



J. S. PEAL, SR. & SON, AGENTS
LA CENTER, KENTUCKY



Mrs. Hugh Seal
50 E. 10th St.
New York N.Y.



The Home Insurance Company

NEW YORK.

ORGANIZED 1853.

J. S. PEAL, SR. & SON, AGENTS
LACENTER, KENTUCKY

Darling:

I have your letter and I am delighted that you are pleased with the car. The insurance people I use are Stone & Youngs, and, unless you have already placed the insurance, you might give Mr. Augustus Stone a call.

The sun came out Monday afternoon, and spring again come forward officially. I am reminded again however of Collins's phrase, one of my favorites, "Spring with dewy fingers, cold." Mommy and I have sat by the fire - the furnace being shut off - and discussed every family in the county. As I have often told you, one of the finest attributes of village life, it seems to me, is the perspective it gives one - at least where one has been in the same locality for a long time. I have read one of Dorothy Confield's books since I have been here, "Bonfire", which illustrates this admirably.

Mommy seems to have had a real recovery. She is very cheerful, eats anything she wants in reason and goes up and down the tall steps to see to her flowers. Her lilacs are coming out again, although somewhat damaged by the ice of last week-end.

The Bradleys are having tribulations. Marshall has had an operation for appendicitis, and Louanna is at home with a broken ankle. Cousin Earl and Cousin Gertrude are well, however. I haven't seen Cousin Alice as she was away from home

the day I went over there.

Apparently the family likes the large house, although I find the immense rooms and the twelve feet ceilings a little oppressive and barn like. The boys found that it took about \$15⁰⁰ per week to heat the place during the very cold weather. It is a fine old house, however, very solid and substantially constructed.

I am enjoying my stay very much but I shall certainly be glad to see you.

Lovingly,
Hugh



Mrs. Hugh Deal
Turon Kansas.

W. HUGH PEAL
COUNSELLOR AT LAW
25 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Sunday Afternoon

Darling;

I do hope that you found your Mother reasonably comfortable and in good spirits. And that the weather is pleasant.

I sponged the old car yesterday and the body shines as though it were new. of course the fenders are quite beyond help and their dinginess dims the glory of the rest. I also cleaned the windows and skinned the metal work. on my next free day I hope to do the same for the ~~Pocket~~

Clare, Anne and Mrs MacGregor came to dinner last night and Jennie did very well by us. Anne was my partner and had the waist cords I ever saw. My own hands were good but we come out badly on the whole.

Today has been a cloudy, dreary day with intermittent showers. I have gotten through with some long-delayed office work and have otherwise been very indolent. The Philharmonic concert is just finishing. I wonder

if you are hearing it at Turon.

You will be sorry to hear that the Greenwich tax rate is about to be raised from 16.9 mills to 18.9 mills. I think that the American people are going to be taxed out of existence.

Jennie seems to be enjoying her position as housekeeper and is keeping the place in good shape. As I am going down to Malcolm's for election day she is going to take that day off instead of Thursday.

I am very lonesome without you, but of course I want you to stay there so long as you can be of use or comfort to your mother.

With all my love,
Hugh



Mrs. Hugh Seal

Turon Kansas

W. HUGH PEAL
COUNSELLOR AT LAW
25 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Nov 9, 1937

Darling:

Your letter indicated that you were discouraged about your mother. I certainly hope that she is better now. Perhaps your coming will be of help to her spirits.

I will send you the money in a day or two. We are expecting some fees in right away and I have also applied to borrow on my Massachusetts Mutual Policy.

The Stevens are having me to dinner tonight. I am working late and writing this at 6:15 P. M. Everyone asks about your mother.

Yesterday I spent the day with the Froashes. In the evening we went to the Ansonia Club to get the election returns. We met the Palmers there, with the Dotys, and went back to the Palmers for a time. The election has naturally pleased the New York financial community and will probably give rise to some new financing.

In spite of his defeat it seems to me that Dewey's race was a great electoral achievement and marks

him as a great vote-getter. Lehman is undoubtedly the only available candidate who could have defeated him.

Lilian Dwyer called up to invite us to some affair at the Town Hall Club. She sends her sincerest regrets.

My work seems to be increasing rather than lessening as the days go on. Just now I am trying very hard to prepare my objections to the Kramer accounting. After that there will be a brief and argument which will take a lot of time. The consolation is that this means fees next year.

Give my love to your mother and tell her how much I am looking forward to her recovery. Also my love to Gladys. I am missing you very much.

yours,
Hugh



Mrs. Hugh Deal,
Turon, Kansas.

