1936

UA94/6/1 Thomas Cherry Tichenor Correspondence

Thomas Cherry Tichenor

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Sunday

Dear Mom and Dad:

I have just gotten home from Elkton. I went with Uncle T. C. down there yesterday afternoon and have had a very nice time. They all seem to be getting along fine and are very enthusiastic about the garden. While there this morning a terrific hail rain and wind storm broke upon us and I almost thought the house would be swept from the foundations but everything held and there was not much damage. A large limb from one of the maple trees was blown on top of the sistern house and knocked a whole in the cornise as it swept across the roof but there was not much other damage. Birds were swept from the trees and they could not fly fast enough to keep up with the storm. Several were drowned. When we got to Bowling Green, we found that it had just sprinkled. That place through the wind path is very frequently visited by storms of this sort but very few with so much wind. The hail did no damage.

Well this school will not last very much longer. We have only three weeks of recitation and then one week of tests. I think we will be out about June 3. Grandpa wants you to come down when you come to get me (if you can) and stay with them for a while. He has a piece of machinery that he is very enthusiastic about and is going to give dad one if he will come down there. The road from Green ville to Elkton is in very good condition so a woman who came through there about three weeks ago said and it will not be much farther to go back that way if you come after me. If you are going to by the truck you might bring that too because I don't think I will ever be able to pack all my junk back into the trunk etc.

The Dramatic Club had a social out to Beech Bend the other night and all had a good time. I drove Uncle T. C's car for aunt Bess. That sure is a pretty place out there and it is well kept even if it is very public. The man who owns it makes a good living because there are a good many people that go there.

Thomas
Dear Folks:

I guess you thought that I wasn't going to write this week. I have been pretty busy the last two weeks, we are giving a physical education etc., program tonight and we have been practicing on that once or twice a day lately.

Grandfather and Grandmother are looking well, they seemed to be so happy when all of us came. They wanted you all to come very much. I went down with Uncle T. C. and drove back for them. Uncle H. H. had car trouble and didn't get there till after we had eaten supper. We really had a lunch: ham, chicken, olives, coffee, milk, cake, fruit salad and other things.

I got the suit it must look well on me because all of the folks said they liked it. It is a grey suit (J. C. Penney). Aunt Bess said that I made a wise selection so I guess it must be O. K. I sure do thank you a lot for the suit.

It is raining hard right now and I suppose it will rain about 15 days this month because it rained on the first. Have you got any garden planted? Uncle T. C. has already planted his early garden. I hope it stops raining by tonight because they are expecting several thousand people to the program, which is free and is a demonstration of what kind of work is going on in the physical education building.

Last night I got a little time off and went to see "Ben Hur" it sure is a marvelous show and one gets a great deal from a picture of this type. Every Saturday afternoon we play basketball. My team is one of the best and I think we will win the tournament. We have played about 7-8 games and have lost only one game and we beat the team that beat us the next Saturday, so we are in the first rank. They have some kind of metals to give to the winning team.

Well I have to get some of tomorrow's lessons, so long!

Yours,

[Signature]
Friday Afternoon

Dear Folks:

Got the letter O. K. This certainly is an epoc in world history. Dr. Stickles talked about it this morning in chapel. He says that the present situation will result in the U. S. going off the Gold Standard if the legislation fails. They are already inflating the dollar now but they have some other technical name for it. It is best to observe, and say little about the situation. I guess after it is all over people will know how to live simpler for a while. We see many things now that we would not have seen several years ago. Last night I went with Mr. Long to clean wall paper at an apartment. We made a dollar an hour, and were glad to get it. He has charge of the apartment and the job had to be done. Also the paper hanger worked till 11:30 and that is a thing that no one would have thought of doing in 1927. The students have adapted themselves better than usual to a thing of this kind. Yesterday one girl said that she received half of the $5.00 that her parents had at home with the following instructions: "If you run out of powder let your nose shine; if your shoes wear out go barefooted."

By the way, if you want the wall paper to look nice, you can clean it with the cleaner and it looks as clean as new if the paper hasn't been brushed with a rag or broom. You just take the cleaner and rub over it like a rag and the dirt comes off. The cleaner doesn't cost but 10¢ a can and it takes about two cans per room.

Mr. Long and I cleaned three small rooms in less than four hours.

I will be busy for the next three weeks because of different programs and also the examinations. We are going to have a county meeting Monday night, they elected me president again and someone has to see about the arrangements for that. Next week, starting Thursday night the Sophomores are having their annual celebration. We have a tucky party that night and the next day we give the chapel program and get a holiday. I am in charge of the chapel program, and we are getting it in fair shape. One has to keep pushing, however, to get people to act.

