single thing that he could get along without – in fact the poor kid scrapes along without things he actually needs just because he is afraid to write for money. You must remember that he had practically nothing except what he had on his back when he came here and he can't wear overalls here nor the same shirt forever. His board costs him \$16.50, which is about the cheapest I know of. About the little bedding he had to buy you ought not to kick – I bought all the furniture for his room and he pays no room rent – he has not even done any work for same as I let him work outside all he can, so as to make some money.

He had some \$15.00 fees to pay and a bunch of books to buy. Fees are much higher now than they were in the good old days, but they are much lower here than at most any other school.

Herman is doing well and has improved wonderfully already – in manners, looks, and every way. Today he is to be measured for his uniform and is supposed to pay \$10.00 down. He hasn't a cent I don't think and I am so short with my summer trip not all paid for and the furniture and all that I can't help him out. As I know the tailor personally (he is a Mason) I think I can get credit for that amount for a while. This great expense naturally comes only at first – there are only two terms a year now instead of three and the fees for the second are lighter.

We are quite comfortably housed as we have the whole upstairs of my house – the sketch shows the arrangement –



I have wanted to come home each week end, but there are two reasons why I couldn't – I didn't have the money and could hardly spare the time.

Mr. Greve just resigned and I have to take some of the classes he had before – one of them – in just a little while so I had better close.

I hope to come before long – it has been some time now since I saw any of you, and you must look quite aristocratic after all this summer's travels – especially Mamma.

Well, so long –

Sam

Oregon Agricultural College
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND MECHANIC ARTS

DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

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Instructor in Forging.
ROBERT HENRY RODGERS,
Instructor in Pattern Making.
AMBROSE H. RIDENOUR,
Instructor in Foundry Practice.

Corvallis, Oregon,

Nov. 28, 1911.

Dear Folks:

"Söt me shamma" I know, but I have sat down to write letters about a hundred times, but everytime when I get those finished that I absolutely must write my ambition is about gone and I let the others slide.

Herman and I are going to fix up around my house some during the holidays but I may come home over Sunday. Cannot come for Thanksgiving as I can hardly refuse Mrs. Durrell's invitation. Of course I eat there every day, but this will be a special dinner just for her family and special friends. She does not often have a chance for such, so I am going to stay.

Have been trying to get a permit to visit the testing laboratory of the Warren construction Company in Portland. If I hear from them today I can get the college to pay my R.R. fare which would help some.

Of course at present this is a busy place with all the new equipment to be installed and built. I have so many things to do I don't know what to tackle first.

Am having my sidewalk put in now at the house and that makes it necessary to fix up the place or it would look like a fright. Am getting it all ready to put in my lawn early in spring. Or do you think it would be safe to put it in now?

Herman is doing well as far as I can tell - he gets good grades and seems to be getting somewhat more civilized. His uniform arrived yesterday. Well it is time to go to dinner, and I must mail this letter on the train so you will get it tomorrow.

Yours with love,

Sam.

1912

Corvallis, Oreg.
Sept 29, 1912.

Dear Folks:

Although there is really nothing of unusual interest to write about it is about time to scratch off a few lines. This is the first letter I have written since we are settled except business letters of course.

Was quite busy before and during the registration – the gain in attendance at O.A.C. is quite considerable. We have in Engineering 45% more freshmen this year than last and most of them are from 3 or 4 year high school courses. By a little diplomacy I got Herman registered as a Freshman and he will finish in 5 years instead of 6 if he passes in everything. Of course his work is mighty heavy as he has double mathematics and all the Freshman work except Chemistry in addition to the Second Year Secondary work he has to complete.

My work is progressing along the usual channel – I now have two men to help me which gives me a little time for research and extension work – have made a number of tests already this fall for outside parties.

We are getting along very nicely at home – the house is all fitted out – at least temporarily and things are pretty much systematized already.

The street is pretty much torn up now as they are working on the 10th St. sewer. The ditch is nearly completed and some of the tile is laid. They are using a steam power bucket digger which makes quite rapid headway.

How are you making it with the house and how is the water system working? Also the lights?

Well, I will close for this time.

Yours with love,

Sam.

