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8-24-1940

## Letter, Virginia Brainard to Nellie Brainard [August 24, 1940]

Virginia Brainard

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Saturday evening

Dear Grandma,

The first week of school is over and it seems as though I've been here a month! I registered for classes Monday and then classes started Tuesday. I'm taking two courses — Human Physiology and Bacteriology — that I'm going to like, I think, because they will make me more familiar with the field of medicine and Fred's work. I study anatomy and the various systems of the body ~~and~~ in Human Physiology and disease and its prevention and cure in Bacteriology. And I have to study bacteria under microscopes and make blood counts — just the same type of work Fred is doing at Camp Des Moines.

Besides those two courses I'm taking Feature Writing which is learning how to write stories for magazines like Better Homes and Gardens — and I have to actually sell some articles next quarter! Then I'm taking a course in learning how to set type — head lines for newspapers, etc.

It's fun! The other day I set 4 lines of type in 1 1/2 hours!

Fred came up to see me last Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. He is very happy in his work and really has a wonderful opportunity one of the best jobs in the army. As soon as the new hospital unit is finished at Camp Dodge, he'll be transferred to it and he's looking forward to that — it will mean working in a new building with brand new up-to-date equipment and facilities.

It snowed last night! And the weather has been very cold, damp, nasty. I hope we have at least a week of Indian summer. Fall used to be ~~was~~ my favorite season.

It was especially good to be home for those four weeks because you were there, Grandma, and our family was all together just the way I remember home. The permanence and stability of home mean so much to me now when we can't plan for any future and have to live each day at a time. But now I know what a happy home I've had and what a happy home I'm going to try to make.

all my love,  
Virginia