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Letter, Virginia Brainard to Dudley and Merl Brainard [February 26, 1942]

Virginia Brainard

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Thursday, Feb. 26, 1942

Dear Mother and Daddy,

Yesterday I preclassified for senior college and spring quarter, and the best results we could get was graduation in July, 1943. But ~~xxxxxx~~ I have to go to only one summer session this summer---the second one. So we still have to plan on only ~~xxxx~~ two sessions ~~xxxxxxxx~~ even though one is a year later. It would seem that I could work part of the summer but if I do it would have to be in St. Cloud-----this is the deal. I take Foods 205 the spring quarter and that course is always followed by the home practical in which I have to do all the cooking, marketing and keep all accounts for two weeks at home. Then I take a ~~gigantic~~ gigantic test and if all goes well, I can then take Foods 303 which is meal planning. I can't take my next sequence of journalism courses which are offered fall, winter and spring of next year in that order until I have had Meal Planning. I also cannot take any of my elective Foods courses until I have had Meal Planning. So I must come home the first 6 weeks of this summer to do my home project so I can take Meal Planning the second 6 weeks of summer school so I can take my journalism courses next year and my Foods courses and go into Home Management house the fall quarter.

My plans to become partially self-supporting seem to be thwarted at every turn. Will the war make any openings around town or at the college? I think I can get a job here during the spring quarter and L.S. II and get something lined up for next year.

What I'd like to do is carry on my home project for the whole 6 weeks. At least that's what I'm saying now. I'd do all the cooking & buying & keep all accounts for the 6 weeks instead of just 2 weeks. It would be a rest for you and sort of fun for me and I'd get alot of good practical experience

for my courses. And it will be the last time I'll be home for any length of time while I'm in college. It frightens me to think of that. Of course graduation is more than a year off but I dread the change and adjustment. It was so hard to leave home at Christmas because it seemed the last time I would really be home with all of us enjoying a holiday with no pressing cares or worries on our minds.

Thursday night

Now its house meeting — the first one I've been to in months. I happened to get home from the Student early tonight for a change.

Those rayon stockings you sent me just did not wear well at all. ~~The first~~ One pair split out at the knees the fourth time I'd worn them and the other pair also split at the knees the second time I wore them. I remember rayons were like that the ^{first} time they ~~so~~ were just on the market so these evidently haven't been perfected as yet.

This next quarter I can take only 14 hours again. Nothing else will work in and I'm disgusted as usual and as usual it doesn't do any good. My program for the