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The Geo. H. N. Luhrs Family in Phoenix and Arizona 1847-1984

George H.N. Luhrs, Jr.

Title Page

Picture

Catharina Margaret Luhrs

Geo. H. N. Luhrs

G E O. H. N. L U H R S

Do you remember when the town was young,
The kindly, honest, busy little man
Who every moment of his life long span
Helped build the place whence his success was wrung?
Whose nimble hands first set the wagon's tongue
Toward mines that fed his mule train's caravan;
Whose friendly heart more won the stranger
His beg and board and beer straight from the bung?

To him the vision of the man who knows
He serves his city best who serves its need,
And builds in beauty when his service shows
The artist's dream in common daily needs.

There stands his Tower! A monument to one
Whose mule corral once blistered in the sun.

From The Sonnets of the Past
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The original documents and pictures used in this book plus other original documents and pictures of the Luhrs family and the business papers of the Luhrs Properties are assembled in the "Luhrs Family Collection". The collection may be found in the Arizona Collection, Hayden Library, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona.

INTRODUCTION

In 1977, when Uncle George moved into our home, he was ill. He had one broken arm, the other was dislocated, and he was suffering from depression. At this time we brought home the collection of over 100 years of family and business history from the basement of the Luhrs Hotel. This assemblage of documents had been stored haphazardly; it was not sorted, and the pictures were not labeled. As I unpacked a box, I would take the pictures to Uncle George to ask him about each person in the photographs. Often only he could identify the people portrayed. Excited, I would show each group of letters to him. Many of the early letters were written in German. He had some of the old German letters translated immediately. During part of this time, an archivist from Hayden Library, Arizona State University, was making regular visits to our home to tape Uncle George's recounting of the history of the early days of Phoenix as he lived them. The involvement with the letters, pictures, and the oral history was the catalyst which led to Uncle George's becoming so interested in the events of the family that he decided to write a book to preserve his family's history and its contribution to the early days of his beloved Phoenix. In order to permanently safeguard the documents and to provide availability to future scholars for study, he labeled the pictures, put all family and Luhrs business papers in the "Luhrs Family Collection" and arranged for the collection to be given at intervals to the Hayden Library, ASU, Tempe, AZ. In addition, at the time of his death he left Hayden Library a stipend for the maintenance of the papers and for the acquisition of other historical papers and pictures of Phoenix and Central Arizona.

Writing the history became Uncle George's dream, his desire, his passion. He spent the rest of his life, nearly seven years, working on "THE BOOK" and labeling the many, many pictures of early Phoenix and the family. Uncle George suffered several serious illnesses during this time, but his zeal endured. He wrote with fear that he would be unable to complete the book. He finished writing THE GEO. H.N. LUHRS FAMILY OF PHOENIX and ARIZONA, 1847 to 1983 early in 1984 just a few months before his death.

Uncle George spent many hours selecting the pictures and historical papers and determining their exact placement in the book. He planned the title page with great care. The cover design gave him great pleasure. He chose the cover material after some thought. He even chose the weight and type of paper to be used. He did not want the book to be edited, and the book has not been edited. All of his wishes have been carried out. THE GEO. H.N. LUHRS FAMILY OF PHOENIX and ARIZONA 1847 to 1983 is indeed Uncle George's book.

Jean Stroud Crane



GEORGE H. N. LUHRS, JR.
June 29, 1895 — July 21, 1984

Portrait by Gittings
July 1, 1981

The writer is neither an author, a journalist nor a literary student. The book is not a novel, but a non-fiction history. From records, newspaper clippings, what was learned from relatives and friends and what was known by the writer, which when enumerated, tells the story of the Geo H.N. Luhrs family of Phoenix, Arizona, United States of America. Written, as the thought of events came to the writer's mind, there is some lack of continuity, and some repetition.

George H.N. Luhrs Jr.

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A Person by Any Other Name.....

Geo. H. N. Luhrs: generally signed his name Geo. H. N. Luhrs even on most official documents; he signed Geo. H.N. Luhrs on his voter registration. However, he signed Georg Henry Nicholas Luhrs, without the final "e", on his naturalization papers. When writing to his wife early in their marriage, he mostly signed "Georg". Later, usually he signed "Geo.". His children called him "Papa" or "Father".

His second son, George Luhrs, Jr., was named after him, as was his grandson, George Luhrs Stroud.

Catharina Margarita Luhrs: was called "Gretchen or "Tanta Gretchen" by family members. Her children called her "Mother". On a few of her legal papers she signed her name Catharina Margaret Luhrs, or just Catharina M. Luhrs; on most other legal papers she signed Margaret C. Luhrs. She signed "Margaret C. Luhrs" on her voter registration and was called "Margaret Luhrs" in the Masonic Lodges. The cornerstone of the Luhrs Building is inscribed "Margaret C. Luhrs". She was known in Phoenix as "Margaret Luhrs", but was spoken to as "Mrs. Luhrs". She had no preference between Margaret and Catharina, but her husband much preferred Margaret. Because she was so much loved, in her later years, some of her Eastern Star sisters called her "Mother Luhrs."

Her two granddaughters, Margaret Mary Taylor, (daughter of Ella Luhrs Taylor), who died at birth, and Jean Margaret Stroud, (daughter of Emma Luhrs Stroud), were named after Catharina Margarita Luhrs.

Her great granddaughters, Margaret Suzanne Luhrs (daughter of Allen Luhrs), Catharina Luhrs Stroud (daughter of Luhrs Stroud), and Gretchen Simin Crane, (daughter of Jean Stroud Crane), were named after her.

Arthur Cleveland Luhrs (son of Geo. H. N. and Catharina Margarita): was named for the outgoing and incoming presidents the year he was born. His son, Arthur Allen Luhrs, was named for him. His grandson, Arthur Cleveland Luhrs II, also was named for him.

Ella Louise Henrietta Luhrs Taylor (daughter of Geo. H. N. and Catharina Margarita): originally was named Louise Henrietta Luhrs after her two grandmothers. When Catharina Margarita took her infant daughter and young son to Germany to visit her family, "Ella" was added to Louise Henrietta at her christening because Catharina Margarita's mother, Louise Dodenhof, didn't like the name Louise, but did like the name Ella.

Emma Johanna Sophia Luhrs Stroud, (daughter of Geo. H. N. and Catharina): was named after Gretchen's good friend Emma Dummel, (Mrs. Fredrick), sister of Anna Barbara Thalheimer (Mrs. Joseph). Johanna came from Geo. H. N.'s sister Johanna Kahrs. The Sophia came from another beloved relative.

George Luhrs Jr., George H. N. Luhrs, Jr. (son of Geo. H. N. and Catharina Margarita): usually signed his name "George Luhrs, Jr.",

without the initials, until the last six or seven years of his life, when, because of his love for his father, he consistently added the "H. N." to his name. He was "Uncle George" not only to his niece and nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews, and their spouses, but also to all cousins of the family who were contemporaries of his nieces and nephews. Children of his friends and friends of his niece and nephews also called him "Uncle George".

Arthur Allen Luhrs (son of Arthur C. Luhrs): was given his father's first name and his mother's maiden name. In order to avoid confusion among the "Arthurs" in the family, he was called Allen Luhrs.

John Arthur Luhrs (son of Arthur C. Luhrs): was named John Christopher Luhrs after his great grandfather (Geo. H. N. Luhrs' father). In later life, John changed the Christopher to Arthur after his father.

George Luhrs Stroud (son of Emma Luhrs Stroud): was named after his grandfather and generally used the name of Luhrs Stroud or G. Luhrs Stroud to avoid confusion among the "Georges" in the family.

George Nicholas Tilbury Stroud (son of G. Luhrs Stroud): was named after his father and George Luhrs, Jr. and was called "Nicholas".

Matthew Nicholas Crane (son of Jean Stroud Crane): was named after George Luhrs, Jr. and is called "Nicholas" or just "Nick".

Arthur Clyde Taylor (Ella's husband): was often called "Cap" or "Cap" Taylor, his nickname earned by him before and during World War I when he was a captain in the Arizona National Guard. His niece and nephews and their friends called him "Uncle Cap".

Ella Luhrs (Taylor) was a watercolorist. One of her paintings hung in the St. Joseph's Hospital when it was located on Fourth Street, Phoenix.

Marjorie and George Luhrs moved to Arizona and Sun City shortly after it was established. She was a very fine painter; Walter Bimson purchased some of her paintings for the Valley National Bank collection. The Luhrs of Sun City and Phoenix became friends. No relationship to the Phoenix Luhrs family could be determined.

Dodenhof-Dodenhoff: Catharina Margarita was adamant that Dodenhof was the correct spelling. Her brother, Wilhelm, was just as positive that the spelling was Dodenhoff. Both had documents to support their views. This book uses both spellings.

The Families

FAMILIES

V O N H E I N

Rebecca Moeller was born February 15th, 1813 in Krummendeich, near Stadt, Germany. She was married to Friedrich von Hein in Oberdorf a/d Oste, Germany, May 31, 1835. They had two children, Catherine Louise von Hein and Friedrich von Hein. Catherine Louise von Hein was born in Fentsdorf a/d Oste, Germany, April 30, 1840. She died in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, July 11th, 1899. She married Klaus Heinrich Dodenhof, a brick mason, born in Kehdingruch, May 6, 1837 and died in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, August 3, 1897. Friedrich von Hein married Bertha (?). They had one child, Hedwig von Hein. She married a German submarine officer who was killed in the First World War. They had no children. Hedwig died in Hamburg April 8, 1947. Emma Luhrs Stroud and her family met Hedwig in 1936 when the Strouds went to Germany for the Olympics. The brother of Hedwig's husband, it has been said, was Admiral Rehder of the German Navy and badly wanted after the Second World War. Friedrich von Hein also died in Hamburg.

D O D E N H O F (D O D E N H O F F)

Catherine Louise von Hein was born in Fentsdorf a/d Oste, Germany, April 30, 1840. She died in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany July 11, 1899. She married Klaus Henrich Dodenhof, a brick mason in Kehdingruch, Germany, May 6th, 1837 and died in Neuhaus a/d Oste Germany, August 3rd, 1897. They had five children: Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Dodenhof, Christine Friederike

Dorothea Dodenhof, Anna Rebecca Dodenhof (born January 9th, 1873 and died July 2nd, 1875), Wilhelm Dietrich Dodenhoff and Anna Marie Dodenhof.

L U H R S

Johann Friedrich Leurs, a wheelwright, had a son, Christoph Leurs, a wheelwright who upon January 9th, 1791 married Anne Sophi Buck in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Kingdom of Hanover, Germany. They had a son Johann Nicholas Leurs, a wheelwright, born in Neuhaus a/d Oste Germany, May 15th, 1792. He died in Neuhaus a/d Oste January 5th, 1882. Upon November 13th, 1814, he married Johanna Hintze in Neuhaus a/d Oste, who was born in Balie, Germany, January 20th, 1792. Johann Nicholas Leurs changed the spelling of his name from Leurs to Luhrs.

They had a son, Johann Christoph Luhrs, a wheelwright, born in Neuhaus a/d Oste, July 8th, 1815. He died in Phoenix, Arizona, U.S.A. on a Thursday at 3:30 PM, August 3rd, 1889. In June, 1846 in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, he married Sophia Margaret Henriette Wilhelmine Diekmann, a school teacher born on July 20th, 1817 in Bremergorge, Germany. She died in childbirth in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, March 23rd, 1855. They had five children, two dying as children, one at six weeks and the other at three months. The three living were: Georg Heinrich Nicholas Luhrs (Geo H.N. Luhrs), born in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, March 31st, 1847 and dying in Phoenix, Arizona, U.S.A., May 4th,

1929; Dorothea Johanna Henriette Wilhelmine Luhrs, born in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, June 7th, 1848 and dying in Los Angeles, California, U.S.A., November 11th, 1947 (buried in Phoenix, Arizona, U.S.A.); and Johann Christoph Heinrich Luhrs, born in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, November 22nd, 1850 and dying in Phoenix, Arizona, U.S.A., February 24, 1915.

Sophia Margaret Henriette Wilhelmine Luhrs, nee Diekmann's father was an attorney. Her grandfather on her mother's side was mayor of Bremervorde. She had a brother named Georg Heinrich Nicholas, after whom she named her first child, Georg Heinrich Nicholas Luhrs.

G E O H. N. L U H R S

C A T H A R I N A M A R G A R I T A "G R E T C H E N" D O D E N H O F

Georg Heinrich Nicholas Luhrs (Geo H.N. Luhrs) was born in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, March 31st, 1847 and died in Phoenix, Arizona, U.S.A., May 3rd, 1929. Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Dodenhof was born in Oberndorf, Germany, January 3rd, 1862 at 1:00 AM in the home of Barthold Goose. Paster Wagner baptised her January 12th, 1862. She died in Phoenix, Arizona, December 13th 1942. They were married February 10th, 1884 in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany. Her home and the church still stand (1982). They had four children. Arthur Cleveland Luhrs, Ella Louise Henriette Luhrs, Emma Sophia Johanna Luhrs and George Henry Nicholas Luhrs, Jr.

ARTHUR CLEVELAND LUHRS

SARAH (SADIE) ALLEN

Arthur Cleveland Luhrs was born in Phoenix, Arizona, December 14th, 1884 in the Luhrs home on the southeast corner of Cortez Street (now First Avenue) and Jefferson Street. He died in St. Joseph's Hospital, Phoenix, Arizona, June 23rd, 1975. Sarah (Sadie) Allen was born in Ferris, Texas, February 25th, 1889 and died in St. Luke's Hospital, Phoenix, Arizona, February 6th, 1964. They were married December 12th, 1912 by Dean Scarlet of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in the Luhrs suite in the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs, on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street. They had two sons, Arthur Allen and John Arthur Luhrs.

ARTHUR ALLEN LUHRS

VIRGINIA FORBING

EVE THOMPSON

HEATHER FEREIRS

Arthur Allen Luhrs, known as Allen Luhrs, was born on west Washington Street near the State Capital in Phoenix, Arizona on Friday, November 13th, 1914. He married Virginia Forbing. They had three daughters, Margaret Suzanne, born June 9th, 1940; Virginia Forbing, born June 14th, 1943; and Jan Elizabeth, born March 1st, 1951. Margaret Suzanne Luhrs married David Emmons and they had two daughters, Ann Elizabeth, born February 7th, 1963, and Mari Emmons, born May 29th, 1967. Suzanne and David

are divorced. Margaret Suzanne then married Fritz Royer, a lawyer. Virginia Forbing Luhrs married Rex Short. They have two daughters, Kelli Suzanne Short, born August 9th, 1969 and Jennifer Short, born February 7th, 1971. Jan Elizabeth Luhrs married Robert Stephens. They have two children, Lindsley Suzanne Stephens, born March 28th, 1978, Robert Luhrs Stephens, born April 24th, 1981. Arthur Allen Luhrs and Virginia Forbing Luhrs got divorced. Arthur Allen Luhrs then married Eve Thompson. They had one son, Arthur Cleveland Luhrs II, born March 21st, 1963. Arthur Allen Luhrs and Eve Thompson were divorced. Arthur Allen Luhrs then married Heather Fereirs on July 10th, 1976.

J O H N A R T H U R L U H R S

A L M A M I S H K E

G I L L I A N A G M A S

John Arthur Luhrs was baptized John Christopher Luhrs. He was born on west Washington Street near the State Capital, Phoenix, Arizona, July 14th, 1916. John was named after his great grandfather, the father of Geo H.N. Luhrs. Not wanting to be called Chris, he named himself John Arthur Luhrs. John Arthur Luhrs married Alma Mishke. Alma's mother's father, Harvey Todd's aunt, Mary Todd, married Abraham Lincoln. John and Alma had two daughters: Marie Sandra and Sara Jene. Marie Sandra married Michael Edward Tiffany. They had four children, Michelle Todd Tiffany, born April 1, 1964, Michael Edward Tiffany,

born April 21, 1966, Paul Luhrs Tiffany born April 5th, 1968 and Christopher John Tiffany, born March 5th, 1970. Marie Sandra and Michael Edward Tiffany got a divorce. Sara Jene Luhrs married Bruce DeChristina. They have three children, Lisa Luhrs DeChristina, born May 25th, 1969, Lori Lynn DeChristina, born February 3rd, 1971 and Joseph Bruce DeChristina, born April 17th, 1973. Sara Jene and Bruce DeChristina were divorced. Sara Jene then married Steve Thomas. They are divorced.

Alma Mishke Luhrs was born December 28th, 1914 and died in Phoenix, Arizona of cancer, November 27th, 1978 at 3:00 PM in Good Samaritan Hospital. Memorial services were held at A.L. Moore and Sons, November 30th, 1978. At Alma's request, a get together of friends was had at the John Luhrs home at 86 East Ocotillo Street, with drinks and food being served. Upon March 12th, 1982, John Arthur Luhrs and Gillian Agmas were married in Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 114 West Roosevelt Street, Phoenix, Arizona, by Very Reverand Elmer B. Usher.

E L L A L O U I S E H E N R I E T T E L U H R S

A R T H U R C L Y D E "C A P" T A Y L O R

Ella Louise Henriette Luhrs was born in the Luhrs home on the southeast corner of Cortez Street, now First Avenue and Jefferson Street, Phoenix, Arizona, August 11th, 1886 and died December 16th, 1974 in Phoenix, Arizona in the Luhrs family suite in the Hotel Luhrs, previously known as the Commercial Hotel, on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson

Street. Arthur Clyde "Cap" Taylor was born July 2nd, 1885 and died in Phoenix, Arizona, December 17th, 1937. Ella Louise Henriette Luhrs and Arthur Clyde "Cap" Taylor were married on Christmas, December 25th, 1917 by Dean Scarlet of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in the Luhrs family suite in the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs, on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street in Phoenix, Arizona. The child that Ella had was a breach birth. Margaret Mary never lived. Ella Taylor could not have children after that.

EMMA SOPHIA JOHANNA LUHRS
REGINALD JAMES HENRY STROUD, M. D.

Emma Sophia Johanna Luhrs was born in the Luhrs home on the southeast corner of Cortez Street, now First Avenue, and Jefferson Street in Phoenix, Arizona, December 13, 1888. She died in the St. Joseph Hospital in Phoenix, Arizona July 10, 1968. Reginald James Henry Stroud, M.D., was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia November 22, 1886, the son of Major James T. and Lizzie Silk Stroud. He died in Phoenix, Arizona April 4, 1947 in the Good Samaritan Hospital. Emma Sophia Johanna Luhrs and Reginald James Henry Stroud, M.D., were married June 7, 1916 by Dean Scarlet of the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in the Luhrs' family suite of the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs, in Phoenix, Arizona. Emma and Reginald Stroud had two children, George Luhrs Stroud and Jean Margaret Stroud. George Luhrs Stroud was born in Phoenix, Arizona September 29, 1919 and died of a heart attack

March 29, 1980 in Port Angeles, Washington. Jean Margaret Stroud was born in Phoenix, Arizona, September 3, 1924.

G E O R G E L U H R S S T R O U D

L U C I L E D A H L G R E E N

George Luhrs Stroud was born in Phoenix, Arizona, September 29, 1919. He died in Port Angeles, Washington on March 29, 1980. He married Lucile Dahlgreen March 5, 1947. Her birthday is March 22. They had two children. Nicholas Stroud died when he was about two months old. Catharina Luhrs Stroud was born December 9, 1953. She lives on Bainbridge Island, Washington with her mother when she is not going to the university.

J E A N M A R G A R E T S T R O U D

J O H N H E N R Y E M B A C H

M I L T O N C R A N E

Jean Margaret Stroud was born in Phoenix, Arizona September 3, 1924. She married John Henry Embach September 6, 1946, at the home of Dr. and Mrs. R. J. Stroud on the southwest corner of Thirteenth Street and Mill Avenue, Tempe, Arizona. John was a Captain in the Air Force, being a navigator. He was called back into the service during the Korean War. His plane was shot down May 23, 1952. Jean and John had no children. After waiting over eight years for John's return, Jean, on September 16, 1961 married Milton Crane in the Stanford University Memorial Church. Milton Crane was born in Manhattan,

New York June 3, 1926. Milton and Jean have two adopted children, Matthew Nicholas Crane, born August 9, 1963 and Gretchen Simin Crane, born March 16, 1967.

GEORGE HENRY NICHOLAS LUHRS JR.

George Henry Nicholas Luhrs, Jr. was born in the Luhrs family suite in the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs, on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street, Phoenix, Arizona on June 28, 1895. He never married.

DOROTHEA JOHANNA HENRIETTE WILHELMINE LUHRS

Dorothea Johanna Henriette Wilhelmine Luhrs was born in Neuhaus, a/d Oste, Germany June 7, 1848 and died in Los Angeles, California November 11, 1947. She was buried in Greenwood Memorial Park, 2300 West Van Buren Street, Phoenix, Arizona. Johanna, as she was called, was the sister of Geo H.N. Luhrs. She lived just seven months short of being one hundred years old. The children of Geo and Gretchen Luhrs called her Tanta Johanna. Tanta is German for aunt. Dorothea Johanna Henriette Wilhelmine Luhrs married Diedrich Kahrs, a carpenter, in Neuhaus, a/d Oste, Germany. In 1884, the Kahrs family left Neuhaus, a/d Oste, Germany and went with Geo H.N. Luhrs, his bride, and his father to Phoenix, Arizona, U.S.A. The Kahrs had several children. One child died enroute to Phoenix. She was buried in St. Louis. Heinrich Wilhelm Kahrs was born in Neuhaus, a/d Oste, Germany,

June 5, 1873. He went to Phoenix, Arizona in 1884 where he stayed until he left -- where is not known -- nor is it known if he is alive or dead.

Margarete Henriette Wilhelmine Kahrs was born in Neuhaus, a/d Oste, Germany November 10, 1875. With her folks, in 1884, she came to Phoenix, Arizona. The Kahrs lived on the south side of Jackson Street, between First and Second Avenue. Margarete married a Mr. Timm. They moved to Los Angeles, California. Margarete took her mother, Johanna, with her. Mr. Timm had a daughter by a previous marriage. Her married name is Edith Thom. Her son's name is Clinton Virgil LaMode. They live at 4146 North Arica Avenue, Rosemead, California 91770. In the summer when the Luhrs went to the coast, they always looked by Tanta Johanna and Margarete and would have them come down to the beach. After Mr. Timm and Tanta Johanna died, it was lonesome for Margarete. Ella Luhrs Taylor and George, Jr. invited her over for Thanksgiving. She was very happy to come. She took sick and died in Memorial Hospital in Phoenix, Arizona December 14th, 1961.

Georg Kahrs, who was born in Neuhaus a/d Oste in the 1870's, came to Phoenix with his folks in 1884. First he worked for his uncle, Geo H.N. Luhrs. Later he operated the Hardwick Hotel located on the north side of Jackson Street between Central and First Avenue. The Santa Fe Railroad Station was on the northeast corner of First Avenue and Jackson. Georg Kahrs married and they had a son, George. Later they moved to San Diego. Their

whereabouts as of 1982 are not known.

J O H A N N C H R I S T O P H H E I N R I C H L U H R S

Johann Christoph Heinrich Luhrs was born in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany November 22nd, 1850. He died in Phoenix, Arizona, U.S.A., February 24, 1915. He is buried in Greenwood Memorial Park, 2300 West Van Buren Street, Phoenix, Arizona. He was the brother of Geo H.N. Luhrs, coming to the Vulture Mine in Wickenburg, Arizona late in 1876 and to Phoenix October 6th, 1881.

C H R I S T I N A F R I E D E R I K E D O R O T H E A D O D E N H O F

J O H A N N A U G U S T H A H N E F E L D T

Christina Friederike Dorothea Dodenhof was the sister of Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs (born Dodenhof) was born in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, July 22nd, 1866 in the morning at 9:00 AM. She died in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, May 31, 1913. Johann August Hahnefeldt was born in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, February 11th, 1858 and died in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, April 2nd, 1944. Christine Dodenhof and August Hahnefeldt were married in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany. They had three children: Else Louise Dorothea Hahnefeldt, August Hahnefeldt and Herman Hahnefeldt.

Else Louise Dorothea Hahnefeldt was born in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, June 7, 1896 and died in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany December 23rd, 1979. August Johann Heinrich Diekmann was born

in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, September 10th, 1899 and died in Ottendorf, Germany, September 14th, 1976. Else Hahnefeldt and August Diekmann were married in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, September 5th, 1926. They had three children: Hertha Marie Elsie Diekmann, born February 17th, 1927 in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, Thea Johanna Auguste Schulz, nee Diekmann, born in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, June 18th, 1929 and Johann August Georg Friedel Diekmann born in Otterndorf, Germany, August 7th, 1937. Johann August Georg Friedel Diekmann is married and they have three children, two daughters and one son. August and Herman Hahnefeldt were not married.

W I L H E L M D I E T R I C H D O D E N H O F F

A D A M A E P A Y T O N

Wilhelm Dietrich Dodenhoff was known as Uncle Willie. He was the brother of Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs. He was born January 19th, 1875 in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany. He was the only boy in the Dodenhof family. In 1889, at the age of fourteen, he left his folks in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, never to return. He went to his sister, Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs in Phoenix, Arizona, U.S.A. He always called her mother. He died in Phoenix, Arizona, November 15, 1948.

Ada Mae Payton was born in Dallas, Texas, October 18, 1878, and died in Phoenix, Arizona, May 31, 1970. Uncle Willie and Ada were married in Florence, Arizona, December 10th, 1898. They lived in Phoenix, Arizona. Their only child was Mildred

Louise Dodenhoff.

M I L D R E D L O U I S E D O D E N H O F F

J O H N P E R K I N S V A N D E N B U R G H

Mildred Louise Dodenhoff was born in Phoenix, Arizona October 8th, 1899, and died in California, November 1st, 1979. John Perkins VanDenburgh was born in Chatham, Virginia, July 11th, 1895. Mildred Dodenhoff and John VanDenburgh were married in Phoenix, Arizona, November 7th, 1920. They had one child, John Perkins VanDenburgh, Jr.

J O H N P E R K I N S V A N D E N B U R G H J R.

B E T T Y L O U W H I T E

John Perkins VanDenburgh, Jr. was born in Phoenix, Arizona, April 1, 1922. Betty Lou White was born August 27th, 1926 in San Luis Potosi, Mexico. They were married in Phoenix, Arizona, October 18th, 1946. They have three children: John Perkins VanDenburgh III, David Severin VanDenburgh and Elizabeth Marie VanDenburgh. John Perkins VanDenburgh III was born December 8th, 1947 in New Orleans, Louisiana. He married Kristen Marie Jacobs in Tucson, Arizona, January 25th, 1972. Kristen Jacobs was born November 10, 1950, in Manhattan, Kansas. John III and Kristen have a child, John Nicholas VanDenburgh, born October 17th, 1976, in Phoenix, Arizona.

David Severin VanDenburgh was born in Phoenix, Arizona, January 11th, 1952. He married Julie Kay Kagen on Saturday,

February 2nd, 1980, in the Bethany Lutheran Church, 4300 North 82nd Street, Scottsdale, Arizona. They have one child, Laura Marie VanDenburgh, born May 19th, 1982, in Phoenix, Arizona. Elizabeth Marie VanDenburgh was born in Phoenix, Arizona, on April 12th, 1956. She is not married.

JOHN PERKINS VANDENBURGH SR.

After the marriage of John Perkins VanDenburgh, Sr. and Mildred Louise VanDenburgh, nee Dodenhoff, was terminated, John VanDenburgh, Sr. on November 26th, 1928, married Ruth Egmont Shine. She died in Phoenix, Arizona, upon November 17th, 1943. They had two children, Richard Augustus VanDenburgh and Courtney Gould VanDenburgh. Richard Augustus VanDenburgh was born January 15th, 1931. He is unmarried. Courtney Gould VanDenburgh was born December 23, 1933. She is unmarried.

After the death of Ruth Egmont Shine VanDenburgh, John Perkins VanDenburgh married, on January 15th, 1945, Bess Holland Ellis. Betty Lou VanDenburgh, nee White, wife of John Perkins VanDenburgh, Jr., lost her mother, Marie Matilda Dorothea Stein, December 11th, 1979.

ANNA MARIE LOUISE DODENHOF EDWARD EISELE

Anna Marie Louise Dodenhof was the younger sister of Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs. Anna Marie Louise Dodenhof was known as Marie. She was born in Neuhaus a/d Oste,

Germany, October 8th, 1877. She came to the U.S.A. after the death of her mother, Catharina Louise von Hein Dodenhof, July 11th, 1899 in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany. Marie died in Phoenix, Arizona, December 19th, 1954, being placed in the mausoleum at Greenwood Memorial Park, 2300 West Van Buren Street, Phoenix, Arizona.

Edward Eisele was born in Saulgau, Wuettenburg, Germany, November 6th, 1856 and died in Phoenix, Arizona, U.S.A., May 2nd, 1928. He was also placed in the mausoleum at Greenwood Memorial Park, Phoenix, Arizona. Marie Dodenhof and Edward Eisele were married May 30th, 1900 in the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs, on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street, Phoenix, Arizona. George H.N. Luhrs, Jr., age five, was the ring bearer. Marie Eisele, nee Dodenhof and Edward Eisele had one son, Lloyd Edward George Eisele.

L L O Y D E D W A R D G E O R G E E I S E L E

R U T H G E N E V I E V E M O R E Y

Lloyd Edward George Eisele was born March 12th, 1901 in Phoenix, Arizona. He died in Phoenix, Arizona at 11:50 PM, January 22nd, 1980. Lloyd was cremated and his ashes were placed in the mausoleum with his father and mother at Greenwood Memorial Park. Ruth Genevieve Morey was born in Athens, Pennsylvania November 16th, 1900. Lloyd and Ruth were married in the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 114 West Roosevelt Street, Phoenix, Arizona, April 12th, 1926. George H.N. Luhrs, Jr. was

the best man. He also sang "Oh Promise Me." Lloyd and Ruth had three children: Patricia Marie Eisele, Sally Ann Eisele and Lloyd Edward Eisele.

PATRICIA MARIE EISELE
CLARK RORBACH
JAMES PAT SIMMONS

Patricia Marie Eisele was born in Phoenix, Arizona, May 24th, 1927. Clark Rorbach was born in Duluth, Minnesota, March 11th, 1926. They were married in Phoenix, Arizona in Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 114 West Roosevelt, Phoenix, Arizona on April 15th, 1950. Patricia and Clark had four children: Elizabeth (Betsy) Rorbach, Sally Ann Rorbach, Clark Edward Rorbach and Katherine Rorbach. Patricia and Clark were divorced. James Pat Simmons was born November 9th, 1924. Patricia Rorbach and James Pat Simmons were married March 4th, 1973. Jim Simmons is head of the United Bank. Patricia and Jim live in Paradise Valley, Arizona, adjoining Phoenix.

ELIZABETH (BETSY) RORBACH
JOHN MICHAEL DONAHOE

Elizabeth (Betsy) Rorbach was born in Phoenix, Arizona, October 6th, 1951. John Michael Donahoe was born May 24th, 1938. Betsy and Michael were married June 4th, 1976. They have one child, John Michael Donahoe, Jr., born June 15th, 1982.

SALLY ANN RORBACH

RICHARD BENOIT

Sally Ann Rorbach was born in Phoenix, Arizona, January 30th, 1953. Richard Benoit was born February 23, 1953. Sally Ann and Richard were married November 23, 1973. They have a child, Elizabeth Rorbach Benoit.

CLARK EDWARD RORBACH

ELIZABETH MONTETH PLOUSSARD

Clark Edward Rorbach was born December 13th, 1954. He married Elizabeth Monteth Ploussard, September, 1981. They have a daughter named Erin Gretchen Rorbach.

KATHERINE RORBACH

ALFRED CHARLES (CHUCK) CORNISH

Katherine Rorbach was born October 10th, 1958. Katherine Rorbach married Charles Cornish June 9, 1984.

SALLY ANN EISELE

ROBERT ST CLAIRE TAYLOR

Sally Ann Eisele was born in Phoenix, Arizona, January 20th, 1932. Robert St Claire Taylor was born April 18th, 1930. They were married June 11th, 1955. Sally and Bob have four daughters, Nancy Anne, Deborah, Carolyn and Patricia. Sally Ann and Robert Taylor are divorced.

N A N C Y A N N E T A Y L O R

P A U L J O S E P H H U S H C K

Nancy Anne Taylor was born June 24th, 1956. Paul Joseph Hushck was born May 26th, 1958. They were married June 20th, 1981.

D E B O R A H T A Y L O R

Deborah Taylor was born May 29, 1958.

C A R O L Y N T A Y L O R

Carolyn Taylor was born January 9th, 1961.

P A T R I C I A T A Y L O R

Patricia Taylor was born August 2nd, 1963.

L L O Y D E D W A R D E I S E L E J R.

C H R I S T I A N N E L E R S C H

Lloyd Edward Eisele, Jr. was born in Phoenix, October 29th, 1939. Christianne Lersch was born December 12th, 1937. They were married May 2nd, 1970. Ed, as he is called, and Christianne are divorced. They have no children.

A N N A M A R I E L O U I S E E I S E L E

Anna Marie Eisele and Warfield Ryley were married several years after the death of her husband and his wife. Warfield had two sons, Warfield Ryley and Frank Ryley. Frank Ryley was a prominent attorney and highly thought of. Frank's wife was

Fritzi Struckmeyer. Anna Marie and Warfield had no children. Anna Marie Eisele Ryley died December 19th, 1954 in Phoenix, Arizona. Warfield Ryley died in Phoenix, Arizona, after the death of Anna Marie Ryley.

LAWSON E. ALLEN
JESSICA BELLE HOWELL

Lawson E. Allen was born in Union County, Mississippi on May 11th, 1863 and died in Phoenix, Arizona, May 28th, 1910. He married Jessica "Jessie" Belle Howell, born in Louisville, Kentucky, on August 28, 1862. She died in Phoenix, Arizona, August 11th, 1936. Both are buried in the family plot, Greenwood Memorial Cemetery, 2300 West Van Buren Street, Phoenix, Arizona. They had two daughters, Jessie Perry Allen, who married James Edwin (Ned) Creighton, and Sarah (Sadie) Allen, who married Arthur Cleveland Luhrs.

JAMES EDWIN (NED) CREIGHTON
JESSIE CREIGHTON

James Edwin (Ned) Creighton was born in Indianola, Iowa on June 26th, 1880 and died in Phoenix, Arizona, January 25th, 1963. He married Jessie Perry Allen, born in Perryville, Arkansas, December 17th, 1884, in Phoenix, Arizona, July 5th, 1907. Ned and Jessie were divorced in the mid 1920's. Both are buried in the family plot, Greenwood Memorial Park, 2300 West Van Buren Street, Phoenix, Arizona. They had two children, a son Shirley

Allen Creighton, born in 1909 and died in 1910, and a son Robert Edwin Creighton.

ROBERT EDWIN CREIGHTON
CATHERINE COMELY WELDON

Robert Edwin Creighton was born in Phoenix, Arizona September 19th, 1910. On July 3rd, 1939 in San Francisco, Robert (Bob) married Catherine Comely Weldon. She was born September 26, 1911 in Oakes, North Dakota, but came to Phoenix as a baby. Bob and Catherine had two children, Edward Jonathan (Ned) Creighton, born in Phoenix, Arizona, October 4th, 1941, and Gay Bailey Creighton Vann, born in Phoenix, Arizona June 11th, 1945. Edward Jonathan (Ned) Creighton graduated from Stanford University in 1963. He married Dianna Lucile Deasy, the daughter of Lucile Laney, who was the daughter of Lynn and Ortha Laney. Her father is Neil Deasy, a California architect, now retired.

After Bob's retirement, Ned took over the Arizona Legislative Review and the Arizona News Service, which was founded by his grandfather, Ned Creighton in 1906. Edward Jonathan (Ned) and Dianna have two children.

Gay Bailey Creighton Vann's first marriage was to Frank Nash DeLong, by whom she had a son, Daniel DeLong, who attended the Verde Valley Prep School in Sedona. She is now married to Michael Vann, a bank vice president in Anchorage Alaska. She is a CPA, currently with the Oil Tax Department of the Alaska State Government. Gay and Michael have no children.

The History



Geo Henry Nicholas Luhrs and Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs (Ne Dodenhoff), February 10th,1884, their wedding day. Picture taken in Hamburg, Germany.

Georg Heinrich Nicholas Luhrs (Geo H.N. Luhrs) was born in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, March 31st, 1847, the oldest child of Johann Christoph Luhrs, a wheelwright and Sophia Margaret Henriette Wilhelmine Luhrs, nee Dieckmann, a school teacher. Geo H.N. Luhrs' mother died when he was seven years old. He attended the public school and also learned the trade of a wheelwright, as all of his ancestors had done before him. In his youth, it was necessary for him to work standing upon a box.

Georg Heinrich Nicholas Luhrs did not want to serve in the German Army. In 1866, he obtained an emigration pass from the Kingdom of Hanover. The certificate was not good if emigration did not occur by January, 1868, and, if he returned before January, 1875, he had to report immediately for military service. The pass stated he was moving to Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A. In the meantime, Prussia had defeated the Kingdom of Hanover, so he was required to get a Royal Prussian Passport for overseas, which he did. The passport stated that the purpose of the trip was to emigrate to America for the period of one year. His receipt for the passport was dated March 27, 1867.

Upon May 7th, 1867. the Men's Exercise Club of Neuhaus a/d Oste, gave him a certificate stating he had been a member in good standing from October 1864 and recommended him to other exercise clubs.

Thus, upon May 15th, 1867, at the age of twenty, he took passage for the United States of America sailing from Hamburg and arriving in Philadelphia after a sixteen day voyage. After his arrival, he was offered a job as a wheelwright in California which he accepted. He agreed to work for the party until his

transportation was paid for. He immediately re-shipped for the journey, taking the boat for Aspinwal and crossed the Isthmas of Panama by mule, thence to San Francisco, arriving there June 25th, 1867. He worked at his trade in Comptonville, Yuba County, California, where he remained for sixteen months. He then went to San Francisco where he went to school to learn English. Leaving San Francisco on horseback in January, 1869, he went to White Pines, Nevada, staying there for seven months, during which time he did some prospecting and mining near Hamilton and Treasurer Hill. On August 14th, 1869, with two other men, he left White Pines, Nevada, on horseback for Wickenburg, Arizona. They crossed the Colorado River at Hardyville near old Fort Mohave. It was there that Geo H.N. Luhrs was almost drowned. They did not see any Indians on their journey, but one night the horses became restless so they packed up and moved on. They arrived in Wickenburg September 30th, 1869, which in those days was a booming gold mining center. Geo H.N. Luhrs wanted to return, but the other two men did not, so he went to work for the Vulture Mine a short distance away. Later, he became foreman of the wagon makers. While at the Vulture Mine, he remembers, the young son of the superintendent was reported missing. When found, the boy had forty arrows in his body. The side of the mountain had been beaten flat of vegetation where the Indians had attacked the boy. He also recalls two Mexican women using the drinking water tank for a bath tub. The Apache Indians were very hostile, stealing cattle

and causing many massacres in and around Wickenburg.

The Vulture Mine gave up to $200 million in gold and silver before the Federal Government closed it in 1942. An estimate two to three times that remains. The assay office was built in 1884. Its walls contain over $600 thousand in gold and silver. At different times, they had trouble with the miners stealing the gold ore. They would have the men undress when coming out of the shaft. One time, 18 miners were hung to a tree for "highgrading" ore. Geo H.N. Luhrs sent some Vulture gold mine bullion to San Francisco and had a ring made. In later years, he gave the ring to his oldest son who in turn, gave it to his oldest son, who gave it to his son. Thus, the Luhrs' have some of the original gold from the Vulture Mine.

Geo H.N. Luhrs knew Henry Wickenburg, and most of the people living there, at the time he was in the area. At the time Prescott was made the Capital City of Arizona, Wickenburg lost out by only two votes. In 1872, the Vulture Mine began slowing down, so, in January 1873, Geo H.N. Luhrs went to Smith's Mill, about fifteen miles away, which place he left in 1874 for Ehrenburg, where he remained three month. He then went to Prescott for a short time, then returned to Wickenburg and worked for the California and Arizona Stage Company, until the last of May, 1876. In the meantime, in 1874, he made a trip to Phoenix, the new hay town, located in the Salt River Valley but found it too small to set up his shop as a wheelwright.

The last of May, 1876, Geo H.N. Luhrs left Wickenburg by stage headed for San Francisco, California, where on June 10th, 1876, he was naturalized in the Fourth Judicial District, becoming a citizen of the United States of America. From San Francisco, he took the railroad, going to Philadelphia, where he saw the Centennial Exposition (the Worlds Fair). He then crossed the Atlantic Ocean going to Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, for his first visit with his folks and friends since May 15th, 1867. He stayed until October, at which time he returned to the United States of America, going back to Wickenburg, Arizona, where he opened his wagon making shop in an adobe building on the bank of the Hassayampa River. Crossing the bridge over the river, coming from Phoenix, the shop was about three hundred feet to the left. In later years, a spinster had it converted into a home, in which she lived until it was torn down to make way for a motel.

In late 1876, J.C. Henry Luhrs left his home in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, joining his brother, Geo H.N. Luhrs, in Wickenburg, Arizona. Henry operated a barber shop, although at times, when things were slow at the Vulture Mine and Wickenburg, he found other employment. Whenever Johann Christoph Luhrs wrote his two sons, he would write to Georg on one side of the paper and to Henry on the other side of the paper. Henry depended on his brother very much.

Finally, Geo H.N. Luhrs decided to leave Wickenburg, and

upon March 7th, 1878 he rode on horseback into Phoenix, Arizona, which was to be his home for the rest of his life.

John W. (Jack) Swilling was the leader of the expedition that founded the Phoenix settlement in the Salt River Valley. John Y. T. Smith had been raising hay on the land along side the north bank of the Salt River and selling it to Fort McDowell. Swilling, passing through the valley, noticed this and also the ruins of ancient canals. He got a group of men together in Wickenburg and told them about it. They left Wickenburg in December, 1865 in a couple of wagons loaded with provisions and equipment. They began to dig the first modern canal, on the north bank of the Salt River east of the 5000 block on east Washington Street. Work progressed rapidly and by early Spring of 1868, enough water was available on some of the land to enable the first settlers to harvest a slender crop of corn, barley, pumpkins and vegetables. Thus was started the unparalleled development of the City of Phoenix.

The settlement was named by Darrell Duppe, an English adventurer, and a member of the Swilling party. He had received a classical education in England and was familiar with the myths and legends of antiquity. When he saw all about him in the valley, relics and evidence of an ancient civilization and realized that a new civilization was about to rise on the ruins of the old, he suggested the name from the Legend of the Phoenix Bird, a bird described in ancient Greek mythology.

After the Salt River Valley had been settled a few years, there was talk among the farmers relative to the founding of a permanent town. At a general meeting, October 20th, 1870, a committee of Darrell Duppa, John Moore and Martin P. Griffin was named to suggest the location. On October 25th, 1870, the committee recommended the north one-half of Section 8, Township 1 North, Range 3 East, and that the said town be named Phoenix. The report was accepted and an association was founded called the Salt River Valley Town Association, and signed what are known as the "Articles of Agreement". The signers were: Darrell Duppa, Wm. B. Hellings, Aaron Barnett, Ben Clock, Thomas Barnum, James Murphy, John T. Dennis, William A. Holmes, James M. Buck, Jacob Starar, John T. Alsap, Columbus H. Gray, Martin P. Griffin, James M. Elliott, J. C. Perry, William Rowe, Michael Connell, Daniel Twomey, Charles C. Mcdermett, Edward Irvine, John P. Osborn, Andrew Starar, Paul Becker and James Monihon. These men are considered the founding fathers of Phoenix.

The first townsite commissions to be elected were John T. Alsap, James Murphy, Joseph C. Perry and Captain William Hancock.

Captain William A. Hancock was employed to survey the townsite, November 1870. By December 14, 1870, a sufficient number of lots had been surveyed to enable townsite officials to hold a public sale on December 23 and December 24th, 1870. By means of these sales, money was made available to continue the surveying operations, and by Spring of 1871, the last lot had been surveyed. The townsite was one mile in length by

one-half mile in width, divided into 98 blocks.

Judge William J. Berry of Prescott, was the buyer of the first lot sold in the townsite on December 23rd, 1870. It was located on the southwest corner of Washington Street and Montezuma Street (now First Street). The price was $103.00. In later years, the first two story brick building was erected on this corner by Irvine & Co. Kelner's Grocery Store, and then J. W. Dorris Grocery Store occupied the ground floor.

The streets running east and west were named after the Presidents, namely Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Monroe, Madison, Van Buren, Jackson and Harrison. Centre Street, later called Central Avenue, was the main street, running north and south. The other north and south streets were Indian and Spanish names. Later those on the west side of Centre Street were First, Second, etc. Avenues. Those on the east side were First, Second, etc. Streets.

Captain William A. Hancock erected the first building in Phoenix on the northwest corner of Washington Street and Montezuma Street (now First Street). It was ready for occupancy in February, 1871. It was known as Hancock's store and contained Phoenix's first store, first butcher shop and the first offices of Maricopa County. It was an adobe one story structure.

The third building to be erected in Phoenix was an adobe, owned by Johnny George and Jack Walters, on the north side of Washington Street, between Centre Street (Central Avenue) and Montezuma Street (First Street), in 1871. The building

was called the Capital House and Saloon. A saloon and restaurant were located on the ground floor, and lodging rooms on the second floor.

Maricopa County was created February 14th, 1871, with Phoenix as the County Seat. The County offices at first were in the Hancock Store. From 1871-75 they were in the Hancock-Monihon Building on the east side of Cortez Street (First Avenue), between Washington Street and Jefferson Street. From 1875-1884 they were on the south side of Washington Street, between Centre Street (Central Avenue) and Montezuma Street (First Street).

On the south east corner of Centre Street (Central Avenue) and Washington Street stood a plain adobe building, owned by Jim Cotton. It was used as a drinking establishment, under the proprietorship of Tom Sherman. Because it was near the County courthouse (1875-1884), it was the gathering place of lawyers and politicians.

The first hotel in Phoenix was built and conducted by John J. Gardner in 1871, and was known as the Phoenix Hotel. It was a one story adobe building constructed in the form of a hollow square, on the southwest corner of Washington Street and Pima Street (Third Street). The first irrigation ditch was known as the Swilling ditch and ran near the north boundary of the townsite. It furnished water for irrigation, domestic and fire-fighting purposes. From this ditch, a wooden conduit ran underneath the front of the hotel, into the inner court, where

it emptied into a well like pool, with boarded sides. The overflow water ran through another conduit which connected with a ditch in back of the hotel. The pool was covered with a canvas house and in the summer time, the guests could enjoy a cool plunge, a rare luxury.

A large adobe building, erected on the southeast corner of Montezuma Street (First Street) and Adams Street in 1872, was the first dance hall.

In the late 1870's a two story building was owned by King S. Woolsey, on the northwest corner of Maricopa Street (Second Street) and Washington. The upper floor was used as a public hall, known as Woolsey Hall.

Opened on September 5th, 1871, the first public school held its sessions in the courtroom of the County Court House, then located in the Hancock-Monihon Building, on the east side of Cortez Street (First Avenue), between Washington Street and Jefferson Street. Jean Rudolph Darroche was selected to teach this first school, at $100.00 per month. In 1873, an adobe building on Block 92 housed the public school. Block 92 is bounded by Centre Street (Central Avenue), Monroe Street, Van Buren Street and Cortez Street (First Avenue). In 1880 a brick two story building was erected, known as the Center Street School.

The first church was the Methodist Episcopal Church south. At a meeting at the Novinger Ranch, it was decided to build an adobe church on the southwest corner of Centre Street

(Central Avenue) and Monroe Street. The church was constructed in 1876, Rev. Alexander Groves was the minister.

L. H. Goodrich came to Phoenix every winter to take care of the citizen's dental care. He would visit the principal mining towns in the area. He owned the Goodrich Building, on the north-west corner of Centre Street (Central Avenue) and Washington Street, in the 1880's.

In May, 1872, Dr. Oliver J. Thibedo, from Wickenburg, and Dr. Forbes, from Tucson, came to Phoenix to practice their profession,in partnership. Dr. Thibedo erected the Thibedo Building on the south side of Washington Street between Centre Street (Central Avenue) and Cortez Street (First Avenue), where for many years, he conducted a drug store.

In 1878, Phoenix was able to boast of its own newspaper, the Salt River Herald.

An Anglo-saxon boy, Walter J. Davies was the first child born in the valley. The homestead was about two miles south-east of the Phoenix townsite.

Julius Bauerlein, using a small furnace made of adobe for an oven, baked bread for the townsite in 1872, as the first bakery. The bakery was located on the southeast corner of Maricopa Street (Second Street) and Washington Street.

John A. Lutgerdine, a blacksmith, owned lots 14 and 16, Block 22, in the original townsite of Phoenix, Arizona. Those lots faced Jefferson Street, each being fifty feet in width, and one hundred thirty-seven and a half feet in depth. They were on

the west side of the alley, running north and south, from Jefferson Street to Washington Street, between Centre Street (Central Avenue) and Montezuma Street (First Street). This alley was known as Cactus Way. Lot 18, Block 22, which is the corner lot, facing both Jefferson Street and Centre Street (Central Avenue), was owned by John Weir, who purchased it from the Government, August 12th, 1875, for fifteen dollars. Upon January 17th, 1879 Geo H.N. Luhrs and Newell Herrick, a blacksmith, acquired a two third interest in said Lots 14 and 16, Block 22, from John A. Lutgerding, for $1,066.00. The three of them operated their business from the one story adobe building which was on the property.

Upon November 27th, 1880, George H.N. Luhrs and Newell Herrick bought Lot 18, Block 22, from John Weir, for the sum of $1,500.00. September 19th, 1881 they formed a partnership, and on September 21st, 1881 they paid John A. Lutgerding $800.00 for his one-third interest in Lots 14 and 16. Geo H.N. Luhrs and Newell Herrick now owned Lots 14, 16 and 18, Block 22, of the original townsite of the City of Phoenix, on the northeast corner of Centre Street and Jefferson Street, now known as Central Avenue and Jefferson Street. The property not only faced two streets, but an alley on the north side and one on the east, being a quarter of a city block. Thus, in two and a half years they had become the owners of some of the most valuable property in Phoenix. It was on this property they later built the

Commercial Hotel (Hotel Luhrs).

October 6th, 1881, J.C. Henry Luhrs arrived in Phoenix from Wickenburg. He opened a barber shop, which later was on Washington Street opposite the Court House.

Geo H.N. Luhrs worked long hours, and hard. He was always sending money to his father in Germany. A deposit with the Agency Bank of Arizona for Fifty Dollars, dated September 14th, 1879, with which to buy Reich Marks, to send his father, made him one of the oldest depositors of the now First Interstate Bank of Arizona, N.A. He borrowed money with courage when he needed it and always paid it back, being known as "Honest Uncle George", as he was called. In his business as a wheelwright, he did well. People would say, "Geo H.N. Luhrs charges more for his wagons but they are worth it". He soon established an impeccable reputation, which he had for his entire life. The sentiment of his brother Masons is, "Doubtless God might have made a better man, but doubtless God never did". His father offered to come to Phoenix to help him.

March 12th, 1879, Geo H.N. Luhrs purchased all of Block 52 from the government for $80.00. The block was bounded by Jackson, Harrison, Mohave and Papago, now Jackson Street, Harrison Street, Second Avenue and Third Avenue. When Johann Christoph Luhrs, the father of Geo H.N. Luhrs, came to Phoenix in 1884, he lived on this property until his death, August 3rd, 1899. He raised vegetables, fruit and grapes, calling it his orchard. In later years the property was sold to different

individuals, such as Kunz Bros & Messinger, Armour & Co., and the Reclamation Service. The corner lot, on Jackson Street and Second Avenue, was sold to Kunz Brothers and Messinger, for $5,000.00 A couple of years later they paid $10,000.00 for the adjoining lot.

On July 15th, 1879, he bought Lot 1, Block 60, for $30.00. This was the southwest corner of Madison and Papago Streets, now Madison Street and Third Avenue. April 11th, 1892, he sold it to Rebecka Arp for $1,000.00.

Lots 9 and 11, Block 80, was the southeast corner of Adams and Papago Streets, now Adams Street and Third Avenue. October 16th, 1877, Wm. D. Finter acquired the property from the government for $15.00. S. M. Clark got it for $100.00, March 18th, 1879. On February 25th, 1881, Newell Herrick paid $125.00 for the property. He sold it to Geo H.N. Luhrs March 31, 1881 for $125.00. In later years, the Odd Fellow Lodge bought it and erected a two story building on the land. The records do not show what price was paid for it.

March 27th, 1880, John W. Thomson sold Guston Becher, the south ninety three feet and eight inches of Lots 2-4-6 of Block 77, Original Townsite of the City of Phoenix, for $500.00. This property was the northwest corner of Centre and Jefferson Streets, now Central Avenue and Jefferson Street. It is across the street, to the west, from the Hotel Luhrs, and across the street, to the north, from the Luhrs Building. It is, at present, the southeast corner of Patriots Park. On January 3rd, 1883,

Geo H.N. Luhrs and Newell Herrick acquired this property for $2,500.00, which gave them ninety three feet and eight inches on Centre Street (Central Avenue) and one hundred and fifty feet on Jefferson Street. On January 3rd, 1888, they sold the south fifty feet of the said property to William Young with the stipulation that a basement and two story building be erected thereupon, which Mr. Young did. The building was known as the Young Building. Wells Fargo and Company occupied the corner twenty five feet of the ground floor, facing Centre Street (Central Avenue). Lightning Delivery, at one time, rented the north twenty five feet of the ground floor. Merryman Funeral Home was on the Jefferson Street side on the east side of the alley. That alley, running north and south from Jefferson Street to Washington Street, between Centre Street and Cortez Street (Central Avenue and First Avenue) was known as Wall Street. On the second floor were offices, Dr. H. A. Hughes and Dr. L. D. Dameron had rooms 1 and 3. The Maricopa Club was located there too. The officers of the Maricopa Club were Walter Talbot, President, B. Heyman, Vice President, T. E. Walton, Secretary, and Ancil Martin, Treasurer. The directors were Walter Talbot, B. Heyman, T. W. Hine, F. W. Wood, Walter Bennett, E. L. Hewins, W. L. Pinney, T. E. Dalton and Ancil Martin. After the Adams Hotel was built, in 1896, the Yavapai Club was organized and located in the Adams Hotel. Later the Maricopa Club and the Yavapai Club merged and became known as the Arizona Club.

In 1903, a three story building and basement was erected

on the west side of Central Avenue, on the south side of the alley, running east and west between Washington Street and Jefferson Street. The building was known as the Horner Building, later to be the Masonic Temple. Goldman and Company, from the real early days, was on the northeast corner of Centre and Washington Street. In 1903 they moved into the Horner Building, occupying the basement and the ground floor. The Arizona club was on the second floor and the Masonic Lodges were on the third floor.

Block 64 of the Original Townsite of the City of Phoenix, was bound by Jefferson, Madison, Centre and Cortez Streets, now Jefferson and Madison Streets, and Central and First Avenue. The founding fathers of Phoenix gave this block, free, to William Bichard Company, upon which the Bichards agreed to build a flour mill, which they did. It was the first flour mill in the Townsite of the City of Phoenix and located on the southwest corner of Centre and Jefferson Streets, now Central Avenue and Jefferson Street, where the Luhrs Building now stands (1983). The flour mill was opened July 4th, 1871, and burned down on the following September. It was decided Richards had fulfilled their part of the contract, but financial troubles made it impossible for the Bichards to rebuild. The properties got into the hands of Geo and Jennie Loring. Geo H.N. Luhrs and Newell Herrick needed a place where their customers could leave their horses and wagons, so on April 10th, 1882, they bought the block from the Lorings for the sum of $2,000.00 By July 13th,

1883, with two exceptions, the entire block was enclosed and it became known as the Commercial Corral and Fashion Livery Stable. On the north side of Madison Street, between Centre and Cortez Street, now Central Avenue and First Avenue, a new and larger adobe shop was built, being a part of the corral and livery station complex. On the southeast corner of Jefferson Street and Cortez Street (Jefferson Street and First Avenue), a house was built which was rented out. In 1884, it became the home of Geo H.N. Luhrs family. Upon this block now stands, as of the year 1983, the Luhrs Building, The Luhrs Tower, The Luhrs Arcade, The Luhrs Central Building and The Luhrs Parking Center.

Geo H.N. Luhrs was also musical. He played the accordian, playing for dances, in the early days after coming to this country, and especially in Phoenix.

Geo H.N. Luhrs gave generously of his time to civic services and lodges. He was Noble Grand of the Phoenix Lodge of Odd Fellows. In the Masonic Lodge, his petition was read August 19th, 1879, and he was the first candidate to receive the three degrees of Masonry, from the lodge, which was awaiting its charter, that became Arizona Lodge #2, F & A.M. He was Worshipful Master in 1883. He was High Priest in 1887 of Arizona Chapter #1, and Grand High Priest in 1912. Geo H. N. Luhrs was a charter member of the Phoenix Commandery. He was Commander in 1905 and Grand Commander in 1911. Upon his death, the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar had charge of the

services. Geo H.N. Luhrs was also a Thirty-Second Degree Scottish Rite Mason and a member of the first Shrine class taken into El Zaribah Temple in 1896. He was Patron of Phoenix Chapter No. 5, O.E.S. (Eastern Star). In 1896, he was Grand Treasurer of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Arizona. In 1893, he began serving as Treasurer for all the Masonic Organizations in Phoenix, Arizona, with the exception of the Eastern Star, of which his wife, Catharina Margarita Luhrs, was the treasurer, until 1924, when he declined to serve any longer - a period of thirty-two years. If there ever was a true Mason, it was Geo H.N. Luhrs. There were times when vouchers would come in, and although there would not be enough money in the account, he would go to his safe and pay the voucher, holding it until such time as it was good. Also, remember, that Geo H.N. Luhrs borrowed money, upon which he paid interest. He was very active in the Grand Lodges and regularly attended their annual meetings. It was then he and his wife would leave their children with Annie Windburn, who in the early days worked for them at the hotel as a maid. Annie and her husband took care of cleaning the high school. They lived on the upper floor of the high school tower, where the Luhrs children stayed while their folks attended the Grand Lodges.

On May 8th, 1883, Geo H.N. Luhrs was notified by Joseph Campbell, Recorder, that he had been elected to the City Council. He served two years, namely 1883 and 1884.

July 3rd, 1889, Governor Lewis Wolfley made him a director

of the Insane Asylum.

He was a member of the executive staff of the Phoenix Indian and Cowboy Carnival and Merchant's Free Street Fair, February 19,20,21 & 22, 1896. At least 25,000 people gathered on Washington and adjacent streets to witness the initial carnival parade. The great John L. Sullivan and Paddy Ryan gave an exhibition sparring boxing match, being introduced by the great manager of prize fights, Parson Davis.

January 17th, 1899, Geo H.N. Luhrs was named on the advisory board to the City Council to have supervision of the sale of the water works and sewer bonds, and letting of the contract for the construction of the water works and sewers and the selection of a superintendent to supervise the construction of the same.

He was a member of the board of education of the Phoenix Union High School for the years 1899 and 1900. The 1899 class graduated May 26th, 1899 at the Patton Grand. The graduates were: Ida Margaret Stewart, Martin Harrison Calderwood, Daisy Eager, Nellie Haines Persons, Marion R. Kay, Cyrus B. Meskimons, Alta A.N. Bates, Flora Ruth Grier, Zella Dysart, Harold Allen Ham, May Olive Wilson, G. Hobson Lutgerding, M. Amelia Delipine Hill, Jessie Francis Creager and Louise Murphy. The faculty was W. B. Creager, Superintendent, George Blount, Principal, Jas R. Meskimons, Assistant Principal, Marian A. Culver, Margaret McCowan, J. Curtis Watson and Eill S. Tipton. The Board of Education was M. W. Messinger, President, Emery Kay,

Clerk, Dr. H. A. Hughes, John F. Hills and Geo H.N. Luhrs. The Phoenix Union High School was located on the northeast corner of Fifth Street and Van Buren Street. It was originally the Churchill home, acquired by the high school. The class of 1900 graduated from the Dorris Theatre which was located on the north side of Washington Street between Papago and Yuma Street, now Third and Fourth Avenues, Friday evening, May 25th, 1900. The graduates were: Georgia Viault, Ada H. Boyd, Beatrice Baum, Henry Halsey, Leo M. Rosenberg, Charles E. Babstock, Beatrice L. Kincaid, Turner T. Heflin, Ara G.H. Jacobs, Reba L. Heyman, Lawrence H. Seargeant, Herbert E. Kays, Nellie Battin, Bessie Fickas, and Henrietta A. Dawson. The faculty was W. E. Creager, Superintendent, George Blount, Principal, Marian Culver, Katherina B. Mills, Herman Kreamer, Fred J. Breeze and Edward E. Taylor. The Board of Education was: M. W. Messinger, President, Emery Kay, Clerk, H. A. Hughes, M.D., John F. Hill and Geo H.N. Luhrs.

June 6th, 1898, Judge Cross appointed a committee of Ira P. Smith, Aaron Goldberg, Gus Hirchfeld, Mose Drachman and Geo H.N. Luhrs to raise $2,000.00 for a grand Fourth of July celebration, at which time the most beautiful lady in Phoenix was to be the Goddess of Liberty.

Geo H.N. Luhrs was a member of the Board of Trade, now known as the Chamber of Commerce. October 18, 1900, he received notice that the City Council and the Board of Trade had selected him as one of a committee of citizens to prepare a new charter

for the City of Phoenix.

He also ran for Trustee of the grammar schools supporting W. B. Creager for Superintendent. The majority of the people wanted to let Creager go, so he did not receive the necessary votes to win.

He was so well liked and trusted that much of his time, when not working, was given to Civic Services and Lodges. Thus he made many close friends. The lodges, having as their members the leading and most respectable citizens of the community, were the gathering places for friends to gather and visit.

In those days, a man's word was his bond and close friends trusted each other. Friendships made in those days were sincere and lasting.

From Neuhaus a/d Oste, Hanover, Germany on January 9th, 1882, Johann Christoph Luhrs wrote his two sons, Geo H.N. Luhrs and J.C. Henry Luhrs, in Phoenix, Arizona, U.S.A., "the sad news, that according to the will of God, our dear Johann Nicolaus on Thursday, January 5th, in the evening at six o'clock, was called away from this world. He was generally very weak and required a lot of care as he became weaker and weaker, thinner and thinner. I believe he was generally not healthy". Johann Nicolaus Luhrs was the father of Johann Christopher Luhrs and the grandfather of Geo H.N. Luhrs, Johanna Luhrs Kahrs, and J.C. Henry Luhrs. He was born in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, May 15th, 1792, so he was almost 90 years old when he died. He was loved by all of his family and everyone who knew him.

On Geo H.N. Luhrs' second trip to Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, to see and visit with his relatives and friends, he met Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Dodenhof, the young lady living in the house next door to the Luhrs' home. He remembers the little five year old girl with rosy cheeks, as of the time he left for America in 1867. In the meantime, Gretchen had grown up and fascinated Geo H.N. Luhrs. After a courtship of about three weeks, Geo H.N. Luhrs asked Gretchen, as she was called, to marry him. They were married in the church in Neuhaus a/d Oste, February 10th, 1884. As of 1981, the church, Gretchen's home and a part of the Luhrs' home are still standing. Gretchen's grandmother on her mother's side was Rebecca Moeller, who was born February 15th, 1813 in Dummendeich, near Stadt, Germany. She was married to Friedrich von Hein in Obendorf a/d Oste, Germany, May 31st, 1835. They had two children, Catharina Louise von Hein and Friedrich von Hein. Catharina Louise von Hein, Gretchen's mother, was born in Gentsdorf, a/d Oste, Germany, April 30th, 1840. She died in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, July 11th, 1899. She married Klaus Heinrich Dodenhoff, a brick mason born in Kehdingruch, May 6th, 1837 and died in Neuhaus and Oste, Germany, August 3rd, 1897. They had five children, Catharina Margaretta, known as Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Dodenhof, Christine Friederike Dorthea Dodenhof, Anna Rebecca Dodenhof, Wilhelm Dietrich Dodenhoff and Anna Maria Dodenhof.

Geo H.N. Luhrs persuaded his father, his sister, her husband and family, to leave Neuhaus a/d Oste and move to Phoenix,

Arizona. Also to sell the Luhrs home which had been in the family for over 200 years. They had passage upon one of the boats of the Hamburg American Packett Company. Geo H.N. Luhrs and his bride, Gretchen, were booked first class. The rest were second class.

While passing Niagara Falls, the train stopped and the conductor pointed out the places of interest. They stopped over in St. Louis to bury one of the Kahrs children, who had died on the train. The cost for the burial was $25.00. When they arrived in Tucson, they were held up for two days due to wash-outs and floods caused by very heavy rains. It was necessary to ferry both the Gila River and the Salt River, in each case landing a mile down the stream. At two o'clock in the afternoon upon March 17th (St. Patrick's Day), 1884, Geo H.N. Luhrs and his bride, Catharina Margarita (Gretchen) Luhrs arrived in Phoenix. From that time, the Luhrs' celebrated the day of their arrival on St. Patrick's day by calling themselves O'Luhrs. With pride, Geo H. N. Luhrs pointed to the Court House, under construction, on the block bounded by Washington Street, Jefferson Street, First and Second Avenues.

The Luhrs home was located on the southeast corner of Jefferson and Cortez Streets, now Jefferson Street and First Avenue. In this house three of the Geo H.N. Luhrs family were born, namely Arthur Cleveland Luhrs, born December 14th, 1884, Ella Louise Henrietta Luhrs, born August 11th, 1886 and Emma Sophia Johanna Luhrs, born December 13th, 1888. In this home

was the first bathrub in Phoenix. People used to say, "call upon Mrs. Luhrs, she has curtains on her windows and a bathtub." The bathrub was built of wood, the shape of a bathtub, covered with sheet metal. The water was pumped from the well outside and disposed of by pulling the plug and letting the water run over the back yard. If hot water was wanted, the water had to be heated on the stove.

Johann Christoph Luhrs, the father of Geo H.N. Luhrs, lived in a house located on the southwest corner of Second Avenue and Jackson Street.

The Kahrs family lived in a house located on the south side of Jackson Street between First and Second Avenues. Later on, George Kahrs operated a small hotel on the north side of Jackson Street just east of the Santa Fe Railroad Station, which was located on the northeast corner of First Avenue and Jackson Street.

On their first night in Phoenix, Geo H.N. Luhrs went to the lodge to visit with his masonic brothers. He left his bride Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs with Mrs. Herrick, his partner's wife, who spoke only English, while Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs spoke only German. It got to be a trying evening for all and was never forgotten.

Catharina M. Luhrs got very lonesome and homesick so Geo H.N. Luhrs sent for Christine Dodenhof, his wife's sister, who was eighteen years of age. One morning, looking south from the Luhrs home, on the southeast corner of First Avenue and

Jefferson, Christine remarked it would be a nice walk before breakfast to the south mountains and back. No one tried it. Catharina M. Luhrs was still homesick for her native land, Germany, and her folks, so Geo H.N. Luhrs sent her, Christine, Arthur (three years old) and Ella (eighteen months) back to Neuhaus a/d Oste. They were going to stay six months but after six weeks, Catharina M. Luhrs was ready to return to Phoenix. Ella Louise Henrietta Luhrs was first called Louise, but Catharina M. Luhrs' mother did not like the name Louise, so they had her baptised in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Ella Louise Henrietta Luhrs. The letters written by Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs to each other, while she was away, read like letters of two individuals very much in love with each other, which they really were. Christine did not return with Catharina M. Luhrs, so after six weeks she left Germany with her two children. The ocean voyage back was very rough. One evening, she was the only passenger in the dining room. Geo H.N. Luhrs went to Deming to meet his wife. In the meantime he had shaven off his beard and mustache. Arthur did not know him and told his mother he did not want her sitting on the bed with a strange man. That hurt Geo H.N. Luhrs. As a result he let his beard and mustache grow, and never shaved them off again. Catharina M. Luhrs was glad to get back to Phoenix and never went back to Germany again. She learned the English language and became a loyal, true American. She liked to see the American flag fly, and loved her adopted country, The United States of America.

In 1887, a man and his wife wanted a hotel with about twenty rooms. Herrick and Luhrs built one for them. The building was on the east side of Centre Street, now Central Avenue, on the south side of the alley, running east and west between Washington and Jefferson Streets. The structure was a brick building, two stories in height. Wells Fargo occupied a portion of the ground floor. It was also the headquarters for the stage coach. Six months after its completion, the man died, so Herrick and Luhrs found themselves in the hotel business. It was then, 1887, they closed the blacksmith and wagon making shop. In 1888 the Arizona and Eastern Railroad was coming into Phoenix, as a branch of the Southern Pacific Railroad, from Maricopa. Herrick and Luhrs thought the hotel should be enlarged, with a railroad coming into Phoenix. They could see a great future for the Salt River Valley. The hotel was enlarged by building a three story structure adjoining the two story portion, said three story building was on the northwest corner of Centre Street, now Central Avenue, and Jefferson Street. It was the largest and the tallest building in Arizona. The brick work for the three stories was a little over six thousand dollars, and the plastering was a little over four thousand dollars. Porches ran the full height of the building, making it possible for guests to sleep outside during the hot summer nights. Everything was centered around the Commercial Hotel, as the 1895 city directory shows. W. B. Church was the architect for the hotel. It became necessary for Herrick and Luhrs to borrow money to build and operate the

hotel. As always, Geo H.N. Luhrs was very certain that the City of Phoenix would keep growing. His later undertakings show his everlasting faith and confidence in Phoenix and the valley. Their first loan was from W. W. Kales and Sol Lewis in 1888. Later Kales and Lewis became the National Bank of Arizona. Geo H.N. Luhrs, being a depositor of the Bank, from September 4th, 1879, makes him their oldest depositor.

Interest rates were very high in those days. Some of the mortgages bore interest as high as 12%, 15% and 18% per annum. On short time notes, the interest would be from 1% to 3% per month.

Catharina M. Luhrs' only brother, Wilhelm Dodenhoff, came to Phoenix in 1889 to stay. He was born in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany, January 19th, 1875, being 14 years of age when he came to Phoenix. He never returned to Germany. He called his sister, Catharina M. Luhrs, "mother". The Luhrs' took care of him, sending him to school, and then giving him different positions in the hotel, such as being in charge of the restaurant and later the bar. After many years, he rented the Kersting Hotel, a half a block south of the Commercial Hotel. It was located on the east side of Central Avenue on the south side of the alley between Jefferson and Madison Streets. He ran the Kersting until he retired.

George and Henry Kahrs, sons of Geo H.N. Luhrs' sister, also had positions at the hotel for short periods of time.

The Commercial Hotel restaurant, in the early days, had meals for as low as 25¢. Geo H.N. Luhrs and his family had their

meals at the Commercial Hotel Restaurant until a doctor told them to stop eating at a restaurant. Emma had been sickly. The doctor told them to fix up a dining room and kitchen upstairs and for Mrs. Luhrs to do the cooking. Emma, then, began improving.

Upon November 1, 1883, William H. Hancock, one of the founders of Phoenix, borrowed the sum of $2,524.02 from Herrick and Luhrs, who held a mortgage on lots 14 and 15, Block 77, being the northeast corner of First Avenue and Jefferson Street. Upon March 5, 1892, Herrick and Luhrs obtained a judgment in the District Court of Maricopa County, against Mr. Hancock. Herrick and Luhrs then asked for an ejectment. On March 21st, 1892, Hancock and wife borrowed $2,600.00 from a Mr. Allstater, with a mortgage upon all the premises. The mortgage was foreclosed and Thomas W. Pemberton became the purchaser. He took possession thereof from the Hancocks, paying the taxes and making improvements. The Supreme Court of Arizona reversed the lower court, holding that Herrick and Luhrs were never in possession of the property and could not force an ejectment. The Supreme Court of the United States confirmed the Arizona Supreme Court. William Hancock never did pay Herrick and Luhrs the money he borrowed from them and morally owed, thus showing the type of man he was.

Things were not running smoothly with the partnership of Herrick and Luhrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs was doing all of the work and Herrick was not doing his share. Besides that, Newell

Herrick was drinking heavily, and owed the partnership Seven Thousand Dollars, which at that time was a lot of money. Herrick's treatment of Wilhelm Dodenhoff, Catharina M. Luhrs' brother, finally brought things to a head. Geo H.N. Luhrs preferred to sell, but Newell Herrick could not raise the money. On October 27th, 1890, the partnership of Herrick and Luhrs was dissolved and Geo H.N. Luhrs and his wife, Catharina M. Luhrs, became sole owners. There were some who said Geo H.N. Luhrs could not make it and would not last five years, considering the heavy load he had to carry. Mrs. Isabella Horner (nee Russel) had everything tied up, with mortgages on the hotel, all of block 64, where the Luhrs Building, the Luhrs Tower, the Luhrs Arcade, the Luhrs Central Building and the Luhrs Parking Center now stand, furniture and equipment, at an interest rate of 12% per annum. She even moved into the hotel so she could say she had possession. It was at this time Geo H.N. Luhrs asked his wife if she would move into the hotel and take charge of the second and third floors while he managed the ground floor. He told her it would not be for a long time, but both of them remained there the rest of their lives. The Luhrs family occupied rooms C, D, 18 and room across the hall, part of which was under the stairway, from the second to the third floor, said room being used for the kitchen and dining room. Today, the rooms would be 156, 158, 160 and 157, across the hall, for the dining room and kitchen. This room was no longer under the stairway, the same having been removed.

The original two story portion of the hotel had a stairway from the sidewalk on Center Street to the second floor, which was not removed when the three story portion of the hotel was built. The Luhrs family and their friends used this stairway so they did not have to go through the lobby. The stairway was unlocked at all times, there never being any trouble. When the two story portion of the hotel was raised to three stories, then the two story stairway on Central Avenue was done away with.

The hotel, in the early days, was lighted with gas (there being no electricity). Each room had a wood burning stove for which a charge of twenty-five cents was made for a box of kindling, a wash basin with a pitcher of water, a slop jar for dirty water, a chamber pot under the bed and an annunciator, which was connected to a large board behind the lobby desk, showing which room was ringing. It operated off batteries. One ring was for room service; two rings was for ice water; three rings for hot water and four rings was for a box of kindling. There was a public bath, a toilet and a janitor room for each floor, with running water. There was no running water or bath in the rooms. A charge of twenty-five cents was made for a bath. There was no elevator, so guests got up and down using the stairway. Any baggage or trunks had to be carried up and down. Many times, Geo H.N. Luhrs has carried a trunk up stairs on his back. He would also do all of the repair jobs, as well as retube the hot water heater.

A bus met the trains. The Arizona and Eastern Station

was located at Seventh Street and Harrison. Later it was moved to South Central Avenue and the tracks, which was Harrison Street. The Santa Fe depot was located on the northeast corner of First Avenue and Jackson Street. Later, when a Union Depot was built, it was located from Third Avenue to Fifth Avenue and on the tracks, which was Harrison Street. It was at this time that the Southern Pacific ran their main line through Phoenix and the branch line to Maricopa was discontinued. In the early days when the branch line from Maricopa to Phoenix operated, there was only one train each way, a day. Many times people living in Tempe had to stay over night in Phoenix if they did not finish their business before the train left. Dr. Mathews, head of the Tempe Normal, stayed at the Commercial Hotel many times. The train was the only transportation available unless one used a horse and buggy, and then there was always the question whether the river could be crossed.

The Luhrs' had friends in Tempe, Mr. and Mrs. Andre' and daughter, who owned property on Mill Avenue, diagonally across the street from the Casa Loma Hotel. Once a year, the hotel bus was taken and a trip was made to Tempe. They would always take the Thalheimers' and the Lukes' to go along. It was an all day trip. On the southeast corner of 40th Street and Van Buren Street was located the four mile house. After a picnic lunch and a trip to the top of the Butte, the return trip was made to Phoenix, with everyone tired out, including the horses.

The Commercial Hotel operated its own laundry, which was

located on the ground floor, in the back yard, east of the hotel structure. A chinaman took care of the hotel linen, washing it by hand, hanging it up on a line to dry, and ironing it by hand with an iron heated on a stove. As children, Emma Luhrs and her brother George, Jr. enjoyed going down to the laundry. One time George, Jr. wiped his dirty hands on a clean sheet, hanging on the line to dry. The chinaman got very mad and ran after Emma and George, Jr. with a knife. They never went to the laundry again.

Each Fall, during September and October, all the guest rooms were given a thorough cleaning. Four or five rooms were taken each day. Everything in the rooms was taken out into the hall. The carpet was taken up and sent to the corral, across the street, where they were hung up and beaten to get the dust and dirt out (we had no vacuum cleaners in those days). At that time carpet came in 27 inch strips. If the carpet showed a worn spot, it was re-layed so the worn spot came under the bed. Sometimes it became necessary to tear the carpet apart and re-sew it. Many times Mrs. Luhrs would sew it together again by hand. There were times the blood could be seen coming out of her fingers. The ceilings and walls were dusted down, painting or papering those that needed it. Woodwork was touched up and painted or varnished, as necessary. Nothing was left untouched.

One of the chamber maids liked her liquor and at times would not show up for work. When that happened, Mrs. Luhrs

would have her daughter, Ella, hitch up the good old horse, Jim, and they would drive out to where Annie Well lived. Annie would always come back with them to the hotel. Mrs. Luhrs would offer Annie a cup of hot black coffee but she did not take it for it spoiled the good taste in her mouth.

In October, 1887, the wagon making shop was closed. The hotel took all the time.