Uncle F. C. and I went down to Grandfather's Sunday and found all O. K. They are like us, wondering how all will turn out. Grandfather looks well but I can see that he has lost a little of his vitality. Well I must get some work done and will try to get some time to write soon.

Yours,

[Signature]
Dear Folks:

This has been a busy week for me and I have not had much time to go places. Saturday I went out to Elrod's and spent the day with them, I sure had a nice time. Tomorrow we start to school. On Mondays I have to start at 7:30 and get out at 2:20. On Tuesdays and Thursdays I have to go at 8:30 and get out at 2:10. Wednesdays and Fridays are just like Mondays as far as schedule. I am taking Chemistry, Teachers Arithmetic-Class Management & Control, Physical Education, English, and Elementary Agriculture. When I get through with the Agriculture I will send it home to dad. I think that I will be able to take Horticulture next semester, if dad will keep the farm. There is considerable expense at the first of the semester and we have to deposit several dollars in the treasury for the use of locks and other things but it will be returned to us when the year closes. I may start eating over to the dormitory later on but will hate to leave the place where I am eating now. We get the best kind of meals with milk and cereal for breakfast for 4.50. Mr. Elrod says that he cannot supply the demand for milk and that he is going to buy some more cows. They have a nice farm of 1.50 acres. Tell Nell that there are two little calves out there and about 5 extremely large cats that never come to the house but stay around the barn especially when it is milking time. I think I get enough exercise most of the time as Saturday I walked over 5 miles out to Elrod's. I didn't mind it a bit as the weather was fine when I started but suddenly got cold after I got out there. Today I went to S. S. but am thinking of trying another S. S. next Sunday as I don't like that one because it is so large.

I still have enough money to buy my shoes and about three dollars which I think will run me for some time. I paid about two dollars out in fees which will be returned to me after the course is complete. I will look around some to see if I can get a room cheaper—I think perhaps I can get one later on for firing a furnace. If I do I will sure hate to leave this place as the people here are so nice and the location is ideal. Mr. Miller received word today that his half-brother died while driving a car in Louisville. Send me the McLean County news and all mail that I get and be sure to send the Kiskery to me as it should have come about the 20th.

Yours,

[Signature]

Sunday, Sept. 26, 1931
1345 Chestnut St.
Dear Folks:

I was glad to get the Mclean County News and letter. I have met T.C. Jr. and like him. Yesterday they had a big barbecue here and a Democrat convention. I ate dinner and then went out to the park where it was being held but failed to get any of the meat because it was all gone. There sure was an enormous crowd out there. Judge Lafoon spoke but I went home before they got around to him.

Friday night we went to see Edna Ferber's "Show Boat" it was a wonderful picture even if I did have to sit and stand on the banisters to the floor. There was such a large crowd there that we had to do the best we could till someone left. I saw Gilmore Epley here the other day and spoke to him. This morning I went to another S. S. and found the class there composed of about 10 boys of my age. We went into another class this morning because the teacher, who is pastor, has gone to the convention. Another preacher gave a very fine talk and I enjoyed it very much. This church is a small one but is up-to-date. Next Sunday I am going over to another Methodist church to S.S. so that I can join the one I like best. Last week Joe Hibbs and I joined the Dramatic club. It consists of mostly girls and very few boys but I think I will enjoy the work. Many of the students here are homesick and have already gone home for the weekend. Some that can't go are pretty blue. Last week one boy hitched hiked over 120 miles home and was back in school Monday morning on time. I don't think I will get homesick now and want to come home. Saturday I rode on Elrod's milk truck and helped Tubby (Euren Elrod—who weighs about 300 lbs) deliver milk. The gymnasium is open on Saturdays and I went over and took some exercise on the bars etc and then took a shower and went home. I can't see why they have chapel here every day. It is simply a repetition of the day before almost. I haven't missed but one chapel yet. Sometimes we hear good talks however.

I have gotten a wash woman and she does the washing for about 40-50 cents. The laundries are very high here. They wash shirts 2 for 25 and it would cost me more than fifty cents if I sent my clothes to the laundry. My Agriculture class is composed of mostly country girls and a few boys. I think they ought to know more about agriculture than they do but it is surprising how little they know other than common farm work.

The tourists have already started to Florida and loads come by here going that way. They will be thicker later on but the traffic is already increasing although the traffic does not bother us to amount to anything except for the big busses and trucks that look like freight trains. We don't pay them any attention now. I wonder if you are getting ready to start to Florida soon. Please excuse this letter for being so messy but it is very hard to write a neat letter and think what you are going to say at the same time.