1913

Oregon Agricultural College
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND MECHANIC ARTS

DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

GRANT ADRIELBERT COVELL,
Dean of the School of Engineering,
Professor of Mechanical Engineering,
MARK CLYDE PHILLIPS,
Associate Professor of Mechanical Eng.,
SAMUEL HERMAN GRAY,
Assistant Professor of Experimental Eng.,
FAY HARRY ROSENCRANTS,
Instructor in Mechanical Engineering,
JOSEPH BENJAMIN YODER,
Instructor in Mechanical Drawing,
ODITH KENILWORTH SPURRIER,
Assistant in Experimental Engineering.

ELMER POLIC JACKSON,
Assist. Professor of Technical Woodwork
CARL LAFAYETTE KNOPP,
Instructor in Machine Shop.
WILLIAM MCCAULLY PORTER,
Instructor in Forging.
AMBROSE E. RIDENOUR,
Instructor in Foundry Practice.
CHARLES GEORGE WILTSHIRE,
Instructor in Plumbing and Steam Fitting
HARVEY G. MCCOMB,
Instructor in Pattern Making.
DARWIN GREEN THAYER,
Assistant in Woodworking.

Corvallis, Oregon,

June 30, 1913.

Mr. S.E. Graf,
Portland, Oreg.

Dear Papa:

Next Monday I must be in Tillamook as expert witness in a trial involving some pavement that failed. On the way to Tillamook I thought it would be pleasant to spend a day or so at home and an equal length of time in the metropolis. You can therefore expect me home about next Thursday.

The President has this afternoon signed the requisition for the larger part of my new equipment and I will be busy placing the orders for the next two days. We expect to add considerable new machinery – this acquisition calls for \$4430 and I hope later to put another one through although not for quite so large an amount. My work is going very nicely indeed – my new instructor, Mr. Burgess, will report for work August 1st. and after that the work will proceed at a lively rate.

I do not believe that we shall be able to get away for any extended vacation – in fact we could not afford one if we could. It is possible that later we may be able to accept your invitation to come out to visit for a while.

Well – there is no use to write more, I will see you soon, and until then, goodbye.

Yours with love,

Sam.

1914

Corvallis, Oregon
April 12, 1914.

B.D. Graf,
Portland, Oreg.

Dear Bro.:

It seems that we have entirely dropped out of communication with each other, but I suppose it is mostly my fault. But really, I have been continually up to the eyes in work and when I have some time I like to read or most anything but write letters. But here goes.

As for news – there is little that would be of special interest now – later there may be some – I am working on preliminary plans for an Experimental Engineering building to house my work and if the President looks with favor on the proposition I may go East gain next Summer to make a study of such laboratories and buildings – Our plan is to try to get the building during the Summer of 1915.

The work is certainly growing and seems to be progressing nicely – I expect to add another man for next year and possibly a half-time assistant besides. The School is going on the four year High-School basis next year and at last O.A.C. will be out of the second grade class in this respect. The matter of Engineering is now settled – the work being abandoned at the Univ. at Eugene and permanently established here.

I have great hopes for next year – Dean Covell has promised me an increase in salary and a Professorship. I would then be a “full-fledged” as the Pater calls it. But, perhaps it would be better not to count chicks now. But, if this advance can be realized it will be a great thing for me. Experimental Engr. would then be a department by itself and I would have the whole responsibility and could fight my battles direct.

We are – among other things – planning to get out a bulletin by next fall – the subject being along the line of a study of the concrete making qualities of various Oregon sands. But even this is not certain as yet although I expect to know soon.

One of our not far distant jobs will be to test 500 bricks for the Bureau of Mines. This will be a big job as each brick tested requires three applications of load, or 1500 tests in all.

We were expecting that you would visit us for a week or so, but I suppose it is too late now, as there must be a lot of work under way now on the ranch.

Tommie is doing fine – he is beginning to make efforts at walking, and can crawl at a surprising rate. He is a great investigator, and undoubtedly will some day be an exceedingly expert research man. The signs are already unmistakable.

Well, give our regards to all, and tell Papa and Anna that there has been no increase in postage rates – but really, I must take all the blame – I have been the most negligent of all –

Yours affectionately etc,

Sam.



The Saint Paul IN SAINT PAUL,

June 16, 1914.

Dear Folks:

Have intended to write you long ago but was so busy getting away that I simply did not have the time. – You will note that I am some distance away from home – but cheer up – I will be further soon – am going to the national meeting of the American Society for Testing Materials in Atlantic City – New Jersey.

