

## THE JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL

Ward.....

Unit History No. ....

NAME..... Psychiatric No. ....

AUGUST 5 1938

Dear Dad,

I am sorry you are not coming down this week end. I hate to think of you battling along in this hot weather without more frequent breaks. Added to which is the amount of pleasure I have had in the last three week-ends and the consequent greed for more.

On thinking it over, I reaffirm my statement over the phone that Gertrude is all right at present and that the depression to which she referred was in the early part of the summer. I think that the greatest kindness we can do for her is to let her strictly alone until she expresses some wish about the future. If you went to Yale and found it possible for her to enter, it might make her feel that she ought to go when she was not really settled in her own mind. I think she has what it takes to come to an intelligent and adequate conclusion and the foundations will be infinitely better for being entirely her own. Better far that she go to Yale herself if her interest lies that way, than that one of us do it for her. Self-confidence is I think a necessary ingredient of happiness, and a person can only get that after he had done things for himself.

My impression from her last letter was that she was very happy building a clipper Dory.

You are probably right when you say that she is your daughter in her mood swings. Bouts of depression certainly seem to be in the Leighton side and pervade the three of us. However, I'll bet you that she feels as I do that such a tendency is



a small price to pay for the rest that we have got from you. It takes some intensity of emotions to accomplish things. I don't know whether it is example or heredity, but any thing I have in the form of persistency, intelligence, originality and what Dr. Meyer calls " Individuality " comes from you. Mother has had the most influence on my aesthetic side and childhood, but your influence has been by far the most potent ~~xxxx~~ since maturity. Reflecting on your personality, integrity and way of doing things has been my main ~~xxxx~~ guide in learning how to stand by myself. It has also been a spiritual support in times of ~~xxxx~~ stress and doubt of self.

This is only a small part of what I could say with equal truth. I hope you will take it for what it is worth. One point is this, that no future disaster can change the fact that I have received these things from you and shall always have them. This would not be true of the more material things which you often regret not having for us.

The rest of the Movie equipment arrived this week and the man came with it from Chicago and showed us how to run it. That makes ~~xxxx~~ \$3,500 Adolf has paid out on the equipment he won't even look at. " I trust your judgement " he says. The other morning I went to ask him how much he wanted to spend a month on the films to be taken and if he wanted to put me on a budget. He said " No, take what you think ~~xxxx~~ best. " I said I would like to have an idea of the range so that I would know when I got near the limit ~~xx~~ He said " It is not necessary, I have every confidence in you. There is \$10,000 available for this project ~~x~~, use it as you see fit. " The ~~xxxx~~ intensity of this took a little while to trickle in. I have never been so complemented or so fearful.

Drop a note some time if you feel like it.