Being a true and devoted Mason, Geo H.N. Luhrs enjoyed his lodges, in the evenings, and Catharina M. Luhrs would go to the Eastern Star, of which she was treasurer, or to the Harmony Club, which she named when it was organized. They always had time for their children and their activities. They always managed to have time for social affairs and amusements. At Christmas time, Catharina M. Luhrs was Christmas. She had the spirit and passed it on to others. On Christmas Eve she would send her children to church. Being always pressed for money, she would go to H. W. Dorris' Grocery Store, about the time they were ready to close and get a Christmas tree at a lower price. Catharina M. Luhrs and Geo H.N. Luhrs would decorate the tree. When the children returned from church, the doors of room C were thrown open and the music box started playing "Silent Night". The spirit of Christmas prevailed. In later years, when George, Jr. got old enough, he was always dressed up as Santa Clause. One Christmas, Santa Clause came in riding a donkey. A lot of trouble was had getting the donkey up stairs but more was had getting the donkey down. The donkey

was tied in the alley but during the night someone stole him.

Catharina M. Luhrs did not like the looks of the stove in the Hotel Lobby and on the first warm days wanted to take it down. Geo H.N. Luhrs would always say to wait until after the tenth of May. He was right, for many times there has been cold weather after the tenth of May.

In the evening, about ten o'clock p.m. on June 28th, 1895, George Henry Nicholas Luhrs, Jr. was born in room D of the Commercial Hotel, now room 158 in the Hotel Luhrs, to Mr. and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs. There being no hospital in those days, Dr. H. A. Hughes delivered the baby in the hotel. Arthur Luhrs was sleeping on the porch, upstairs, next to Bonillas, the house man. When he heard the first cry from George, Jr., he turned to Bonillas and said, "hear that monkey face owl!" Margaret Adams was one of the first to see George, Jr. In later years, if she wanted to know when she came to Phoenix, she would call and ask when George, Jr. was born. In his early youth, George, Jr. could not say George so he called himself "Dodo".

In the early days, the hotel business was good for about three months, in the winter, when the tourists would come to enjoy the weather. The balance of the year was good, fair, or slow. Geo H. N. Luhrs managed to keep the interest paid upon the heavy indebtedness, but he was unable to reduce the principal as much as he tried. He was always looking for money at a lower rate of interest. At times more was owed upon the property than it was worth. At one time he was threatened with foreclosure.

As one man said, "I can find no one who says Geo H.N. Luhrs does not pay his debts."

When Phoenix was laid out, the center of the survey was on Centre Street, halfway between Washington and Jefferson Streets. Thus the original two story Commercial Hotel was built at the center of the survey. Originally, Central Avenue was called Centre Street, then Center Street and then Central Avenue. Washington and Jefferson Streets, First and Second Avenues and First and Second Streets were made one hundred feet in width. The Court House Square was Washington Street to Jefferson Street, First Avenue to Second Avenue. The City Hall Square was Washington Street to Jefferson Street, First Street to Second Street. For many years the intersection of Washington Street and Centre Street, now Central Avenue, was the hub of the city. The survey covered from Van Buren to Jackson Street and Seventh Street to Seventh Avenue. In the early days, Centre Street, north of McDowell Street, was a toll road with a charge of twenty-five cents. All the streets were dirt roads which were dusty when not sprinkled and muddy when it rained. About 1911, the first paving of streets was on Central Avenue beginning at Jefferson Street and running north. In the early days, before automobiles, we would have horses frightened and run away down the street causing a lot of excitement and sometimes damages.

Dr. Swetnam had the second automobile in Phoenix in 1902. The swetnams were good friends of the Luhrs family. In the early days, Dr. Swetnam had his office on the second

floor of the Cotton Block with living quarters for the Swetnam family adjoining. The Cotton Block was north, across the alley from the Commercial Hotel, where the Luhrs family lived. The Swetnams had a daughter, Louise, who played with Ella and Emma Luhrs. Dr. Swetnam was also a Mason and a friend of Geo H.N. Luhrs. Later, Dr. Swetnam moved his office to North Second Avenue, being on the west side of Second Avenue, just north of Washington Street. One time, when young George Luhrs, Jr. had an earache, his mother put the kernal of an onion in his ear. Then she could not get it out. She sent George, Jr. to see Dr. Swetnam, who finally got it out.

The hotel had a German houseman named William and an Irish maid named Lena. One day William went upstairs to get something out of a room. He saw Lena and asked her for the keys. Lean said she could not for she had a husband and two children. Lena thought William was asking for a kiss.

Without electricity, we had no fans or air conditioning. During the summer months the hotel guests would sleep on cots put on the porch. Mosquito netting was hung over the cots to keep the bugs and mosquitos away. The porches had awnings on the west side which were let down in the day time to keep the sun and heat off the building. In the summer the sand storms were really bad. Sometimes you could not see across the street. At times the wind was so strong it would pick up a cot and carry it some distance. One time it was found on the other side of the street. Arthur Luhrs had the job of pulling up the awnings

when we had a storm. One time, he felt the porch raise and settle down. He did not pull up any more awnings but ran inside the hotel. Catharina M Luhrs did not like thunder storms. If one occurred at night, the family had to get up and dress and go to the basement. In the residential area if people did not have porches to sleep on they would sleep in the yard. If it rained, all the bedding had to be brought inside. Many folks would take a buggy ride in the evenings during the hot summer months. The Luhrs' had a horse named Jim. They would go out north Central Avenue, turning at the Heard's home. It was done so often that Jim would automatically turn around when reaching this point. Whenever the Luhrs' went to East Lake Park, good old Jim took them in the buggy. East Lake Park was a very nice place to go. They had an indoor swimming pool, a small lake with an island, and boats. There was a theatre in which the Tucker-Spooner Stock Company put on some good shows for 35¢. Master George, Jr. sold lemonade on the sidewalk in front of the Commercial Hotel bar. When he had sold enough, his sisters would buy four tickets for the Tucker-Spooner show. The tickets would take care of Mr. and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs and the two sisters. Young George, Jr. who was about five years old, had to sit on his father's lap. The good old horse Jim took them out and back in the buggy. One day, while George, Jr. was selling lemonade, a bully spit into the pitcher. It upset George, Jr. very much. The lemonade was thrown away and the pitcher thoroughly cleaned.

During the hot weather, the families that could afford it went up to the mountains or to the Pacific Coast. Usually, the husband stayed in Phoenix to run the business. They were called the summer bachelors. Catharina M. Luhrs had a very good friend, Mrs. Anna Thalheimer, who would loan Mrs. Luhrs from one to three hundred dollars with which to take the Luhrs children to Santa Monica, California. Geo H.N. Luhrs would pay back Mrs. Thalheimer during the winter months. One summer, Mrs. Luhrs rented one of three houses that had been built on the beach. The Thalheimers and the Lukes occupied the other two houses. At that time they were the only houses directly on the beach front. In about 1898, Catharina M. Luhrs rented a house on the corner of Eighth and Arizona in Santa Monica. George, Jr. says he remembers the fence, for it kept him in the yard. Mrs. Luhrs and her children tried to go to the beach every summer although they did miss now and then. In later years, from about 1914, Geo H.N. Luhrs joined the rest of the family. Those who stayed at home made the best of it and business went on as usual. People dressed to be comfortable. Many business-men wore white shoes and socks, white trousers and shirt with a washable tie and a straw hat. Whatever the dress was, it was neat.

S. D. Lount made the first ice in Phoenix and at first delivered it in a wheelbarrow. Later he built the City Ice Plant on the northeast corner of Fourth Street and Washington.

In the early days, a chinaman would drive up to the hotel

every morning with his horse and wagon which was loaded with vegetables and sell Mrs. Luhrs whatever she wanted.

J. W. Dorris Grocery Store was originally Kelner's and located on the southwest corner of First Street and Washington Street on the ground floor of the Irvine Building. They sent men out every morning, going from home to home, taking orders, which would be delivered before evening. After Phoenix had telephone service, orders could be called in. Orders could be charged too.

Squaw Peak originally was called Squaw Tit.

The halls of the Commercial Hotel were ten feet in width with two strips of carpet running down the middle. On each side was highly polished wood which the houseman washed, on his hands and knees, once a week. Very young George, Jr. enjoyed crawling on Bonillas' back pretending he was riding a horse.

Catharina M. Luhrs used to visit her good friend, Mrs. Anna Thalheimer every Sunday afternoon taking Ella, Emma and George, Jr. with her. They would walk from the Commercial Hotel to the Thalheimer home located on the southeast corner of Fourth Street and Jefferson Street, a distance of four blocks. Mrs. Luhrs spent her time with Mrs. Thalheimer. Ella and Emma played with Emma Thalheimer and George, Jr. with Ulrich Thalheimer. The Thalheimers would not give George, Jr. a drink out of a glass for the reason they said he bit the glass and broke it.

During a winter storm, a section of the Santa Fe Railroad bridge, over the Salt River at Tempe, washed out, leaving one car

hanging.

The Phoenix Country Club was located on West Van Buren at 17th Avenue. Later it was located on North Central Avenue and the Arizona Canal. Then, it was moved to its present location on the northeast corner of Seventh Street and Thomas Road.

The Palace Saloon, owned by Gus Hirchfield, was on the north side of Washington Street between Center Street and First Street. It was advertised as the only second class saloon in Phoenix.

In the real early days of Phoenix, Goldman & Co. was on the northeast corner of Centre Street and Washington Street, now Central Avenue and Washington Street. In the early 1900's, prior to 1903, they moved into the Horner Building or Masonic Tempe, on the west side of Center Street (now Central Avenue), just south of the alley, running east and west, between Washington and Jefferson Streets. In the beginning they were a clearing house for everyone, farmers, miners, businessmen, etc. Everyone took whatever they had to Goldman & Co. who would sell it or do whatever was necessary. They would then pay bills and accounts involved.

Catharina M. Luhrs liked good table manners. She would tell her children a pig over the table (belching) was worse than a pig under the table. Mrs. Luhrs did not like shoes to be placed on a table. She would not cut finger or toe nails on Friday or Sunday.

George Luhrs, Jr., as a youth, prior to 1911, made good

use of the hotel back yard, just east of the existing Commercial Hotel Building. He had a vegetable garden, exercising bars, a tunnel and a cave.

In 1909, the original two story portion of the hotel was raised to three stories.

On the south portion of the hotel back yard, facing Jefferson Street, was the wagon making shop of Geo H.N. Luhrs. In 1911, a three story addition to the hotel was built, at the east end of the hotel, so the wagon making shop was torn down.

Phoenix, as a small town, was a community in which almost everyone knew almost everyone else. Most things were very informal. The people were proud of their town and saw a promising future in Phoenix as well as in the Salt River Valley. As a small town, just beginning to grow, the requirements for amusement were not as great as in larger cities, so the men would go to lodge and visit with their friends. Each age has its standard of amusement. In Phoenix in the early days they had the opera house, which was located on the west side of Centre Street, now Central Avenue, on the north side of the alley, running east and west between Washington Street and Jefferson Street. Some traveling shows would stop off in Phoenix and the opera house was used for the performance. Then the Dorris Opera House, later known as the Elks Opera House.

After the horse drawn street cars were put in, East Lake Park, on the south side of Jefferson Street, between Fifteenth and Sixteenth Streets, was very popular, with an

indoor swimming pool, the lake, boats, theatre and dancing. There also was an area where football and other contests were held. Arthur Luhrs, who played fullback on the Phoenix Union High School team, broke his arm in a game with the Tempe Normal, now Arizona State University, on the East Lake Park field. His mother, Catharina M. Luhrs, was visiting Mrs. Frank Luke who lived on the northwest corner of Fifteenth and Washington Streets, where she was notified of the accident. Arthur's arm was not set just right and it caused him trouble. There were picnics at Hole In The Rock or at Echo Canyon at Camelback Mountain. One did not have to go far for the shooting of quails, doves, rabbits and other wild life. In view of the fact that many worked twelve hours a day, seven days a week, there was not a great deal of time for amusement.

In the 1890's, a Phoenix Midwinter Carnival was put on, having Indian and Cowboy sports, baseball, football, cricket, tennis, fireman's tournament, trotting and running races, club trap shooting, good music, grand mardi gras pageant, magnificent trades parade of costly floats, competitive militia drills, unrivaled wild west and Indian exhibitions. Geo H.N. Luhrs was on the executive committee. In one of the parades, Arthur Luhrs was dressed up as a page boy, at the front of the parade. Ella Luhrs wheeled the Plath twins in a decorated baby buggy and Emma Luhrs rode a bicycle decorated as a swan. George, Jr. drove the swan. Every year Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey would put on a one day show with a parade down Washington

Street. The circus was always on east Washington Street, east of East Lake Park. They had a caliope bringing up the rear of the parade. There was a natatorium located on the southwest corner of Jefferson Street and Second Avenue. As Phoenix grew, so did the entertainment. There was Riverside, on the east side of South Central Avenue, at the Salt River, with dancing, swimming and a picnic ground. Morley's on the south side of east Van Buren near the four mile house, with dancing swimming and a picnic ground, and the Arbor on the east side of North Central Avenue at the Arizona Canal.

When moving pictures started, there were many opened in Phoenix. Among the first was the Lyric, on the ground floor of the Commercial Hotel at 29 South Central Avenue. One evening the film caught on fire. It was put out quickly. The first talking moving picture in Phoenix was Al Jolson in "Sonny Boy", at the Rialto, which was located on the south side of Washington Street between Central Avenue and First Avenue. There were burlesque shows too. One was the Majestic, which opened about 1920, being open air at first. It was located on the south side of Jefferson Street between Central Avenue and First Avenue. When winter came, it was covered with a roof.

Donofrio's, an ice cream parlor, was on the south side of Washington Street, between Central Avenue and First Street. It was a very popular place for early Phoenix. In later years, it was moved to a location on the west side of Central Avenue between Monroe and Van Buren. John and Guy Alsap, sons of the

first Mayor of Phoenix and one of the founders of the City of Phoenix bought the place from Donofrio and operated it until it closed.

A dance never to be forgotten by those attending, was the barn yard dance at the Arizona Club on top of the Luhrs Building, located on the southwest corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street. The lobby of the Luhrs Building was made into a barn yard with cattle, pigs, chickens, etc. The tenth floor was a barn. Many bales of hay were used. Chickens and other poultry were let loose, some being thrown out of the windows. Goodness knows where they landed. It was an exciting dance, with firemen stationed here and there in case of trouble. There were no more barn yard dances. It took several weeks to clean the elevator shaft of hay. The dances thereafter were regular dances, either formal or informal.

In 1891, the water in the Salt River rose so high it reached almost to Jefferson Street. Up to this time everything was south of Washington Street. The flood was the beginning of people moving north of Washington Street.

The valley was known as the "Salt River Valley", until the Teddy Roosevelt Dam was built. The Chamber of Commerce and others thought "Valley of the Sun" would be better, by which name it is now known. The project is still known as the Salt River Valley Water Users Association.

Arthur Luhrs started to school in 1891, at which time he spoke only German. Thus, he got the nickname of "Dutchman".

Later, it was the "Whistling Dutchman", for the reason that he did a lot of whistling. He was sent to St. Mary's convent, his parents thinking that was the best school. While there, he and another boy were throwing rocks at each other. One of Arthur's hit a nun on the head. He was expelled from school. He then went to the public school, which was the Center Street School, bound by Center Street, First Avenue, Monroe Street and Van Buren Street. Arthur, Ella, Emma and George, Jr., all went to Center Street School, with the exception that George, Jr. went to West End School for four weeks in the fourth grade, and then the class was moved back to Center Street School. They all graduated from Center Street School and also Phoenix Union High School. From the High School, Arthur graduated in 1904, Ella in 1906, Emma in 1908 and George, Jr. in 1914. Arthur went to Stanford University from which he graduated in 1909 from the school of Mining and Geology. He was at the University at the time of the San Francisco earthquake in April, 1906. The earthquake was very bad at Stanford University. After graduation, he went to work for the mine at Morenci, Arizona, until he came down with typhoid fever, which almost took his life. Later, he joined his father as manager of the Commercial Hotel, after 1924 known as the Hotel Luhrs.

Ella and Emma wanted to go to Tempe Normal School, now Arizona State University. At that time one only had to go one year for a life time teacher's certificate. However, Geo H.N. Luhrs said no. He thought a lady's place was at home. George,

Jr. went to Stanford University, getting his Bachelor of Arts April 8th, 1918. He immediately enlisted in the infantry as a private at Camp Freemont, California. He then went to the Fourth Officers Training Camp to become a Second Lieutenant. He was discharged December 24th, 1918. He then returned to Stanford University to study law, getting his Juris Doctor degree the 21st day of June, 1920. He took the bar examination in Arizona in 1920, getting the highest grade in the class. He was with the law firm of Armstrong, Lewis and Kramer until he joined the Luhrs' in a development of their properties and was manager of the Luhrs Properties until the said properties were sold, December 22, 1976.

In 1888, the Commercial Hotel served meals in their dining room for 25¢. Hair cuts were 25¢, shaves 15¢, a shine 10¢ and a good cigar .05¢.

In 1895, J. C. Adams, his wife and daughter, Margaret were guests at the Commercial Hotel for about a year. Mr. Adams was figuring upon buying the Commercial Hotel until he was given three lots on the northeast corner of Center Street and Adams Street on which he built the Adams Hotel in 1896. Ella and Emma Luhrs were good friends of Margaret Adams.

Phoenix continued to grow slowly. It was still on the branch line of the Southern Pacific Railroad. A great deal of the land under cultivation was farming and citrus. Mining and cattle men came to town to transact their business. Saturday night was the big one for everyone, bringing people from all

over the valley into town. The miners, cattlemen and cowboys went to the barber shops where they could get a bath for 25¢. Then the barber gave them the works, such as a hair cut, shave and a shampoo. All stores were open at night. People gathered on the sidewalks and in the streets to visit and gossip. The city directory of 1895 listed the names of 2116 people in Phoenix, excluding the chinese and the undesirables. It was not uncommon for a guest of the hotel, who he knew, to ask Geo H. N. Luhrs for some money. He turned it over without a signature. Just an entry was made on the book. Sometime later, maybe a year, the party would come in and pay what he had borrowed, but no interest. It was hard on Geo H.N. Luhrs, for he had big debts with high interest.

The town ditch, for irrigation, ran on the north side of Van Buren Street from the east where it went through the high school grounds to First Avenue where it crossed the street diagonally to the south side of Van Buren and then continued west. Boys used to go swimming in the town ditch. Arthur dove in at First Avenue and Van Buren hitting his head on a piece of broken glass. He carried a scar on the top of his head thereafter. George, Jr. went in swimming in the town ditch where it went through the McNeil yard, from Third to Fourth Avenues on the south side of Van Buren Street. Dix McNeil and George, Jr. were friends and in the same grade at Center Street School.

In 1901, President McKinley visited Phoenix. He was

driven to the capitol where he spoke to the people. Catharina M. Luhrs dressed George, Jr., then six, as Uncle Sam. He had an Indian doll and a boquet of American Beauty Roses. George, Jr. was taken to the second floor of the capitol in front of the elevator the President was supposed to take. In the meantime, older and larger people pushed George, Jr. back so he was standing in front of the other elevator. As luck would have it, President McKinley came up on the other elevator. The first thing he saw was George, Jr. dressed as Uncle Sam. He picked up George, Jr. and took him out on the platform where he held him on his lap. The President accepted the doll and the roses. Later, George, Jr. received the President's thank you letter from the Executive House, as the White House was called then. This is something George, Jr. will never forget. Rose Mary Drachman wrote a book on President McKinley's visit to Phoenix and said George, Jr. was a part of the program. He really was not but he just became a part of it.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs were always looking after their children. They tried to keep them busy, or at home. Arthur was a very good friend of the McCarthy boys who lived on the east side of north Centre Street, now Central Avenue, at Portland. Arthur had a pony which he rode when going out to play with the McCarthy boys. The youngest McCarthy boy was named Neil. He always wanted to ride Arthur's pony. He would wait for Arthur to come. One day he told Arthur there was a fight around the corner. Arthur ran around the corner, leaving

his pony. Neil took the pony and rode off. Arthur would go to Mrs. McCarthy and tell her that her son was going to be a horse thief. Neil went to Los Angeles to practice law after graduating from the University of Michigan. He did very well in Los Angeles. He would always look up Arthur when he came to Phoenix. Arthur liked to play football but after breaking his arm, he could play no more. Arthur had a part in the high school senior play, "The Taming of the Shrew". To keep Arthur and his friends from running around town, Geo H.N. Luhrs had a pool table placed in one of the sample rooms, which they willingly used. During the summer vacations, Arthur worked for Wells Fargo. During his university days, his vacations were spent working for the Arizona Surveyor General's Office. Arthur, Ella and Emma took piano lessons for a short time. Mary Emmons Norton, who had graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music, taught them.

Ella and Emma marked up the bricks of the hotel for which their father got after them. They both helped their mother at the hotel. Ella took painting, being good at china painting. Both Ella and Emma were very close friends of Hazel and Fay Demund. Mr. H. P. Demund, the father of Hazel and Fay, went on hunting and fishing trips often taking his daughters and Ella and Emma. One Christmas, when they were young, Ella, Emma and George, Jr. got roller skates. Their father, Geo H.N. Luhrs permitted them to skate in the downstairs reading room which was directly back of the lobby. If anyone said anything, he would say, "They are my children and I want to keep them home".

In later years, Ella became very active in the Eastern Star and later became Worth Matron of Arizona Lodge Number Five.

As a youth, George, Jr. liked to go to the fire station, which was a block east of the Commercial Hotel or on the northeast corner of First Street and Jefferson Street. George, Jr, would stand in front of the horses and pet their velvet noses. This was dangerous for the horses had been trained, when the alarm went off, the chains to the horses stalls dropped and the horses took their places by the fire truck. If this happened, George, Jr. could be trampled over. One time when they were going to a fire, one of the firemen spotted George, Jr. on the running board of the hook and ladder. They stopped and George, Jr. was taken into the Commercial Hotel, where he was taken care of by his father. This was one spanking George, Jr. never forgot. When George, Jr. was about six years old, his Uncle Edward Eisele gave him his first bicycle. Robert and John Bennet were friends of George, Jr. and were in his class at the Center Street School. They lived on the east side of south Third Street, just south of Jefferson Street. George, Jr. wanted to show his bicycle to the Bennet Brothers, let them see how fast it would go. There was a livery stable on the northeast corner of Third Street and Jefferson Street, with a high fence around it. George, Jr. darted out from behind the fence right in front of the Thalheimer horse and buggy driven by Otto Thalheimer. Fortunately, George, Jr. was not hurt. The bicycle fell on top of him, thus protecting him.



Geo H.N.Luhrs, in 1867, at the age of 20 years, when he left his home, in Germany, for the United States of America. He was born March 31st,1847, in Neuhaus a/d Oste,Germany. He died, in Phoenix, Arizona, May 4th,1929.

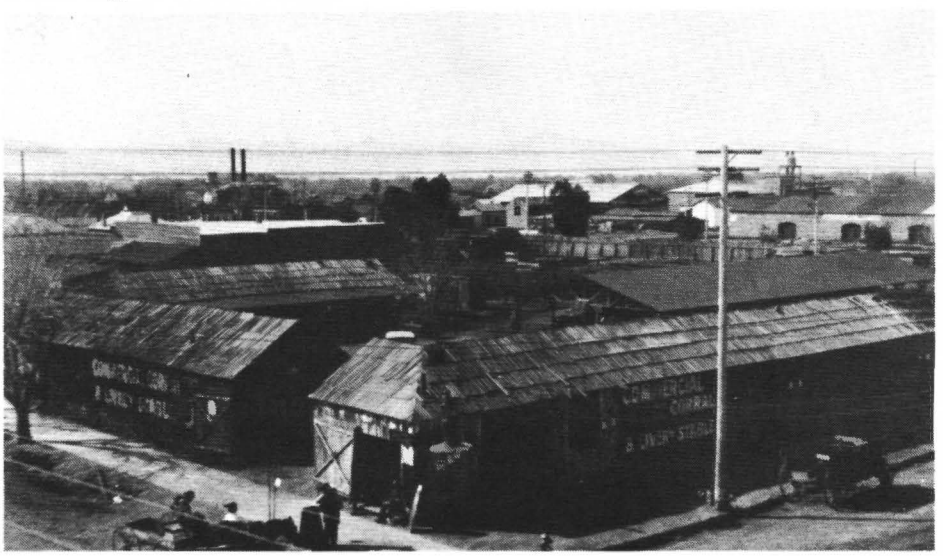


The Geo H.N.Luhrs family home, in Phoenix, 1884, was located on the S.E.corner of Jefferson Street & Cortez Street, now First Avenue, where the Luhrs Tower, now, stands. Arthur, Ella and Emma Luhrs were born, in the family home.The first bath tub, in Phoenix, was in this Home. Curtains were on the windows,



The wagon making shop of Geo H.N.Luhrs & blacksmith shop of Newell Herrick & John A. Lutgerding, in Phoenix, Arizona,1878. The adobe structure faced Jefferson Str., being on the west side of the alley, running north and south, between Central Ave., & 1st St. Said alley was known as Cactus Way. The east wing of the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs, erected in 1912, stood on this property. Geo H.N. Luhrs, stands on the left.

On April 10,1882, Luhrs & Herrick bought block 64,in Phoenix, for $2,000.00, said block was bounded by Jefferson & Madison Sts. & Central & 1st Avenues. The property was needed to provide space for their customers to leave their horses and wagons. The Commercial Corral & Fashion Livery Stable, was built on the S.W.Cor. of Jefferson St. & Central Ave. where the Luhrs Bldg. now stands, having been built in 1923 & opened April 1st. 1924.





1889. Lobby Commercial, later Hotel Luhrs, N.E. corner Center & Jefferson Streets, Phoenix, Ariz. Geo H.N. Luhrs, in front of counter. Willie Dodenhoff, brother of Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs, in back. To rear is the reading room, then dinning room. Gas lights.

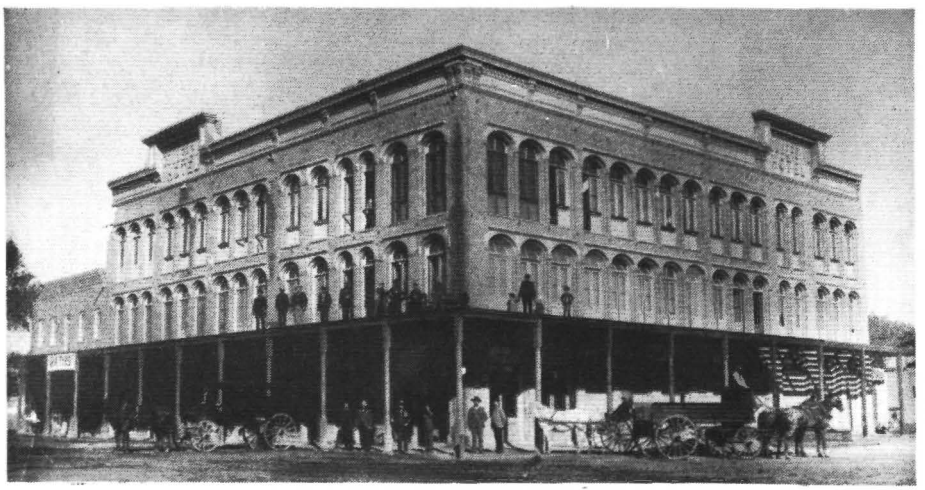
In early 90's. Center St., Phoenix, looking north from porch of the Commercial, later Hotel Luhrs, N.E. corner Center & Jefferson Sts. On right, Cotton Block. On left, Porter Bldg. Across Street, north, Goodrich Property. North to Monroe Street the Episcopal Methodist Church. North, across Monroe Street Center Street Grammar School.

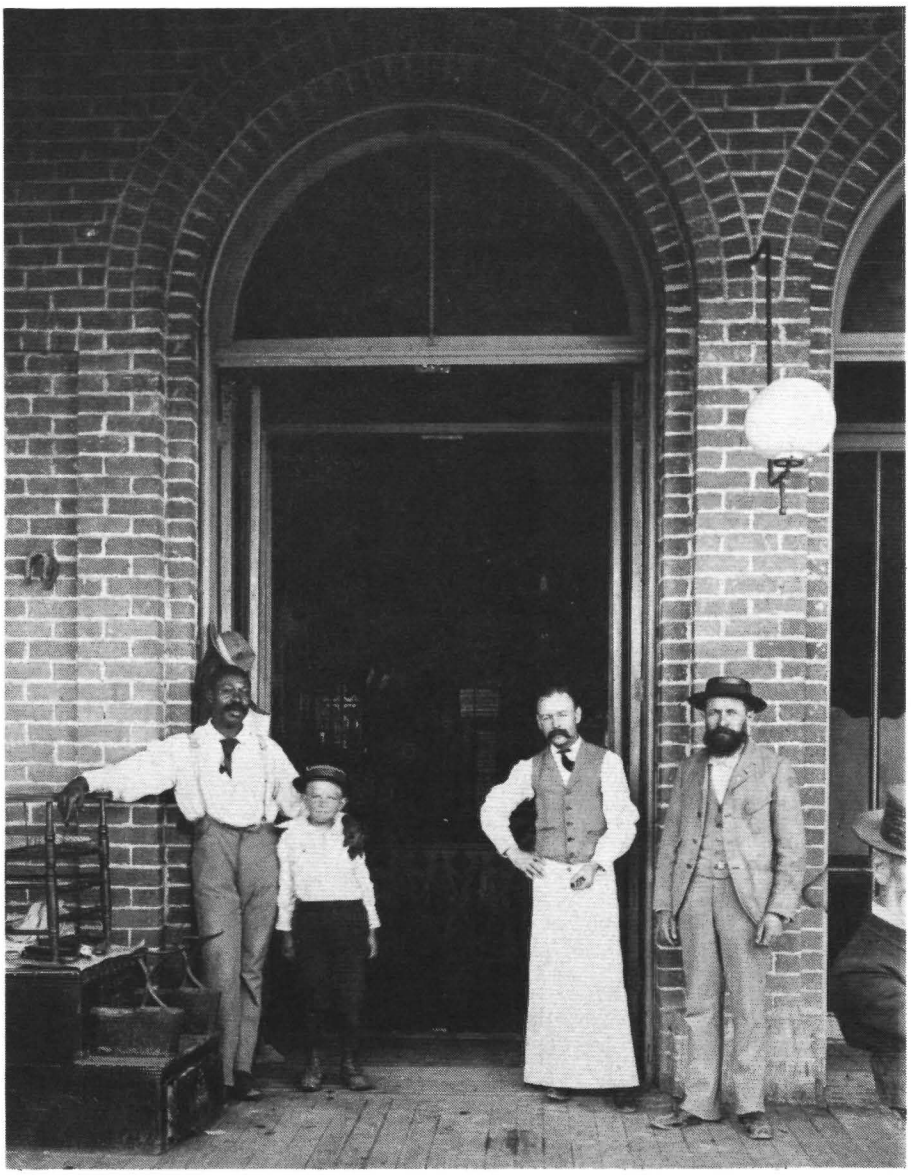




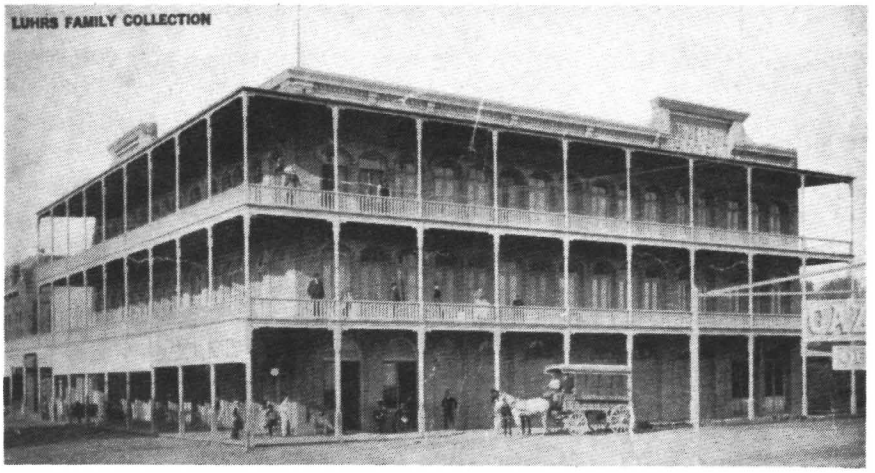
1887. Original Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs, on the south side of the alley, running east & west, between Washington & Jefferson Streets, Phoenix, Arizona. The lady on the porch holding a child in a white dress, is Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs, holding her daughter, Ella Luhrs. To the right is Arthur Luhrs and Geo H.N. Luhrs.

1888. Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs, on the N.E. corner of Center and Jefferson Streets, Phoenix, Arizona. Southern Pacific R.R. came to Phoenix, in 1888. At left is two story original portion of the hotel. Man on porch holding two children is Geo H.N. Luhrs, with Arthur Luhrs on the left & Ella Luhrs on the right. Wagon shop to right.



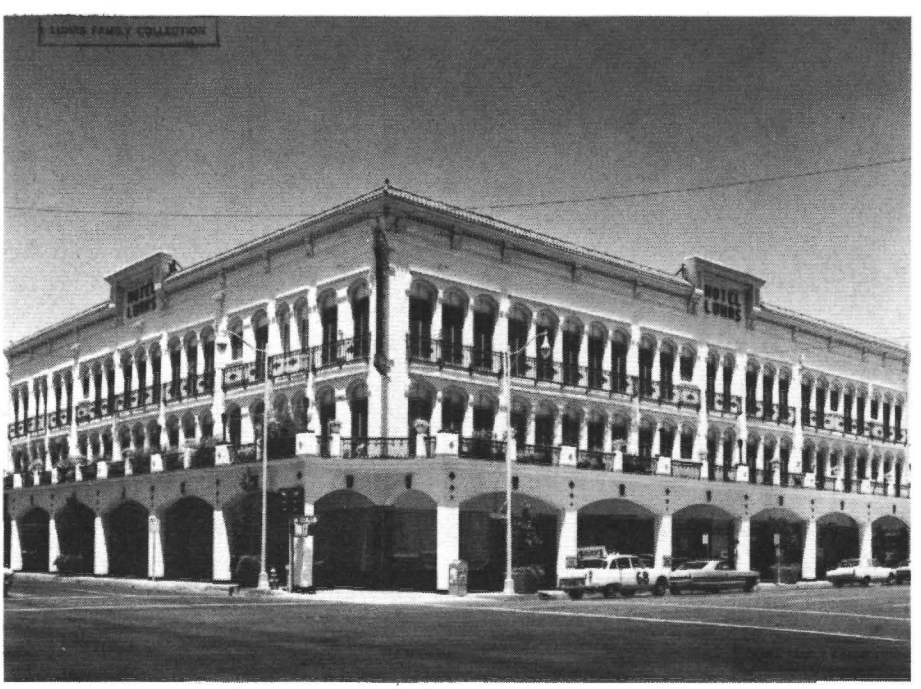


In front of the Commercial Hotel (later the Hotel Luhrs) bar. Hotel on the N.E. corner of Central Ave. & Jefferson Street, Phoenix, Arizona. Note the gas lights and wooden floor side walk. From left to right, shine boy, Arthur C. Luhrs, Billy Mathews and Geo H.N. Luhrs, the owner of the Hotel. Picture taken about 1892.



1888. Commercial Hotel, later Hotel Luhrs, then tallest & largest Building in Arizona, & activities center in Phoenix. Geo H.N. Luhrs' wagon shop at right, set back. On third floor porch, Willie Dodenhoff, brother of Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs, waves hands. Arizona Gazette, then located on S.E. corner of Jefferson Street & Central Ave. Had no electricity. Dirt streets & dirt of wooden sidewalks.

1976. Hotel Luhrs, originally Commercial, N.E. corner, Central Avenue & Jefferson Street. 1909. Original two story raised to three. 1912. Wagon shop torn down & three story, east wing built. 1924. Exterior change and name changed to Hotel Luhrs, then being oldest hotel in Ariz. Geo H.N. Luhrs family owned and operated as a business from 1878-1976, being oldest firm owned and operated, by same family, in Arizona. Phoenix made the mistake of letting this oldest landmark be torn down in 1981.



George, Jr. began taking violin lessons when he was eleven years old. He practiced a lot and became good enough to give lessons, his senior year in high school to his friend John Newcomer and cousin Lloyd Eisele. When he graduated from grammar school, June 2nd, 1910, he played a solo, "Cavatina". Shortly after he began playing the violin, he also learned to play an E Flat clarinet and was a member of the Red Bird Band, made up of grammar school boys. Walter Thalheimer and George, Jr. are the only members still living, as of 1981. George, Jr. still has his uniform intact. Walter died February 8th, 1982.

George, Jr. learned "Hearts and Flowers" by heart but Avery Corpstein did not know it. One day, when the band was playing "Hearts and Flowers", Avery looked over and told George, Jr. his music was upside down. During grammar school days, George, Jr. sang in the Episcopal Church Choir when Trinity was located on the west side of Second Avenue between Washington Street and Jefferson Street. While in high school he took singing lessons from Maitland Davies. His senior year, 1914, he won the Phoenix Union High School song contest and later the All State Contest at the University of Arizona at Tucson. He was a member of the Stanford University Glee Club the entire time he was at Stanford University , 1914-19, being president in 1919. In 1915, he made the trip, with the Stanford University Glee Club to Honolulu, giving a concert in the Royal Hawaiian Theatre. The trip was made on the Great Northern Pacific Steamship Line, concerts being given on the way over and on the way back. Hilo

was also visited. The entire trip cost each member fifty dollars. Unfortunately, George, Jr. was kept so busy managing the Luhrs Properties, he had to give up his music. George, Jr. had the lead in the Phoenix Union High School play, "Country Boy In College," his senior year, 1914.

George, Jr. played basketball and was on the track team, running the 440 yard dash and also the third lap in the mile relay. He was captain of the track team his senior year at Phoenix Union High School, 1914. George, Jr. was salutatorian of his high school graduation class, 1914. He won a playing piano from the Redewill Music Company for getting the most words out of Redewill and the best presentation of the same, which was a toy piano, with an opening cut in the front, behind which was a turning roller, showing the different names as it was turned.

While in the seventh grade of grammar school, he was in a contest put on by the Arizona Republican for getting subscriptions to the paper. He won a year scholarship at the Arizona School of Music where he continued his violin lessons. He always regretted the change of teacher, for he thought his former teacher was the best. He took the scholarship for the reason it saved his folks money. In his senior year, 1917-1918, he was head varsity yell leader at Stanford University. Joe Doron of Phoenix, and "Monk" Antrim were his assistants. George, Jr. was always doing something. As a youth of six, he fixed up a box for shining shoes. He became so excited over his first

customer, he shined but one of the man's shoes, running to the hotel to tell his folks. They made him go back and find the man and shine the other shoe. As a boy he worked for the Boston Store, now Diamonds, when it was located on the northeast corner of Second Street and Washington Street, in the Dennis Block. He was a cash boy and helped sweep the store. His next to the last year in high school, 1913, he worked for his uncle Ed Eisele, the owner of the Phoenix Bakery, now Holsum. At that time it was located at 7 West Washington Street in the building owned by Lulu Porter. The work was in the summer, wrapping bread. During the early part of the summer, in 1914, George Jr. worked at the hotel, relieving the clerks during their vacation period. In the summer, the first two years at Stanford University, he worked for the National Bank of Arizona, the first year as a runner at $35.00 a month, the second year on the books at $65.00 a month. Arthur and George, Jr. were members of the Chamber of Commerce but at different times. George, Jr. was a member (one year President) of the Phoenix Office Building Managers and Owners Association; also a member of the Phoenix Downtown Development Association; a charter member of the Civic Plaza Business Association of Phoenix; named Mr. Downtowner in 1972; a member of the Arizona Historical Society. In 1979, the Phoenix Historical Society honored George, Jr. with a special recognition for achievement in historic preservation. Arthur was a member of the Arizona Hotel Association, the Arizona Club, the Phoenix Country Club and a charter member of the Phoenix

Rotary Club. George, Jr. was a member of the Arizona Club, being at present (1983) the oldest member based upon the length of membership, and a charter member of the Phoenix Lions Club. In 1911, George, Jr. and a group of his friends were the first Boy Scouts in Phoenix. Leon Tolleson was the Scout Master. They met at the Y.M.C.A. on the northeast corner of Second Avenue and Monroe Street. One of their hikes was on their bicycles to Granite Reef Dam. The road was along the bank of the canal. It took all day to get to Granite Reef and another day to get back, spending the night at the dam.

In 1909, Geo H.N. Luhrs managed to get enough money together to add the third floor to the original two story portion of the hotel. These rooms had running water.

Geo H.N. Luhrs had an interest in two banks in Phoenix. One was the Union Bank and Trust Company, incorporated in 1904, with license revoked July 13, 1913. The other was the Citizen State Bank at five points, incorporated in 1914 and closed in July, 1930.

The Salt River Valley Water Users Association and the Citizens of the Valley had for years been trying to get a reservoir built by the Federal Government to store the water of the Salt River. This was finally accomplished with the building of the Teddy Roosevelt Dam, which Teddy Roosevelt dedicated in 1911. The dam and the Apache Trail, which is the road between the dam and Phoenix, became something to see. Whenever special parties and dignitaries made the trip, the

Chamber of Commerce had a director meet them and escort them to Phoenix. Arthur Luhrs, as a director of the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce did this when called upon. One time he had to ride the running board all the way. The Apache Trail was a narrow dirt road, single lane, winding through the mountains. If two cars met going in opposite directions, one would have to back up to a place wide enough for cars to pass. Fish Creek Hill was very steep. It still is a trip to take and a sight to see. Since then, other dams have been built on the Salt River below the Teddy Roosevelt Dam. Dams have been built on other rivers too. The water that runs into these dams is stored until needed, and has been one of the reasons why the valley has been cultivated and increased in population. The water stored behind these dams created lakes which are used by the people of the valley for boating, fishing and swimming.

February 14th, 1912, President Howard Taft signed the bill making Arizona a state. George W.P. Hunt was elected the first governor of the state. As a territory, the governor was appointed by the President. The day George W.P. Hunt was sworn in, he walked from the Ford Hotel to the Capitol. The Ford Hotel was located on the northeast corner of Second Avenue and Washington Street. He was governor for several terms until Tom Campbell defeated him. The first time Tom Campbell beat him was by a few votes. A recount was had with the matter going to the Supreme Court. The Court gave the elevation to Hunt. At the next election, Tom Campbell won. Governor Hunt is buried

in Papago Park, just east of Phoenix.

In 1911, after getting leases from Talbott and Hubbard and also from Donofrios, for the entire ground floor, Geo H.N. Luhrs decided to tear down the old wagon making shop where he opened up business in Phoenix in 1879. Talbot & Hubbard were in the hardware business. Donofrio's were in the ice cream operation. Both firms were well considered. They occupied the ground floor of the Ellingson Building, located upon the south side of East Washington Street on the west side of the alley, running north and south, between Washington Street and Jefferson Street. Talbott & Hubbard had a large iron dog in front of their establishment. All the youngsters enjoyed riding it. In front of Ezra Thayer's store was a horse, and in front of the City Plaza was a cannon, which all the children rode. When the adobe wagon making shop was torn down, a lot of history of Phoenix and the early days of Geo H.N. Luhrs went with it. The east wing to the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs was built, three stories in height, so that the hotel now covered the entire quarter of block.

It was reported that one of the winter guests of the hotel had died, such knowledge being known to all the employees. It happened that the man was not dead and returned to the hotel. Fred Warren, the hotel porter, did not know this. One morning as he was cleaning the men's rest room, the door to one of the stalls opened and the reported dead man walked out. Fred saw him and turned white, running out of the men's rest room.

Arizona stopped gambling in 1907. Prohibition was voted in, in 1915. National prohibition went into effect in 1920 and was repealed in 1934.

On January 12th, 1912, Arthur Cleveland Luhrs was married to Sahar (Sadie) Allen. Arthur was born in Phoenix, Arizona December 14th, 1884 and died in Phoenix, Arizona, June 23rd, 1975. Sadie was born in Ferris, Texas, February 25th, 1889 and died in Phoenix, Arizona, February 6th, 1964. They were married in the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs, in the Luhrs family quarters. As previously stated, Arthur, after graduating from Stanford University went to work for the mine at Morenci, Arizona where he took sick. Fortunately, a traveling salesman who stayed at the hotel when in Phoenix, was in Morenci at the time. He saw Arthur and immediately brought him home. Arthur had typhoid fever. Dr. Swetnam took care of him. He was in room seven at the hotel. Arthur was very, very sick. He lost a lot of weight. There were times they did not know if he would make it or not. In those days medical treatment was different than today and the disease, then, was much more serious. Arthur was fed the white of eggs, beaten up. He was packed in ice. It was a long struggle, which he finally won. On his road to recovery, he could never get enough to eat. At meal time with a lot of food on the table, he would say, "Is this all that you have to eat?" Summer came and Arthur went to the beach (Ocean Park, California) with the rest of the family except for Geo H.N. Luhrs, who as usual had to stay home and take care of

the business. Many of Arthur's friends would come down to Ocean Park where the house had been rented, to visit him, such as Neil McCarthy, George Bailey and Mable McNeil. While at the beach, Arthur rested a lot, did a lot of eating and went into the ocean. In time, he gained his weight back and was able to work again. After the family went home, Arthur went back to the mine in Morenci. In a short time the mine shut down and Arthur returned to Phoenix and became the manager of the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs.

Arthur was a fine man and everyone liked him. In High School he was very much taken up with Fanny Bryant, the sister of Mrs. Ezra Thayer. He went with George Bailey too. Then he met Sadie Allen and courted her until they were married. Sadie's father was Lawson Allen, a young Latin and Greek instructor at the University of Mississippi, and her mother was Belle Howell, a Kentuckian. Following the war between the States, many Southerners migrated to Tucson. When Mr. Allen became sick with tuberculosis, he decided to move to Tucson. They had one daughter, named Jessie. In a small covered wagon they took two years to reach Tucson for the reason he stopped along the way to teach and earn money to support his family. On the journey, Sahar Allen was born, while living in Ferris, Texas. Tucson offered no opportunity so he moved on to Phoenix. In those days Tucson and Phoenix were wide open, twenty-four hours a day, gambling towns. In Phoenix he joined with Henry George to establish a real estate firm.

Arthur joined the Masonic Lodges when he was young. His wife, Sadie Allen Luhrs, did not like fraternal organizations and had Arthur demit. Arthur was a great lover of sports. He went quail and dove hunting. Once a year he and his friends would go up to the white mountains and camp in for two weeks. One time they took Elory Gonaway, the Maitre'd of the Arizona Club to do their cooking for them. One night there was a lot of talking about wild animals, Jerry, as Elory Gonaway was called, became very frightened. Arthur played football and baseball. He was a member of the Arizona Club and enjoyed going there for luncheon and playing bridge, being a very, very good player, winning many prizes. Arthur also was a member of the Phoenix Country Club, which he enjoyed, as well as the friends with whom he played. The Arthur Luhrs' first lived on West Washington Street, near the State Capitol. Then they purchased a home at 76 West Willetta. They sold this house and then built a beautiful home on the east side of north Central Avenue, just north of Bethany Home Road. Shortly after they moved into this last home they went on a vacation driving their car through northern New Mexico. They were driving in the snow when a truck on the wrong side of the road ran into them, head on. Arthur and his wife Sadie were both badly hurt. It was necessary to send an airplane from Phoenix to bring them back. They had to be placed on the floor of the plane and transferred to the hospital in Phoenix for necessary care. They never did really recover.

Arthur and Sadie Luhrs had two boys, both born in

Phoenix, Arizona, namely Arthur Allen Luhrs, born November 13th, 1914 and John Arthur Luhrs (baptized as John Christopher Luhrs) born July 14th, 1916. Johann Christoph was the name of Geo H.N. Luhrs' father, but John did not like the name of Christopher, being afraid he would be called Chris. Thus John gave himself the name of John Arthur Luhrs. Arthur Allen Luhrs married Virginia Forbing. They had three daughters, Margaret Suzanne, born June 9th, 1940; Virginia Forbing, born June 16, 1943 and Jan Elizabeth, born March 1, 1951. Margaret Suzanne Luhrs was married to David Emmons and they had two daughters, Ann Elizabeth, born February 7th, 1963 and Mari Emmons, born May 29th, 1967. Margaret Suzanne and David Emmons were divorced and Margaret Suzanne married Fritz Rogers, a lawyer. Virginia Forbing Luhrs married Rex Short and they had two daughters, Kelli Suzanne Short, born August 9th, 1969 and Jennifer Short, born February 7th, 1971. Jan Elizabeth Luhrs married Robert Stephens. They have two children, Lindsey Suzanne Stephens, born March 28th, 1978 and Robert Luhrs Stephens, born April 24th, 1981. Arthur Allen Luhrs and Virginia Forbing Luhrs were divorced. Arthur Allen Luhrs then married Eve Thompson. They had one son, Arthur Cleveland Luhrs II, born March 21, 1963. Arthur Allen Luhrs and Eve Luhrs were divorced. Arthur Allen Luhrs then married Heather Fereirs. John Arthur Luhrs married Alma Mishke (Alma's mother's father, Harvey Todd's aunt, Mary Todd, married Abraham Lincoln.) They had two daughters, Marie Sandra, born February 6th, 1942 and Sarah Jene, born May 8th, 1945.

Marie Sandra married Michael Edward Tiffany. They have four children, Michelle Todd Tiffany, born April 1st, 1964, Michael Edward Tiffany, Jr., born April 21, 1966, Paul Luhrs Tiffany, born April 5th, 1968 and Christopher John, born March 5th, 1970. Sarah Jene Luhrs married Bruce DeChristina. They have three children, Lisa Luhrs DeChristina, born May 25th, 1969, Lori Lynn DeChristina, born February 3rd, 1971 and Joseph Bruce DeChristina, born April 17th, 1971. Sarah Jene and Bruce DeChristina were divorced and Sarah Jene then married Steve Thomas. They were divorced too. Alma Mishke Luhrs was born December 28, 1914 and died of cancer November 27th, 1978 at 3:00 p.m. in Good Samaritan Hospital, Phoenix, Arizona. Memorial services were held at A. L. Moore & Sons, November 30th, 1978. At Alma's request, a get together of friends was had at the John Luhrs home, 86 East Ocotillo, with drinks and food being served.

On Christmas, December 25th, 1917, Ella Louise Henrietta Luhrs was married to Arthur Clye Taylor by Dean Scarlet of Trinity Cathedral, who also married Arthur and Emma Luhrs. They were married in the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs, in the Luhrs family suite. Ella was born in Phoenix, Arizona, August 11th, 1886 in the Luhrs home on the southeast corner of First Avenue and Jefferson Street. She died December 16th, 1974 in the Hotel Luhrs, originally the Commercial Hotel. Arthur Clye Taylor was born July 2, 1885, and died, by accident, December 27th, 1937 in the building at the time known as the Industrial Building and later called the Luhrs Central Building,

located on the northwest corner of Central Avenue and Madison Street, Phoenix, Arizona. The building had a large elevator opening out on Madison Street, on which Arthur Taylor parked his car in the evenings. The elevator was operated by a pull cable located on the east side of the elevator half way back from the street. The elevator was on the second floor. In trying to get to the cable to bring the elevator down, he slipped and fell to the pit of the shaft. Arthur Taylor was known as "Cap" by all who knew him.

Ella Luhrs, after graduating from high school, helped around the hotel. In her youth she took piano lessons and mandoline lessons but did not keep it up. She was very good at painting, especially china painting, of which she painted many pieces. She also painted a few pictures. Ella belonged to the Eastern Star, Arizona Number Five, as did her mother and father. They were very active. Ella went through the chairs and became Worthy Matron. She would also go to the Grand Lodge meets with her father and mother. She loved to go shopping and knew a great many of the owners and clerks in the stores. This was when all the stores were downtown. Ella and her sister Emma were very good friends of Hazel and Fay DeMund. Mr. H. P. DeMund, the father, often took the four girls camping, fishing and hunting. Phoenix was small at that time and all young men and ladies enjoyed each others company at dances, parties and social events. Ella enjoyed the friendship of several young men, among them being "Cap" Taylor, to whom she became engaged

and later married. "Cap" was a very fine man, liked and loved by everyone, including his in-laws. He gave most generously of his time to civic services, lodges and family. There is nothing he would not do for Mr. and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs. He was thought of as a son and brother, not an in-law. After Emma was married and moved to Gleason, Arizona with her husband and they had their first child, "Cap" would go to Maricopa to meet his sister-in-law Emma and help her on the part of the trip from Maricopa to Phoenix. He thought a great deal of all members of the Luhrs family and they thought a great deal of him. After marriage, "Cap" and Ella stayed at the hotel and became one of the family.

"Cap" came to Phoenix about 1907 from Covington, Kentucky. He and Reginald Stroud came to Phoenix about the same time and became good friends while courting Ella and Emma Luhrs. "Cap" was a printer by trade. The Federal government sent him to the Phoenix Indian School, located on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and the Indian School Road, as an instructor of printing. The street car did not run out to the Indian School after ten at nights. He had to walk the three miles from downtown to the Indian School many times while dating Ella Luhrs. After several years at the Indian School, "Cap" associated himself with the Arizona Stockman, a printing company located on the east side of First Avenue, just north of Jefferson Street. He soon became the owner and changed the name to A.C. Taylor Printing Company. He moved into a one story building on

the south side of east Jefferson Street between First and Second Streets. This building had a tin roof and in the summer, without air conditioning, was very hot. Later he moved to 142 South Central Avenue, having his office on the ground floor and the shop in the basement. Here he had air conditioning. At the time he moved into the building, it was known as the Industrial Building, later to be known as the Luhrs Central Building, on the northwest corner of Central Avenue and Madison Street. He was occupying space in this building when he was accidentally killed by falling into the elevator pit.

"Cap" had arranged things so that the shop was to go to the employees, by buying it from his wife, Ella Luhrs Taylor. He had taken out an insurance policy to make this money available. However, the insurance company folded up. Mrs. Taylor extended the time so they were able to complete the deal. A little later they sold out to James Palmer. "Cap" was the caption of the Supply Company of the Arizona National Guard. Thus, he got the name "Cap". During the Pancho Villa uprising in Mexico, the guards were stationed at Naco, Arizona. During World War 1, the Arizona National Guards were stationed at Camp Kéarney, near San Diego, California for training. They became the 158th Infantry. Ella went to San Diego so that she and "Cap" could spend the weekends together, until the 158th Infantry was sent over seas. After the war, "Cap" returned to Phoenix and back to his business.

"Cap" was associated with the Highway Commission and

printed the early Arizona Highway Magazines. He was a director of the Chamber of Commerce, being president one year. They wanted to run him for Mayor of the City of Phoenix but his wife, Ella Luhrs Taylor, objected. Geo H.N. Luhrs had told his children if they were in business to stay out of politics, and if they were in politics to stay out of business. Ella thought "Cap" was in enough things and his business needed him. Arthur Taylor was a Phoenix Rotarian, with a 100% attendance record. Arthur Luhrs was a charter member of the Phoenix Rotary Club but withdrew for business reasons. "Cap" had been president of the Downtown Phoenix Rotary Club, at that time being the only Rotary Club in Phoenix. At the time of his death, "Cap" was District Governor of Rotary and had just returned with his wife, Ella Luhrs Taylor, from Nice France, where the International Conference was held. He and his wife made a vacation of the trip, taking the boat over the Atlantic both ways. On the return, the ship was the Queen Elizabeth. Going over was a slower ship but they enjoyed the additional time to relax.

Arthur Taylor was also on the Grammar School Board, taking a very active part in our schools. "Cap" was a Mason, being master of Arizona Lodge Number Two. He was one of the trustees of Arizona Number Two, at the time the lodge established Greenwood Cemetary and for many years thereafter. He was also active in the El Zaribah Shrine. He was Captain of the Patrol and later Potentate. As busy as "Cap" was in civic affairs and

fraternal organizations, he always had time for his wife and the Luhrs family. Ella Luhrs Taylor gave "Cap" a daughter but, unfortunately, she was a breach birth and the little girl did not live. The little girl would have been called Margaret Mary. Ella was torn so badly that it required over one hundred stitches to close the tear. At the time there was much concern as to whether she would make it or not. She recovered, but could have no more children. When Ella was in her eighties, she had to have an operation to remove scar tissues which were obstructing her bowels.

After "Cap's" death, Ella continued to live in the hotel with her younger brother, George, Jr. Ella was in charge of the upstairs of the hotel from the time of her mother's death until Ella's death. She had a quick heart. At noon, December 16th, 1974, she took a nap, as did George, Jr., in the other bed. George, Jr. woke up about twenty minutes later and found out that his sister, Ella, had passed away in her sleep.

For many years, Arthur, Ella, Emma and George, Jr. would have lunch together in the family suite, at which time they would talk about the business. They worked in unison. "Cap" enjoyed the outdoor life such as camping out and hunting. Many times he and his wife, Ella, would take their niece and nephews on such trips.

On June 7th, 1916, Emma Sophia Johanna Luhrs was married to Dr. Reginald James Henry Stroud, M.D. by Dean Scarlet in the

Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs, in the Luhrs family suite. Emma was born in the Luhrs home at the southeast corner of First Avenue and Jefferson Street, December 13th, 1888 and died in St. Joseph's Hospital, Phoenix, Arizona, July 10th, 1968. Reginald Stroud was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, November 22nd, 1886 and died in Phoenix, Arizona, April 4th, 1947. He was the son of Major James T. and Lizzie Silk Stroud. Major Stroud was a British Army Officer who elected to become a Canadian Army Officer when Nova Scotia became a part of Canada. Emma Luhrs Taylor was a very pretty girl, shy, but not well. She liked castor oil so well she would lick the spoon. They had to hide the bottle from her. As a youth, doctors were always giving her medicine until one doctor told her folks to quit giving her all medicines and let her live like other children. He also told them that Emma was having more sweets than she should have and that they should stop eating restaurant food. What she needed was good home cooking. It was then Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs started cooking the family meals upstairs in the family suite in the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs. Emma, at that time, was about seven years old.

Emma and her sister, Ella were always together. Mrs. Luhrs had a very good friend, Mrs. Anna Thalheimer, living on the southeast corner of Fourth Street and Jefferson Street. Every Sunday afternoon, Mrs. Luhrs would dress up Ella, Emma and George, Jr. and walk to the Thalheimers. Emma Thalheimer was the age of Ella and Emma Luhrs. Ulrich Thalheimer was the

age of George Luhrs, Jr. While at the Thalheimer's, the girls would play in the irrigation ditches and get their petticoats very dirty. Bertha Kirkland lived on the northwest corner of Fifth Street and Jefferson Street and played with them.

Ella and Emma Luhrs went to parties, dances and outings, which all the boys and girls of their time attended. Ella dated many of the young men until "Cap" Taylor came along, to whom she became engaged and married. As a matter of fact, Ella was having such fun she could not make up her mind until her mother and sister told her she had better pick "Cap" before she lost him. Emma did not date very often. She went with young Haberline a few times until she met Reginald Stroud to whom she became engaged and married. Reg, as he was known to his friends, went to the University of Colorado Medical School for the reason that his uncle, E. Harrison Stroud (Harry), an early Phoenix physician, had gone there. Reg worked his way through medical school, going to the university one year and then on alternate years, working. He received his M.D. in 1912 and served as intern in St. Anthony's Hospital in Denver. He first came to Phoenix in 1907 to work a year because his uncle, Dr. Harry Stroud, was here and also because his sister, Lilly Stroud Newhouse, was here and operated the Troy Laundry located on the southwest corner of Second Avenue and Jefferson Street. It was at that time he first met Emma Luhrs.

In 1913, he practiced medicine with Drs. Wiley and Brockway. He then became company physician for the Shannon

Copper Company in Gleason, Arizona, after first obtaining permission to treat non-company people in the company hospital. He was in Gleason seven years until the mine closed down. While there, he was the doctor for many people in southern Arizona. He would see them at their homes, day or night, just like the old country doctor. When he made a night call, Emma would dress and go with him. Rather than staying with the mining company after it closed, at another location, he became Superintendent of the Cochise County Hospital in 1921. He moved to Tempe, Arizona and practiced in association with Dr. Alexander for one year. He then set up his own practice, alone, until his death, April 4th, 1947. His office was on the southwest corner of Eighth Street and Mill. When they moved to Tempe they rented a house, first on Van Ness and then on the southeast corner of Eighth and McAlister. They later built their own home on the southwest corner of Thirteenth and Mill Avenue.

Dr. Stroud was a strong Republican. He served as Precinct Committeeman and a member of the State Executive Committee. He also was chairman of the State Republican Party, a position he resigned when he went to Europe in 1928. He was master of Tempe Lodge Number 15, F. & A.M. of Tempe. He served as president of the Tempe Rotary Club. He served as president of the Maricopa County Medical Society in 1928; was president of the Cochise Medical Society; was a member of the Arizona State Medical Society and the A.M.A.; delegate from Arizona to the A.M.A. meeting in Atlantic, in 1919; chairman of the State

Committee on Legislation; was the executive for the Tempe District of the Boy Scouts of America. He donated ten days a year as camp doctor at Camp Geronimo; was State Superintendent of Public Health, 1929-31.

Reg was always interested in athletics in high school and in college. He held the Arizona State high school record of two minutes and five seconds for the half mile. At the University of Colorado he ran the half mile in one minute and fifty two seconds. He and Mr. Scales of Tempe were instrumental in building the Olympic size swimming pool at Tempe Beach when the Chamber of Commerce owned and operated the pool. He was A.S.U. Commissioner for Arizona and was instrumental in bringing the Far Western Swimming Meet to Tempe in the early 1930's, drawing all the best United States swimmers at that time. One of his greatest joys was being the team doctor at Arizona State University for many years, donating his time. He was very proud that he was the first "non athlete" to be awarded an "A" jacket.

Dr. Stroud was always interested in music. As a boy, he sang in St. Abay's Boys Choir in Halifax. Later, on special occasions, he sang in various Episcopal choirs. He was a tenor in the Phoenix Orpheus Club and tried never to miss a practice. While a member of the Rotary Club, he never missed a meeting until he took sick. Whenever he went into anything he did so in all earnest and gave it all he had. He and his brother-in-law, George Luhrs, Jr. saw many Tournament of Roses games.

THE "LAST DAYS" OF CARLOS MONTEZUMA, M. D.

R. J. STROUD. M. D.
Tempe, Arizona

As contract physician to the Salt River, Lehi and McDowell Reservations, it fell to my lot to attend Dr. Carlos Montezuma in his last illness.

He had come "home" because he was too ill to work. The white man had civilized him and given him a fine education. It had also given him an implantation of tuberculosis, in his childhood, which after being dormant for years returned in great force to overcome him while still young.

His hogan, built of reeds, was shaped like a beehive with a sharp top, just as his ancestors have made them from time immemorial, the typical Apache "home", flimsy, and easily burned after death as is the custom. The top center had an opening, as large as a stovepipe. The usual canvas "drop" used for a door was added to by a six-foot runway with canvas sides and an extra drop outside—a little "air" of exclusiveness and dignity befitting so great an Apache. It was well away from neighbors.

He was inside. Two top-grain-cowhide suitcases were scattered to one side. He had on a "G" string, the loin-cloth of his ancestors, and a white man's gaudy bathrobe covering only his shoulders and pushed back from his torso to the floor bed, a mattress and springs sent by a Phoenix Masonic Lodge to keep him off the floor, nature's true bed for his people. They wasted their effort. He was content with mother earth. He sat on its edge; his thighs were Indian in contour; as he warmed to his subject in talking he moved forward to squat and gesticulate with his hands. His eyes were extremely bright and he was partially bald, which gave him dignity and a suggestion of a mind superior to the ordinary Apache. He had no medical possessions.

A fire of wood was burning; the smoke filling the wickiup passed out through the hole at the top. The pungent smell of mesquite permeated everything in the hogan—a smell that takes days to leave one's clothing. Dr. Montezuma seemed indifferent to the smoke and odor. I examined him and my eyes were irritated and filled with tears from the smoke.

He had pulmonary tuberculosis. He had come west to his old home in sunny Arizona from Chicago's smoke and dampness and clouded skies to get well—or die. Instead of getting sunshine, clean air and ultra-violet rays he was shut away from all these, breathing acrid smoke from native wood—a complete reversal from his medical training. He had reverted to type. Gone were his white man's ideas of what was fair to Indians; gone was his training as to white man's ways of alleviating tuberculosis. The veneer had vanished. For the first time since babyhood he put off the yoke of civilization and lived as he wished. He said he thought he would die or he would have staid in Chicago. He mentioned the possibility of diabetes but would not provide a specimen for proof. He was not overly thin for an Apache.

He kept up a continuous stream of agitated talk with arm gesticulations concerning nothing in particular, disjointed talk apparently endeavoring to make predictions of something impending.

The next time I saw him he was quieter, more subdued. The fire had left his eyes. Then a few days later word was sent to me that he "had gone". They burned his hogan and trappings.

And so he went "west" as an Apache Indian —native save for a portion of a white man's bed and travelling bags with which he had been content.

(Reprint from SOUTHWESTERN MEDICINE for November, 1937)

Dr. Stroud was a self made man. He started with little, but very wisely invested his earnings, leaving a nice estate upon his death. Emma Luhrs Stroud, his wife, carried on, becoming a very good business woman. She not only protected her husband's estate, but increased it. They both deserve due credit for their business ability.

Emma and Reg Stroud had two children. Their first child was named George Luhrs Stroud. He was born in Phoenix, Arizona, September 29th, 1919 and died of a heart attack March 29th, 1980 in Port Angeles, Washington. He was a language research analyst with the War Department during World War II. He later worked for the Bureau of Fisheries and Wildlife and retired, after 23 years with the Central Intelligence Agency. Luhrs Stroud, as he was called, graduated from Tempe High School and earned his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Stanford University. He was a Mason and a member of the National Cathedral Association and the National Association for the Advancement of Science and Instrumentation Society of America. He was also a member of the Stanford Chapter of Alpha Signa Phi Fraternity and Kene Shrine Tempe of Arlington Virginia. He was a grandson of Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs, early pioneers of Arizona and Phoenix. After his retirement, he lived in Victoria, B.C., Canada, later moving to Bainbridge Island, Washington. It was on the way back from a visit to Victoria that George Luhrs Stroud had his heart attack in Port Angeles. His body was sent to Phoenix, Arizona, cremated and placed in the mausoleum in Greenwood Memorial Park

on west Van Buren Street, Phoenix, Arizona.

George Luhrs Stroud and Lucile Dahlgreen were married April 5th, 1947. They had two children. The first child was a boy, named Nicholas Stroud. He died a few months after birth. His body was sent to Phoenix, Arizona and placed in the mausoleum. Later, when George Luhrs Stroud's body was cremated, his son Nicholas Stroud's body was cremated at the same time and placed next to his father. The second child, a daughter, was named Catharina Luhrs Stroud, born December 9th, 1953, who lives with her mother, when not going to the University of Victoria, B.C., Canada.

The second child of Dr. Reginald and Emma Stroud, was a daughter, named Jean Margaret Stroud, born in Phoenix, Arizona, September 3rd, 1924. She lived in Tempe, graduating from Tempe Grammar School and Tempe High School, being valedictorian of her class. After graduating from Tempe High School, she entered Stanford University. When John Henry Embach entered Stanford University after returning from the service during World War II where he was a Captain in the Air Force, George Luhrs, Jr. told him he had a niece going to Stanford and suggested to John that he look her up. John answered that he was already engaged. John did look up Jean and a romance started. John broke off his engagement with the other girl. Shortly thereafter, John and Jean became engaged. John was in the School of Business Administration and seemed to be having a little trouble. George Luhrs, Jr. wrote to his good friend, Marion Kirkwood, Dean of

the Stanford Law School, asking him to look into the matter. This he did by getting in touch with the Dean of the School of Business Administration. Everything was soon straightened out and John graduated. John Embach and Jean Stroud were married upon September 6th, 1946. They lived in Tempe with Jean's mother. John went to work for the First National Bank of Arizona and was advancing rapidly. When the Korean War started, it affected John. When he got out of the service he did not get a discharge. The government retained the right to recall him if necessary. It happened. The government needed navigators and John's name was drawn, thus calling John Embach back into the service and away from a very promising position. On May 23, 1952, the plane in which John was flying was shot down. John Embach was listed M.I.A. for three years. There were five in the plane, John being the only one not to come out alive. The young navigator who was supposed to be in the rear of the plan was so frightened that John took his place. In the Second World War, John was taken a prisoner early. He escaped once but was recaptured. He was underfed in the German prison camp. John Embach was born March 28th, 1920.

Jean, after the death of her husband, John Embach, returned to Stanford University to study Medical Microbiology in the School of Medicine. She received her B.A. Degree in 1943 and her M.A. in 1953. Jean was a Phi Beta Kappa and graduated with distinction. She was in the Medical School one year, 1945-46, taking a year's leave of absence to marry. She did not go back.

"Yank" Chandler, was a classmate and friend of George Luhrs, Jr., Jean's uncle. Later, Jean studied for a Ph.D and completed everything but the dissertation. John and Jean had no children.

On September 16th, 1961 in Stanford Memorial Church, Jean and Milton Crane were married. Ella Luhrs Taylor and George Luhrs, Jr., Jean's aunt and uncle, attended the wedding. Milton Crane was born in Manhatton, New York City, June 3rd, 1926. Milton Crane was in the Navy during World War II. He received his B.S. from California Polytechnical Institute in Electrical and Electronic Engineering. In 1953 he received his M.A. from Stanford University in Electronic Engineering. Milton and Jean have two adopted children. The first is Matthew Nicholas Crane, born August 9th, 1963. The second is Gretchen Simin Crane, born March 16th, 1967.

George Henry Nicholous Luhrs, Jr. was born June 28th, 1895 in Phoenix, Arizona, in Room D of the Commercial Hotel, later Room 158 of the Hotel Luhrs. Said building was located on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street. George Luhrs, Jr. is still alive as of this writing. He never married and is no longer an eligible bachelor. Many say he married the Luhrs Properties. He has many friends, both male and female. In his younger days, George, Jr. thought a man, before getting married, should be established in business or his profession with an income to support a family. As a matter of fact, he was always so busy he did not have time to think of matrimony.

After receiving his Juris Doctor Degree from Stanford University, George, Jr. took the Arizona State Bar Examination in 1920, passing with the highest grade in the class. He was offered a job as an attache' in the Arizona State Senate, which he accepted. Before the session was over, he was Assistant Secretary of the Senate. This experience was the beginning and end of his political life. George, Jr. then went to work for Armstrong Lewis and Kramer as a young lawyer.

Geo H.N. Luhrs had always dreamed of a ten story building on the southwest corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street. He had borrowed money to send Arthur and George, Jr. to Stanford University. Arthur was doing his part as manager of the hotel, so George, Jr. decided to take a leave of absence from the law firm and try to get the money with which to erect the building of his father's dream. Never did George, Jr. think he would not return to the practice of law, but would spend most of his remaining life developing, managing and always improving the Luhrs Properties so that they were up to date at all times. Nor had he any idea that time would be so consuming that he would not have time for his music and later a family of his own. It turned out that George, Jr. dedicated his life to the Luhrs Properties and in July, 1968, paid off the last indebtedness so that they were free from debts for the first time, dating back to 1890.

As a youth, George, Jr.'s mother taught him a German prayer which he still says every night: "Ich bin klien, mein

herz ist rein, las niemand in wohnen, als Jesus allein." In English it would be, "I am small, my heart is clean, let no one live there except Jesus alone." George, Jr. remembers three whippings his father gave him. One was for going over to the fire station a block away. George, Jr. would stand in front of a fire horse, petting its soft nose, not realizing that if an alarm came in he would be trampled over by the horse. On another occasion the fire department was answering a fire call in west Phoenix. When they got to Central Avenue, they let the reins loose so that the horses would gallup. About that time, Captain Simons noticed George, Jr. on the hook-in-ladder. The fire wagon was stopped and George, Jr. was turned over to his father. George, Jr. says, if he is not an honorary member of the Fire Department, he is an onerous member. Another whipping George, Jr. got was for not picking up a piece of silverware when dropped. To this day, if any silverware is dropped, he immediately picks it up. Geo H.N. Luhrs caught his young son urinating down the back stairs of the hotel. George, Jr. can assure you this has long since stopped.

On the east side of Phoenix, his early friends were the Thalheimer brothers, the Bennett brothers, Frank Luke and John Newcomer. On the west side they were Dix McNeil, Neil Cook, Smith Pickress, Russel Peabody, Lester DeMund and Harry Slocum. George, Jr. would ride his bicycle to where they lived. Dix McNeil and the Bennett brothers were in the first grade with George, Jr. The town ditch ran through the McNeil yard so they

had a nice place to go swimming. Still living as of 1981, are Walter Thalheimer and Neil Cook, although Neil Cook is bed ridden with a stroke. Walter Thalheimer is a year and a half George, Jr.'s senior. George, Jr. has known Walter all of his life, so Walter is George, Jr.'s oldest friend. George, Jr. remembers one time when playing in the Thalheimer's yard they heard a scream. When they looked up they saw a woman running out of the house across the street, on fire, as a human torch.

Ulrich Thalheimer was George, Jr.'s age. He was born on July 4th, or seven days younger. They graduated from high school together, going to Stanford University at the same time and being roommates in Encina Hall the first three years. Walter Thalheimer, Ulrich Thalheimer and George, Jr. belonged to the same eating club at Stanford, known as the Breakers. All members were anti fraternity. In the club were some of the top men at Stanford, both athletically, etc.

George Luhrs, Jr. and Neil Cook have been friends since the fourth grade in grammar school, both being in the same class. George, Jr. remembers one time when he had dinner with Neil, Paul, his brother, and Mrs. Cook, Neil's mother. After the first serving, George, Jr. thought he might like some more. Neil's mother gave him a second helping. It was then that Neil asked his mother for some more scrambled brains. George, Jr. did not like the insides of animals or fowl so he had a terrible time eating it.

George Luhrs, Jr.'s father called him Junge which in English

means young man.

On May 30th, 1900, Edward Eisele, owner of the Phoenix Bakery, now the Holsum Bakery, married Marie Dodenhoff, the youngest sister of Catharina M. Luhrs, in the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs. Marie Dodenhoff came to this country after the death of her mother in Germany. George, Jr. was the ring bearer. When the minister reached to pick up the ring, George, Jr. told him he could not have it for the reason it belonged to his Uncle Edward. After Edward Eisele proposed to Marie Dodenhoff, and she accepted, he did not show up for seven days. When he did, he had the engagement ring. When they returned from their honeymoon, George's Uncle Edward took him home with him one night. George, Jr. had never been away from home so he started crying that he wanted to go home so Uncle Edward had to take him home. In later years, George, Jr. ate Sunday dinner with his Aunt Marie and Uncle Edward regularly.

George, Jr. was a busy body, always doing something. As a youth, he shined shoes. He was in the Arizona Republican subscription contest, also in the Redewill Music Store contest. During the summer, he sold lemonade on the sidewalk in front of the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs. He also swept out the Boston Store, later Diamonds. During high school days, during the summer, he worked in the Phoenix Bakery, now the Holsum Bakery, wrapping bread. He was also a desk clerk at the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs. When in the University, during the summer, he worked for the National Bank of Arizona, the

first summer as a runner, getting $35.00 a month, the second year on the books, for $65.00 a month. In those days there was no air conditioning. There was but one adding machine in the bank and it was operated by hand. When the bank closed at 3:00 p.m. Guy Alsap, a son of the first mayor of Phoenix, would call George, Jr. and give him all the bad checks. George, Jr. would get on his bicycle, riding from Van Buren to Harrison Street and from Seventh Street to Seventh Avenue. He knew where all the business firms were located. He would take all the bad checks to the parties responsible for the bad checks, getting money for them. During the summer months it was a hot job. The second year, George, Jr. was on the books. There were no machines. All entries were made by hand and all additions and subtractions were done by the individual bookkeeper. Two individuals were placed on each set of books. They were called back every evening or morning. It was thought both bookkeepers would not make the same mistake.

George, Jr. had asked his folks if he might learn to play the violin. At 7:00 a.m., the morning of June 28th, 1906, there was a knock on the door. George, Jr. answered it. When the door was opened, Mr. Fountain asked, "are you ready to take your lesson, George?" George, Jr. was eleven years of age. He was very much interested and at times would practice four and five hours and it was not long before he was playing well.

George, Jr. had a tenor voice and took lessons from

Maitland Davies. As a boy he sang in the Episcopal Church Boys' Choir. The church was located on the west side of South Second Avenue between Washington Street and Jefferson Street. At that time, Dean Atwood conducted the services. When he became Bishop, Dean Scarlet held the services. Dean Scarlet was very well liked by everyone and later became the Bishop of Missouri. He married Arthur, Ella and Emma. He baptized George, Jr.

Mr. Fountain organized a band made up of young men in Grammar School. They were called the Red Birds. In addition to playing locally, they made a trip to Prescott, playing in the Elks Opera House. George, Jr. played an E flat clarinet. He knew Hearts and Flowers by heart. Avery Corpstein did not know this. One time when they were playing Hearts and Flowers, George, Jr. had his music upside down. Avery told George, Jr. his music was upside down.

In George, Jr.'s senior year (1914) in Phoenix Union High School, he won the song contest and went on to the University of Arizona to win the Interscholastic singing contest. At Stanford University he was a tenor in the Glee Club, the entire time he was in the University, being president in 1919-20. In 1915 the Glee Club went to Honolulu for the Christmas Holidays. The trip was made on the Great Northern, the Club giving concerts on the way over and back. They also sang in the Royal Hawaiian Theatre. They also visited Hilo. It was a trip none of the members ever forgot. George, Jr. loved his music so much, at

one time he thought of going on with it instead of going to the university. He liked the violin and gave lessons. He regretted many times he did not learn to play the piano, for then he could have played the piano and sung at the same time.

While at Stanford University, he went to visit Lester DeMund, one of his Phoenix friends, who was going to the University of California. Lester took George, Jr. to the Bicknell home, where he met Vera, who was in the first grade with him in Phoenix. Vera played the piano. They got to be good friends. George, Jr. would visit Vera in Berkeley and they enjoyed playing the piano and singing. George, Jr. had Vera down for many of his fraternity dances at Stanford University.

George, Jr. was very sorry that the business took so much of his time that he had no time left for his music or himself and his entire life was changed. He started something and he remembered his father telling him, "if you start something, finish it."