I am now in St. Paul where the meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers is now in session. Between these two meetings I am visiting a number of the Colleges of the Country – In fact I have already visited the Universities of Washington – North Dakota – and today – Minnesota. Have had a very pleasant trip so far and am getting a lot of good from it.

As to the action of the honored Board of Regents this year in my case – I can now at last call myself one of those “full fledgeds” that Papa has heard about and am quite proud of it. The salary is not quite up to what I hoped for but will be satisfied - \$1900.

I have three assistants – one new one – and will be able to do a lot of good work I believe.

Patti and Tomie and I are expecting to visit you a few days after I get back. Pat and Tom may stay longer but as I will be gone for six weeks or more on this trip I will more than have had my vacation as it is.

Well, I do not seem to think of anything further just now – will write once in a while and let you know where I am.

Yours,

Sam.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
W. J. KERR, D. Sc., PRESIDENT
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
AND
MECHANIC ARTS
G. A. COVELL, DEAN
CORVALLIS, OREGON

DEPARTMENT OF
EXPERIMENTAL ENGINEERING
S. H. GRAF, PROFESSOR
C. L. KNOPP, INSTRUCTOR
R. B. GOALS, INSTRUCTOR

December 11, 1914.

Mr. S.E. Graf – and all
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Folks:

I have been intending to write for a long time, but the days have been so full of things that had to be done that I have not gotten to it. In fact, I write very few letters any more – except business letters – and they are easy; just dictate them to the steno. and sign. But I have started now and you will get a letter – of course, I always think that so long as we don't write you will know we are O.K.

Must first thank you for the very nice apples you have sent us – they are surely a treat. I eat some of them every evening with great enjoyment.

Ben asked about Farmer's Week – the enclosed clipping will tell all about it, and I believe he would find it profitable to attend. As will be noted they are changing the plans somewhat – making the program much more extended and interesting.

We have more students in my department this year than ever and things are quite exciting – in fact, there is almost too much to do. The last week I have had two reports to get out for the President and had to work until 1:00 o'clock one night and till 2:00 the next in order to get them ready in time. Then about the same time the man who has charge of the materials testing for the City of Portland was up for three days to familiarize himself with the workings of our laboratory and with our methods of making tests. I was very glad to have him as he was very interesting to talk to, but with all the other work it was almost too much. Just now we are having a little breathing spell – Friday evening – but tomorrow we will probably have our hands full again – you see, we do so much outside work in the way of testing that we can never tell about our program.

I have been working on plans for a building for my work, but the way it looks just now I will probably be disappointed. The College needs a Library building very badly and it is not probably that it will be possible to get this and my building too during the next two years. We are far behind Eastern schools in the engineering school and something should be done to better conditions just as soon as possible. Our class work is very fair, but our equipment and facilities generally are very poor in comparison.

Herman seems to be doing fairly good work this year, and is not wasting as much time as last year. I have him in a class in my department, and while I do not have him directly under me,

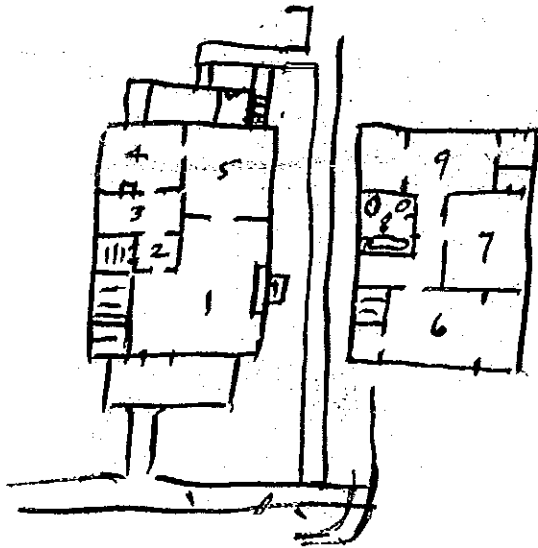
the instructors say he is doing very well. His laboratory reports are among the best, the average of all being a little over 90%.

You will be interested in looking over the copy of the "Student Engineer" which I am sending you – there is an article on my department with a few pictures. Also sent you a catalog on "spraying" a few days ago – this came to me and I thought it would do you more good, so I sent it.

