

Wed, Feb. 11, 1942

Dear Mother and Daddy,

Sorry to be so long but I'm busier than I've ever been in my life and don't even have time for letters home! Every once in awhile things get piled up and there I have to drop everything else and work to keep from being [shoved?] under. I haven't had time to do any washing or ironing but more than a week. But I love it. There just aren't enough hours in the day.

Last week we started a new feature in the Student-page 2- a whole page of [M.O.?] news and I help Dick Robert's edit it. I just love it!! We work over in the news room at W01 and take the news as it comes off the teletype, select what we want to use, edit it, cut it down, make up our page and write head-liner. That's the sort of journalism I adore. Working over at W01 we see a lot of confidential dispatches that aren't for publication-interactions to the news editor about placing too much emphasis on the optimistic side of the news which sounds [tedious?]

It also means that I followed in Mitchell's footsteps day in and out at the desk he used, use books with his name all over them, to the something he used to do. But it doesn't get me down the way it used to. I get so darn busy I can't see straight. Dick and I go to work at 5 p.m.-work until 6- go to dinner come right back at 7 + work until 8-8:30. Part of the work is done at the Student so that means I'm over there every single night now-five nights of the weeks-it's gotten in my blood-I can no more stay away from there than a moth can resist a flame. I'm being groomed for a night editorship now and should go on the desk the beginning of next month. So one night each week from there or I'll be working over there anywhere from 12 midnight to 3-4 a.m. But I get paid \$1.25 for each of those nights and that's the highest paid job on the staff as for hourly wages go. Next quarter schedule as fill 8:00 classes as [journal?]

I've got me a new formal! Yay, and it cost only \$2.50! I bought 2 5/8 yards of black lace and am putting it over my rose formal. It looks just beautiful. The lace covers the top and about 3/4 of the shirt and is [attached?] to the shirt. I can't explain it but its real cute! So I don't need a new formal and we'll forget it. It breaks my heart to spend so much on one dress and I'm glad we didn't. Thanks so much for being willing to end me the money but I don't need it or want it and I'm glad I can't save it.

Oh, golly, thanks so much for the money for the [formal?] dance. It was one of the most wonderful dances I've ever been too-music never better and everyone was in a good mood. We double dated with Kay, my room mate and her millionaire fiancé from Mason City. Sunday he took the four of us out to dinner at the hotel. But next Sat. is our big night-The Engineer's Ball and we're double dating with Kay and Paddy again. Howard will be knighted in the Order of St. Patrick. I can hardly wait. I guess I'm really living-walking hard and playing hard. I don't get any sleep-1 a.m. every nite- and its wonderful-I've never felt better.

Mother! Mrs. Hope Spence, of "One Foot in Heaven" is house mother in the Sigma Kappa house here in [Armes?] !! I kept telling you that all Christmas vacation-she's simply wonderful-just as sweet as she can be. She had quite a time in Hollywood acting as adviser to the picture and attending all the premieres. Hartyell Spence spent a week here last spring but I didn't meet him.

Thanks for all the information on the house and I'm working on it. Will let you know in my next letter.

Don't miss the movie "One Foot in Heaven" if you possibly can help it. It's wonderful!! It's nearly the middle of Feb. so could I please have my allowance? I hate to jump the gun but this formal sneaked upon me- will write more later-

Love, Virginia

P.S. Don't tell Hicks about the [crab?] story- he might think I didn't like them- and will you please send me his address?