Yours,
Dear Folks:

I got the shirts O. K. and they are the right colors, etc. We had the privilege of hearing one of the most prominent educators, talk in chapel this morning. I don't remember his name but I think it begins with a W. He is 87 years old and has a stronger voice than most 45 year old men. He has some good views, much like grandfather's, he says that he has learned more in the last 7 years than he has in the other 80. He has crossed the U. S. about 140 times and travels several hundred miles almost every day, delivering lectures. He says that any teacher that teaches today like he did ten years ago is an idiot. I expect that he hit some of the faculty members.

Will I guess I will be ready to go to work on the farm when school is over. Don't let Mr. Kennedy do all the bossing as he did last year, if he stays on the farm. Plant good trees if you plant any, most growers think that one year trees grow better.

I see where the C. H. S. girls are wearing cotton stockings, during the depression. That is a good idea, but I think that the Galhoun boys should start using only home-grown tobacco.

All of the stores here are having sales, many of them sacrifice sales. I went down to some of the stores to see the bargains. They have nice suits for 12.75 to 15.00. As my other suit is beginning to show that it has been worn, do you object, if I find a real bargain in one of these suits, to me buying one of them? I think they will come down a little more in a week or two. I would like to have one of them but if you want me to wait that will be all right.

Joe told me the other day that Jim Oby only needs in 6 of his 15 hours. He is not the only one who failed in as many or more than that many, however. There is an old bunch of people here now. There are all, sizes, shapes and fashions, some as old as 65 years. There are 2037 in daily attendance here at Western now, but they have gotten more teachers and the school is not very crowded. How are Nell and Miss Nellie? It is nearly bedtime and as the Chinese and Japs. are getting ready for a big battle, I think I will go to bed. XX so long until next week-----------------

Yours,

Thomas

Jim
January 31

Dear Folks:

I am through registering and have a very good program. It did not take as long to register this time but it took nearly all morning. I am going to change one course. The horticulture course to psychology. I wrote the check for my registration fee on the bank. I still have plenty of money to last this next month. This is my program if nothing happens to change it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>CHAPEL</td>
<td>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:10</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Music</td>
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<td>Music</td>
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<tr>
<td>12-1:20</td>
<td>DINNER</td>
<td>XXXXXXXXXXXX</td>
<td>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:20</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>English</td>
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</table>

The blank spaces show when I don't have to go to school. I have a much harder program on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, but it is easier that way because you can study the day before, you will notice that I get out at dinner on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but I am going to take some other physical activity if I can the last half of this semester. They offer a course in Track and Field sports which I think I will take if I haven't too much.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Menu Item</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>A milk, egg, butter + Carrots or Spinach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Bananas</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Whole wheat cake, vanilla</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Carrots, peas, veg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Citrus fruit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Coco milk, eggs, butter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>WH white milk</td>
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<td>WH whole wheat</td>
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<td>Tues</td>
<td>WH citrus fruit</td>
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<td>Tues</td>
<td>WH egg</td>
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I sure hope Nell gets well enough to go to school. I know she hated to miss after such a good record. Is the high water about to get you? It is very high up here, so they say, but it doesn't look like much water compared to what is on further down the river. Many of the students are going home but not as many as you would think, they say that the dormitories are filled and the dining room also. I am taking two meals a day at the regular boarding house, and am taking a pt. of milk and donuts etc., for breakfast. We get milk right across the street cheaper than anywhere in town. Do you think this is enough breakfast?, the other meals are very good.

I think I passed all of the exams, they don't tell us the grades. We will get the grades for the semesters work soon. Have you sold the farm for sure? I was going to take fruit trees growing till I heard that you had sold.
Dear Folks:

This old week sure has gone by in a hurry. I haven't had so much work to do this week but have been busy. Mr. Francis is getting up a tap-dancing class for boys. We are going to meet one time a week on Tuesdays. Joe and I and about twelve other boys have joined. It doesn't cost anything and I hope I can learn to tap dance some anyway.

I don't think that I will have enough time to come home because I will be very busy during that time. The dramatic club is presenting two or three plays and they will take a good deal of time although I am only in one of them.

This music that I am taking sure is hard. I hope that I can make C on it. It is a required subject and you only get two hours on it but meet it four times a week. All my other studies are hard but I don't have any trouble with them. The physical Ed. program sure was a success. Most of the people said that the boys part of it was the best. The entire gym. was packed and everybody enjoyed it very much.

Last Saturday night I went up to Uncle Hardin's and although it was about 7:00 all but Elizabeth had gone to bed. She is a typical Cherry, full of life etc. I had a nice time although the rest had gone to bed. Elizabeth gave me a few pointers on how to play bridge and wants me to come back and learn some more, she seems to like to teach. She graduates at the end of this semester and is trying to get a job at a summer camp like the one that Eleanor Ballantine had but didn't go. She is agent for a steamship company and is trying to get people to go abroad. If she gets ten people she gets a free trip besides a literal commission. She wrote over fifty letters last week and has some prospects.