I have some news that will be surprising – if all goes well we will soon be moving away from the south end of Corvallis where we are now living. I am on the road just a n hour a day in walking to and from work – in a year this amounts to over 300 hours or about 37 working days – at \$6 a day this is quite a sum – so I thought it would be better to get nearer my work, as well as more convenient and pleasant. To be brief – I bought a lot on Monroe St. (same as Mechanical Hall is on) paying half down and giving a note for the rest. A little later I was lucky enough to be able to make a trade with a Mr. Rogers (whom I have known a long time). Mr. Rogers is a contractor and agreed to build us a nice house (according to certain detailed plans and specs) on our lot taking in trade our other place. The new place is only three minutes walk from my work and is in the best part of town. The lot I bo't. is on a corner of 23rd and Monroe and is a very choice piece of ground, although not large – about 45' x 105'. Also, I was able to get it at a very reasonable figure. Now then, the trade is to be completed when the house is finished – sometime in February – and I must deliver the other place free of incumbrances, of course. That means that I have the sewer assessment to pay – about \$120.00 including interest – and must – if you will be so good – get you to satisfy that mortgage. I will give you a mortgage on the other place in return just as soon as I can scrape up the other half of the price of the lot, which is \$500.00. You can trust me that long – or I can borrow the money on personal property – or in fact – I am almost sure without any security and can give you the new mortgage at once. The new place will be worth considerably more than the old – at least \$3500.00 and you will be better protected, if that is of any interest.

All things considered we are very happy at the prospect, and think that we have made a good trade. It is a good trade from the standpoint of both ourselves and Mr. Rogers as well. Next summer the house would have had to be painted and the roof stained, as well as some of the interior finished – costing at least \$250.00, also if we had sold outright it is not likely that we could have gotten all cash, and would probably have had to rent. As it is we do not have to move until the new house is ready for us.

The new house has about the same amount of room as the present one, but is better built and finished – full concrete basement with furnace and laundry trays. First floor – four rooms – upstairs – three rooms and bath. These sketches will give you a little idea of the general arrangement -



- 1 – Living room with fireplace etc.
- 2 – Down to basement.
- 3 – Sewing room with built in ironing board and cupboard
- 4 – Dutch kitchen with built in junk-wood lift-cooling closet, etc.
- 5 – Dining room with built in buffet – window seats.
- 6 – Front bedroom with alcove + closet each with a window.
- 7 – Herman's room with closet – all complete.
- 8 – Bath room.
- 9 – Back bedroom similar to front except a little larger.

Back porch has closet in which I expect sometime to install a toilet.

There is a concrete stair outside of house in back to basement.

Plumbing and wiring and heating is all to be along most modern lines, and I believe we are going to have a real nice home – although nothing palatial. Just about right for a poor Prof. like yours truly.

Speaking of my poverty reminds me that I have recently made an invention that may bring me in a few extra beans. It is an instrument that is used in connection with materials testing, and I am taking it up with a manufacturing concern to put it on the market on a royalty basis – it is of course not of so very extended application, and will never make me rich – will let you know later how it pans out – may be nothing to it.

Well it is nearly seven o'clock P.M. and they are waiting supper for me so I must close.

Kindly let me know what you will do about the mortgage business – I have of course assumed that all would be O.K. and have gone ahead. It seemed to be just what we have been looking for and delay would have been fatal, so I went ahead although I knew that it all depends on your agreeing to it.

With love and regards from all, I am

Yours

Sam

1918

Corvallis, Oregon
July 11, 1918.

Dear Folks:

Am almost ashamed to write at all after such long neglect. But then – “no news is good news” and so long as we don’t write each other we know things are not so very bad anyway. No doubt you are terribly busy – help is hard to get and so much to do. But you are not the only ones. It does not look much like any vacation for me this summer. The College is training men now in certain special lines for the Army. We now have some 240 here and expect a new lot of 500 or so about Aug. 15. My Dept. has added an automobile laboratory to its line of goods and we are handling 40 men in various phases of gas engine and auto work. This work keeps us pretty busy as the hour are according to military schedule and every day except Sunday. Also, we have had to fit up for this work such short notice that there has been a lot to do. I have learned to drive and if I ever get to come out again will show Ben how to drive the Maxwell. Don’t get the idea though that I am “Barney Oldfield” yet, however.