W. HUGH PEAL

COUNSELLOR AT LAW

25 BROADWAY

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Darling;

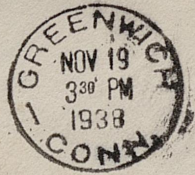
I spent a quiet weekend at home. Friday I recuperated from a slight cold with the aid of rest and a large dose of castor oil. Saturday I was well enough to do a few chores and to take dinner with the Fergussons. You are right about them. They are crazy as a pair of loons. Mildred is now arranging an exhibition for a lone duck she has found and, incidentally, getting herself elected a member of the local society of artists. She is a sculptress, believe it or not. Sunday I spent with the Foushees.

I hope to have the money in a day or so. Both the fee and the loan are slow.

For a time-hardened bachelor I find myself very lonely. Strangely enough it is your dressing table which reminds me most of you. Perhaps that is because it is one of the few things which you use exclusively. I would stay in town but for Jennie. I don't like to let her go. Besides the weather is still very fine here. Saturday was like a September day, warm and still. However, I am looking forward to our winter in town.

New York is all wrought-up by the new German attack on the Jews. It looks as though the Americans may be the leaders in the new war scare. Foster and I have speculated much on the fate of the Sonmenthals. Nothing seems left but the ghetto.

The Girl Scouts had already made other arrangements so that your party must await your return.



Mrs. Hugh Deal
Turon
Kansas

Milbrook
Greenwich, Conn.
Nov. 16, 1938

Dear Mrs. Deal,

I am really very
sorry that I did
not write to you
earlier, and let you
know about the
Leaders' Association
arrangements.

Truly, I meant to,
but somehow, I
just didn't. When Miss

Francis told me of your mother's illness and your necessary trip West. I offered to have the leaders at my house, in order to relieve you of the bother of plans for them, and naturally meant to write you about it.

Several things did come up, and I was very sucked, and

did not realize my omission until Miss Francis told me what she had heard from Mrs. Brunelle.

I hope that Mr. Paul was able to cancel things in time and that you were caused no inconvenience. I do thank you for myself and for the leaders for your thoughtfulness.

Very sincerely,
Margaret English

W. HUGH PEAL
COUNSELLOR AT LAW
25 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Saturday Nov. 19, 1938

Darling:

This is a cloudy dreary Saturday which I intend to spend as much by the fire as I can. I have been working feverishly at the office the last few days but am now beginning to get caught up.

I was almost down to my last rickel yesterday morning when I got the check on my insurance loan. Then yesterday afternoon the office came through with \$750. so that I am able to pay our bills. Incidentally, they are very high as so many items had been postponed.

Uncle John's death must have been a bad blow for your Mother and Aunt Jennie. I am glad that you were there for the funeral even if it was harrowing for you.

Foster wants you to have a motion picture ^{made} of yourself doing the housework. Anne has had another bad attack of sciatica and has been unable to sleep. I am going to have Thanksgiving dinner with them. So far as I have heard Wood is still in school.

I had dinner Wednesday night with the Froashees. Malcolm seems to be quite happy and contented but I hear nothing of any progress made toward getting recognition at

his office. Clare seems to be busy with the children but manages to get a great deal of ~~work~~^{reading} done.

I enclose two blank checks, one on each bank. Do not draw more than \$50⁰⁰ on the Commercial or more than \$100⁰⁰ on the Manufacturers without letting me know. Business seems to be picking up at the office so that I think I ought to get at least \$2500 or \$3000 in the next two months, perhaps more.

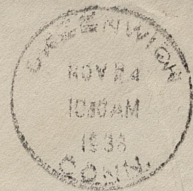
I am forwarding one or two letters which have come for you.

The chrysanthemums have entirely faded but we still have petunias, calendulas and one or two other flowers.

You don't know how relieved I am to be able to pay our bills. For instance, I have been, like Dick Summeller in old Curiosity Shop, ashamed to pass Andy's. I am going to have Preston put in the cars today.

With love to you and Mrs Watson.
yours,
Hugh

W. HUGH PEAL
25 BROADWAY
NEW YORK



*Mrs. Hugh Peal
Turon, Kansas*

W. HUGH PEAL
COUNSELLOR AT LAW
25 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Wed. Eve., Nov. 23, 1938

Darling:

Foster has just called to read your letter to Anne and I am terribly sorry about your mother. It must be very discouraging after, after your hopes of a prompt recovery. Perhaps the death of uncle John was too much of a shock to her. I do hope that she is not as bad as you thought.