In grammar school, Cynthia Marlar and George, Jr. had a continuous, friendly contest for ranking first in the class. Cynthis was a very fine girl. When Ella Luhrs was in the fifth grade, she had Margaret Williams as her teacher. Ella took her baby brother, George, Jr. to class. Miss Williams had Ella take George, Jr. home for the reason he was making too much disturbance. It happened when George, Jr. was in the fifth grade, he too had Margaret Williams as his teacher. Miss Williams ranked George,

Jr. number one in the class. When George, Jr. was in the fourth grade, they did not have the first four grades at Center Street School so he went to the West End School, which was on the block bound by Madison and Jackson Streets and Fifth and Sixth Avenues. It was there George, Jr. met Neil Cook. After six weeks, the class was moved to Center Street School so George, Jr. had all of his grammar schooling at Center Street School, except six weeks. Neil Cook and George, Jr. went through the rest of Grammar School and High School together. Neil had a stroke several years ago and is bed ridden. George, Jr. tries to see Neil as often as possible, but since breaking his hip and no longer driving an automobile, it is not as often as previous.

George, Jr. played a violin solo, "Cavatina" at the Grammar School graduation exercise of his class, June 2nd, 1910 at the Elks Opera House, which was originally the Dorris Opera House on the north side of Washington Street between Third and Fourth Avenues. George, Jr. was a member of the first Boy Scouts in Phoenix, Arizona in 1911, made up mainly of his friends, including his close friend, Harry Slocum. They used to say where you see one you will see the other. When George, Jr. went to Stanford, Harry went to Annapolis. Harry retired as a Rear Admiral. He died December 29th, 1980. While Harry was alive they kept in touch with each other by letter, telephone, or through his daughter, Nancy, who visits in Phoenix about once a year.

One of the hikes taken by the Boy Scouts was to Granite Reef Dam by bicycle. The path was along the bank of the canal.

It took all day to get to the dam, where the group stayed overnight, returning to Phoenix the next day. George, Jr. liked athletics of all kinds. In his early years, he played tennis with Neil and Paul Cook on the court they had on their property; also with Smith Pickrell on the court on the Pickrell home. Basketball was played at the Y.M.C.A. When a junior at Phoenix Union High School, George, Jr. went out for track, running the 440 yards and the third lap in the mile relay. He was captain his senior year. He would like to have played football, but Arthur had broken his arm in one of the games, putting a stop to playing football.

George, Jr. had the lead in the high school play (1914) "Country Boys in College." Helen O'Malley played opposite him. He became rather interested in her and saw her often until he went away to the university.

Neil Cook was the editor of the 1914 high school year book. Harry Slocum and George, Jr. were the business managers. George, Jr. was Salutatorian of his high school graduation class, May 22, 1914 in the school auditorium. At Stanford, which at that time had about two thousand students (1500 boys and 500 girls), he knew a large percentage of the boys. They had a very nice tradition, in that everyone spoke to each other and gradually you became acquainted. Each class had their distinctive dress. The freshmen wore a very small circular gray cap that fit on the very top of their heads. The sophomores wore a red slouch hat with a gray hat band. The juniors wore corduroys,

the dirtier the better. The senior dress was corduroys, with a sombrero and a leather hat band with the class numeral thereon. A graduate or hold-over was the same as a senior except that the leather hat band was not worn. With George, Jr., the following high school classmates went to Stanford University: Ulrich Thalheimer, John Newcomer, Jim Coman, Tucker Pinney, Garnet McCaleb and Russel Peabody. George, Jr. roomed with Ulrich Thalheimer the first three years, in Encina Hall, where Arthur Luhrs lived when he went to Stanford University (1904-1909). George, Jr. believes, as of 1983, he is the only one living of the six who went from Phoenix Union High School to Stanford University, with him. Lester DeMund, who was a good friend of George, Jr., wanted to study architecture. He went to the University of California for the reason Stanford had no such course. Lester is not living either.

When Arthur Luhrs and George, Jr. went to Stanford, there was no tuition. George, Jr.'s annual expenses were around five hundred dollars a year, including railroad transportation from Phoenix to Stanford and from Stanford to Phoenix. He has a little book showing what he spent. An accounting was made each month to his folks. He belonged to the Breakers Eating Club. Their meals were very reasonable, about twenty-two dollars a month. A double room, in Encina Hall, was about six dollars a month per person.

In George, Jr.'s sophomore year in Phoenix Union High School, he was taking medieval and modern history from Miss Culver.

The Newcomer family had just arrived in Phoenix from Riverside, California. John, the son, had just enrolled in Phoenix Union High School. He reported to Miss Culver's class and was assigned to the seat in front of George, Jr. As time went on, George, Jr. and John Newcomer gradually became better and better acquainted. Before the end of the year they were very good friends. When George, Jr. decided to go to Stanford University, John decided to go too. He made the trip from Los Angeles to Stanford with the Luhrs'. After the second year at Stanford, John decided to go to the U.S. C. Dental School, from which he graduated. He practiced in Douglas, Arizona for several years. He then moved up to Phoenix to work under Dr. Charles Tweed, one of the best orthodontias. Dr. Charles Tweed also went to Phoenix Union High School. John and his family spent the summer in Prescott. John was making a trip to Phoenix to be with his family over the weekend. Going around a curve in the mountain he hit head on a car going the opposite direction. Unfortunately, John was killed. From the sophomore year in high school when they first met, an everlasting friendship started. As far as George, Jr. is concerned, it was a very sad day. His feelings for John will never change.

George, Jr., as previously mentioned, was a member of the Stanford University Glee Club the entire time he was at Stanford, being president in 1919-20. He was chief varsity yell leader 1917-1918. He jointed the Stanford Chapter of the Delta Chi Fraternity, October 19th, 1917, being president in 1918.

He represented the fraternity at the National Convention in Minneapolis in 1919. Two of his close friends, Leonard Saxton Lyon and Frederic Thomas Shipp were fraternity brothers. Leonard Saxton Lyon was one of the outstanding patent attorneys in the world. He died in Los Angeles, August 13th, 1964. He would meet George, Jr. on New Years morning at the railroad station and take him to the Rose Bowl football game. In those days the train left Phoenix in the evening, arriving in Los Angeles at seven in the morning. Then the train (the Lark) left Los Angeles at night for San Francisco. Once or twice, Leonard had been out all night celebrating the New Year. He would be in his full dress suit when he met George at the railroad station.

Frederic Thomas Shipp was one of George Luhrs' roommates in the fraternity. He decided to work for Sherwood Eddy traveling over much of the Middle East. When George, Jr. returned, after New Years, 1920, he found his roommate gone. Everyone in the fraternity knew it except George, Jr., Fred having failed to have said anything to him. George, Jr. has never forgotten it. George, Jr. has some very interesting letters written by Fred in the Middle East and sent to him. He also has a Korean dagger, used by George, Jr. for a letter opener. All of this was before there was any thought of a Korean war. Fred lives in Walnut Creek, California. He had a stroke but is doing nicely. He can now play six holes of golf.

Another close friend of George, Jr. was Myron Claude

Higby. Myron belonged to the Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity at Stanford University. He died February 23, 1979 in Los Angeles, California. Myron belonged to the Stanford University Glee Club. In 1919-20, when George, Jr. was president, the Glee Club went to Los Angeles. Myron made the trip too. Myron was a very fine piano player. In 1921, Myron and George, Jr. toured much of the United States and Canada. On July 24th, 1921, Myron was twenty-one years old so they celebrated by having dinner at Del Monico's. Myron and George, Jr. each had four hundred dollars to make the trip. They saw all of the good shows of the time from second balcony seats. They only ate two meals a day, going to all the nice places at night. They thought $11.00 for the meal at Del Monico's was too high, but it was Myron's twenty-first birthday.

When George, Jr. became twenty-one, June 28th, 1916, he joined the Masonic Lodge. He was initiated August 4th, 1916; Passed August 11, 1916 and Raised August 15th, 1916, to become a member of the Masonic Lodge number two, of which his father was a member and the first individual to be raised to a Master Mason in said lodge. As of 1983, George, Jr. has been a member of Arizona Lodge #2 F.&A.M. for sixty seven years. George, Jr. became a Scottish Rite Mason and also joined the Shrine. He belonged to the Shrine Patrol, going to several conventions. He was also a member of the saxophone band. There were twelve players on the saxophone band. In the parade, at one of the conventions, the saxophone band was placed between two one hundred piece bands. No one could hear a note from the saxophone band.

They became known as the noiseless band. George, Jr., with several others, were taught Indian dances. When the convention was in San Francisco, the Indian dancers, wearing nothing but a "G" string, performed in the lobbies of the best hotels.

George, Jr. was president of the Phoenix Stanford Club. When Herbert C. Hoover and his wife visited Phoenix, George, Jr. invited Mr. and Mrs. Hoover to stay with the Luhrs' at the Commercial Hotel and be the guests of the Phoenix Stanford Club at a dinner in the evening. George, Jr. arranged for a band to be present at the railroad station on South Central Avenue and Harrison Street and play "Come Join the Band", a Stanford song. George, Jr. drove Mr. and Mrs. Hoover to the hotel and saw they were well taken care of in Suites A & B. People packed the streets around the hotel to see Herbert C. Hoover and his wife. After their departure, George, Jr. received a note from Mrs. Hoover thanking him for the grapefruit, and from Herbert C. Hoover thanking him for his hospitality. From the time George, Jr. entered Stanford University, Herbert C. Hoover was a very outstanding man, and unknowingly had something to do to mold his life. George, Jr. had heard David Star Jordan, the first president of Stanford University, speak of Herbert C. Hoover many times and when David Star Jordan was a guest of the hotel, George, Jr. had the opportunity to gain a lot of information about Herbert C. Hoover.

At present, George, Jr. is the oldest in the length of membership, in the Arizona Club. When he played golf, he belonged

to the Arizona Country Club, but later gave up his membership. He was a director of the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce. That was before Phoenix started to mushroom. George, Jr. preferred gradual growth and was not anxious to see it become a large wicked city, sprawled over a large part of the county, destroying much of the desert, eliminating much of the agriculture and the citrus land. He was a charter member of the Building Owners and Managers Association of Phoenix and its president for one year. He was a charter member of the Phoenix Lion's Club but resigned for the reason that he had to be around the Luhrs Building during the noon rush hour. He was a member of the Downtown Development Association from its beginning and named "Mr. Downtowner" in 1972. He was also a charter member of the Civic Plaza Association.

George, Jr. liked people and had many friends whom he liked and who liked him. In the operation of the Luhrs Properties, the tenants were his friends and he was theirs. A tenant and landlord atmosphere never existed. Even today former tenants stop him whenever he is seen telling how much they miss him and wish he was still in charge of the Luhrs Properties. Service, realistic rents and keeping the buildings modern and up to date at all times was the code of the Luhrs Properties.

In High School, in the University and in business, George, Jr. was proud of the great number of friends he had and those who liked him. He was so busy in different activities, he had little time for social affairs and the ladies. He liked them all, and with the exception of a short flare with Helen O'Malley in high

school in Phoenix, Arizona, he never dated anyone steady. Vera Bicknell was in the first grade with George, Jr. and at that time he thought she was very nice. The Bicknells left Phoenix at the end of Vera's first grade going to Berkeley, California. While George, Jr. was at Stanford University, he again met Vera who was going to the University of California. Vera played the piano so George would visit her at the Bicknell home, Vera playing the piano and George, Jr. singing. George, Jr. had Vera down for his fraternity dances at Stanford. George, Jr. always thought a great deal of Vera and he liked her much, but never got serious. He seemed to always be tied up in studies, the Arizona Bar examination, getting money to improve the Luhrs Properties and operating the same. George, Jr. always thought, before a man married, he should have an income to support a family. Time passed and Vera got married. Vera came to Phoenix and visited Marian Dorris. George took Vera to the railroad station. It was then that Vera asked George, Jr. when he was going to get married. His reply was, "how can I, you are married." That was the last time they saw each other. Many times George, Jr. wondered if he had made a mistake for Vera was a fine young lady and any man would be lucky to have her as his wife. George remembers the saying, "Man thinks and God acts." He sometimes thinks he was better off single for with the hours he spent developing the Luhrs Properties and the paying off of the indebtedness, he would not have had time for a wife or family. George, Jr. has always hoped Vera had a very happy married life. Such is life. Let's say

George, Jr. married the Luhrs Building and the other structures are the offsprings. At any rate, George, Jr. says he is no longer an eligible bachelor.

In the early days, Phoenix was wide open. There was gambling in the saloons, until it was stopped in 1907. The segregated district was located on south Seventh Street and the railroad tracks by the Arizona and Wastern Station. When the district was done away with, it spread all over the town.

It was not uncommon to see a Chinese funeral parade west on Washington Street pass Center and Washington with a band leading the procession and a wagon carrying food bringing up the rear. For many years China Town was located on the southeast corner of Madison Street and First Street. On the Fourth of July many people bought fireworks from the store on the corner. Phoenix had several restaurants run by Chinese. At one time the Garden City Restaurant was located on the north side of Washington Street between Center Street and First Street. The English Kitchen was located on the northwest corner of First Street and Adams Street. Sings, a very popular place for many years, was on the east side of Central Avenue, between Washington Street and Adams Street. The five Gass brothers started and operated for a long time, the Gass Brothers Chop House, which was open day and night, seven days a week. It was located on the east side of Central Avenue on the south side of the alley, running east and west between Central Avenue and First Street.

In 1911, they began paving the streets in Phoenix. The

first pavement being on South Central Avenue, beginning at Jefferson Street in front of what was the Commercial Hotel and later the Hotel Luhrs. The Luhrs' were always among the first for anything that was for the betterment of Phoenix.

In 1912, Geo H.N. Luhrs and his wife, Catharina M. "Gretchen" Luhrs secured a loan for $60,000.00 at 7% from the Phoenix Savings Bank & Trust Company. This was a saving of interest. Phoenix was growing a little and the hotel business was a little better. With Arthur Luhrs managing the hotel, Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs were able to take it a little easier.

In the Fall of 1913, Geo H.N. Luhrs bought the family its first automobile. It was a seven passenger Cadillac and what a wonderful car it was. It was a canary yellow, so everyone knew where they were. The tires carried 100 pounds pressure and were much higher in height than those of today. The car was equipped with an air compressor to pump up the tires when needed. On a flat road, with the machine running in high, one could push a lever with his hand and put in the clutch, making the car run more smoothly as if it had more cylinders and also using less gas. The Luhrs' had no place to keep the car so Bill Horrell, the Cadillac agent, gave them a key and let them park the car at his place of business, which was on the southeast corner of Central Avenue and Fillmore Street. Thus, when they wanted the car, they had to walk from the Commercial Hotel at Central Avenue and Jefferson Street to Central Avenue and Fillmore, a distance of

eight blocks, and when putting the car up, the distance in reverse.

The Luhrs' usually went on a picnic every Sunday afternoon, taking friends with them every time. Geo H.N. Luhrs would often take his accordian and play it.

In view of the fact that George, Jr. was going to enter Stanford University in late August, 1914, the Luhrs' decided to drive the Cadillac over to California, spending several weeks at Ocean Park, a beach near Los Angeles, and then drive up to San Francisco to take in the Panama-Pacific Exposition. In 1913, roads were trails and the service stations far apart. The Luhrs' thought they should have someone who knew the mechanics of an automobile. Roger Hunt, a friend of the family, agreed to drive the Cadillac over and back. In those days, automobiles had running boards. Sides were put on the running boards to carry extra gasoline, oil, water and anything necessary. The sides of the car were covered with canvas so that the desert brush and foliage could not scratch the paint. Being their first car, they took every precaution. All roads were dirt, with high centers, ruts and chuck holes. They were really wagon trails, winding here and there. Besides Roger Hunt, the driver, was Geo H.N. Luhrs, Catharina M. Luhrs, Ella Luhrs, Emma Luhrs and George Luhrs, Jr. It took all the first day to go to Prescott. Getting into a summer storm, the roads were very muddy. The car got stuck a couple of times but with the direction of the driver, a lot of pushing and digging, they made it. The car was very dirty, so Ella Luhrs and George Luhrs, Jr. washed it.

The next day they got to the Grand Canyon where they stayed until they took in all of the sites, including going down into the canyon by mules to the Colorado River and back. They drove around the rim of the canyon but were stopped by guards who told them they could not do so. The next part of the trip was to Needles. There was only the railroad bridge across the Colorado River so they had to put the Cadillac on a flat car and wait for the train, which hooked on the flat car, taking it across the river. Reaching the California side of the river, the flat car was unhooked, the Cadillac was taken off and the journey continued.

In the middle of the California desert, between Needles and Victorville, there were no service stations. On this stretch of desert, the Luhrs' ran out of water. Not only did they run out of water for their automobile, but they had no drinking water either and the Luhrs' were thirsty. The hot summer weather made it worse. They would travel a short distance and stop to give the motor a chance to cool off a little. Believe it or not, they found a canvas water bag in the middle of the road, lost by another car. All of the water went into the car radiator. When they reached Victorville, the radiator of the Cadillac was filled first before any of the party had any water to drink. On the return trip later on, the Luhrs' lost a canvas bag of water at about the same place.

From Victorville they went on to Los Angeles and then on to the beach, where they stayed several weeks. In the meantime,

they asked the California Automobile Association about the roads to San Francisco. They were told not to drive the automobile from Los Angeles to San Francisco for the reason that an automobile could not get through. California was building the road and it was closed. At the time, the Harvard and the Yale steamships made overnight trips between Los Angeles and San Francisco, one going one direction and the other the other direction. The Luhrs' made the trip on one of these boats and all arrived in San Francisco. An apartment was rented by the Luhrs'. Much time was spent at the Worlds Fair.

John Newcomer, one of George, Jr.'s friends from Phoenix, who was also going to enter Stanford University, joined the Luhrs'. When time came to register at Stanford University, Mr. and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs, Ella Luhrs and Emma Luhrs moved to Palo Alto for a week and had George, Jr. and John Newcomer stay with them. During that period, one of the fraternities asked George, Jr. to spend the night with them but George, Jr., being a green small town boy, did not go because he thought he should stay with his folks, and also they did not ask John Newcomer.

George, Jr. had been seeing the men of the fraternity during the day time and had been with their freshmen during the rushes. He liked them very much and thought they liked him. As a matter of fact, "Chick" Orme of Phoenix, and "Baldy" Green had looked up George, Jr. in Phoenix and talked with him earlier in the summer. George, Jr., after becoming acquainted with university life, always felt he might have been asked to

join the fraternity if he had spent the night with them. He was always a good friend of those in the fraternity and was with them many times, even being asked to join them on the boat they rented for the crew races. However, they never asked him to join.

In George, Jr.'s senior year, he joined the Delta Chi Fraternity and was glad that things turned out the way they did. For three years he lived in Encina Hall, as a non fraternity man and ate at the Breakers Club, having as its members some of the best athletes and men on the campus. George, Jr.'s good friend, Leonard Lyon, had joined the Delta Chi Fraternity and he was glad to be in the same fraternity with him. Also, as the saying goes, "Man thinks and God Acts."

During the first week when George, Jr. was a freshman, Geo H.N. Luhrs, Catharina M. Luhrs, Ella Luhrs and Emma Luhrs decorated and fixed up George, Jr.'s room in Encina Hall, which he shared with Ulrich Thalheimer. After completing the decorating and getting the room in order, Geo H.N. Luhrs, Catharina M. Luhrs, Ella Luhrs and Emma Luhrs went back to San Francisco for a few weeks. George, Jr. would go up to San Francisco and spend the weekends with his folks until they left to go back to Phoenix. They took the steamer from San Francisco to Los Angeles, where they picked up Roger Hunt and the Cadillac. They returned by way of Needles, the same route they had taken coming over earlier. They lost their canvas bag of water almost at the same spot they found one coming over. When they got to Needles they had

missed the train which was to have taken the Cadillac across the Colorado River on a flat car as had been done when they previously crossed. Instead of waiting for the next train, Roger Hunt suggested he cross the bridge with the Cadillac wheels straddling the rails. The nuts on the bolts, which tie the rails together tore off all of the rubber on the tires. The Luhrs had to wire Phoenix for all new tires which were shipped on the first train. When they arrived, the new tires were put on the wheels, thus letting the Luhrs finish their trip and finally get back to Phoenix.

The southern route from Arizona to California was by way of Yuma, known as the planked road. The sand dunes were so heavy in California, west of Yuma, they had to build a plank road on top of the sand. The road was just wide enough for one car with space wide enough for two cars every so often. Thus if two cars met going in opposite directions, one car would have to back up to where the road was wide enough for two. If anyone got off the plank road, that person was in trouble. At present, the new highway has done away with the planked road.

Between Yuma and Needles is Blythe, another place to cross the Colorado River, with Arizona on one side and California on the other. Geo H.N. Luhrs, Ella Luhrs, Emma Thalheimer, George, Jr. and his cousin Lloyd Eisele took this route to go from Phoenix to Los Angeles. They checked in at the hotel in Blythe to spend the night. It was a very hot night so George, Jr. and Lloyd Eisele decided to sleep on the porch. The next

morning, when they went into the room, the entire ceiling had fallen down. Lucky they slept out on the porch.

In 1913, Joe Dalton was a day clerk at the Commercial Hotel. He would put on quite a front before the guests, which they seemed to like. Bonillas was the houseman, during the early days. When he left, Ramon took over. Mrs. Burson did a lot of sewing for Mrs. Catharina M. Luhrs.

In 1914, N. Porter Harness Company, who were located on the north side of Washington Street between Central Avenue and First Avenue asked Geo H.N. Luhrs to build a place for them on the west side of Central Avenue on the south side of the alley between Jefferson Street and Madison Street. The structure was to be fifty by one hundred feet, facing Central Avenue. There was also to be a full basement. Geo H.N. Luhrs got in touch with T.B. Stewart, a contractor, who talked Geo H.N. Luhrs into erecting a building one hundred thirty seven and a half feet upon Central Avenue and one hundred feet in depth on Madison Street, said structure to be at least five stores, with a full basement. It was to be a hotel. Mr. Saliam Ackel was building a six story hotel on the southeast corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street, said building being fifty feet upon Jefferson Street and one hundred thirty-seven and a half feet upon Central Avenue.

Pratt Gilbert was erecting a building on the southwest corner of Central Avenue and Madison Street, being one hundred thirty-seven and a half feet upon Central Avenue and one hundred feet upon Madison Street. The building was to have been two

stories and full basement. However, only the first floor and basement was built. In building the structure, they planned to pour all walls, flat on the ground and raise them into place. The cost was so much more than had been figured they were only able to build the one story and basement.

Things were looking very good for that part of the downtown. The building that T. B. Stewart proposed was to be very fine, comparable to what was being done in Los Angeles. It was being built on day labor. The frame work was reinforced concrete, the pan system being used for the floors. The exterior had granite columns about three feet in height, with terra cota above that to the second floor window level. Glazed bricks were used above the terra cota. The bricks and the terra cota were to match. During the course of construction, Geo H.N. Luhrs heard one of the workmen complaining, to which Geo H.N. Luhrs replied, "Young man you have the same opportunities I had."

The United States had entered into the First World War and had started disrupting everything and upsetting all plans. Mr. Ackel finished his building and opened his hotel, called the Jefferson. Pratt and Gilbert completed the first floor and basement and moved in. Originally, Pratt & Gilbert sold wagons but had gone into the hardware business. Geo H.N. Luhrs had to stop building. After pouring the third floor slab, over which a temporary roof was built. The exterior of the structure was finished up to the temporary roof, but nothing was done to the interior, except for N. Porter's portion, which was entirely

finished.

1916 was an eventful year for the Luhrs family. Emma Luhrs was married to Dr. Reginald James Stroud, M.D., on June 16, 1916. They were returning from their honeymoon the night of June 28th, 1916. George, Jr. was celebrating his twenty first birthday on June 28th, 1916 too. After dinner, George, Jr. and his sister Ella had taken Reg's car and tied cans to it. They were driving south on First Avenue, crossing Jefferson Street, on their way to the Santa Fe Depot, located on the northeast corner of First Avenue and Jackson Street, to meet the incoming train upon which was Dr. and Mrs. R.J. Stroud, when they heard the fire department coming west on Jefferson Street from the fire station located a block east of the Commercial Hotel. They immediately saw that the hotel was on fire, with the flames shooting high into the sky. When the Strouds reached Glendale, Arizona, they could see the flames. They were told it was the Commercial Hotel. George, Jr. and his sister Ella returned immediately to the hotel to be certain their folks and others were out of the hotel and to help remove a few belongings. Arthur Luhrs was also on the job seeing that everyone was out. Arthur received a slight burn. George, Jr. went through the hotel closing all hall doors which helped to confine the fire to the court rooms. The fire started in the court on the second floor. It might have been better if the fire had destroyed the entire hotel and insurance would have been collected for a total loss, making it possible to build a new hotel.

T. B. Stewart, the contractor, got together with the fire adjuster and settled for Thirty Thousand Dollars. When it came time to replace the damage, the City Building Department condemned much for which the Fire Insurance Company and T.B. Stewart had not figured as a loss. As a matter of fact, the City Building Department required a lot torn out that the adjuster and T. B. Stewart said was alright. Before reopening the hotel again upon February 10th, 1917. Ninety Thousand Dollars had been spent on the hotel. All that sum could not be figured as fire replacement for the reason that many changes and improvements had been made to make the hotel modern, such as providing hot and cold water to each room, creating a number of rooms with private bath or shower, installing a central steam heat system for the entire building, putting in an elevator, and hanging new electric light fixtures, etc. As a matter of fact, the entire inside of the hotel was refurbished and modernized so that when it reopened upon February 10th, 1917, it was able to meet the competition of the time. Nothing was done to the exterior of the hotel which had not been damaged.

The re-opening date, February 10th, 1917, was also the wedding anniversary date of Mr. and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs. The City of Phoenix Fire Department had received a new fire engine and were going to try it out on June 29th, 1916, but they tested it out on the Commercial Hotel the night before. In addition to the fire loss, there was much water and smoke damage. It was a terrible shock to the entire Luhrs family. They were

without a home. For a few days they stayed with the Edward Eisele's, whose home was located on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Coronado. Mrs. Eisele was the youngest sister of Catharina M. Luhrs. After staying with the Eisele's, the Luhrs' rented the Barringer home which was located on the southwest corner of Central Avenue and McKinley. The Barringer home, at that time, could have been purchased for $10,000.00. With all of the money needed to fix up the hotel, the Luhrs' could not afford to buy it. They stayed in the Barringer home until they moved back to the hotel.

Shortly after the fire, Dr. and Mrs. Stroud left for Gleason, Arizona, where he was practicing medicine. George, Jr. had to return to Stanford University, as a junior, when the Fall semester opened. Thus, the great load of overseeing the work at the hotel was left to Mr. & Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs, Arthur Luhrs and Ella Luhrs. There were times that Geo H.N. Luhrs was ready to give up but his wife Catharina M. Luhrs would not let him and as always was with him all the way. If ever a man's wife was a true partner she was Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs, the wife of Geo H. N. Luhrs. Mrs. Luhrs did not know what the word "quit" meant. All credit belongs to each equally. Their close partnership, working and sticking together, carried them through thick and thin where many others would have failed and fallen by the wayside. After opening, business was good. Arthur Luhrs was doing a good job as manager of the hotel.

Martin Kales, from whom Geo H.N. Luhrs borrowed money,

in the early days, opened the Bank of Arizona in Prescott in 1877. He had with him Sol Lewis. In 1870, Kales and Lewis opened up a branch of the Bank of Arizona in Phoenix. In 1884 they opened a small cubical on East Washington Street about fifty feet east of Center Street, now Central Avenue. Later they got a charter from the government to operate as the National Bank of Arizona, having their banking quarters in the Cotton Block, on the southeast corner of Center Street and Washington Street. In 1910 the Cotton Block was torn down and the four story National Bank of Arizona building was built on the southeast corner of Central Avenue and Washington Street. In 1926, the name was changed to First National Bank of Arizona.

In 1937, Transamerica bought out the First National Bank of Arizona, the Phoenix National Bank and the Phoenix Saving Bank and Trust Company, calling all the First National Bank of Arizona. In 1956, the First National Bank of Arizona built a nine story, main office building on the block bounded by Central Avenue, First Street, Polk Street and Taylor Street, which was later sold to the Arizona Public Service Co., after the First National Bank of Arizona opened their present building in 1971, bound by Washington Street, Adams Street, First Avenue and Second Avenue. In 1963, the four story building on the southeast corner of Central Avenue and Washington Street was torn down and replaced with a one story building, occupied by the Civic Plaza Branch of the First National Bank of Arizona. As of the year 1981, all First National Bank of Arizona changed their names to

First Interstate Bank of Arizona, N. A.

George, Jr. recalls a trip taken by the family in 1913 in the new Cadillac to Castle Hot Springs. Everyone enjoyed themselves but it makes George, Jr. shiver in his boots whenever he thinks of the speed he was going, driving the car down the mountains and around the curves.

A racing automobile was stored in the adobe shop on Madison Street. George, Jr. took it out and drove it north on Central Avenue to Adams Street, then west to First Avenue where he turned south to Madison. About the time he was going to cross Central Avenue and Washington, he found out the car had no brakes. He was scared stiff. Fortunately, the car was going very, very slow. Phoenix being small and few people on the street, George, Jr. managed to get the car back to the adobe shop without huring anyone or hitting anything. He personally was sweating.

Many times the Salt River had overflowed its banks, flooding the land adjacent to it, causing great damages and hardships. As a matter of fact, prior to the flood of 1891, everything was south of Washington Street. It was the flood of 1891 that made the people move to the north side of the valley. Before there was any thought or talks of freeways, George, Jr. suggested that the Salt River be dredged, from Granite Reef Dam to a point near the Gillespie Dam. The dredged dirt was to be used to build up the banks. On the built up banks, on each side of the river, highways were to be built, one running east and the

other running west. The costs in those days was very much less than today. It would have accomplished three things, namely: flood control, an east and west highway, and make provisions for water sports.

The first shopping center in Phoenix was built by Leon Jacobs. It is on the northeast corner of Seventh Street and Roosevelt Street. It is still there. Although not large, it had the shopping center idea.

The hotel had a porter, whose name has been forgotten, who was very much in love with the girl elevator operator. She wanted nothing to do with him. One day, he was in the basement and rang for the elevator. When she came down and opened the elevator door, he shot and killed her.

In 1917, Billy Salter started working as a desk clerk in the Commercial Hotel. He was very much interested in music and musicians and got many of them to stay at the hotel. In 1921, he left to work for Gene Campbell, in his hotel at Gallup, New Mexico. Martin N. Nelson took his place and was with the hotel for many years. Milton O'Sullivan was also a desk clerk for the hotel. He was very unfortunate. In later years he had to have both of his legs amputated. Fred Warren worked for the hotel as a porter for many years. He was very good to his children, giving them a good education. One of his sons was on the City of Phoenix Council and also went to Stanford University.

Dr. R. J. Stroud, the husband of Emma Luhrs, was very much interested in politics. He made the statement that those

who could afford to have children were not having them, while those who could not afford to have children were having them. Let this continue for several generations and before you know it those who could not afford to have children will be in the majority and be electing their candidates.

On one of the Luhrs family Sunday picnics, this one being in the south mountains, before the City acquired it as a park, a beautiful location was spotted for a resort hotel. Taking the road into the south mountains, one comes to a level area upon which a resort hotel could be built, which would overlook the entire valley. The golf course, swimming pools and tennis courts could be just below and visible to the guests of the hotel. The south mountains would be ideal for hikes and horseback rides. The Luhrs' were never in a position to do it but maybe, some day, someone may make it a reality. All of the present resort hotels are on level land and there is no view to be seen from the hotel.

There were three McArthur Brothers, namely Warren, Charles and Albert Chase. Albert Chase McArthur was an architect. He had studied under Harold Lloyd Wright. The McArthur Brothers built the Arizona Biltmore Hotel and Albert Chase McArthur was the architect. Geo H.N. Luhrs gave his children two shares each of the Biltmore Hotel stock. Unfortunately, the hard times created by the depression forced the sale of the Arizona Biltmore Hotel to Mr. Wrigley. The original stockholders were out. The McArthur Brothers deserve a lot of credit for what they did. If

the depression had not come along, they most likely would have been able to carry on. The McArthur Brothers were tenants of the Luhrs' when they had the Dodge Agency. They were fine people, as a matter of fact they were TOPS.

In 1917, the United States of America entered the World War. "Cap" Taylor, the husband of Ella Luhrs, was supply officer of the Arizona National Guard. They were sent to Camp Kearney, located near San Diego, California. Later they became known as the 158th Infantry. Upon December 25th, 1917, Ella Luhrs married "Cap" Taylor. After they were married, Ella spent most of her time in San Diego so she could be near "Cap" and spend the weekends with him, until time came for him to go overseas. He was sent to France. After the war, he returned to his business in Phoenix, Arizona.

George, Jr. signed up in the draft, but because he had had trouble with the arch of one foot, he was temporarily deferred. He returned to Stanford University, hoping to graduate before being called into the service. He joined the Stanford Chapter of the Delta Chi Fraternity October 19, 1917, of which he later became "A", or head of the house. He joined the Stanford R.O.T.C. (Reserve Officers Training Camp), drilling and training regularly. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree, April 5th, 1918 from Stanford University, which was a quarter ahead of schedule. Upon May 10th, 1918, he got notice that he had been accepted for the Fourth Officers Training Camp. On May 15th, 1918, he and seven of his Stanford classmates walked over to Camp Freemont, which was located adjoining Stanford

University at Menlo Park, California. They were enlisted as privates in the infantry of the 8th Division. They were immediately assigned to the Fourth Officers Training Camp for three months of intensive military training. Each week, the number of trainees in the Fourth Officers Training Camp was reduced by those not making the grade. Those released were said to have been "Benzined". That meant they were returned to the unit from which they came. Thus one who enlisted as a private, if "Benzined", would return as a private. That was something to worry about, and an incentive to study and work hard.

George, Jr. met Donald McEachron, in the Fourth Officers Training Camp. He came from Washington State University. They were in the same tent with three others. George, Jr. and Donald got to be good friends. Now and then, if they did not like the food in the mess hall they would go to the eating place on the camp where visitors ate. During training, the trainees were off from Saturday noon until Sunday six p.m. By the end of the week everyone was really tired. George, Jr. would take a bus to Stanford, going to the Delta Chi Fraternity House where his father, mother and sister Ella stayed. While he was there, most of his time, outside of eating, was spent sleeping and resting. At the time, it never occurred to him to ask Donald to come with him. Today, he would. Donald stayed in camp, practically alone, which was lonesome. After the war, Donald stayed in the service, becoming a Captain. He and his wife

visited George, Jr. in Phoenix. George, Jr., his mother and two sisters saw Donald, later, in Seattle, where he showed them the entire city. Unfortunately, they failed to keep in touch with each other so today, neither one knows the whereabouts of the other. Donald McEachron was a fine man.

On the 26th day of August, 1918, Private George H.N. Luhrs, Jr. (2371643) received his appointment as a Second Lieutenant of Infantry in the United States Army. He was, at first, assigned to the 13th Infantry of the 8th Division, then to the Development Battalion, where he was assigned a company, and the canteen. Being in charge of the canteen relieved him of a mess hall. The men of his company ate with another company. Being in charge of the canteen had its advantages. It gave George, Jr. business experience. He had to go to San Francisco many times, buying and returning things. During the flu epidemic he had a pass to go in and out of the camp at any time.

After being assigned a company, the first thing George, Jr. did was call his First Sergeant, Sergeant Romney, to the company tent. He was an old army man with the 8th Division, stationed in the Philippine Islands. George, Jr. said, "Sergeant, I am a shave-tail, or ninety day wonder. I know very little. You have forgotten more than I know. I need your help, which I hope you will give me." From that moment, he was George's friend and helper. In the evenings, as many as wished would come to the company tent, to visit. Inside the company tent at those times, there was no rank. We were all human beings and Americans.

Commercial Hotel
European Plan
Owned and Operated by Geo. H. M. Kuhrs
Phoenix, Arizona

COPY.

May 13th, 1918.

Dear Folks:-

I received fathers letter with the check, and wish to thank you for the money.

This will be the last letter that I will write you in citizen clothes for on Wed. I will probably have to begin to wear the suit of a private. I am going into this school for all there is in me and as I have said before I am going to do my best, and that is all one man can do. I have not received a notice from the draft board as yet, but I suppose they will send me one very soon as they say every man in Arizona will be called by the draft the end of this month. If it is so I sure did just beat the draft and had my freedom as a civilian as long as I possible could. I have been able to finish my university work and been able to get into a Training Camp, and now that my country feels that it wants my service I am ready and willing to go and do my share in this struggle which means so much for those to come after me. I shall never forget all the friends that have been called into this struggle, and sorry to say many of us may never meet again on this earth. You, dear folks, shall always be in my thoughts, even if I am far away and unable to communicate with you as freely and regular as I have been able to do in the past. I am going to do my bit; in fact I will do my best and my whole purpose and desire is to get this thing over once and for all, and then, if I am fortunate enough, to come home to you. I sure hope it will not be long. I will let you know where to send my mail as soon as I find out. In the meantime send it to the house, and if I can't get to the campus to get the letter I shall have the boys read it to me over the telephone.

I was glad to read in the paper that you had bought some Liberty Bonds, for we are in this thing to a finish now, and I as one of Uncles Sam's soldiers will never give in to say that I and all the rest of us were beaten, even if it takes all I can give, which is life.

The 10th day of May was one I shall never forget, for upon that day I found out that I was going to the camp, and in honor of the affair the Cadets of the University had to pass in review before us. I sure felt good, but there was also a heavy feeling somewhere, for when I saw the faces of my university classmates and friends I could not help but think, how many of you will I ever see again, and where. I was soon to leave them and the place I had received my education at. If I were going home it would not be so bad, and in fact I would be ready to leave. Upon all of this

Commercial Hotel
European Plan
Owned and Operated by Geo. H. H. Empey
Phoenix, Arizona

the sad news of the death of Horace Conard came to us. We had not expected anything like that, and it sure was a blow. He was a good boy and had so lived that everyone liked him. It is hard to realize the fact, but it is so. I shall never forget when he left. I went to the train with him and after he got on and the train started he came to the window and waved good-by. Little did I realize that it was the last time.

I am packing my trunk to-day and will send it off tomorrow. I decided to send most of my clothes home, and you can give them away. I guess you may as well give LLoyd my overcoat if he has none for when I come back it will probably be out of style. If Arthur needs it, of course, give it to him first. Keep my dress suit and all that goes with it as the shirts, shoes, tie and vest and gloves. Probable I will give my old suits away for they are almost worn out. If I don't you give them away for I won't be able to wear them when I come back. I am keeping my underwear, for I think I shall wear my own. I gave my collars, socks, and ties away. I am keeping my heavy coat that Kisele gave me, for I may be able to wear it. If not I will send it home later. I will not send any of my jewelry in the trunk. Shall I send it home by Wells Fargo Insurance? I will send you the check for the trunk. Keep my cords and sombrero.

I leave the univereity about nine o'clock Wed. From that time on you have a son in the service. I sure wish I could have gone home and used the auto and visited with people before going. I will not be able to write letters very often outside of to you people, so please ask any of my friends to please write if they have time and I will answer if I can. I hope to be able to write to Lloyd before going, but if I don't please ask him not to be so particular. You might let Miss Whitfield and Beth Jones and the Jones boy in the bank, as I have not been able to write them this year at all.

I went to the Memorial Church yesterday, Mothers Day and thought of you all.

Did you get to see Ed Dorris? I hear Joe Doron is home and has enlisted in the Marines.

Remember me to all my friends and with love to you all, for when you receive this letter you will think of me already in the service.

George.

George.

Honorable Discharge from the United States Army.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to Certify, That George N. W. Lukes Jr. (2371643)

* Private 1st Company O.T.C. 8th Division

† U.S. Army, as a TESTIMONIAL OF HONEST AND FAITHFUL SERVICE, is hereby HONORABLY DISCHARGED from the military service of the UNITED STATES by reason of ‡ letter A.G.O. August 9th - 1918.

Said George N. W. Lukes Jr. was born in Phoenix, in the State of Arizona. When enlisted he was 22 10/12 years of age and by occupation a Student. He had Blue eyes, Light Brown hair, Fair complexion, and was 5 feet 5 inches in height.

Given under my hand at Camp Fremont, California this 25 day of August, one thousand nine hundred and Eighteen.

G. C. Barnett.

Major 8th Infantry.

Commanding.

Form No. 525, A. G. O. Ed. July 18-17—600,000.

* Insert grade and company and regiment or corps or department; e.g., "Corporal, Company A, 1st Infantry;" "Sergeant, Quartermaster Corps;" "Sergeant, First Class, Medical Department."
† Insert "Regular Army," "Volunteer Army," "Regular Army Reserve," or "Enlisted Reserve Corps," as the case may be.
‡ If discharged prior to expiration of service, give number, date, and source of order or description of authority therefor.

3—3164

ENLISTMENT RECORD.

Name: George H. N. Luhrs Jr. (2371643) Grade: Private

Enlisted May 15, 1918, at Camp Fremont, California

Serving in First enlistment period at date of discharge.

Prior service: * None

Noncommissioned officer: Never

Marksmanship, gunner qualification or rating: † Not qualified

Horsemanship: Not qualified

Battles, engagements, skirmishes, expeditions: None

Knowledge of any vocation: Student

Wounds received in service: None

Physical condition when discharged: Good

Typhoid prophylaxis completed

~~Para~~Triple typhoid prophylaxis completed June 1, 1918

Married or single: Single

Character: — Excellent —

Remarks: Service honest and faithful No AWOL of record
Discharged to accept Commission as Second Lieutenant
U.S. Army

Signature of soldier: George Luhrs Jr.

A. Duncan Cook
Capt. ~~[illegible]~~ 8th Infantry
Commanding 1st Company O.T.C.

AUG 26 1918

PAID IN FULL $ 25.00
LLOYD S. BURGESS, CAPT., Q.M.R.C.
E. R. Cheeseman
1st 2nd LT. Q. M. C., N.A.

* Give company and regiment or corps or department, with inclusive dates of service in each enlistment.
† Give date of qualification or rating and number, date, and source of order announcing same.

3—3164

HEADQUARTERS CAMP FREMONT,
CALIFORNIA.

SPECIAL ORDERS,)
No. 222.)

December 24, 1918.

EXTRACT.

* * *

7. By direction of the President, and under the provisions of Section 9, Act of Congress, May 18, 1917, and Circular No. 75, War Department, 1918,

Second Lieutenant
GEORGE HENRY NICHOLAS LUHRS Jr., Infantry,

is honorably discharged from the service of the United States, for the convenience of the Government, to take effect this date, his services being no longer required.

* * *

By order of Colonel Wilkes:

S. G. UPDYKE,
Captain, A. G.,
Adjutant.

SGU

True extract certified by me on May 3rd, 1921 for the purpose of obtaining Victory Medal by mail.

H. A. Hanigan,
Lt. Col. Infantry.

VACCINATION REGISTER

SURNAME: Luhrs, CHRISTIAN NAME: George H. N., Jr.

RANK: 2dLt. Inf. COMPANY: REGIMENT OR STAFF CORPS:

ENLISTED May 15th, 1918

AT 4thOTC Camp Fremont, California

DATE OF BIRTH ..... 18..

TRIPLE VACCINE
TYPHOID, PARATYPHOID A and B

DOSE	TEMPERATURE	DATE	INITIALS
FIRST	99 mp	5-25-18	WRL
SECOND	XXXXXXXX		
THIRD	XXXXXXXX		

Last Previous Vaccination, Triple Vaccine — DATE — PLACE — No. of Doses

Last Previous Vaccination, Typhoid — DATE — PLACE — No. of Doses

Last Previous Vaccination, Paratyphoid — DATE — PLACE — No. of Doses

History of Typhoid Fever, If any — DATE — PLACE

BACTERIOLOGICALLY CONFIRMED? History of Paratyphoid Fever, If any — DATE — PLACE

BACTERIOLOGICALLY CONFIRMED?

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

DATE	RESULT	INITIALS
June 1-1918	successful	WRL

Last Previous Successful Smallpox Vaccination — DATE — PLACE

History of Smallpox, If any — DATE — PLACE

*Record the temperature before giving first dose.

True copy

C A M P I N F I R M A R Y
Camp Fremont, California

13th Inf. ...Sept.....21.....1918.

This is to certify that 2nd.Lt George Luhrs has had finger print records made, this date, at this Infirmary, in compliance with par. 4, subdivision 2, G.O. No. 17, War Department, Washington, February 13, 1918.

Joseph McConnell
Major M.C., U.S. Army

INFIRMARY 4TH O.T.C.
Camp Fremont, California.

August 26, 1918.

We certify that we have this date examined.

(Name) Luhrs, George H.N.Jr. 2nd Lieut. Infantry, and find him physically qualified for Over Sea service.

H.H. SHARPE
Majpr M.C.

HOMER H TALLMAN
Captain M.C.

BATTALION SUPPLY OFFICE
Development Battalion
Camp Fremont, Cal.

December 16th 1918.

From: U. S. Officer, Development Bn., Camp Fremont Calif.

To: Commanding Officer, Development Bn., Camp Fremont, Cal.

Subj: Receipt of checks of Post Exchange.

1. I have this day receive from Development Battalion Post Exchange, of which Lt. George Luhrs is Exchange Officer, the following checks.

Exchange Check	#34	$884.36	Bank Balance
Treasury "	2292	19.00	P. E. Collection Nov.
" "	2300	.35	P. E. " "
E		$903 71	

O. M. Bunton,
2nd. Lt., Infantry,
Supply Officer.

B/s

Development Battalion
Camp Fremont, California.
December, 16 1918

From: Auditing Board

To: Commanding Officer Dev., Bn.

Subject: Auditing Accounts of the Post Exchange

1. We have today made a careful examination of all the accounts of the Post Exchange Officer, George Luhrs, 2nd Lt. Inf. and find same to be correct in every particular.

1 Frederic L. Stone
1st Lieut Engrs. U.S.A.

Wagner V. Gilbert
2nd Lieut Inf U.S.A.

NEW OFFICERS TO ENTERTAIN AT FAIRMONT

Aug 23 - 1918

Awarding of Commissions at Camp Fremont Training School to Be Celebrated With Elaborate Ball and Banquet.

BY CHOLLY FRANCISCO

TO celebrate the closing of the fourth officers' training camp at Camp Fremont, an elaborate ball and entertainment is to be given on Friday night at the Fairmont Hotel, with a banquet to precede the galeties. As there are many young men from this part of the State who are receiving their commissions at this time, the event is creating much rejoicing and scores of well known families are interested in making this affair a success. Major George G. Bartlett is in general charge of the arrangements, assisted by a number of student officers.

Ted Shawn, who will be Lieutenant Shawn in a few days, and noted all over the country as a dancer, will have charge of a wonderful pageant of dances, with Miss Ruth St. Denis, wife of Mr. Shawn, collaborating with him. They will put on a pantomime drama showing Egyptian history through the development of the dance. This is the big feature of the programme.

The banquet and reception will be in the ballroom. About eight hundred acceptances have been made for this affair. The dance pageant will be staged in the Norman room and this is to be followed by general dancing, for which a great many invitations have been issued. They were sent out in yesterday's mail.

Graduation Banquet

of the

Fourth Officers' Training Camp

Eighth Division

Camp Fremont, California
August 23
1918

Headquarters, Camp Fremont, California

Nov. 7 1918.

Lt. G. Luhrs has permission to enter and leave this camp on

Whenever necessary

BY ORDER OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL GRIMMINS

John P. Welsh

JOHN P. WELSH,
Captain A. G.,
Adjutant

A.G.O. Form No 650 - 6

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



To all who shall see these presents, greeting:

Know Ye, that reposing special trust and confidence in the patriotism, valor, fidelity and abilities of George Henry Nicholas Luhrs Jr.,

I do appoint him Second Lieutenant of Infantry *in the*

The United States Army:

National Army, in the service of the United States.

to rank as such from the twenty-sixth *day of* August,

nineteen hundred and eighteen. *He is therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of the office to which he is appointed by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging.*

And I do strictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers under his command to be obedient to his orders as an officer of his grade and position. And he is to observe and follow such orders and directions, from time to time, as he shall receive from me, or the future President of the United States of America, or the General or other Superior Officers set over him, according to the rules and discipline of War.

This Commission to continue in force during the pleasure of the President of the United States for the time being, and for the period of the existing emergency, under the provisions of an Act of Congress approved May eighteen, nineteen hundred and seventeen.

Given under my hand at the City of Washington, this twenty-sixth *day of* August, *in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and* eighteen, *and in the one hundred and* forty-third *year of the Independence of the United States.*

By the President:

The Adjutant General's Office.

Recorded: August 26, 1918.

H. L. Scott

The Adjutant General.

The Assistant Secretary of War.

George, Jr. told his men he wanted their help. He would not ask them to do anything he would not do unless it was an order, and then it had to be done without any questions. As a result, George, Jr. had a happy company. Other officers would ask George, Jr. how he got his company to do things they could not get their company to do. George, Jr. told them what he did.

When George, Jr. received his commission, August 26th, 1918, as a Second Lieutenant, he made a hurried trip home to Phoenix, Arizona to see his brother, Arthur. His orders called for him to report back to Camp Freemont. His folks, in the meantime, had gone to Los Angeles, so George, Jr. met them there. They had a big surprise for him in that they gave him a used Model T Ford. In driving up the Coast from Los Angeles to Camp Fremont, near San Francisco, they only made Santa Barbara the first day. They and the car had trouble getting used to each other. To be certain of reporting at Camp Freemont in time, George, Jr. bought a ticket from Santa Maria to Camp Freemont. The ticket was not used for the reason that the car worked perfectly the second day and they arrived at Camp Freemont the following morning, when they did not have to be there until evening. George, Jr. still thinks it is the best car he ever had and it gave a lot of enjoyment.

Louie Hart, with whom George, Jr. went to school in Phoenix, Arizona, came to see George, Jr. while both were at Camp Fremont. When Louie stepped into the tent, he snapped to attention and saluted. George, Jr. said, "Louie sit down and

relax. While you and I are in this tent alone there is no rank. We are friends." Louie told someone that George Luhrs, Jr. was the only decent officer in the army. George, Jr. was Officer of the Day on November 11, 1918, the day the Armistice was signed. They began discharging soldiers and officers until soon there were few in the camp. Twenty-two officers of the Development Battalion were held over, for the reason someone had overdrawn rations. George, Jr. had been cleared on the canteen, and not having a mess hall, had nothing to do with rations.

On December 24th, 1918, George, Jr. got his honorable discharge from the service of the United States of America. He immediately left for home, Phoenix, Arizona. Because of train connections he had to stay all day in Los Angeles, spending his time with his good friend and fraternity brother, Leonard Lyon. The next morning, December 26th, 1918, he was home with his folks.

After the holidays, early in January, 1919, George, Jr. returned to Stanford University, to enter the Stanford Law School. Upon June 21, 1920, he received his Juris Doctor Degree from Stanford University. He returned to his home in Phoenix, Arizona. He took the Arizona State Bar examination in 1920, after studying with Scotty Norviel and Ernest MacFarland, the latter in later years was governor of Arizona, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Arizona and United States Senator from Arizona. George, Jr. got the highest grade in the bar examination. Scotty Norviel was second. George, Jr. and Scottie Norviel were

fraternity brothers at Stanford University. In May, 1921, George, Jr. was offered a job in Washington, D.C. with the Department of Justice at $3,000.00 a year to start with. He turned it down, deciding to stay in Phoenix, Arizona. The Arizona legislature was in session. Roy Davidson, the State Senate Secretary, offered George, Jr. a job in the Enrolling and Engrossing Committee. He had nothing to do, so he took it. Before the legislature adjourned, he was the Assistant Secretary of the Senate. This was George, Jr.'s first and last political venture.

In 1918, Fred Thomas Shipp was initiated into the Stanford University chapter of the Delta Chi Fraternity and became the roommate of George, Jr., who at the time was the head of the house. The Shipps lived in Superior, Wisconsin, later moving to Watsonville, California. Fred was a fine young man and an excellent roommate. In a short time they became very good friends. They began calling each other pardner and still do.

On May 15, 1918, George, Jr. enlisted at Camp Freemont, entering the Fourth Officers Training Camp. Fred moved out of the fraternity house for the summer. Wendell Redwine, Arthur George and George, Jr.'s father, mother and sister Ella stayed in the house. Fred Shipp joined the R.O.T.C. (Reserve Officers Training Camp) and lived in Encina Hall, a men's dormitory on the Stanford University campus. Where it joined with Camp Freemont. George, Jr. would meet him there.

After being discharged from the service at the end of the war, George, Jr. in 1919 took his ford with him on his return

to Stanford University. Every morning he would drive it down to the Engineering Corner and park it. The Stanfords were horse loving people. They would not allow automobiles on the campus, having it chained off. Thus the Engineering Corner was the limit in an automobile. At noon, all the fraternity brothers that could, got in or on the car, using the hood, fenders, etc. for a ride to the fraternity house. Of course, they left the driver's seat empty for the driver. In the Quad, the University year book, they have a cartoon on each fraternity. The one for the Delta Chi Fraternity was an automobile with heads sticking out everywhere. Underneath it said, "Let's have a house meeting." Everyone at the fraternity enjoyed the car. At times, on Sunday afternoon, George, Jr. and Fred, or others would drive up to San Francisco to get something to eat and see a stage show and then drive back to the campus. One night the lights would not work on the Model T. Ford so George, Jr. had to drive back in the dark. It took about two hours.

George, Jr. and Fred made several trips to Watsonville. George, Jr. remembers one in particular. It had been raining and the pavement was slippery. A car was coming from the opposite direction. George, Jr. put on his brake to slow down. The Model T Ford made a complete turn. Somehow with George, Jr.'s car facing the same direction as the other car, the other car got through before the Ford had completed its circle, which it did. Nothing was damaged, and no one was hurt.

In the Fall of 1919, Fred was in charge of a typing class.

George, Jr. had always wanted to be able to type. The credit would not count toward his law degree, but if he did not sign up, he might stop. Thus George, Jr. signed up for the class. Fred helped George by pushing him along and letting him take tests with advanced students. It was not long before George, Jr. was typing everything. In the afternoons he would type the law notes he had taken in the morning. Anything that was not clear, he would straighten out. If he could not, he would see the professor and get the correct information. It was just like reviewing everyday. He found he got better grades and examinations were not so hard. Today, George, Jr. types everything. If something happens that he cannot type, he is lost.

At the end of the Spring quarter in 1919, George, Jr. asked Fred if he would ride home with him as far as Phoenix, Arizona and take the train for Superior, Wisconsin from there. Fred agreed, provided they went by way of the Grand Canyon of Arizona to which George, Jr. consented, even if it would take longer. In the middle of the California desert, they began having tire trouble. A thorn must have been picked up and they could not find it. That day the tire was changed thirty-two times. As the Golden State train was passing, Fred said to George, "If that train would stop, I would leave you." The Grand Canyon was made and everything was seen. On the way from the Grand Canyon to Phoenix they passed through Prescott. George, Jr. went into the bank and had a talk with Mr. Hazeltine,

the cashier of the Bank of Arizona. He told him his trouble and said he would appreciate it if he would let him have $20.00 with which to buy a new tire and tube. George, Jr. agreed to send the $20.00 as soon as he got to Phoenix. Mr. Hazeltine let George, Jr. have the money. After they got the new tire and tube, they did not have any more trouble. They must have found the thorn, . The loan was paid immediately.

The Bank of Arizona is now a branch of the First Inter State Bank of Arizona, N.A. Geo H.N. Luhrs is the oldest depositor, having made a deposit September 14th, 1879.

Fred and George, Jr. were not greeted very well when they arrived in Phoenix. George, Jr.'s folks had not been told the trip would be by way of the Grand Canyon, which took two days longer. Naturally, they were worried and had a right to be. After a couple of days, Fred was on his way to Superior, Wisconsin. Fred took a position as a secretary to Mr. Eddy, traveling all over the Middle East. George, Jr. has some very interesting letters written while Fred was away. In time, after George, Jr. had graduated, Fred returned to Stanford, getting his Dr.'s Degree. He was at San Francisco University for a while but most of his time was spent in Korea, the Philippine Islands and surrounding countries, teaching and in charge of schools. Fred was married twice, both wives dying. He had a stroke but is doing nicely, permitting him to do a little traveling. Fred was on a tour, spending Christmas, December 25th, 1981 at the Mountain Shadows, Phoenix, Arizona. Fred and

George spent most of December 22, 1981 visiting at George, Jr.'s niece's (Jean Crane) home. They both enjoyed themselves.

The summer of 1919, George, Jr. and his folks went to one of the beaches near Los Angeles. He did not stay long. He had been selected as the delegate from the Stanford University Chapter of Delta Chi to the National Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota. George, Jr. took the Santa Fe out of Los Angeles. Heavy rains and storms in northern Arizona made the train about 40 hours late. George, Jr. met a young man, Will Black, and they tried to keep each other company until they reached Kansas City, Missouri. One evening, while they were having dinner in the diner, Will ordered roast chicken. He went to carve the chicken and it shot all the way across the dining car.

When Kansas City was reached, George, Jr. got in touch with Russell Peabody, who was working and living there at the time. George, Jr. had gone through high school and one year at Stanford with Russell. Russell came to the station where he and George, Jr. had a good visit. Before Will Black left for Fort Smith where he lived, he invited George, Jr. to return by way of Fort Smith, Arkansas and visit him.

This was George, Jr.'s first trip east of Arizona. He left Kansas City and arrived in Minneapolis, staying at the Minneapolis Athletic Club. It was there he tasted his first blueberries.

The Delta Chi Fraternity was limited to students majoring in law. Many of the chapters wanted no limitation. The Stanford

Chapter wanted to leave it as it had been since founding. With Stanford, there were enough votes to leave it alone, or as it had been.

While in Minneapolis, George, Jr. tried to get in touch with "Cap" Taylor's mother but he could not make the connections. She lived in St. Paul. After the convention, George, Jr. went up to Superior, Wisconsin to see Fred Shipp. He stayed there a couple of days, meeting Fred's folks and taking in the sights. He then went to Chicago. At the hotel was a telegram from Will Black, urging George, Jr. to come to Fort Smith, which George, Jr. then decided to do. From Chicago he went to Boston to see Richard Lyon, a brother of Leonard Lyon, one of George's good friends. Richard was going to M.I.T. It was early in the morning when George, Jr. arrived in Boston so he went to an eating place. He ordered hot cakes and wheat cakes but they did not know what he meant. Then some man said griddle cakes and they understood. Richard Lyon showed George, Jr. everything to be seen during his day's stop. New York City was the next stop. Ernst Eisele, a relative of George, Jr.'s Uncle Edward in Phoenix, took him to his house on Staton Island. George, Jr. saw nothing except the Ernst Eisele home. He wanted to see New York City. He was disappointed.

Being alone, he was getting to be lonesome. He went to Washington, D.C. and saw all of the sights. George, Jr. was about to go home but he did go to Fort Smith and after he got there he was glad. He was going to stay one day but stayed

four. He ate more chicken than he had ever done. He gained about four pounds. When it came time to leave, he hated to go. Will Black, his mother and friends were GRAND. Because George, Jr. was a friend of Will Black, everyone took him in. It was just wonderful and especially after having been alone during most of the trip. George, Jr. enjoyed seeing Will Black at any time and any place. Now and then he would look up George, Jr. if he made a trip to Phoenix. Will Black is a person George, Jr. would like to have seen more of and he hopes someday they will meet again.

George, Jr. was no longer lonesome, so he went on to Colorado Springs to see Helen O'Malley. They had a nice visit but the flare was dampened. George, Jr. went to Salt Lake City to see Scott Nelson, whom he had met several years before at Ocean Park, California. He could not be located. George, Jr. saw the Mormon Temple.

The railroad to Los Angeles had been on strike. The first train was leaving that night, with everyone wanting accomodations. George, Jr. stood by the ticket window most of the day, finally getting a berth. Leaving that night, George, Jr. arrived the next morning in Los Angeles and went from there to the beach, where his folks were spending their vacation. The highlight of the trip was Fort Smith and Will Black.

In the Fall of 1919, when George, Jr. was the President of the Stanford University Glee Club, Myron Higby became a member. In the Spring of 1920, the Glee Club went on a short

tour, giving concerts in San Luis Obispo and Los Angeles. George, Jr. took five in his Dodge , one of the five being Myron Higby. The Club stayed in Los Angeles for several days before returning to Stanford by automobiles.

George, Jr.'s mother had fallen in the Luhrs' kitchen in the Commercial Hotel, Phoenix, Arizona, about this time in 1920 and broken her leg. She was on crutches. She was very disappointed that George, Jr. did not come home to see her while he was waiting. In those days, the railroad was the means of transportation. It took all night, each way, between Los Angeles and Phoenix. George, Jr. was also trying to save money. He ate and slept in the University of Southern California Delta Chi house, free. Later George, Jr. realized he had made a mistake and he should have gone home. His conscience has bothered him ever since. His mother was right and he was wrong. It is a regret he will live with the rest of his life.

On the trip from Los Angeles, back to Stanford University, Myron Higby again rode with George, Jr. in the Dodge. They gradually began associating more and more with each other until all of a sudden they realized they were close friends and liked each other's company. Myon was a member of the Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity. He was an excellent piano player, playing for dances. In the summer he would play at Pinecrest, a resort in the mountains back of San Bernardino. George, Jr. would stay a week with him each time. When Myron was a junior, he wrote

the music for the Stanford University Junior Opera. His theme song was, "My Little Bungalow", which was published. They talked many times about a sight seeing trip of the United States and Canada but thought it best to wait until George, Jr. had received his Juris Doctor Degree. They decided to make the trip in the summer of 1921. Each one had four hundred dollars with which to make the journey. The railroad ticket was cheaper from Los Angeles than from Phoenix so George, Jr. went to Los Angeles where both he and Myron purchased their tickets. They returned to Phoenix, going to El Paso from there. They thought they would save money taking an upper berth, which they did from Phoenix to El Paso. They found it to be hot and uncomfortable so they decided on a lower berth thereafter. In each city they saw the main places of interest and then traveled on. From El Paso they stopped at New Orleans, going from there to Washington D.C. where they visited the places of interest including the White House and the Capital. George, Jr. knew Senator Cameron of Arizona who got them passes for everything. They stopped at Annapolis. George, Jr. was trying to locate his friend and high school classmate, Harry Slocum. Philadelphia was next, with many historical places of interest. Two weeks were spent in New York City. The first thing that was done, after getting a room in a good lower priced hotel such as the Herald Square (near the McAlpine) was to get tickets, in the second balcony, to all the good shows on Broadway. Some that were seen were Fannie Brice in the Ziegfield Folleys, Marilyn

Miller in Sally, George Arless in The Green Goddess, The Last Waltz, etc.

Two meals a day were eaten, saving enough money so that in the evenings they went to the Astor, the Waldorf Astoria, etc. Myron's twenty-first birthday was on July 24, 1921, so George, Jr. and Myron celebrated with a dinner at Delmonico's which, at that time, was rated among the best in the world. It cost them $10.00 and a dollar tip. They thought it was high, but being Myron's 21st birthday, they felt they could afford it and save on something else.

George, Jr. had two friends in New York, "Chick" Edwards and Cornel Sudhaus. He visited with both of them. Since then, both have passed away.

One day the weather was bothering Myron so they took in a baseball game at the Yankee Stadium. After leaving New York City, they went up the Hudson. Several of the lakes were seen. A short stop was made at Albany before going into Canada, stopping at Quebec, Montreal and Toronto. They returned to the United States, first stopping at Detroit. From there they went to Eureka, Illinois, sleeping in the house in which Myron was born. Several days were spent in Emden, Illinois, where Myron's aunt and cousins, the McCormacks, lived. It was there George, Jr. played his first game of golf. There were five McCormack brothers. The stay in Emden was very pleasant and enjoyed. The McCormacks were very fine people. Myron and Goerge would have liked to have stayed longer. One could say

the McCormacks owned Emden.

Some years later, Byron McCormack came into George, Jr.'s Office in Phoenix. George, Jr. asked Byron what he was doing in Phoenix, to which he replied that he was on his way to the University of Arizona at Tucson to see the president about a position in the law school, but the train was late so he was late for his appointment. George, Jr. was a good friend of "Heck" Marvin, the President of the University of Arizona, and a Stanford fraternity brother too. George, Jr. got President Marvin on the telephone and explained to him why Byron McCormack was late, but he would be at the university to see him just as soon as he could get transportation. George, Jr. told President Marvin that he knew Byron and all of the family and he could highly recommend him. Byron McCormack got the position. He later became the Dean of the Law School, the President of the University of Arizona and after that the legal adviser for the Board of Trustees. Byron looked me up often, whenever he was in Phoenix.

From Emden, George, Jr. and Myron went to Chicago. While in Chicago, they took a ride on the double deck sightseeing bus. They were on the top deck. The bus was filled. It then started to rain. George, Jr. and Myron got soaking wet. When they got back to the hotel they had to send their clothes out to be dried, cleaned and pressed.

The next stop was Winnipeg, Canada, then on to Lake Louise and Banff, both beautiful places. After seeing the hotel

at Banff, George, Jr. told Myron they might have to wash dishes for the money was getting low. However, they did not have to wash dishes so they were then able to enjoy the beauty of it all. They traveled on, seeing Vancouver and Victoria. By this time, their money was getting low so their stays in Seattle, Portland and San Francisco were short, figuring at some future time to visit them. George, Jr.'s folks were vacationing at Santa Monica. When George, Jr. and Myron reached Los Angeles, they went down to the beach and spent a short time with them. When the time came for George, Jr. to leave to go back to Phoenix, they both found it hard to part. They had been with each other constantly.

In the Fall, Myron returned to Stanford University. Myron and George, Jr. kept in very close touch with each other. George, Jr. well remembers the New Year's football game in Pasadena between Stanford and Notre Dame. Arthur Luhrs and Guy Alsap were with George, Jr. Myron Higby met the early Southern Pacific Train and took all of them to the game and back to the depot. Of course Myron saw the game with them. On the way back, all Guy Alsap could say, and he repeated it time and again, "and Nevers carried the ball." When George, Jr. was young, he saw most of the Pasadena Rose Bowl games. He never missed when Stanford played.

During the period of the war, there was little or no building. However, Geo H.N. Luhrs always having in mind a ten story building for the southwest corner of Central Avenue

and Jefferson Street, permitted people to take dirt from the said property until it was excavated to about one half the depth of a basement. It got to be known as the sunken garden.

Shortly after the end of the war, the McArthur Brothers (Warren and Charlie) contacted Geo H.N. Luhrs relative to the leasing of all the unfinished portion of the two story building located on the northwest corner of Central Avenue and Madison Street. The McArthur brothers had the Dodge Agency for all of Arizona, New Mexico and Old Mexico. The lease was signed, with the McArthur Brothers taking all of the space in said building except the portion occupied by N. Porter Saddle Company. The entire second floor was to be used for their service department so a large elevator had to be installed, at the southwest corner of the building facing Madison Street. It had to be large enough to handle large trucks. (It was on this elevator that on December 27th, 1937 "Cap" Taylor was accidentally killed.) The McArthur Brothers also rented the southwest corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street (where the dirt had been removed), for their used car department. People could stand on the sidewalk and have a good look at all of the cars.

The McArthur Brothers had the first broadcasting station, with the sending tower on the roof of the two story building in which they had the Dodge Agency at the northwest corner of Central Avenue and Madison Street. In 1920, the McArthur Brothers wanted to move their service department to the ground so Geo H.N. Luhrs erected a one story building west of and

adjacent to the two story building then occupied by the McArthur Brothers. Glazed bricks, the same as those in the two story building were used. The building was one hundred feet wide, upon Madison Street, and one hundred thirty-seven and a half feet in depth. McArthur Brothers took sixty feet upon Madison Street by one hundred thirty-seven and a half feet in depth. The remaining forty feet upon Madison Street were divided into two stores with a depth of approximately thirty-seven and a half feet. The rear portion was used, for a time, for storing bales of long staple cotton that had been raised on the ranch. Difficulty was had in selling it. It had even been sent to Czechoslovakia to sell but there was no buyer so it was returned. It was stored until sold. The family car was also parked in a portion of the space.

A gasoline service station was operated on the northeast corner of First Avenue and Madison Street by Mr. Noll. Later the Standard Oil Company of California operated the service station and used the space where previously the cotton was stored, for automobile parking.

The one story building cost approximately forty thousand dollars. When McArthur Brothers moved their service department to the ground floor and gave up the second floor, the said second floor was partitioned into offices. Mr. Spillsbury organized the Industrial Congress, which organization rented a number of offices on the second floor. The building was then called the Industrial Congress Building. Others brought into

the building were: the Arizona Woolgrowers Association; the Arizona Cattlemen's Association; the Cotton Growers Association, and others. Many years later, the McArthur Brothers turned over their Dodge Agency to Mr. Ed Spears who moved to north First Avenue, just north of Van Buren Street. The vacated space was rented to several different concerns: Burroughs Adding Machines; Remington Typewriters and the A.C. Taylor Printing Company. The A.C. Taylor Printing Company took the basement for their shop and 142 South Central Avenue for their office. The space in the one story building, facing Madison Street and used by the Dodge Agency for the service department was rented to Jules Vermersch who handled machinery.

In 1921, George Luhrs, Jr. joined the Scottish Rite, thus becoming a 32nd Degree Mason.

George Luhrs, Jr. went to work for the law firm of Armstrong Lewis and Krammer in the National Bank of Arizona Building on the southeast corner of Central Avenue and Washington Street. J. Earle Craig and Jim Moore were also with the firm. They used to call George, Jr. their cub.

George Luhrs, Jr. was determined to make his father's dream come true, if possible, with a ten story building on the southwest corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street. He asked for a leave of absence from the law firm, thinking that after the building was erected, he would no longer be needed and he could return to the law firm.

In the Summer of 1922, before tackling the building

project, George, Jr. and Myron decided to drive up the Pacific Coast as far as Victoria and back. They had planned to camp out. The first afternoon they ran into a terrible thunder and lightning storm in the mountains. It scared both of them. That night they camped out near Roosevelt Lake, putting up the tent and cooking their meal. The next morning they both decided not to camp out anymore but to stay in a hotel and get a good nights sleep and food prepared by a restaurant. They stopped here and there and had a very enjoyable time.

After graduating from Stanford University, Myron was in the insurance business, representing an Insurance Company until he retired. Whenever he came to Phoenix, he and George, Jr. would get together. They were lifetime friends. Myron died in Los Angeles, February 23, 1979.

In the early Fall of 1922, George, Jr. went to work in earnest to see if it was possible to make his father's dream building a reality. During the early Summer, before taking a vacation trip with Myron Higby, he contacted the Arizona Club, then located in the Noll Building on the west side of First Avenue on the north side of the alley, running east and west, between Adams Street and Monroe Street. He got a commitment from the Arizona Club for the top four floors. George, Jr. talked with Mr. Fred Paine, the local district manager for the Standard Oil Company of California. Mr. Paine said he would recommend it, but the head office in San Francisco would have to make the decision. Late in the Summer, George, Jr. went to

San Francisco to take the matter up with the members of the head office. For over a week he sat in the reception room from early morning until closing time, waiting to get a decision. Finally, they agreed to take one floor. George, Jr. was making progress, having commitments for five floors.

Trost and Trost of El Paso, had been highly recommended as architects. They were contacted to prepare preliminary plans. H. C. Trost, known to everyone as "Uncle Henry", made many trips to Phoenix. He would sit in one of the large leather chairs in the lobby of the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs, letting the ashes from his little cigar drop all over his coat, while he gazed across the street where the new building was planned, and picture in his mind the building, of which he would submit preliminary plans. A brochure was prepared, presenting all the facts and figures, as well as the financial statement of Mr. & Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs. "Cap" Taylor deserves a lot of credit in putting the brochure together so that it was very attractive. Letters were gotten from the banks, as to the reputation and community standing of the Luhrs'. By this time, the entire Luhrs family was working together.

After getting all the information together, George, Jr. left for St. Louis and Chicago, where he presented his plans to different banks, only to be turned down. While in Chicago, George, Jr. received a telegram from Lloyd Eisele, his cousin, who was going to the University of Michigan, inviting him to see the Michigan-Ohio State game at the opening of the Ohio State

stadium. He took the train from Chicago to Columbus, Ohio, saw the game, which Michigan won, and left for St. Louis. He stopped off, between trains, in Oklahoma City to see Will Black who was going to the University of Oklahoma. They missed connections at the depot, but ran into each other on the street. He then returned to Phoenix, a little disappointed but not discouraged.

Next he tried the Pacific Mutual Life in Los Angeles. After a lengthy meeting with Mr. Green, he said he could not make a loan over one story. George, Jr. explained he had five floors committed and it would be hard to rent the space if only a one story building was built with nothing around or above it to attract business. Mr. Green again said he would not be interested in anything but a one story building loan. To this George, Jr. replied that if Mr. Green was working for George, Jr. and made such a loan he would fire him. That ended any dealings with the Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Mr. Alexander of Pierce-Fair and Company, a bonding company in San Francisco, came to Phoenix to look the Luhrs situation over. He agreed to put out a bond issue for $550,000.00 at six and a half percent interest per annum, said bonds maturing over fifteen years, secured by a mortgage on all of block 64, the block the building was to be built on. George, Jr. asked Mr. Alexander how he happened to let the Luhrs' have the money, and hadn't someone try to stop it? He said one of the banks had talked against it but he found no one to say Geo H.N. Luhrs did not pay his obligations. He felt the moral obligation

was better than the physical one. Pierce Fair and Company went ahead with the bond issue and Trost and Trost prepared the plans for the bids. March the sixth, 1923 was a busy day around the Commercial Hotel, which was the day the bids were opened. Contractors and sub-contractors were all over the place. Again Geo H.N. Luhrs and his wife, Catharina M. Luhrs were to have the tallest building in the State of Arizona on the southwest corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street, always keeping abreast with progress, if not one step ahead of the time. From the time Geo H.N. Luhrs settled in Arizona in 1869 and made Phoenix his home in 1878, the history and development of the name Luhrs has been contemporaneous with that of the State of Arizona and the City of Phoenix.

The architects were requested to prepare plans for a building that reflects a dignity, which leaves nothing to be desired in beauty and appearance, outside and inside, as well as being flexible to permit changes to be made to meet the times. They did their planning for today, 1983, the Hotel Luhrs, ninety-five years old until torn down, the Luhrs Building, fifty-eight years old and the Luhrs Tower, fifty-two years old, reflect a dignity in beauty and appearance outside and inside and are flexible to permit changes to keep the buildings modern.

On March eleventh, the contract to erect the Luhrs Building was let to Jay J. Garfield, the lowest bidder, which was $410,000.00 secured by a bond from the Hartford Accident

and Indemnity Company. The elevators, marble and other extras brought the original total costs to approximately $553,000.00. The bond issue of $550,000.00 was not sufficient, after paying off the existing mortgage. They had hoped to use terra cota instead of cast stone but the cost of terra cota was $35,000.00 more than the cast stone, which they used. George, Jr. contacted all of the close property owners and explained they needed $50,000.00 He told them the Luhrs' did not want a donation, but a loan for five years at the prevailing rate of interest. All, except Mr. Ackel, the owner of the Jefferson Hotel, directly across the street from the new building, helped. Mr. Ackel did nothing. The $50,000.00 was paid back within two years.

At the time the Luhrs Building was built, each room had to have a wash basin with hot and cold running water. All of the interior partitions were built, with all offices the same. A communicating door was placed in each partition so the tenant would rent the required number of offices necessary and the communicating doors would be unlocked. Today, wash basins are not put in offices and the interior is finished as it is rented. Had that been the practice in 1923, enough money would have been saved to have had the terra cota instead of the cast stone. The reason for preferring terra cota is that if it becomes dirty, it need only be washed.

Jay J. Garfield was a very fine contractor and built the Luhrs'a good building. It was said the first floor was strong

enough to run a train over it. He even put cement in the plaster. Unfortunately, Mr. Jay J. Garfield had lost money on the building of the Franciscan Hotel in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He expected to make it up on the Luhrs Building but did not. His bid was not out of line for Robert McKee's bid was only two thousand dollars higher. The bonding company had to take over. In turn, the bonding company had the Halstead Lumber Company agreeing to reimburse them. Halstead Lumber Company took over to finish the work but they dragged out everything. When the cost of finishing became less than the interest the Luhrs' had to pay, the Luhrs' took over the building and finished it.

The Luhrs Building as the new structure was called, was built as two buildings in one. The lower floors were offices and the top four floors were especially built for the Arizona Club. The seventh and eighth floors were bedrooms for the club members. The ninth floor had the club's office, lounge, library, pool and billiard room, as well as the grille room. The tenth floor had the kitchen, the main and private dining rooms. The original plans called for eleven floors, but the cost made it necessary to make it ten stories.

Upon April 1st, 1924, the Luhrs Building was opened. The Standard Oil Company of California had the entire sixth floor. The rental was good and soon after the opening, the building was well occupied. The piers on which the Luhrs Building rests, are of concrete and steel and the footings

are sixteen feet square, down eighteen feet below the surface level. Covered up by concrete, you see, is more than nine carloads of structural steel besides the ornamental work, cornice and the fire escape. The building is 87 feet wide across the front, 137 1/2 feet in depth and 130 feet from the street to the cornice on top. Originally, the building had Kewanee boilers for the heating system and the hot water system, the hot water being on a circulating system, so that hot water is had immediately when the faucet is turned on. At first oil was used, but later it was changed to gas.

In 1977, new steam heat boilers and water heaters were installed. When the building was built, the water pressure of the city only provided water as high as the sixth floor. For that reason, automatic pumps were installed which pumped air into the tanks so that the water pressure is sufficient to reach the top floor. There is a compressor and storage tank to provide cold water to drinking fountains on each floor. The original electric switchboard was replaced with a new one when the Luhrs' ranch at 35th Avenue and Van Buren, was sold. Montgomery elevators were installed at first. They did not work right so Montgomery made necessary changes. They were hand operated elevators. Later automatic door operators and self leveling was installed. In 1976 and 1977, new gearless, automatic, five hudnred feet per minute Otis Elevators were installed.