Pat went to Portland today with Linnie and Charles (Linnie’s younger boy). The latter is quite bowlegged and they are going to see some doctor there about straightening his legs. They expect that a plaster cast for 6 mo. will do it.

Got another little raise making it now \$2600 + a little bonus for this summer – not much – just how much I don’t know yet.

Well – Tommy is anxiously waiting for me to finish this and take him to the movie show. So good bye for this time, and write once in a while.

With love yours,

Sam.

Oct. 20, 1918.

Dear Folks:

You have probably heard before this of the misfortune that has overtaken me. I should have written long ago but have simply not felt equal to it.

On July 17 Patti took the boys and left and for two weeks I did not even know where she was. She has gotten a divorce and is now living in Salem. Her mother keeps house for her and the boys and she has set up as a public stenog. so far as I am able to learn.

I am not going into the why and wherefore. We were probably both to blame and I am not going to make any defense for either of us. It is all a long and sad story and I am trying to forget it – I suppose she is too.

I am providing for the boys liberally and as she is a good mother to them there is no need to worry about them. It is terribly lonesome thought without them for me. In fact if things were so that I could get away from here I surely would do it. The College is practically all for war work now and I feel that for the time at least it is my duty to stay here no matter how difficult and disagreeable.

The house is rented furnished to a Lieutenant Markis. I have kept one room for myself and as they are real good to me it is not so bad as far as mere living is concerned. I board at a place just about half way between here and Mechanical Hall where I work.

This is I know very sad for you too because you love the boys too just like I do. It is even rather hard for me to see them as she will not let me come to the house where they live but insists on having them brought down town to meet me and there is no place we can go except the hotel when it is wet. Have seen them twice – once during State Fair to which I took them.

I am glad to say that there is no scandal in the case – in fact there was no publicity even to speak of. Of course the good people of Corvallis probably hashed things over to their hearts content but little I care for that – anyway I was not here so didn't get any of it. Everybody here that I ever cared for is good to me and seems to side with me – but of course that does not make it much easier – I am terribly lonely evenings and weekends when I am not at work.

This is about all I feel like writing now; perhaps I will tell you more about it later. Please reserve your judgement and don't condemn me altogether.

Yours with love,

Sam.

P.S. Good fruit is impossible to get here – if you would care to send me a few apples and pears I would be very grateful. S.

Corvallis. Dec. 25, 1918.

Dear Folks:

It is Christmas and I am in Corvallis when I should be out with you. I was in hopes that I could be, but am chairman of the Engineering School Building Committee, and it looks now as if there might finally be a possibility of getting an engineering building. Something which has long been needed. We have been meeting almost continuously for several days and have finally completed our report covering the entire building program for the engineering school for years to come. The President wanted it in this way so that whatever is done would be a consistent part of some complete plan.

In spite of conditions my Christmas has really been quite happy. I had no less than seven invitations for Christmas dinner but am unfortunately able to accept only one of them. Am going to the house of Prof. McCullough – a very good friend of mine.

I was sort of expecting to do some special work for the gas company in Portland during the holidays and thought I might arrange to be out in the country next Sunday. But now those plans also must be abandoned. Instead of that Prof. Thomas, my first assistant and I are to assist with the acceptance test of a steamship just completed by the Coast Shipbuilding Company of Portland. The test will include a 24 hour run at sea and should be quite an adventure. Incidentally there will be a few dollars in it for us.

I was very glad of the check from Papa and thank him many many times. I made up quite a Christmas box for the Boys and am sure they will be tickled to pieces. A watch and chain for Tom, and electric search light for each of them, some picture books for Ralf, and an alphabet toy for both. Also a few smaller didos. Especially do I want to thank Ben for his nice present. It was absolutely the best thing he could have given me. Needed them badly and they are just the kind and colors I like.

Well that is about all I think of right now. I will close wishing all of you a very happy and prosperous new year. With love

Yours

Sam

1920

Mr. and Mrs. Peter H. Edlefsen

request the honor of your presence

at the marriage of their daughter

Blanche Ann

to

Mr. Samuel H. Graf

on Tuesday evening, August twenty-fourth

nineteen hundred and twenty

at eight o'clock

1849 Willamette Boulevard

Portland, Oregon

Misc.