Miss Jennie is going to an old ladies home. I hope that she won't find the place as bad as the old lady in "Make Way for Tomorrow". She will probably like it very well, however, and will know the entire inmates as bosom friends in a week. She gave the best of her working years to bringing up her nephew, a worthless boy just two or three years older than I. His greatest achievement was taking the bank-rustey act with \$600 of liabilities. When he married and had children Miss Jennie went to work for them.

Louise says that Mommy has gone down very much in the last few weeks. I certainly should go home for a few days if I could get away.

I suppose you got my letter with the blank checks. If you need more than \$150 you can get the rest from the Manufacturers account.

Cliff Gordon's father is dead. Both his sons are in this country.

on Sunday I tried out the Cockard and actually got it back again although I had some doubts when I passed a speeding car on the narrow bridge on Indian Field Road. The rest of my travels has been in the oldsmobile.

The Litigation Department continues to win victories, the last one in the "stolen idea" case for American Tobacco. The plaintiff contended that he had furnished the slogan "Luckies never let you down". Business continues very good, it seems to me, although Horace is gloomy.

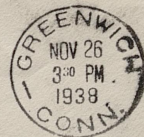
Foster is still expounding all the real estate in and about Greenwich neighbourhood. This time he is looking at building lots. What a time he would have building a house. He has actually got some time out of Tom Rogers who should know better. Anne is acquiescent in the searches but gives me the impression that she won't let it go too far.

The fogs are even worse this year than last. Last night I found it difficult to find the entrance to Becksland Road. I zipped through the fog like a prosaic but dangerous force, even racing a little with a car, I couldn't see over a road which neither of us could see.

Write as often as you can. I was looking forward very much to seeing you next week but I suppose you will be delayed.

With love,
Hugh

W. HUGH PEAL
25 BROADWAY
NEW YORK



Mrs. Hugh Peal
Turon Kansas

W. HUGH PEAL

COUNSELLOR AT LAW

25 BROADWAY

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Saturday Morning, 11/24/38

Darling:

I found your two letters when I got home last night. I know your mother's condition is very discouraging. I know that your presence must be comforting to her and I want you to stay as long as she needs you. I have been lonesome and would like very much to see you, but I would be much more unhappy if I were the cause of your leaving her. So try to make her understand that I am all right and feel that she has first call on you.

We have a 7½ inch snow. I spent Thanksgiving Day at Fasters. About one o'clock a sleet storm started and by night the roads were very dangerous. I spent the night with the Dotys and Jennie with her friends, the Blues. In spite of its standing out all night the old car got me home safely last night, with the help of a new pair of chains. The driveway to the garage was blocked when I got here but I managed to crash through and get the car garaged. The gardener is clearing out paths.

I got the hybrid roses ~~covered~~^{banked} before the snow, but didn't get the climbers taken down. Most of them are already banked, you know. I believe that the swanyms is planted, but if not I will see that it is done.

The addressed envelopes which you left were all mailed. I don't suppose the household bills themselves were so much heavier than usual, but there were a few items, such

as the Belmont Feed Co bill, which had had to be postponed. Also, by mistake, I paid the total of the milk statement without deducting the amount of your last check; and the same in the case of the electricity. The milk check was returned and I suppose we will get proper credit for the electricity check.

I have asked the Dotys to dinner tomorrow. Anne appreciated your letter and says that she has written you.

As yet I haven't spent a night in town. Next Wednesday night, however, I am going to the St. Andrews Society Dinner at the Waldorf with some friends from the British Luncheon Club and I plan to spend the night at the Albert.

The Town Hall Club dues have been raised to \$35.00 and the British Luncheon Club dues to \$50.00. I suppose all prices will go up, eventually if slowly, as a part of the general inflationary program.

It seems years since you left, ^{Dearling}
I have been trying to solace my evenings with some new historical reading. "The General's Lady," by Esther Forbes, "Rubble In Arms" by Kenneth Roberts and "Barland of Boys" by ~~Simon~~ Guynn Jones have proven solid and entertaining. I had read "Crippled Splendor" before you left.

With all my love,
Hugh

NEW YORK, N. Y. STA.
NOV 28
10-AM
1938



Mrs. Hugh Deal
Turon Kansas

W. HUGH PEAL

50 E. TENTH ST.

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Beekman Road
Greenwich Conn.

Darling:

The gardener spent all day yesterday shoveling snow, cleaning out the driveways, making paths, taking the snow off the back porch etc. When he had finished I was in hopes that we would have a period of fine weather but the snow began again last night and we had about four inches more this morning. About ten A.M. I started out with cold hands and feet and a heavy heart to do all the work again, but in a few minutes his grinning face came into view and he cheerfully surrendered my shovel.