When the building opened, the three elevators were

operated for six years by the same men. They were Adam Diaz, Harley Forsythe and Frank Rodriquez. Adam Diaz remained with the Luhrs Properties from the time the Luhrs Building opened, April 1, 1924, to December 22, 1976 when the Luhrs Properties was sold, a period of fifty-two years. He remained after the properties were sold until he retired. Adam Diaz held and knew every job or position in the Luhrs Properties, becoming George, Jr.'s right hand man. At times he managed the properties. Adam Diaz and George, Jr. became very good friends. Adam's children called George, Jr. their second father. Without asking, Adam knew how George, Jr. would react to matters as they came up. Adam was liked by everybody. He was on the City Council for two years and is interested in politics.

The lobby of the Luhrs Building is finished in white Alaskan marble on a base of pink Tennessee marble. Two large desert murals by David Swing are featured on the west and east walls above the marble. The marble in the corridors and rest rooms comes from Carthage, Missouri. The granite facing the lower portion of the outside columns was quarried in Prescott and cut and polished in Phoenix. All of the cast stone was made in Phoenix, on the job. The total number of bricks runs up to over half a million. A typical floor has twenty-five offices. All the woodwork is birch stained walnut.

Upon the completion of the building, former Governor Kibbey, President of the Arizona Club, for whom the top floors were built, said, "We're mighty proud of the whole place, and

we're proud of the man who built it. We couldn't have had such a home without him and he probably would not have undertaken such a building without us." The Luhrs' had figured the Arizona Club would be an attraction to bring others into the building,which it did. Also, as many were skeptical as to whether Phoenix was large enough for a ten story building, the club did make it possible. In view of these facts, the Luhrs' figured costs in the rental price to the Club. To begin with, the rental was just enough to break even, with a gradual increase every five years over a fifteen year lease. While the club remained in the Luhrs Building, they were always given a very special consideration. The Arizona Club had beautiful quarters as well as a fine view of the city from the balcony. It became the center of not only social affairs but the meeting place for all members and their friends during the lunch hour and in the evenings.

At noon, the elevator traffic was so heavy, George, Jr. had to resign from the Phoenix Lions Club in order to keep close watch for good service. At this point, it might be mentioned that service and cleanliness were a must with the Luhrs', whether in the hotel or office building. A guest or a tenant was treated as a friend and like the Luhrs' would want to be treated if the Luhrs' were a guest or a tenant. The friendship relationship that existed between the landlord and tenant grew and grew until people considered the Luhrs properties the preferred buildings in Phoenix. The Luhrs' never tried to charge the

maximum the traffic would bear, but kept the rates and rentals realistic at all times, even when 100% occupied and people were waiting to be taken care of. True, the Luhrs' had been and were heavily in debt and with the building of the Luhrs Building had taken on additional obligations, with some people saying that George, Jr. would break his folks in less than five years. It is then that George, Jr. dedicated his life, first to see that his father's building dream came true, which it did on April 1st, 1924 with the opening of the Luhrs Building; Second, prove that he would not break his folks, whom he did not break; Third, clear the Luhrs' of all indebtedness, which he did July 1st, 1968. He made many sacrifices to accomplish this, working seven days a week from the time to get up until the time to go to bed.

Shortly after the building was completed, George, Jr. took some people on a tour of the building, of which all Phoenix was proud. After showing them a typical floor, he took them to one of the bedroom floors, there being two. There were twenty-five rooms to each floor, nearly all with bath or shower, with all the conveniences of a modern hotel. Then they went to the ninth floor, first entering the lounge with a huge fireplace. The library is east of the lounge. The buffet is at the south end of the floor. The billiard room is between the lounge and the buffet. The lounge and the library had hardwood floors, almost covered with deep rugs, with super woodwork wainscoting and handsome light fixtures. The dining room, on the tenth floor

was a fitting climax. The tenth floor is twenty-two feet in height, permitting a high arched ceiling, finished in a plain grey tone with old English type casement windows, handsomely draped and lighted with beautiful crystal electric chandeliers, making the highest and most beautiful dining room in the entire southwest. Opening the windows to the east and west, the view out over the city and valley was magnificent and the gentle breeze going through almost made one forget it was Summer. Three small private dining rooms were across the north end of the floor. The kitchen was at the south end of the floor and was fully equipped. George, Jr. then told them he would like to take them to the roof. Out on the broad roof, one could see almost all of the Salt River Valley, not a desert but almost a forest in the city, and long rows of trees marking the roadways as far as the eye could follow them, and vast stretches of green marking the alfalfa fields and garden crops. Then George, Jr. turned to them and said, "Now you have seen the realization of a dream brought about by faith in the valley, and almost fifty years of hard work, helping to make it what you see. Look in every direction -- do you wonder at that faith. The only wonder is in holding to a vision for that length of time, and making it come true. There he comes across the street now. Let's go down, I want you to meet him, the biggest little man in the city, my father, Geo H.N. Luhrs."

When the Luhrs Building opened, April 1, 1924, the following names were on the directory board: Arizona Club, 9th

floor, J.H. Kibbey, President, E.W. Lewis, Vice President, Frank Thomas, Secretary, M.R. Murray, Treasurer, K. W. Scott, Manager. The Board of Directors was: J.H. Kibbey, L.C. Gallone, E.W. Lewis, Lester Byron, R.W. Lescher, R.A. Kirk, L.C. Melczer, C.D. Cunningham, Frank Thomas, E.P. Conway, LW. Douglas, Leich Ford, J.F. Alkire, F.J. Paine, John W. Latham, Roy Wayland, W.B. Cohring. Other tenants were: C.A. Ayraykt, sixth floor; Robert V. Baker, 519-20; Dr. W.A. Baker, Dentist, 505-6-7; The Bradstreet Co., C.W. Lindsay, Supt., 512-13; F.F. Coles, 509-10-11; Power Conray, 519-20; L.W. Dake, sixth floor; Jas. M. Elder, 521; A. L. Frees, sixth floor; Dr. Junis Gibbons, Dentist, 405-6-7; Dr. F. Luther Goodspeed, Dentist, 304; E. P. Hall, sixth floor; Otho R. Hill, 1 Lobby; John S. Hinton, 521; Incorporation Service of Arizona, F. Geo Telefer, President, Frank Mobus, Vice President, F.F. Telefer, Secretary and Treasurer, 201; Jennings and Strouse, Attorneys-at-law, 205-6-7-8; Irving Jennings, Attorney-at-law, 205-6-7-8; Ketchie Barber Shop, 2 Lobby; J.D. Killiac, Real Estate, 507; K.K. Koontz, 514-15-16-17-18; Rudolph Kuchler, 502-3-4; C.W. Lindsey, 512-13; Madizelle Mining Company, Geo. H. Young, President, 401-2; A.J. Meidroth, 525; Frank Mobus, 201; D.B. Morgan, 514-15-16-17-18; W. B. McCandliss, 1 Lobby; H. J. McClung, 509-10-11; Northern Arizona Securities Company, H. J. McClung, President, F.F. Coles, Secretary Treasurer, 509-10-11; John H. Page, Land Attorney, 514-15-16-17-18; F. J. Paine, sixth floor; Fred H. Perkijs, 505-6-7; Phoenix Tempe Stone Company, General Contractors

519-20; Ploma King Mines, 202-3-4; Post Office Market, 19 W. Jefferson Street; Price and Price, Real Estate & Insurance, 505-6-7; Geo H. Price, 505-6-7; J.P. Price, 505-6-7; C. B. Rand, sixth floor; I. Reis, Magazines & Tobacco, 15 W. Jefferson Street; E.S. Rhodes, 202-3-4; W.E. Ryan, Attorney, 502-3-4; Saginaw Manistree Lumber Company of Williams, Arizona, 521; B.B. Sanders, 202-3-4; Dr. J.R. Shupe, Physician & Surgeon, 405-6-7-8; H.H. Smith, 514-15-16-17-18; Standard Oil Company of California, sixth floor; State Taxpayers Association, 502-3-4; Chas. L. Strouse, Attorney-at-law, 205-6-7-8; Dr. Chas. W. Sult, Physician, 305-6-7; O. R. Taylor, Post Office Market, 19 W. Jefferson Street; F.E. Telfor, 201; C. Geo. Telfor, 201, Edward Van Doorn, 519-20, Warren Brothers Company, 524-25; A.F. Wasielewski Company, 312; Welden & Hill, Real Estate & Insurance, 1 Lobby; H.T. Weldon, 1 Lobby; Grant C. Woodworth Company, 501; Young Mines Company, 401-2; George U. Young, 401-2.

Another policy of the Luhrs' was to keep their properties up to date at all times. The buildings having been built to permit this, alterations and changes were made whenever necessary. The Arizona Club space, the seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth floors, as well as the Standard Oil Company of California area on the sixth floor, were finished to meet their requirements. The second, third, fourth and fifth floors were finished as typical floors. The ceiling and walls were plastered. There was one incandescent light fixture for each office. The floors were cement. Coloring had been put into the cement topping

but it was not satisfactory. Thus the floors were painted each year until 3/16 Armstrong battleship linoleum was put down. In later years, wall to wall carpeting was used in each office. The walls were painted each year, until a paint was put on that could be washed when necessary. A mixture of paint and enamel was used. The windows had venetian blinds with wooden slats, said wooden slats helped reduce the heat in the summer. A wash basin with hot and cold running water was installed in each office. There was a communicating door placed in the walls separating each office, thus if one office was desired, the communicating doors were locked on both sides. If the requirement was for two offices, then one communicating door was left open, etc.

The Luhrs' and Cliff Maddox liked the work of Harry Green as a painter. They told him if he ever went into business for himself they would give him their work. With this support, he opened his own shop, now known as Harry D. Green and son. Harry said if it had not been for the Luhrs' during the depression, he would never have made it. He stated the Luhrs' kept him going so that he could take care of his family. Harry died in 1981.

When the Luhrs Building was opened, only men were used. The elevator operators and janitors received $75.00 a month. The janitors worked a split shift, coming to work at five in the evening and working until nine. They would then go home and come back in the morning and work from four until eight. Phoenix was small and most of the employees lived but a few

blocks away. They rode their bicycles. In the evening the offices were cleaned, with the exception of dusting and wiping off which was done in the mornings. When the building opened, many of the offices had cuspidors. It took many years to get the tenants to stop using them.

There was a reason for having a split shift, mainly the weather. In the Summer of 1924, when the Luhrs Building opened, there was no air conditioning. In fifty of the hotel guest rooms, of one hundred and five, revolving ceiling fans were installed to stir up the air in the entire room. In the Luhrs Building, the tenants used fans, some of which oscilated. In the Summer, not only was it hot, but the sand storms were bad. Whenever such a storm came up all the help would stop whatever they were doing. They would close all the windows and outside openings. Even then the dust and sand got into the offices. During the hot Summer months, the janitors, when they came on at four in the morning, would open all of the windows and doors so as to have a cross current of air going through the building. They would also put on all of the fans. This helped a great deal. Before leaving, the janitors would see that every window was closed and locked. Sometimes a storm would come up after the janitors had gone off duty. Even if all openings had been closed, the dust and sand that had gotten into the offices made it necessary to clean the offices again.

During the early days, the front doors of the Luhrs Building were never locked. People did not come around stealing.



The Luhrs Building,, located on the S.W.corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street, Phoenix, Arizona, April 1st,1924, the date of opening,It was the first tall building in Phoenix. Many said, Phoenix could not afford a ten story building. The Luhrs' proved it could. They had great faith and foresight, as to Phoenix and the valley.



Arizona Club's main dinning room, 10th floor,Luhrs Bldg.S. W. Cor. Central Ave. & Jefferson St.Phoenix, Ariz.4/1/24.

Luhrs Bldg. lobby, S.W.Cor. of Central Ave, & Jefferson St. Phoenix, Arizona. Opened April First 1924.



The elevator operators were always in uniform. During the hot months, the elevators, which were made of steel, got so hot in the afternoons one did not want to touch the side walls. In the early days, many tenants worked on Saturdays. The janitors would report early on Saturday afternoon and give the offices a general cleaning, including the mopping of the cement floors. The help, when the building opened, consisted of three elevator operators, a day man, a night man and the janitors (one for each floor). They all worked six days a week.

During prohibition, 1920-34, the Prohibition Department was located in the Luhrs Building. The story is told that every now and then the liquor evidence was emptied into the basement sump in the Luhrs Building. Before it was dumped, the day janitor gave the sump a very good cleaning. After the liquor was dumped into the sump and the prohibition men had gone, the liquor was syphoned out into bottles and distributed.

When the Luhrs Building opened, April 1, 1924, fuel oil was used for steam heat and hot water boilers. Later, gas was used. The Arizona Club took care of their own quarters. They also furnished the elevator operator at night and on Sundays and holidays in the afternoon. The Luhrs Building took care of the steam heat and any of the equipment in the basement boiler room.

When the Luhrs Building opened, offices rented for $15.00 to $45.00 a month, which was about $1.75 to $2.00 a square foot per annum. The rent the Arizona Club paid never was high. It

It began at $1,950.00 a month for twenty-eight thousand square feet, at which price the Luhrs' just about broke even. In 1924, the Arizona Club, in their new quarters, was a real club and an asset to the building and the City of Phoenix. During the entire time the Arizona Club was in the Luhrs Building, they were given the utmost consideration in every way.

Fortunately, the mechanical equipment installed in the Luhrs Building basement was of sufficient size it was able to take care of the requirements of other structures then on the block, or to be built thereafter. While the McArthur Brothers occupied the building on the northwest corner of Central Avenue and Madison Street, they burned old tires in the furnace that provided the steam heat.

The Arizona Club used to have a smoker every month, with entertainment for the members. To provide the entertainment during the Summer months, they erected a ring on the roof. Many good fights were seen. One of these fights was particularly remembered by George, Jr. As a young boy, Adam Diaz and John Lewis were matched. At that time Adam Diaz was operating an elevator in the Luhrs Building for the Luhrs'. Adam Diaz won the decision against John Henry Lewis. In later years, John Henry Lewis became the light heavyweight champion of the world and then lost the bout with Joe Louis for the heavyweight championship.

The building also provided covered sleeping quarters for the Club, which were used during the hot Summer months.

Every Saturday afternoon, Joe Leyvas would get on top of each elevator, cleaning the top of the cab and then the entire hatch, from the top to the bottom. Windows were washed once a month as was all the marble. On the ground floor, the windows and marble were washed once a week. The sidewalk was swept every night and washed once a week. All woodwork was cleaned and polished once a month. The floor janitors, each night after cleaning their regular nightly assignment of offices, would take one room and give it an extra good cleaning. All tile floors in the corridors and restrooms, as well as the marble floor in the lobby were mopped every night. The restrooms were cleaned every night and given a general cleaning once a month. It was not unusual to see George, Jr. picking up this or that or cleaning anything that might not look just right. He remembers Mr. Rudolph Kuchler, a tenant, asking him why he was always cleaning in the corners. George, Jr. replied, anyone can get the large areas but few take the time to get in the corners. Many tenants would say, it makes no difference what time you come to the building, George, Jr. will be there working along with his employees.

Arthur Luhrs, manager of the Commercial Hotel, later known as the Hotel Luhrs, was just as particular at the hotel as George, Jr. was at the buildings. It was the way their parents brought them up. The Luhrs Buildings became known for their service and cleanliness. Mr. Theodore McKesson, an attorney and tenant, told George, Jr. he liked the Luhrs Properties for the

reason they are operated like a hotel, keeping things clean and giving service.

Joe Cassou of McDougall and Cassou men's clothing store, was a member of the Arizona Club. Joe drank a little now and then. One night he was standing on the northwest corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street directly across the street from the Arizona Club for a long time waiting for the traffic signal to change. Come to find out, he was watching the red light on the top of the fire alarm system to change, which it does not do.

In 1923, the United States Post Office Department was looking for additional space. The Luhrs' were successful in getting a ten year lease (February 22, 1924 through February 21, 1934, for $4,500.00 per annum) from the government to erect a building for them. The building was a one story structure, to the west and adjoining the Luhrs Building. Jack Sparks was the contractor for the building, numbers 15,17,19,21 and 23 West Jefferson Street. The street frontage of 15,17 and 19, with a depth of thirty-two feet, was rented to others, numbers 21 and 23 West Jefferson Street and everything in back of 15 through 23 West Jefferson Street was leased to the Post Office. The entrance was number 23 West Jefferson Street. It was called the Luhrs Station. As a matter of fact, it was really the main Post Office for all of the mail came in and went out of this station. The mail carriers picked up their mail from this station too. It had full post office service, with boxes and windows. The

cost of the building was about $27,000.00. It was finished and open before the Luhrs Building was completed.

December 28th, 1898, Geo H.N. Luhrs received a half interest in Mining Claims, Bandon #1 and Bandon #2. On October 5th, 1905 he received the other half interest. When Arthur Luhrs was going to Stanford University where he was studying Mining and Geology, he did work on the mine during the summer. The claims were registered, and on December 13th, 1909, the government issued to Geo H.N. Luhrs Patented Mining Claims G.L.O. Mineral Survey No. 2597, known as Banden Mine #1 and Banden #2, located in the Agua Fria Mining District, Section 10, Township 4, North East, Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Maricopa County, Arizona, containing 40.18 acres. These claims are adjoining on the south of what was known as the Gold Relief Mine when Mr. Geo Hamblin was operating the same. A considerable amount of gold ore was taken out of the Gold Relief Mine. Mining Claims Banden #1 and #2 are about six miles north and a little to the east of Sun City. Today the owners are Allen Luhrs, John Luhrs, Jean Stroud Crane and Mrs. G. Luhrs Stroud.

When Herbert C. Hoover was Secretary of Commerce, under Presidents Harding and Coolidge, he came to Phoenix for a meeting. George, Jr., while at Stanford University, had become acquainted with David Starr Jordan, Stanford's first President and later chancellor. From him and others he learned much about Herbert C. Hoover, who also was a Stanford University graduate. George, Jr. asked Mr. and Mrs. Hoover to be his guests while in Phoenix

They accepted and stayed in Suite A & B in the Commercial Hotel, later being Suite 162 and 164 in the hotel Luhrs, on the north-east corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street. George, Jr. had a band at the railroad station, then located on south Central Avenue and the railroad tracks (Harrison Street). When Mr. and Mrs. Hoover got off the train, the band played "Come Join The Band", a Stanford song. The station was packed with people. George, Jr. drove them to the hotel where many others had gathered on the sidewalk to see a great man. That evening, a Stanford dinner was served at the Adams Hotel for Mr. and Mrs. Herbert C. Hoover. Mrs. Hoover was a Stanford graduate too. George, Jr. sat between them. During their stay in Phoenix, George, Jr. was in close touch with them. Thus they got fairly well acquainted with each other. George, Jr. also took them to the depot when they departed. The autographed picture of Herbert C. Hoover, sent to George, Jr. after he became President (1929-1933) of the United States of America, is one of his prize possessions. George, Jr. considers Herbert C. Hoover a great man, a great engineer, a great humanitarian and a great President. There was no reason to blame him for the depression, which was world wide and not his fault. Unfortunately, politics is sometimes unfair and dirty, with the opponent using it for smear purposes.

At the time of the election between Herbert C. Hoover and Franklin D. Roosevelt, George, Jr. predicted that the world would change for the worse if President Hoover was defeated,

which it did. At a later date, after the election, John Mason Ross and George, Jr. visited Mr. Hoover at the San Marcus Hotel in Chandler, where Mr. and Mrs. Hoover were spending a short vacation. During the conversation, Mr. Hoover told them he had no objection to the Federal government giving money to the states and letting each state take care of its needy. He was against the Federal Government giving it to individuals, for once you start where will you quit. How right he was. To this day, 1983, the Federal Government is still handing out free money to some individuals who have no intention of ever paying it back but are always wanting more. No one ever got anything for nothing. The national debt has increased to a very serious and dangerous point. Giving Federal money away free must be controlled and regulated and gradually stopped. Each state should take care of its needy. When Andrew Mellon was the Secretary of the United States Treasury, he reduced the national debt. From the day Franklin D. Roosevelt became President of the United States of America, the country has been doling out money to individuals for every conceivable reason, with the national debt getting higher and higher. Financially the country is walking on stilts. God help us when we fall. No one can predict the result or the answer. It never bothered Franklin D. Roosevelt for he knew he would not be here when it happened.

At the time of the election, things had reached the bottom and the Hoover administration had made plans for a recovery on a sound basis, some of which Roosevelt used. Herbert

Hoover was poor and had to work for what he had. Franklin D. Roosevelt was born as one of the idle rich. How easy it is to spend the other person's money. Roosevelt spent the country's (yours and mine) money without limitations, never considering how it would be paid back. He was really giving away the people's money which some day will have to be repaid by the people. Franklin D. Roosevelt did not give any of his money away so liberally as he did the people's money. Herbert Hoover, if he had been re-elected had already established the ground work to take care of the situation so that the country would remain a nation financially on sound ground, and not on stilts. This country has gone through several panics and recovered. They were leveling off periods, to bring things back to some sound normal conditions. The depression was a panic, on a larger scale, for the reason it was world-wide. There is no reason it could not have been handled in a sane manner too so that the nation would have been brought back to normal conditions on a sound basis and not on stilts.

Herbert Hoover was born in Iowa. His parents were poor. He became an orphan when young and went to live with his uncle in Oregon. He entered Stanford University with but a few dollars in his pocket, making it necessary to work his way. Stanford University originally was a poor boy's school. There was no tuition and everything was inexpensive. In 1914, George, Jr. entered Stanford University. His cost for the entire year, including transportation to and from Phoenix, Arizona was $500.00.

When Arthur Luhrs went to Stanford University in 1904, things and costs were the same.

In the early days, Stanford University was able to operate on the endowment left by Mr. and Mrs. Leland Stanford. Herbert Hoover graduated as a mining engineer. At the time, they were looking for mining engineers to go to China and having a hard time getting any. Herbert Hoover consented to go and established a fine record and became financially well to do. In the First World War he took charge of seeing that the people in France and Belgium were fed. He became world-wide known for the fine work he did. There are no scandals attached to Herbert Hoover in any way, as a man single or married, an engineer, a humanitarian, a cabinet member, or as the President of the United States of America. As President he turned his salary back to the government. He was treated shamefully and disrespectfully by Franklin D. Roosevelt at the Inauguration and afterwards. What kind of a man Franklin D. Roosevelt was showed up, as it did many times afterwards.

President Hoover and President Harry Truman became good friends, even if of different political parties. When history is finally written, Herbert C. Hoover will be recognized not only as one of the great men of the time but one of the great Presidents of the United States of America. The greatest number of honorary degrees awarded to any individual is 89, given to Herbert C. Hoover. Franklin D. Roosevelt will be known as the President responsible for the financial condition this

country has found itself in since he was President.

Adam Diaz, whose father was employed by the Luhrs' in the Luhrs Building at the time he died of pneumonia, was working as a messenger boy for the Postal Telegraph in the Luhrs Building. George, Jr. asked Adam if he would like to work in the Luhrs Building running an elevator. He said yes. From April 1, 1924 for six years, Adam Diaz, Harley Forsythe and Frank Rodriquez operated the elevators in the Luhrs Building. Adam was liked by all the people in the building, including George, Jr. Adam's elevator schedule was arranged so that he could go to the Gregg Shorthand School, which was located on the second floor of the Luhrs' two story building, on the northwest corner of Central Avenue and Madison Street, said building at that time being called the Industrial Building. Adam took typing and bookkeeping. It was not long before he started helping George, Jr. in the office. He was very popular with the tenants and was very good at tenant relationship. Adam and Phyllis Diaz were married upon March 30th, 1935. They had four children, Mary Louise, born October 13th, 1936; Sally, born September 21, 1937; Olivia, born October 3, 1942 and Joe, born October 30, 1949. All four of the children have done exceptionally well. Adam and his wife have reason to be proud of them. Adam too has done well and is liked by everyone. He was on the City Council for two years.

In 1942, Adam and Phyllis were painting all the wooden venetian blinds in the Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower. The work was being done in one of the vacant stores on Madison

Street. While Adam and his wife worked inside on the blinds, Mary Louise and Sally would ride their tricycles on the sidewalk in front of the store. The wooden slats were dipped into a deep pan of green paint then hung up to dry, before the next night's work began. One evening, George, Jr. and his mother dropped around to see Adam and Phyllis Diaz, to see how they were doing and ask if there was anything they could do. Mrs. Diaz was expecting. When Mrs. Luhrs saw all the green paint, she remarked that she hoped the new baby would not have green teeth. She was born with nice white teeth.

Thursday, November 27th, 1975, a tragedy occurred at Mary Louise's home in Tempe. Mary Louise was Mr. and Mrs. Diaz's oldest child. She had all the Diaz family over for Thanksgiving dinner, which they all enjoyed. Usually, George, Jr. had dinner with the Diaz's and then with his sister and brother. His brother was the only other member of the immediate family alive, besides himself, and his brother was sick. George, Jr. went over to Santa Barbara to be with his niece. Mary Louise's second husband was a very jealous man. After everyone had gone, he shot and killed Mary Louise and then took his own life. It was a shock to everyone. When George, Jr. heard about it the next morning, he could not believe anything like that could happen to such a wonderful girl. He returned for the wake and the funeral. It has never been the same with her gone. Mary Louise was an outstanding individual. At one time she was going to school, working in a doctor's office and keeping

a home in which to raise a fine family. While in Phoenix Junior College she was named nurse of the year. She won a scholarship, which helped to send her through Arizona State University, becoming a registered nurse. At the time of her death she had a very fine position.

Sally Diaz Feight received her B.A. from Arizona State University and is associated with the United States District Court. She is very competent and efficient. Olivia Diaz has a B.A. and a Masters in Psychology and is practicing in Pasadena, California. Joe Diaz has his B.A. from Denver University. At present he is with his folks in Phoenix, Arizona preparing to go to Arizona State University for his Masters.

Adam Diaz was born in Flagstaff, Arizona on September 2nd, 1909. He was associated with the Luhrs Properties from April, 1924 through December 22, 1976, or fifty-two years. During that period of time he got to know every member of the Luhrs family, especially George, Jr., with whom he was working every day. Through their close association, they became very good friends. Adam knew George, Jr. so well, he knew just what George, Jr. would say or do under almost every circumstance. In 1958, George, Jr. had to go to San Francisco for a detached retina operation. It was an emergency and George, Jr. had no time to go over things with Adam before he left. It was some time before George, Jr. was able to return to his work. George, Jr. says that Adam did a perfect job. On several occasions he has had to take over and manage the buildings, always doing a first

class job. Adam was a member of the City Council for the years 1951 and 1952. He is also interested in the schools. He was very active in the Friendly House. Mr. and Mrs. Diaz have done a wonderful job with their children.

To get away from the strain of the business, George, Jr. and Adam have taken several short trips to California beaches and the Rose Bowl at Pasadena, California. They enjoyed trout fishing at Diamond Rock in the White Mountains, Arizona. During the depression, a boxing ring was fixed up on the attic floor of the Tower, which they used every night after working hours. For the last five years, George, Jr. and Adam Diaz meet at the Phoenix Y.M.C.A. at nine thirty in the morning for exercise. George, Jr. visited often at the Diaz home, 1313 South First Avenue. The Diaz children thought of George Luhrs, Jr. as their second father.

In the early twenties, a banquet was had at one of the resort hotels to honor builders of Phoenix. Those honored were Geo H.N. Luhrs, Charles and Warren McArthur and John Mills. George H.N. Luhrs was very pleased.

One Sunday afternoon, George, Jr. went to Adam Diaz's home. He was in a hurry and remarked he would have to hurry back to work. A friend of Adam's,Father Salinas, spoke up and said, "What, on Sunday?" George, Jr. replied, "Father, what day to you work the most."

The ground floor rear door of the Luhrs Building did not open out directly to the alley but to a passage way, running from the stores on Jefferson Street to the alley. The walls on

both sides did not permit one to see what was coming down the alley. Likewise, anyone in the alley could not see anyone coming out of the passageway. George, Jr. had a hurried call to the two story building across the alley. As George, Jr. darted into the alley, he was just missed being hit by a truck. After that he always stopped, looked and listened.

In 1924, the Wasielewski Construction Company was given the job to change the exterior of the Commercial Hotel. From that time it was called the Hotel Luhrs. The City, in those days, would not permit porches to be built over the sidewalk so the porch on the third floor was torn down and the one on the second floor was remodeled. To do this, it was necessary to rebuild the porch. It was also framed in so that the front elevation looked like arches. Between the three foot columns on the second floor and the smaller columns placed between the larger ones was an ornamental wrought iron railing. On top of the larger ones was an electric light standard while the smaller columns were topped with a planter box with green ferns. Behind the columns and railing, setting on the porch, were planter boxes with palms, oleanders and ferns. On the third floor, in front of each door opening was a shallow ornamental wrought iron balcony. All the brick work and framed in construction was given a stucco finish, a very light color, between a yellow and a tan, with a little red mixed into it. Catharina M. Luhrs liked to have a little red in the coloring for it gave warmth. Red tile was around the top. All the iron

work was painted black. All the doors and wood trimmings were painted turquoise. Lathe was put over the prism glass, which was above the plate glass windows on the ground floor. It was then stuccoed to match the rest of the building. The brick columns of the building on the ground floor were covered with black glass. All the trim around the plate glass windows on the ground floor was white metal.

The alterations and changes brought out the original architecture, fitting to the southwest, making the building very attractive, with character, dignity and beauty, so pronounced in all the Luhrs' buildings. In 1938, the lobby was done over, making it modern, with a new registering counter, a mezzanine over the counter and the north side to the rear of the lobby, light fixtures and a complete redecorating job. The Hotel Luhrs, originally the Commercial Hotel, as of 1978 had stood watch on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street for ninety years and until 1976 under the original ownership and management. It had watched Phoenix grow from a town of a few pioneers to the Metropolitan City it is today. The hotel has kept pace with the growth of the city and was proud of its beauty and architecture and its sister buildings of the Luhrs Properties, facing Patriot's Park, compared to the present buildings that resemble a large box, lacking beauty, dignity and character. The hotel has so much to be proud of. It has many first:

First three story brick building in Phoenix

First three story hotel in Phoenix

Largest and tallest building in the southwest (1888)

Oldest hotel in the state

Oldest structure in original Phoenix

First moving picture show house (Lyric)

First hotel with refrigerated air conditioning

First hotel with sprinkler system to meet city fire code.

The Hotel Luhrs, originally the Commercial Hotel, has taken care of many prominent people such as Governors, United States Representatives, United States Senators, President and Mrs. Herbert C. Hoover, when he was Secretary of Commerce, Railroad Builders, Miners, Cattlemen, Farmers, Sheepmen, Cowboys, Traveling Men and those who helped make Phoenix and Arizona what it is. The Luhrs' lived in the hotel from 1890. George, Jr. was born in the hotel June 28th, 1895. Arthur Luhrs, Ella Luhrs and Emma Luhrs were married in the hotel. Although born in the Luhrs home on the southeast corner of First Avenue and Jefferson Street, after 1890 they lived in the hotel until they were married. Ella Luhrs, after her marriage to A.C. "Cap" Taylor, continued living at the hotel until her death, December 16, 1974. Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Adams and Margaret, later of the Adams Hotel, were guests of the hotel in 1895. J.C. Adams had talked to Geo H.N. Luhrs about the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs, with the idea of buying the same. He was given three lots on the northeast corner of Central and Adams to build the Adams Hotel. Prior to the flood of 1881

everything was south of Washington. Those with investments north of Washington Street were anxious for a development like the Adams Hotel to draw business north of Washington Street.

On December 22, 1976, the Luhrs' sold their interest in all of Block 64 and Lots 14,16,18, Block 22, City of Phoenix, to the Patrician Land Corporation of Edmonton, Canada. On Block 64 are the Luhrs Building, the Luhrs Arcade, the Luhrs Tower, the Luhrs Parking Center and the Luhrs Central Madison Building. The Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs, covers lots 14-16-18, Block 22.

On April 13, 1979, Michael H. Peloquin and Richard C. Thomas bought lots 14,16,18, Block 22 from the Patrician Land Corporation of Edmonton, Canada. On this property was the Hotel Luhrs. Peloquin and Thomas intended leaving the hotel remain and operate it as a European style hotel, with retail places and restaurants. The City Building Department and the City Fire Department required so many changes to be made, Peloquin and Thomas found it impossible to go ahead with their original plans. They then decided on a high rise building which meant tearing down the Hotel Luhrs, originally the Commercial Hotel, the oldest hotel in Arizona and the oldest landmark in original Phoenix.

An editorial in the Arizona Republic, July 4th, 1980, "Saving the Past", says "Other buildings haven't fared so well, some historical preservation traders say too many are being torn down before the community realizes what it is losing in historical significance."

On July 15th, 1980, George, Jr. wrote Margaret Hance, Mayor of Phoenix. "Enclosed you will find a short history of the Commercial Hotel (Hotel Luhrs). The Phoenix Historic Building Survey states that the hotel is eligible for listing on the National Register." Mayor Hance replied, "The City does not administer any historic preservation funds. Those federal funds are administered out of the State Historic Preservation Office whose address is 1688 West Adams, Phoenix, Arizona, 85007. Thank you very much for your interest and dedication over the years to downtown Phoenix.

Robert Glasgow, Regional Editor for the Arizona Republic, August 25th, 1964, writes about the Hotel Luhrs. "The past and future of Phoenix come into most poignant conjunction at the intersection of Jefferson and Central Avenue -- The Luhrs Hotel, one of Phoenix's beautiful buildings. And one of the few examples of good, indigenous architecture left in the City. The history of the Luhrs Hotel is almost the history of the development of downtown Phoenix."

The Hotel Luhrs, originally the Commercial Hotel, has been torn down, having held down the corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street from 1887 to 1982, approximately 95 years, which is a longer span of time than the span of life of humans. A building that has weathered our storms as it did, must be pretty sturdy. As George, Jr. passes the hotel, and his birthplace, he does not linger. He drops his head and says nothing. After passing by, he raised his head. One could not help but

notice his eyes were moist.

In late December, 1978, the Maricopa Board of Supervisors were negotiating with the Patrician Land Corporation of Edmonton, Canada to buy all of Block 64, on which stands the Luhrs Building, the Luhrs Arcade, the Luhrs Tower, the Luhrs Parking Center and the Luhrs Central Madison Building. The deal did not go through. On January 24th, 1980,Block 64 was purchased by Winston Management of Burlingame, California, from Patrician Land Corporation of Edmonton, Canada. Mr. Trevor Roberts is the man back of the Winston Management of Burlingame, California.

Conditions in general were good during the 1920's. As a matter of fact, the country was enjoying prosperity. Geo H.N. Luhrs was optimistic as to present and future conditions and remarked he did not think the Luhrs' had anything to worry about.

Embrey Stults opened the Eagle Drug Store in the Luhrs Building in April, 1925. It was located on the southwest corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street. At first the drug store occupied the corner, with a Savings and Loan Association, owned by Mr. Waddoups, located to the south of the drug store. Later, the Eagle Drug Store occupied the entire area. The Postal Telegraph was directly to the south.

In early 1925, Geo H.N. Luhrs became seriously ill with pneumonia. He had five extensions and for many weeks there was doubt as to whether he would make it or not. If any member of the family was gone for over five minutes word had to be left

as to where they would be. Geo H.N. Luhrs remained in the hotel with two nurses. At that time, the doctors still made house calls. The treatment in those days was different than today, the illness being much more serious. One of Geo H.N. Luhrs' nurses was the same one Arthur Luhrs had when he had typhoid fever. Her name was Miss Clouse. She lived way out on the desert, alone, north and east of Scottsdale. The doctor wanted Geo H.N. Luhrs to have a teaspoon of Brandy every so often. The Luhrs' having sold all of their bar equipment and stock too when prohibition came in, had nothing. J. C. Adams, having been a good friend and having kept his stock, gladly furnished the necessary brandy. George, Jr. made the calls upon J.C. Adams.

George, Jr. took over the work of Geo H.N. Luhrs in addition to his own. At first it was thought to be temporary but after Geo H.N. Luhrs recovered, he never got his strength back that he had before. El Zaribah Shrine put on a show, which was during the time Geo H.N. Luhrs was sick. George, Jr. had to sing a song, "Laugh That Off." George, Jr. was very much worried about his father. In singing the song he forgot a line. He turned to the audience and told them to laugh that off. It made a big hit.

Geo H.N. Luhrs was told everything that was going on. He and Mrs. Luhrs were still in charge and their approval was always obtained before anything was done. Naturally, they were not bothered with details. A few years before, (1922) on

his 75th birthday, the Masons celebrated it with him. They gave him a stuffed retiring chair, which he enjoyed, especially after his illness. George, Jr. has the chair as of today, 1983.

Geo H.N. Luhrs liked his bellflower apples. He would take out his knife and peel the skin off. Then he would slice the apple into smaller pieces and enjoy eating them as he read the newspaper. Many times he would fall asleep and drop the paper. When he was told, "Papa are you asleep," he would say he was not asleep -- just resting his eyes. He worshipped his wife, Catharina Margarita (Gretchen) Luhrs. He loved his family and was most proud of his business and buildings and the way his children operated and took care of them. He had complete confidence in what they did and trusted them explicitly. It was certainly a family in which they were all for one and one for all. The Luhrs Properties meant everything to them, each one sacrificing to make the properties a success. The work load got so heavy for George, Jr., he reluctantly had to become inactive in the Patrol and the Shrine, in which he had many friends. George, Jr. has a fifty year pin from Arizona Masonic Lodge #2, F & A.M. and 67 years recognition; from the Shrine a fifty year pin and a life membership; from the Scottish Rite a fifty year cap; from the Arizona Club, a life membership and he holds the oldest membership card. He is a member of of the American Legion, being present at the Phoenix organization meeting held in the old Center Street School. Returning to Stanford University, he became an active member later.

As of January 13th, 1926, the intersection of Central Avenue and Madison Street was the busiest corner in the City of Phoenix.

In Phoenix, in the late 1920's, new buildings were being erected. The original Court House, on the block bounded by Washington Street, Jefferson Street, First Avenue and Second Avenue had been torn down. A new structure was erected on the same block, the County using the east two thirds and the City the west one third. This left the City Hall Square, Washington Street to Jefferson Street and First Street to Second Street, available for others. The southeast corner of First Street and Washington Street was leased to the Fox Theatre. A building for J. C. Penney was built on the balance of the block except the northeast corner of First Street and Jefferson Street where the original fire department had been stationed.

When J.C. Penney first came to Phoenix, they wanted the southwest corner of Central Avenue and Washington Streets, the property owned by Mrs. Lulu Porter, the daughter of Judge Porter of the early days. The two story building erected by Judge Porter was known as the Porter Building. The representative of J.C. Penney called upon George, Jr. for help to get Mrs. Porter to lease the property. George, Jr. talked to Mrs. Porter but she would do nothing for the reason she had no one to take care of things for her and her daughters. George, Jr. offered to lease or buy the property or take care of it for Mrs. Porter. Her answer was NO. George, Jr. was disappointed.

The Luhrs' and the Porters' were lifelong friends and to have J. C. Penney on Mrs. Porter's property would have helped the Luhrs Properties and the entire area. J. C. Penney had J. W. Walker build them a building on the northeast corner of Washington Street and Third Avenue. When the lease with Mr. Walker expired, J. C. Penney moved into a newly erected two story building on the east side of First Avenue between Monroe Street and Van Buren Street. This was on a part of the old Center Street School. From this location, J. C. Penney moved into the building built for them on the City Hall Square, being on the southwest corner of Second Street and Washington Street. They have recently given up this location for space in different shopping centers.

In the late 1920's plans were being drawn for a ten story office building for the Phoenix Title and Trust Company. It is located on the northwest corner of First Avenue and Adams Street. It is now known as the First Interstate Building.

In 1950, Korricks Department Store enlarged. They sold out to The Broadway Department Store, moving to the different shopping centers. The Professional Building was built in 1933 on the southeast corner of Central Avenue and Monroe Street. The Valley Bank was on the ground floor and doctors offices above. Now the First Federal Savings occupy the ground floor. There was talk of a Mr. Johnson building an office building on the northeast corner of First Avenue and Van Buren Street. It was never built.

Under Arthur Luhrs' management, the Hotel Luhrs was doing good business and the Luhrs Building was well occupied, so the Luhrs' decided to build another building on the southeast corner of First Avenue and Jefferson Street where the Luhrs' original home was located. After the Luhrs' moved to the Commercial Hotel, in 1890, the house was used for various purposes,such as a home, then an auction house, and after being partially burned down, for a barbecue stand. George, Jr. remembers many times when he came home from school for lunch, his mother would send him over to get ten cents of barbecue meat. Those were the times when coffee was five cents, a shine ten cents, a loaf of bread for five cents, a pie for ten cents, a hair cut for twenty five cents and the Arizona Republic and Gazette for one year for nine dollars and ninety cents.

At first, the Luhrs' thought they would build a building on the southeast corner of First Avenue and Jefferson Street, exactly like the Luhrs Building. The first stage of the building would be the front, or the Jefferson Street elevation, the second stage was an eighteen story structure to be erected between the Luhrs Building and the building of the first stage, connecting all three together, with the entrance and elevator lobby in the eighteen story portion. The third stage was to build the First Avenue elevation of the first stage. The entire structure, when completed, would be one building known as the Luhrs Building. It would have been very outstanding but very expensive. Being in debt as the Luhrs' were in 1928,

it was given a lot of thought and consideration. Upon the completion of stage two, it would have meant doing away with the lobbies and elevators in the present Luhrs Building, and those in the first phase and other changes, all of which would have been money thrown away, something we could not afford to do.

Mr. H.C. (Uncle Henry) Trost, of Trost and Trost, the architects, asked if the Luhrs' were definitely decided on duplicating the Luhrs Building. He was told they were not. He then showed the Luhrs' a drawing of a building which today is the Luhrs Tower. The Luhrs' liked it very much for it had beauty, dignity and character as do all of the Luhrs Buildings, yet each building is different. Plans and specifications were prepared and the bids were called for. A. F. Wasielewski Construction Company was the low bidder at $208,775.00. The contract was signed upon March 20th, 1929 and work began. With the elevators, air ducts, etc. the cost was approximately $279,000.00. The Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland wrote the bond.

The Luhrs Tower is approximately seventy seven and a half feet along Jefferson Street and approximately fifty seven and a half feet in depth on First Avenue. It is a reinforced concrete structure with exterior walls being of concrete too. There is an exterior concrete wall and inner concrete wall with air space between them for insulation. The exterior walls are stuccoed a very light buff with a little red to give it warmth.

All the ornamental concrete on the exterior is an oxidized green color. All office floors are concrete, later being covered with 3/16 Armstrong Brown Battleship Linoleum. The walls and ceilings are plastered, with one incandescent light fixture in each office. The plumbing is roughed in but no wash basins are installed except in the men and ladies restrooms and hopper rooms. The restrooms and the corridors have tile flooring. The restroom walls are white tile. The toilet stall partitions are marble. The corridors have marble wainscoting. Air ducts are run to each office for air circulation. At this time, refrigerated air conditioning was not thought of. The elevators are Westinghouse gearless machines, running five hundred feet a minute, with self landing and automatic door opening. The lobby is beautiful. The high wainscoting is of marble from France. The beamed ceiling and walls above the wainscoting were hand painted by Indians. Real gold leaf was used in the decoration. Casement windows are used throughout the building. The doors and the wood trim in the structure are mahogany stained with a walnut finish. The figures around the top of the Tower on the exterior are not symbolic of anyone, unless the architect has some early explorer in mind.

A tunnel was built from the Luhrs Building to the Luhrs Tower, large enough for a person to walk through. All utilities were centralized in the Luhrs Building basement and the necessary pipes were run through the tunnel from the Luhrs

Building to the Luhrs Tower. Later on, refrigerated lines for the refrigerated air conditioning were run through the tunnel. When the Luhrs Tower was built, two blowers were installed in the basement and connected so as to provide circulating air to all of the offices. The Luhrs Tower was opened January 1st, 1930, just after the stock market crash. The General Motors Acceptance Corporation had leased the entire second floor. Some of the other tenants were Lee & Garrett, Mr. Colvocoresses, Dr. William Johnson, Fred Blair Townsend, Hartford Accident and Indemnity Company, Baker & Whitney, Alice Birdsall, General Adjustment Bureau and others. The Luhrs Tower is 14 stories high.

On May 3rd, 1929, Geo H.N. Luhrs was optimistic as to conditions in general. He was very much interested in the Luhrs Tower, just under the course of construction. It was on this day, May 3rd, 1929, that he signed the Luhrs Tower elevator contract for two Westinghouse gearless, 500 feet per minute machines. After signing the contracts in his office in the Hotel Luhrs, he remarked that he did not feel just right and thought he would go upstairs to the Luhrs Suite and take a little rest. No one gave it a second thought. As a matter of fact, Arthur Luhrs and his wife left early the next morning for Greer, Arizona, to spend a few days. During the night, Geo H.N. Luhrs had a severe case of dysentery. It continued all night and into the next day. Dr. R.J. Stroud, Emma Luhrs' husband, saw him and called in another doctor. They realized he was becoming dehydrated and gave him saline by intra venious.

Physicians were just starting to use I.V.'s. About seven in the evening the Luhrs' went across the hall for a few minutes to have something to eat. George, Jr. was the last to leave. When they returned, Geo H.N. Luhrs had passed away.

May 4th, 1929 was a very sad day for the Luhrs'. It was the first break in the extremely close family. It was a terrible shock. George, Jr. telephoned Arthur immediately telling him the sad news. Arthur and Sadie, his wife, left for home at once. Geo H.N. Luhrs was kept in the hotel until Arthur got home, in the early hours of the morning.

Mrs. Merryman was an old, close friend of the Luhrs family. Mrs. Merryman took charge of the funeral. The services were held at the Masonic Temple on the southeast corner of Fourth Avenue and Monroe Street. The Eminent Grand Commander of Knights Templar of the State of Arizona had charge of the services raising Geo H.N. Luhrs to the Supreme Lodge. Most of Geo H.N. Luhrs' brother masons were present. People of every race, creed and color were present to pay their respects to a greatly admired man, a pioneer and empire builder of the southwest, especially Arizona, having endured the hardships of the early settlers who made the State of Arizona, Wickenburg, Phoenix and the Salt River Valley (Valley of the Sun) a great place to live in. One of the songs sung was, "When you come to the end of a perfect day." Geo H.N. Luhrs, the German wheelwright, immigrant, who as a young man of twenty chose the United States of America as his country and Phoenix, Arizona as his home,

blazed the trail through the deserts of the southwest and Indian territory to help do his part to make Phoenix, Arizona what it is. He had seen many of his dreams come true and become realities so his later years were perfect days. The floral pieces were numerous and beautiful. His family, brother masons, associates and friends gathered together to bid him a temporary adieu until such time as they would meet again.

SONNETS OF THE PAST

L U H R S

Do you remember when the town was young,
The kindly, honest, busy little man
Who every moment of his life long span
Helped build the place whence his success was wrung?
Whose nimble hands first set the wagon's tongue
Toward mines that fed his mule train's caravan,
Whose friendly heart more won the stranger
His bed and board and beer straight from the bung?

To him the vision of the man who knows
He serves his city best who serves its needs,
and builds in beauty when his service shows
The artist's dream in common daily deeds.

There stands his Tower! A monument to one
Whose mule corral once blistered in the sun.

Sharlot Hall
State Poet of Arizona
May 6, 1933

They were just building the mausoleum at Greenwood Memorial Park, 2300 West Van Buren Street, Phoenix, Arizona, so Geo H.N. Luhrs was placed in a temporary crypt until the mausoleum was finished. The Geo H.N. Luhrs family have several crypts together in the mausoleum so that Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs will, in time, have their children Arthur, Ella, Emma and George, Jr. beside them.

At the time of the death of Geo H.N. Luhrs, the Luhrs Tower was in its early days of construction. The Bank of California, N.A., the trustee for the Luhrs bonds was concerned. Fortunately, Geo H.N. Luhrs had made a gift deed, for love and affection to his wife, Catharina M. Luhrs. By so doing, the title to all of the property passed immediately upon recording the deed from Geo H.N. Luhrs to Catharina M. Luhrs. This eliminated any long, drawn out probate proceedings, attorney fees and accountants. Floyd Stahl, an attorney, and a tenant of the Luhrs Building, was making a trip to San Francisco, so he was asked to see the Bank of California, N.A. trustee and explain the matter to them, which he did. They were satisfied. Thus everything went along smoothly and without trouble. Later, the Federal and State inheritance tax was paid. It became necessary, however, for the bonding company, The Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland, to complete the construction of the Luhrs Tower for the Wasielewski Construction Company.

Geo H.N. Luhrs said he would rather be half full at the regular price than all pull at half price. Do not loan to a

friend, for if he does not pay, you have lost a friend. Give it to him. If he pays or not, you still have a friend. If in business, stay out of politics. If in politics, stay out of business.

George, Jr. liked the bone with the good meat around it. One day he asked his father for the bone. His father had cut off all the meat. George, Jr. felt like a dog.

In 1929, the United States Post Office was in need of more space for work room. To provide this, the old one story building between the Luhrs Tower and the Luhrs Station Post Office in the rear of 27-37 West Jefferson Street was torn down. A new one story structure, costing $18,000.00 was erected in its place. The Post Office took the rear portion. The front space, facing Jefferson Street, was rented to others. The front of the Structure matched the architecture of the Luhrs Tower, which was in the course of construction at the time. The old one story building, which was torn down, was built in the early 1910's. It was first erected as an open-air burlesque show house. Good shows were put on, and the people enjoyed them. The first summer it was open there was no roof over the building. As the cold weather approached, it became necessary to put a roof over the structure, said roof being of corrugated iron. Between the wall and the roof, some space was left which could be left open or closed. In the summer time it was left open to permit circulation of air, which helped to keep the place cooler. When it ceased to be operated as a show house, the premises were rented to Barker Produce Company. Thus, in

1930, the Jefferson Street frontage from Central Avenue to First Avenue was the Luhrs Building (11 West Jefferson Street); the one story Luhrs Station Post Office (14-15-19-21-23 West Jefferson Street); the one story building (27-29-31-33-35-17 West Jefferson Street) and the Luhrs Tower (45 West Jefferson Street).

Then came the depression with the crash of the stock market in October, 1929. Many had everything they had wiped out, resulting in some suicides. The banks closed for a few days. People were in for several years of hardship and a period of adjustment. It was something everybody felt, one way or another. There was less traveling, which affected the hotel and tourist business. The Arizona Biltmore, built by the McArthur Brothers, and in which the Luhrs' had some stock, could not make it. Mr. Wrigley took it over. The Hotel Luhrs, the same as other hotels, operated from day to day with a few guests. The office buildings had many vacancies. Every individual and business felt it.

The General Motors Acceptance Corporation had leased the entire second floor of the Luhrs Tower a month or two after the start of the depression, and upon completion of the structure, moved in. Not long after they moved in, they wanted to cut down on their space, on which they had a five year lease. The Luhrs' had a lot of space vacant and for rent, but thinking the General Motors Acceptance Corporation would at some later date remember fair treatment, consented to see if something could be worked out. The Luhrs' agreed to let them cut down their space to three offices. The rent for the three offices was to be

divided into the original five year total. In other words the original five year total covered six and a half years for the lessor number of offices. This meant that the Luhrs' had to wait a year and a half longer to be paid the total amount of the original lease. When the General Motors Acceptance Corporation lease expired and a new one was requested, they gave no consideration or thought to the favor they had received from the Luhrs'. They went around to other buildings bargaining, finally remaining in the Luhrs Tower. This was not the customary reaction of the time. Most everyone appreciated favors and considerations. Even today, tenants of the Luhrs' during the depression, give praise to the Luhrs' and their help. Some say they could not have stayed in business without the help of the Luhrs'.

The Luhrs' had their belt pulled in tight and took out of the business only what they needed to live on. Everyone was struggling to exist and most people were trying to make it possible for the other fellow to continue. Office rent was adjusted to meet the tenants' ability to pay and operate. One thing the depression did was to bring people closer together and help each other.

The employees, seeing the amount of space that was vacant, thought that they might not get paid. Proudly, the Luhrs' never missed paying their employees on time each pay day. Also, the Luhrs never missed interest and principal payments on bonds and loans when they were due. They also kept their bills paid

with the exception of City, County and State taxes, on which they were behind a year and a half when it was paid. Harry Green, the painter whom the Luhrs' and Cliff Maddox helped get started in business said if it had not been for the Luhrs' giving him jobs, he would not have been able to feed his family. Amos Christian, who had been foreman for the Wasielewski Construction Company on the Luhrs Tower job, went to work for the Luhrs' as a carpenter for one dollar an hour.

The Luhrs' operating expenses were kept to a minimum. One of the things that made this possible was the fact that George, Jr. had no office employees in his office. He not only managed the properties but was in constant touch with the tenants and prospective tenants, supervising changes and alterations. He took care of all correspondence as well as all of the bookkeeping and government reports, payroll, etc. as was necessary to keep things going. This took all of his time, seven days a week, from the time he got up at 6:30 A.M. until he went to bed at midnight, a policy he followed even after the depression.

After the death of Geo H.N. Luhrs, Catharina M. Luhrs would sit in the office with George, Jr. every evening. After his mother passed away, Ella Luhrs Taylor did the same and helped all she could. One evening, Catharina M. Luhrs asked George, Jr. if she might have five dollars. George, Jr. took his mother to the safe and after opening it, said, "Mother it is all yours. You can have anything you wish." He felt so humble

and has never forgotten the incident. It shows how saving the Luhrs' were in trying to meet their obligations and continue in business during the depression times.

The Arizona Club was having their troubles, which meant they had to be carried along too. At that time they would put on a buffet for one dollar a person. The Luhrs' ate their dinner at the club every night in order to help. There were times that the only other people in the dining room were ten or twelve members who lived at the club. They would sit together at a large round table and discuss the affairs of the day, most of which were not good. In order to help the club and others that paid for their electricity, the Arizona Public Service agreed to let their electricity come off of the building meter. The more electricity that is used, the rate for the greater amount decreases. Thus, the building would pro-rate the amount the tenant used and bill them accordingly, which amounted to a saving to them. In later years, after the depression, the Arizona Public Service discontinued this practice.

Mr. Lynn Laney, a tenant in the Luhrs Tower, was the attorney for the Paradise Water Users Association. He would pay his rent with their bonds. The Luhrs' cashed them in for ten cents on the dollar. Too bad they were not kept. Some one might have owned Paradise Valley today.

In some cases, two stores would be made into three, making the monthly rental per store less, but the total more for three. Large offices would be divided with a T partitition,

making a small reception room and two small private offices. With two paying the rent, it saved both tenants. This worked out very well for lawyers who would not have been able to operate otherwise. The credit companies like General Motors Acceptance Corporation and the Commercial Credit Company would rent offices. Soon thereafter they would want more space or less space. Then, a little later they would want less or more. The moving and fixing up of the space was costly. Finally, they were convinced to rent some of our space at a lower cost per square foot per annum, taking an area large enough so that they could expand or shrink as they required, but at a fixed monthly rental, which was no more than a smaller space at a higher monthly rental. In order to brighten up things, the elevators in the Luhrs Building were painted with gay colors. The purpose was to help cheer up people and get a smile or a laugh.

In 1932, to beat competition, the Luhrs' decided to provide their office buildings with refrigerated (dry) air conditioning. Gay Engineering Corporation was given the contract for the refrigeration equipment, which was placed in the basement of the Luhrs Building. From this central plant, supply and return chilled water lines were run to the cooling chambers in the different buildings. Frank Harmonson was to install the necessary supply and return ducts, the blowers and the sprary cooling chambers. In the Tower, the blowers and supply ducts were already in. In the Luhrs Building, it was decided to install ducts for the first thru the sixth floors. The Arizona Club was

to be taken care of with individual units, one for each of the bedrooms on the seventh and eighth floors. The ninth floor had a unit for the lobby, another for the grille room and billiard room and individual units for the reading room and the library. The tenth floor had a unit on the roof to take care of the dining rooms.

Gene Clancy of the Gay Engineering Corporation, was in charge of the refrigeration equipment. He was a fine engineer, having forgotten more than most engineers will ever know. After talking to Harry Asbury of the Crystal Ice Company, it was decided to install an amonia operated refrigeration plant for the reason it was the most efficient and economical. Everything possible was done to conceal pipes, ducts, etc. so that it would not look like something added. The Luhrs Building was 100% occupied at the time. To cut the holes in the floor for the air ducts they could only work from five until ten at night. The reason for that was due to the fact that the Arizona Club had two floors of bedrooms and all noises had to stop by ten P.M. Furthermore, the offices had to be cleaned so they could be used in the morning.

The concrete was very hard. The tools had to be resharpened every day. There were times that the entire building had to be re-cleaned after ten in the evenings. The powdery concrete dust got all through the building. The men who cleaned the building did a fine job and deserve a lot of thanks. George, Jr. doubts whether the help today would do it. After many months of hard work

and mental strain, the work was completed. George, Jr. says he lost 15 pounds during the time of the installation. The results were worth it. Everyone was happy. Now, in the Summer, people could work in comfort. With all openings closed, sand storms did not cause any problems.

On February 6th, 1913, in order to protect his second mortgage, Geo H.N. Luhrs paid off the first mortgage and acquired the ranch, being the east half of the southeast quarter, Section 3, Township 1, north of Range 2, east of the Gila and Salt River base and meridian, being 80 acres on the northwest corner of Thirty Fifth Avenue and Van Buren Street. It was a quarter of a mile on Van Buren Street and a half mile on Thirty Fifth Avenue. Geo H.N. Luhrs share cropped the ranch with different farmers at different times. The ranch was never a paying investment. One time, the farmer on the ranch was caught stealing the cotton. The cotton was traced to identical bales but the court would not turn over the cotton.

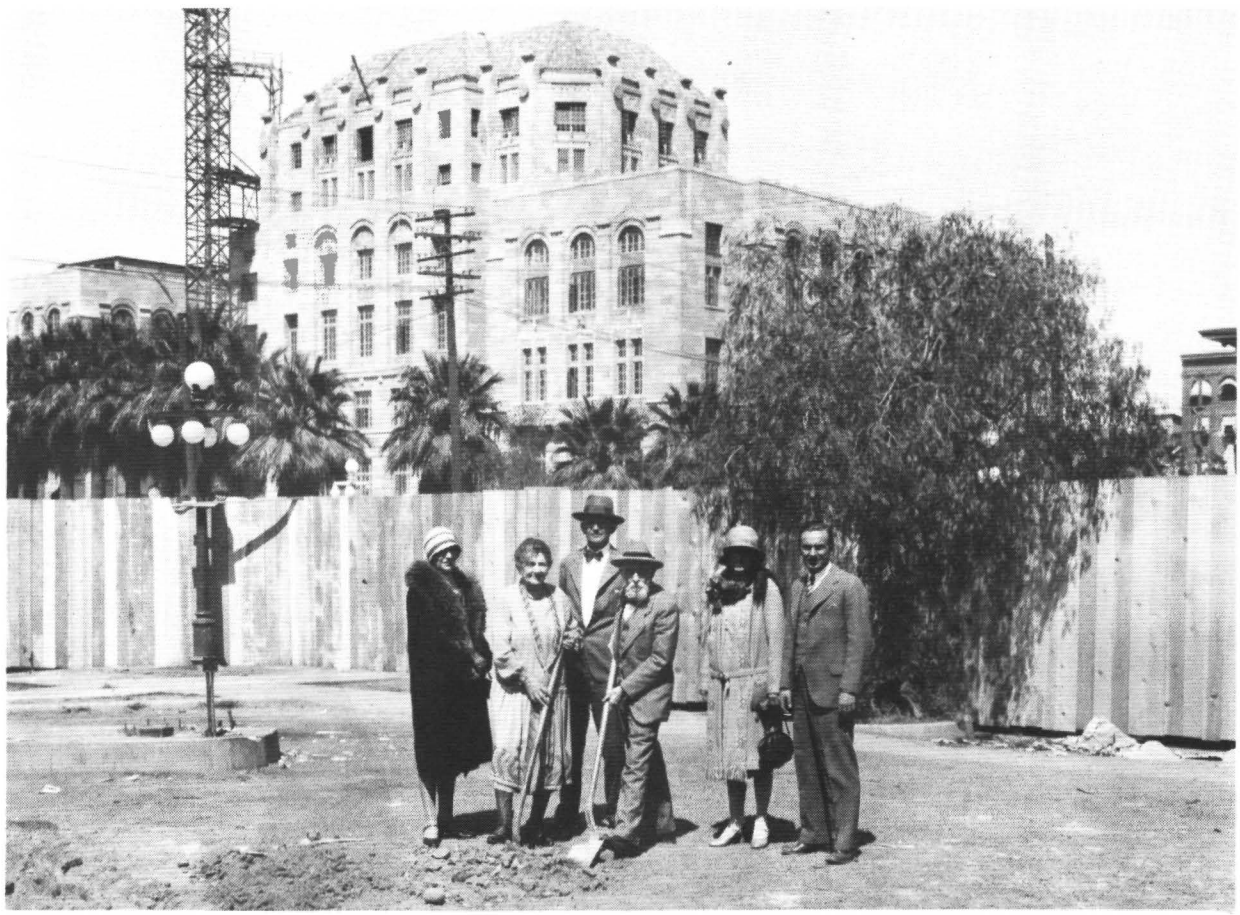
At the time the refrigerated cooling system was installed in the Luhrs Building, a new electric panel board was required to take care of the additional electric load to operate the refrigeration equipment and make it possible to furnish electricity for the entire block, from one electric panel board centrally located in the Luhrs Building basement. Having all the electricity going through one electric meter would result in a lower bill. It was at this time the Luhrs' decided to sell the 80 acre ranch. It sold for the prevailing price at the time

or Eleven Thousand Dollars. This was also the price of the new electric panel board. Early in 1981, George, Jr. was out that way and was told that one acre across the street from the ranch had been sold for $150,000.00 for a McDonald's Restaurant.

The refrigeration equipment consisted of an ammonia Viltor compressor, two condensors, two chillers, pipes, etc. A large concrete tank, open at the top, received the returned chilled water. From there it was pumped through the chillers and then to the spray chambers located in the different buildings and then back again to the open top concrete tank. In the Summer time, it was not uncommon to see watermelons floating around in the tank being cooled off.

To have the necessary water for the condensors, a well was drilled, 150 feet in depth, later 200 feet in depth. This supply well was under the sidewalk on Central Avenue near the condensors in the Luhrs Building basement. The capacity of the supply well was 1,200 gallons of water per minute. The disposal well for the water that had passed through the condensors, was under the sidewalk in the basement,in the southeast corner of the two story building on the northwest corner of Central Avenue and Madison Street. The underground water, which ran south, was pumped up by the supply well, going through the condensers and returned to the disposal well, which was south of the supply well.

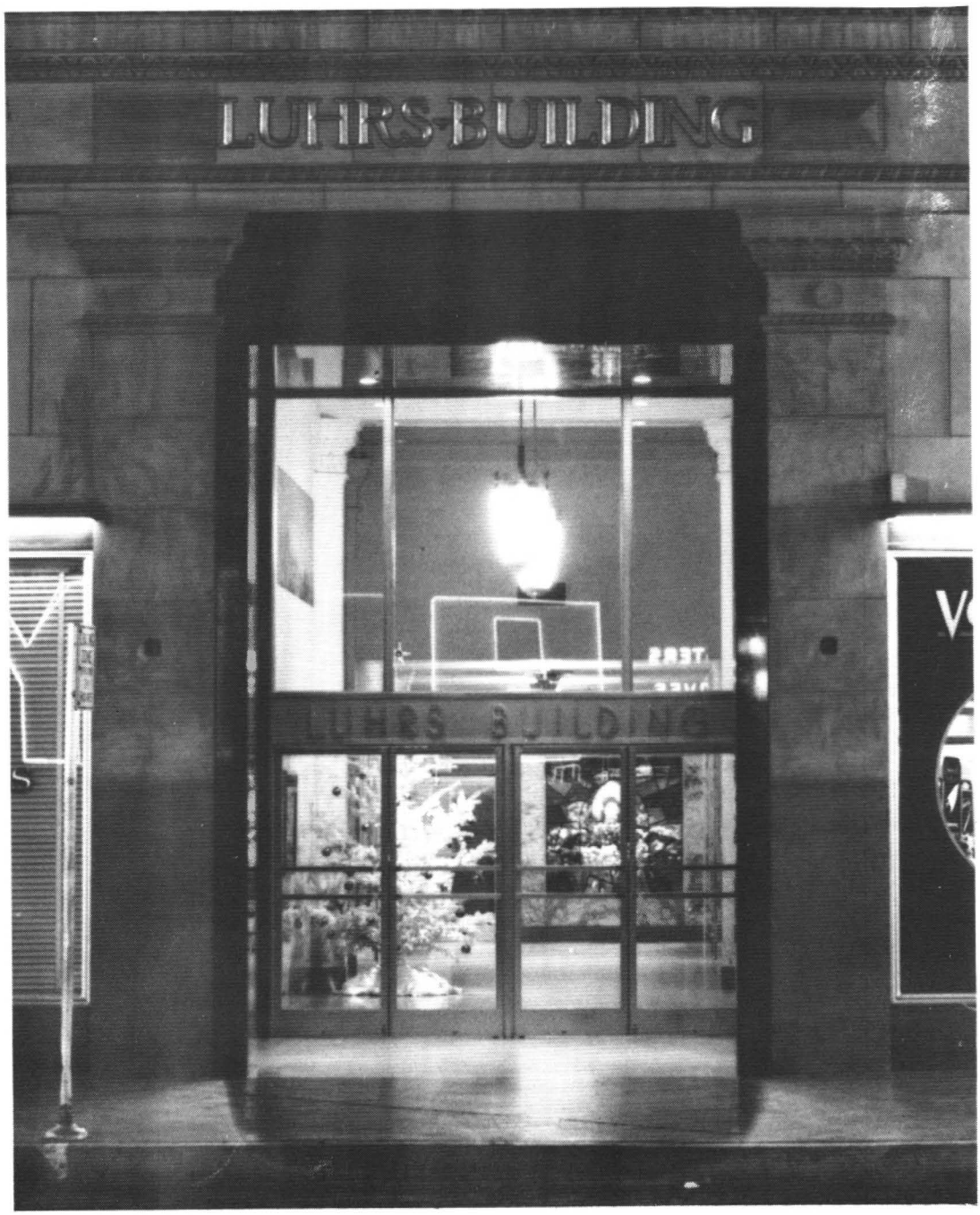
At the time the Luhrs wells were being drilled, the Fox Theatre, on the southeast corner of Washington Street and First



Breaking ground for the Luhrs Tower, located on the S.E. corner of First Avenue and Jefferson Street, Phoenix, Arizona, March, 1929. Left to right: Ella Luhrs Taylor, Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs (Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs). Arthur C. Luhrs, Geo H.N. Luhrs, Emma Luhrs Stroud and George H.N. Luhrs, Jr. This was the site of the Geo H.N. Luhrs family home, in 1884. Arthur, Ella and Emma were born in said home.



The Luhrs Tower, S.E.cor. of First Ave. & Jefferson St.Phoenix, Ariz. 1933. Site of the Luhrs family home, in 1884. Bldg to the left is the Luhrs Bldg.



Entrance to the Luhrs Building, on the S.W.corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street, Phoenix, Arizona, Christmas Eve, 1953



The Luhrs Arcade, looking east from First Ave. entrance. The Luhrs Arcade connects with the lobby of the Luhrs Bldg. & the Luhrs Tower, from First Ave. to Central Ave. (1954)

Luhrs Tower lobby. S.W.Cor.of First Ave & Jefferson St., Phoenix, Arizona. (1954)



Street was doing likewise. Anyone not knowing why the wells were being drilled might think oil had been located. When the Luhrs Building was being built, the underground water level was about thirteen feet from the ground surface. In 1920, McArthur Brothers complained about underground water being in the elevator pit of the building they occupied on the northwest corner of Central Avenue and Madison Street. When the Luhrs Building was built, water was in the elevator pit. About the same time, the Elks purchased the property at the southwest corner of Adams Street and Second Avenue to build a club house. They wanted a swimming pool in the basement. The underground water level was so high, they ran out of money trying to get the pool built. Later the property was sold to Richard and Nace and the Orpheum Theatre was built on the said property. It is now known as the Palace West.

The blower and the spray chambers for the Luhrs Building was located on the roof of the one story portion of the Luhrs Building. The space between the Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower was cooled by individual units, with chilled water being supplied from the central plant. Later, this was changed. A blower and cooling units were installed to take care of the north third of the building; likewise, a blower and coils for the middle section and a blower and coils for the south third. Some time after the spray system had been operating to air condition the building, a man claimed he had a patent for spraying the air with chilled water. George, Jr. got in touch with his good

friend Leonard Lyon of Los Angeles, who was one of the best patent attorneys of the time. It was found the man had no patent. Later we changed from sprays to cooling coils to get better results.

The condensors and the chillers located in the basement of the Luhrs Building had removable heads. Before the summer season, the heads would be taken off and all tubes cleaned and tested for leaks. The tubes were made of copper. The heads were painted with rust proof paint before being replaced. As a matter of fact, all equipment, for whatever purpose used, was looked after very carefully.

The heating system was put in shape in the Summer. In the beginning, oil burners were used. Later gas was used. There were two Kewanee steam heat boilers, one for the building and the other for the Arizona Club. Likewise, there were two Kewanee hot water heaters and two booster storage tanks, one for the building and the other for the Arizona Club. Sam Diaz suggested changes in the construction of the Kewanee water heaters, which the makers approved.

When the Luhrs Building was built, the city water would only go as high as the sixth floor. It therefore became necessary to have the booster storage tanks. Air would be pumped into the storage tanks to provide the necessary pressure so that the water could be had on the top floor. When the water pressure dropped to a certain level, the automatic pump would cut in and force the city water into the storage tank until it reached its

required pressure again. Then the pump would automatically cut off.

The Luhrs' appreciated the fact that they had two fine men taking care of the equipment as engineers. They were employed as elevator operators shortly after the Luhrs Tower was completed. They were mechanically inclined. As the buildings installed more equipment, they in turn took over. Mr. Gene Clancy liked both Sam Diaz and Virgil Diaz and taught them the things he knew. A tribute of gratitude is extended to Sam Diaz and Virgil Diaz. They, as their older brother, Adam Diaz, are a part of the Luhrs Properties. Many times, as George, Jr. has said, they could fix anything if they wanted to. At times others have said it could not be done. If Sam and Virgil took it on, it was done. George, Jr. says, "Thanks fellows for jobs well done, yes, thank you." Sam Diaz started working for the Luhrs Properties in 1931. Virgil Diaz began in 1937.

The Professional Building opened January 1st 1933, being located on the southeast corner of Central Avenue and Monroe Street. The Valley National Bank occupied the ground floor and doctors the upper floors. Today, 1983, the Valley National Bank is in the Valley Center, directly north, across the street. The First Federal Savings and Loan Association has the ground floor of what was the Professional Building.

The depression continued, and the conditions as to the Luhrs' is explained in a latter of August 28th, 1933 to the Bank of California, N.A., of San Francisco, California, the trustee

of the Luhrs Building bond issue, of January 15th, 1923, which letter reads:

> "The last few years have been trying and from a business standpoint they have been bad. To date, we have met our interest and principal payments and local bills. The bond issue has been reduced from $550,000.00 to $380,000.00. We have, during the last ten years, invested over $600,000.00 additional in the city block, which is given as security for the Luhrs bonds. The City of Phoenix is over built. All buildings are trying to take tenants from the other buildings. We have not lost many but many have gone out of business and rents have been reduced to the place where it is hard for a person to break even. In other words, to meet maturities of principal is almost impossible. It is our desire to get in touch with each and every bondholder, putting the true facts before them and asking if they would consider to have the bonds extended three years as to maturities. Naturally, three years interest would be added."

The bank replied that they did not see any provision for an amendment of the indenture in any of its terms. Therefore, it would require the consent of all of the bond holders, which would be difficult to obtain. They did not know whether the bond changes would come under the Securities Act of 1933; also any

changes in the bond indenture would have to be made by some competent attorney, which should be done before contacting the bond holders; a fee would have to be paid a trust company for acting as a depository of the bonds; the Bank of California,N.A. would have to be paid for any changes to the indenture; suggest a bonding company should be hired to get the consent of the bond holders; the changes in the bonds and trust indenture are very expensive; the bank fears the Luhrs' have embarked upon something which cannot be carried through; the bank doubts if the bond holders will respond to the Luhrs' letter; a new indenture briefly outlining the changes in the original bond indenture, which new indenture must be placed of record; a search of title of the property to see that no other liens would come ahead of the existing mortgage, and the proper stamping of bonds. The Bank of California, N.A., as trustee of the Luhrs bonds had placed many obstacles in the way, but George, Jr. would not stop.

On September 2nd, 1933, registered letters were sent out to the bondholders. George, Jr. sat at his typewriter for several months and finally got the consent of all but one $1,000.00 bond, for which $1,000.00 was deposited with the bank. A letter was received from the Federal Trade Commission saying the Act of 1933 did not apply to the extension of the Luhrs Building bonds. After a lot of hard work and a great deal of correspondence with the Bank of California, N.A. (trust department), the Luhrs Building bonds were extended three years. This is what the Luhrs' wanted. This enabled the Luhrs' to meet their obligations of paying the

principal and interest on the Luhrs Building bonds when they became due. It also made it possible to make repairs and improvements that were necessary to keep the Properties abreast of the times.

The following pages, (187 through 230) are copies of correspondence between the Bank of California, N.A. and George Luhrs, Jr. relative to the extension of the Luhrs bonds for three years.

August 28, 1933

The Bank of California, N.A.
400 California Street,
San Francisco, California

Attention Mr. Stuart F. Smith

Gentlemen:

As trustee for the Luhrs bonds you can aid me with some information that I would appreciate at your very earliest convenience.

The last few years have been trying and from a business standpoint, they have been bad. To date we have met our interest and principal payments and local bills. The bond issue has been reduced from $550,000.00 to $380,000.00. We have, during the last ten years, invested over $600,000.00 additional in the city block which is given as security for the Luhrs bonds. The city is over built. All buildings are trying to take tenants away from the other buildings. We have not lost many, but many have gone out of business and rents have been reduced to the place where it is hard for a person to break even. In other words, to meet maturities of principals is almost impossible.

It is our desire to get in touch with each and every Luhrs bondholder, putting the true facts before them and asking if they would consent to having the bonds extended three years as to maturities. Naturally, three years interest would be added. I presume, as trustee, your bank would have no objection if the bond holders deposit said bonds with you, with the request for such extension What would be your fee for this? Is there a Federal or California State tax for bonds so deposited and if so how much.

If the bondholders consented, there is no reason why this could not be done, is there? My desire is to protect everyone. The bondholders would be out nothing for they would have the same security. They would merely have their bonds come due three years later and receive three years additional interest.

If we secure the consent of the bondholders, we would work with you and secure your approval so that everything would be legal and satisfactory.

If it is not asking too much, I would appreciate hearing from you by return mail as we have everything ready to mail out to the bondholders. I am doing this myself, for I desire saving just as much as possible.

Awaiting your reply, I remain,

Very truly yours

George Luhrs

George Luhrs, Jr.

Copy

The Bank of California

National Association

400 CALIFORNIA STREET

San Francisco, California

Cable Address:
BANKOFCALA-SAN FRANCISCO

Codes used
A. B. C. (16th & 5th EDITIONS)
LIEBER
WESTERN UNION
BENTLEY'S (1st & 2nd EDITIONS)
PETERSON (1st, 2nd & 3rd EDITIONS)
ACME

August 30, 1933

AIR MAIL

Mr. George H. Luhrs, Jr.
P. O. Box 1407
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Mr. Luhrs:

Replying to your letter of August 28th in reference to the problem that you have regarding the bonds issued by George H. N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs: From a quick examination of this bond indenture we do not see wherein there is any provision for an amendment of the indenture in any of its terms. Therefore to accomplish what you desire to do would require, in our opinion, consent of all of the bondholders. This would be rather difficult to obtain

You have heard of the new legislation called the Securities Act of 1933. There is some question in our minds as to whether or not the change that you desire to effect in this issue will come under this Act. To determine this question would require legal opinion.

Also any amendment or proposed change in the bond indenture would have to be made by some competent attorney, and my suggestion to you in this regard is that you do not attempt any sort of a plan or communicate with your bondholders until such time as an attorney can draw up the papers.

Provided you intend to go ahead with this matter, our attorneys, Messrs. Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro, would have to pass on all the papers as affecting the Trustee; and I believe that you should immediately engage some attorney to handle this matter for your family who could work in harmony with our attorneys. Of course any fees charged by Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro will have to be paid by you.

I do not know of any Federal or California taxes on a transaction of this character, but you would have to pay some trust company a fee of about $1.50 a bond for acting as depositary. Also you would have to pay us such fees as we determined would be right for any changes made in the indenture.

Copy

The Bank of California
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Since the last time I wrote to you Peirce, Fair & Co. have practically liquidated their business, and Mr. Sherwin is now one of the members of the firm of Sherwin, Simpson & Co., Financial Center Building, San Francisco. Undoubtedly his firm could be of service to you in obtaining the consent of some of the bondholders.

I would point out that any change of the character outlined by you is necessarily an expensive piece of work, and I do not see how you could accomplish what you want to do without the approval of all the bondholders.

Very truly yours,

Vice President

SFS P

September 4, 1933

The Bank of California, N.A.
400 California Street,
San Francisco, California

Attention Mr. Stuart F. Smith

Gentlemen:

In reply to your letter of August 30, 1933, I realize that to secure all the bondholders to consent to an extension will be no easy job. However, from the bondholders standpoint, it will be to their interest, for they will secure their principal with three years added interest. I am not asking the bondholders to take anything less. For the time being, it may be impossible to pay the principal payments as they come due. Many firms have gone by the way and anyone that has met requirements to date has done the best he can.