GRAF, SAMUEL HERMAN

Chairman, Department of Mechanical Engineering, OSC, 1934-54

b. August 4, 1887, Portland, Oregon

d. July 22, 1966, Corvallis, Oregon

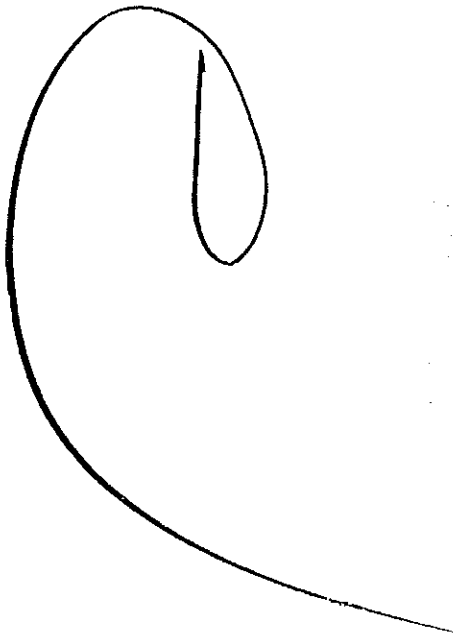
1907	—	BS, OAC (EE)
1908	—	EE, OAC
1908	—	BS, OAC (ME)
1909	—	ME, OAC
1909	—	MS, OAC (EE)
1908-09	—	Assistant in Mechanical Engineering, OSC
1909-12	—	Instructor, Mechanical Engineering, OSC
1912-14	—	Assistant Professor and Chairman, Experimental Engineering
1912-20	—	Head, Experimental Engineering
1914-20	—	Professor of Experimental Engineering
1920-34	—	Head, Department of Mechanics and Materials
1927-28	—	Assistant Director of Engineering Research
1928-44	—	Director of Engineering Research
1934-49	—	Head, Department of Mechanical Engineering
1944-54	—	Director of Engineering Experiment Station

A resume of
"The Pilgrim's Progress"

J. Bunyon

Samuel H. Graf,

Oct. 24th, 1903.



Sam H. Graf

“The Pilgrim’s Progress.”

John Bunyon

John Bunyon, the author of, “The Pilgrim’s Progress,” was born at Elstow, England, in 1628 and died in 1688; his father was a tinker, this trade was held in a very low estimation because the tinkers generally were vagrants and pilferers.

Bunyon’s father was more respectable than most of the ~~tribe~~, *trade*; he had a fixed residence and was able to send his son, John, to the village school where reading and writing were taught.

When John was seventeen he enlisted in the army; in a few months he returned home and married.

His wife brought with her some pious books which he read and studied; he became converted and began to preach to the people as he went from house to house tinkering; this he did for five years or until the authorities of the English church, who did not believe his doctrine, took him and flung him into Bedford jail (Nov. 1660) where he remained for twelve years.

While in prison he wrote several books which were quite popular among the poorer classes in those days and also started the book which has made his name immortal. In 1672 he was liberated; he then finished his book; it was published and soon became very popular and has remained so ever since.

The following is a brief resume of the story.

Christian was a poor man living in the city of Destruction who in some way had come into possession of a Bible.

He read in his bible and found therein that he surely would be lost if he remained in the city of Destruction, so he decided to become a pilgrim; he then went and told his wife and children of what he was about to do and asked them to go with him but they hardened their hearts and would not believe when he told them that they would be lost if they stayed.

So he set out alone not knowing where to go, as he was walking through a field greatly distressed in his mind he cried out, “What shall I do to be saved!” A man named Evangelist saw him and asked him why he was crying. Christian then told him his trouble and Evangelist showed him the way. He followed the directions and soon came to a miry slough called the, Slough of Despond; this lay between him and the wicket gate where he was told to go, so he started to cross the slough and at last by the assistance of Help he got across; he then went on and arrived at the wicket gate which led to the castle of the Interpreter. ~~h~~He arrived there and the Interpreter showed him many wonderful and instructive things after which he resumed his journey and after great difficulty he arrived at the Cross where his great burden of sins rolled off