Anne, Foster and Wood come over today and Jennie gave us ice cream and fried chicken. Got in that order naturally. Wood retrieved his books that Nancy left. We took some pictures of the house and grounds which are very lovely in the deep snow.

Dorothy Wilmette called today to ask to dinner a week from Wednesday. I told her that you were away and she promises to write to you. I am going to the dinner although I am somewhat tired of most of Dorothy's friends.

Foster has a very bad case of the fever for building. I have done my best, I hope tactfully, to discourage him. He is still discussing various plans which might take him away from Greenwich and would be very foolish to tie himself down with a heavy investment here.

Foster's father came down the night before Thanksgiving. In spite of the heavy snow they had a hard time to keep him Friday. He left Saturday morning in spite of tears and entreaties and phoned back that night that he had been on his roof with kettles of boiling water in order to thaw out his drain pipes, you can see where Foster gets his impatient energy.

In spite of the snow I have enjoyed the vacation days and probably won't close the house yet.

Tell your mother that I am looking forward to better news from her.

With Love,
Hugh



Mrs. Hugh Deal
Turon Kansas

W. HUGH PEAL
COUNSELLOR AT LAW
25 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Nov. 29, 1938

Darling:

Like the Victorian schoolboy, I take my pen in hand to let you know that I am well and hope you are the same. And a good letter that is, too, except for the unnecessary statement about the pen. The Victorians, however, run to long explanations and unnecessary exordia so that most of their letters contained much chaff and little grain.

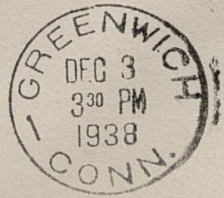
I have a great mass of travel circulars which the Travel Department of Manufacturers has furnished me. In the meantime, however, I have had a great idea - a stunning idea. Why not save two weeks up and add it on to next summer's vacation so that we can have a whole month in England in addition to travelling time. In my own case I am rested again so that I don't need much vacation. I suppose that your trip has taken it out of you, but you could rest up in two weeks this winter. Those two weeks would have to be cheap too, if we are to go to England. I would like to go in May when the May trees are blooming.

I've never gotten around to see Mr. Smith. Last Saturday was too slick. The Saturday before was so wet I couldn't get the car started. And so on.

I am having a wood fire every night, burning up our wood at a great rate. Nothing flatters my vanity so much as makes me feel so much the great lord as an open fire, not even the Pockard which makes me too self-conscious.

Darling, don't let your Mother worry about me. And don't worry yourself. Naturally I am lonely, but I wouldn't for anything have you leave her when she needs you. Every kiss would be hateful under those circumstances. But think how wonderful it will be when you can come back with a clear conscience. Since you have been gone I have thought so often of the girl in "our Town" who thought when she went back to the land of the living that people went through their most wonderful experiences with such blind eyes and heedless minds. I don't think we have ever been quite that bad, my dear, and I hope we have learned something by this long absence.

Good Night, Sweetheart,
Hugh



Mrs. Hugh Deal
Turon Kansas

W. HUGH PEAL
COUNSELLOR AT LAW
25 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Darling;

Saturday Morning, Dec. 3, '38

I am so excited at the prospect of seeing you again so soon! But I am writing this short letter just in case something happens so that you can't come.

Two days ago I received an announcement of the arrival of Walter Richard Kernan, Jr. They married, if I remember correctly, in 1922 and Edyth can't be far from forty. Don't you find it amusing that they have just now started a family? Do you think that this is a sign of affluence or a betrayal of carelessness?

I am having a hard battle at the office to get Charley a raise. Inspired by the obvious need of economy the office is postponing all raises, but I am insisting that he is grossly underpaid in relation to others and that he is apt to leave unless he gets a raise or bonus. Horace's position as office manager seems to have been quietly taken away from him as he seems to have nothing to say about raises and promotions. I may also be facing a battle over my own percentage soon as that subject is about to be

taken up again.

The Saint Andrews Society Dinner was a triumph of Scotch food and wit. We had haggis and black pudding imported from Edinburgh and dozens of examples of Scotch humor. Among others in our party was Mr. Ivan Alstyne whom we met at the Murrells in Englewood.

Friday night I dined with the Dotys. For some reason Anne was in a foul humor and upbraided Foster and even me occasionally.

I got another thousand dollars a few days ago so that we now have about \$1400 but before payment of the Dec. 1 bills. If I get another \$500 before Dec. 20 we can pay my December income-tax instalment and the \$800 note at Manufacturers. This would mean a net improvement of \$250 as I borrowed \$550 on my insurance.

With all my love and eagerly
hoping to see you,

Hugh