I realize you are to be satisfied with any changes made in the trust indenture and we do not desire doing anything that will not be satisfactory to the bondholders.

I am enclosing you a letter written to the bondholders which was mailed registered mail, September 2nd. You will notice that I have asked them to deposit their bonds with your trust department. I still do not have the names of all the bondholders and would appreciate them as soon as is possible. I would also appreciate being informed as the bonds come in so that I can be in touch with the situation.

I assure you that I merely wish to have you be fair in the matter. I shall try and secure the bondholders consent to an extension. I intend working with you not against you. We need some help at this time so that everyone will be protected.

Very truly yours,

George Luhrs, Jr.

September 4, 1933

The Bank of California, N.A.
Trust Department
400 California Street
San Francisco, California

Gentlemen:

I wish to thank you for the additional bondholders names and would appreciate the balance just as soon as you have them.

I am enclosing a letter sent by registered mail to all the Luhrs bondholders September 2nd. It will not be an easy task to secure the consent of the bondholders, although it is to their interest. They have nothing to lose and, and gain three years interest. For the next three years we would like to have a little help. It will be necessary for me to keep after the bondholders every minute for many are likely to put the matter off, figuring they have sufficient time. I would appreciate your letting me have the name of each bondholder and the amount of their bonds just as soon as they deposit the bonds with you.

I desire working everything out to the satisfaction of the bondholders and yourselves. If we are able to secure the necessary bondholders to consent, I shall then work out the necessary changes to your satisfaction. I am trying to save everything that I can regarding expense. The method I am following has been done by others. The Masonic Temple did the same with their bondholders and it was done in a little over a month.

Now that inflation seems certain, it will be to the interest of the bondholders to have the bonds extended for three years.

Thanking you in advance for letting me have the name of each bondholder depositing with you and also the amount of the bonds, I remain,

Very truly yours,

George Luhrs

George Luhrs, Jr.

Copy

The Bank of California

National Association

400 CALIFORNIA STREET

San Francisco, California

Cable Address:
BANKOFCALA-SAN FRANCISCO

Codes used
A.B.C. (15th & 6th EDITIONS)
LIEBER
WESTERN UNION
BENTLEY'S (1ST & 2ND EDITIONS)
PETERSON (1ST, 2ND & 3RD EDITIONS)
ACME

September 5, 1933

Mr. George Luhrs, Jr.
P. O. Box 1407
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Mr. Luhrs:

In your letter of September 4th you have not referred to my advice in my former communication to you, but in this matter you should obtain the assistance of some attorney who can consult with our counsel. Changing an indenture is not an easy thing that can be done by you or me, and I am fearful that you have embarked upon something which you cannot carry through.

Also the question comes up as to whether or not your change as desired would not come under the Securities Act of 1933. This I referred to in my former letter to you.

Personally I desire to cooperate with you in every way possible as I feel that you and your family are very desirous of paying your debts.

We will be willing to accept deposit of bonds as they are forwarded to us and will advise you from time to time as these deposits are made.

From similar experiences that I have had I am inclined to believe that your bondholders will not of themselves, and in response to letters only, take any action.

Very truly yours,

Stuart F. Smith

Vice President

SFS P

COPY

Phoenix, Arizona
Sept 7.1933

Mr Stuart Smith,
Vice President,
The Bank of California, N.A.,
San Francisco, California.

Dear Mr Smith:

I have your letter of September 5th and in reply can say I have given the points you mentioned very much thought. I have also talked the matter over with several of the attorneys in our buildings.

It is the opinion that the Securities Act of 1933 does not cover our case. However, I have written the Federal trade Commission. I shall let you know as soon as I hear. In the past many bond houses sold unworthy securities and it is for this reason the Security Act of 1933 was passed. I feel that the bondholders would rather deal and talk with the owners and for that reason I am doing the work myself. If need be I shall make a personal contact with the bondholders. It is necessary that I do not increase our expenses and for that reason it is out of the question to secure the services of a bond house. I can give the bondholders a true story with real facts and better than a salesman, who knows no more about the matter than the bondholder.

I agree with you, that the changing of an indenture is no easy matter. However, you have suggested that you did not know if I could get the consent of the bondholders. That being the case, would it not be better to see what results I get with the bondholders before adding great legal expenses. I have been required during all these years to do all the work myself, in order to meet obligations. I have no one in my office but myself. I am willing to work and like it. Our debts must be met and before I can have anything, bills must be taken care of. I do not believe in running up costs until they are necessary. I can not help but feel, that with the consent of all the bondholders, there is no reason why the situation can not be met. Certainly, nothing can prevent the bondholders from agreeing to an extension of the maturities of the bonds. When the bonds are so endorsed it is actual notice to anyone securing the bonds. The trust indenture is nothing but an agreement to which all parties are interested to see that the bondholders and the owners of the properties are protected, provided certain things are done. Certainly, if all parties agree, I can not see any reason why any agreement can not be changed. The question also arises if any change is necessary in the trust indenture. The bonds can be endorsed with the three years of maturity change and interest coupons added. Why change the Indenture? The only question to consider in the Indenture is where it relates to the serial maturity dates. If the bondholders and the owners have agreed to change these on the bonds and the bonds are not presented for payment until three years later there is nothing for the trustee to do but wait until the bonds are presented.

Copy

The President of the United States has declared the country to be in a state of emergency. He requested congress to pass certain legislative acts, which they did. Several of these acts to my opinion and to those of many others are not constitutional. However, because of present conditions, peoplr do not contest the matter. It is necessary under present conditions that things be done, that several years ago we would not consider and which we would say could not and would not be done. In a way this applies to our case. We need help and the bondholders must be protected. Certainly if all the bondholders agree to a three year extension of the maturity dates and otherwise everything else is left the same, there is no way they can be hurt. They are protected. It is my opinion that any agreement can be changed with the consent of all parties concerned.

There are other ways, but I would not desire taking those courses. For instance the amendment to the Bankruptcy Act of 1933 provides for a person to go into bankruptcy and he can secure an extension of all debts. In other words he could do just the thing we ask for. I would not care to do such a thing as go into bankruptcy.

The legislature of the State of Arizona passed a law, doing away with foreclosure for two years from last March, If the owners meet current bills and interest, there is even a question if a receiver can be appointed according to the act. That being the case, we would not have to pay any principal for the next two years and nothing could be done about it. We do not do business that way. I merely mention this to show what some people are doing.

We play a straight forward game. Our cards are upon the table. We want to protect the bondholders and we intend meeting our obligations, as we always have.

Bondholders all over the country have been requested for aid and bonds have been changed and maturity dates extended. The Masonic Temple of this city secured an extension of their bonds for 4-1/2 years. It was done by letter and in the space of two months. The bonds were not local but scattered.

I believe the bondholders realize what the property owner is up against and they are willing to help if they are protected. Certainly, when a property owner has met all obligations to date, the bondholders can not be but willing to aid in the case.

I have talked with the First National Bank of Arizona, who hold $46,000.00 Luhrs Building bonds as security for a loan. They are writing you that they will turn in the bonds for maturity extensions whenever the deal is closed, but until then will keep the bonds in their vault for examinations of bank examiners. In addition to these bonds we have $6,500.00 in our own hands as well as $2,000.00 of Mrs Eisele. I have been informed that $1,500.00 bonds were sent you by Charles Hall Dubois and John Dieruff. In other words at this writing we have the consent of $56,000.00 bonds. The Arizona Republic see no reason against the matter and they will let me know as soon as Mr Stauffer has the matter brought to his attention. The Heard people are out of the city and will be back Monday. With

Copy

their consent and also Dr R.J.Stroud (my brother-in-law) who has verbally consented, we will have the consent of all the bondholders in Phoenix amd the Salt River Valley.

I realize this is a long letter and I do not wish to bore you. I intend working while the iron is hot and if need be I shall get in personal touch with every bondholder nyself. I shall most likely be seeing you personally before long. You can rest assured I shall give this matter every consideration. I want to be fair with everyone. I want to see that everyone is protected and I want to be treated the same way.

I would appreciate any additional names of bondholders,so I can get in touch with them. The last report showed $13,700.00 un-accounted to that date.

Thanking you for all favors and assuring you of our appreciation, I remain

Very truly yours
George Luhrs Jr.

September 6, 1933

Federal Trade Commission,
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

Our trustee does not know whether our requesting the bond holders of Luhrs Bonds (issued in 1923) to grant an extension of three years to the maturities of the bonds, with three years additional interest, comes under the Securities Act of 1933 or not.

The request will be made of the bondholders by ourselves. The bonds will be deposited with the trustee and endorsed for three years extension of the maturities. Naturally three years interest will be added. To date no interest or principal payments are over due. However, business does not permit additional payments of principal at this time.

Will you be kind enough to answer this request at your very earliest,

Sincerely yours,

George Luhrs

George Luhrs, Jr.

Copy

ADDRESS COMMUNICATIONS TO FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON

IN REPLYING PLEASE QUOTE

September 12, 1933

Mr. George Luhrs, Jr.,
P. O. Box 1407,
Phoenix, Arizona.

Dear Sir:

In administering the provisions of the Securities Act of 1933, the Commission has always considered that an offer of a corporation to extend or alter the terms of any of its outstanding securities amounted to an issue of new securities, and, therefore, came within the provisions of the Act unless a new issue under the same circumstances would be exempt. In this connection, I call your attention to Section 4 (3) of the Act which exempts from the necessity for registration an exchange of a corporation's securities by the corporation with its existing security holders, "where no commission or other remuneration is paid or given directly or indirectly in connection with such exchange". The commission or remuneration referred to in this provision is, in our opinion, a fee given for services of a promotional character, and does not include such expenses as postage and typing. If the proposed extension of the Luhrs bonds falls within this exemption, there will be no need of registering with this Commission.

Very truly yours,

Baldwin B. Bane

Baldwin B. Bane,
Chief of the Securities Division.

September 26, 1933

Baldwin H. Bane
Chief of the Securities Division
Federal Trade Commission
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Upon September 6th, I wrote you regarding the extension of the maturity dates of the Luhrs bonds for a period of three years, with three years additional interest coupons added. You answered me upon September 12th, stating that where no commission or other remuneration is paid or given directly or indirectly in connection with such exchange there is no need to register with the Commission. The commission or remuneration referred to in your opinion is a fee given for services of a promotional character and does not include such expenses as postage and typing.

We are taking care of everything ourselves, but there is a cost for printing the letters and a charge by the Bank for their expense in taking care of the bonds that are deposited with them and endorsed. No bonding house or anyone is being paid a commission or remuneration. The only question is does the expense charge paid the bank for receiving the bonds and endorsing and adding interest coupons to the bonds come under expenses such as stamps and typing or does it come under remuneration and commission? The bank does not approach the bond holder. They merely receive the bonds for deposits. It takes the time and work of their employees and they ask a charge for this service.

Will you kindly let me hear from you on this.

Very truly yours,

George Luhrs Jr.

George Luhrs, Jr.

Copy

ADDRESS COMMUNICATIONS TO
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON

IN REPLYING PLEASE QUOTE

October 2, 1933

Mr. George Luhrs, Jr.
The Luhrs Buildings
P. O. Box 1407
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of September 26.

If the payment to the bank is merely compensation for clerical work performed by its employees, it is not to be regarded as "commission or other remuneration", which would cause the loss of an otherwise available exemption under Section 4 (3) of the Securities Act.

Yours very truly,

Baldwin B. Bane

Baldwin B. Bane
Chief of the Securities Division

Copy

The Bank of California

National Association

400 CALIFORNIA STREET

San Francisco, California

Cable Address:
BANKOFCALA-SAN FRANCISCO

Codes used
A.B.C. (10th & 6th EDITIONS)
LIEBER
WESTERN UNION
BENTLEY'S (1st & 2nd EDITIONS)
PETERSON (1st, 2nd & 3rd EDITIONS)
ACME

September 12, 1933

Mr. George Luhrs, Jr.
P. O. Box 1407
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Mr. Luhrs:

Replying to your letters of September 7th and 9th, - I am very much pleased to note in your letter of the 9th instant that our only duty at this time will be to hold bonds until they have practically all been deposited.

I would like to point out to you the various things that will, in my opinion, have to be done to extend the maturity of your bonds properly. This, of course, is an expression of a layman, and an attorney may require things in addition to those I am outlining.

First, it is the paramount duty of the Trustee to see as far as he can that the lien of the bondholders to the property pledged as security be maintained. In our own jurisdiction an extension of a mortgage in the manner as outlined by you would require:

(a) A new indenture briefly outlining the changes in the original bond indenture, which new indenture must be placed of record.

(b) A search of title of the property to see that no other liens would come ahead of the existing mortgage.

(c) The proper stamping of bonds.

Further, under our State laws a permit would have to be obtained from the Commissioner of Corporations of the State of California. This, under the circumstances, is not considered a difficult thing, and unquestionably - as mentioned in previous correspondence - a Federal Trade Commissioner's approval will perhaps have to be obtained.

These are only some of the things necessary, and they emphasize the need of having an attorney to draw up the papers properly. Then, as explained before, the papers drawn by your attorney must be submitted to our counsel for review.

Copy

The Bank of California
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

It is my understanding that present title to the property is in the name of your mother. If this is true I would ask that you have her sign a letter to us in the terms of your communication of September 9th.

Sincerely yours,

Vice President

SFS P

September 19, 1933

Mr. Stuart Smith,
Vice President,
Bank of California, N.A.
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Smith:

I am enclosing a copy of the letter I received from the Federal Trade Commission, which explains itself. We are not paying a fee for services of a promotional character and according to the Federal Trade Commission do not need to register with the Commission.

We have had several of the bonds turned over to us, so we now have in our possession $60,500.00 bonds. These added to those reported to me from the bond holders themselves brings the total to date $160,200 bonds.

I have received some very fine letters from several of the bond holders, bonding companies and banks.

I realize there is a lot of hard work ahead. It must be done in order to protect the bond holders. If my plan does not go over, I can not take any of the responsibility for any loss the bond holders might sustain. What I am doing is to protect them.

Very truly yours,

George Luhrs, Jr.

September 26, 1933

Mr. Stuart F. Smith
Vice President,
The Bank of California, N.A.
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Smith:

I have been giving your letter of Sept. 12th a great deal of thought and I personally feel that you are giving undue stress to a few things that are not necessary. A trust deed under our conditions is nothing but a mortgage. The trustee is just as much concerned regarding the interest of the mortgagor as he is regarding the interest of the mortgagee. You are acting as much for us as you are for the bond holders. So long as neither the mortgagor or the mortgagee lose nothing and both are protected, is all that you are interested.

In our request to the bondholders we have not asked for any change in the trust indenture, but have asked that they authorize you to extend their bonds. Certainly you will do what is the will and pleasure of the bondholders. I see no reason for changing the indenture or having a new one, nor do I see any reason for a search of the title. When the bondholders request you to do a certain thing, in writing, I do not understand how you can refuse to carry out their wish. I could not be a party to any such refusal upon your part.

For the time being, all that is necessary is to receive the bonds. At no place have I said anything in my request to the bondholders that 100% would be necessary. Upon that point I desire to reserve my opinion. I am not convinced that all the bondholders consent will be necessary for an endorsement of the extension.

I do not desire that you misunderstand me. From your dealings with the Luhrs family, you know that we would not have a person lose.

However, we are not interested in doing anything that is not necessary. We are not going to run up expenses that are not necessary. To be frank, we are just as conservative as you are.

This matter will have to be worked out to take care of everyone. To be extremely technical sometimes leads to great losses in the end. The safe and sane road will get the best results. I am just as much interested in protecting the bondholders as you are. It is for that reason I am trying to do what I am. The three year extension will protect everyone, leaving them with the same rights and liens which they now have. There is no need for a new indenture or search of title and I do not believe the consent of all bondholders is necessary.

Very truly yours,

George Luhrs, Jr.

Copy

The Bank of California

National Association

400 CALIFORNIA STREET

San Francisco, California

Cable Address:
BANKOFCALA-SAN FRANCISCO

Codes used
A.B.C. (6th & 6th editions)
LIEBER
WESTERN UNION
BENTLEY'S (1st & 2nd editions)
PETERSON (1st, 2nd & 3rd editions)
ACME

September 30, 1933

Mr. George Luhrs, Jr.
Box 1407
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Mr. Luhrs:

Replying to your letter of September 26th, - there seems to be a definite issue between your family and this bank as Trustee in reference to the matter of the Luhrs Bonds. As long as you have taken the position that you have, I refer you to all of our previous correspondence and from this date on we will refuse to accept any more bonds on deposit unless on our receipt there is placed a clause that the deposit of these bonds is subject to such legal requirements as the attorney for this bank may later advise; and unless we obtain your acquiescence covering the matters brought up in our previous correspondence as follows:

1. No action will be taken in reference to any bonds unless 100% of the bonds are deposited.

2. A new indenture should be drawn outlining the changes in the original bond indenture and which must be placed of record.

3. Search of title of the property to see that no other liens come ahead of the existing mortgage.

4. Proper stamping of the bonds.

5. The approval of such Governmental commissions as is necessary.

6. Any further requirements that our attorneys may determine or any change which they may determine in the requirements outlined above.

We shall feel under the necessity of advising each one of parties who has now deposited bonds with us that the bonds as deposited are subject to such legal requirements as attorneys for this bank may advise, unless we have the written assurance of your mother and yourself that you are willing to do as outlined in this letter. It would be unfortunate to have to send such a notice to your bondholders who have already deposited their bonds, as such a course would make them uneasy and might interfere with what you are trying to do.

Copy

The Bank of California
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Nevertheless the various points brought out in our former correspondence and in this letter must be properly taken care of, and notice to that effect is served on you now so there will be no further misunderstanding.

Our previous correspondence with you and this communication have all been dictated out of the experience which we have had in handling many different bond issues and reorganization plans under these bond issues.

We are not conversant with the statutes of the State of Arizona, and it may be that attorneys conversant with the laws of that State can convince our attorneys that some of the requirements as mentioned in this letter are not necessary. However, unless these points are very carefully gone into there is a grave possible risk to the bondholders which I am sure you wish to take every step to avoid.

I think the best thing for you to do would be to come to San Francisco immediately so that we can go over these matters in person.

Very truly yours,

Vice President

SFS P

Oct. 2, 1933

Mr. Stuart F. Smith,
The Bank of California, N.A.
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Smith:

Your letter of September 30th was received this morning and from the tone thereof, I am certain you have misunderstood me.

The Bank of California, N.A., at this time is being asked to receive the deposit of Luhrs bonds from the present holders, the same as if they were deposited with any other bank or institution. The fact that the Bank of California happens to be the trustee for the Luhrs bonds is an entirely different proposition and as such, for the time being, we are not dealing. The Bank of California, N.A., acting as trustee and acting as a depository are two separate and distinct things. When you receive the bonds for deposit, you in no way impair any of your legal rights as trustee for said bonds. All that is asked at this time is that you receive the deposit of the Luhrs bonds, until I see how many can be secured.

After the bonds have been deposited, the Bank of California, N.A., as trustee, shall be approached for an extension of the bond maturities as suggested in the letter submitted to the bondholders dated September first 1933. Then your attorneys and our attorneys will determine the legal requirements and by such legal requirements we shall be governed. Until we know what the legal requirements are, one can not consent to any requirements that you or your attorneys may determine or any changes which they may determine in the requirements outlined in your letter. We can not consent to any requirements until we know they are legally correct anymore than you can.

All we ask of the Bank of California, N.A. at this time is to receive the deposit of the Luhrs bonds. In doing this, we do not ask you to impair any of your legal rights as trustee under the bond indenture. Those requirements will be determined when we ask the Bank of California, N.A. as trustee of the Luhrs bonds to extend the maturities.

I hope this will clear up everything to your entire satisfaction.

I feel this would be an inopportune time to send any notices to the bond holders, for everyone concerned. We know you are looking after their legal rights but we are not asking you, as yet, to change any bonds. All we are asking is that you receive the deposit of the bonds.

Very truly yours,

George Luhrs, Jr.

George Luhrs, Jr.

Copy

The Bank of California

National Association

400 CALIFORNIA STREET

San Francisco, California

Cable Address:
BANKOFCALA-SAN FRANCISCO

Codes used
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WESTERN UNION
BENTLEY'S (1st & 2nd EDITIONS)
PETERSON (1st, 2nd & 3rd EDITIONS)
ACME

October 4, 1933

Mr. George Luhrs, Jr.
Box1407
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Mr. Luhrs:

We have your letter of October 2nd signed by your good mother and yourself, which in a large measure straightens out some of the matters under discussion.

You have been handling this reorganization in an entirely different manner than we have witnessed during many years of experience. Ordinarily there is a clear cut proposition put up to the bondholders with the assistance of competent legal advice, so that the bondholders know exactly what their position is to be.

We are willing to continue to receive bonds under the promises as covered in your letter, but on each one of our receipts we will have to incorporate the following:

> "to be deposited in accordance with letter to Bondholders dated 9/1/33 subject to submission to such Governmental agencies as may be necessary, and subject to such legal requirements as attorneys for this bank may advise."

We wish you and your mother to understand definitely that under no circumstances will we take any steps toward an extension of maturities of the bonds without the full approval, in writing, of our attorneys.

Very truly yours,

Vice President

SFS P

October 12, 1933

Mr. Stuart Smith,
Vice President
Bank of California, N.A.
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Smith:

I have received the following letter from the Federal Trade Commission dated Oct. 2.

Very truly yours,

George Luhrs, Jr.

Mr. George Luhrs Jr.,
The Luhrs Buildings,
P. O. Box 1407
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of September 26.

If the payment to the bank is merely compensation for clerical work performed by its employees, it is not to be regarded as "commission or other remuneration", which would cause the loss of an otherwise available exemption under Section 4 (3) of the Securities Act.

Yours very truly,

Baldwin B. Bane

Chief of the Securities Division

December 15, 1933

Mr. Stuart Smith
Vice President,
Bank of California, N.A.
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Smith:

Since November 16th, our attorneys, Ellinwood and Ross, have been in communication with the Bank attorneys regarding the Luhrs bonds, the result of which I have been hoping would be successful.

When the suggestion was made to send out new agreements to the bonds holders, I realized the time was very short but in order to satisfy the Bank of California, I was willing. I fully expected to have the agreements in the mail before this as the time is drawing very near. Under my letter of September first, I placed Jan. 5th as the time limit, which is but 20 days off. Mr. Ross, over the telephone asked Mr. Ruggles what the attitude of the Bank would be in case I did not get the agreements in by Jan. 5th or 15th. I believe Mr. Ruggles said that unless the bond holders requested the Bank of California to take steps, the Bank would not do so while we were trying to get the new agreements signed up. I would appreciate hearing from you upon this question, so I shall know for sure.

You can rest assured that I shall do everything I can to speed up the signing of the agreements. However, I do not wish to expend any more money until I have the understanding as to just what the Bank of California will do. May I ask your decision and help in hurrying this along. The delay has not only caused me a great deal of mental worry but my mother is taking it very hard and unless something is done very soon, I am afraid she may be very sick. Please do not misunderstand me, Mr. Smith, I am not saying this as "Hooey", but it is really true. Our family has worked hard putting everything we have (money and labor) into the block and business. We really take things very serious and I am absolutely telling you the truth that my mother is sick from worrying over this deal. She requested me to write you telling you this and urging that you let us know as soon as possible just what the Bank of California, N.A. will do regarding the agreements, the deposit of the bonds now held, and in the event I do not get the agreements in by the 5th or 15th of January?

Of the $380,000 outstanding bonds, $332,300 have been deposited, of which $266,200 are deposited with you and the rest with us. Of the $44,100 known bond holders not deposited, all but $100 have agreed to deposit their bonds when you approve the agreement. The owners of $3,600 bonds are unknown.

I realize that it will not be possible to get the bond holders to sign and return a new agreement in 20 days. I am not saying that some may become frightened at a long agreement, but I believe so. If the Bank of California could in some way write or print a letter, which I could submit to the bond holders that the agreement was acceptable to the Bank as to form and meets the legal requirements, I would appreciate it. I do not ask you to urge or advise the bondholders to sign the agreement or obligate yourself in any such manner, which I realize you cannot do, but a letter saying the agreement was acceptable as to form and legal requirements would help a great deal. All I desire is to speed this matter along. If you will do this, I would prefer that you have about 200 letters made up on your stationary signed by the bank. It would save time if you had it done in San Francisco, sending the same to me by air mail.

I am sorry I have not been able to see you personally, but I have not been able to get away. I have not left at any time during the year.

I am very anxious to hear from you and would appreciate your reply just as soon as possible. I am anxious that my mother be well again.

Very truly yours,

George Luhrs

George Luhrs, Jr.

Copy

The Bank of California

National Association

400 CALIFORNIA STREET

San Francisco, California

Cable Address:
BANKOFCALA-SAN FRANCISCO

Codes used
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WESTERN UNION
BENTLEY'S (1ST & 2ND EDITIONS)
PETERSON (1ST, 2ND & 3RD EDITIONS)
ACME

December 18, 1933

PLEASE ADDRESS YOUR REPLY TO
TRUST DEPARTMENT

Via Air Mail

Mrs. Catharina M. Luhrs
P. O. Box 1407
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Mrs. Luhrs:

There is forwarded to you herewith an agreement, in original and duplicate and triplicate, prepared by your attorneys in Phoenix, Arizona, and revised by Messrs. Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro, counsel for this bank, in relation to the extension of maturities of the bond issue originally placed by George H. N. Luhrs and yourself. It is our understanding that you will have these agreements printed for distribution to your various bondholders.

You will find attached to the last page copy of a letter from Messrs. Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro to this bank and attached thereto a letter addressed to you and signed by this bank. Messrs. Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro and this bank are willing that these two communications be reproduced in a communication forwarded to your bondholders, not a photostatic copy however, but a printed one only. In other words, both that good firm and ourselves are very insistent that while we are willing to have the text of these two communications incorporated in your communication to your bondholder, we will not allow anything of the nature of a facsimile reproduction and as your letter to your bondholders will probably be printed these two communications can be quoted in the body of that letter.

One of these agreements should be executed immediately by yourself and forwarded to us for our files. One is for your record and the other for your attorneys. When you have executed agreements one and two you might return them to us for our execution whereupon we will return a copy to you. It would seem to us that your bondholders will be better satisfied to have a formal legal document of the character herewith enclosed and the undersigned is of the opinion that you should have little

Copy

The Bank of California
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

difficulty in obtaining the signatures of your bondholders.

With kindest personal regards to you and to your son, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Vice-President

SFS C

December 24, 1933

Mr. Stuart F. Smith,
Vice President
Bank of California, N. A.
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Smith,

In reply to your letter to my mother of December 18th. and to myself of the 20th., I wish to thank you and your attornies for everything that has been done to help our cause. Please convey our thanks to Messrs. Pillsbury, Madison and Sutro.

I am returning herewith the two agreeements signed by my mother. May I ask that you sign and return our copy.

I sent agreements to all known bond holders by air mail. After receiving word from the Bank that I should have sent each bond holder two agreements, I mailed your trust department 150 additional agreements. These will have to be signed by you before returning to the bond holders, so no damage will be done.

Of the 1934 maturities, you say $17,000.00 have been deposited. The remaining $13,000.00 are held by the Cogswell College and ourselves.

I am very anxious to get the required number of bond holders in before January 15th. for we have never been in default at any time. May I ask that your bank send me a list of bond holders sending in this last agreement so that I can keep after them. I would like to know the name of any bond holders depositing bonds not already deposited.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
I remain,

Very truly yours,
George Luhrs Jr.

Copy

The Bank of California

National Association

400 CALIFORNIA STREET

San Francisco, California

Cable Address:
BANKOFCALA-SAN FRANCISCO

Codes used
A. B. C. (
LIEBER
WESTERN UNION
BENTLEY'S (
PETERSON (
ACME

December 26, 1933

Mrs. Catharina M. Luhrs
Box 1407
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Mrs. Luhrs:

I have today received a letter from your son sending executed forms of agreement, and am returning one of these agreements to you herewith bearing the signature of our bank.

In this connection the following points must be definitely understood:

While our bank desires to be as cooperative as possible with you in the working out of your immediate problem and to that end has signed this agreement, - this is to advise you that in no way, shape or manner does the signing of this agreement have any effect upon our position as Trustee under the original indenture of mortgage, and any action necessary by the bank as Trustee under the mortgage dated the 15th day of January 1923, will be taken entirely irrespective of this agreement unless 100% of the bondholders sign the agreement.

Very truly yours,

Vice President

SFS P

Copy

The Bank of California

National Association

400 CALIFORNIA STREET

Cable Address:
BANKOFCALA-SAN FRANCISCO

Codes used
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WESTERN UNION
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PETERSON (1st, 2nd & 3rd Editions)
ACME

San Francisco, California
January 10, 1934

Mr. George Luhrs, Jr.
Box 1407
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Sir:-

We acknowledge receipt of Agreement dated December 21, 1933 signed by yourself referring to $9,100. par value Luhrs First Mortgage 6½% Gold Bonds. A copy of this Agreement is enclosed for your files.

We are also enclosing Receipt No. 7641 dated January 8, 1934 covering $9,100. par value Luhrs First Mortgage 6½% Real Estate Gold Bonds due January 15, 1934 Nos. M182/4-190-196-199- and M407-D31-43/44-C6-7-16-32/4 due January 15, 1938 with coupons due January 15, 1934 and subsequent coupons attached.

Please retain this receipt as it will be necessary that the same be surrendered when the bonds are returned to you.

Very truly yours,

THE BANK OF CALIFORNIA, N. A.

W C Marston

Stock Transfer Department

WCM MC

Copy

AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this 21st day of December, 1933, by and between CATHARINA M. LUHRS, of Phoenix, Arizona, hereinafter known as First Party, and THE BANK OF CALIFORNIA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Trustee, hereinafter known as Second Party, and such of the owners and holders of the first mortgage six and one-half per cent bonds hereinafter referred to who shall become parties hereto by subscribing to a counterpart of this agreement and depositing their bonds of said issue therein specified as hereinbelow provided, hereinafter known as Third Parties,

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, First Party and George H. N. Luhrs executed their first mortgage six and one-half per cent bonds, each dated January 15, 1923, in the aggregate principal amount of $550,000, and secured said bonds by a certain Indenture, entitled "Mortgage and Deed of Trust George H. N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs, his wife, to The Bank of California, National Association, as Trustee," dated January 15, 1923, which was recorded on April 3, 1923, in the office of the County Recorder of Maricopa County, Arizona, in Book 161 of Mortgages at page 346 et seq. thereof; and

WHEREAS, bonds so executed and secured are still unpaid and outstanding in the principal amount of $380,000 and some of said bonds mature on January 15, 1934, while others mature annually thereafter; and

WHEREAS, Third Parties (including those persons, firms and corporations who subscribe to counterpart originals of this agreement) are the several owners and holders in the aggregate of at least eighty per cent in principal amount of such bonds; and

WHEREAS, the serial numbers, principal amounts and dates of maturity of such of said bonds as are owned and held by the Third Party subscriber to this counterpart of this agreement are, respectively, as follows:

Serial No.	Principal Amount	Date of Maturity

and

WHEREAS, said Catharina M. Luhrs, First Party hereto, is and shall remain obligated to pay the entire principal and interest of all said bonds outstanding according to the tenor of said bonds and the interest coupons appertaining thereto (including the coupons which may be attached to said bonds pursuant to this agreement), subject only to such changes therein as are expressly authorized by the Third Parties as hereinbelow provided, and

WHEREAS, said Catharina M. Luhrs represents that she has succeeded to all of the right, title and interest of said George H. N. Luhrs in and to all of the property, together with the improvements thereon (including all improvements which have been constructed and placed on said property since the date of said mortgage and deed of trust) described in and subject to the lien of said mortgage and deed of trust, and that she is now the sole owner in fee simple absolute of all of the said property together with all improvements situate thereon, all of which are subject to the lien of said mortgage and deed of trust; and

WHEREAS, Second Party is named as Trustee in the Trust Indenture dated January 15, 1923, hereinabove mentioned, and at all times since has acted and is now acting as such Trustee hereunder:

NOW, THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH:

I.

That Third Parties, in consideration of the agreements on the part of First Party herein contained, have expressly agreed with First and Second Parties, as follows:

(1) For a period of three years from the date of maturity of every such bond held and owned by Third Parties, they, each respectively, shall forbear to exercise any remedy whatsoever, judicial or otherwise, on account of First Party's failure to pay at maturity, or at any time within three years thereafter, the principal amount of any such bond; provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be construed as an agreement by Third Parties, or any of them, to refrain from exercising any and all remedies available upon the occurrence of any default by First Party under the terms of said bonds, said Trust Indenture and/or this agreement, save and except her failure to pay the principal amount of any such bonds at maturity or within three years thereafter.

(2) For a like period of three years from the date of maturity of every such bond held and owned by any of Third Parties, each respectively, Third Parties shall forbear requesting, directing, authorizing or prompting Second Party, or its successor in trust, to enforce any remedy whatsoever, judicial or otherwise, on account of First Party's failure to pay at maturity, or at any time within three years thereafter, the principal amount of any such bond; provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be construed as an agreement by Third Parties, or any of them, to refrain from requesting Second Party, or its successor, fully to exercise any remedy whatsoever, judicial or otherwise, available upon the occurrence of any default by First Party under the terms of said bonds, said Trust Indenture and/or this agreement, save and except her failure to pay the principal amount of any such bonds at maturity or within three years thereafter.

II.

For the express purpose of carrying Third Parties' agreements into effect Third Parties deposit herewith (or have heretofore deposited) with Second Party the bonds hereinabove mentioned as owned and held by them, each respectively, together with all unpaid coupons thereunto attached, and Third Parties hereby authorize, request and direct Second Party to forbear to enforce any remedy whatsoever, judicial or otherwise, on account of First Party's failure to pay at maturity, or at any time within three years thereafter, the principal amount of any such bond or bonds; Third Parties hereby authorize and direct Second Party to endorse upon each of said bonds, in such language as Second Party deems appropriate a brief statement of the substance of this agreement, and to annex unto each of such bonds coupons to be furnished and executed by First Party evidencing First Party's obligation to pay interest upon the principal amount of each such bond at the rate of six and one-half per cent per annum on the 15th day of July and January during each of three years following the date of maturity of each such bond, such coupons to be of the same form, tenor and effect, except as to dates of payment, as those interest coupons mentioned in said Trust Indenture; Third Parties, each respectively, direct Second Party to deliver said bonds with such coupons annexed by depositing them at the United States Post Office in an envelope, contents registered and insured, addressed to Third Parties, each respectively, at the following address:.....

.....

In consideration of Second Party's forbearance at the request of Third Parties herein contained to enforce any available remedy upon First Party's failure to pay at maturity, or within three years thereafter, the principal amount of any such bond (the provisions hereof as to such forbearance being subject to the provisions and conditions of subparagraphs (1) and (2) of Article I of this agreement, and subject also to the proviso at the end of Article V hereof), each of the Third Parties, for himself, his personal representatives, successors and assigns, and in respect of the bond or bonds of said issue owned and/or held by each of them, respectively, and not otherwise, hereby agrees to indemnify and hold entirely free and harmless Second Party from any loss, damage, cost, expense or liability whatsoever in any way occasioned by, or which might be occasioned by, any forbearance of Second Party to exercise any such remedy or remedies at the maturity, or within three years after the maturity of any such bond or bonds so held and/or owned by each such Third Party, and each of the Third Parties for himself, his personal representatives, successors and assigns, and in respect of the bond or bonds of said issue owned or held by each said Third Party, and not otherwise, hereby releases and discharges Second Party from any duty or obligation to enforce any such remedy, or remedies, whatsoever, in respect of said bond or bonds so owned and/or held by each such Third Party on account of any such failure on the part of First Party to pay at maturity, or at any time within three years thereafter, the principal amounut of any such bond or bonds so owned and/or held by each such Third Party, respectively.

III.

In consideration of the agreements on the part of Third Parties herein contained, First Party hereby agrees with Second and Third Parties that she will not in any action, suit or proceeding to collect said bonds or to enforce, preserve or protect the lien created in said Trust Indenture, plead by way of defense, bar or otherwise that any statute of limitation or repose, or any limitation whatsoever, commenced to run at any date prior to the expiration of three years from the date of maturity of any such bond, and that First Party shall not in any action or proceeding brought by her to enjoin or restrain enforcement by the Trustee or bondholders of any remedy whatsoever rely upon any such limitation or statute of limitation or repose as having commenced to run at any date prior to three years from the maturity of any such bond.

IV.

In consideration of the agreements on the part of Third Parties herein contained, First Party expressly agrees that she will furnish at her own expense, execute and deliver to Second Party for annexation to said bonds the coupons hereinabove in Article II mentioned, and First Party further agrees to pay unto Third Parties and their assigns interest promptly when the same is due according to the tenor and effect of said coupons, and that upon her failure so to do Second Party and/or Third Parties may fully exercise any and all remedies whatsoever available for any such default under the terms of said bonds or Trust Indenture. First Party further agrees to indemnify Second Party and hold it free and harmless from any damage, loss, cost or liability occasioned through the observance by Second Party of the requests and agreements herein made by First and Third Parties, and First Party, further, agrees to reimburse Second Party upon demand for any moneys by it expended or incurred

in such observance, including fees of competent attorneys for legal advice concerning the intendment and validity of this agreement and its effect under said Trust Indenture, and the cost of postage, registration and insurance of bonds in Article III hereinabove mentioned.

V.

In further consideration of the agreements on the part of Second Parties herein contained First Party hereby further agrees with Second and Third Parties that in the event of any suit or proceeding to foreclose said Trust Indenture, she will not apply for any continuance pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 29, Session Laws of Arizona, 1933, First Party hereby expressly waiving any rights or privileges upon her conferred thereby, and in the event judgment of foreclosure be entered to foreclose said Trust Indenture, Second and/or Third Parties shall be entitled to receive, enforce and collect any deficiency arising after a sale of the mortgaged premises in the same manner as if Chapter 88, Session Laws of Arizona, 1933, had never been enacted, First Party hereby expressly waiving any rights or privileges upon her conferred thereby; and, First Party has expressly agreed that the relinquishment by her of the rights in this Article mentioned constitute a material and inseparable consideration for the agreements on the part of Third Parties herein contained.

VI.

This agreement shall not become binding upon any of the parties hereto until there shall have been deposited with Second Party on or before March 1st, 1934, counterparts of this agreement duly executed by the holders and owners of more than eighty per cent in aggregate principal amount of the bonds outstanding and unpaid at the date hereof, and until the respective bonds owned by such persons as subscribe as Third Parties to this agreement, or any counterparts thereof, on or before said date, have deposited their bonds and coupons as in Article II hereinabove mentioned; and provided that nothing herein contained shall obligate the Trustee, or be deemed to constitute any agreement by the Trustee, to act or to refrain from acting in any respect in the premises herein referred to contrary to any applicable rule of law or of equity or to the powers and/or duties imposed upon the Trustee by said trust indenture, or to act or refrain from acting in such manner as adversely to affect or prejudice any of the rights or remedies of any of the holders of any of said bonds otherwise than as such rights and/or remedies are specifically changed or affected by and with the express authority and consent of such of the bondholders as shall have become parties to this agreement.

VII.

One or more originals or counterparts of this agreement, executed by the First and Second Parties and lodged with the Trustee, when taken together with one or more originals or counterparts of this agreement, executed by Third Parties, owning and holding not less than eighty per cent in aggregate principal amount of said bonds outstanding and unpaid at the date hereof, shall constitute the agreement of the parties hereto.

VIII.

The Third Party subscriber hereby authorizes and requests Second Party to remove and cancel coupon No. 22 payable January 15, 1934, from each bond hereinabove described as owned and held by said subscriber upon transmitting to said subscriber the amount due and payable according to the tenor of such coupon, and in that behalf First Party hereby agrees to deposit with Second Party prior to January 15, 1934, sufficient funds, in lawful mnoey of the United States of America, herewith to enable Second Party to pay such amount and to reimburse Second Party for all expense in making such payment; Second Party hereby agrees, upon the deposit of each such bond and coupon and of said funds sufficient for that purpose, to pay and transmit the amount of such coupons to said Third Party subscriber.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this instrument the day and year first hereinabove written.

Catherine M. Kirby
First Party.

ATTEST:

THE BANK OF CALIFORNIA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Trustee,

By.....
Its Vice President.
Second Party.

.....
Its Secretary.

.....

.....

.....
Third Parties.

Copy

"Law Offices of
PILLSBURY, MADISON & SUTRO
Standard Oil Building
San Francisco

December 18, 1933.

The Bank of California, N. A.,
Attention Mr. Stuart F. Smith, Vice President,
400 California Street,
San Francisco.

Dear Sirs:

Referring to the annexed and foregoing form of proposed agreement between Catharina M. Luhrs, as First Party, The Bank of California, National Association, Trustee, as Second Party, and such of the owners and holders of the George H. N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs "First Mortgage Six and One-Half Per Cent Bonds," referred to therein, as shall become parties thereto and deposit their bonds as therein provided; and referring also to the printed circular letter dated September 1, 1933, signed by George Luhrs, Jr., and, as we understand, sent to all of the holders of the Luhrs bonds issued under and secured by the mortgage and deed of trust referred to in said proposed agreement:

In our opinion said proposed agreement, if made effective and carried out according to its terms, as therein provided, will substantially and validly provide for and accomplish the purpose referred to in said circular letter to the bondholders—in other words, the subject matter covered by the proposed agreement is substantially the same as that dealt with in the circular letter.

We are further of the opinion that, except as to the matters which are very plainly expressed and specifically consented and agreed to by the bondholders who subscribe to the proposed agreement, the rights of such bondholders are not prejudiced and the lien of the mortgage and deed of trust for the security of the bondholders is not prejudiced or affected in any manner adverse to the rights of the bondholders, and particularly that the priority of the lien of said mortgage and deed of trust for the security of the bondholders would not, by reason of the making and carrying into effect of said proposed agreement, be in any way subordinated to or affected by any encumbrances which subsequent to the original date of recordation of said trust indenture attach to the property covered thereby.

Very truly yours,

PILLSBURY, MADISON & SUTRO."

"San Francisco, California,
December 18, 1933.

Mrs. Catharina M. Luhrs,
Phoenix, Arizona.

Dear Mrs. Luhrs:

On the basis of the foregoing opinion of our counsel, Messrs. Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro, we approve the annexed and foregoing form of agreement for the purposes therein expressed and are willing to execute the same as the second party thereto and, if and when the same becomes effective, as therein provided, to perform the terms and provisions thereof on the part of the second party to be performed, subject to the terms and conditions therein expressed.

Very truly yours,

THE BANK OF CALIFORNIA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,

By STUART F. SMITH,
Vice President."

Copy

The Bank of California

National Association

400 CALIFORNIA STREET

San Francisco, California

Cable Address:
BANKOFCALA-SAN FRANCISCO

Codes used
A.B.C. (6th & 6th EDITIONS)
LIEBER
WESTERN UNION
BENTLEY'S (1st & 2nd EDITIONS)
PETERSON (1st, 2nd & 3rd EDITIONS)
ACME

February 15, 1934

Mr. George Luhrs, Jr.
Box 1407
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Mr. Luhrs:

We have received your letter of February 12th. In reference to $46,000 in bonds held by the First National Bank of Arizona as security on a loan to your mother, - any question of the ownership of these bonds is between your mother and yourself. Your interests should be adequately protected if your mother gave you a memorandum that these are your bonds and have been pledged by her as collateral security for her note. Under the circumstances it would be advisable to have your mother sign the agreement as third party in conjunction with your signature. Please have this done at once, and then have the bank immediately forward the bonds to us together with the agreement.

In reference to the coupons which are to be attached to the deposited bonds, - this is something that cannot be handled by a printer, is a very technical piece of work, and coupons for three years must be printed for all of the outstanding bonds, each coupon bearing a different number and referring to a different numbered bond. This bank refuses to agree to pay coupons unless they are printed on a form to protect us against forgery. Therefore we plan to request A. Carlisle and Co.(who printed the original bonds) to furnish the new coupons which will be identical with the old except for the changes in maturity dates, coupon numbers and bond numbers. We refuse to have this handled by any other person except a printer in San Francisco who can confer with us in every phase of the operation, and I would again ask that your mother confirm our action in employing A. Carlisle & Co. for this purpose. This is important. Of course if your brother-in-law believes that he can obtain a lower price from A. Carlisle & Co. for this lithographing, that will be entirely satisfactory to us. However, some immediate action must be taken as we should not be handicapped further in carrying out this complicated reorganization.

Referring to the various bonds mentioned by you, - our Trust Department has furnished me with the enclosed statement

Copy

The Bank of California

National Association

showing that we have complete knowledge of all outstanding bonds except one for $1,000., and a detailed statement of progress regarding the various parties whose bonds have not been deposited, or who have not signed the new agreement.

Very truly yours,

S. F. Smith

Vice President

SFS P

LUHRS, First Mortgage 6½% Bonds

$311,500.	Signed agreements received.
	Agreements not received
46,000.	Luhrs
7,000	Anna S. Mc Laughlin
900	Ella M. Harris
4,000	G. D. Lucy
100	Silas T. Babcock
1,000	Pauline Leah Cohen
8,000.	Lola Weber Perrott or C. D. Deuchar
500	W. F. Roberts, Jr.
$379,000.	
380,000	Outstanding
$ 1,000.	

$323,400.	Bonds deposited
46,000.	Pledged by Luhrs
100.	Held by Luhrs awaiting receipt of Agreement
1,000.	Pauline Leah Cohen held by Bank
8,000.	Lola Weber Perrott or C. D. Deuchar
500.	W. F. Roberts
$379,000.	
380,000.	Outstanding
$ 1,000.	

Anna S. Mc Laughlin

Agreement dated 12/21/33 not received

Ella M. Harris

See copy of letter in folder written by Mr. Hackett

G. D. Lucy

Mr. Madden had an inquiry regarding these bonds, Yesterday. Second agreement will be signed

Pauline Leah Cohen

Bonds held by the Bank as Trustee in which there is a contest of the Will. Mr. Hackett says it is not practicable to deposit the bond at this time.

Lola Weber Perrott

We have received Agreement dated 12/21/33 signed by C. D. Deuchar of Stewart Deuchar & Co., San Francisco covering $8,000. in bonds. We have not received the bonds. Stewart Deuchar & Co. says that the owner of the bonds is out of town for the present.

Mrs. Phillips

Bond and Agreement deposited 2/13/33

W. F. Roberts Jr.

Bond and Agreement not received.

Copy

February 19,1934

The Bank of California, N.A.,
San Francisco, California.
Attention Mr Stuart F. Smith.

Dear Mr Smith:

In reply to your letter of February 15th, I believe the First National Bank of Arizona has mailed you the and agreement for the $46,000.00 Luhrs bonds they hold as security.

There must be some mistake regarding your bank not having the agreement of December 21,1933, signed by Anna McLaughlin for $7,000.00. I have just received the following from her," In reply to your letter of Jan 19th, please be advised that the agreement was signed and returned to the Bank of California. In as much as I have received the interest payment check, it is evident that the letters of Communication have passed enroute and the bank is in possession of the necessary signed papers". In view of the fact that Anna McLaughlin has received her interest, your bank must have received the signed agreement. Will you please check this and let me know at once.

In December your bank gave me the name of W.F.Roberts Jr as being the holder of bond D 37. Now they say it is Cora Roberts. Which is it?

Your report from the Trust Dept under Ella M Harris says, " See copy of letter in folder written by Mr Hackett". What response has been had? I can not get a reply from Ella M Harris, except that she signed the agreement of September the first and will not sign the one of December 21,1933

I have no idea of causing you any trouble regarding the additional interest coupons, but I would like to know the approximate cost for preparing the same. Lithographed forms are used for the coupons, which can be secured from stock. The only thing necessary is the wording upon the bonds and the correct numbers. I hardly feel justified in consenting to something for which we have no idea relative to the costs. If you will I would appreciate your letting me have this information so that I may check the same. We can not afford to expend a great amount of money and unfortunately everything from the San Francisco end has been very expensive. I agree with you when you say the reorganization has been complicated and without doubt that has increased the costs. We can not afford to expend a great amount and I feel some of the charges have been considerably out of line as well as being unnecessary under the laws of Arizona.

I am again writing all the outstanding bondholders who

have failed to send in their bonds and agreements and trust they will take care of the matter. It was with a great deal of work that I secured the names and correct addresses of all the bondholders excepting the one for $1,000.00 still unknown and I am very anxious to have every one in.

Very Truly yours
George Luhrs Jr

April 20, 1934

Mr. Stuart F. Smith,
Vice President
Bank of California, N. A.
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Smith,

I have your letter of the 18th and have noted the contents, regarding the bill of Pillsbury, Madison and Sutro.

I also noticed your remarks regarding the method by which I proceeded to secure the extension of the bond maturities.

I can only repeat that it was your objection that caused all the extra work and costs. My method is followed by the banks of this state and is legal. The majority of the bond holders agreed to it and many had their attorney go over the agreement of September 1st. The few that did not sign, held out after getting in touch with you or someone at your bank.

Without your objection, the entire matter could have been closed earlier and with a very minimum cost. I will not take the blame for the extra costs, which you insisted upon, for the reason that you wanted your method followed.

Very truly yours,

George Luhrs Jr.

George Luhrs Jr.

Copy

The Bank of California

National Association

400 CALIFORNIA STREET

Cable Address:
BANKOFCALA - SAN FRANCISCO
Codes used
A.B.C.
A.1.
BROOMHALL
BENTLEY'S
LIEBER
WESTERN UNION
PETERSON
ACME

San Francisco, California

May 8, 1934

Mr. Geo. H. Luhrs
P. O. Box 1407
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Sir:-

We enclose list of bond-holders who have deposited their bonds for the attachment of additional coupons.

Our records now show that only one bond is outstanding, being Bond No. M314 for $1,000.

Very truly yours,

THE BANK OF CALIFORNIA, N. A.

W. C. Martin

Stock Transfer Department

WCM MC

On February 22nd, 1934, the lease with the United States Post Office expired. The government took a year to year lease on the quarters they were occupying, being the rear portion of the one story building facing Jefferson Street between the Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower. Although the lease was from year to year, it had a ninety day cancellation clause.

Early in 1936, Mr. H. D. Thomas, Vice President of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company of Milwaukee, was visiting in Phoenix. Fred Blair Townsend, a tenant in the Luhrs Tower, introduced him to George, Jr. During their conversation, Mr. Thomas mentioned he was interested in finding some good property in Arizona on which to make a loan and wanted to know if the Luhrs' might be interested. He was told they were, so negotiations began and an application for a loan was submitted, to which the Northwestern Mutual agreed to loan the Luhrs' $500,000.00 at 5% for fifteen years. All of block 64 in the City of Phoenix, Arizona was to be the security. On said block were the Luhrs Building, the Luhrs Tower, the one story structure between the Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower, the two story building on the northwest corner of Central Avenue and Madison Street and the one story structure on Madison Street. In the application, the population of Phoenix was said to be 58,000 people and the metropolitan area 110,000.

The Luhrs were glad to get the loan, which was the first loan in Arizona by the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company. The Luhrs' would be able to pay their back taxes of

$40,800.00, which if paid by July 1, 1936, had no penalty. There were improvements the Luhrs' wanted to make. Also, there was a saving of one and a half percent in interest on the Luhrs Building bonds. The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company wanted the mortgage and note signed by Catharina M. Luhrs and her four children. Dr. R. J. Stroud would not let his wife, Emma Luhrs Stroud, sign, unless it was stipulated that her signature did not apply to any property which she might have or might acquire by the personal efforts of her husband. For the time, it looked as if the loan might not be closed, for the Stroud family left right away for Europe to see the Olympic games in Berlin, Germany.

George, Jr. got in touch with the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company immediately, pointing out Dr. Stroud's objection, to which he was right. The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company prepared an agreement limiting recourse for payment of indebtedness, stating that they would not have recourse to the property now owned or hereafter acquired by Arthur C. Luhrs, Ella Luhrs Taylor, Emma Luhrs Stroud and George, Luhrs, Jr. or by the wife of Arthur C. Luhrs or the husband of Ella Luhrs Taylor, or the husband of Emma Luhrs Stroud, save and except such property as may be acquired by purchase, gift, or inheritance from Catharina M. Luhrs, subsequent to the date of her promissory note and mortgage to the Northwestern Life Insurance Company. The agreement, note and mortgage were sent to the Strouds who had stopped in London on their way to

see the Olympic games in Berlin, Germany. Fortunately, they received them. Dr. Stroud approved them. They had to be notarized so they took them to the office of the United States of America's ambassador to England. There, Emma Luhrs Stroud signed the necessary papers. They were notarized by Joseph Kennedy, the father of the later President of the United States of America, Jack Kennedy. Dr. Stroud and Emma Luhrs Stroud, upon their return home, complained how rude Ambassador Joseph Kennedy had been. They thought it was a disgrace to have anyone as rude as Joseph Kennedy representing this country as an ambassador.

While in Germany, the Strouds went to Neuhaus a/d Oste, where Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs, nee Dodenhoff, were born. Christine Dodenhoff Diekmann, Mrs. Luhrs' sister, had three children, one girl, Elsa and two boys, August and Herman. Else had one boy, August and two girls, Hertha and Thea. Else, August and Herman were counsins of Arthur, Ella, Emma and George Luhrs, Jr. The Strouds enjoyed their visit with Else. The general store operated by the Diekmanns has been in the family since the year 1600. It has been passed down from one generation to the next. The Strouds went to Hamburg to see Hedwig von Hein Rehder. She is the daughter of Mrs. Luhrs' mother's brother. The von Heins were wealthy before the First World War but lost everything for the reason all their investments were in English securities.

The Luhrs Building bonds were callable on any interest

payment date, at 105, by giving the bond holders thirty days notice. This was done. There was a little over thirty days between the commitment of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company and the call date of the bonds. At the time Luhrs Building bonds were selling at .52, even if all principal and interest payments had been on time. People needed money so they were willing to sacrifice. What an opportunity to buy the bonds at .52. Since the bond holders had to be given thirty days notice, it did not leave enough time in which to buy them up, although a few were. A letter was mailed to all of the outstanding bond holders, in which they were told that the Luhrs were able to get a loan for $500,000.00 at 5%. The bonds were selling at that time for 52; they could get $105.00 on call date. If they appreciated the prompt payments they had received at all times they could, if they wished, send the bonds to the Valley National Bank, Phoenix, Arizona and we would pay them $100.00. George, Jr. and Mr. Glen Taylor of the Valley National Bank had made such arrangements.

It was surprising the number of bondholders who did send in their bonds for $100.00. At any rate, upon July 15th, 1936, the Luhrs Building Bonds were paid off. With the new loan, the back taxes were paid off and the money was available to make repairs and improvements. It was a much welcomed relief, after five years of depression struggling.

May 12, 1936

Bank of America, N. A.
Trust Department
San Francisco, California

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Article VI of the mortgage and deed of trust between George H. N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs, his wife, to the Bank of California, National Association, as trustee, dated January 15, 1923, I desire to redeem all of such bonds issued under said deed of trust as are outstanding, said redemption to be made July 15, 1936.

I request that you give notice of such redemption on my behalf by publication as required by the deed of trust and likewise let me have such notice as you request so that the same may be published in the Phoenix paper.

I shall, before the redemption day specified in such notice, deposit with you a sum of money sufficient to redeem all of such bonds so to be redeemed on such date.

Very truly yours,

George Luhrs Jr.

George Luhrs Jr.

LUHRS FIRST MORTGAGE 6½% REAL ESTATE GOLD BONDS

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

To the holders of Luhrs First Mortgage 6½% Real Estate Gold Bonds, dated January 15, 1923, and issued under Trust Indenture between George H. N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs, his wife, of Phoenix, Arizona, as Mortgagors and The Bank of California, National Association, as Trustee:

Notice is hereby given that Catharina M. Luhrs, in her own original right and as successor in interest of George H. N. Luhrs, deceased, has elected to redeem and pay and will redeem and pay on July 15, 1936 all of the above mentioned bonds then outstanding at one hundred and five percent (105%) of their principal amount, together with accrued interest to said date, and that all of said bonds are called for redemption on said date. On said date there will become and be due and payable at the office of The Bank of California, National Association, 400 California Street, San Francisco, California, the principal of said bonds together with the premium of five percent (5%) and accrued interest to said date. Interest on said bonds will cease to accrue from and after said date.

The bonds should be presented for redemption as aforesaid with the coupons due January 15, 1937 and thereafter, attached. The coupon paybable July 15, 1936 sould be detached and presented for payment in the usual manner.

Dated: May 15, 1936

CATHARINA M. LUHRS

Publish Friday, May 15, 22, 29 and June 5, 12, 19, 26 and July 3, 10.

During the depression days, President Franklin D. Roosevelt called in all the gold. Geo H.N. Luhrs for many years had saved gold pieces. The amount turned in was over $4,000.00. What that would be worth today (1983)? While at the Vulture mine, Geo H.N. Luhrs sent some gold bullion to San Francisco to be made into a ring. This ring was given to his oldest son, Arthur Cleveland Luhrs who gave it to his oldest son, Arthur Allen Luhrs, who in turn gave it to his son, Arthur Cleveland Luhrs, II. When George, Jr. was a junior in high school, his brother-in-law, Dr. R.J. Stroud gave him a gold watch-job, with a five dollar gold piece attached for winning the 440 yard dash at the interscholastic track meet at the University of Arizona in 1917. This gold was not turned in, for it was considered jewelry.

Some changes were made to the cooling equipment in the Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower in 1936. The sprays in the cooling chambers were removed and in their place type "R" 4 row Trane surface cooling units were installed. The air is cooled by passing over the coils of the cooling units which are made cold by the chilled water going through the coils. The air and the water are never in direct contact with each other. In this way, most of the humidity is removed from the air, thus making it dry air.

In 1936, the Luhrs' had the Hotel Luhrs, originally the Commercial Hotel, air conditioned, making it the first hotel in Phoenix with refrigerated air conditioning. Gene Clancy of the

Gay Engineering Company, installed the refrigeration system, while Frank Harmonson did the duct work. As in the Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower, the corridors were used as returns. Three Westinghouse compressors and motors were installed. A supply well and a return well were drilled. Gene Clancy did an outstanding good job at the hotel. The system was in operation until the hotel was torn down in 1982. A fourth compressor was installed after the original equipment was put in, the plant operating with expansion valves, permitting the freon to go through the coils with the air passing over the coils. After starting the equipment, everything was automatic as to the number of compressors that were on or off. To have an even temperature inside the hotel, everything was thermostatically controlled. High ceilings made it possible to run the supply ducts against the ceiling and cover them with a dropped ceiling.

Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs and their four children always worked together as one. When Geo H.N. Luhrs passed away, he left everything to his wife. The children always thought it should be that way. Catharina M. Luhrs always felt it belonged to all of them. After securing the loan from the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company in 1936, she decided to make gifts each year to her four children. She started in 1936 by first making gifts, each year, of the hotel property follwed by the south half of Block 64. These gifts were reported annually to the Internal Revenue and the gift taxes paid.

In October, 1937, Allen Luhrs, John Luhrs and Bill Schuette

went hunting. They went to Cambell's ranch from where they started, each going a different direction. It was understood they would return to the same place before sundown. Evening came and Allen Luhrs and Bill Schuette had returned as was agreed but there was no John Luhrs. Each hour seemed like a whole night. By morning, John still had not returned. Everyone was deeply concerned. Search parties, including the Sheriff's Office, went out into the surrounding county. Lee Moore covered the territory in his plane. The newspapers had headlines that John Luhrs was lost. The Luhrs family stopped what they were doing, driving out to Cambell's ranch to see what they could do. The day passed and another night, but no John. The papers began to think something might have happened to John. Then John walked into a camp. It was not long before the word got around that John was back and safe. Everyone was very happy.

In 1938, the Post Office on the Luhrs Properties, being the rear portion of the one story building facing Jefferson Street between the Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower, lease expired and they moved two blocks to the east, being on the south side of Jefferson Street in the middle of the block between First Street and Second Street. It left a large space vacant. The Arizona Club had been anxious for someone to operate a health club nearby which its members could use. The Club was having trying times and a health club in the space just vacated by the Post Office on the Properties, between the Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower, would be ideal. Eddie

Rogers and his wife were very much interested. It was just what they were looking for and they took it as of 1938. They had two badminton courts, a steam room, massage tables, and plenty of room for other exercise equipment. Mrs. Rogers had classes for women in the morning. The men used the health club in the afternoon and evenings. Catharina M. Luhrs and her daughter, Ella, were in the morning class. George, Jr. played Badminton in the afternoon and it was there he met Sam McBurney, with whom he played most of the time. They became friends. Later, they played golf together every Sunday morning at the Arizona Country Club, which George, Jr. had joined.

On December 7th, 1941, Pearl Harbor, at Honolulu, Hawaii, was bombed by the Japanese. The United States of America was again deep in war, namely The Second World War. George, Jr. was playing golf with Royal Marks that morning, at Encanto Park. Everyone stopped playing as soon as they heard the news.

The recruiting offices of the United States Army were located in Suite 507, Luhrs Building, with Captain McDonell in charge. The government wanted space for an induction area where all the draftees could be brought for examination. Some of the old Post Office space used by Eddie Rogers for a health club, was turned over to the Army. This was space in the rear of 15-17-19-21 West Jefferson Street and adjacent to the Luhrs Building. In 1943, the Army took the rear of 23-25-27-29-31-33-36-37 West Jefferson Street. In these quarters, all draftees into the service were examined. It was a busy place. The

young men from all over the state came to this station. Those passing, the cream of the crop, were inducted into the service and left for training immediately. George, Jr. saw all the young men going through the induction station. Some were his friends. Some he never saw again. It left him with a sad and heavy heart. He was glad when the war was over.

Those were trying days for everyone. The shortage of men of draft age made it necessary to employ as many women as possible. Women were put to work cleaning offices and also to run the elevators. Sam and Virgil Diaz were of draft age and it became necessary to appear before the draft board in order to have them released. In view of the fact that the Army was occupying space in the Luhrs Properties and needed the services rendered by the engineers, Sam and Virgil Diaz, they were permitted to stay and not be called. During the war, many things were put on priority. The steam boilers needed new steel tubes and the condensors of the cooling system needed new copper tubing. The fact that the Army was a tenant of the Luhrs Properties was not sufficient reason for a priority. It was necessary to get Arizona's Representatives and Senators in Congress to help. Finally, the priorities were granted. Every day was a day by itself, with troubles and difficulties to be taken care of.

Early in September, 1942, Joe Melczer and Irving Jennings came to the Luhrs' office in the Hotel Luhrs, originally the Commercial Hotel, to see Arthur and George, Jr. Arthur and his

wife Sadie were at Greer, Arizona for a few days. The purpose of the meeting was to inform the Luhrs' that the Arizona Club was broke and they wanted to turn it over to the Luhrs'. It was known that the Arizona Club was having a hard time of it but nevertheless, it was a shock. The Arizona Club was behind in their rent and owed many other bills. The Luhrs' had helped the Club in every way possible. They felt the Club was an organization that served the community. If the Luhrs' had accepted the Club's offer, the Luhrs' would have owned it outright from that day on. True, the Arizona Club had been hard hit with the depression the same as everyone else, but the Luhrs' had not been pressing them for back rental. In a very friendly talk, George, Jr. told them that the Club belonged to the members and it would not be right or fair to them to take it away.

George, Jr. again reassured Joe Melczer and Irving Jennings that the Luhrs' would go along with them and not press them for the rent and would also contact the other Club creditors to have them carry the Club. The Club would pay everyone something each month and catch up as soon as they could. It had been thirteen years since the depression hit and it could not go on forever. The result was, everyone was willing to cooperate. A short time later the Club was permitted to have slot machines. That was a savior for the Arizona Club. One year they netted $100,000.00. In time they paid all of their creditors and life began again. Then the Club had bingo on the night they had

their buffet. It brought out the members. The war took the younger members, but with the older members, slot machines and bingo, the Club was operating in the black.

The thought has often come up as to whether the Club members, the Board of Directors, or any of them, ever read the lease they had with the Luhrs', realizing the Club rent was figured at costs. The Club being in the building would bring others as tenants from whom the Luhrs' expected a just rent. The Luhrs' were constantly doing things to help the Club, with no extra costs. When Joe Melczer and Irving Jennings offered to turn the Club over to the Luhrs', think what that would have meant? The Club really belonged to all of the members. A meeting should have been called of the entire membership to go over the matter. The Luhrs' could have taken over the Club and the members would have had nothing. The Luhrs' have the right to claim that they are responsible for the Arizona Club being in existence and owned by its members. How long will this be remembered, or in time will the good a person does be forgotten?

Sunday, December 13th, 1942 was a very black day for the Luhrs'. It was Emma Luhrs Stroud's birthday. Ella Luhrs Taylor had gone after the automobile so that she and her mother could drive over to Tempe to congratulate Emma. Arthur was at the hotel. George, Jr. and Adam Diaz were moving a partition in the Luhrs Tower. When Ella drove up to the hotel, the bellboy told her she had better go up stairs for Mrs. Luhrs was not well. Ella found her mother leaning against the wall

in the corridor near the Luhrs' suite. They took Catharina M. Luhrs to her room. Ella called Arthur, George, Jr., Emma and Dr. Stroud at once. Catharina M. Luhrs had a massive brain hemmorhage. It was hard to believe. The night before she had gone to the Fox Theatre with Ella, George, Jr. and Mrs. Feltman, a guest at the hotel. She felt fine and everything seemed to be alright. She was a wonderful woman, wife and mother. She could fit into any occasion. It was not unusual to see her hard at work, alone or supervising things to be done. From the time the Luhrs' took over the hotel, financial problems had made it necessary that Mr. and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs do as much of the work themselves as they could. It influenced their lives as well as those of their children. The Luhrs' had to watch each and every penny. As the wife of the owner, and hostess of the hotel, she did a marvelous job. She could meet and greet people in all ranks of life most graciously, making them feel at ease and at home. Catharina M. Luhrs had a wonderful personality. She had the respect and admiration of all who knew her. Jim Cashion, a railroad builder and for whom Cashion, Arizona was named, sometimes drank a little more than he should have. When he did, he would always say, "Don't tell Mrs. Luhrs, she is a fine lady."

In the early days of Phoenix, it was like a big family. Social events and parties were had and Mrs. Luhrs was usually present as a guest or as a hostess. Everyone loved her. One of the clubs formed was the Harmony Club. She suggested the

the name for the club. Catharina M. Luhrs was a member of Chapter #5 of the Eastern Star. She was the treasurer for many years. Mrs. Luhrs was a very attractive lady, with natural rosy cheeks. Rouge, in those days, was not used by decent ladies. In order not to have such rosy cheeks, she would put vinegar on them. It did no good, however, so she kept her natural rosy cheeks, one of the things that made her attractive and beautiful. As a wife, no man could ask for a truer partner. She worked with him every step of the way, in happiness and in sorrow. The children never heard them say a harsh word to each other. There were times when Geo H.N. Luhrs would become discouraged, but Catharina M. Luhrs, his wife, would prod him along. She deserves equal credit with her husband, Geo H.N. Luhrs, in all their undertakings.

As a mother, Catharina M. Luhrs was the finest, as Geo H.N. Luhrs was the finest father. They gave their children a loving home and brought them up with training to be respectable men and women and able to carry on when they departed. They gave them a good education and did things for them as best they could financially. There were times the children wished they had things, but knowing their folks could not afford it, they did without. Now and then when they came home from school for lunch, their mother would be busy working. She would tell them to go over to the old home and buy 10¢ worth of barbecue meat or go over to J.W. Dorris Grocery Store and get a can of salmon. The children believe there were times when their

mother went without any food so that they could be taken care of. Each child believes they were better off knowing what it meant to do without. Mr. and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs were always looking out for their children's best interest. They believed in keeping them busy, either at work or at play, in a contest, etc. Their children not only respected them but loved them dearly. When Mrs. Luhrs passed away, they felt they had lost a part of themselves.

Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs loved their adopted country, the United States of America. Mrs. Luhrs adored the American flag. She would stand on the porch of the hotel and watch it fly atop of the Luhrs Building.

In the Luhrs family, Catharina M. Luhrs made Christmas. When the children were young, she would send them to a Christmas Eve Party at the Presbyterian Church. Mr. and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs were Lutherans but they had no church in Phoenix. In the early days when the children were young, Mr. and Mrs. Luhrs would go down to the river and get a cottonwood tree. In later years, they would go to the store about closing time and buy a pine tree for a reasonable price. They would take it to the hotel and decorate it before the children returned from church. They also had one of the first music boxes made in the U.S.A., which played "Silent Night." The tree and Christmas gifts were in Room C, now 160, in the hotel. As their children married and had children, the Christmas Eve party got larger and larger.

On one Christmas Eve, all the Luhrs' were present, as

well as the Eisele family. Mrs. Edward Eisele was the sister of Mrs. Luhrs. By that time, George, Jr. was older so he was dressed up like Santa Claus and became the master of ceremonies. It was a joyous night, with everyone happy. The younger ones were very much interested in Santa Claus and kept him busy. One Christmas, Mrs. Luhrs arranged to have Santa Claus ride a donkey into the room from the porch. It took everyone to get the donkey in the elevator and bring him out on the porch. George, Jr., as Santa Claus, did ride the donkey into the room where the Christmas party was being held. Everything went along fine until the time came to take the donkey downstairs. It was a real job to get the donkey in the elevator and downstairs. It was finally accomplished and the donkey was tied to a post in the alley. In the morning, the donkey was gone. Someone had taken it during the night. That was one Christmas Eve party never to be forgotten.

After Catharina M. Luhrs left, the Christmas Eve parties got smaller and smaller. Some of the younger members of the family tried to have it at their homes, inviting their friends, but it was not the same and did not work. Arthur and Sadie got to going away for Christmas so it narrowed down to Ella Luhrs, George, Luhrs, Jr., Emma Luhrs, her husband, Dr. Stroud, and their children, Luhrs and Jean. As they left, one by one the number decreased until it is now run out. As said before, Catharina M. Luhrs made Christmas in the Luhrs family.

Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs could speak high and low German. It came in handy if they wanted to say something to each other and not have anyone else understand. For instance, their children took German (high) in high school. If they did not want their children to understand, they would speak in low German.

Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs had good training when they were young. In Germany, at that time, every boy had to learn a trade and every girl had to learn to take care of a home. Geo H.N. Luhrs, at the age of seven, stood on a box to use tools of a wagon maker. Catharina M. (Dodenhoff) Luhrs was sent to spend the summer with her grandmother, Rebecca Von Hein, who was very strict. Catharina Dodenhoff did not care too much for her but she taught her granddaughter well.

The services for Catharina M. Luhrs were held in Trinity Episcopal Church. With the casket before the alter, rays of sunshine coming through one of the cathedral windows shown directly upon it as if showing Catharina M. Luhrs the lighted way to heaven where Geo H.N. Luhrs was patiently waiting for her. It was Mrs. Luhrs' wish to be cremated, which was done. At the same time, the remains of Geo H.N. Luhrs was cremated too. They both have places at the south end of the original mausoleum, one above the other, in Greenwood Memorial Park on West Van Buren Street.

After "Cap" Taylor was accidentally killed, December 27, 1937, and before Catharina M. Luhrs passed away, December 13,

1942, George, Jr. was giving a little thought to adopting a boy and a girl. If they were babies, or real young, they would be a hardship upon his mother, Catharina M. Luhrs, and his sister, Ella Luhrs Taylor. If they were older, there were drawbacks too. One day, Neil McCarthy, Arthur's friend came into the office. Arthur was not around, so George, Jr. told Neil he might adopt a boy and a girl. Neil made the remark, "Give me a child until he is nine and I will give him to the world." That settled things for George, Jr. Under nine would be too young for his mother and sister. Over nine the child had his or her own ideas and they could not be changed. After George, Jr.'s talk with Neil McCarthy, George, Jr. made up his mind and he never gave it any more thought.

Catharina M. Luhrs, beginning in 1936, made gifts to her four children, Arthur, Ella, Emma and George, Jr., giving to them, each year, an equal portion of the hotel property and the south half of Block 64, Phoenix, Arizona, so that at the time of her death, she had conveyed all of the hotel property and the south half of Block 64 to them. Each year, as the gifts were made, they were reported and the gift tax upon them paid. The north half of Block 64, Phoenix, Arizona, was inherited equally by her four children, with a gift deed for love and affection, which, with other assets and liabilities was reported to the Inheritance Tax Department. Among the liabilities, were notes of Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs to George Luhrs, Jr. amounting to approximately $112,000.00

with the statute of limitations waived, for wages due for management of the Luhrs Buildings covering the years 1923 through 1942. George Luhrs, Jr. reported, each year, the amount due by note, as wages received, and paid income tax upon the same.

The government inspector objected to almost everything. He did not want to allow the gifts made by Catharina M. Luhrs to her children of the hotel and south half of Block 64, saying they were made in contemplation of death, even if the gifts were made beginning six years before her death and even if Catharina M. Luhrs was in good health the night before she passed away. Furthermore, he did not want to allow the notes held by George Luhrs, Jr., based upon some technicality passed by Congress six weeks before Mrs. Luhrs' death. When asked about returning the money George Luhrs, Jr. had paid as income tax on said notes, he said the statute of limitations had run on them and nothing could be returned. As to the gift deeds, upon which a gift tax had been paid, the inspector said too high a valuation had been placed on the property and the government could only allow the amount based upon what the government thought would be a fair valuation on the property and the difference could not be refunded for the reason the statute of limitations had run against it. Yet, when it came to figuring the valuation of the property for the inheritance tax, the inspector wanted to then use the valuation the Luhrs' had reported on the gift tax. He was immediately told he could not

have the cake and eat it too. If he did not permit the property valuations the Luhrs' placed on said property for the gift tax returns, he could not use it for the inheritance tax valuation.

The inspector was so unreasonable and arbitrary, George, Jr. told him he would think more of a fellow who would point a gun at him. George' Jr.'s sister, Ella, said she was afraid the inspector would report him to the F.B.I. Then George, Jr. told his sister he had already told Mr. Pat Duffey of the F.B.I. The Luhrs' then asked both the Valley National Bank and the First National Bank of Arizona for the name of the best inheritance tax lawyers in the West. They both recommended Parker and Smith of Los Angeles, California. Mr. Smith came to Phoenix and took over. After talking and arguing for many months, Mr. Smith told the Luhrs' he could do nothing under the circumstances. The country was at war and needed all the money it could get. The Franklin D. Roosevelt administration was the Court, Judge, jury, lawyer, etc. In the meantime, the interest was going on so the Luhrs' unwillingly paid, always feeling that justice had not been done. George, Jr. always felt he was deprived of nineteen years salary.

After the inheritance matter was paid, the Internal Revenue kept coming around for every little thing. It made the Luhrs' feel they were harassed. One afternoon, as an Internal Revenue man left the Luhrs' office, United States Senator Carl Hayden walked in. George, Jr. told Carl, who was a personal

friend of the Luhrs' about the entire matter. After that, the Luhrs' were left alone by the Internal Revenue Department.

On April 4th, 1947, the dear Doctor Reginald James Stroud, the husband of Emma Luhrs Stroud, passed away in Good Samaritan Hospital. Dr. Stroud was a self made man and deserves a lot of credit for the many things he did. He was placed in the mausoleum in Greenwood Memorial Park, 2300 West Van Buren Street, Phoenix, Arizona.

The loan made to the Luhrs' in 1936 by the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company for $500,000.00 at 5% did not mature until 1951. By October 3, 1948, there was only $25,000.00 left unpaid. The Luhrs' asked the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company if the $15,000.00 to be paid upon November 21, 1948 could be paid upon May 21, 1949 and the final $10,000.00 upon May 21, 1949. The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company replied, "Luhrs loan payments extended to final maturity with unlimited privilege on interest dates." This shows the excellent credit standing the Luhrs' had established. On May 11th, 1950, the Luhrs' made the final payment on the loan.

October 3, 1948

The Northwestern Mutual
Life Insurance Company
c/o Arthur C. Hurt
1031 A. G. Barlet Bldg.
Phoenix, Arizona

Gentlemen: Loan C-131393--Loan

There is still outstanding, upon our loan from your company, the sum of $25,000.00 of which sum $15,000.00 principal is due November 21, 1948.

A check will show that this loan will be paid out long before the maturity date of the note.

In order to take care of the needs of our tenants, we have spent many thousand of dollars in building and remodeling. In addition to this, the City and County taxes have increased $15,000.00.

Would it be possible, instead of paying $15,000.00 upon November 21, 1948 and the final amount of $10,000.00 upon May 21, 1949, to pay only the interest on the $25,000.00 on November 21, 1948 and then pay $15,000.00 on the principal May 21, 1949 and the final payment of $10,000.00 on November 21, 1949?

The use of the money is very much needed at this time by us. The Northwestern Mutual is drawing 5% interest which they would get for an additional six months. The final maturity date of the note and the mortgage has several years yet to go.

I would appreciate your letting me know what can be done and an early reply is requested as time is drawing near.

As a matter of information, what would be your rate of interest for a loan of $300,000.00 to $400,000.00 upon the Luhrs Building at this time?

Very truly yours,

George Luhrs

George Luhrs Jr.

LOAN AGENCY OF

The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company

OF MILWAUKEE, WIS.

RUFUS FREITAG,
LOAN AGENT

TRINITY 2801

ROOM 1031, A. G. BARTLETT BLDG.
215 WEST 7TH STREET

ARTHUR C. HURT,
MORTGAGE LOAN COUNSEL

LOS ANGELES 14, CAL.,

October 4, 1948

C-131393 - Luhrs
Phoenix, Arizona.

Mr. George Luhrs, Jr.
P. O. Box 3407
Phoenix, Arizona.

Dear Mr. Luhrs:

In reply to your letter of October 3rd, I wish to advise that I am very glad to recommend the extension of time you have requested in connection with the above loan. In fact, I have recommended that the $25,000 balance be permitted to continue until the maturity date of the note, which is May 21, 1951. If that recommendation is approved, you can permit this balance to run as long as you wish, up to May 21, 1951, by paying only interest on the semi-annual dates.