his back and three angels appeared, *and* one said, "Thy sins be forgiven thee;" another gave him a new suit of clothes and the third put a mark upon his forehead and gave him a roll with a seal upon it and told him to give it in at the Celestial gate. Christian went on and came to the Hill of Difficulty which was very steep and high, he started to climb it, but by the time he got half the way to the top he was very tired and sat down to rest in an arbor made for the purpose, ~~h~~. *He* pulled out his roll and read until he fell asleep and while he was there sleeping the roll fell from his hand; when he awoke he went on climbing, forgetting all about his roll; he at length reached the top of the hill then he felt for his roll but did not find it, so he had to go back after it and was much delayed; when he again reached the top he went on a little farther and came to a castle where he stayed for a few days, ~~w~~. *While* he was there the people who lived there gave him a suit of armor and a sword; he left the castle and descended into a valley called the Valley of Humiliation ~~w~~When he reached the bottom he met a fiend called Apollyon, with whom he had a terrible combat but at last came out victorious.

At the end of this valley, was another one called the Valley of the Shadow of Death; through this valley the path led so Christian entered it, it was very dark and dangerous; when he came out of it he overtook one of this neighbors who was also a pilgrim, Faithful by name.

Christian and Faithful now journeyed together and came to a city called Vanity Fair ~~h~~. *Here* they were terribly persecuted. Faithful being burned at the stake; Christian escaped death and resumed his journey a man named Hopeful accompanying him. Their first stopping place was with the shepherds on the Delectable Mountains, ~~here~~ *where* they remained for sometime as the shepherds were very hospitable people; the shepherds took them to a high peak from where they could see the Celestial City.

They left the shepherds and after traveling many miles came to the Enchanted Ground where the air is such as tends to make a person fall into a sleep from which he can never awake; Christian and Helpful took care not to fall asleep while in this country.

When they were out of the Enchanted Ground they entered the country of Beulah which was very pleasant and from ~~where~~ *which* they could at all times see the City of Zion.

They now started for the city but before they had gone very far they came to a dark river called the River of Death; this they forded with much fear and difficulty; when they came out of the river on the other shore they saw two Shining Men who were to escort them to the City, which was built on a mighty hill, but this hill they ascended with ease as they had left their mortal garments behind them in the river.

When they came to the City there was great joy there and they were admitted to everlasting Bliss which was a fit reward for their worisome journey.

← The end →

Documented by Sam Edlefsen Graf, son of S.H. Graf

Notes and events excerpted from 1912 thru 1914 letters
from Samuel Herman Graf to his father S.E. Graf
and brother Benjamin Graf (both at Graf Ranch – Bethany, Oregon)

1. 4 March 1912 (to SEG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) TNX for grapes. Patti (fiancé) made juice + Bill Weiniger & we ate some. (b) Graf Ranch septic tank problems/relocation discussed (c) Very busy writing request for new equipment + labor help. (d) Recv'd raise to \$1,500/yr starting 1 July 1912. (e) Accepted for membership by ASME (took 2. years). (f) Things going well on the job – except politics ruining school plans (g) Patti doing fine: good cook, painting china for Xmas presents.
2. 11 Mar 1912 (To SEG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Expanding Dept of Experimental Engrg. at OAC: new courses including "Concrete Testing," "Timber Testing" and more "road laboratory work." (b) Brother Herman & Sam putting lawn in at Sam's house; seed from OAC Ag. Prof. also, sweet peas + nastertiums (c) Civil Engr., Donald Paul killed when rock fell on him in B.C. (d) Paid \$26.95 prop. Taxes including 3% "rebate" (?) (e) Invitation to SEG to visit Sam & Herman & attend OAC Ag. show. RR "weekend" ticket cost \$3.5k0, (Portland-Corvallis; 1 or 2-way?)
3. 27 April 1912 (to SEG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Prominent state visitors at OAC Engrg. About 125 touring labs etc. very busy time. Talk of uniting OAC w/U of O. – Need to do <u>something</u> to eliminate rivalry & politics! (b) re. SEGs request for Sam H. to work on the wiring & plumbing at Graf Ranch house – <u>now under construction</u> (now living in original log house) Scheduling problems in view of: (c) Marrying Patti Durrell on 5 June 1912 at 11:00 or 11:30 AM – simple wedding – no wedding dress – "travelling suite." 2 wk San Francisco honeymoon – need \$\$! (d) Worrying about minimal (\$100/yr) raise & finances in general. Plans to sell "launch."
4. 26 May 1912 (To SEG & all)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Plans for SEG to attend Corvallis wedding. 4 PM train out of Portland selected to get SEG to Corvallis by 8 PM the day before the SHG/Patti wedding. (b) Bill Weiniger's mother & sister moving to Corvallis from the East. Bill is to be "best man." (c) Brother Herman & SHG now living together in SHG's house. (d) TNX to papa for adding honeymoon \$\$.
5. 29 Sept 1912 (To SEG & all)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Big gain in OAC attendance – 45% more Engrg. Frosh. – Mostly form 3 or 4 yr. H.S. courses. (b) Bros. herman registered – to finish in 5 (or 6) yrs. (c) SEG now has 2 asst. profs to help him. – Gives him more time for R&D. (d) House in order, getting along nicely – except streets torn up to lay new 10th Street sewer line. – Using steam-power digger; very fast.

