

December 15, 1982

Hello:

Our gratitude goes to God for our families and friends, both natural and spiritual. Here we are with another page of history in the Mouning's Saga.

This year began with excitement for all of the Mounings. Kenneth, our youngest son, as a Sophomore made the Honor Roll at North Branford High School. With enthusiasm he has worked his way through the first half of his junior year. Having turned sixteen in November he will soon receive his driver's license so as to become more independent. His maturing voice and new mustache are yet other signs of his imminent adulthood.

Jeffrey, our third son, graduated from Culinary Arts School at Johnson and Wales College in Providence, Rhode Island on May 30, 1982. As an illustrious Chef-to-be, he lived on cloud nine for several days. However, getting a job in today's market is a different story. Applications went out and responses came in from places such as Williamsburg, Virginia, Lake Tahoe, Las Vegas and Disney World, Florida, but those places were too far from home for Jeff. He was fortunate to get a job at Yale in the Biology Department. He is not cooking but he does have a job.

Gregory, our second son, continues to work at Yale Computer Center as a supervisor in the evening and attend Southern Connecticut State College during the day full time. He is majoring in Theatre Arts and minoring in Computer Science. Greg was very happy and excited when he was chosen to take a part in a film about the first black male to enter Yale. The play is made for educational television and will be played during the month of February, 1983. So watch your TV screen, you may see Gregory A. Mouning in the background of this 1940 scene.

Marvin, our first son, came home excited about being shipped to West Berlin, Germany in April. He was stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado and drove alone to and from Colorado. The U.S. Army allowed him to come home in March for thirty days leave before departing for West Berlin, Germany. When he arrived he found that there were three girls for every man. He is busy learning to speak German and appreciate the good old U.S.A. He is quite happy being there and will be coming back home in about ten months. He thinks he will re-enlist at that time.

Thelma and I were excited also as we were busy planning our first European trip. I had a conference in Arles, France. After getting instructions from our boss, Professor Frederic M. Richards of Yale and his wife Sally, we went ahead with full steam.

We have built up a repertoire of friends in Europe for the past twenty-three years since we have been at Yale, so we wrote to them to say we were coming and we receive an open invitation.

We were trying to decide on where and how to travel in Europe; by train, bus or car. Talking to friends at Yale, we received much encouragement as to how and where to go. We

read books such as Let's Go Europe and Let's Go England, took a crash course in French and German, read maps, and talked to travel agents. We developed and formalized a six week trip to Europe with the blessings of our pastor and church. My younger brother, Bishop C. Mouning, our sons, nephew, niece and cousin drove us to New York.

You can see from the map on June 26, 1982, we flew from New York J.F.K. to Paris Orly Airport. We rented a Renault 5 Lee car, drove into Paris, and from there through Chartres, Lons-le-Saunier, France. We continued on to Switzerland and into Italy. We visited Milan, Florence, Rome, Pisa, Savon and returned into Southern France at Nice, Marseillies and Arles where our conference was held. From there we went to Lausanne, Switzerland. At Zurich we spoke with Dr. Joseph Brunner who had previously spent two years in the laboratory with us at Yale. In Basel we stayed with Dr. and Mrs. Hans Keller, long time friends of ours who worked at Yale. They took us into the beautiful Swiss Alps at Grindelward and then accompanies us over the border into southern Germany. There we traveled through the Black Forest for a day and night. We continued through Stuttgart, Munchen, Nurenburg and entered into East Germany at Hof. We drove into West Berlin where our son Marvin is stationed and spent four beautiful, hot days in West and East Berlin.

Continuing our tour through Helmstedt, Hannover and Rheine into the Netherlands where we visited Amsterdam, Haarlem, Den Haag, Rotterdam and Dordrecht, then via Brussels, Belgium, Loan we returned to Paris for a four day visit including Versailles. Leaving our Renault 5 at Orly West Airport we took to the trains.

Leaving Paris for Boulogne, France, it took us three hours on the boat to cross the English Channel into Falkestone, England. From there we took the British Rail first class into London, onto Edinburgh, Scotland and then back to Sheffield and Cambridge, England. We spent seven days in Cambridge with friends from Yale, Dr. and Mrs. Timothy Richmond and then took day trips out to Stonehenge and Bath, Oxford and London. On August 7, 1982 we returned to London to fly back to the good old U.S.

Our trip was tremendous. We took lots of photos as you can see from the sample enclosed. We arrived back in Connecticut late in the evening and were met by our sons at the limousine service in New Haven. How good it was to see each other. We were very proud of how the boys took care of the house and our affairs. A thanks is owned to Johnnie's parents for taking care of the garden and preparing all the vegetables they stored in the freezer.

We went back to work for one week and then left on August 15, 1982 with Greg and Ken for our annual camping trip in North and South Carolina and Tennessee where we visited P.T.L. and the World's Fair. Jeff the chef remained at home because he had to work and keep an eye on things around the house. This was quite a trip for the boys, especially for Greg since it was the first time he had driven for that long of a distance. We had CB's that helped us to make conversation while we were travelling and that was fun. We arrived back in time to celebrate our twenty-fifth Anniversary. We received some beautiful cards and gifts from friends and Silver from the boys in honoring us on our Silver Anniversary.

We were happy to have our friends Dr. Graham and Dr. Janet Knight and family visit

with us from England. They were here in the states while we were in England but we got to see them before they went back home.

We had all the family for Labor Day at our house and it was quite a time in the old hot townhouse. We shared with each other the experience of the past years and ate plenty of food.

Our project for the fall was to build a 16x20 foot tool and wood shed combination building. We finished it on November 6.

Thanksgiving was held at my sister's home in Bridgeport, CT and again we had lots of fun and plenty of food. Christmas was to be at my parents but my mother has been confined to the hospital. We will continued together again at our home for fun and food and to share in the rich experience and blessings of God, He has granted to each of us over the past years.

Again, we humbly thank Him for our friends and families.