In reply to your inquiry about the rate of interest on a new loan on the Luhrs Building, I wish to say that I believe we can make you a conservative loan on this fine property at a 4% rate. I expect to be in Phoenix within the next 30 days, and will stop in to see you at that time. However, if you wish to take immediate action on this matter, would you please call me, and I will make arrangements to come to Phoenix without delay. We value the relationship that has been established with this Company, and assure you that we are anxious to take care of your mortgage needs as far as we can do so.

Yours truly,

Rufus Freitag

Loan Agent

RF/ja

LOAN AGENCY OF

The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company

OF MILWAUKEE, WIS.

RUFUS FREITAG,
LOAN AGENT

TRINITY 2801

ROOM 1031, A. G. BARTLETT BLDG.
215 WEST 7TH STREET

ARTHUR C. HURT,
MORTGAGE LOAN COUNSEL

LOS ANGELES 14, CAL.,

October 8, 1948.

C-131393 - Luhrs
Phoenix, Arizona

Mr. George Luhrs, Jr.
P. O. Box 3407
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Mr. Luhrs:

I am pleased to advise you that the Company has granted your request for an extension of time on the principal installments which remain in the above loan. I am in receipt of a telegram from the Home Office which I quote as follows:

"Luhrs loan payments extended to final maturity with unlimited privilege on interest dates."

Very truly yours,

Rufus Freitag

Loan Agent

RF:GS

The ever increasing demand for air conditioning made it necessary for the Luhrs' to increase the tonage of their refrigerating system. The ammonia compressors installed in 1932 had given good service but there was always the possibility of an ammonia leak that would cause considerable trouble if it got to the upper floors. For that reason, it was decided not to add to the ammonia equipment but to change to a freon plant. The Luhrs' had been well satisfied with the plants installed by Gene Clancy of the Gay Engineering Company, especially the freon installation in the Hotel Luhrs, which was automatic. The Luhrs' asked Gene Clancy to give them a freon refrigeration system for the buildings that would be automatic and operate like the one at the hotel. It was stipulated that the new plant would be in operation by April 1, 1948.

As fine an engineer as Gene Clancy was, he was not able to control his use of alcohol. Shortly after the signing of the contract, he had one of his uncontrolable spells which lasted for several months. Unfortunately, he had not gone into details with anyone relative to his plans for the operation of the new plant. The open top concrete return tank was to be done away with thus making the chilled water system that ran to the different buildings an entirely closed system. There would be two chillers, two consensers and four, one hundred tons, freon Worthington compressors with four motors. The underground level had dropped making it necessary to deepen the supply well. However, the supply well had a bend in it and could not be

deepened so a new well was drilled to the depth of 250 feet. The City had passed an ordinance not permitting wells to be drilled to take underground water. Since the Luhrs' already had a supply well tapping the underground water, which could not be deepened, they allowed a new well to be drilled. All water pumped from the ground passed through a large sand trap. This was done to keep the condensers free of sand and thus prevent the tubes from being damaged. To prevent the noise of the compressors from being heard in the building, above the basement, the concrete floor was torn up and the concrete bases for the old ammonia compressors removed. The bases for the new freon compressors were put in isolating said bases from the concrete footings of the building thus preventing the noise from traveling through the building.

April lst arrived with the old equipment removed, but no new equipment. The weather was warm enough for tenants to have their space cooled. Letters and telegrams passed back and forth. Slowly, equipment showed up a piece at a time. Tenants were rightfully complaining. Excelsior pads, used with evaporative cooling, were placed in all cooling chambers. The air intake was opened wide as well as all windows in the offices. This did very well until about the middle of July when the humidity got higher. Again, the tenants rightfully complained. It was sometime in August when the new refrigeration plant started operating. The evaporating pads did so well until the middle of July, the Luhrs' installed an evaporating system

in front of each cooling chamber. This was done not only for an emergency but it was used in the late Spring and early Fall. It was a great saving in electricity.

In 1978, the engineer of the First National Bank of Arizona told a newspaper reporter he had thought of a way to save money for cooling by using evaporating pads, something the Luhrs' had done thirty years before. These evaporating units are still in place at the Luhrs Buildings, in case of an emergency. They are no longer used, otherwise, for the reason that the evaporating cooling is an open system, while the refrigerating cooling is a closed system. The time consumed in opening and closing windows and air intake is costly and confusing to the tenants. A later change of refrigerating equipment permitted flexibility as to tonage needed thus doing away with the evaporating cooling, except in case of an emergency.

The end of August, 1948, the United States Army gave up the ground floor space used as an induction station during the Second World War, which space was originally built in 1924 and enlarged in 1929 for the Luhrs Station Post Office. It was all of the rear portion of the one story structure between the Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower. The Luhrs' decided to make it usable for offices.

The Jefferson Street frontage was already being used for that purpose. The rear portion would be divided into bays approximately sixteen feet, six inches in width with a

corridor ten feet in width dividing the area, making the offices on the south side of the corridor forty-four feet six inches in depth and those on the north side of the corridor fifty feet in depth. In order to make the space accessible, the room at the south end of the original Luhrs Building lobby, used for a beauty shoppe, was opened up and made a part of the lobby, with marble flooring to match. The corridor and the extended lobby met at right angle at the south end of the extended lobby. Each office bay had a plate glass window, aluminum door and transom, all trimmed with white metal. Alaskan white marble, as in the Luhrs Building lobby, was used to face the corridor walls and under the windows. The floors were covered with rubber tile and the ceiling with accoustical tile. The remodeled area was called the Luhrs Arcade. It was exceptionally well received and became in demand immediately.

The east portion of the Arcade was completed first. Some of the tenants were Echlin, Irwin and Crowell, Insurance; Applewhite Mortgage & Investment Co.; Fireman's Fund Insurance Co.; E.R. Livermore & Co.; General Adjustment Bureau; Phoenix Insurance Co.; and Carson, Walmsley & Henry, accountants. The tenants in the Arcade had an open house, in charge of Bob Charles of Echlin, Irwin & Crowell. It was a real party but nothing like the Barn Yard Party the Arizona Club put on during the early days they were in the Luhrs Building.

Many fire insurance companies and adjustment bureaus had their local offices in the Luhrs Properties, as did some

of the local insurance agencies. It was becoming an insurance center. The Luhrs' proposed to extend the first and second floors of the Luhrs Tower back to the alley and offered the Arizona Fire Rating Bureau space to meet their needs on the second floor, which they agreed to lease. The ground floor would permit the Luhrs Arcade to be extended to the west with an entrance on First Avenue and also into the lobby of the Luhrs Tower. The entire north half of the block would be connected, thus making it possible to go to any office in the Luhrs Building, the Luhrs Tower and the Luhrs Arcade, without going outside. Mr. James Hasting turned over the completed plans in May 1950. The exterior of the addition matched the architecture of the Luhrs Tower as did the interior of the second floor. The interior of the ground floor matched up with the rest of the arcade. The Arizona Fire Rating Bureau occupied the space in November, 1950. The B.L. Udell Agency occupied the ground floor south of the corridor. The Haldiman Insurance Agency occupied the Jefferson Street and First Avenue corner of the Luhrs Tower. They enlarged, taking the space to the south, which was on the north side of the Arcade corridor.

To finance the two story addition to the Luhrs Tower, the cost of which was two thirds that of the Luhrs Tower, the Luhrs' borrowed the necessary money from the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York at the interest rate of three and three fourth percent per annum. The loan was made through the

Applewhite Mortgage Company. The Luhrs Tower was put up as security. In 1948, the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company offered the Luhrs' money at 4%. At a later date, after the Luhrs' had borrowed money from the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York at three and three fourth percent per annum, the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company wondered why the Luhrs' did not contact them for they would have been glad to take care of the Luhrs' borrowing needs. Interest rates increased after the Luhrs' got the money from the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York. Every time Sam Applewhite saw George, Jr. he would ask him when the Luhrs' were going to pay off the loan. Finally, George, Jr. told him, at three and three fourth percent per annum, the Luhrs' would abide by the terms of the loan, making the payments when they became due, the final one being at maturity.

The Eagle Drug Store, owned and operated by Embrey Stults, occupied the Central Avenue and Jefferson Street ground floor corner location of the Luhrs Building from April, 1925 to September, 1950. The day prohibition was repealed in 1934, gin fizzes were sold over the soda fountain counter. Everyone was drinking that day.

In June, 1951, Jay Newton opened a very fine eating establishment in the Central Avenue and Jefferson Street ground floor corner location of the Luhrs Building, previously occupied by the Eagle Drug Store.

The Luhrs' believed in realistic rents, the best in

service and always keeping their buildings modern and one step ahead of competition. This meant remodeling and changes were always being made. Two or three carpenters, two painters, a man to take care of the floors and ceilings, electricians and handy men were working around the Luhrs Properties steady. Under the supervision of George, Jr., most all of the work was done by these skilled men. Amos Christian and Nelson Tomlinson as carpenters; Joe Meyers and "Chuck" Baker as electricians and "Speck" Thornton and "Bud"Harris and his father as painters, were all outstanding in their line of work, making it possible for the Luhrs' to provide their tenants with made-to-order layouts second to none. "Speck" Thornton had a heart attack on the job. He was taken to the engine room, where he died on the table shortly after the doctor arrived.

All the ceilings in the offices and the corridors of the Luhrs Properties were covered with accoustical tile. Cecil Bonham had charge of this work. All of the incandescent lights were replaced with fluorescent light fixtures. New elevator cabs were installed in the three Luhrs Building elevators. They were made by the Commercial Fixture Company of Los Angeles, California. The cabs were beautiful, with inlaid peneling of expensive hard wood imported from Africa. They cost a thousand dollars for each one.

Another big improvement done in the year 1951 was the removal of the marquee over the entrance to the Luhrs Building on Jefferson Street and the one on Central Avenue over the entrance to the corner store. All prism glass, over the plate glass was

covered with ornamental cement plater, in keeping with the architecture of the building. The work was done by Ora Hopper. In the early days, Duncan McDonald, until he quit, did all the plastering for the Luhrs'. He lived on the desert north of Scottsdale. McDonald Drive is named after him. Ora Hopper took over when Duncan stopped plastering.

The entrance to the Luhrs Building was modernized by removing all of the old entrance and making the new one the full height from the floor to the ceiling, or over twenty feet in height. Four double acting aluminum doors were installed with plate glass above the doors. The marble for this entrance was furnished by the Vermont Marble Company, who sold the Luhrs' all of the marble used in the Luhrs Properties. Mr. Ralph Slight, who was in charge of the Vermont Marble Company in the West, can be thanked for the excellent marble planning he did for the Luhrs'. The Verde antique marble used in the entrance of the Luhrs Building came from one block. It was cut in such a way that the veins can be traced completely around. The marble for the Luhrs Building entrance cost $5,718.50.

The entire Jefferson Street frontage, from Central Avenue to First Avenue, was changed to be uniform. The base of each column was granite, the same height as the granite bases in the Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower. Antique marble was used from the plate glass to the sidewalk. All doors and trim were aluminum. The ground floor frontages of the Luhrs Building were also changed so that all doors and trim were aluminum and

Verde Antique marble was used from the plate glass to the sidewalk. This uniformity was not only attractive but tied all the structures on the north half of the block together as one, showing it to be one complex. On the east and west walls of the Luhrs Building lobby are two original murals painted by David Swing. They are desert scenes, for which David Swing is known. George, Jr. knew David Swing personally in the Shrine.

In June, 1953, Jay Newton gave up his eating establishment located on the Central Avenue and Jefferson Street ground floor corner of the Luhrs Building.

The ground floor of the Luhrs Building is twenty-two feet in height from the floor to the ceiling. When the building was built, structures were erected with higher ceilings. The Luhrs' thought there was enough height for a mezzanine floor and thus have more rentable area by using all of the space. With the ground floor corner temporarily unoccupied, a concrete mezzanine floor was pour over a portion of this area but never completed, for the reason that the ground floor was rented before the work could be finished.

In March, 1954, A.B. Robbs moved into the ground floor Central Avenue and Jefferson Street corner location of the Luhrs Building. A.B. Robbs was a loan company.

During the years 1955-57, the entire interior of the two story building located on the northwest corner of Central Avenue and Madison Street was rebuilt. The basement, first

and second floors were gutted, leaving only the concrete frame work and the exterior walls. Even the exterior windows on the second floor and the front of the ground floor were removed. The large freight elevator on the Madison Street side was also taken out. The men and ladies rest rooms were relocated. During all of the remodeling, the tenants occupying space had to be considered. The janitors, "Lucky" and Herman Loske, deserve a great deal of praise for the faithful performance in keeping the building clean and satisfying the tenants. It is doubtful if anyone could be found today who would be willing to do the work that "Lucky" and Herman Loske did. Every night the building was a mess, for about two years. First, all the rubbish, large and small had to be taken out to the alley before any cleaning could be done, like sweeping and mopping and wiping the furniture.

The exterior of the building needed no changes, except for the second floor windows, the ground floor fronts and a new entrance. The base of each column was granite with terra cota up to the second floor windows. Above that, glazed pressed brick, matching the terra cota, was used. Soule aluminum windows were used for the second floor offices. The ground floor fronts had plate glass to within eight inches of the floor. Instead of one large plate glass, three pieces equal in width were used. The door and trim around the door and windows was aluminum. Ralph Slight of the Vermont Marble Company furnished the beautiful granite and the marble for the recessed entrance

which had aluminum doors and trim. The Slights and the Luhrs' had become good friends.

The building was called the Luhrs Central Building, 132 South Central Avenue. The entire building, lower level, the ground floor and the second floor was planned for offices. The corridors were built. Office space was laid out to meet the needs of the tenant. The second floor corridors had birch doors which, when installed, were finished in a natural light color. Later they were refinished a golden walnut. The ground floor had a nine foot corridor running east and west from the entrance on Central Avenue at the east, to the elevator and rest rooms at the far west. The office fronts facing the corridor were plate glass, aluminum doors and trim, the same as on the street front. The elevator vestibule was pink filled travertine, also finished by Ralph Slight of the Vermont Marble Company.

In 1956, a tunnel was built under the alley connecting the Luhrs Central Building with the Luhrs Building. The lower level corridors were built using the glazed pressed bricks salvaged from the one story building on Madison Street, directly to the west of the two story building on the northwest corner of Central Avenue and Madison Street. This was done in 1957, when the one story building was torn down to make room for the new Luhrs Parking Center. At this time, the labor union had a picket around our property for the reason labor union men were not tearing down the bricks. After explaining to them that the

men taking down the brick were our employees and the bricks would be used again with labor union men doing the work, the union withdrew their pickets.

The glazed pressed bricks were used for the columns and under the plate glass windows which were two feet from the floor. Birch doors like those on the second floor were used. The trim around the window was aluminum. There was a corridor running east and west dividing the basement, with one area to the south of the corridor and the other to the north. The west end of said corridor connected with one running north and south at the west end of the building. The corridor continued through the tunnel connecting up with the lower level passageway in the Luhrs Building. The west wall of the Luhrs Central Building, lower level corridor, was decorated with large murals, each one being framed. They were attractive and did away with a long blank wall. The rebuilding of the entire interior of this building required new partitions, electric system with fluorescent light fixtures, air ducts for heating and cooling, acoustical tile ceilings, rubber tile floors, doors, hardware, drapes, etc. All columns were furred out a little so that the conduits for the electric and telephone outlet could be hidden. At the time the telephone company stated that 3/4 inch conduit would be ample for their needs. A few years later their cable became so large the 3/4 inch conduit could not be used.

With a partial tenant occupancy, the rebuilding of the

interior of the Luhrs Central Building took time. Work started upon the second floor, then the ground floor, and last the lower level. With the Parking Center in mind, the elevator shaft, the stairway and the rest rooms were planned to take care of the Luhrs Central Building and the Luhrs Parking Center. Being directly to the west of the Luhrs Central Building but a part of the Parking Center, it was necessary to build this portion of the Luhrs Parking Center as a joint project with and at the same time the remodeling of the Luhrs Central Building was started. In 1955, Walter Riley, an engineer who later parepared the plans for the Parking Center, furnished the necessary drawings and specifications for the elevator shaft, stairway and rest rooms which would fit in with the overall plans.

The rebuilding of the interior of the Luhrs Central Building took so much of George Jr.'s time, he found himself in 1956, eight months behind on the Luhrs Properties book work. In order to catch up, he and his sister Ella flew up to Palo Alto, California, where his other sister, Emma, was visiting her daughter, Jean. George, Jr. and his sister Ella took a room at the Cardinal Hotel. He rented a typewriter and an adding machine and went to work for two weeks, during the daytime. In the evenings he would see his sisters and niece. After getting caught up, he and his sister Ella returned to Phoenix. What a vacation!

In 1957, the property owned by the Geare family in the 3100 block on north Central Avenue, upon which they operated the

Central Avenue Dairy, was sold to the Burghachers, who in 1957 started building and in 1958 completed and opened the largest shopping center in Phoenix, Arizona, known as the Park Central Shopping Center. Goldwaters, Diamonds and others from downtown moved to the shopping center. Park Central Shopping Center was the initial cause that brought on the deterioration of the central business core in Phoenix, a blow from which downtown has never recovered. Korricks enlarged their store which was downtown, on the northeast corner of First Street and Washington Street, but finally sold out to Bullocks, who also moved from the downtown central business core. Hanny's and Switzer's remained downtown but had to open other stores in the outer areas. The Central business core was not only hurt with the loss of the shopping firms but they continued to pay high downtown property taxes while Park Central Shopping Center paid upon extremely low valuations.

At a luncheon on November 27th, 1957, the Downtown Merchants Association of Phoenix, honored George Luhrs, Jr. for his contribution to the development, improvement and beautification of downtown Phoenix.

Many of the remaining stores and property owners got together and organized the Downtown Parking Association, with Ben Projan of Hanny's as its president. The purpose of the association was to encourage as much parking downtown as possible and permit the stores to validate tickets at a discount. The association purchased vacant property on the block bound by Jefferson and Madison Streets and Central Avenue

and First Street for parking. A Mr. Fogel offered to buy the land and erect a multi-story garage upon the property located at the southwest corner of Jefferson and First Streets, with no down payment, giving the Association a first mortgage on the land as security. His proposition was accepted by the Association. The Luhrs' and the Arizona Club voted against it for the reason there was no down payment and there was nothing in the agreement as to when the structure would be started, if at all and no time set as to when it would be completed and operating. Mr. Fogel paid nothing on the taxes or interest. It looked bad for the Association and that they might have to take the property back, although they had no money in the treasury. About this time, Mr. Fogel got into trouble with the government. It was also discovered that the Title Company had issued a title policy on the land in question to a third party with no mention whatsoever that the Downtown Parking Association had a first mortgage. The result was the Title Company had to pay off the mortgage held by the Association, with each member getting back what they had originally put into the property.

The Downtown Parking Association changed its name to the Downtown Development Association. Mr. Donald McKay was employed to operate the Association which was to cover all fields of improving the downtown.

With other shopping centers being opened, more stores left the downtown area. Later, Dave Murdock erected a twenty story building at 3550 North Central Avenue, which was out

of the downtown area. The building when erected was called the Guaranty Bank Building. Later it became the United Bank Building. It is now called First Interstate Bank.

Del Webb started developing Rosensweig Center in 1961 and the Del Webb Building was built at 3800 North Central Avenue. These, with other buildings erected in the outlying area, took offices away from the center city. A few years later, John Mills sold the Westward Ho Hotel, which has changed hands several times since then. The Hotel Adams was lost by the Rockwells. Margaret Adams Rockwell was the only child of the original owners, the J.C. Adams.

Beginning with the opening of Park Central Shopping Center, Phoenix has sprawled over a very large area, causing the deterioration of the center city. The efforts put forth by the Downtown Development Association, the Valley National Bank, the First Interstate Bank of Arizona, the Arizona Bank, the Government and devoted Phoenicians has helped toward the revitalization of downtown Phoenix. The Luhrs family has stayed with the center city at all times, building, remodeling and making improvements to keep a step ahead of the times.

A sprawled out community does not make a city, and economically is very bad planning. In a sprawled area, each member of the family must have an automobile, the cost of which, with gasoline, oil, repairs and loss of time for driving long distances, multiplied by the number of automobiles, adds up to a sum that is unrealistic. In a city, not a sprawled

out community, the closeness of business firms makes it possible to finish more business deals each working day at a minimum cost. In a sprawled community, many additional miles of roads become necessary, said roads to be paved, with cement sidewalks, gutters and sewage. To this add fire protection, police service, telephone and water facilities. Add up all the different costs, taxes, loss of time, etc. one can easily see that a sprawled community is BAD PLANNING. IT IS NOT A CITY.

The Valley National Bank was very anxious to have a branch bank located in the Luhrs Building on the southwest corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street. This corner location was, at that time, occupied by A.B. Robbs. The Valley National Bank made arrangements with A.B. Robbs to move to another location, which he did as of March, 1958. After remodeling, they opened up their 49th branch, known as the Valley National Bank, Luhrs Building Branch. Geo H.N. Luhrs had hoped, from the time the Luhrs Building was planned, that a bank would be located on the corner. That now was another dream come true.

In 1957, the Luhrs' decided to go ahead with the building of the Luhrs Parking Center, on the northeast corner of First Avenue and Madison Street, directly south across the alley from the Luhrs Tower. The Luhrs' wanted to make a short time loan, until the structure was completed and then make their permanent loan, the reason being they thought they might

get a better rate of interest with less property being tied up as security. George, Jr. saw Mr. Walter Bimson of the Valley National Bank regarding the matter and the Luhrs' were given a written letter signed by Walter Bimson agreeing to such a short term loan.

Mr. Walter Riley then finished the plans and specifications for the Luhrs Parking Center and they were put out for bids. T.J.K. Construction Company had the lowest bid, which was $500,679.31. Before signing the contract, George, Jr. thought he would inform the Valley National Bank. He saw Mr. Roger Hafford who was in charge of the commercial loans. Much to his surprise, Mr. Hafford told George, Jr. the bank would not make the loan for the reason the Luhrs' were all too old. George, Jr. could not believe it. He had played golf with Roger Hafford many times at the Arizona Country Club and thought he was a friend. When George, Jr. told his brother, Arthur, he was shocked. In view of the fact that the Luhrs' had a written commitment from Walter Bimson, Arthur was in favor of demanding that they make the loan. George, Jr. thought different for he did not wish to force the bank and have them make life miserable during the period of the loan.

George, Jr. immediately got in touch with Mr. Rufus Freitag of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, from whom the Luhrs' secured a loan in 1936. Mr. Freitag wrote back that the officials in charge of their lending program were very favorably disposed to make the Luhrs' a loan, recalling the excellent record the Luhrs' had maintained in their loan #131339.

LOAN AGENCY OF

The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

RUFUS FREITAG, LOAN AGENT

ROOM 1250, ROOSEVELT BUILDING

727 WEST SEVENTH STREET

TRINITY 2801

LOS ANGELES 17, CALIF.

May 21, 1957

Mr. George Luhrs, Jr.
P. O. Box 4307
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Mr. Luhrs:

I am pleased to hear from you again, and I am happy to know that you are proceeding with the construction of the garage building at the rear of your property, which program you outlined to me several years ago. The Company definitely has an interest in obtaining loans on first class property such as yours, and I will do my best to work out a financing program with you.

After studying over the information in your letter, and knowing your property very well, it appears to me that The Northwestern would be interested in making a loan of $600,000 to you, provided it can be tied in with one of your major buildings. You can understand, I am sure, that we would not be too interested in having a loan on the rear portion of your block. The 3-3/4% interest rate which you have with the Mutual Life of New York on the Luhrs Tower, and the one-story building to the east, would make it inadvisable to take up that loan. We could hardly expect you to give up such an extremely favorable rate of interest. However, The Northwestern might be satisfied to include in their mortgage the Luhrs Tower, and the one-story building to the east without disturbing the first mortgage to the Mutual Life of New York.

In other words, what I am suggesting is that The Northwestern might be willing to make a loan of $600,000 which would be a first mortgage on the Luhrs Central Madison Building, and Luhrs Center Parking Garage, and a second mortgage on the Luhrs Tower, and the one-story building to the east.

Would you please consider this suggestion, and if it is acceptable to you I will be very happy to come over to Phoenix for a day and try to work out a loan application with you.

With best regards,

Yours truly,

Rufus Freitag

RF'B

Manager

LOAN AGENCY OF

The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

RUFUS FREITAG, LOAN AGENT

ROOM 1250, ROOSEVELT BUILDING

727 WEST SEVENTH STREET

TRINITY 2801

LOS ANGELES 17, CALIF.

June 21, 1957

Proposed Loan
Luhrs Central-Madison Bldg.
Luhrs Center Parking Garage
Phoenix, Arizona

Mr. George Luhrs, Jr.
P.O. Box 4307
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Mr. Luhrs:

While I was at the Home Office this week, I had occasion to discuss the proposed loan on your property, and I am pleased to say that the officials in charge of our lending program are very favorably disposed toward your case. They remember your property very well, and also recall with pleasure the excellent record that you maintained in the entire fifteen year period during which we carried our loan No. C-131393.

As I explained to you some weeks ago, we have taken no loan applications at less than 5½% for a long time. However, in your case I am in a position to take an application at a 5¼% rate provided, of course, that a large amount of top quality security is covered in the application. Despite the fact that the garage property, which you are now constructing, is recognized as being a vital part of your over-all situation, the very best interest rate can be obtained on the office buildings themselves rather than on the garage. Therefore, in order to obtain for you the rock bottom interest rate of 5¼% I suggest that we prepare a loan application covering the north half of the block. This, as you can readily see, will consist of a first lien on the Luhrs Building, and a second lien on the Luhrs Tower. Also, it will leave clear of encumbrance the entire south half of the block in case you want to do other financing at a later date.

I note that you are constructing your garage property with a short term loan at the Valley National Bank. It is our preference that the bank carry this loan until June, 1958, and that we pay out our funds at that time. While I read carefully the letter from the bank, I do not recall whether or not there was a termination date in their loan. In any case, it is my suggestion that you check with the bank to see whether or not they would be willing to go along with this time schedule.

Also, as mentioned in our previous discussion, it will be necessary for the Company to have a standby fee. Normally the standby fee is 1/10th of 1% per month but in your case I will recommend that the Company accept a straight 1/2 of 1%, or $3,000, payable at the time of the commitment.

While these terms may be somewhat more stringent than you anticipated, I must say that long term money conditions are somewhat more stringent than I realized when we had our recent discussion. I trust that the program as outlined above is acceptable to you, your brother, and your sisters, and that you can call me in a few days saying when it will be convenient for you to see me for the purpose of completing the loan application.

With best personal regards,

Yours truly,

Manager

RF'B

cc Mr. A. H.Alexander
Mgr. City Loans
Milwaukee

Thus, the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company made the Luhrs' a loan of $600,000.00, beginning when the Parking Center was completed. Having a commitment from the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, the Valley National Bank then agreed to loan the Luhrs' the money until the Luhrs Parking Center was finsihed. The contract was signed with T.J.K. Construction Company who completed the structure in January, 1958.

The cost for a basement was very little more than an upper floor, so the Luhrs Parking Center consisted of a basement, a ground floor, a second floor, a third floor, a fourth floor and a fifth floor. It was built with level floors with each floor having enough ceiling height so that the structure could be changed into a standard building for offices, etc. The ramp, going from one floor to the other, is located in the center. It is floating in that it is only connected to the structure at the bottom and the top of the ramp. In this way, the ramps could be removed and the said space could be used for stairways, elevators and rest rooms. One can never tell if some day the automobile will become obsolete. If so, the Luhrs Parking Center can be used for other purposes and it will not be necessary to tear it down.

Shortly after the Parking Center was completed, George, Jr. saw Roger Hafford and he made it a point to tell him the Luhrs Parking Center was finished and those he said were too old were still very much alive.

Permission was obtained from the City for the Luhrs' to erect two bridges across the alley from the Parking Center, one to the Tower and the other to the Luhrs Building. The one from the Tower connected with the third floor of the garage and the one from the Luhrs Building with the second floor. The one from the Luhrs Building passed over the roof of the one story section of the Luhrs Building on which were planted many palms and oleanders. From the Tower, the Parking Center could be reached from the ground floor or the second floor; from the Luhrs Building from the basement, ground floor and second floor; from the Luhrs Arcade, from the ground floor and from the Luhrs Central Building from the basement, ground floor and second floor.

At the time the Luhrs Parking Center was being erected, the Luhrs' arranged for a service station to be located at the northeast corner of Madison Street and First Avenue as well as at the east end of the structure. The necessary equipment cost $12,005.00. It was furnished by the Standard Oil Company of California. The Luhrs' paid the Standard Oil Company of California the sum of $100.79 a month until all was paid. Later it was found unnecessary to have the corner station, so it was removed and sold.

The Parking prices in 1958 were: short time parking (basement and ground floor) 15¢ each half hour; monthly parking (second floor) $18.50, (third floor) $17.50, (fourth floor) $15.00, (fifth floor) $10.00. The Luhrs Properties at all times handled



Luhrs Parking Center, N.E. corner of First Avenue and Madison Street, Phoenix, Arizona, February 11th, 1962. The building at the extreme left is the Luhrs Tower. At the extreme right is the Luhrs Central Building. The Luhrs Building elevator pent house is sticking up at the top. Note "Parking 15¢" each half hour. Note canopy covering over the top floor. The Parking Center was opened January 1st, 1958.

the monthly parking themselves. The short time parking in the basement and on the ground floor, and service facilities was handled by Sammy Crow when the Parking Center opened. Shortly after being in operation, the Luhrs' found out that all Sammy Crow cared about was the service department. To anyone buying gasoline or getting their car serviced, he would let them park all day free. He was told several times there was to be no free parking, but he continued to do it. Finally, the Luhrs' arranged for Allright Parking to take over the short time parking. They furnished the attendants and took care of the book work for a fee of $300.00 a month, plus $20.00 for bookkeeping.

The arrangements with Allright proved to be very satisfactory for all concerned and was never changed. As to the service department, the Standard Oil Company of California secured a competent man for it. He paid the $100.79 dollars a month toward paying off the Standard Oil Company of California for the equipment and a percentage on the sales above a certain amount. This also was agreeable to all. When this man left, Bob Ostermeier took over the service department. Bob Ostermeier, with Rudolph Estrada and Curtis Davis, the two men with Allright Parking, gave the parkers excellent service at all times. All three were tops, always cooperating. Years passed with these three reliable men carryong on.

In the early days, after opening the Luhrs Parking Center, the indications were that the Luhrs' had overbuilt, with

many stalls vacant. This soon changed and in order to take care of the monthly parking of the Luhrs Properties tenants, the basement was changed from short time to monthly parking. The area used for the service facilities, plus the six stalls alotted to it left the parking center short of hourly parking. In June, 1972, Bob Ostermeier decided to give up the service department which was immediately converted into twelve much needed short time parking stalls, from which the Luhrs' received a greater revenue.

In 1960, the Reppell Steel and Supply Co., Inc. erected a steel covering over the fifth floor. When the Parking Center opened, people would not take stalls on that level for the reason it was not protected from the sun. The building department would not allow all the area to be covered. The building code stated such a covering could not exceed so many square feet. For that reason, the steel roofing only covered the parking stalls, leaving the ramp and aisle open. The cost for this job was $27,674.00.

An attempt was made at that time to increase the monthly rentals for the fifth floor from $10.00 to $12.50 per month. It did not work, so the monthly rental for that level went back to $10.00 a month.

In 1961, Brown Sun Control Aluminum Louvres were erected above the railing on the second, third and fourth floors for the sum of $5,850.00. They were put on the west side to keep the afternoon sun off the cars. The louvres were

a turquois color. All the concrete walls and ceilings of the Luhrs Parking Center were painted white. The columns were yellow and the railings were red.

Due to inflation, the parking rates were adjusted. In 1976 the monthly rentals were: Basement $25.00; Second floor $22.50; Third floor $20.00; Fourth floor $17.50 and the Fifth floor $15.00, all plus sales tax. Following the Luhrs' policy, those monthly rentals were realistic and lower than comparable parking space elsewhere in the city. With limited parking stalls on the ground floor, which was intended for the tenants' customers, the rate for the public was 50 cents each half hour. Tenants' validation was 35 cents for each half hour.

On November 27th, 1957, at the Adams Hotel, the members of the Downtown Merchants' Association of Phoenix, during their luncheon, made the following presentation to George, Jr., "In grateful recognition of HIS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION to the Development, Improvement and Beautification of DOWNTOWN PHOENIX, we Present this Expression of our Appreciation and Esteem to GOERGE LUHRS, JR."

In early 1958, George, Jr. had trouble with his right eye. At first he thought some long hairs of the eyebrow were hanging over the eye obstructing his vision. Finding that was not so, he called Dr. Paul Case who spent considerable time examining the eye. After four hours, he told George, Jr. that he had a detached retina and arrangements had been made for him to fly up to San Francisco, California that night and

be operated on the next morning. No one in Phoenix, at that time, performed such an operation. Later it was found out that Wesley Knorpp of the Republic-Gazette newspaper was having the same operation. George, Jr. had never heard of a detached retina. He told Dr. Case he could not go right away for he was up to his neck in construction and alterations and needed time to get things arranged. He was in the middle of fixing up new quarters for the Commercial Credit Co. Also, the first of the month's bills had to be gotten out. Dr. Case told him he was too young to lose his eye. On the way back to the hotel, George, Jr. did a lot of thinking. Then he took it up with his brother and sisters and it was decided George, Jr. should leave that evening for San Francisco and be operated on the next morning. His sisters, Ella and Emma would go with him and stay in San Francisco.

George, Jr. called in Adam Diaz and briefed him on what had happened and what would have to be done. Up to this time, Adam had helped out in the office but had never taken full charge. George, Jr. turned everything over to his good and faithful friend whom he trusted explicitly and in whom he had the utmost confidence.

George, Jr.'s niece, Jean, Emma Luhrs' daughter, met them at the airport and took George, Jr. to the Stanford University hospital for examinations. The doctor asked George, Jr. why he was so late, had he been on a party. George, Jr. answered, "No, not with this." After the examinations, George,

Jr. was taken to the Children's Hospital, where he was made ready for the operation. In the morning, Dr. Bayard Colyear, Jr., graduate of Stanford University Medical School, did the operation. He was celebrating his birthday the night before the operation,which made George, Jr.'s sisters nervous. Everything turned out alright.

For two weeks George, Jr. laid flat on his back with both eyes covered and he could not move. His sisters visited him twice a day to feed him, for which he was grateful. After two weeks, he went to the Drake Wilshire Hotel in San Francisco, California, where his sisters were staying. His eyes were still covered. Every day he went to the doctors office in San Francisco. Then he got glass frames, the lens being material one could not see through, with a pin hole in the center of the lenses. Returning to Phoenix, he wore these glasses for over a month. Then he took the glasses off for one hour the first day; two hours the second day, etc. until he took them off for good and was fitted for regular glasses.

All of George, Jr.'s work was dumped into Adam Diaz's hands. He asked for help but got none. He did an excellent job, without a single mistake. Not having been prepared, he spent many hours after midnight doing his own work and that of George, Jr. He proved himself to be a man who could assume responsibility and see that the business was properly operated. Adam Diaz proved to be a most sincere, loyal, true friend. The

Luhrs' take their hats off to you Adam for a job perfectly done. Thanks! Take a deserving bow.

George, Jr.'s right eye, which had the detached retina, got about 50% of its vision back.

In 1960, a very fine vinyl tile was layed in all of the Luhrs Properties corridors, with the exception of the hotel. The tile was a luscious green, with scattered black spots. In the Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower, it was put on top of the ceramic white tile, while in the Luhrs Central Building and Luhrs Arcade it covered the rubber tile. It was glued down so as not to injure the ceramic or rubber tile in case the original flooring was ever desired.

The electric well pump for the Luhrs Hotel cooling system was located in a light well on the west side of the alley and adjacent to the Hotel Luhrs building. In order to get to the pump, one had to open a trap door from the alley to the light well. Once a week, Arthur Luhrs checked the pump to see if the oil and everything else was alright. Once, while he was down in the light well examining everything, the burglar alarm for the Langert Brothers went off. Langert Brothers were then located on the ground floor of the Hotel Luhrs facing Jefferson Street and just west of the well pump. Police were all around, looking for someone who might have broken into Langert Brothers, who were wholesale jewelers. At this time, Arthur Luhrs, not knowing that the alarm had

gone off, or that anything had happened, climbed out of the light well leading to the well pump motor. Before Arthur could climb out, the police were all around him telling him they had him this time. Finally, after a lot of talking and showing of identification cards, the police were convinced that he was Arthur Luhrs, one of the owners of the Hotel Luhrs and not the man they were looking for. They let Arthur go. He was sure sweating when he came into the hotel lobby, and all excited.

The Standard Oil Company of California had been a very good tenant in the Luhrs Building from the time the building was opened up on April 1, 1924, occupying the sixth floor. They were in need of more space, as was the Equitable Life Assurance Company, who had space on the second floor. The Standard Oil space was the right size for the Equitable Life, but the area of the Equitable Life on the second floor was not large enough for the Standard Oil. The Luhrs Building from the second floor up, was an L shape. The basement and the ground floor covered the whole width. George, Jr. thought things might be worked out if the south end of the second floor was extended to the west, making it the same width as the basement and ground floor. This would give the Standard Oil the necessary square footage. Mr. Ed Varney, an architect, was called in, giving the Luhrs' a proposal and price.

If done, both moves would have to be done at the same time and there was some question whether it could be completed

over a weekend. George, Jr., with Adam Diaz and his able crew were willing to try. George, Jr. submitted the move to both parties but could never get an answer from the Standard Oil. Both the Standard Oil Company and the Equitable Life were constantly after George, Jr. regarding the move, each one saying they could not wait any longer. Finally, one day, George, Jr. went into the office of the Standard Oil Company and asked if the Standard Oil Company had made up their minds. When the manager said they had not, George, Jr. replied that the Luhrs' had made up their minds and they would have to have the space. The manager said the Standard Oil had never been asked to move. George, Jr. told him he felt badly about it but something had to be done to bring the matter off center. George, Jr. told the manager he had found the Standard Oil Company space in the Dr. Harber Building on Central Avenue just north of Van Buren Street, into which space they moved. When George, Jr. returned to his office, which was on the ground level of the Hotel Luhrs, he found a colored Indian picture that he had often admired in the Standard Oil manager's office.

Dr. Harber did not know George, Jr. but did know Allen Luhrs, who wrote the doctor's insurance. Dr. Harber always thought he was talking to Allen Luhrs. That being the case, nothing was said to the contrary. Thus, Dr. Harber thought Allen Luhrs, his insurance man, had done him a big favor in finding a tenant for him. It is certain the Luhrs Insurance Agency lost nothing in this transaction and as things turned

out the Standard Oil Company and the Luhrs' continued to be good friends.

The Luhrs' are deeply indebted to Tom Sullivan, the County Manager prior to the 1960's, for his far sightedness as to where the City and County Complex was to be located. While he was the County Manager, he purchased for the County the property from Jefferson Street to Madison Street and from First to Third Avenue. In the real early days, Goldman and Company were located on the northeast corner of Centre Street and Washington Street, now known as Central Avenue and Washington Street. In 1903, they moved into and occupied the basement and ground floor of the Horner Building, later known as the Masonic Tempe, at 28-30 South Central Avenue. Goldman's owned the northwest corner of Madison Street and Cortez which later was known as Madison Street and South First Avenue. Goldman's used it for a warehouse. Later it was a garage. Arthur C. Luhrs and Eugene Goldman went to the Phoenix schools as boys, graduating from Phoenix Union High School at the same time. In 1904, Eugene Goldman was the valedictorian of the class. Arthur Luhrs introduced Eugene Goldman to Tom Sullivan and was of great help in putting the sale through, with the County buying the northwest corner of Madison Street and First Avenue for Maricopa County.

There were some who offered property free if the county would locate the County Complex north, outside of the downtown business area. With Park Central Shopping Center having already

started moving stores from the center city, imagine what would have happened if the City and County Complex had also moved away from downtown. If it had taken place, the Luhrs' could have lost everything, with no one to rent offices. At one time, the Luhrs' enjoyed the insurance business until the property owners up north of the City Center weaned them away.

The Luhrs Properties, then, catered to lawyers. Being adjoining to the City-County Complex, it was an ideal location for law firms.

Tom Sullivan, the County Manager, would not budge and as a result, the idea of a governmental mall from First Avenue to the Capital was developed and started. In 1961, when Charley Miller became County Manager, the old buildings were being torn down. On December 10th, 1962, the contract was let for the Administration Building, the Treasurer and the Assessor's Offices, the Assembly Room, the Superior Court Buildings, the Sheriff's Office and the Jail. In December, 1963, the County moved into their new quarters and in January, 1964, the Maricopa County Complex was dedicated. George, Jr. was a member of a committee appointed to go over the plans. The City Building, on the block from Washington Street to Jefferson Street and Second Avenue to Third Avenue was erected in 1962.

On February 6th, 1962, Sadie Allen Luhrs passed away. She was the wife of Arthur Cleveland Luhrs and the mother of Arthur Allen Luhrs and John Arthur Luhrs. Sadie was cremated and her ashes spread over the Superstition Mountains, east of

Phoenix, from an airplane.

Some of the buildings built in the late 50's and early 60's are the following: Apartments and Condominiums - The Embassy Square, 805 N. 4th Avenue, The Phoenix Towers, 2201 North Central Avenue, The Regency House, 2323 N. Central Avenue, Executive Towers, 207 W. Clarendon. Office buildings are Amerco Towers, 2721 North Central Avenue, Del Webb's Building, 3800 North Central Avenue, Del Webb Townhouse (Hotel and Office Building) 100 W. Clarendon, Lawyer's Title Building, 2200 N. Central Avenue, Financial Center Building, 3443 N. Central Avenue, The Prudential Plaza, 3003 N. Central Avenue.

Stein and Ellbogen were a wholesale jewelry firm with offices on the second floor of the Luhrs Central Building, located on the northwest corner of Central Avenue and Madison Streets. Each Saturday night, George, Jr. checked the building to see that all lights were out and doors locked. This Saturday he found Stein and Elbogen had not only left their room lights on but also the lights in the showcases. George, Jr. went back to the Luhrs Properties office to pick up a special key for Stein and Elbogen's suite. George, Jr. opened the door and went inside. After turning off all the lights, he returned to the door to leave but then realized Stein and Elbogen's layout was wired for burglars, with a hook-up to the police station. After locking the door, he took the elevator to the basement, going to the boiler room in the

Luhrs Building. He had intended returning to the Luhrs Properties office to return the Stein and Elbogen key, but went up the back way. When he reached the alley, policemen were all around the block. George, Jr. went up to the first one and told him he was most likely the man they were looking for. George, Jr. was able to satisfy the policemen, so everyone left.

The records show that the Masonic lodges met on the third floor of the Monihon Building, located on the northeast corner of Washington and Cortez Streets, now Washington Street and First Avenue, from 1892 until 1903, at which time they moved to the third floor of the Horner Building located at 28 South Central Avenue. In 1925 they built their own building on the southeast corner of Fourth Avenue and Monroe Street, where they still hold their meetings. The question for some years has been, where the early meetings were held, prior to the time the Monihon Building was built. It is thought they were held in the Steinegger Hall, which was on Wall Street. Wall Street ran north and south, the same as Centre and Cortez Streets, now Central Avenue and First Avenue, and was located between Central Avenue and First Avenue. The street number of Steinegger Hall would have been about 25 and 27 South Wall Street, which made it a little south of Washington Street.

In November, 1964, the Arizona Fire Rating Bureau gave up their space in the Luhrs Tower. This was a disappointment for the Luhrs'. The space occupied by the Rating Bureau had

been built especially for them. Furthermore, the Rating Bureau, which is used by all fire insurance companies and agencies had drawn most of them to the Luhrs Properties as tenants, so that the Luhrs Complex was known as the Insurance Center. The Luhrs' had gone out of their way to take care of the insurance people. They had given the Rating Bureau a special price and rented space to the insurance companies at $3.75 a square foot per annum, which was a low rental rate at that time.

The Arizona Rating Bureau and local company insurance offices were controlled by the San Francisco offices. George, Jr., each Christmas, sent a box of grapefruit to each of the San Francisco managers and when in their city, called personally upon them. All these things were done to show that the Luhrs' appreciated their tenancy.

When the directors of the California Rating Bureau voted upon the Arizona Fire Rating Bureau's lease, the Luhrs' lost by one vote. Dave Murdock offered them space in his building on north Central Avenue, which they accepted. After the Arizona Fire Rating Bureau moved, one by one the Insurance Company offices and agencies moved, with one exception, the Luhrs Insurance Agency. With Park Central Shopping Center starting the retail stores to move out of the Center City, the Rating Bureau caused the insurance people to move too. One can readily understand how much Tom M. Sullivan helped the Luhrs' when he prevented the City and the County from moving out on north Central Avenue.

With the loss of the insurance people, the Luhrs' went after the lawyers or any concerns dealing with the legal profession. The proximity of the City and County Complex to the Luhrs' Properties made the Luhrs' offices desireable. At this time the Luhrs' started a program of modernization of their office space which continued through 1976. By this time, all space had been made to conform to present useage, style and taste.

The Luhrs' were always one step ahead with offices that could compete with any of the new buildings. Also, the Luhrs' rental was realistic. The needs of each tenant was considered, The result being that no two layouts were alike. All the ground floor, including the arcade where the ceilings were high, had illuminated ceilings installed. This was made possible by hanging plastic eggcrated sheets below the fluorescent-strip lights. The ceiling height was eleven feet. This could not be done on the upper floors since the ceilings were already suspended. These ceilings had accoustical tile and new fluorescent lights. All offices had wall-to-wall carpeting with the tenant's wishes considered. However, if the cost of the carpeting exceeded a certain price, the tenant paid the difference. New drapes were hung over all windows. Two walls were covered with walnut paneling and the other two were either painted, wallpapered, or had vinyl hung. In all cases the tenant's choice was given preference, if within the price range.

The Luhrs' were fortunate in having Nelson Tomlinson, a cabinet maker, to install the walnut paneling. All of his

joints were mitered. His work was that of a master. He worked hard and steady. Unfortunately he became sick and was called by God. The Luhrs' thank you, Nels, especially George Jr., who will never forget how much you helped him in providing tenants with beautiful offices which are comparable to any in the newly constructed office buildings.

After the 1964 Christmas holiday, Emma Luhrs Stroud flew up to Palo Alto, California to visit her daughter, Jean, and her family. On a weekend early in February, 1965, they all drove down to Carmel, California. Emma liked to take off her shoes and stockings and go wading on the beach along the water's edge. She was doing just that, at Carmel, when she saw a little larger braker coming toward her. She turned to get away from the breaker, but one foot had sunken into the wet sand. In turning, she fell twisting and breaking her hip. An ambulance took her to the hospital in Palo Alto. Jean immediately telephoned Ella Luhrs Taylor and George Luhrs Jr.

Being shortly after the end of the year of 1964, George Luhrs Jr. was deep in bookwork and the affairs of the Luhrs' Properties and did not feel he could get away at that time. He was doing the work of several people and was busy from early morning until late at night. He was sacrificing everything for the successful operation of the Luhrs' Properties. Later, and since, he deeply regretted that he did not just stop everything he was doing and with his sister, Ella, fly to Palo Alto to see his sister, Emma.

Three weeks after Emma Luhrs Stroud broke her hip, Ella Luhrs Taylor broke her hip. On her way to breakfast she had gone from room 150, in the Hotel Luhrs, into the hall. She turned to close the door, falling to the floor and breaking her hip. She was taken to St. Joeph Hospital where Dr. Tuveson operated on her. Now the Luhrs brothers had two sisters in the hospital. They went to see Ella at the St. Joseph hospital in Phoenix and telephoned Emma at the Stanford University hospital in Stanford, California.

After weeks in the hospital, first in a wheel chair and then with a walker, they learned to get around so that Emma went to her daughter's (Jean) home and Ella returned to the Hotel Luhrs. Emma Luhrs Stroud took physical therapy while learning to walk again. Ella Luhrs Taylor went around the hotel halls first with a walker and gradually without it. Ella did not want to eat which was necessary for her to regain her strength. George Jr. would put instant breakfast and a raw egg into a mixer, stirring it well before giving it to his sister, Ella, who did not like eggs. Twice a day Ella was walked around the hotel hall and given her mixed drink. The length of her walk was increased gradually until she no longer needed the walker. Finally Emma returned to Phoenix and the two Luhrs brothers and the two Luhrs sisters were together again.

July 1, 1968, was a gold star day for the Luhrs family. On that day the loan from the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance

was paid off. The Luhrs' were free from all debts for the first time since 1890 when Geo H. N. Luhrs bought out his partner, Newell Herrick. George Jr.'s ambition and goal was not only the development of the Luhrs Properties, but the paying off of all debts.

The Luhrs' were happy, especially George Jr. When the Luhrs Building was proposed, people said he would break his folks. Not only was the Luhrs Building built, but the Luhrs Properties became one of the finest complexes anywhere and now it was free and all paid for. George Jr. had worked hard to achieve this, sacrificing almost everything, and dedicating his life to make it possible. He wished many times his father and mother could have seen the completion of their dreams and best of all, that is was entirely paid for and free. He had no regrets for the things he did without. The main thing, he, his brother and sisters were happy. How the next generation and those to follow would feel, waits to be seen.

As happy a day July 1st, 1968 was for the Luhrs family, July 9th and 10th, 1968 were sad. The first break came to the Luhrs' two brothers and two sisters, namely Arthur, Ella, Emma and George Jr. On the night of July 8th, 1968 Ella, Emma and George Jr. had dinner at the Arizona Club. Everything and everybody was fine. When time came to go to bed, Emma had already retired, George Jr., passing through her room, kissed and told her goodnight. About six in the morning, July 9th, 1968, a noise was heard coming from the room in which Emma slept. Ella and George Jr. rushed to where Emma was. She was

moaning and wanting to go to the bathroom. Ella and George Jr. tried to help her up, but she could not move. The doctor was called. He ordered an ambulance. She was rushed immediately to St. Joseph hospital and placed in the Barrow Neurological Institute. Emma Luhrs Stroud had a massive brain hemorrhage. Her children, G. Luhrs Stroud and Jean Crane, were telephoned right away. Jean came at once from Santa Barbara, California. G. Luhrs Stroud, who lived in Victoria, British Columbia, waited for further developments. Emma went into a coma on the way to the hospital and never came out of it. Her daughter, Jean, her sister, Ella, and her brother, George Jr., waited patiently. Although they had been told there was no hope, George Jr. never left her side in the hospital.

As midnight approached, it was thought best to return to the hotel for a little rest. Also Jean's husband, Milton Crane, was flying in. Upon arriving at the hotel they were called back to the hospital immediately, but it was too late. Emma Luhrs Stroud had been called to heaven by God.

As a sickly child, a beautiful girl as a young lady, a wonderful sister, a loyal wife, a loving mother, and a true friend she had a spot in the heart of all who knew her. Emma had a very good business ability, as was shown during the years after her husband departed.

The services for Emma were held in Trinity Cathedral. She was placed with her husband, Dr. Reginald James Stroud, in the mausoleum at Greenwood Memorial Park, Phoenix, Arizona. All members of the family were present for the services.

Arthur Allen Luhrs was the President of the Arizona Club for the year 1967-68. Arthur Luhrs was number two in the Arizona Club based upon the length of time he was a member of the Club.

The cast stone on the Luhrs Building had, over the years, become dirty looking. Harry Green & Son was given the job to clean it up. A very heavy mixture of white sand mixed with a bonding material restored the cast stone to its original color and beauty. It added a new topping of white sand which was used for the outer face when it was first cast.

With the City-County Complex established on the west side of Central Avenue and south of Washington Street in downtown Phoenix, Mr. John Beatty, of the City Planning Department, prepared a layout for the east side of Central Avenue south of Washington Street to be known as the Civic Plaza. The purpose was to balance the east and west side south of Washington Street and also wipe-out the "Deuce" and skid-row with one sweep. This would have been perfect.

In the year 1964 the Civic Plaza Business Association of Phoenix was established, George Jr. being a charter member. Mr. Donald McKay was in charge of the Association and favorable to the idea and location.

The City had just hired a new city manager. He came from Newport Beach, California. Two of George Jr.'s Stanford University classmates, Carl Kegley and Tommy Tomlinson, wrote George Jr. about him and asked George Jr. to look him up.

This was done and they had lunch at the Arizona Club atop the Luhrs Building. They talked about the Civic Plaza and from the tenth floor windows of the Luhrs Building, George Jr. pointed out where it was to be and how it would clean out "Skid-row". The new city manager stated that he was favorable and we could look forward to seeing the blighted area wiped out. Rumors unfavorable to the site were heard.

Mr. McKay was seen looking over the area of Second to Fifth Streets and Washington to Monroe Streets. As a member of the Association George Jr. called upon Mr. Beatty of the planning commission, who verified things were not progressing as they should have, but he hoped the original site would be used. George Jr. wrote every member of the Association pointing out how much the "skid-row" was costing the city for fire and police protection and other expenses--how it would balance up with the west side--how it would clean up the blight. If another location was selected, the "Deuce" would still remain with no one to develope the area. North of Washington was not bad and buyers could be found for that property. More land could be purchased south of Washington Street than north of Washington Street for the same price and south of the railroad track was not bad. He also mentioned that a Civic Plaza was dead when there was no convention. Thus, it would be better for those north of Washington Street to have the convention center on the south side and have the north side for developers.

George Jr. pointed out Washington Street was one-way going west, Jefferson Street was one-way going east, Third Street was one-way going south, and Fourth Street was one-way going north. Thus, if the area between Washington Street and Jefferson Street from First to Seventh Street was made into a ground-level park, with automobile parking thereunder, the parking situation could be easily controlled with four streets going one way but in different directions.

The ground floor between Washington and Jefferson Streets from First to Seventh Street would make a beautiful downtown park. This would balance with the planned park on the west side between Washington and Jefferson Streets for the Government Mall.

The land from Jefferson Street to the railroad and from First to Seventh Street would provide more space than the area suggested on the north side of Washington Street, for the Civic Plaza. With the Civic Center on the south side of Washington Street, its front would be facing a beautiful park with "skid-row" gone. The rear would abut the railroad tracks and be one block away from the Lincoln-Grant highway from which it would be easy and convenient to deliver freight. The land north of Washington Street would be available for hotels, restaurants, shops, ect.

Unfortunately, certain interests north of Washington Street were more interested in themselves than they were in the good of downtown Phoenix.

When George Jr. found out that the Civic Plaza was to be built north of Washington Street, he was very upset. He called on the City Manager and said, "I see you sold out". In a talk with Donald McKay, he said to him, "From our many conversations you really feel the same way I do, but others pay the meal ticket".

Work was started on the Civic Plaza in 1969. It opened in 1972. Shortly thereafter Mr. McKay asked George Jr. how he felt about the Civic Plaza location now. George Jr. told him he was more convinced than ever. Mr. McKay responded that he had never met a man who stuck to his conviction as did George Jr. To this George Jr. replied, "When right why should I change and you know that I am right."

Now, July 9th, 1978, the Arizona Republic on its front page under the heading, 'DOWNTOWN STORES SING BUSINESS BLUES AS CONVENTION DELEGATES GO ELSEWHERE', says 'Merchants in downtown Phoenix are wondering why their bag of dreams turned out to be full of holes'. Fourteen years ago they were told the answer to the inner city's financial decay was to build a convention center in the heart of the downtown. This would pump new blood into a dying area. Mr. Donald McKay, executive director of the Phoenix Downtown Development Corp., said the proposed facility would pour millions of dollars into the local economy.

The main reason the Civic Plaza fell short of turning downtown Phoenix into a financial Garden of Eden was that a

slum was left standing across the street, and folks don't like the idea of being panhandled or mugged. The "deuce" is too close. Shoppers are scared. People don't feel comfortable walking around in that area.

Before the convention center was built, George Luhrs Jr. did everything within his power to convince the people that John Beatty, in charge of City Planning, was right and that the Civic Plaza belonged south of Washington Street in order to get rid of "skid-row". Now it was too late to say, I told you so. If the city would purchase the property south of Washington Street known as the "deuce" and "skid-row" and clean it off so it could be sold to developers, the picture might right itself. Unfortunately, those who wanted the convention center north of Washington Street still are not too cooperative. The Civic Plaza should have been south of Washington Street. Then all of "skid-row" and the "deuce" would have been cleaned out in one sweep. Now to get rid of the undesirable elements south of Washington Street, the city will have to purchase all objectionable property.

Late in December, 1969, it came to the attention of the Luhrs' that the Arizona Club and the Cloud Club planned to merge. This came as a very sudden surprise. The Luhrs', in building the Luhrs Building, had taken every wish of the Arizona Club into consideration. Although the Luhrs Building appeared as one structure on the outside, it was two on the

inside. The top four floors had been constructed for an exclusive club. The rental charged the Arizona Club had been figured very low, as a matter of fact, just enough to break even.

In September, 1942, Irv Jennings and Joe Melczer, representing the Board of Directors, offered to turn over the Arizona Club to the Luhrs' "hook, line and sinker." The Luhrs could have owned the club and the Board of Directors could never come up with a merger proposition. In 1942, the Luhrs' told the Arizona Club Directors that the club belonged to the members and we should all work together to put the club back on its feet. The Luhrs' got the club creditors to carry the club until they worked things out. The lease called for an increase in rent every five years. To help the club, the Luhrs' withheld, temporarily, on the increases until the club could afford to pay them. Never did the Luhrs' cancel the increases so at any time they talked of a merger, the club was under obligation to pay up on the temporarily deferred increases. George, Jr. had explained all of this to Jack Clements just a short time before and emphasized that the increases were not waivers but had been only temporarily deferred until the club could pay. When the club directors were told about it, they acted stunned, but they knew about it for Jack Clements was either on the Board of Directors or working with them.

The seventh and eighth floors were bedrooms. The club never remodeled these rooms. They were just the same as

they were when the Club moved into the building on April 1, 1924. Gradually the members moved out into modern quarters. Arthur and George, Jr. offered, at their expense, to modernize one room and thought other Club members would do likewise. Nothing was ever done and finally, the Club closed up the seventh and eighth floors, driving away steady members who used the Club day and night, which would have helped the night business.

When the Luhrs' found out about the proposed merger, the Luhrs' met with the Board of Directors, going over the Club's history and all the Luhrs' had done for the Club. The Board of Directors were young men, none having been members for too many years. The past, and favors for the Club did not mean anything to them. Outside of Joe Mosely and Charley Marshall, they voted to have a vote of the Club members at 5:30 p.m., February 18, 1970.

The Arizona Club owned $120,000.00 in U. S. Treasury Bonds. The Cloud Club owed the United Bank $103,085.33. The Arizona Club's bonds were to be sold to pay off the Cloud Club's debt. The Arizona Club had three years left on their lease plus the temporarily deferred rental increases. There was a difference of $228,362.66 in the liquid assets, less all debts of the two clubs.

The Arizona Club was plus $165,759.63

The Cloud Club was minus $62,604.03.

The Cloud Club gave nothing and would hold all the offices. The Arizona Club gave up $120,000.00 in U.S. Treasury bonds and

received NOTHING. The Arizona Club's rental was $1.57 a square foot per annum. The Cloud Club's rental was over $5.00 a square foot per annum.

The Arizona Club did not permit its members to mail in their votes, so many of the older members did not have a chance to vote for they could not get downtown. It was hard to understand why any Arizona Club member would vote for the merger. The Arizona Club turned over its name to the Cloud Club as well as all their assets and officers. The Cloud Club gave nothing except a big debt to the United Bank and took everything. The entire matter was kept quiet until before the first of the year, 1970, giving the opposition but a short time to work. The merger carried by very few votes, but it carried and the Cloud Club took over the Arizona Club.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF
ARIZONA CLUB

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors of Arizona Club, an Arizona non-profit corporation, has called a special meeting of the voting members of the corporation to be held at 5:30 o'clock P.M. on Wednesday, February 18, 1970, at its premises located in the Luhrs Building, 11 West Jefferson Street, City of Phoenix, Maricopa County, Arizona, at which meeting the only business to be transacted shall be the consideration and approval of the Agreement And Plan Of Merger Between Arizona Club And The Cloud Club of Phoenix (including proposed amendments to the Articles of Incorporation of this corporation therein set forth) which has been made and entered into pursuant to resolutions adopted by the respective Boards of Directors of the corporations, to become effective if approved by the respective memberships of both corporations. The terms and conditions of said Agreement And Plan Of Merger (and said proposed amendments to the Articles of Incorporation) are set forth in substance on Exhibit A attached hereto.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the members of this corporation who are entitled to vote are those holding Senior Resident, Junior Resident, Senior Firm and Junior Firm Memberships, in good standing, according to the membership records of the corporation on the day and at the hour of said special meeting. Members must be present in person at the meeting to vote.

DATED February 3, 1970.

/s/ M. B. Moseley
M. B. Moseley,
Secretary

TO: ALL ARIZONA CLUB MEMBERS

FROM: JOE MOSELEY

The undersigned, as Secretary of the Arizona Club, was (1) required by the duties of his office to send out the notice of the special membership meeting to consider the proposed merger with the Cloud Club and, (2) Ordered by a majority of the Board of Directors of the Arizona Club to attest the execution of the proposed merger agreement. Many of my friends and acquaintances have assumed, because of the notice and attestation bearing my signature, that I am in favor of the proposed merger. I hasten to state that I have opposed the merger from the time the proposed terms were first revealed, I have voted against the merger and Charles E. Marshall, another member of the Board of Directors of the Arizona Club and Membership Chairman has joined me, on each occasion it has been considered by our Board of Directors.

My personal opposition to the merger is based on the fact that I believe, first of all, that our problems at the Club can be and should be solved by us, the members and directors of the Arizona Club. Secondly, assuming that a merger would somehow aid our members, nevertheless, the terms of the proposed merger are not fair to the Arizona Club members (though I doubt any Cloud Club member will even consider rejecting the agreement as written).

I ask that you carefully read the Merger Agreement, amended By-laws and the two financial statements of the two clubs. These, I believe, should convince you that this merger, as proposed, is neither necessary nor advisable at this time.

Since I will be helping with the voting I may not have a chance to address the membership, but I did want to clear up the apparent misconception people have of my position.

Joe Moseley

FACT SHEET

in re: Arizona Club - Cloud Club Proposed Merger

1. Arizona Club Board of Directors is not unanimously for this merger.

2. It is best to omit consideration of our "fixed assets" or "improvement to property of others, plus furnishings" as these bring little when sold. The Arizona Club logically devalued their fixed assets several years ago. (for over valuation of Cloud Club's encumbered fixed assets see paragraph 1, page 4, of Cloud Club's financial statement dated September 30, 1969)

3. There is a difference of $228,363.66 in the "Liquid Assets", less all debt, of the two clubs.
   The Arizona Club is plus $165,759.63
   The Cloud Club is minus $62,604.03

4. Under the Cloud Club's proposal of merger, present Cloud Club members would gain control of the principal offices, (President, Secretary and Treasurer) the Executive Committee, and the Board of Directors of the Arizona Club.

5. The Luhrs Properties, Inc. (landlord) have advised the Board of Directors of the Arizona Club that the Arizona Club can:

   (a) save $12,000 per year rent on giving up the 7thFloor, or can
   (b) save $24,000 per year rent on giving up both the 7th and 8th Floors. (these changes are effective whenever we wish to make them)

6. See attached pages #10 and #11 of the latest financial statement of the Cloud Club, dated September 30, 1969.

THE ARIZONA CLUB IS HAVING ITS MOST IMPORTANT MEETING AT 5:30 P.M., WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 18, 1970, AND YOU ARE URGENTLY ASKED TO ATTEND AND VOTE "NO" ON THE PROPOSED MERGER WITH THE CLOUD CLUB.

HERE ARE FACTS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION USING RECENT C.P.A. FIGURES AS A BASIS:

1. THERE IS A DIFFERENCE OF $228,363.66 IN THE "LIQUID ASSETS", LESS ALL DEBT, OF THE TWO CLUBS.
   THE ARIZONA CLUB IS PLUS $165,759.63
   THE CLOUD CLUB IS MINUS $62,604.03

2. IT IS BEST TO OMIT CONSIDERATION OF OUR "FIXED ASSETS" OR "IMPROVEMENT TO PROPERTY OF OTHERS, PLUS FURNISHINGS" AS THESE BRING LITTLE WHEN SOLD. THE ARIZONA CLUB LOGICALLY DEVALUED THEIR FIXED ASSETS SEVERAL YEARS AGO.

3. FOR THE ARIZONA CLUB TO BE ON A FINANCIALLY EQUAL FOOTING WITH THE CLOUD CLUB, USING THE ABOVE AS A YARDSTICK, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR THE ARIZONA CLUB TO BORROW ON A LONG TERM BASIS THE NECESSARY CASH AND THEN DISTRIBUTE SAID $228,363.66 TO ITS MEMBERS.

The Cloud Club of Phoenix
Notes to the Financial Statements
September 30, 1969

Note 1. All of the fixed assets of The Cloud Club of Phoenix are encumbered to the extent of the United Bank note in the amount of $125,000.00. This loan is for a period of 12 years and bears interest at 7 1/2% per annum. Payments in the amount of $1,318.75 will be made monthly. In addition, the loan agreement establishes a special savings account with the bank requiring monthly deposits of $1,000.00 until such time as the balance in the account (including interest) is twenty percent (20%) of the loan balance. The balance of the note at September 30, 1969 is $118,453.06.

Further, no expenditures for fixed assets may be made unless these deposits are current; withdrawals from this account may be made for fixed assets, with the bank's approval and with reinstatement of the monthly deposit until twenty percent of the loan balance is in the account; and there will be no other borrowings without prior written consent of the bank.

The Phoenix Company, lessor of the facilities, has guaranteed the first $100,000.00 of this note by pledging a certificate of deposit with the bank and must give written approval before funds are expended from the special savings account.

Note 2. Negotiations with the Phoenix Company has resulted in the following rent schedule, amending the original lease dated April 30, 1961, between the Cloud Club of Phoenix and the David H. Murdock Development Company:

$3,000.00 per month from 10-1-67 through 3-31-68
$3,775.00 per month from 4-1-68 through 9-30-68
$4,500.00 per month from 10-1-68 through 9-30-69
$4,772.97 thereafter, until the expiration of the lease

In addition, the Phoenix Company was allowed free initiation fees for tenants of the United Bank Square who must

be approved by the Board of Directors. This agreement expired September 30, 1969.

The Phoenix Company must approve all further borrowings and will use any excess cash to reduce the loan balance discussed above under the title "Note 1".

Note 3. Fireman's Fund American Insurance Companies has filed a claim against the "Club" in connection with the loss of a painting from the "Club" premises. It appears that the insurer indemnified the owner of the painting, Phoenix Fine Arts Association in the amount of $4,000.00, and is now claiming that amount under the subrogation clause in its policy. Counsel has indicated the claim may be dropped or settled for a relatively minor amount. The U. S. Fidelity and Guaranty Company, a co-insurer in the above matter, has indicated to counsel that it will not file a claim for its $1,000.00 portion of the loss.

Note 4. The "Club" is presently being audited by the Internal Revenue Service. Final determination has not as yet been made as to the tax exempt status of the "Club". There has been no reserve for income taxes established.

Note 5. Subsequent to the year-end, negotiations were instituted with the Arizona Club, Phoenix, Arizona, looking toward a possible merger with The Cloud Club of Phoenix. There has been no formal action taken by the membership of either club as of this date.

In the year, 1971, The First National Bank of Arizona was building their new complex from Washington to Adams Street and from First to Second Avenue. On the northwest corner of First Avenue and Washington Street, they erected a twenty five story office building. Mr. Charles M.H. Crehore was then the President of the merged Arizona Club. He negotiated with the First National Bank of Arizona to lease the twenty fifth floor of the said building for the Arizona Club, into which quarters the Club moved on October 19th, 1971. The Cloud Club is still in what used to be the United Bank Building, now known as the First Interstate Bank of Arizona Building on north Central Avenue, so the Arizona Club now has its downtown club and its uptown club. At neither place do they really have club facilities as they had originally in the Luhrs Building. The Arizona Club now is mostly an eating place, mainly for lunch.

When the Arizona Club moved out of the Luhrs Building, their lease still had three years to go, which the First National Bank of Arizona assumed. After it was all over, the Luhrs and the Luhrs Properties' tenants were glad the Club had moved. They were always demanding additional favors and seemed to think the building belonged to them. During the lunch period, they monopolized the elevator service, to the detriment of all other tenants. The same condition existed in the Luhrs Parking Center. Then in the evenings, Sundays and holidays they wanted everything left open, making it hard to provide security, something they are not getting in their present quarters.

At first, it was a terrible shock, considering what the Luhrs' had done for them and also the fact that the Luhrs' could have owned the Club outright. It took a lot of hard work, time and money to rebuild the top four floors of the Luhrs' Building, which was especially constructed for them. But as Catharina M. Luhrs would often say, "Man thinks but God acts."

On November 23, 1970, the Luhrs' signed a contract with Frank L. Walters to go over the entire exterior of the Luhrs Tower. The walls were all wire brushed; all joints were caulked; all loose plaster was removed; the surface was primed with a stabalizer and one coat of very light buff color Tex-Cote applied. Windows and doors were given a coat of exterior trim paint. All ornamental cast stone was given a coat of Verde Tex Cote. The contract was for $28,831.00, with a ten year guarantee.

Churches
Theatres
Fine Homes
Stores-Shops
Industrial Structures
Sandblasting
Parking Lot and
Airfield Striping

frank l. walters

painting contractor

phone 264-2557

p. o. box 7146 — Phoenix, Arizona 85011

Proposal and Contract

To Luhrs Properties Attn: Mr. George Luhrs
Central Ave. & Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona

We hereby agree to furnish all labor, materials and equipment for the completion, in a good and workmanlike manner, of the work described below on property known as Luhrs Towers, Southeast corner 1st. Ave. & Jefferson - Phoenix, Arizona as follows:

Exterior Complete:

Walls - wirebrush all loose surfaces, caulk all joints, remove and replace al loose plaster, prime with a surface stabalizer and one coat texcote.

Windows, doors, stairs, handrail, & misc. trim - sand, touchup, & 1 coat exterior trim paint.

Manufacturer provides a 10 year guarantee on life of coating.

all for the sum of $ 28,831.00 (Twenty eight thousand eight hundred thirty one & no/100)

Proposed 11/23/70 19

FRANK L. WALTERS

By _____ (Seller)

ACCEPTANCE

I/We accept the within proposal. You are authorized to perform the work comprehended hereunder and I/we agree to pay the said amount in accordance with the terms above set forth. Time is the essence of this contract and in case of failure to make payments when due, Frank L. Walters may, at their option, declare the full amount of the unpaid balance to be due and payable. If a claim is placed in an attorneys' hands for collection of the said sums, the signer hereby agrees to pay such cost of collection in addition to an attorney in the event of non-payment. It is agreed that any verbal understandings or agreements will not be recognized, except as contained herein, or endorsed hereon.

Accepted this December 4 day of 1970 19

The Luhrs Properties

_____ (Buyer)

- Parking Lot Striping
- Industrial Structures
- Stores — Shops
- Sand Blasting
- Fine Homes
- Theatres
- Churches

frank l. walters

PAINTING CONTRACTOR

4549 NORTH 7th STREET • PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85011
Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 7146
Phone: 264-2557

INVOICE

JOB No. 70-269

Luhrs Properties
Central A e. & Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona

DATE 2/28/71

ITEM	DEBIT	BALANCE
Painting at the Luhrs Towers, Southeast corner of 1st. ave. & Jefferson - Phoenix, Arizona		
As per contract agreement		$28,831.00

GAB 13582
March 5 1971

T·C·A· INC.

Cable address: TEXCOTE

EASTERN PLANT:

1434 BALBOA

PANAMA CITY, FLORIDA 32401

PHONE (904) 763-8561

FOREIGN:

QUEBEC CITY, CANADA

MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

VIENNA, AUSTRIA

DENDERLEEUW, BELGIUM

PARIS, FRANCE

LONDON, ENGLAND

STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI

JOHANNESBURG, SO. AFRICA

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

TOKYO, JAPAN

ISTANBUL, TURKEY

HELSINKI, FINLAND

TEXTURED COATINGS of AMERICA, Inc.

3025 EXPOSITION PLACE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90018
PHONE (213) 295-4541

Los Angeles, California
5 March 1971

Frank Walters Painting Company
P. O. Box 7146
Phoenix, AZ 95011

Re: Luhrs Tower

Dear Gentlemen:

Please be advised that the Tex-Cote material applied on the above named project by your company is guaranteed for a ten-year period against flaking, chipping or peeling. This guarantee is to be in force from the date of the application. Full material replacement shall be made, should this replacement be necessary as a result in defect in product only. The guarantee does not cover damage resulting from settling of the building, major building movements, efflorescence, or mechanical or external physical causes. If we receive written notice for any repair work to be done, resulting from defect of material, we will take care of this complaint within ten days of the request.

Respectfully submitted,

TEXTURED COATINGS OF AMERICA, INC.

Stuart M. Haines
Architectural & Industrial Sales

SMH/sf

T·C·A· INC.

Cable address: TEXCOTE

TEXTURED COATINGS of AMERICA, Inc.

3025 EXPOSITION PLACE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90018
PHONE (213) 295-4541

EASTERN PLANT:

1434 BALBOA

PANAMA CITY, FLORIDA 32401

PHONE (904) 763-8561

FOREIGN:

QUEBEC CITY, CANADA

MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

VIENNA, AUSTRIA

DENDERLEEUW, BELGIUM

PARIS, FRANCE

LONDON, ENGLAND

STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI

JOHANNESBURG, SO. AFRICA

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

TOKYO, JAPAN

ISTANBUL, TURKEY

HELSINKI, FINLAND

Los Angeles, California
18 November 1970

Frank L. Walters Painting Co.
P. O. Box 7146
Phoenix, Arizona

Attention: Mr. Monroe Riddle

REF: Luhrs Towers Project

Gentlemen:

We are writing to you to confirm our discussion on the specifications for a Tex-Cote application on the above referenced project.

Since the subject walls are presently coated with a paint material that shows a chalking condition, it is our recommendation that a coat of our Masonry Surface Conditioner be applied prior to the Tex-Cote application. This surface conditioner is an oil based material which is formulated to hold down powdery and chalky surface materials. As a matter of fact, this particular formulation meets Federal Specification TT-P-620 Masonry Surface Conditioner on Chalky Surfaces. We estimate that the coverage for the Masonry Surface Conditioner should be approximately 200 square feet per gallon.

After application of the surface conditioner, a Tex-Cote application applied with heavy duty spray equipment with a coverage of 45 + - 5 square feet per gallon should be utilized. The Tex-Cote material is compatible with the surface conditioner with excellent intercoat adhesion.

It has been our experience that applications of this type have a life expectancy of fifteen to twenty years. A point in fact, we are prepared to issue a ten year material guarantee covering flaking, chipping and peeling.

MANUFACTURERS OF TEX-COTE, TEX-DRI, TEX-SEAL, TEX-TITE, SNO-TEX, TEX-ROOF, TEX-PATCH, FLEX-PATCH, TEX-GARD
A COMPLETE LINE OF HIGHLAND ARCHITECTURAL PAINT FINISHES

We are enclosing descriptive information, test data and specifications covering our Tex-Cote surfacing system for your review.

Please feel free to call upon us for any further information or assistance you may require.

Very truly yours,

TEXTURED COATINGS OF AMERICA, INC.

N. Z. Mann
General Manager

NZM/lm

Encls.

With the Arizona Club vacating the top four floors of the Luhrs Building, which said quarters were built especially for an exclusive club when the Luhrs Building was erected, the Luhrs' had the task of completely gutting the Club floors and rebuilding the area to provide space for modern office suites. As a matter of fact, it meant a complete modernization of the Luhrs Building, the Luhrs Tower, the Luhrs Arcade and the Luhrs Central Building. The public was notified what was being done and that space would be available, with layouts designed to meet their needs. New tenants moved in, old tenants relocated in newly designed quarters or had their suites modernized. This covered a period of three years, from October 19th, 1971 through the year 1974. New elevators, new air conditioning (heating and cooling), new light fixtures, wash rooms, windows, etc. were part of the remodeling. When completed, the Luhrs Properties was in a position to compete with any or all of the new buildings just completed, such as the First National Bank of Arizona Building, the Valley Center Building, etc.

After paying off the final indebtedness of the Luhrs' on July 1, 1968, surplus earnings were placed in Certificates of Deposit. The interest rates were very high at that time. As a matter of fact, the rate got as high as 13%. One time, George, Jr. told the manager of the Valley Bank in the Luhrs Building, the bank could not afford to pay 13%. He was told that was the prevailing rate of that time. The high interest

added to the savings gave the Luhrs' more money to work with and make more and better improvements. With layouts and facilities as modern and nice as could be had anywhere, plus realistic rents and quality service, a must with the Luhrs', including a relationship not of landlord and tenant but of loyal friends, the Luhrs Properties always maintained a very high rate of occupancy, being referred to as the "Preferred Building in Phoenix." The undertaking of removing everything from the Club floors and the remodeling of all of the buildings was a long, hard, tedious nerveracking job.

The Club floors, the top four floors of the Luhrs Building, were completely gutted. Everything was torn out, leaving nothing but the unfinished floors, columns and exterior walls. Even some of the exterior walls on the west and south side were torn down and replaced to match the rest of the building. On the seventh and eighth floors, the bathroom floors were elevated. A large compressor was rented and placed in the alley. Hoses were run up to the seventh and eighth floors and the concrete was torn up making it necessary to replace that portion of the floor with reinforcing steel and concrete. It took two months to remove everything and all of the work had to be done at night so as not to make any noise or use the elevators in the day.