I received the magazines the other day and have read most of them. I also got a Montgomery Ward catalogue so I will have something to look at anyway, even if I do run out of work. Mrs. Smith wants me to come to see them so I may go today. She is the one who lived across the street from us when we lived here. Don't let the kidnappers get Hell!

Yours,

[Signature]
Dear Folks:

I guess that this card is a surprise, but I want you to send me something. Isn't there an alarm clock somewhere upstairs that is not running. Norris and I have no time-piece and I want you to send me that one.

I am O. K. and the work is so bad for the time. They are taking our pictures for the annual soon. I hope the swimming pool will open up soon. G. Bye.
Dear Folks!

I am O.K. — Just busy and working hard. I will soon have time to write home. I hope, I had thought of coming home this week end but I have too much to do now and I don't know whether I will get to come home until summer. We get out June 3, and I don't think I want to stay for the summer term because I am getting a bit tired of all the work. I will write when I get time.

T. H. Richenor

Calhoun
Dear Folks:

Tomorrow is Monday--with two tests and maybe three. I am about to get busy again but not for very long. The dramatic club is giving a short play next Wednesday night and I am in it. Then Easter Sunday a Easter ceremony is to be given up on the hill at about sunrise. I am to act the part of John and it is quite hard to memorize all that speech. I am getting along in everything fine except music. If I could get that stuff as easy as the others all would be alright but I will pass somehow.

Mrs. Hill thinks that girls are less trouble than boys so that she is taking in girls in April but I don't care as this place is rather dirty--smoke and dust from the furnace--. I have been looking around and have found several nice places. I am going to find the best place I can and stay there if I can. Mrs. Hill is extremely queer. She wants the four of us to come back next fall and room with her--but not for me.--However it has been nice here as it is very quiet and I do not have a room mate.

The English teacher gave us books to read--it was my luck to get a 600 page fine print book and I have till Friday to get it in but I have read over 400 pages this week-end. The Ordeal Of Richard Feverel is the name of it and I have read much worse books. Saturday I went up to the gym and there some of the Physical Ed. boys had a group picture taken for the Annual. I am in two pictures in the new Annual.

I may send some of my things home if I find a way for them but I won't unless I find a good way. I went around to see Mrs. Smith and she was glad to see me. She has rented here house except one or two rooms and she and Mr. Smith live along except for the boarders and roomers. The tap-dancing class --I hope will survive the dean( he is afraid of public opinion) but I think anyone is very narrow to be against tap-dancing. I think we will get to get it up after all. We have had class tournaments in basketball and our team the Trojans(I was the one to really get it up) are tied for championship with a team we have beaten once. We will probably play them this week. We have had only one defeat and that was before we were organized properly.

Well I am going to study for the tests and go to bed so I must tell you more next week. I am taking plenty of exercise and am feeling well. Most of the students have had flu but I escaped only with a bad cold and a very light touch of sore throat.

What ever you do about the note will be all right with me. Send the draft if you want to and I will put it in P. S.

Yours till next week,

[Signature]
Dear Mom & Dad:

I have been awfully busy lately and have not had much time to write. I will write a letter Saturday if I get time etc. We are getting notebooks and are getting ready for the tests.

Hope you are getting along O... I will be glad when all the tests are over. We have them week after next and we are about ready to review for them.

yours,

T. A. Richenor

Calhoun, Ky.
Dear Dad:

Just got the letter from you. I had rather leave here on Saturday morning if possible. You can come Friday however and I think you can stay all night with me -- I am not sure whether Norris is leaving Friday or Saturday but I think Fri.

I have several things to do and T. C. and I are going fishing one day. I am through now with exams...

T. A. Tichenor

Kentucky
When a report indicates unsatisfactory work, the prompt cooperation of parents and guardians in effecting an immediate improvement is earnestly requested. C is the lowest grade given for satisfactory work.

Grade—A, means excellent; B, good; C, fair; D, unsatisfactory; F, failure; X, incomplete.
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Registrar

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<td>5</td>
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<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>102</td>
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</table>
Aug. 14, 1936

Mr. Thomas Tichenor,
Calhoun, Ky.

Dear Tommy:

Now that it is all over Tommy, I want you to know how much I really appreciated your work during the past year. You are a very easy person to work with. A person could not ask for one more ready to cooperate than you. You did not stand back when responsibility was to be shouldered. Your kind manner and easy temper is an asset to any young man.

Unless there is a great change in you I predict many good friends and much success and happiness in your life.

Any time I may be of any service to you do not hesitate to call on me. Luck to you next year in the new roll of a teacher instead of Business Manager. May you be as successful at that as you were as a business manager.

Yours,

[Signature]

W. M. Baker, Faculty Advisor