6. 30 Jan 1913 (To SEG et al)	(a) Announcing arrival of Thomas Rexford Graf – 8 pounds. Patti still at hospital – OK.
7. 30 June 1913 (To SEG et al)	(a) SHG to Tillamook; to be expert witness on equipment failure case. (b) OAC President signed order for SHG's new lab equipment (\$4,430 worth). (c) College work pregressing well; another new instructor due 1 Aug 13.
8. 12 April 1914 (To bro. Ben)	(a) Working on plans for new Engineering bldg. If plans approved by OAC Pres. SHG to make numerous Eastern trips to study other labs for ideas. Summer 1915 target date for start. (b) Engrg. Dept work expanding – adding 1½ new men to assist. (c) OAC working into “4 year High School basis” – “out of 2 nd grade basis.” Now settled: All engrg. work to be done at OAC – not any longer part at U. of O. (Eugene). (d) Great hpes for 1915. Pres. Covell promised me professorship + more \$\$\$. Then the Dept. of Experimental Engineering will be separate – free standing. (e) Work for US Bur. of Mines: testing 500 bricks at 3 loads = 1500 tests – big job! (f) Work at Graf Ranch (Bethany) likely precludes Ben visiting now?? (g) Tommie doing fine: crawls & tries to wlk. A “great investigator” -- potential R&D man! (h) Papa (SEG), Anna & Ben + Hulda all on Graf Ranch.
9. 16 June 1914 (To SEG et al)	(a) In St. Paul at ASME meeting; then on to Atlantic City for ASTM meeting (annual). (b) Then on to various universities: U of Wash, N. Dakota 7 Minn. (c) Proud to (finally) be full-fledged professor! New salary < than hoped for (\$1,900/yr). Now has 3 assts. (d) Upon return, I, Patti & Tommie plan to visit SEG.
10. 5 July 1914 (To “Dear Folks”)	(a) From Phila. & onto Wash, DC. ETA Corvallis 20 July. Growing weary of travelling. (b) President Wilson 4 th of July speech at Independence Hall; <u>too many crowds</u> – couldn't hear Wilson!
11. 11 Dec 1914	(a) Busy, busy, busy; write <u>few</u> letters. If <u>no</u> letter we're OK. (b) TNX for nice apples. (SEG also sends grapes in season) (c) Ben Graf letter asking about details on OAC's farmers week. (d) More engrg. students than ever before. Almost <u>too</u> much to do! Last week worked until 1 & 2 AM to get report done for OAC President. (e) Almost simultaneously was visited by City of Portland materials testing engineer for 3 days! (f) Continue making plans for new Engineering Bldg at OAC. Funding, however, may be postponed in favor of new library. (g) OAC far behind Eastern schools; we need to scramble to catch up. Classwork is fair; facilities very poor! (h) Herman's classwork better this year; less time-wasting. (i) Plan to move from south end Corvallis; too far from OAC for walking to work. Costs 37 days at \$6/day!! Too much commuting time!

	(j) Purchased lot on Monroe St. — near Mechanical hall. Later traded lot to Contractor, Mr. Rogers, for lot on 23 rd & Monroe (only 45' x 105'). Trade to be complete when new house is finished for us by Mr. Rogers — sometime in Feb. 1914. — Requests SEG for back up in selling up mortgage.
	(k) Plans & details of new house discussed. House to accommodate SHG, Patti, Tom & Herman Graf.
	(l) New invention on material testing instrument: SHG to get royalties (but not too large a market for it.)