Sam Diaz took fifty five gallon drums, with the tops removed and mounted them upon roller guides from previous elevators. The drums were so fixed that they could be turned over very easily to dump the contents in the alley back of the

Luhrs Building. Mr. Molina was put in charge of the crew. They were Mexicans who had just come from Mexico. They were excellent workers. Some would be tearing up while the others filled the drums, taking them down on the elevator and leaving the contents in the alley back of the Luhrs Building. That meant bringing the drums down on the elevator and upon reaching the ground floor wheeling the drums out the front entrance on Jefferson Street to the alley, a half block distance.

Early in the morning, the elevators had to be cleaned and ready for the daily tenant passenger service. By dawn, the alley was entirely covered with debris. Ed Speel, a very fine black man, worked 100% in having the alley cleaned up before the tenants arrived at the building to go to work. We had a truck and a scoop at the building at dawn each and every morning, removing the dirt and cleaning up so no one ever knew it had been so dirty the night before.

One morning, the Police Department called and told the Luhrs' they would have to stop using the air compressor at night for the noise disturbed the guests of the Jefferson Hotel, across the street from the Luhrs Building. It so happened the tearing up by the compressor had been finished the night before.

With everything of the four upper floors of the Luhrs Building torn out, it looked naked and empty. It had been such a hard and trying job. Those that did the work deserved to be congratulated, not only as to how they did their work,

and the short time they had taken, under trying conditions, but for their full cooperation. Furthermore, only one of the three Luhrs Building elevators was available at nights for the demolishing crew. The reason being that new elevators were being installed one at a time, thus leaving two, and it being necessary in the evenings to use one for tenant service.

The Luhrs' decided to install new elevators, three in the Luhrs Building and two in the Luhrs Tower. Bids were received from the Otis, Westinghouse and Phoenix Elevator companies. For some reason the Montgomery Elevator Company, who furnished the original elevators in the Luhrs Building, did not make an offer. The contract was given to the Otis Elevator Company for five gearless five hundred feet a minute completely automatic elevators. Everything was new. Nothing of the old elevators was used. The elevators were just like those being installed in the new First National Bank of Arizona Building and the Valley National Bank Center, thus providing the Luhrs Properties' tenants elevator service comparable to the newest office buildings then being erected in Phoenix.

George Jr. anticipated that "Spec" Willis, of the Phoenix Elevator Company, who had been taking care of the old elevators, would stop his service as soon as he found out that the Otis elevators were to be installed and arrangements had been made with the Otis people to take over the service.

Lucky he did, since the Phoenix Elevator Company stopped their service the end of November, 1970, when the contract was signed with the Otis Elevator Company.

Mr. A. Jack Campbell, the local manager for the Otis Elevator Company, was a very fine gentleman and a great help to the Luhrs'. Not only was the Otis bid the lowest and best, but Mr. A. Jack Campbell's attitude and cooperation was a factor in the Luhrs' decision. He was always around seeing that things were being taken care of and offering helpful and willing suggestions.

A giant crane was used to lift all of the heavy elevator equipment to the roof of the Luhrs Building. The Otis Elevator Company started work on the Luhrs Building elevators on July 15, 1971. The original contract for the three Luhrs Building elevators was $196,720.00. In the Luhrs Tower they began early in August, 1971. The original contract for the two Luhrs Tower elevators was $136,320.00 When the Luhrs Tower was built, an opening was left in the concrete floors from the 13th floor to the elevator penthouse. The openings were just large enough to bring the new equipment up and lower the old machinery.

Form 1372A
(1-58)

OTIS ELEVATOR COMPANY

NOVEMBER 17, 1971

NO373730-1

3033 WEST FAIRMONT, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85017

MR. GEORGE LUHRS
LUHRS HOTEL
CENTRAL AND JEFFERSON
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

TERMS:—NET CASH
UPON PRESENTATION MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE COMPANY

$6,390.00

YOUR ORDER NO. LUHRS TOWER
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

CONTRACT COVERING 2 GEARLESS PASSENGER ELEVATORS
PAYMENT OF PORTION OF CONTRACT PRICE OF $156,860.00

DUE PER CONTRACT ITEMS:	
20% UPON SHIPMENT OF RAILS 7/71	31,372.00
50% UPON SHIPMENT OF MACHINES 6/71	78,430.00
20% UPON PERMANENT POSITIONING OF MACHINES 11/71	31,372.00
TOTAL DUE TO DATE	141,174.00
LESS PAYMENTS	134,784.00
AMOUNT OF THIS REQUEST	$ 6,390.00

We hereby certify that these goods were produced in compliance with all applicable requirements of sections 6, 7 and 12 of the Fair Labor Standards Act, as amended, and of regulations and orders of the United States Department of Labor issued under section 14 thereof.

OTIS MAINTENANCE ASSURES PEAK PERFORMANCE OF OTIS ELEVATORS.
IT IS ECONOMICAL AND AVAILABLE AT A FLAT MONTHLY RATE.

Form 1372A
(1-58)

OTIS ELEVATOR COMPANY

AUGUST 23, 1971

NO. 373730-1

3033 WEST FAIRMONT, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85017

MR. GEORGE LUHRS
LUHRS HOTEL
CENTRAL & JEFFERSON
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

TERMS:—NET CASH
UPON PRESENTATION MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE COMPANY

68,160.00

YOUR ORDER NO.

LUHRS TOWER
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

CONTRACT COVERING 2 ELEVATORS
PAYMENT OF PORTION OF CONTRACT PRICE OF $136,320.00

DUE PER CONTRACT ITEMS:	
20% UPON SHIPMENT OF RAILS 7/71	27,264.00
50% UPON SHIPMENT OF MACHINES 6/71	68,160.00
TOTAL DUE TO DATE	95,424.00
LESS PAYMENTS	27,264.00
AMOUNT OF THIS REQUEST	$68,160.00

VAB 13004
Sept 10-71

Imp Elev Tower

We hereby certify that these goods were produced in compliance with all applicable requirements of sections 6, 7 and 12 of the Fair Labor Standards Act, as amended, and of regulations and orders of the United States Department of Labor issued under section 14 thereof.

OTIS MAINTENANCE ASSURES PEAK PERFORMANCE OF OTIS ELEVATORS.
IT IS ECONOMICAL AND AVAILABLE AT A FLAT MONTHLY RATE.

OTIS ELEVATOR COMPANY

APRIL 26, 1973

NO373735-7

3033 WEST FAIRMONT, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85017

REVISED INVOICE

LUHRS HOTEL
ATT: MR GEORGE LUHRS
CENTRAL & JEFFERSON
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

TERMS:—NET CASH
UPON PRESENTATION MAKE ALL
CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE COMPANY

22,652.30

LUHRS OFFICE BUILDING
YOUR ORDER NO. PHOENIX, ARIZONA

CONTRACT COVERING 3 GEARLESS PASSENGER ELEVATORS

AMOUNT OF ORIGINAL CONTRACT PRICE	196,720.00
PLUS ADDITIONS TO CONTRACT	12,397.00
TOTAL CONTRACT TO DATE	209,117.00
TOTAL DUE TO DATE	209,117.00
LESS PAYMENTS	186,464.70
AMOUNT OF THIS FINAL REQUEST	22,652.30

Ck # B14834
Sept 15-73

We hereby certify that these goods were produced in compliance with all applicable requirements of sections 6, 7 and 12 of the Fair Labor Standards Act, as amended, and of regulations and orders of the United States Department of Labor issued under section 14 thereof.

OTIS MAINTENANCE ASSURES PEAK PERFORMANCE OF OTIS ELEVATORS.
IT IS ECONOMICAL AND AVAILABLE AT A FLAT MONTHLY RATE.

The Luhrs' were very much concerned about the Luhrs Tower elevator change over due to the fact that the Tower had but two elevators. With one elevator being replaced and out of use, there was always the possibility of the other elevator acting up or having a temporary breakdown. There was also talk at that time of a strike of the employees of the elevator companies and no telling how long it would last. Under those conditions, the Tower would have to depend upon one elevator for an indefinite period. To play safe, a day and a night crew were put to work to rush the Luhrs Tower elevator to completion. The additional cost was approximately ten thousand dollars. It paid off, for the strike took place. The one elevator was completed just before the strike and work was not started on the second elevator until after the strike. There was no trouble at the Luhrs Building for only one elevator was taken out at a time, always leaving two running.

For security, the Luhrs' had Otis Elevator Company install a card-key system for all five elevators at a cost of $15,500.00. The Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower had a receptionist in the lobby during the week days, but not at night, Sundays or holidays, who watched to see who came in and went out of the buildings. The card-key system gave security when no one was on duty in the lobbies. There was a slot at the bottom of the annunciator panel into which a card, which each tenant carried, could be inserted. Cards for each floor and each building were keyed differently with

magnetic tape material. When on security, the elevator would not move unless a card was put into the slot. Then it would only stop on the floor the tenant's card was keyed for. Thus no one could use the elevator unless they had a card and only tenants had cards. The cards fit in a billfold. The elevator would answer down calls from such floors where an individual had pushed the down button. It would not stop on any other floor unless the keyed card was used.

Final payment to the Otis Elevator Company for the Luhrs Tower was made in March, 1972. The total contract price was $156,860.00. In September, 1973, the Otis Elevator Company was paid in full for the Luhrs Building job. The total contract was $209,117.00. The Luhrs', the tenants and everyone in general were well satisfied. It was one of the big steps undertaken in the modernization of the Luhrs Properties.

The new elevators required electrical changes to be made. In the Luhrs Tower a new panel board was installed in the basement and new wiring run to new panel boards on each floor to carry a heavier load. Also, new and heavier wiring was needed for the elevators. In the Luhrs Building, an addition was made to the existing panel board and heavier wires run to the elevator pent house.

The transformer room, to which the Central Arizona Light and Power Company furnished electricity, was located in the Luhrs Building basement. The necessary changes were made there too. The transformer room was the central electrical

station for all the Luhrs Properties. New and heavier wires were also a must from the Luhrs Building transformer toom to the panel board in the Luhrs Tower basement.

So not to inconvenience any of the tenants, it was necessary to make this change over from 1:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. All tenants were notified and they were requested to stay out of the Luhrs Properties between 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. Everything was cut out and arranged for during the daytime. At 1:00 a.m., a crew showed up and made the change over with no trouble. After 5:00 a.m., electric service for the Luhrs Properties was available again. All of these changes were made from July through November, 1971, at a contract price of $43,000.00 by the New State Electric Company.

NEW NSEC STATE ELECTRIC CO.
established 1910 202 south 30th street phoenix, arizona 85034
telephone 275-4781

DECEMBER 23, 1971

MR. GEORGE LUHRS
LUHRS PROPERTIES
20 EAST JEFFERSON STREET
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85004

DEAR MR. LUHRS:

WE HOPE THAT THIS INSTALLATION HAS MET WITH YOUR SATISFACTION. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL UPON US AT ANY TIME.

GEORGE, WHEN THE NEW ELEVATORS ARE READY FOR FINAL INSPECTION, WE WILL ATTEND TO THIS AT THAT TIME AS WE HAVE ALLOWED A $400 CREDIT FOR THIS WORK. WE ISSUE THIS CREDIT SO WE MAY CLOSE OUT OUR BOOKS FOR THE YEAR 1971.

BEST WISHES FOR A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND THE HAPPIEST OF NEW YEARS.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU.

WARMEST REGARDS,

ALAN BANDLER

AB:IM

INVOICE

NEW STATE ELECTRIC CO.

established 1910 — 202 south 30th street — phoenix, arizona 85034
telephone 275-4781

INVOICE DATE 12-23-71
INVOICE NO. 5080-6

CHARGE TO

LUHRS PROPERTIES
20 EAST JEFFERSON STREET
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85004

JOB LOCATION

BUILDING AND TOWERS

TERMS: PAYABLE IN FULL BY THE 10TH OF MONTH: FINAL NOTICE

ITEMS			
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION:			
(CONTRACT PRICE - $43,000.00)			
100% COMPLETION	$43,000.00		
LESS ALLOWANCE FOR ELEVATOR CONNECTIONS	(400.00)		
	42,600.00		
LESS PREVIOUS BILLINGS	40,850.00		
AMOUNT DUE THIS PROGRESS BILLING #6:			$1,750.00
NOTE: WE HAVE ALLOWED $400.00 CREDIT FOR ELEVATOR CONNECTIONS. WE WILL CONNECT THE ELEVATOR WHEN THEY ARE INSTALLED.			

Imp Equip
LB

N.Y. B13326
Jan 17-72

PLEASE PAY ON THIS INVOICE

Amos Christian was the foreman for the Wasielewski Construction Company, the firm that built the Luhrs Tower, which opened January 1st, 1930. With the depression on, Amos was unable to find employment. He asked the Luhrs' if they could use him at one dollar an hour. Being a good carpenter, he was put to work. As conditions changed, his pay was adjusted too.

The New State Electric Company did the electrical work for the Luhrs Properties on a cost plus basis. They always sent the same man. First it was Joe Meyers and after him it was "Chuck" Baker.

About 1958, Cliff Maddox, a contractor, sent Nelson Tomlinson on a job for the Luhrs Properties to hang new doors in the Luhrs Central Building which was being remodeled at the time. After the death of Cliff Maddox, the Luhrs put Nels on the Luhrs Properties payroll until his death. Nels was a master craftsman. If he could not do it right, he would rather not do it at all. He at one time had a mill but lost it. Nelson Tomlinson and "Chuck" Baker were most helpful to George, Jr., not only in designing the layouts but doing the work right. George, Jr. had the highest regards and respect for Nelson Tomlinson and his work. He valued his friendship highly.

For painters, we were fortunate in having Bud Harris and his father and "Speck"Thornton, who died of a heart attack on the job.

When time came to rebuild the seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth floors of the Luhrs Building, the space the Arizona Club had given up, it was suggested that a contractor be called in to do the work and take some of the load off George, Jr. Contractors were interviewed. Frank Langley had a theatre built in Douglas, the work being done by the Quaranta Construction Company. Langley said the work was done fast and he saved money. George, Jr. decided to try him out, giving him the job of tearing out those brick walls on the south and west side of the upper four floors where the windows had to be removed, and rebuilding said walls, installing the new windows to match those already in place in the Luhrs Building.

The corridor walls on the seventh and eighth floors were to be roughed in up to and including the ladies restroom. This work was started early in March, 1972. Shortly thereafter, George, Jr. knew it would not work out, having the Quaranta Construction Company doing the work. Mr. Quaranta was not around much of the time, leaving the supervising to George, Jr. Many times the men were seen doing nothing. When the first billing was received, it was $15.00 per hour for supervision, 5% for overhead and 10% for profit. The overheard and profit was even charged on sub-contractors bills. The Quaranta Construction Company charge for supervision, overhead and profit was $7,939.56. If the Luhrs Properties crew had done the work there would have been no such expense. Furthermore, the Luhrs Properties labor costs were less and material prices no higher, but with better

service, from the firms with whom the Luhrs Properties had been doing business for many years. The total bill of the Quaranta Construction Company was $46,086.45. Of this amount, $4,762.30 was for material, $6,722.34 for labor, $13,967.88 was to the Foam, Paint & Coating, Inc. for the portion of the corridor dry walls erected on the seventh and eighth floors, $12,694.10 was for the Sucato Masonry, Inc. for brick walls and $7,939.76 was for the Quaranta Construction Company for supervision, overhead and profit. With this experience, the Luhrs' decided to handle the entire matter themselves.

The seventh and eighth floors were to be tackled and completed first. John Armer Air Conditioning Company was given the contract for the air conditioning (heating and refrigerated cooling) as well as the plumbing for the said seventh and eighth floors, for the sum of $87,671.00, with work starting early in February, 1972 and being completed late in September, 1972. The restrooms were located in the same relative area as on the lower floors and similarly laid out, with the exception that the toilet bowls were suspended from the walls. The Beach Building Specialties, Inc. furnished and installed Weis ceiling hung toilet partitions with baked enamel finish (blue) in the mens' room and pink in the ladies' room. This was done in August, 1972 for the sum of $925.00. In order to have two wash basins in the ladies room, Marbelistic Industries made the fixture to order. The walls and floors were ceramic tile, furnished and installed by Summers Tile Co. for $5,545.00.

INVOICE

HEATING
AIR CONDITIONING
PLUMBING
SHEET METAL WORK



JOHN ARMER
Air Conditioning Co.

PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85005

1217 WEST JEFFERSON • POST OFFICE BOX 6129 • PHONE: 254-5533

DATE Sept. 26, 1972

SOLD TO

Mr. George Luhrs
Luhrs Building
Central & Jefferson
Phoenix, Az.

YOUR ORDER NO. _____ INVOICE NO. 7573

Job F4028	
Air conditioning and plumbing 7th & 8th floors of Luhrs Building.	
Contract Amount $87,671.00	
Earned to date	84,330.00
Less Previous Billing	82,800.00
Amount Due	$ 1,530.00
Credit	170.00
	$ 1,360

Imp cooling
L.B

VMB M009
Oct 28
1972

INVOICE

No. 9108

BEACH BUILDING SPECIALTIES, INC.

P.O. BOX 14468 • PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85031

PHONE 272-6754

INVOICE DATE	July 27, 1972
OUR ORDER NO.	T-5144
YOUR ORDER NO.	
TERMS	Net 30 days
F.O.B.	
SALESMAN	
SHIPPED VIA	

Mr. George Luhrs
P. O. Box 4307
Phoenix, Arizona 85030

SHIPPED TO: Luhrs Building
Central & Jefferson, Phoenix, Arizona

PPD. OR COLL.

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	AMOUNT
	Furnish and install Weis ceiling hung toilet partitions per job requirements and our quotation.		
	Total installed price		$ 925.00

Imp Equip
L3
7th + 8th Flr

N.M. B13846
Aug 18-72

FORM 1400, REGENT FORMS, PENNSAUKEN, N. J. 08109

IF FORMAL PURCHASE ORDER OR CONTRACT IS NOT BEING ISSUED, PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN PINK COPY.

YOUR ORDER IS APPRECIATED.

335

BEACH BUILDING SPECIALTIES, INC.

By Eric O'Steen
Eric O'Steen

CERAMIC • MOSAIC • QUARRY • MEXICAN

CUSTOM CARPETING

SUMMERS TILE COMPANY, INC.

3418 WEST LYNWOOD • PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85009 • 278-0241

STATEMENT

July 11, 1972

Mr. George Luhrs
Luhrs Hotel
Central Ave. & Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona

Installed ceramic tile in Men & Women's bathroom on 7th and 8th floors - wainscots and floors.	$5,510.00
Charge for cutting Marble threshholds to fit.	35.00
Total	$5,545.00

Imp Partitions
LB
7 & 8 Fl Toilets
5,545 —
MB 13761
7-17-72

At one time, Mr. Summers' father and Geo H.N. Luhrs operated the Luhrs' ranch on a share crop basis.

On the floor, the space adjoining the ladies' restroom, to the south, was set up for the air conditioning room. Supply and return lines were run from the central plant in the Luhrs Building basement to each of these rooms where the coils, blowers and electrical apparatus were located. In this way, each floor was separately serviced. Controls in these rooms regulated the volume of refrigerated water and steam going through the coils. Also the offices were thermostatically controlled, making it possible for the temperature of the offices to also be adjusted to satisfy the tenant. Every effort was made to install the latest and best equipment, endeavoring to satisfy the tenant.

Corbin-Dykes Electric Company, through their representative Mr. Bob Lutz, had done the Luhrs' many favors, so the electrical work for the seventh and the eighth floors of the Luhrs Building was turned over to them. They started their work the last of January, 1972 and finished early in December, 1972. Their charges amounted to $55,271.26 which covered all the electrical work necessary to complete the said two floors, such as conduits, panels, wiring, fixtures, hook-ups, etc. The fluorescent fixtures used were W FD 3-GH-4424TAPE and W FD3-SR-42222TAPE. They were hung so as to be flush with the suspended ceiling. The suspended ceiling for the two floors were furnished and installed by the Allied Acoustics, Inc. for $7,200.00.

ALLIED ACOUSTICS, INC.
1718 West Buchanan
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007

Telephone 254-7341

INVOICE

TO

Luhrs Properties
P. O. Box 4307
Phoenix, Arizona

DATE	November 3, 1972
CUSTOMER ORDER NO	Agreement
SALESMAN	Lee
VIA	

TERMS: Net 30 days

#4000

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	AMOUNT
	Progress Billing #6 7th & 8th Floor remodeling Luhrs Building - Jefferson & Central Avenue	Imp ceiling material L.B. 500 —	
	Base contract agreement $7,200.00 Payments recd. on agreement 6,700.00 Balance due - Contr. 500.00	Refuse LB 112 30	
	Labor & Material to replace moulding, damaged tees and tile on 8th floor 112.30		
		Total due	$612.30

NOV 10 1972
V.N.B 14062

ORIGINAL

Thank You!

R M 6 Flangeklamp main beams and tees were hung in which two feet by two feet Fibre tile was placed. The advantage of this suspended ceiling was the fact that the Fibre tile could be removed and replaced at any time. It might be necessary to get into the area above to make repairs or changes. This installation was started the end of April, 1972 and finished in October, 1972.

In view of the fact that many of the windows of the upper four floors, formerly occupied by the Arizona Club, had to be taken out, the Luhrs' decided to change all the outside openings on those floors. Large arched windows replaced all old arched windows that were on the tenth floor. Arcadia doors replaced the french doors on the street sides of the ninth floor and regular two sash windows were installed in the other openings. At a later date, the lower floors were to be changed.

The DeVac windows were of aluminum, already made, so when the old one was taken out the new one replaced it immediately. They were made in such a way that the sash could be removed and both sides of the window could be cleaned inside of the office, thus making it unnecessary to employ outside window washers. The cost for said new DeVac openings for the upper four floors was $42,067.57. The work started in April, 1972 and was finished in August, 1972. The DeVac people were very cooperative and their product was everything they said it was. The windows were air tight, keeping out dust, cold and heat. It was money well invested.

National Paint & Drywall Contractors, Inc. put up the partitions on the seventh floor for $9,124.00 and on the eighth floor for $9,053.00. The material would be delivered on the sidewalk during the day and taken up on the elevator at night. Then, what could not be used had to be brought down and hauled away. There was something to be moved, up or down, every night.

The Luhrs Properties crew was busy doing finishing work, walnut paneling, painting, putting on wallpaper or vinyl. The Luhrs Properties would panel two walls with walnut paneling and either paint, hang wallpaper or vinyl on the other two walls. If the price exceeded the amount agreed upon, the tenant would pay the difference. O'Malley's carried the walnut paneling for the Luhrs' and Dunn & Edwards furnished most of the wall paper and vinyl. The Bella Vista Drapery Cleaners furnished the Standard, floor to ceiling drapes. Jack Richardson Carpet Shoppe put down all the office carpet, totaling $16,682.72 for the year, 1972. Tenants paid for carpet in excess of $10.00 a yard.

Upon the completion of the seventh and eighth floors, things were in a scramble. It was a period of adjustment, with new and old tenants fitting into the spaces best fitting their needs. Everyone was busy and work on the ninth floor and the tenth floor was delayed for a short time.

With realistic rents and SERVICE, the Luhrs Properties had the reputation for being the preferred buildings of Phoenix. They maintained an occupancy of over ninety-five percent.

National Paint & Drywall Contractors, Inc.

9801 North 21st Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85021
Telephone 944-4613

September 29, 1972

Luhrs Properties
Central and Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona

Attention: Mr. George Luhrs

Reference: Drywall and Tape breakdown for
Luhrs Towers

7TH FLOOR

A.	5/8" Fire-code drywall on 3 5/8" 25 ga. metal studs	9876 sq. ft. @ .80	$ 7900.00
B.	1/2" Sound deading board screwed to metal studs	1538 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 231.00
C.	Drywall finish tape on existing columns.	720 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 108.00
D.	4" Fiberglass batt insulation (walls only).	4938 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 741.00
E.	4" Open-cell sound sealing gasket for metal top track only	576 linel ft@ .25	$ 144.00
			9,124.00

8TH FLOOR

A.	5/8" Fire-code drywall on 3 5/8" 25 ga. metal studs	3360 sq. ft. @ .80	$ 2688.00
B.	Drywall finish tape on existing columns.	384 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 58.00
C.	4" Fiberglass batt insulation (walls only).	1680 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 252.00
D.	4" Open cell sound sealing gasket for metal top track only	219 lin. ft.@ .25	$ 55.00
			3053 —

ROOM NO 142

A.	5/8" Fire-code drywall on 3 5/8" 25 ga. metal studs	3060 sq. ft. @ .80	$ 2448.00
B.	5/8" Fire-code drywall on 3 5/8" metal studs (These walls have since been torn out at the request of owner)	1416 sq. ft. @ .80	$ 1133.00
C.	4" Fiber glass batt insulation (walls only)	1530 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 230.00
			3811 —

LESS

Materials furnished and paid for by Mr. Luhrs	$ 625.00

VAB 13941
Oct 4 1972

TOTAL AMOUNT $15363.00

National Paint & Drywall Contractors, Inc.
9801 North 21st Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85021
Telephone 944-4613

November 30, 1972

Luhrs Properties
Central and Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona

Attention: Mr. George Luhrs

Reference: Drywall and Tape breakdown for
Luhrs Towers

8TH FLOOR

A.	5/8"	Fire-code drywall on 3 5/8" 25ga. metal studs	4848 sq. ft. @ .80	$ 3878.00
B.	1/2"	Sound deadning board screwed to metal studs	2768 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 415.00
C.	4"	Fiberglass batt insulation (walls only)	2500 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 375.00 ✓
D.	4"	Open-cell sound sealing gasket for metal top track only	165 lin. ft.@ .25	$ 42.00 ✓

LESS

Materials furnished and paid for by Mr. Luhrs	$ 67.00

TOTAL AMOUNT $ 4643.00

Snap Partition
C.B

Dec 26 1972
V43 1416 2

National Paint & Drywall Contractors, Inc.
9801 North 21st Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85021
Telephone 944-4613

March 30, 1973

Luhrs Properties
Central and Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona

TENANT IMPROVEMENT

8th Floor .....

Base Bid	$1191.00
Added 12 Lin. ft. of 8' partition	$ 166.00
TOTAL AMOUNT	$1357.00

P.M. OS 14449
April 14-73

Award to

"Mr. Downtowner"

George H. N. Luhrs, Jr.

FOR A LIFETIME OF SERVICE

TO THE DOWNTOWN AREA OF

PHOENIX, WE SAY "THANK YOU"

TO A DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN.

The Luhrs Properties, with its continuous faith in the Center City, never left downtown Phoenix.

The corrugated roof placed on the top of the Commercial Hotel (Hotel Luhrs), in 1887 and 1888 had given good service, but during the winter of 1972, it began to leak, getting worse. On September 9th, 1972, a contract was signed with the Hays Roofing & Supply, Inc. for a new roof, for the sum of $7,950.00. Unfortunately, the rains continued, stopping the Hays Roofers from putting the roof down until November, 1972. The rains came at night, after the help had gone home, with the exception of the desk clerk and bell boy. Thus, when the rains came, no one was available except Ella Luhrs Taylor and George, Jr. who lived in the hotel. The roof was leaking badly. Ella Luhrs Taylor and George, Jr. had a hard time of it. They had to keep the pans empty. Room 258 was very bad. A constant flow of rain water kept coming through the roof.

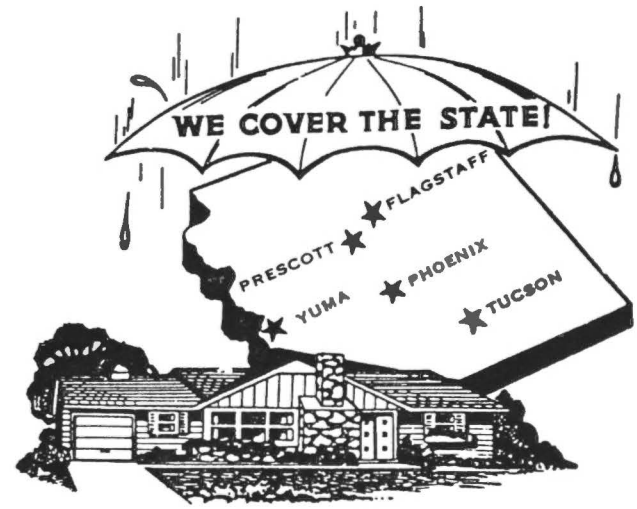
NEW ROOFING REPAIRING

STATEMENT

HAYS ROOFING & SUPPLY, INC.

APPROVED JOHNS-MANVILLE APPLICATORS

747 EAST BUCKEYE PHONE 254-5663
PHOENIX 34, ARIZ.



TO Mr. George Luhrs

Luhrs Hotel

Central and Jefferson, Phoenix, Arizona

DATE 10-31-72

Job at Luhrs Hotel

Roofing furnished and applied per our quote dated 9-14-72

$ 7,950.00

Nov 1 1972
V.M.B
14079

"THE BITTERNESS OF POOR QUALITY REMAINS LONG
AFTER THE SWEETNESS OF LOW PRICE IS FORGOTTEN"

It was decided to cover the corridor floors in the office buildings with carpet. The vinyl then on the floors of the corridors was very expensive, in excellent shape, and had not been down too many years. However, the trend of the times called for carpet. The carpet was put down in such a way that it could be taken up without hurting the vinyl.

The Richardson Carpet Shoppe installed the carpet in the Arcade and the Tower corridors during September, 1972 for the sum of $4,634.50; in the Luhrs Building corridors during October, 1972 for the sum of $5,580.64; in the Luhrs Central Building corridor (second floor) in December, 1972, for the sum of $3,060.56, and in the Luhrs Central Building corridor (ground floor), in January, 1973 for the sum of $2,098.48.

Sun City - Youngtown Store
11117 California Avenue
Youngtown, Arizona 85363
Phone 977-0911

JACK RICHARDSON'S
Carpet Shoppe

5819 NORTH 7TH STREET – PHOENIX – 264-6186

INVOICE
№ 2444

Date 9-15-72

Terms: Net Cash

Mechanic NORM

Name Mr George Luhrs
Central Ave + Jefferson
Phoenix Ariz

Bill to

Job at Arcade Corridors + Corridors in Tower				
# H0654-2				
Install Plushtones Toledo Enamel				
Red in Corridor Areas				
525 sq yds @ 8.50 sq yd		$	4462	50
Sales tax on material (3675.00)			147	00
Repairs on 2nd Floor + install elevator			25	00
TOTAL		$	4634	50
Labor 812.50				
FAT 105.00				
Sales + 147 –				

JAB 13931
Sept 26 1972

Richard
Cy
25 –

I hereby acknowledge the satisfactory completion of the above work.

Jack Carpet
Arcade
1545 –

Tower
2,000

Signature

IM SUN OFFICE SUPPLY, PHX.

Sun City - Youngtown Store
11117 California Avenue
Youngtown, Arizona 85363
Phone 977-0911

JACK RICHARDSON'S
Carpet Shoppe

5819 NORTH 7TH STREET – PHOENIX – 264-6186

INVOICE 423

№ 2523

Date 10-27-72

Terms: Net Cash

Mechanic Norm

Name Mr George Luhrs
Central Ave + Jefferson
Phoenix, Ariz

Bill to

Job at Luhrs Building Corridors				
Furnish and install Ozite Plushtones				
Enamel Red color nylon carpet in corridors				
on floors 2-3-4-5-6				
624 sq yds installed @ 8.50 sq yd		$	5304	00
14 sq yds not installed @ 7.00 sq yd			98	00
Sales tax on material (4466.00)			178	64
VMB 13996 Oct 27 1972 Total		$	5580	64
Labor 936.00				
Freight 127.60				

I hereby acknowledge the satisfactory completion of the above work.

Signature

1M SUN OFFICE SUPPLY, PHX.

Sun City - Youngtown Store
11117 California Avenue
Youngtown, Arizona 85363
Phone 977-0911

JACK RICHARDSON'S
Carpet Shoppe

5819 NORTH 7TH STREET – PHOENIX – 264-6186

INVOICE

№ 2596

Date 12-6-72

Terms: Net Cash

Mechanic Norm

ame Mr George Luhrs

Bill to

Central Ave + Jefferson

Phoenix, Ariz

Job at 2nd Floor Central Building				
Furnish and install Plushtones Enamel				
Red nylon carpet in corridors on 2nd floor				
332 sq yds installed @ 850 sq yd		$	2822	00
20 sq yds not installed @ 7.00 sq yd			140	00
			2962	00
Sales tax on material 2464.00			98	56
Total		$	3060	56
Labor 498.00				
Frt 71.00				

Mt Carpet 2393 –

Dec 8 1972 VAB 14099

I hereby acknowledge the satisfactory completion of the above work.

Signature

IM SUN OFFICE SUPPLY, PHX

Sun City - Youngtown Store
11117 California Avenue
Youngtown, Arizona 85363
Phone 977-0911

JACK RICHARDSON'S
Carpet Shoppe

5819 NORTH 7TH STREET – PHOENIX – 264-6186

INVOICE 424

No 2670

Date 1-10-73

Terms: Net Cash

Mechanic Nelson

Name Mr George Luhrs

Cent Ave & Jefferson

Phoenix, Ariz.

Bill to

Furnish and install Plushtones Red				
in main level Corridors in Central Bldg				
201 sq yds @ $8.50 sq yd.		$	1708	50
Install Plushtones Red in Rear Corridor				
of Luhrs Bldg.				
38 sq yds @ $8.50 sq yd. 14 Mar 73			323	00
		$	2031	50
Sales tax on material (1674.50) MB			66	98
Labor 537.00 TOTAL		$	2098	48
Frt 59.75				

I hereby acknowledge the satisfactory completion of the above work.

Signature

IM SUN OFFICE SUPPLY, PHX.

The Pioneer Hotel in Tucson, Arizona, had a fire and several lives were lost. Then came the moving picture, "Towering Inferno." As a result, the fire department of the City of Phoenix was able to persuade the City Council of Phoenix, Arizona, to pass a new, tough, fire code for hotels three stories or more in height. The ordinance required the building to have a sprinkler system, the stairways enclosed, an emergency lighting system for the halls, alarm system, fire escapes, etc.

It was all right to require these things for a new hotel erected after the passage of the ordinance, but to demand it of hotels already built was retroactive and a hardship, which in some cases could not be done. In most cities, the requirements are for hotels over four stories. Frankly, the one and two story "Flop Houses" with cots lined up one after another, where the drunks and addicts sleep, are the structures that should be required to have the fire protection.

The hotels erected prior to the new fire code submitted plans, before the building was built, to the City, which plans were checked by the fire department, building department, etc. For a monetary consideration, paid by the hotel, the City issued a permit for the hotel to be built as per the plans submitted. There was a contract between the City and the hotel builder, and the City should not be permitted to come back at a later date and require the hotel to make structural changes to the building, not in the original plans submitted and approved by the City.

Some of the requirements were such that, in order to comply with the new fire code, the building would have to be town down and rebuilt.

The new fire ordinance gave the fire department so much power and authority, they became very demanding and unreasonable. They became a bureaucracy, with dictatorial power.

The Hotel Luhrs was only three stories. It dated back to 1887. They had put in fire escapes, hoses and extinguishers. The hotel was but two blocks from the central fire station. On the ground floor, the walls between stores were eighteen inches thick, constructed of brick. There were employees on duty day and night, seven days a week. Each guest room had a telephone. There were three stairways from the third to the second floor and two stairways from the second to the ground floor. The Hotel had a fire, June 28th, 1916 at night. No one was hurt. All guest rooms had outside exposure. The second floor, on the street frontage, opened out upon a porch. An ornamental iron balcony was in front of each third floor guest room, facing the street. The building faced two streets and two alleys.

With the now very liberal interpretation of the health and welfare clause of our constitution, the present liberal courts would probably hold the new fire code enforceable. The Luhrs' did not want anything to happen that would cause them or their name trouble, so they worked out the best deal possible with the fire department. It required all the basement and

ground floor to be sprinkled as well as all halls and corridors on the second and third floors. All stairways had to be enclosed; an emergency lighting of the corridors was required and an alarm system installed.

J. H. Welsh & Son Contracting Company put in the sprinkler system for $31,635.00, starting the installation in February, 1974 and completing the same by the end of September, 1974. The New State Electric Company put in the emergency hall lights. The Central Alarm System put in the alarm apparatus and the Luhrs Properties' crew closed in the stairways. It took the money the Luhrs' had figured upon using to install DeVac windows for the lower six floors of the Luhrs Building.

The Jefferson Hotel was forced to close for the reason they could not afford to comply with the ordinance.

Outside the new hotels, it is believed that none of the other older hotels have met the requirements. Thus, the Hotel Luhrs, which at present is the oldest hotel in the State of Arizona, was the first hotel in the City of Phoenix to fully comply with the new code, although old in years, it has always kept pace with the growth of Phoenix and the State of Arizona.

J. H. WELSH & SON CONTRACTING CO.

Plumbing, Heating, Pipe Lines and Sprinkler Systems
Contractors

1020 South 16th Street - Phoenix, Arizona

Luhrs Hotel
Central & Jefferson
Phoenix, Az

PROPOSAL

12-11- 19 72

Attn: George Luhrs

Dear Sir:

The undersigned proposes to furnish all materials and perform all labor necessary to complete the following:

Install a complete automatic fire sprinkler system throughout the basement area of the Luhrs Hotel and Jewelry Shop, all ground floor areas of the Hotel (lobby, beauty and barber shop, bar, restaurant, Loan Co., print shop, Wholesale Jewelers, storage areas, etc.) and 2nd & 3rd floor corridors of the Hotel.

Proposal is based upon connecting to the 10" main in Central Ave. and furnishing all labor and material necessary to effect a complete installation.

Installation to be in accordance with all rules and regulations of the City of Phoenix and the Insurance Services Office.

Pipe to be concealed where possible. No painting included in this quotation.

Quotation includes alarm system as required by City of Phoenix.

All of the above work to be completed in a substantial and workmanlike manner for the sum of Thirty One Thousand Six Hundred Thirty Five and No/100---------- ($ 31,635.00) Dollars

Payments to be made each 30 as the work progresses to the value of ninety (90 %) per cent of all work completed. The entire amount of contract to be paid within 30 days after completion.

Any alteration or deviation from the above specifications involving extra cost of material or labor will only be executed upon written orders for same, and will become an extra charge over the sum mentioned in this contract. All agreements must be made in writing.

The Contractor agrees to carry Workmen's Compensation and Public Liability Insurance, also to pay all Sales Taxes, Old Age Benefit and Unemployment Compensation Taxes upon the material and labor furnished under this contract, as required by the United States Government and the State in which this work is performed.

Respectfully submitted,
J. H. WELSH & SON CONTRACTING CO.

Herb Hayes

Herb Hayes, Manager — Contractor
Fire Sprinkler Division

ACCEPTANCE

You are hereby authorized to furnish all materials and labor required to complete the work mentioned in the above proposal, for which the undersigned agrees to pay the amount mentioned in said proposal, and according to the terms thereof.

The Luhrs Properties

Geo Luhrs Jr

Date Dec 26 19 72

While home for the 1972 Christmas holidays, Jean Stroud Crane and her family drove out to the mine (Bandon #1 and Bandon #2). Upon her return to the hotel, she informed George, Jr. that a fence had been erected, which said fence enclosed the land, including the mine. She found the gate open and drove up to a new house which she thought might be on the Luhrs' land. She had a general talk with the man living there and then spent considerable time walking around the Luhrs properties.

Daniel M. Wier of Wier Engineering Company was asked to make a survey of the Luhrs' mining claims, which was done in June, 1973 at a cost of $655.00. Later, Mr. Wier went out to the mine with George, Jr. and they went over the land together. The new house was not on the Luhrs' property.

Stanley Tanner had an interest in the adjoining property. The fence also enclosed some state property. The County road, which ran by one corner of the Luhrs' property had been relocated too. Stanley said he had mules on the land and the fence was built to keep the "Hippies" out. Tanner wanted to buy the Luhrs' mining claim, but the Luhrs' did not want to sell.

During the Christmas holiday of 1973, Jean and her family and George, Jr. went out to the mine. The gate was locked. Jean and her family crawled over the fence and walked all around the Luhrs' property.

MEMBER
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS
ARIZONA SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
AMERICAN CONGRESS ON SURVEYING & MAPPING
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERS

PHONE 254-6374

WIER ENGINEERING CO.
DANIEL M. WIER, REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER & LAND SURVEYOR
ARIZONA TITLE BUILDING
111 WEST MONROE - SUITE 713
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85003

January 26, 1973

Mr. George Luhrs
C/O Archie Ferguson
2641 East Buckeye Road
Phoenix, Arizona

Job No. 2707

STATEMENT

Survey of two Baden mining claims.

16 hours field @ $35.00	$560.00
5 hours office @ $18.00	$90.00
GLO Prints and notes	$3.00
Map prints	$2.00
TOTAL	$655.00

Y.N.B 14269
7-26-5-73

RECEIVED
JAN 30 1973

Thanks...

GW
Please send copy to Mr. Luhrs.
F

encl.

Stanley Tanner's properties were known as the "Wineglass Land and Cattle Company", an Arizona Corporation. On September 5th, 1975, the Luhrs Properties leased their property to the "Wineglass Land and Cattle Company" on a month to month basis. Either the lessor or the Lessee had the right to terminate said lease by giving ten days written notice. It was understood and agreed by the Lessor and the Lessee that neither party gained or lost any rights of ingress or egress that existed prior to the erection of any fences by the Lessee. Further, the Lessor was required at all times to furnish the Lessor keys to all locks that would restrict the Lessor's free access to the property. Lessee turned over keys to Mike Tiffany, who at that time represented the Luhrs Properties.

On Christmas week of 1975, the keys were gotten from Mike Tiffany, and Jean Stroud Crane and her family , with George, Jr. drove out to the mine. They unlocked the gate and drove on to the Luhrs Property. While they were there, two men drove up and asked what they were doing there and how did they get on the property. George, Jr. told them who he was and that they opened the gate with a key gotten from Mike Tiffany. It happened that one of the two men was Stanley Tanner. The two men were satisfied and drove away.

Allen Luhrs and John Luhrs inherited Arthur Luhrs' quarter interest, Jean Stroud Crane and G. Luhrs Stroud inherited Emma Luhrs Stroud's quarter interest. George, Jr. revoked the will of his sister Ella Luhrs Taylor and gave her quarter share interest to her niece and nephews.

LEASE AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this 5th day of September 1975, by and between LUHRS PROPERTIES, an Arizona partnership, hereinafter referred to as "Lessor", and WINEGLASS LAND & CATTLE CO., an Arizona corporation, hereinafter referred to as "Lessee",

W I T N E S S E T H :

WHEREAS, Lessor is the owner of all right, title and interest in and to that certain real property situated in Maricopa County, Arizona, and described as follows:

> Patented Mining Claims (G.L.O. Mineral Survey No. 2597) known as "Banden Mine" and "Banden Mine #2", located in the Agua Fria Mining District, in Section 10, Township 4 North, Range 1 East, Gila & Salt River Base & Meridian, Maricopa County, Arizona, containing 40.18 acres,

hereinafter referred to as "Property"; and

WHEREAS, Lessee desires to lease said Property from Lessor, and Lessor is willing to lease said Property to Lessee upon the terms and conditions set forth herein;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and mutual covenants hereinafter contained, IT IS AGREED by and between the parties as follows:

1. LEASE AND TERM

Lessor shall lease to Lessee and Lessee shall lease from Lessor the Property on a month-to-month basis, commencing on the date of this Lease.

2. RENT AND PAYMENT

Lessee shall pay to Lessor as rent for the Property the sum

of One ($1.00) Dollar per year, payable on the date of this Lease and each anniversary date thereafter.

3. USE OF PROPERTY

Lessee shall use the Property for grazing of livestock. Any other use shall be subject to Lessee's obtaining from Lessor written consent, which Lessor can refuse to give at its sole discretion, for said additional use. In connection with its use, Lessee shall comply with all applicable laws, ordinances and regulations of municipal, county, state and federal authorities. Further, the use of the Property shall be safe, orderly, controlled, peaceable and in good taste, and shall not cause or create any nuisance or wasting of said Property or in any way disturb or damage the natural condition of the Property and growth other than that resulting from the authorized use set forth in this Paragraph 3. In this regard, at the time of commencement of this Lease and possession by Lessee, the Property is in a natural condition with the exception of old mining assessment work locations.

4. TAXES, ASSESSMENTS AND UTILITIES

Lessor shall pay all real property taxes and assessments relating to the Property.

5. IMPROVEMENTS

Lessee shall not construct any improvements on or make any alteration to the Property without written consent of Lessor, which Lessor can refuse to give at its sole discretion and subject to any qualifications contained in said consent, and Lessee shall promptly pay all costs and expenses of any such improvements or alterations permitted by Lessor

and shall keep all interests of Lessor free of any claims, liens, encumbrances and law suits of any type whatsoever, and to indemnify and save harmless Lessor as a result of any such improvements or alterations.

6. INSURANCE

(a) Lessee shall provide at its own expense and keep in force during the term of this Lease for the benefit of Lessor and Lessee, as their respective interests may appear, public liability insurance in minimum limits of $100,000 per person and $300,000 per occurrence of bodily injury, and $10,000 for property damage.

(b) The insurance required of Lessee shall be underwritten by a reputable insurance company licensed to do business in Arizona, and Lessee shall furnish Lessor with a certificate of insurance showing the above coverage. Further, the insurance company shall be required to give Lessor ten (10) days' written notice of any cancellation of insurance for any reason whatsoever.

7. INDEMNITY

Lessee shall indemnify and save harmless Lessor from and against all claims, liabilities, penalties, damages, expenses and judgments arising out of any failure of Lessee to comply with any of the terms and conditions of this Lease Agreement and for injury or damage to persons or property, including Lessor's property, of any nature and howsoever caused, accruing, growing out of, incidental to, or resulting from Lessee's negligence, or other acts or omissions, including all costs, expenses and attorneys' fees incurred by Lessor in defense of any such claims, whether the same be or not be covered adequately by insurance.

8. DAMAGE TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY

All property, real and personal, of any type which may be on the Property and any persons who may be on the Property during the term of this Lease, shall be the sole responsibility and risk of Lessee, and Lessor shall not be liable to Lessee or any other person, including but not limited to the agents, guests, customers or employees of Lessee, for any damage whatsoever caused to their person or property or any other property, whether such damage is caused by the accident, water, rain, snow, ice, sleet, fire, storms, acts of God, the condition of the Property, breakage, stoppage or leakage of water, gas, electricity, heating, sewer lines or plumbing, on, and if in connection with Lessee's use of the Property, about or adjacent to the Property.

9. TERMINATION

This Lease can be terminated by Lessor or Lessee at any time by giving ten (10) days' written notice to the other to that effect.

10. ATTORNEYS' FEES

If either party shall utilize the services of an attorney or commence any legal proceedings against the other for default of any term or provision of this Lease, the prevailing party in each and every instance shall be entitled to receive from the other party all expenses in connection therewith, including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs as fixed by the Court.

11. SURRENDER OF POSSESSION

Upon the termination of this Lease, Lessee shall forthwith surrender the Property to Lessor in the same condition as it was prior

to Lessee taking possession under this Lease. Also, if requested by Lessor, any permitted improvements shall be removed from the Property without damage to the Property.

12. ACCESS TO PROPERTY

It is acknowledged that, prior to the date of this Lease, Lessee erected a fence around certain portions of Lessee's property and as a result enclosed the Property of Lessor within this fence. It is further acknowledged that Lessee may erect additional fences around Lessee's property or the Property of Lessor in order to provide security for the property of Lessee and Lessor and contain any livestock of Lessee. It is understood and agreed by Lessor and Lessee, however, that, as a result of the erection of said fences, neither party will gain or lose any rights of ingress or egress that existed prior to the erection of any fences by Lessee. Further, Lessee shall at all times furnish to Lessor keys to all locks that would otherwise restrict Lessor's free access to the Property.

13. ASSIGNMENT AND BENEFIT

This lease shall be nonassignable and shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties hereto, their heirs, executors, administrators and successors.

14. NOTICES

Any notices or demands which shall be required or permitted by law or by any of the provisions of this Lease shall be in writing and shall be effective when delivered personally or when sent by United States mail, registered or certified. Such notices and demands shall be

addressed to the parties at the following addresses:

Lessor: LUHRS PROPERTIES,
c/o George Luhrs,
P. O. Box 4307,
Phoenix, Arizona 85030

Copy to:
Michael E. Tiffany,
Attorney at Law,
9th Floor, Luhrs Building,
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

Lessee: WINEGLASS LAND & CATTLE CO.
4741 W. MISTY WILLOW LN.
GLENDALE, AZ. 85310

or at such other addresses as either party hereto may state in writing to the other party.

15. BROKER'S COMMISSION

Lessor and Lessee acknowledge that it is not aware of any broker's commission which must be paid by the other and that each shall indemnify and hold the other harmless from any broker's commission or finder's fee in connection with the Lease which results or is caused by the conduct or act of said party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Lease Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

LUHRS PROPERTIES, an Arizona partnership

By _____
George H. N. Luhrs, Jr.; Partner
"Lessor"

Attest: _____
Its asst. secty

WINEGLASS LAND & CATTLE CO.

By _____
Its President
"Lessee"

STATE OF ARIZONA)
) ss.
County of Maricopa)

The above and foregoing Lease Agreement was acknowledged before me, the undersigned Notary Public, this 5th day of September 1975, by GEORGE H. N. LUHRS, JR., a partner of LUHRS PROPERTIES, an Arizona partnership.

Adelaide V. Geisler
Notary Public

My Commission Expires:
12/1/76.

STATE OF ARIZONA)
) ss.
County of Maricopa)

The above and foregoing Lease Agreement was acknowledged before me, the undersigned Notary Public, this 20th day of October, 1975, by Michael S. Tanner and Marcia D. Mansil, the President and Asst. Secy., respectively, of WINEGLASS LAND & CATTLE CO., an Arizona corporation.

Adelaide V. Geisler
Notary Public

My Commission Expires:
12/1/76

In 1977, George Jr. gave his quarter interest to his niece and three nephews. Thus, the property known as mining claims Bandon #1 and Bandon #2 are equally owned by Arthur Allen Luhrs, John Arthur Luhrs, Jean Stroud Crane and G. Luhrs Stroud, each having an undivided one fourth interest in said property.

Stanley Tanner has passed away. The status of the Wineglass Land and Cattle Company should be looked into. George Luhrs Stroud passed away, March 29th, 1980. His interest in the mining claims are now held by his wife, Lucile Luhrs. The owners of the mining claims Bandon #1 and Bandon #2 have a ten year lease from the State of Arizona for property adjoining the Bandon #1 and #2 mining claims, which permits access to the property of said claims.

Toward the end of the first quarter of 1973, the Luhrs were ready to start work on the ninth and tenth floors of the Luhrs Building. They had rented the entire ninth floor to the law firm of Cunningham, Tiffany and Goodson, and the entire tenth floor to the law firm of Renaud, Cook and Miller. The New State Electric Company did all of the electrical work on nine, ten, and part of the eleventh floor on a cost plus basis, the same as they had been doing the Luhrs work for previous years, namely cost plus overhead and ten percent. In view of the fact their work included all the work on the Luhrs Properties, both repairs and remodeling, separate bills were not submitted for each layout. For the year 1973 they were paid $52,628.81. J. H. Welsh and Son Contracting Co. were given the plumbing contract for the ninth, tenth and a part of the eleventh floors for $17,222.00. They began April 16, 1973 and finished September 25, 1973.

WELSH & SON CONTRACTING COMPANY

1020 SOUTH 16TH STREET - PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85034 - 253-3131

MBB[illegible]G - HEATING - PIPE LINES - FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS - AIR CONDITIONING - REFRIGERATION

.00 *
1,722.20
775.00
2,497.20

er[illegible]ies
Je[illegible]erson
ri[illegible]na 85001

DATE	[illegible]E NO.	JOB NO.	DATE ORDERED	PURCHASE ORDER NO.
9-25-73	5[illegible]3	341-22	4-16-73	

DESCRIPTION		AMOUNT
Plumbing work in Luhrs Building as instructed by George Luhrs: $17,222.00		
100% Completion	$17,222.00	
Less Previous Billing	15,499.80	
Retention billing		$1,722.00

Ck no. 14882
Oct 12 1973

• PLUMBING • HEATING • PIPE LINES • FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS •
• AIR CONDITIONING • REFRIGERATION •

The air-conditioning for the ninth, tenth and a part of the eleventh floors was to have been done by Loren R. Stonecipher, dba S & G Refrigeration. Ducommun Metal Company agreed to back Mr. Stonecipher for all metal used and the Arizona Refrigeration Supplies, Inc., agree to back him for all refrigeration supplies used, but Luhrs' check had to be made payable to Ducommun Metals and S & G Refrigeration for all metal and to the Arizona Supplies and S & G Refrigeration for all refrigeration equipment. In April, 1973 the Luhrs Properties made a check out to Ducommun Metals Company and S & G Refrigeration for $7,500.00, which covered the sheet metal. George Jr. Called Ducommun Metal Company and verified that they had signed the check and were paid in full. In May a check was made out to S & G Refrigeration for $6,000.00 for labor. In August the Luhrs Properties made out a check to Arizona Refrigeration Supplies Inc., and S & G Refrigeration for $10,000.00. George Jr. called the Arizona Refrigeration Supplies Inc. and told them the check had been given to Mr. Stonecipher. They called back and said they had not seen or signed the check so a stop payment was issued to the bank. It was found out that Mr. Stonecipher had gone to the bank and put only his endorsement on the check. The bank cashed it for him. When they found out what a mistake they had made, they called George Jr. and asked him what he was going to do about it. He informed them it was their trouble in not getting both endorsements before cashing it and he was doing nothing, except stopping payment of the check until it had both of the required endorsements.

The Arizona Refrigeration Supplies, Inc. got their money. How Stonecipher's bank came out, the Luhrs' do not know. The Luhrs' paid but once. Loren R. Stonecipher, dba S & G Refrigeration went into bankruptcy.

For work done and not paid for, the Luhrs Properties paid Service Supply Company and Stanley Swaine, trustee in bankruptcy, $1,431.90; Electric Supply Company and Stanley Swaine, trustee in bankruptcy, $204.00 and the Arizona Refrigeration Supplies Inc. and Stanley Swaine, trustee in bankruptcy, $17,033.26. Thus, for the work Loren Stonecipher, dba S & G Refrigeration, did totaled $42,169.16.

On October 24th, 1973 J. H. Welsh & Son Contracting Company was told to finish the air-conditioning (heating and refrigerated cooling) of the ninth, tenth and part of the eleventh floors. It was finished March 27th, 1974 at a cost of $31,623.00.

Renaud, Cook and Miller wanted an office layout that was different and outstanding. Benny Gonzales was contacted, but did not come up with anything worthwhile. Finally, Goodman's Office Furniture presented a plan that Renaud, Cook and Miller approved. They retained a portion of the Arizona Club's main dinning room, with and arched ceiling that was twenty-two feet in height. This was fixed up for a stenographers pool, divided with low partitions so that each of the secretaries had her own private area. The north and south walls were

JAMES P. CUNNINGHAM
JOHN F. GOODSON
MICHAEL E. TIFFANY
DOW GLENN OSTLUND

OF COUNSEL
JULIAN F. WELTSCH
NELSON S. NELSON
CHARLES D. NEWTON

CUNNINGHAM, GOODSON & TIFFANY, LTD.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
17 LUHRS ARCADE
45 WEST JEFFERSON
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85003

TELEPHONE
(602) 254-5104

November 27, 1973

Selda Kravitz, Secretary and Credit Manager
ELECTRIC SUPPLY, INC.
P. O. Box 2343
Phoenix, Arizona 85002

LUHRS PROPERTIES v LOREN R. STONECIPHER
dba S & G REFRIGERATION, BANKRUPT

As attorneys for Luhrs Properties, we have asked Mr. George Luhrs, Mr. Samuel Diaz, Mr. Luhrs' refrigeration advisor, and Mr. Loren R. Stonecipher, the subject contractor, to review the statement which you presented to Mr. Luhrs for the labor or materials which you rendered to make improvements on the Luhrs Building.

These persons examined your invoices to be certain that the work or materials were used on this job, to ascertain that the price was the fair value for labor or materials, and to verify that the amounts were correctly added and correctly invoiced.

These persons have approved of your claim on your invoices in the following amounts:

Invoice #104350	$186.72
#105089	17.28
Total Claim Allowed	$204.00

The committee examining your claim found that some of the invoices which you included with your noncourt creditor's claim were not used on this job. If you have any questions concerning how it was determined that materials on some of the invoices were not used on this job, you can contact Mr. George Luhrs or Mr. Samuel Diaz, and they will explain the evidence which they have.

We would advise that you make a claim against the bankrupt estate for the balance of your invoices that were not used on this job.

We suggest that you or your attorney prepare a mechanics lien form and serve it upon our office, the agent for Luhrs Properties, in order to perfect your secured claim against the bankrupt estate of Loren R. Stonecipher, doing business as S & G Refrigeration.

In order to facilitate payment to you and clearance of any claims that the bankrupt estate may have as to these monies, we have made the check

Selda Kravitz, Secretary & Credit Mngr. November 27, 1973
ELECTRIC SUPPLY, INC.

payable to yourself and Stanley Sweine, Trustee for Loren R. Stonecipher, dba S & G Refrigeration.

We suggest that you contact Mr. Sweine to make arrangements for the bankrupt estate to co-sign the check as evidence of their abandonment of any claim of right to these monies.

It is our opinion that the bankrupt estate does not have any claim for these monies because the check is made payable only for labor and materials which you tendered on the job and does not include any monies which may be owing to Loren R. Stonecipher.

Mr. Luhrs does not intend to hold you responsible for the delay in completion of the job or his losses by reason of the fact that the job was not completed according to the contract, but will merely make a claim against the bankrupt estate of Mr. Loren Stonecipher and his license bond for these losses.

Yours truly,

John F. Goodson

JFG/mas

cc: Mr. George Luhrs
Mr. James E. Grant, Attorney for Loren Stonecipher
Mr. Stanley Sweine, Trustee in Bankruptcy

artistically paneled with ornamental moulding at a cost of $1,144.83. All the other offices on the tenth floor had ceilings eleven feet in height. All the partitions were sound proof. On both sides of the partitions acoustic board was placed between the studs and the plaster board covered the acoustic board.

National Paint and Drywall Contractors, Inc. did the work. The costs for the ninth floor being $17,779.85 and for the tenth floor being $17,004.47. For a part of the eleventh floor the cost was $1,392.00. Robert Renaud had the Jefferson Street front of his office covered with a gray travertine marble, which was done by Marble Center of Arizona and was $995.00. The Arizona Sash Door and Glass Company furnished all the birch trim and doors for the ninth and tenth floors for $4,032.87. The floor in Robert Renaud's office was Parquet and Mr. Joseph Miller had it under his desk chair, all at a cost of $1,516.80. Entz-White Lumber Supply, Inc. installed the wooden shutters for several of the large arched windows on the tenth floor for $7,037.00. The Allied Acoustics, Inc. put up the acoustical ceilings on the ninth floor for $4,320.00 and on the tenth floor for $3,625.00. There was an additional charge for the 9th and 10th floor lavatories, soffits and work around the circular stairway amounting to $606.00. O'Malley Glass and Millwork Company furnished the Renaud, Cook and Miller layout with seven cabinet credenzas for private offices for $3,873.00 and shelves for the library and copy

National Paint & Drywall Contractors, Inc.
9801 North 21st Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85021
Telephone 944-4613

October 9, 1973

Luhrs Properties
Central and Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona

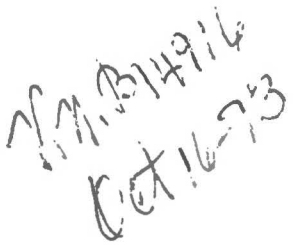
Att: Mr. George Luhrs

Re: Drywall and tape breakdown for Luhrs ~~Towers~~ Bldg

9TH FLOOR

A.	5/8" Fire Code drywall on 3 5/8" 25ga metal studs	4350 sq. ft. @ .85	$3697.50
B.	1/2" Sound deadening board to metal studs	920 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 138.00
C.	4" Fiberglass batts (walls only)	650 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 97.50

TOTAL AMOUNT FOR 9th FLOOR $3933.00



National Paint & Drywall Contractors, Inc.
9801 North 21st Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85021
Telephone 944-4613

October 9, 1973

Luhrs Properties
Central and Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona

Att: Mr. George Luhrs

Re: Drywall and tape breakdown for Luhrs ~~Towers~~ Bldg

10TH FLOOR

A.	5/8" Fire-code drywall on 3 5/8" 25ga. metal studs	14987 sq. ft. @ .85	$12738.95
B.	1/2" Sound deadening board screwed to metal studs	9012 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 1351.80
C.	Fiberglass batt insulation (walls only)	9012 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 1351.80
D.	Exterior walls 5/8" Fire-code wall board. Nailed to wood strips by Luhrs employees and finished to tape and texture by National Paint and Drywall	3531 sq. ft. @ .32	$ 1129.92
E.	5/8" Fire-code drywall on 3 5/8" metal studs above 10th floor office - 16 foot walls 45 x 5 two walls - Fire tape only	450 sq. ft. @ .60	$ 270.00
F.	One wall on 11th floor above spiral staircase 5/8" Fire-code wall board 3 5/8" metal studs 45 x 6 Fire tape only	270 sq. ft. @ .60	$ 162.00

TOTAL AMOUNT FOR 10TH FLOOR $17004.47

National Paint & Drywall Contractors, Inc.
9801 North 21st Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85021
Telephone 944-4613

October 9, 1973

Luhrs Properties
Central and Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona

Att: Mr. George Luhrs

Re: Drywall and tape breakdown for Luhrs ~~Towers~~ Bldg

11TH FLOOR

A.	5/8" Firecode drywall on 3 5/8" 25ga. metal studs	1440 sq. ft. @ .85	$1224.00
B.	1/2" Sound deadening board screwed to metal studs	560 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 84.00
C.	4" Fiberglass batt insulation (walls only)	560 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 84.00

TOTAL AMOUNT FOR 11th FLOOR $1392.00

National Paint & Drywall Contractors, Inc.
9801 North 21st Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85021
Telephone 944-4613

January 25, 1974

Luhrs Properties
Central and Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona

Att: Mr. George Luhrs

Re: Drywall and tape breakdown for Luhrs Towers

9TH FLOOR

HULL WALLS PARTITION

A. 3 5/8 Steel studs with 5/8 Fire Code drywall on both sides.	6622 sq. ft. @ .85	$5628.70
B. 1/2 Sound deadening board on one side	3311 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 496.65
C. 4" Fiberglass batts	3311 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 496.65

INTERIOR PARTITION

A. 3 5/8 Steel studs with 5/8 Fire Code drywall on both sides	5640 sq. ft. @ .85	$4794.00
B. 4" Fiberglass batts	2820 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 423.00

MECHANICAL ROOM WALL

A. 3 5/8 Steel studs with 5/8 Fire Code drywall on both sides	352 sq. ft. @ .85	$ 299.20
B. 1/2 Sound Board two sides	352 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 52.80
C. 4" Fiberglass insulation	176 sq. ft. @ .15	$ 26.40

52" HIGH PARTITION

A. 3 5/8 Steel studs with 5/8 Fire Code drywall on both sides	1917 sq. ft. @ .85	1571.65 $1629.45

TOTAL AMOUNT $13846.85

Inf. Partitions
L.B. 375

C/MB 15253
7-26-12-74

machine room for $2,924.00. When the Arizona Club occupied the top four floors of the Luhrs Building, the kitchen floor was tile, the main dinning room floor was hardwood, the lounge and library floors were hardwood and the grille room floor was concrete, marked off in small squares. All of these floors were taken out and it became necessary to refinish them with concrete.

The contract for this was given to Carrillo Construction Company for $2,116.60. The concrete was pumped from the street level to the ninth and tenth floors. This work was done in June, 1973. The coils and blowers for the air-conditioning of the tenth floor were located on the roof. Sucato Masonry Inc. built the new block wall to house the equipment for $1,305.45.

Renaud, Cook and Miller needed the entire tenth floor for offices, so it became necessary to construct the eleventh floor at the northeast corner of the building. This was possible for there is twenty-two feet of space between the tenth floor and the roof. Reppell Steel and Supply Company Inc. installed the necessary steel work for $9,260.00. Summers Tile Company Inc. installed the ceramic tile for the walls and floors in the men's and ladies restrooms on the ninth floor for $2,968.00 and on the eleventh floor for $2,774.00. Beach Building Specialties Inc. furnished and installed Weis ceiling hung toilet partitions with baked enamel finish for the ninth and eleventh floors for $1,126.00. The men's rooms were finished in blue and the ladies in pink.

CARRILLO CONSTRUCTION CO.
4116 W. EL CAMINITO DR.
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85021
PHONE 247-1342

OUR NUMBER 6361

DATE 6-18-73

CUSTOMER'S ORDER

SALESMAN

TERMS

F. O. B.

INVOICE

Sold To: Luhr Building
Central & Jefferson.
Mr. George Luhr.

Shipped To: 9th Floor & 11 Floor.

Address: Central & Jefferson.

	Furnish Labor & Material for.				
	Floor on 9TH Floor.				
	Pump concrete to 10TH & 11TH Floor				
	Labor & Material.			#	2116.60
	Thank Billy				
	V.M. B 14636				
	July 9-73				

Rediform 7H 721

№ 1923

STATEMENT

• COMMERCIAL • • RESIDENTIAL •

Sucato Masonry, Inc.
3015 EAST THOMAS ROAD
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85016
PHONE 956-2230

DATE

Luhr's Properties

AMOUNT

Block wall's top of Roof Labor & Material ~~1475.00~~ 1305.00

Mat	375.00
Delivery	80.00
Labor	512.00
	967.00
Profit + O.H	338.45
total	1305.45

N.B. 14797
Sept 14 1975

R.B. cooling room Roof

CERAMIC • MOSAIC • QUARRY • MEXICAN

CUSTOM CARPETING

SUMMERS TILE COMPANY, INC.

3418 WEST LYNWOOD • PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85009 • 278-0241

STATEMENT

September 17, 1973

Mr. George Luhrs
Luhrs Hotel
Central Ave & Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona

Re: Luhrs Building

Installed ceramic tile in Men's and Women's bathroom on 9th Floor.	$2,968.00
Installed ceramic tile in Men's and Women's bathroom on 11th Floor.	2,774.00
	$5,742.00
Charge for cutting Marble threshholds to fit	48.00
Total	$5,790.00

Partition

M.T. 014853 Sept 24-73

BEACH
BUILDING SPECIALTIES, INC.

Licenses: C-5 17872
C-24 17873
C-23 23876
Sales Tax: 7-40148

Post Office Box 14468 Phoenix, Arizona 85031 Telephone 272-6754

TO

George Luhrs
P. O. Box 4307
Phoenix, Arizona 85030

ORDER CONFIRMATION

JOB

Luhrs Building
Central & Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona

DATE June 29, 1973

GENTLEMEN:

WE HAVE ENTERED YOUR ORDER FOR THE SUBJECT JOB, AS FOLLOWS:

Furnish and install Weis ceiling hung toilet partitions, Baked Enamel finish per job requirements and our quotation.

Installed price, including taxes.....$ 1,126.00

Mr. Luhrs:

Enclosed is a copy of shop drawings - material has been ordered according to layouts as shown and color as noted.

IF FORMAL PURCHASE ORDER OR CONTRACT IS NOT BEING ISSUED, PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN PINK COPY.

YOUR ORDER IS APPRECIATED.

BEACH BUILDING SPECIALTIES, INC.

By Eric O'Steen
Eric O'Steen

There was an eleventh floor at the south end of the building which the Arizona Club used for their employees. Renaud, Cook and Miller wanted to use it for their dead files. A circular stair was installed by Reppell Steel & Supply Co. running from the tenth to the eleventh floor. The price for this was $3,964.50. To provide two wash basins in the ladies restroom on the ninth floor, Marbelistic Industries of Arizona made the fixture for $84.24. William Gray Masonry Contractors furnished the labor and material to face the south and east walls of the reception room with brick.

New hardware was necessary for the seventh, eight, ninth, tenth and a part of the eleventh floor. In 1923 when the Luhrs Building was built, Momsen, Dunnegan & Ryan, of El Paso, Texas, furnished the hardware which was manufactured by the Lockwood Hardware Mfg. Company, of Fitchburg, Mass. It had given very good service and the Luhrs' were anxious to buy the needed hardware from Lockwood so that all the hardware in the Luhrs Building matched. It was reported that Lockwood was out of business. George Jr. contacted Markham & Decker Builders Hardware Co., Inc. of Phoenix and found out Lockwood was operating and the same hardware as purchased in 1923 could be duplicated. An order was placed for mortise locks, escutcheons, knobs, spindles and butts. A few additional complete lock sets were ordered for each floor in case they should ever be needed. New cylinders were ordered for the entire Luhrs Building. There was a grand master key and a

sub-master key for each floor and the office keys for each floor. New locks and cylinders were purchaed for the men and ladies restrooms on the ground floor of the Luhrs Building, the Luhrs Tower, and the Luhrs Central Building. All were keyed alike so the tenants of the Luhrs Building, the Luhrs Tower, the Luhrs Arcade and the Luhrs Central Building could open them with their office key. The cost of this hardware was $4,717.08. It is again reported that Lockwood Hardware Mfg. Company has gone out of business.

O'Malley's furnished all the lumber and paneling. Jack Richardson Carpet Shoppe the carpet; Bella Vista Drapery Cleaners the drapes. Other various concerns supplied the wall paper, vinyl, etc. The layout and appearance of the ninth and tenth floors were very different. The ninth floor had private offices facing the outside with individual secretarial space located in front of each office enclosed with a partition fifty-two inches in height. One side of these 52" partitions also formed the corridor partition. In all, the ninth floor was a very practical arrangement for most law firms.

As stated before, the law firm on the tenth floor wanted something different and more luxurious which it was. At the same time it was well arranged. Both floors were exceptionally fine and a credit to any building anywhere.

Renaud, Cook and Miller occupied the tenth floor and a part of the eleventh floor beginning October 1, 1973. Cunningham, Tiffany and Goodson moved to the ninth floor in

PHONE
264-7144

MARKHAM & DECKER

BUILDERS HARDWARE CO. INC.

511-A E. CAMELBACK RD. PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85012

DATE 7/18/1973

5129

SOLD TO Luhrs Properties
P.O Box 4307
Phx, Az. 85030

SHIP TO Same Jefferson
11 W. ~~Washington~~

CUST. ORDER NO.

QUAN.	UNIT	DESCRIPTION	PRICE EA.	AMOUNT
40	EA	Lockset M5100 3/4 MD x US19 x 1 1/4" Lip.	39.00	1560.00
20	PR	Knobs 9174 1/2 MD x GS x US19	5.25	105.00
20	EA	Spindles 293	.90	18.00
10	EA	Escutcheon w/cyl. 419 x US19	2.00	20.00
10	EA	Escutcheon Blank 429 x US19	2.00	20.00 N/C
1	EA	Package Extra Screws		
60	EA	Butts TA2714 4 1/2 x 4 1/2 US19	4.53	271.80
40	EA	Butts T2714 4 1/2 x 4 1/2 US19	2.10	84.00
				2078.80
		L.G. Hardware TAX		83.15
				2161.95
			TOTAL	2161.95

V.M.B 14761
Aug 14-73

MBF
ORIGINAL

NET

PHONE
264-7144

MARKHAM & DECKER

BUILDERS HARDWARE CO. INC.

511-A E. CAMELBACK RD. PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85012

DATE 9/28/1975

5311

SOLD TO Lubrs Properties
P.O. Box 4307
Phx, Az 85030

SHIP TO Same
11 W. Jefferson

CUST. ORDER NO.

QUAN.	UNIT	DESCRIPTION	PRICE EA.	AMOUNT
6	ea	Locks M5100 5/8 MD X 26D Key A3 for 1st Floor Rest Rooms	39.00	234.00
18	ea	Locks M5100 3/4 MD X US19 X US26D Key AA2, AB2, AC2, AD2, AE2, AF2, AG2, AH2, AJ2. 2nd thru 9th Fl. Rest Rms	39.00	702.00
6	ea	Armored Fronts US26	201	12.06
1	pkg	Extra Screws		N/C
				948.06
				37.92
		78 — 792.06 78 TAX 3.12		
		31.06		
		3.12		
			TOTAL	985.98

MBF

ORIGINAL

Luhrs Office Bldg

Markham + Decker

KEYING SCHEDULE

All cylinders to be keyed to the existing Grandmaster Key #731062, established 1923 for the Luhrs Office Bldg, Phoenix, Ariz.

Use existing masterkeys changes as follows:
Sub- master keys, for each different floor

GMK "A" 731062	MK "A" 731063	Key Different		2nd	Floor
" " "	MK "B" 731089	"	"	3rd	"
" " "	MK "C" 731114	"	"	4th	"
" " "	MK "D" 731139	"	"	5th	"
" " "	MK "E" 731164	"	"	6th	"
" " "	MK "F" Estab. New		"	7th	"
" " "	MK "G" "	"	"	8th	"
" " "	MK "H" "	"	"	9th	"
" " "	MK "I" "	"	"	10th	"

20 ea cy/	Key	Group	AA-1	GMK	MK	&	KD	
"	"	"	AB-1	"	"	&	"	
"	"	"	AC-1	"	"	&	"	
"	"	"	AD-1	"	"	&	"	
"	"	"	AE-1	"	"	&	"	
"	"	"	AF-1	"	"	&	"	
"	"	"	AG-1	"	"	&	"	
"	"	"	AH-1	"	"	&	"	
"	"	"	AJ-1	"	"	&	"	
2 ea cy/	"	"	AA-2	GMK	MK	&	KA	operated by AA-1
"	"	"	AB-2	"	"	&	"	" " AB-1
"	"	"	AC-2	"	"	&	"	" " AC-1
"	"	"	AD-2	"	"	&	"	" " AD-1
"	"	"	AE-2	"	"	&	"	" " AE-1
"	"	"	AF-2	"	"	&	"	" " AF-1
"	"	"	AG-2	"	"	&	"	" " AG-1
"	"	"	AH-2	"	"	&	"	" " AH-1
"	"	"	AJ-2	"	"	&	"	" " AJ-1
6 ea cy/	"	"	A-3	GMK	No MK		KA	Furnish 200 ea. change keys.

#1569 15

January, 1974. Two years and nine months had passed since the Arizona Club moved out. It had been a hard and nerve wrecking period and the costs had been very expensive.

From July 1, 1968, when the last Luhrs Properties debt was paid off, enough money had been saved to make it possible to rebuild the top four floors of the Luhrs Building and remodel and modernize all of the offices in the Luhrs Properties as well as install new elevators, new refrigeration equipment for cooling and a new heating plant without borrowing a cent. Always remember the Luhrs' had no general contractor. They were constantly under terrific strain. They had their own crew do the work, supervised by George Jr., saving a contractor's charge for supervision, overhead and profit. The properties are in excellent condition, comparable to any of the new buildings of the time and in a position to meet any competition.

On December 14th, 1973, Arthur Cleveland Luhrs was 89 years of age. He very much enjoyed driving his 1952 Cadillac automobile to and from work each day, namely from his home on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Bethany Home Road to the Hotel Luhrs, on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street. Arthur Luhrs, Ella Luhrs Taylor, Emma Luhrs Stroud and George Luhrs, Jr. ate every Sunday night at the Arizona Club in the Luhrs Building. When Emma passed away, the remaining three continued their Sunday night meetings. When the Arizona Club moved to the First National Bank Building, they moved too.

Several years earlier, Arthur Luhrs had cataracts removed from both of his eyes. He wore contact lenses which caused him a lot of trouble. He was always losing them and also had a hard time putting them in and taking them out. Night driving began to bother him so he discontinued staying downtown after dark, no longer meeting with Ella and George, Jr. for their Sunday night dinner. He wanted to take the driver's test on December 14th, 1973, but they would not renew his license. This really upset Arthur more than others realized. It took away one of his pleasures of life and did a lot to make him feel older. George, Jr. made arrangements for Arthur to use the taxi service in front of the hotel, but he never enjoyed it. For awhile, his sons, Allen and John, brought him down and back on week days. George, Jr. did it on weekends. Then he used the taxi service, which he did not like. Finally, late in 1974, he decided to stay home. His sister, Ella Luhrs Taylor and his brother, George, Jr. took over his work, adding it to their own.

After moving Renaud, Cook and Miller to the tenth floor and Cunningham, Tiffany and Goodson to the ninth floor of the Luhrs Building, work was started on rebuilding their old quarters, as well as the space given up by Estrada and Estrada, all in the Arcade. This again resulted in the moving and shifting of tenants.

All the ceilings on the ground floor of the Luhrs Properties were higher than necessary, so it was decided to

lower them to eleven feet. This made it possible to have illuminated ceilings, giving a perfectly even light all over the office without any shadows. This type of lighting could not be used on the upper floors for the reason that the ceilings were too low.

Johnson, Tucker, Jessen and Dake were located in 22 Luhrs Arcade. They decided to expand and take the location made available by Renaud, Cook and Miller. Their layout followed the Spanish architectural design. The floor of the reception area was Spanish red tile, each tile about eight inches square. When polished, it looked fine. All walls were of the rough Spanish texture. The secretary area was located in front of each private office, with a plastered wall about 52" in height. Cabinets were installed in each private office as well as in the space occupied by the secretary. Johnson, Tucker, Jessen and Dake's offices were to the right as one entered the Arcade from First Avenue. A very fine and convenient location. They took over their new layout in April, 1974.

David Perry and his associates rented Number 22 in the Arcade, the quarters just given up by Johnson, Tucker, Jessen and Dake. The quarters in the Arcade, occupied by Cunningham, Tiffany and Goodson, before moving to the ninth floor of the Luhrs Building, were fixed up for three separate law firms, namely Chester and Garrett, Martin, Feldhacker & Friedl and Derickson & Kemper. They moved in during February, 1974.

On October 6th, 1973, the Luhrs Insurance Agency moved from 17 West Jefferson Street to Number 2 on the ground floor of the Luhrs Tower. This is on the southeast corner of First Avenue and Jefferson Street, where the Geo H.N. Luhrs family home was located, in which they lived from 1884 to 1895 when they moved over to the Commercial Hotel, known as the Hotel Luhrs after 1924. The Luhrs Insurance Agency is owned by Allen Luhrs and John Luhrs, the sons of Arthur Cleveland Luhrs and Sadie Allen Luhrs. They are the grandsons of Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs. The Luhrs Insurance Agency is one of the leading insurance agencies in Phoenix. Like the Luhrs Properties, the Luhrs Insurance Agency never left downtown Phoenix.

The smoke shop was moved from their location off the Luhrs Building lobby to 21 West Jefferson Street, being approximately half-way between the Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower. The space vacated by the Smoke Shop and the Luhrs Insurance Agency made available numbers 13, 15 and 17 West Jefferson Street, which the Luhrs' remodeled for the law firm of Henry Florence, with the entrance from the Luhrs Building lobby. Mr. Florence decorated and equipped the quarters into a show-place,of which everyone was proud. He occupied the premises in September, 1974.

In October, 1974, Mr. Lester Miller took possession of Number 13 Luhrs Arcade, which had been vacated by Estrada and Estrada. He too had a most attractive layout. The floor

of the reception room and one wall of his private office was San Carlos 4" x 8" terra cota tile in a herringbone pattern.

It became impossible to get replacement parts for the Worthington compressors for the refrigeration cooling system, so the Luhrs entered into a contract with the J.B. Rodgers Air Conditioning Company for a new plant, which would increase the capacity of the old one. The new Chrysler Model No. DWW 160-2 would put out 600 tons of chilled water. There were four units, each of which had two machines, each machine capable of furnishing seventy-five tons of refrigeration. Thus, the plant was very flexible in that it would operate on 75 tons, 150 tons, 225 tons, etc. up to 600 tons, all depending on what tonage was necessary.

The contract was signed March 4th, 1974. The final cost, including labor escalation of 11%, extras for transformers, electrical work and sales tax, was $214,743.72. The delivery date of the chillers was 32 weeks, which made it late in 1974. Installation was completed the latter part of April, 1975.

Many years earlier, when a 250 foot well was sunk to furnish the water for the cooling system condensers, a covered sidewalk opening was installed. The old equipment was taken out and new equipment lowered through said opening. The City no longer permits wells to be sunken in the City. Cooling towers are now used.

J. B. RODGERS
L. E. RODGERS
G. B. RODGERS

INVOICE

AIR CONDITIONING
HEATING
SHEET METAL
SERVICE AND REPAIR

J. B. RODGERS
Air Conditioning Company

4825 NORTH 19TH AVENUE ● PHONE 266-8441 ● PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85015

Date April 29, 1975

TO The Luhrs Properties

Central Avenue & Jefferson Street

Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Invoice 1455

For: Luhrs Building

Install chillers, etc.

Total labor, materials & sub-contracts	$167,908.80
Labor & material escalation - 11%	18,469.97
Extra for transformers:	
Transformer vaults furnished by us	4,215.15
Material & labor for installation by New State Electric including transformers	17,899.04
Sales tax	6,250.76
	214,743.72
Less amounts previously paid	134,000.00
Less amount billed 3/28/75 (unpaid)	21,000.00
Amount of this billing	$59,743.72

$10,000
7/7/75
CK #659
8/6/75 CK #706 $500
8/22/75 CK # 762 $4743.72

20,000 on Bd
39,743.72
20,000 6/17/75
19,743.72
10,000 7/7/75
9,743.72
8/14/7

J. B. RODGERS
G. B. RODGERS

J. B. RODGERS Conditioning Company

AIR CONDITIONING • HEATING
SHEET METAL • SERVICE AND REPAIR

4825 NORTH 19TH AVE. • PHONE 266-8441 • PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85015

June 12, 1975

Luhrs Properties
Central Avenue and Jefferson Street
Phoenix, Arizona

Attention: Mr. George Luhrs

Subject: Chiller replacement in the Luhrs Building at the above address, Phoenix, Arizona.

Gentlemen:

We hereby warrant for a period of one year from the dates listed below, the materials and workmanship on subject job.

All chillers are Chrysler Model No. DWW 160-2

Chiller unit #1 - Serial No. 4R109888 - Warranty date - May 6, 1975
Chiller unit #2 - Serial No. 4R109886 - Warranty date - March 2, 1975
Chiller unit #3 - Serial No. 4R109887 - Warranty date - March 2, 1975
Chiller unit #4 - Serial No. 4R109889 - Warranty date - May 6, 1975

Very truly yours,

J. B. RODGERS AIR CONDITIONING CO.
James B. Rodgers, President

JBR/jb

J. B. RODGERS
L. E. RODGERS
G. B. RODGERS

J. B. RODGERS Air Conditioning Company

AIR CONDITIONING • HEATING
SHEET METAL • SERVICE AND REPAIR

4825 NORTH 19TH AVE. • PHONE 266-8441 • PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85015

May 9, 1975

Mr. George Luhrs
Luhrs Properties
Central & Jefferson Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

Subject: New Chiller Plant

Gentlemen:

J. B. Rodgers guarantees the subject project for a period of one year beginning April 1, 1975. This guarantee covers all material and labor.

Very truly yours,

James Bochat

JB/ml

J. B. RODGERS
L. E. RODGERS
G. B. RODGERS

J. B. RODGERS Air Conditioning Company

AIR CONDITIONING • HEATING
SHEET METAL • SERVICE AND REPAIR

4825 NORTH 19TH AVE. • PHONE 266-8441 • PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85015

5 March 1974

Mr. George Luhrs
Luhrs Properties
Central Avenue and Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona

Subject: New 600 ton Chilled water plant

Gentlemen:

Total price as per plans and specification for the subject is as follows:

$154,007.00	Mechanical portion, 600 ton Chilled water plant. 31 working days down time.
21,193.00	Electrical
$175,200.00	Total cost

Due to the constant labor and material cost changes the above prices are good for a period of 30 days only. If construction takes place beyond that date an escallation factor equal to the increase in labor and material would be applied to the amount remaining.

Also it should be noted that the Chillers have a 32 week delivery schedule, which would require the Chillers to be ordered by the end of March 1974.

The above prices are considered to be maximum not to exceed figures. Any savings incurred during this project would be returned to the owner.

Thank you for the opportunity to quote on this work.

Very truly yours,

James Bochat

James Bochat
JB/pp

The Luhrs Properties

Accepted by _____

J. B. RODGERS
L. E. RODGERS
G. B. RODGERS

J. B. RODGERS Air Conditioning Company

AIR CONDITIONING • HEATING
SHEET METAL • SERVICE AND REPAIR

4825 NORTH 19TH AVE. • PHONE 266-8441 • PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85015

5, March 1974

Mr George Luhrs
Luhrs Properties
Central Avenue and Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona

Subject: New 600 ton Chilled water plant

Gentlemen:

Total price as per plans and specification for the subject project is as follows:

$154,007.00	Mechanical portion, 600 ton Chilled water plant 31 working days down time.
21,193.00	Electrical
$175,200.00	Total cost
$166,836.00	Mechanical portion, 600 ton Chilled water plant includes overtime. 18 working days down time.
21,193.00	Electrical
$188,029.00	Total cost

Due to the constant labor and material cost changes the above prices are good for a period of 30 days only. If construction takes place beyond that date an escallation factor equal to the increase in labor and material would be applied to the amount remaining.

Also it should be noted that the Chillers have a 32 week delivery schedule, which would require the Chillers to be ordered by the end of March 1974.

The above prices are considered to be maximum not to exceed figures. Any savings incurred during this project would be returned to the owner.

Thank you for the opportunity to quote on this work.

Very truly yours,

James Bochat

JB/pp

With the completion of Mr. Lester Miller's layout at 13 Luhrs Arcade, in October, 1974, three years had elapsed since the Arizona Club vacated the top four floors of the Luhrs Building. Tearing out, rebuilding, remodeling, renting space to new tenants, relocating old tenants, etc. kept George, Jr. busy every second of the time. In addition, he continued to manage the Luhrs Properties, had charge of all of the help, operated the Luhrs Properties office with the help of his sister, Ella Luhrs Taylor,and Adam Diaz handled all of the correspondence and bookkeeping including government reports and income tax returns. When his brother, Arthur Luhrs, stopped coming down town, George, Jr. and Ella Luhrs Taylor took over his work too. For thirteen years, George, Jr. had worked steady, seven days a week, from the time to got up in the morning until he went to bed at night.

While things were operating at full speed, George, Jr. was geared up to it, but now that everything was nearing completion and fitting into place, the strain was showing its effect. Although always a worrier, he had now become very nervous. Early in December, George, Jr. decided to go to Scripps in La Jolla, California for a complete physical check-up. His sister, Ella Luhrs Taylor, went with him and his niece, Jean Stroud Crane, joined them in La Jolla. Four full days were spent at Scripps, where they gave him a complete examination. He was told he was physically and mentally in good condition, but he had a depression. The doctor prescribed valium. Instead of

quiting George Jr., it made him more nervous and depressed. Ella Luhrs Taylor, having stayed in Phoenix with George Jr. during the thirteen years they had had no vacation, often wondered if she would ever see the ocean again. She was enjoying La Jolla for she was seeing the beautiful Pacific.

During the first World War, her husband, "Cap" Arthur C. Taylor, was stationed at Camp Kearney near La Jolla where they spent many weekends until he went over seas. Jean wanted her aunt, Ella Luhrs Taylor, and her uncle, George Luhrs Jr., to see her new home in Santa Barbara and asked them to stay a few days with her in Santa Barbara before returning to Phoenix.

It was on the morning of December 14th, 1974 when George Jr. got his physical report from Scripps. That was Arthur Luhrs' 90th birthday. George Jr. explained to his niece, Jean, that he wanted to get home to be with his brother on the eventful day. So George Jr. and his sister, Ella, flew home to congratulate their brother, Arthur Luhrs. Little did they think at that time it would be the last time the three of them would be together. Two days later, December 16th, 1974, George Jr. had asked Fred Shipp to have lunch with him at the Arizona Club. Fred and George Jr. were close friends being fraternity roommates at Stanford University. Fred lived at Walnut Creek in California and was visiting friends at Sun City, Arizona. Before going to the Club, they had a nice visit with George Jr.'s sister, Ella Luhrs Taylor, in the Luhrs Properties

office in the Hotel Luhrs. They asked her to go with them but she declined. After the luncheon, Fred returned to Sun City and George Jr. went upstairs to the Luhrs suite in the Hotel Luhrs. He found his sister Ella, on her bed resting. She told him to take a little rest too. George Jr. asked if he should take off his shoes to which she replied, "Yes." This he did. After about twenty minutes, George Jr. awakened and trying not to disturb his sister, Ella, he quietly put on his shoes and left the room. After closing the door he thought it was odd that his sister did not wake up for her hearing was very sharp. He opened the door and called her by name, but she did not answer. He went to her bedside calling again and then shaking her. Ella appeared to be resting very peacefully, but he could not arouse her. George Jr. was stunned.

The paramedics from the fire station were called. They thought they could detect a slight pulse and worked on her until the ambulance arrived. They were told to take her to the Good Samaritan Hospital. In the meantime, George Jr. had called his nephews, Allen and John Luhrs, who came to the hotel immediately. Allen, John and George Jr. rushed to the Good Samaritan Hospital only to learn the ambulance had taken Ella to the Memorial Hospital, where upon their arrival they were told that Ella Luhrs Taylor would not awaken from her rest. She had gone to sleep eternally. G. Luhrs Stroud, a nephew living in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, was called. Also Jean Stroud Crane, a niece, was talked to on the telephone.

She arrived by plane at midnight. In the meantime, until Jean arrived, Allen Luhrs did everything possible to help George Jr. George Jr. went to see his brother, Arthur, and told him, "There is only two of us now." Jean stayed with her uncle George for a month before returning to her family. Thereafter, for some time, she spent a week of each month with George Jr. in Phoenix. She also had him visit her in Santa Barbara, California. The funeral service was held in Trinity Cathedral. Ella was placed in the vault with her husband, Arthur Clyde "Cap" Taylor, in the mausoleum at Greenwood Memorial Park, 2300 West Van Buren Street, Phoenix, Arizona, where her father, mother and sister are at rest. Ella was like a second mother to her brothers and sister.

In the early days Geo H. N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs were busy taking care of the hotel. Ella, being the oldest daughter, assumed the responsibility of the family household. She remained at home, in the hotel, from the time the Luhrs family moved into their hotel suite, 1890, until her death. Even after marriage she and her husband lived at the hotel. As far as George Jr. was concerned, he had lived with his sister all of his life except for the time he spent in the service and when he was in the university.

Ella helped her mother a lot and her brothers and sister relied upon her a great deal. After the death of Catharina M. Luhrs, Ella Luhrs worked hand in hand with her

brothers in the operation of the business. She gave a great deal of time helping George Jr. Her passing away left him dazed and lost.

Like all of the Luhrs' Ella had a keen mind and good business ability. If anyone wanted anything, they were always told to see Aunt Ella. She was a good mixer and liked by everyone. Ella liked to have a good time. They would say she was the life of the party. She enjoyed going shopping. Everyone in all the stores when they were downtown, knew Ella Luhrs. Those in the Eastern Star, the Rotary Club, the Shrine--as a matter of fact, everyone--not only knew Ella, but they all loved her. She also liked the outdoors life, going hunting, camping, ect. Ella fit in anywhere. Unfortunately, she lost her only child, a daughter, in a breech birth. As a matter of fact, Ella almost did not make it herself. She was torn so badly that over one hundred stitches were necessary to close the wound. Then on December 27th, 1937, her husband, Arthur Clyde "Cap" Taylor was accidentally killed when he was in the prime of his life. They were great sorrows to her over which she never recovered and it is only natural that it caused a change in her life.

Later, adhesions formed as a result of the earlier operation, making it necessary to have surgery again, in her early eighties. In 1965, Ella broke her hip, another thing that caused her a great deal of trouble. She also had a fast beating heart. Her father, mother and sister had passed on

too. All of these things made life different for her.

She was very devoted to her brother, George, and helped him greatly. Every evening she would go down to his office and do some of the bookkeeping. Her hearing was very good and seldom did she wear glasses. During her last years, Ella did not feel good after getting up in the mornings but did not want anyone to know it. As a result, she did not eat a great deal. She liked to go to the Arizona Club and visit with old friends. She worked up to the end, and as they say, "she died with her boots on." She is irreplaceable, and there will never be another to take her place. ELLA LUHRS TAYLOR WAS A GREAT GIRL AND A WONDERFUL DAUGHTER, SISTER, WIFE AND WOMAN.

On New Years Eve, December 31, 1974, Monica, Arthur Luhrs' housekeeper, found Arthur on the bathroom floor of his home, located at 6010 North Central Avenue. Not being able to arouse him, she called the police who in turn notified the paramedics. She also telephoned the clerk at the Hotel Luhrs. He got in touch with Adam Diaz who immediately went to Arthur Luhrs' home. Still no response could be gotten from Arthur. When the paramedics arrived, they worked upon Arthur for over an hour, finally bringing him around. In the meantime, Adam Diaz had located Allen and John Luhrs, the sons of Arthur Luhrs. He told them about their father and they immediately went to their father's home. Arthur Luhrs spent the next week in Good Samaritan Hospital.

Monica, the housekeeper, had not been able to give Arthur Luhrs the proper care that he needed. He had not been bathed regularly. Gradually, he was unable to walk and care for himself.

Mary Louise, Adam Diaz's oldest child, was a registered nurse. She had been most attentive to Arthur, Ella and George, Jr. long before Ella passed away. Although she was busy going to the University, working in a doctor's office and raising three children, she would make regular weekly stops at the Hotel Luhrs and give them necessary shots. After Arthur was confined to his home, Mary Louise would, when time permitted, drive out to Arthur's home and give him his shots and a much needed bath.

When Arthur went home from the hospital, he had three nurses, namely Alpha Crary, Noami Arthur and Linda to properly take care of him. They got a walker for him and began teaching him to walk again. He made good progress and it pleased him greatly.

With Ella gone and Arthur at home, George, Jr. had his hands full with work. Again, the Luhrs' can thank Adam Diaz for everything he did to help out. Whenever he was needed he was there to help no matter what it was.

George, Jr. would visit Arthur every Sunday, bringing him a box of candy, which he liked so well. One Sunday, George, Jr. was so busy he did not have time to get the candy so he had none for Arthur. After George, Jr. left he told the nurse to

bring out the candy. When he was told there was no candy, Arthur said, "It can't be for he always brings me candy." Thereafter, George, Jr. never failed to bring him candy. Everyone was pleased how Arthur was doing. His nurses were giving him the proper care.

Early one January morning in 1975, the fire department was called to the Hotel Luhrs to determine the cause for smoke seen coming from the vicinity of the boiler room and Langert Brothers Wholesale Jewelry Store located at the northeast corner of the building. It was found that the steam heat boiler's low water safety cut-off had not operated as it should have done when the water in the boiler got below a certain level. As a matter of fact, it let the fire continue to burn until there was no water in the boiler, with the result that the boiler and the steam supply line got so hot it cracked the cast iron boiler and caused some of the wooden studs of the pipe shaft to start burning. The gas fire was turned off and the fire caused by the burning studs was put out.

The firemen were all over the hotel. Although the cleaning maids were present with keys to open any door, the firemen paid no attention to them and deliberately kicked in or broke open many of the doors, causing a great deal of unnecessary expense. The boiler was ruined.

Electric heating elements were installed in the air ducts thus making it possible to heat the building by running the blowers of the air conditioning system which circulated

the air made hot by the electric heating elements.

Every evening before going to bed, George, Jr. checked the boiler room, especially the water level for the steam heat boiler. If the water was low, he would add sufficient water. He definitely knows the water level, as shown by the gauge, was all right. Furthermore, his niece, Jean Stroud Crane, who was visiting him, remembers that George, Jr. made the check the previous night and everything was all right. It is possible someone tampered with the control so that it would not work. That would be sabotage. At this time, it was noticed that the steam lines in the basement had been cut with a torch. These lines ran underground, thus making them useless, if cut, at the boiler room where they were exposed. George, Jr. figured on a new cast iron steam heat boiler but with the steam lines cut, that could not be done. The question is, who and why was all of this done?

Shortly thereafter, Langert Brothers moved out and the space was remodeled, dividing it into offices.

About six o'clock in the evening on Thursday July 19th, 1975, the nurses taking care of Arthur Luhrs were changing shifts. Alpha Crary walked to the door to tell Noami Arthur good night. Alpha heard a thumping noise coming from Arthur's room. Alpha called for Noami to come back, which she did. Together they found Arthur on the bathroom floor. He had most likely tried to walk by himself without the walker and fell. Arthur had broken his hip. He was sent to St. Joseph's Hospital

where Dr. Tuveson operated upon him. (Dr. Tuveson also operated upon Ella Luhrs Taylor when she broke her hip.)

Friday, the 20th of July, after the operation, Arthur was doing very well. Dr. Tuveson was most pleased. Sunday afternoon, George, Jr. brought two of the Hotel Luhrs' maids to the hospital to see Arthur. He kept repeating he had six tricks and wanted to know how many they had. Arthur was an excellent bridge player and the maids thought he was joking with them. However, it was found out later such was not the case. He must have been hallucinating. Alpha Crary, one of his nurses, came on at 3:00 p.m. after which time he never said a word. Dr. Kober and Dr. Tuveson saw him early the next morning, July 23, 1975 at 9:00 a.m. Arthur went to sleep.

Funeral services were held at A.L. Moore and Sons mortuary. The Episcopal minister's sermon was very impressive and fitting. Arthur was placed in one of the Luhrs family vaults in Greenwood Memorial Park Mausoleum, 2300 West Van Buren Street, Phoenix, Arizona. Sadie Allen Luhrs, his wife, was cremated upon her death and her ashes were scattered over Superstition Mountains, east of Phoenix.

At the time Arthur Luhrs was born, Phoenix was very small and had few people. Until he went to school, he spent most of his time with his folks at home where he amused himself playing with twenty dollar gold pieces. When he started to school he could only speak German and inherited the nickname, "The Dutchman."

The McCarthy brothers and Arthur Luhrs were very good friends. The McCarthys' lived on the southeast corner of Centre and Portland Streets. In the early days that was way out. Arthur had a pony that he would ride to the McCarthys. All of the young boys were Arthur's friends. If they had nothing to do they would wander up and down Washington Street and sneak into the saloons on the north side of Washington Street between Centre and First Streets. The saloons in those days were wide open. As soon as the boys were seen they were run out. The town ditch on Van Buren Street was a good place to go swimming in the summer time. Arthur dove into the canal at First Avenue and Van Buren Street, cutting his head on a broken bottle. He had the scar the rest of his life.

Arthur was fullback on the Phoenix Union High School football team. Until Arthur's senior year in high school he was short. His sister Ella was taller. He finally grew to five feet and eleven inches. There were twenty-one in Arthur's graduating class.

Arthur planned to go to the University of California. The statement of his preparatory work covered eight branches. Five were marked very good and the other three good. He later chose Stanford University because of its good Geology and Mining School and at the same time, Stanford University was less expensive, there being no tuition fee.

Arthur was one of the lively young men of the community. During his spare time and in the summer, he was busy working.

Arthur liked to go hunting, fishing, camping, play golf and bridge. He was an excellent bridge player and during the years the Arizona Club was in the Luhrs Building, his lunch time was spent there playing bridge with his friends, such as Ralph Cash, Roy Hislop, etc.

In the summer he and some of his friends would drive up to Hannigan Meadows and from there into the wild of Arizona where they would pitch their tent among the pine trees and trout streams. For two weeks they would live "The Life of Riley." Some of those in the party were Sims Ely, Guy Alsap, Bert Clingan, Ralph Cash, etc. Those camping trips were put on right. They had good tents, plenty of good food and drinks. They spent their time fishing for trout, playing bridge and relaxing.

On one of the trips, they took Ellery Gonaway, "Jerry", who was later the maitre'd of the Arizona Club, with them as their cook. Arthur and his friends talked about bears and wild animals in the area and how they came into the camp at nights. One night, Jerry heard a noise and remembered what had been said about wild animals. He became frightened and ran into the tent where the "gang" was playing cards. Jerry was as white as a ghost. They kidded him about it for many years.

As a hotel manager, Arthur was "TOPS", with his personality. He was highly regarded by those who worked for him and he had the admiration of everyone with whom he dealt. He made a thorough check of all the guest rooms every day, being particular

that everything was clean and in order. Not a thread was to be found on the floor.

As has been said before, the Luhrs' worked together hand in hand toward one goal, SUCCESS. Any differences were usually trivial and cast off. Arthur, being ten years older than George, Jr., they had little in common for some years. As time passed they became closer and closer together and became exceptionally devoted to each other, always working together. George, Jr. can remember only one time that Arthur became upset with George, Jr.. When their father was sick with pneumonia, George, Jr. was at the safe when Arthur told George, Jr. to give him two thousand dollars. George, Jr. asked him what it was for. Arthur replied it was for a loan to Bert Clingan. George told Arthur it was their father's money and the business needed it. It was then Arthur said, "You're a hell of a brother." Nothing more was said and minutes later no one would have known anything had happened. All was forgotten immediately.

In October, 1950, shortly after Arthur and Sadie Luhrs had moved into their new home at 6019 North Central Avenue, they decided to take their car and go on a vacation. They were driving in a snow storm on a road a little north of Springer, New Mexico, when a truck on the wrong side of the road hit them head on. Arthur and Sadie were badly hurt. Allen and John, their sons, flew to Albuquerque, New Mexico immediately where they rented a small plane to take them to the scene of the

accident. The plane had to land in a nearby field. Arthur and Sadie were placed on the floor of the plane and flown to Phoenix, Arizona. Arthur had a broken leg and arm, while Sadie suffered internal injuries, over which she never recovered and helped to bring on complications which brought her death on February 6th, 1962.

When Arthur Luhrs passed away, June 23rd, 1975, the community lost not only a native son but a true Phoenician and an exceptionally fine worthy man who was another builder of Phoenix from its early days. ARTHUR CLEVELAND LUHRS WAS A TRUE PIONEER OF ARIZONA AND PHOENIX AND RESPECTED AND HONORED BY EVERYONE.

George, Jr. had gone through some exceptionally trying times. First,the nerve-racking three years, 1971-74 strain of remodeling and modernizing the Luhrs Properties while operating and managing them at the same time. Second, having a complete physical and mental check-up at Scripps. Third, the death of his sister Ella Luhrs Taylor on December 16, 1974, two days after he returned from Scripps. Fourth, the passing away of his brother Arthur Cleveland Luhrs on June 23, 1975, a little over six months after losing his sister. George, Jr. was lonesome and lost. He was the only one left of the original Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs family, with whom he had lived and worked with. He felt like the man left alone on an island in the middle of the ocean. Everyone was nice.

From the time the Luhrs Building was proposed, George, Jr. gave more and more of his time to the Luhrs Properties. The last thirteen years, he gave it all of his time, from the time he awakened at 6:30 a.m., until he went to bed at 11:00 p.m., seven days a week. Things were operating at full speed, with George, Jr. geared to it. During 1974, when things began to ease up, the strain began to show its effect. George, Jr. noticed it and mentioned it to his sister, Ella, and to Adam Diaz. He remarked that no words could describe how his head felt. He went to see Dr. Pearlman, a psychologist, twice a week.

After his sister's death, his niece, Jean Stroud Crane, who lived with her family in Santa Barbara, California, stayed almost two months with George, Jr. He flew up to Santa Barbara several weekends to visit his niece. It was necessary to change planes in Los Angeles. If the plane was on time, one had thirty minutes to go from one airline to the other. On one occasion, the Phoenix plane was twenty minutes late, leaving but ten minutes to make connections for Santa Barbara. George, Jr., then eighty, got off the plane and started running. A young man, trying to make the same plane for Santa Barbara, took George, Jr.'s brief case. Being younger, he ran faster and got ahead. He turned around and told George, Jr. not to have a heart attack. They made the Santa Barbara plane.

Adam Diaz and his wife, Phyllis, were very good and considerate of George, Jr. When his niece, Jean, was not in Phoenix, they took care of him. He spent a great deal of time

with the Diaz's, often eating with them and now and then sleeping at their home.

Walter and Ila Thalheimer had George, Jr. for dinner every Saturday night. George had known Walter since birth. Jack Richardson and his wife, Phyllis, had George, Jr. for dinner every Sunday. George, Jr. bought all the carpet for the Luhrs Properties from Jack Richardson.

The death of George, Jr.'s sister, Ella Luhrs Taylor, did not help his depression. No tranquilizers had been found to date that helped George, Jr.

George, Jr. had made a trip to Santa Barbara to spend November 27th, 1975, Thanksgiving, with his niece, Jean, which was very much enjoyed. The next morning, after breakfast, November 28th, 1975, Milton Crane, Jean's husband, told George, Jr. there had been a tragedy. He told him that Adam Diaz's oldest daughter Mary Louise, had been shot and killed the night before, which was November 27th, 1975, Thanksgiving Day.

Adam Diaz started working for the Luhrs family on April 1, 1924, when the Luhrs Building was opened. As of the year 1976, Adam Diaz had been with the Luhrs' for fifty-two years. Adam and Phyllis Diaz had four children, namely Mary Louise, Sally, Olivia and Joe, all good children and very intelligent. They had all worked their way to become University graduates. They look upon George, Jr. as their second father and he was fond of them too.

Mary Louise was a registered nurse. In Phoenix College

she was named the nurse of the year and won a Ford Foundation award permitting her to get her masters degree from Arizona State University. She was then employed by the American Institute Research. This was an organization trying to help the minority to become interested in nursing. Her territory was the State of Arizona. She had three children by her first husband whom she divorced. They were Teresa, Peter and Lisa Urias. Mary Louise raised and supported them, always working while going to school. Mary Louise had a very charming personality even when not feeling well. She would smile and never let anyone know anything was wrong. She would visit older people who were not well and render them services free.

Mary Louise came to visit with Arthur, Ella and George Jr. every week and give them shots that had been prescribed by their doctor. Mary Louise's second husband, who had been married before, was Hector Gonzales. He was with the Arizona National Guard. He was very jealous of Mary Louise and resented her being nice to anyone or anyone being nice to her. Mary Louise had her folks, Sally and her children over to her home for Thanksgiving dinner. When everyone was gone, Mary Louise decided to take a little rest. In the meantime her husband had gotten his gun. He shot Mary Louise and then himself. Lisa, Mary Louise's youngest daughter, found them when she returned home later. It certainly was a tragedy. George Jr. felt very bad as did a multitude of others. Mary Louise was buried in St. Francis Catholic Cemetary in Phoenix, Arizona.

George Jr., after his sister's death, continued to live in the Luhrs' suite in the Hotel Luhrs. He cooked his own breakfast, having his lunch and dinner with Adam and Phyllis Diaz, except on Saturday when he ate with the Thalheimers and Sunday when he was with the Richardsons. Sometime later arrangements were made with Gertrude Walker, one of the hotel's maids, to prepare George Jr.,'s meals and to stay at nights in the room adjoining the Luhrs' suite. A push button buzzer system was installed in Gertrude's room so George Jr. could call her if he needed her.

One morning while George Jr. was dressing, he heard a pounding noise from Gertrude's room. He went in and found Gertrude, her face down on the floor, hitting her head against the door. George Jr. called her daughter on the telephone. Gertrude was immediately sent to the hospital where they found she had a bad heart. She was placed in intensive care, the room being the oxygen room. Someone had given Gertrude a cigarette and matches. When she lit the match, her hospital gown caught fire and burned her wrist badly. She never returned for work at the hotel.

Vicky Nash took Gertrude's place as a hotel maid and also to stay at night in the room adjoining the Luhrs suite so George Jr. could call her if necessary. Lee Anna, another hotel maid, did not get along with Vicky. They were always at each other. One night Vicky told Lee Anna that if she would meet her

on the sidewalk, she would mop the floor with her. She never did. Later in the evening George Jr. returned from the Diaz's to find Vicky had gone. After that George Jr. was alone with the exception of when his niece, Jean, came to visit.

In August, 1976, Dr. Pearlman took George, Jr. to Camelback Hospital to see if anyone at the hospital could do anything to help him. When George, Jr. found out they would not let Allen and John see him, he wanted to leave, but an order from someone on the hospital staff was necessary. This information was passed on to Allen and John. They got in touch with Dr. McGrath who saw George, Jr., both leaving the hospital together.

In the late 1960's, the City decided to purchase all block 77 in the City of Phoenix, said block bounded by Washington Street, Jefferson Street, Central Avenue and First Avenue, and have it for a downtown park. In February, 1974, they started demolishing the building at the southwest corner of Central Avenue and Washington Street, which was originally the Porter Block. The Phoenix Bakery, owned by Edward Eisele, was located in this building at 7 West Washington Street.

Mrs. Edward Eisele and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs were sisters. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Eisele's grandson, Edward Eisele, had the portion of the building once occupied by the Phoenix Bakery moved to the Pioneer Living History Museum located on the Black Canyon Freeway and Pioneer Road, over twenty miles north of

Phoenix. It will be finished to look exactly like the Phoenix Bakery, in the early days.

The next building to come down was the original Opera House which was just south of the Porter Block. Next was the old Masonic Temple, south across the alley from the Opera House. This was followed by the building, on the northwest corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street, which was originally known as the Young Building. Geo H.N. Luhrs sold this property in 1888 with the understanding that a two story building and basement be built on the property. It was this building that was now being torn down. Originally, it housed the Maricopa Club, which later became the Arizona Club.

A few months later, they tore down the one story structure on the northeast corner of First Avenue and Jefferson Street. It was on this corner that William Hancock originally had his home. For some time before the one story building was wrecked, it was occupied by Harry Wilson's Saloon, a very rough place. The Luhrs Tower stood directly across the street to the south, where originally was the Geo H.N. Luhrs family home. The Luhrs Tower's tenants were so happy to have Harry Wilson's Saloon knocked down, they set up a temporary bar on the sidewalk in front of the Luhrs Tower and when the first destruction ball hit the Harry Wilson building, they began serving champagne to everyone.

Soon, the other buildings were gone, and with them several more undesirable saloons. Many of the citizens wanted

the new park to be named Luhrs Square in memory of Geo H. N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs, and in view of the fact that the Hotel Luhrs, the Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower faced the park. The City, however, dedicated it on April 25th, 1976, calling it Patriots Square. On permanent display are flown the flags of the countries under whose sovereignty Arizona has been at one time or another. They are Castile (1540-1785); Spain under Carl III (1785-1821); Mexico (1821-1848); Confederate States (1862); United States of America (1848---) and Arizona (1912---). Installed in the park sidewalk are sixty bronze plates commemorating the contributions of those who played important roles in the development of the State of Arizona and its history. One of these plaques honors Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs.

On September 21st, 1976, a contract was signed with T.F. Walker and Company to remove the Kewanee steam heat boilers that were installed in the Luhrs Building when it was erected, in 1923-24. Two Weil McLain cast iron sectional boilers were installed for the price of $56,418.24. The larger one was put in right away, but the smaller one erected in 1977, after the winter weather.

Proposal

T. F. WALKER & CO., INC.
P. O. Box 11567
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85017
Phone 269-0681

PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO	PHONE	DATE
Luhr's Properties	254-1141	September 21, 1976
STREET	**JOB NAME**	
11 West Jefferson		
CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE	**JOB LOCATION**	
Phoenix, Arizona 85003	Same	
ARCHITECT / **DATE OF PLANS**		**JOB PHONE**

We hereby submit specifications and estimates for:

To remove two Kewanee boilers, furnish and install two Weil-McLain Cast Iron Sectional boilers complete.
Payment to be made in progress payments and amount agreed upon with T. F. Walker & Co., Inc. and Luhr's Properties representative.
The large boiler will be completed by October 31, 1976.

We Propose hereby to furnish material and labor — complete in accordance with above specifications, for the sum of:

Fifty six thousand four hundred eighteen and 24/100----- dollars ($ 56,418.24).

Payment to be made as follows:
Progress payments

All material is guaranteed to be as specified. All work to be completed in a workmanlike manner according to standard practices. Any alteration or deviation from above specifications involving extra costs will be executed only upon written orders, and will become an extra charge over and above the estimate. All agreements contingent upon strikes, accidents or delays beyond our control. Owner to carry fire, tornado and other necessary insurance. Our workers are fully covered by Workmen's Compensation Insurance.

Authorized Signature Ronald Georgian

Note: This proposal may be withdrawn by us if not accepted within 30 days.

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Acceptance of Proposal — The above prices, specifications and conditions are satisfactory and are hereby accepted. You are authorized to do the work as specified. Payment will be made as outlined above.

Date of Acceptance: Sept 21 1976

Signature Luhr Properties

Signature Grant Luhr Jr

The strains and sorrows encountered by George, Jr. over the previous five years, still left him nerous and depressed. So far none of the doctors or hospitals were able to help him. During October, 1976, he was in Good Samaritan Hospital and Medical Center, returning to the Luhrs Suite in the Hotel Luhrs the first of November, 1976. To be with him and prepare his meals, he had Naomi Arthur in the day time and Alpha Crary in the evenings. Naomi Arthur started October 29th, 1976 and Alpha Crary November 2, 1976. Naomi Arthur left in March, 1977.

Milton Crane, the husband of Jean Stroud Crane, is a senior electronic engineer. He went to work for Motorola in Phoenix on October 15th, 1976. They sold their home in Santa Barbara, California and purchased one in Phoenix, located at 5201 N. Saddle Rock Drive, which is at the foot of Camelback Mountain. It has a beautiful view of the City of Phoenix. They moved into the house on November 29th, 1976. They had all of their furniture and belongings sent from Santa Barbara to Phoenix. It was a tremendous job. They have two children, Nick Crane and Gretchen Crane. The house is in a very select neighborhood. It has desert landscaping. There is a large swimming pool in the rear patio.

Arthur Allen Luhrs and Heather June Fereira were married July 30th, 1976. They live at 102 E. Glendale Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona.

Emma Luhrs Stroud had Mr. James W. Coombs, a C.P.A., make out her income tax return, and later George, Jr. had him

handle her inheritance tax returns. He was an exceptionally brilliant tax man. In the early 1960's, at the request of the Luhrs', namely Arthur, Ella, Emma and George, Jr., Mr. Coombs met with them to explain what he thought was the best way for them to set up their holdings and to provide for the passing of their rights and title upon death. He suggested they each establish similar irrevocable living trusts.

At that time, the benefits of an irrevocable living trust were many. Geo H.N. Luhrs, with his wife Catharina M. Luhrs and their four children had worked hard and given a great portion of their lives to create and build up the Luhrs Properties. It was their desire to keep it in the family. An irrevocable living trust would have made this possible. It was good for the life of all living plus twenty-one years and at that time inheritance tax only had to be paid upon the first inheritance. There was no probating necessary, the title passing to the next generation immediately, thus eliminating costly attorney fees and accountant fees.

With the irrevocable living trust, upon "A's" death, a life interest passes to his or her child or children. Upon the death of said child or children, a life interest would pass to their child or children and so on for the life of all living plus twenty one years. Title only passed to Luhrs heirs and not to wives or husbands. In the case of divorce, only Luhrs heirs would inherit title.

Arthur, Ella, Emma and George, Jr. talked the matter

over and decided that was what they wanted to do. They wanted to keep the Luhrs Properties together in the family and perpetuate the Luhrs name and the Luhrs Properties together. The Geo H.N. Luhrs family had, with hard work and determination, created and made it all possible. They were so busy working, they had never found time to take care of their own affairs and before they knew it more time had lapsed than they realized. With the sudden death of their sister, Emma, they again realized that they should do something. George, Jr. had written his niece and nephews about the Irrevocable Living Trust but did not hear from his nephews. In 1972, he was told, as the executor of Emma Luhrs Stroud's estate, he could proceed in her place. Arthur and Ella told him to go ahead so he told Mr. Coombs to get going. He was given the names of all the living heirs whom Ella Luhrs Taylor had gotten together. Early in the morning on June 14th, 1972, Mr. Coombs took his life by jumping out of his office window on the 10th floor of the Luhrs Tower. This again delayed matters.

Then, upon December 16th, 1974, Ella Luhrs Taylor passed away. She left everything to her brother, George, Jr. He again wrote to his niece and nephews regarding the irrevocable living trust. So that everything would remain in the family, he offered to revoke his sister's will and have her interests divided equally with the niece and nephews if they would so consent to the said trust. Again, he heard nothing from the nephews.

After the death of Arthur C. Luhrs, June 23rd, 1975,

Allen and John made several offers to buy out George, Jr., Jean Stroud Crane and G. Luhrs Stroud but their offers were not satisfactory. George Luhrs, Jr. was not interested in buying out Allen and John Luhrs and going into debt again at age of eighty. To show his good faith, George, Jr. revoked his sister's will in favor of his niece and nephews, really expecting them to then agree to the irrevocable living trust. He was very disappointed when he heard nothing from them. His niece had told him she would do whatever he wanted to do.

George, Jr. and his niece, Jean Stroud Crane, talked about buying the Hotel Luhrs for themselves. It was George, Jr.'s birthplace. After much thought and consideration, George, Jr.'s health and age, George, Jr. decided against it. His niece felt very bad and was disappointed.

The Patrician Land Company, a Canadian Corporation, offered to buy the Luhrs Properties for $3,700,000.00. In view of the fact that George, Jr., Jean Stroud Crane, G. Luhrs Stroud, Allen Luhrs and John Luhrs could not come to an agreement to create an irrevocable living trust, or a sale of the properties within the family, the Patrician Land Company's offer was accepted. The Patrician Land Company deposited $100,000.00 earnest money with the Arizona Title Insurance and Trust Company. The sale was closed December 22nd, 1976 with the note and deed of trust deposited with the Arizona Title Insurance and Trust Company, at which time the Patrician Land Company paid $987,500.00.

Upon January 2, 1977, they paid $162,500.00, leaving a balance due the sellers of $2,500,000.00, with interest payments each month thereafter at the rate of 9.5% per annum. The entire unpaid principal balance, together with any accrued interest thereof, to be due and payable five (5) years and one (1) month from the closing of the escrow. After the closing of the escrow, George Luhrs, Jr. was given one hundred and twenty days free occupancy of his suite of rooms, office space and storage space, the 120 day period to commence at the close of the escrow. In addition to the 120 days free occupancy for George H.N. Luhrs, Jr., the sellers were provided space for an additional 60 days for the purpose of storying and reviewing the property and records of the sellers, that are not sold to the buyer.

December 22nd, 1976, was another very sad day for George, Jr. He had given most of his life and time to make the Luhrs Properties what it was. He wanted it to remain in the family from generation to generation as has been done by the Rockefellers, Mellons, Fords, etc. He still believes it was a mistake not to have kept the Luhrs Properties in the Luhrs family, with the creation of an irrevocable living trust.

True, from the time Geo H.N. Luhrs bought out his partner, Newell Herrick, October 27th, 1890, until July 1st, 1968, the Geo H.N. Luhrs family was heavily in debt and poor. Geo H.N. Luhrs and his wife, Catharina M. Luhrs and their four children, namely Arthur, Ella, Emma and George, Jr., never complained about the time they spent working nor the fact that

they were not getting more than a living out of the business. It was their wish to develop the Luhrs Properties and to keep it in the family from generation to generation, by means of an irrevocable living trust.

All debts were paid off by July 1, 1968 and thereafter enough money was saved to completely remodel the properties, install new elevators, new refrigeration for the cooling system and a new heating system. In 1976, the buildings and equipment were in excellent condition and there was no need to put out any more money for improvements. The properties were clear and free of all indebtedness and could have then paid dividends to the Luhrs owners, with the Luhrs' still owning the properties.

On the evening of January 4th, 1977, George, Jr. went to dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Adam Diaz at the North Bank Restaurant in Tempe, Arizona. It had been raining, so after dinner Adam had his wife and George, Jr. wait at the base of the steps of the restaurant until he got his car. As he drove up, Mrs. Diaz and George, Jr. stepped forward. George, Jr. fell forward, hitting the walls of the building. When Adam reached him, George said he thought he had broken both arms. George, Jr. had had one drink, a Tom Collins, before eating and does not know what made him fall unless the pavement being wet caused him to slip. The paramedics and an ambulance were called and he was taken to Good Samaritan Hospital. George, Jr. asked for Dr. Tuveson who had operated upon his sister, Ella Luhrs Taylor when she

broke her hip, but he only operated in St. Joseph's Hospital. He sent Dr. Herring.

George, Jr. had broken his right arm in two places, between the elbow and the shoulder, and dislocated his left shoulder. Being right handed, George, Jr. had a hard time eating. Dr. Herring did a wonderful job. The right arm is fine. However, the left shoulder bothers him.

After leaving the hospital in February, 1977, he went to live with his niece, Jean Stroud Crane, at 5201 North Saddle Rock Drive, Phoenix, Arizona. He took his nurses, Naomi Arthur and Alpha Crary with him. George, Jr. took physical therpy for several months. Jean built an addition to her house for her Uncle George. It was a living room, an office den and a bedroom. The living room has furniture from the Luhrs suite that was in the Hotel Luhrs. The office den has a roll top desk of Geo H.N. Luhrs, George Jr.'s father, and equipment from the Hotel Luhrs' private office. On the north wall of the living room are the painted portraits of Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs. The other walls have pictures of the Luhrs Properties. In the den are old pictures of Phoenix and the Commercial Hotel, later the Hotel Luhrs. In the bedroom are pictures of the family. This layout has a separate entrance, but is also connected with the rest of the house.

George, Jr., Adam Diaz and his wife, Phyllis, had tickets for a steamship voyage to Mexico. George, Jr. had to

cancel his ticket but Adam and his wife took the trip and had a very fine time.

Jean, with the help of her husband and Sally and Bob Taylor, got all the Luhrs belongings out of the hotel by April 1, 1977. Some of the old furniture not included in the sale was given to R.L. Rossen House, a historical landmark on the southeast corner of Sixth and Monroe Streets in the City of Phoenix, Arizona, and to the Wickenburg Historical Society. The tools of Geo H.N. Luhrs were given to Allen Luhrs and the Fisher Piano, purchased in 1890 was to have gone to John Luhrs, but the Patrician Land Company said it was included in the sale of the Luhrs Properties; eventually, John did get the piano. Allen and John were given several guns, clocks, etc. The old records and correspondence, including the hotel registration books were given to Arizona State University at Tempe, Arizona. They have been sorted and catalogued. They value these records, to be used now and in the future for research work. Later, additional records and correspondence will be added to the collection.

In Jean Crane's home at 5201 N. Saddle Rock Drive in Phoeix, Arizona, the floor of the family room is a step higher than the floor of the entrance hall. In April, 1977, George, Jr. was going from the family room to the entrance hall but failed to remember there was a difference in floor level. He fell, hitting his forehead on a stone planter box. The cut was about two inches long and was bleeding freely. He was taken to

Emergency at Good Samaritan Hospital where they sewed up the wound. A very nice job was done and the scar does not show.

On July 5th, 1977, Jean Crane, Milton Crane, Jean's husband, and George, Jr. flew to Germany. George, Jr. had never been there and desired to visit Neuhaus a/d Oste, where his father and mother were born. The plane over had about three hundred passengers. They served food and drinks all the time. It was a thirteen hour trip. There was a difference of nine hours in the time too, which meant that much time is lost of sleep. As a result, they went to bed upon arriving at the Savoy Hotel in downtown Dusseldorf. We ate at the Black Angus, which was located upon a beautiful downtown street which is very wide with a waterway running down the middle of the street. There were swans and pretty plant life. On one side are the stores and restaurants facing the park, while on the other side are the banks and financial institutions facing the park. Everything is open until late.

Adjacent to this modern area, the city has rebuilt a large part of the city as it was before the war, which also is open at night. All night life is downtown. Dusseldorf is a busy industrial city on the Rhine. The street cars are like caterpillars in that they are flexible and can make sharp turns. The first step is street level. In the evenings, young boys do handsprings on the sidewalk for money. Schumann and Mendelson lived in Dusseldorf.

A car was rented, making it possible to drive anywhere and not have to stay on the autobahn.

Dusseldorf was liked very much as was Breman, the next city visited. It too is a busy industrial city of about 600,000 people on the Wesel River. Although inland from the North Sea, it is the oldest seaport in Germany. The German highways are beautiful and green, with tall trees. Breman, like Dusseldorf has rebuilt the old destroyed portion of the city, adjacent to the new part. Everything is open at night. The old portion is known as the Hanseatic Center, called the Schnoor, with its narrow streets, ancient walls and small cottages. There is seen the iron figure of a man blowing his horn and around him have gathered pigs and a dog.

Bremen and Bremmerhaven form a remarkable port system, being Germany's oldest maritime city, from the year 965. In driving to Neuhaus a/d Oste, they stopped at Bremerhaven and Cuxhaven, the latter being where the Elbe River runs into the North Sea. They also stopped at Bremervorde, where Geo H.N. Luhrs' mother was born.

In Neuhaus a/d Oste, they met and visited with George, Jr.'s cousin, Else, her two daughters, her son and his wife and three children. They went to the home of Catharina M. Luhrs, nee Dodenhoff, and except for a new roof, it was the same as when she lived in it. They drank water from the old original pump. The front of Geo H.N. Luhrs' house had been changed but the rear and the workshop was the same.

They went to the church in which Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina M. Luhrs, nee Dodenhoff, were married on February 10th,

1884. It was just the same inside and outside. At the cemetery, they were told that the land was leased for thirty years and if not renewed, the bodies were pushed down and others placed on top. George, Jr. could not get over that.

The general store, run by Else's son, has been in the family since 1600. Newhaus a/d Oste is a very small town of about two thousand people, near the North Sea. The streets are narrow and the buildings are old. It is clean and beautiful. George, Jr. wondered why his father ever left, except for the reason that he did not want to serve in the Prussian Army. George, Jr. liked it very much and wanted to go back.

From Neuhaus a/d Oste, they went to Hamburg, which is 68 miles up the Elbe River. It is a big city of 1,800,000 people and most everything is closed at 5:00 p.m. It is one of Europe's largest seaports. The Aussenalster and the Binnenalster, which are tributaries of the Elbe River are beautiful, with many fine stores, restaurants and hotels facing them. The night amusement area is in the St. Pauli quarters where they have every kind of entertainment.

The St. Michael Church, built of brick in 1762 by architect Sonnin, one of the best representatives of Baroque tradition in North Germany, was seen. It was designed for the Lutherans and is light and spacious. The Rathallsmarkt, dominated by City Hall, is most beautiful inside and outside. Although most of Hamburg was destroyed in the war, the town house and the railroad station were not.

After leaving Hamburg, they stopped at Braunschweig where Henry the Lion, in the 12th Century, built a castle, Dom Burgol, a Romanesque cathedral. The interior includes a tomb of Henry the Lion.

They stopped at a place near Harsburgand and saw the fence between East and West Germany. The Russians have a wire fence ten feet back of the line, which fence goes down three feet below the ground. At three different heights they have automatic firing equipment to kill anyone trying to get through the fence. If they fell into the ten foot open area betweeen the fence and the line, no one could help them. They had dogs that would go after them and chew them up. Towers were built within sight of each other to watch. Back of the fence was a wide ditch, nine feet deep in water so no car could get over it and dash for the fence. Back of this was another fence.

Their next stop was Kassel, where at the top of the mountain is a huge statue of Hercules. The mountains are beautiful with trees. Rothenburg was the next place. It is an ancient walled-in city, with towers and ramparts intact. It is a city of a bygone age. They stood in the town square and saw two windows open and two men taking their wine.

From there they went to Dinkelsbuhl. It is a Bavarian town with an idyllic setting on the Wornltz River. The Medieval town has been preserved, complete with walls, bastions, moats, gates and towers and its fine Tudor architecture of Southern Germany.

St. George Cathedral, from the fifteenth century, was especially interesting. They climbed up and down the 203 spiral steps and walked partly around the wall of the city. During the thirty year war, the Swedish army captured the city. The youth of the city talked the general into not destroying the city, which he agreed. Each year they have a festival on that day. The hotel they stayed in was built in the 15th Century and is called Deutsches Haus.

Then they drove to Heidelberg. The university town in its tranquil, riverside setting was an inspiration to several 19th Century German writers, including Goethe. It is on the Neckar River. The castle is beautiful. Heidelberg was restored partially after the thirty year war. The town was laid waste, the castle sacked in the brutal campaign of 1689. What is left is very pretty. It has a wine vat holding over 55,445 gallons. The schlos overlooks the town and the Neckar Valley. Roter Ochsen (Red Ox) is a wine cellar that was the gathering place for the university students. It is still there and operating. A cable car was taken up to the top of the mountain and what a wonderful view it was. The University has about 30,000 students. There is no campus. It is scattered in buildings all over town. George, Jr. was disappointed. He expected to see a beautiful campus.

After leaving Heidelberg, they passed through Bonn, the "Federal Village" as it is sometimes called by the West Germans, who hope some day to have Berlin as their capital again.

Beethoven spent his youth in Bonn.

They then went to Cologne (Koln), which is the capital of the Rhineland. Ninety percent of the old town and seventy percent of the new town was destroyed in the war. The Cathedral (Dom) took more than 600 years to complete. Visitors find themselves overwhelmed by the size of the building and the ornateness of decoration. The facade is particularly full Gothic, with stepped windows and gables to 515 feet. It is built in the shape of a cross. The city was founded by the Romans in 32 B.C. The university and the Cathedral survived the war intact. Many American soldiers lost their lives because they were told not to destroy the cathedral.

After seeing Cologne, they drove to Dusseldorf where they took the plane for home, stopping at Bangor, Maine for customs. They arrived in Phoenix July 10th, tired but having had a wonderful trip.

Early in November, 1977, George, Jr. entered Good Samaritan Hospital with the hope that the doctors might find the right medication to relieve his nervousness. They tried everything. Instead of helping him, he was worse with all the different kinds of medicine they had him take. As a matter of fact, after three weeks of different medicine, one night they were afraid he was not going to make it. Jean took him to her home over the weekend but she told Dr. Beers she was not bringing him back. Jean stopped giving him medicine for nervousness.

In December, 1977, George, Jr. had a very bad case of pneumonia and he almost did not make it. After leaving St. Luke's Hospital, he returned to Jean's home and received good care.

Charles Colley, Archivist and Field Collector for the library at Arizona State University, had been working with George, Jr. relative to the Geo H.N. Luhrs family collection. George, Jr. also made many tape recordings of his recollection. Many of the Geo H.N. Luhrs family valuable documents have been turned over to the A.S. U. Library. The balance are in the quarters George, Jr. occupies in Jean Crane's home. When George, Jr. is finished with them he will turn them over to the A.S.U. library. It is George, Jr.'s understanding that a Luhrs Family Room will be set aside in the library to house the Luhrs collection.

On January 1st, 1978, George, Jr. joined the Y.M.C.A. where he goes every morning except Sundays and Holidays. He works out in the health department. At first he had to be taken down but after four months he felt good enough to drive his 1952 Cadillac. In 1981, he decided not to drive anymore. Alpha Crary and Jean Crane take him down and Adam Diaz brings him back to Jean's home. He spends a great deal of time in Jean Crane's swimming pool, going in from one to four times a day. He always goes in the first thing in the morning, winter or summer. The pool is not heated and in the winter it is COLD. George, Jr. prefers it real cold. The cold water does him the most good for it gives him a shock. That clears his head immediately. He never misses a morning.

ARIZONA STATE
UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
TEMPE, ARIZONA 85281

July 5, 1977

Mr. George Luhrs
5201 N. Saddlerock Drive
Phoenix, Arizona 85018

Dear George:

Enclosed is a copy of the agreement which you signed during our last visit. We are delighted to place your family's valuable documents in the Hayden Library at ASU, and have already begun to organize and index them with the care they deserve.

We are also at work on the transcription of the tape recordings of your recollections. When we are finished I hope you will give some thought to editing the material for a family history.

Thank you for everything you have done for us. I will look forward to seeing you after your return from Germany.

Most cordially,

Chuck

Charles C. Colley
Archivist and Field Collector

CCC:sc
enclosures

Arizona Board of Regents Acting For And In Behalf of Arizona State University acknowledges with gratitude the donation of the following materials from George H. N. Luhrs, Jr.:

Correspondence, ledgers, business records, photographs and ephemera related to the historic Luhrs properties in the City of Phoenix, 1870s-1970s. This collection is accepted under the following conditions:

1. The collection will be known as the Luhrs Family Collection.

2. The collection is given to Arizona State University for research purposes without restriction.

3. The collection will not be divided, traded, or in any other way dispersed by Arizona State University.

4. The collection shall be organized, protected and permanently preserved in the Arizona State University Library in accordance to professional archival standards. The collection shall always be available for perusal, reference and reproduction to members, heirs and descendents of the Luhrs, Dodenhoff and Eisele families.

5. The collection shall be made available to researchers in general in the Arizona State University Library.

6. Some parts of the collection will come to Arizona State University in installments as they are released by the donor, George H. N. Luhrs, Jr.

George H. N. Luhrs Jr.
(Signed) George H. N. Luhrs, Jr.
5201 N. Saddlerock Drive
Phoenix, Arizona 85018

July 1, 1977
Date

Charles C. Colley
(Signed) Dr. Charles C. Colley
Archivist and Field Collector
ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS Acting For
And In Behalf of ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Jack G. Penick
(Signed) Jack G. Penick
Vice President, Business
Affairs
For Arizona State University

George, Jr. weighs around 146 pounds. He takes exercise for his arms, legs and body, including sit-ups. He also uses the bicycle at the Y.

On June 2nd, 1978, George, Jr. and his niece, Jean Stroud Crane, with her two children, Nick and Gretchen, flew to San Francisco to spend a few days with Milton Crane, Jean's husband, who is a senior electronic engineer for Lockheed. While in the Bay area, George, Jr. arranged to meet Fred Shipp at the Hearst Building located on Third and Market in San Francisco. George, Jr. and Fred Shipp were fraternity roommates at Stanford University and good friends. They took the Bart for Walnut Creek, where Fred lived. While there, they visited Kenneth Shipp, Fred's brother, who also lived at Walnut Creek. George, Jr. was glad to see him. Since then, Kenneth has passed on. Later in the afternoon, George, Jr. left Walnut Creek and returned to meet the Cranes.

George, Jr. also visited Stanford University and had a most pleasant visit with Charles J. Meyers, the Dean of the Stanford University Law School. The Dean visited with George, Jr. again on November 20th, 1978. He is now practicing law as a member of the law firm of Gibson Dunn and Crutcher in Englewood, Colorado.

In August, 1978, Milton, Jean, Nick and Gretchen Crane decided to take a short vacation, going to the Del Coronado Hotel at Coronado, California. George, Jr. and his nurse, Alpha Crary joined them. Everyone had a good time.

The Arizona Republic dated September 28th, 1978, had an

article that the Board of Supervisors of Maricopa County was studying the buying of the Luhrs Complex for six million dollars. That would be the block directly to the east of the County property, being the block bounded by Jefferson and Madison Streets and Central and First Avenues. The Phoenix Gazette dated October 4th, 1978, said, "County will buy Luhrs Properties for 5.9 Million." The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously, contingent upon obtaining an updated appraisal and getting the approval from the State Tax Commission to use Federal funds previously set aside for a parking garage and land purchases, the hearing for which was to be held October 17th, 1978.

A few days later, the Phoenix papers stated that the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors would not buy the Luhrs Complex. It was thought that the Patrician Land Company, the owners of the Luhrs block at that time, were asking more for the properties than they paid for the same.

Upon January 10th, 1979, George, Jr. wrote to the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors telling them that the Patrician Land Company acquired the properties when the market was low and today the cost of construction would be much higher. The taxpayers would save if the property was purchased. The County did not buy the Luhrs Complex.

Board of Supervisors,
Maricopa County,
111 S Third Ave.,
Phoenix, Arizona 85003. January 1011979

After several weeks of reflection, I have decided to write you about the Board of Supervisor's decision not to purchase the Luhrs Block--- that block bounded by Central Avenue, Jefferson Street, First Avenue and Madsion Street.

My father, mother, brother, sisters and myself never had any intention of selling the Luhrs Properties. It represented the life work of two generations of the Luhrs family, from 1869 to 1976, always growing and changing in pace with that of the City of Phoenix, County of Maricopa and the State of Arizona, We wanted it to remain in the family indefinitely.

Structually, the buildings are exceptionally well built. The Luhrs Central Building, on the northwest corner of Central Avenue and Madison is built to hold five stories, the third floor already being poured. In 1955-57 the entire interior of said building was gutted and rebuilt. The portion of the Luhrs Building,above the Valley Bank, has a mezzanine floor.

In 1971, when the Arizona Club moved, the entire top four floors of the Luhrs building were gutted and rebuilt. During the period 1971 thru 1974, all the buildings were checked over and remodelled, bringing them up to the standards of the time and in a position to compete with office buildings then being constructed. At the same time the exteriors of the Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower were cleaned. Five new gearless Otis security elevators were put in the Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower, a new refrigeration plant, for the air-conditioning, was installed,to increase the capacity and make it more flexible, and the old heating plant was replaced with new equipment.

Relative to the new fire code, the Patton Life Safety System of Columbus Ohio, was checking into the same, with recommendations as what was best to be done.

with the sudden death of my older sister and brother (Dec 16, 1974 & July 23,1975), I was the only one of the original family left. Most of the new generation had different ideas, relative to the Properties, and for family reasons, it was decided to sell, making it a quick sale. Patrician was lucky to step into the picture at that time, when the market was down, and acquired the properties at a low price.

The question, now, is whether the Patrician is asking a fair price. Knowing the property, as I do, I think they are.

In almost every way it would be a valuable conjunct to the property already owned by the County. You would acquire the space, now, when you need it. According to the director of the County's Central Service Department, the purchase of the Luhrs block 64 (land and buildings) would cost $19.20 a square foot, compared to present building costs of from $60.00 to $65.00 a square foot, without the land. With inflation, prices continue to increase. Thus, at today prices, you would be saving the taxpayers not less than $40.00 a Sq. Ft., plus the cost of the land. In this way you would be doing the taxpayers a great service.

In closing I wish to say this is a personal letter from me. No one has asked that I write it.

If I can help you in any way, I am at your service.

Very truly yours,

George Luhrs, Jr.

Telephone
959-1171

5201 N Saddlerock Dr.,
Phoenix, Arizona, 85018

George, Jr. suggested to the Arizona Historical Society that they purchase the Hotel Luhrs Building for their museum. The Hotel Luhrs was the oldest hotel then standing in the State of Arizona, dating back to 1887. It was also the oldest structure in the City of Phoenix. The location across the street from Patriots Park was ideal. The Historical Society was very much interested. They gave the matter a lot of thought and consideration. Finally, they wrote, the building's structural suitability for their kind of museum use and their potential sources of funds for acquisition and renovation made it impossible to use the structure.

The Arizona Historical Society

founded by Arizona pioneers in 1884

949 EAST SECOND STREET TUCSON, ARIZONA 85719

SIDNEY B. BRINCKERHOFF, *Director*

PHONE (602) 882-5774

November 29, 1978

Mr. George H. N. Luhrs, Jr.
5201 North Saddlerock Drive
Phoenix, Arizona 85018

Dear Mr. Luhrs:

Your generous offer of funds and personal assistance for the Society should we be able to acquire the Luhrs Hotel Building has been much appreciated. The building should be saved in memory of your distinguished family and for the history of Phoenix and Arizona.

Unfortunately, for a series of reasons, the Society will be unable to acquire the building. After conducting an in-depth investigation of the building, its structural suitability for our kind of museum use, and our potential sources of funds for acquisition and renovation, we find that we are simply unable to forecast a realistic plan for funding and use of the structure. Even if the building were given to us outright, the very high cost of renovation for our needs for a modern museum facility, and future problems of expansion, parking and storage at that site make it desirable for us to seek another location.

Please know that this has not been an easy decision, and we appreciate your kindness and generosity toward the Society. We will keep an eye on the building and hope that a future buyer will be sensitive to the historic value of the structure.

With best wishes and warm regards,

Sidney B. Brinckerhoff
Director

SBB/hm

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From left to right: Luhrs Central Building, Luhrs Building, Luhrs Arcade and the Luhrs Tower Buildings at far right are on the property which became the County Complex in 1964.

Luhrs Central Building N.W. corner Central Avenue & Madison Street, 1957. Looking up N. Central Avenue Luhrs Building is to the right of the Luhrs Central Building. The Luhrs Tower (S.W. corner of Jefferson & First Avenue) is at the upper right.



In the Fall of 1978, Allen Luhrs and his wife Heather took a vacation trip to South America. While on the trip, he grew a beard. Arthur Allen Luhrs is the oldest son of Arthur Cleveland Luhrs and Sadie Allen Luhrs.

At 3:00 p.m. on November 27th, 1978, Alma Luhrs passed away in Room 601 in Good Samaritan Hospital, Phoenix, Arizona of cancer. Alma was 63 years of age, having been born December 28th, 1914. She came to Phoenix in 1926 from Illinois. She worked on recent cancer drives. She lived at 88 East Ocotillo, Phoenix, Arizona. She was a member of the Phoenix Zoo Auxiliary, Visiting Nurses and St. Joseph's Hospital Auxiliary. On her mother's side she claimed relationship to Mary Todd, the wife of President Lincoln. Survivors include her husband, John Arthur Luhrs, the youngest son of Arthur Cleveland Luhrs and Sadie Allen Luhrs. Other survivors are her daughters, Mrs. Michael Tiffany and Sara Jene Thomas, her mother Mary Todd Long and seven grandchildren. Services were from A.L. Moore and Sons at 2:30 p.m., Thursday, November 30th, 1978. The services were memorial. Alma had been cremated prior to the services. Reverand Dan Gerrard officiated at the Memorial Services. Alma requested that all of her friends gather at the home, 88 East Ocotillo after the services for a friendly get together. Food and drinks were served.

Myron Claude Higby, a close friend of George, Jr. passed away in a Los Angeles hospital on February 23rd, 1979. He did not feel well the afternoon before so the doctor sent him to the

hospital. His heart stopped at 1:00 a.m. Myron was 78 years of age on July 24, 1978. He was cremated. Memorial Services were held in All Saints Church, Beverly Hills, California at 11:30 a.m., Thursday, March 1, 1979. At that time, George, Jr. was in Trinity Cathedral in Phoenix, Arizona. With donations made to the church, a bell was purchased by the church, which is rung before each service. Myron was born in Eureka, Illinois. His father was a doctor. He also was the cousin of Byron McCormick, Professor of Law at the University of Arizona, Dean of the Law School, President of the University of Arizona, and attorney for the Board of Regents of all the Arizona universities.

George, Jr. complained of a pain in his stomach, so Dr. Beers had him go to the laboratory at 444 West Osborn. They told him to report the morning of March 29, 1979 and not to eat or drink anything after midnight of the night before. Upon the morning of the 29th, they examined him, taking X-rays of the stomach, liver, pancreas and gall bladder. They could not find his gall bladder. They asked if he ever had it removed. He said no. The laboratory had him come back the next morning but they still could not find the gall bladder. They used a nuclear X-ray and one had to sign an agreement not holding the hospital liable for any bad results, such as cancer. George, Jr. left the hospital on Friday, April 6th, 1979. Perhaps gall stones might have passed, causing the pain. All of the other organs seemed all right. There was no cancer. From that

time, George, Jr. has not eaten any fat. He wants to stay out of hospitals.

On Good Friday, April 13th, 1979, the Luhrs' received a check from the Patrician Land Company for $450,000.00. Michael H. Peloquin and Richard C. Thomas had purchased from the Patrician Land Company the Hotel Luhrs property, being the quarter block on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street. The trust deed between the Patrician Land Company and the Luhrs' provided that the Hotel Luhrs quarter block could be sold separately by paying the Luhrs' $500,000.00. To permit the sale to be completed, the Luhrs' agreed to take the payment of $450,000.00 instead of $500,000.00 with the understanding that the remaining $50,000.00 be added to and made a part of the gross owed the Luhrs' by the Patrician Land Company.

At 7:00 a.m., September 25th, 1979, George, Jr. left on Western Airlines, Flight 10 for Los Angeles, California. With George, Jr. was Alpha Crary, his nurse and Mr. and Mrs. Adam Diaz. Mrs. Diaz was not feeling well when we left. She had been taken to the plane in a wheelchair. They arrived in Los Angeles at 8:05 a.m. and transferred to Flight 511, Western Airlines. They were supposed to leave Los Angeles at 9:15 a.m. but were delayed an hour. The coffee had chlorine in it so they had to make it over.

They arrived in Honolulu at 12:40 p.m. and took a taxi cab from the airport to the Surfrider Hotel, 2353 Kalakaua,

Honolulu on the Island of Oahu on the beach of Waikiki. Mrs. Diaz went to bed. George, Jr. went shopping across the street from the hotel and bought a Hawaiian plant to be sent to his niece, Jean Crane. It was purchased at Greeters in Hawaii, Box 29638, Honolulu 96820. They then returned to the hotel and went down on the beach of Waikiki. It was so different from what it was when George, Jr. visited Honolulu during the Christmas Holidays, in 1915 with the Stanford University Glee Club. At that time the Moana was the only building on Waikiki. There is a lot of sharp coral along the waters edge, which cuts a person's feet. George, Jr. did not remember that being the case in 1915.

Early the next morning, Adam told us his wife was not well and he was taking her home. Mrs. Diaz did not want to go but thought it best if Alpha and George, Jr. stayed, which they did. They stayed at the Surfrider through Sunday, September 30th, 1979. Each day they took a trip and spent the rest of the time on the beach. They had dinner at the Moana twice. and went to the Royal Hawaiian Hotel for a luau. Tours were taken to Nuuanu Pass, the Polynesian Cultural Center, Diamond Head, Pearl Harbor and the U.S.S. Arizona Monument. John R. Newcomer and his wife took them to the Country Club for dinner. On Sunday they took the street car downtown. They also went to the largest shopping center in the world. It covers several blocks and is four levels high.

Monday, October 1st, they flew to Kuhului on the Island of Maui. They stayed at the Pioneer Inn in Lahaina, which in the old days was a whaling center. The Inn is the same as when it was built in 1905. There is nothing much there. They took a glass bottom boat ride and relaxed the rest of the time. The island is dry. They did take one trip around the island and saw the Haleakala crater. The road to the crater is a long, winding one.

On Wednesday, October 3rd, they flew to Kailus Kona on the Island of Hawaii. They stayed at the Kona Bay. There was no beach to go in swimming. The hotel had a nice pool, which was very satisfactory.

On October 5th, they took a bus for Hilo. They saw the volcano Kilaucs and the Rainbow Falls (which George, Jr. had seen in 1915). They stayed overnight at the Hilo Lagoon.

On October 6th, they flew to the Island of Kuau, staying at the Coco Palms, located at Lihue Kauai. The Coco Palms is supposed to be extra fine. It is a beautiful setting but to get to the beach, one must cross a busy highway. While there, they took a trip around the island. They stayed at the Coco Palms for the 6th and 7th of October but they could not take care of them after that. They spent the 8th, 9th and 10th at the Beach Boy which was on the ocean. The water was rough and they warned people not to go in the surf. George, Jr. tried twice but decided they were right so spent the time in the pool

and getting a good tan, stretched out in their retiring chairs.

On Thursday, October 11th, they left the Beach Boy for Honolulu at 7:04 a.m. They arrived in Honolulu at 7:30 a.m. They then took the Continental Airline, Flight 600 at 9:00 a.m., arriving in Los Angeles at 5:05 p.m. They almost missed their Flight 76 on Continental for Phoenix, leaving at 5:30 p.m. We arrived in Phoenix at 6:38 Thursday, October 11, 1979.

Mrs. Diaz had been in the hospital for eleven days but was home resting by the time they returned to Phoenix. They were very sorry she had to miss the trip but were glad she was recovering.

At 7:30 p.m., Saturday, October 13, 1979, Arizona Lodge No. 2, F & A.M., had their Centennial Banquet in the Papago Room, Mountain Shadows Resort, Paradise Valley, Arizona. United States Senator Barry Goldwater was the speaker. George H.N. Luhrs, Jr., a member of Arizona Lodge No. 2, F & A.M. since August 15th, 1916, or 66 years, was present with his niece Jean Stroud Crane.

On October 16th, 1879, a charter was granted what is now Arizona Lodge No. 2, F & A.M., under the Grand Lodge of California, as Arizona Lodge No. 257. A charter was granted under the Grand Lodge of Arizona as Arizona Lodge No. 2 upon March 25th, 1882. The petition of Geo H.N. Luhrs was read August 19th, 1879. This was two months before the Grand Lodge of California granted a charter to Arizona Lodge No. 257, later to

become upon March 25th, 1882, Arizona Lodge No. 2. He was the first candidate initiated, passed and raised, all of which was done while the lodge was under dispensation. Geo H.N. Luhrs became Worshipful Master in 1883, being the third master, but the first one after receiving the charter from the Grand Lodge of Arizona as Arizona Lodge No. 2. He was the first in the Chapter in 1880. He was High Priest in 1887 and Grand High Priest of Arizona in 1912. In May, 1883, he became a Knight Templar in Tucson. A charter was granted to Phoenix, August 11th, 1892 thus being a charter member of the Phoenix Knight Templar. He was Commander in 1902 and Grand Commander of Arizona in 1911. He was a member of the first class taken into El Zaribah Shrine in 1896. He also was a member of the Scottish Rite, the Council and the Phoenix order of the Eastern Star #5, of which he was patron several times. For 32 years, he was the treasurer of all the Phoenix Masonic Lodges. In 1924, at the request of his family, he was no longer a candidate.

Although a borrower himself, he never turned down a Masonic voucher. If there was not enough money, he would go to the safe and pay the voucher and hold it until there was enough money in the Masonic account.

In the early days, it is said that the Masonic Lodge met in Steinegger Hall, which was located on Wall Street. The alley running north and south between Washington Street and Jefferson Street and located between Central Avenue and First

Avenue was Wall Street. Today, it is a part of Patriots Park. In 1892, they occupied the third floor of the Monihan Building located on the northeast corner of First Avenue and Washington Street.

In 1902, the Horner Building was erected on the south side of the alley, running east and west between Washington Street and Jefferson Street. Goldman Implement Company had the basement and the ground floor. The Arizona Club occupied the second floor and the Masonic Lodges the third floor. Later, the Arizona Lodge #2 purchased the building and owned it until they built their present building in 1925 on the southeast corner of Fourth Avenue and Monroe Street.

Georg H.N. Luhrs died May 4th, 1929 and was buried by the Grand Commandery of Knight Templars of the State of Arizona. The services were held in the Masonic Temple on the southeast corner of Fourth Avenue and Monroe Street. He was laid to rest in the Mausoleum at Greenwood Memorial Park, 2300 West Van Buren Street, Phoenix, Arizona.

On November 1st, 1979, Mildred Dodenhoff Vandenburgh passed away. She was the mother of John P. Vandenburgh, Jr., the owner of the American Fenco Co. She had three grandchildren and three great grandchildren. She was the daughter of Wilhelm and Ada Dodenhoff. Wilhelm Dodenhoff was the only brother of Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs (Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs). He was born in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany January 19, 1875. He was 14 (1889) when he left his father and mother, going direct to

Phoenix, Arizona. He lived with his sister, whom he called mother, even as a grown man. Mr. and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs took care of him and sent him to school. Wilhelm never returned to his home in Germany. When he wrote his mother that he was going to get married, his mother replied that she thought he was too young to get married. She always thought he would come home to see her but now that would never happen.

Wilhelm had several positions in the Commercial Hotel. After many years, he leased the Kersting Hotel which was located on the east side of Central Avenue between Jefferson Street and Madison Street. He operated the Kersting Hotel until he retired. Anna Maria (Mrs. Edward Eisele) was a sister of Wilhelm Dodenhoff. To the Luhrs children he was always known as Uncle Willy. Mildred was their cousin.

On December 11th, 1979, Marie Matilda Dorothea Stein passed away. She was the mother of Mrs. John P. Vandenburgh, Jr. 5930 N. Central Avenue.

On December 23, 1979, Else Diekmann passed away in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany. She was born in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany June 7, 1896. Her children were Hertha Diekmann, Thea Schulz, nee Diekmann and August Georg Diekmann and wife, nee Hellman. Else's mother was Christine Dodenhof, the next sister to Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Dodenhof. When Catharina married Geo H.N. Luhrs and moved to Phoenix, Christine went to Phoenix later. Catharina was very homesick and Geo H.N. Luhrs sent for Christine to come over. Christine returned to Neuhaus

to stay. She married a Hahnfeldt. It is understood that the store operated by August Georg has been in operation since 1600. Ella, Emma, George Jr. and John Vandenburgh have visited with Else. Else was a first cousin to Arthur, Ella, Emma and George Luhrs, Jr. Also to Lloyd Eisele.

On December 24th, 1979, Mr. Pocklington of the Patrician Land Company of Edmonston, Alberta, Canada and Mr. Trevor Roberts of Winston Management of Burlingame, California, had gotten together whereby the Winston Management would buy the Luhrs Block from the Patrician Land Company, being the block bounded by Jefferson and Madison Streets and Central and First Avenues. To finally close the deal, the trust deed between the Luhrs' and the Patrician Land Company had to be changed. When this was done, the Luhrs' on January 2nd, 1980 received $250,000.00 and the interest rate was changed to 11 1/2%.

Lloyd Edward Eisele passed away January 22nd, 1980 at his home in Phoenix, Arizona. He was born in Phoenix, Arizona March 12th, 1901. Lloyd was 78 years of age. The services were held in Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Phoenix, Arizona on January 26, 1980 at 10:30 a.m. Officiating were Rev. Frederic Barnhill, Rev. Leyba and Rev. Frederick McNeill. The cremation was private. The survivors were his wife Ruth, a son Lloyd Edward Jr., two daughters Mrs. Patricia Simmons and Mrs. Sally Taylor and eight grandchildren. Lloyd Eisele, Arthur Luhrs, Ella Luhrs Taylor, Emma Luhrs Stroud, George Luhrs, Jr. and Else Diekmann of Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany were cousins.

After graduating from Phoenix Union High School in 1919, Lloyd Eisele attended and graduated from the University of Michigan in 1924. Lloyd's father, Edward, was born in Germany where he learned the bakery business. He came to Phoenix as a baker. In 1887, for $300.00 he bought the bakery located for years at 7 West Washington Street. Lloyd's life and career spanned Phoenix's most exciting years. Lloyd was chairman emeritus of the Holsom Bakery, the oldest continuously owned business in Phoenix. Lloyd was president of his senior class in high school. He retired from active management of the bakery in 1972 then returned to work in 1977 as chairman emeritus. Lloyd was former vestryman at Trinity Cathedral. He was also founder and president of the Arizona Employers Council. He served on the board of trustees of St. Luke's Hospital for thirty years and was president from 1962 to 1965. Lloyd was a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason and a member of El Zaribah Shrine, being a past potentate for the last. He was also a member of the Royal Order of Jesters and founded the 365 Club at the Shrine. He was a member of the Board of Arizona Public Service Company from 1950 to 1975. Lloyd was a past president of the Phoenix Exchange Club and a member of the Rotary Club of Phoenix.

During the depression, some route men destroyed bread racks in grocery stores and punctured bread wrappers to make competitive products go stale early. Lloyd condemned this practice and ordered his route men to keep their hands off

competitive racks. Lloyd's mother was the sister of Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs (Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs), who helped to develop the complex of downtown Luhrs Buildings.

A few years ago, the original Phoenix Bakery Building at 7 West Washington Street was acquired by the Eisele's and donated to Pioneer, Arizona. Lloyd and his wife, the former Ruth Genevieve Morey, met while students at the University of Michigan. Lloyd was a member of the Delta Chi Fraternity. Lloyd was a past president and life member of the Arizona Club and a member of the Paradise Valley Country Club, the University of Arizona Foundation, and All Saints Episcopal Church. The Lloyd Eisele's home is located at 101 E. Ocotillo Road. The Holsum Bakery, originally the Phoenix Bakery, is located at 408 South 23rd Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona.

Lloyd Eisele and George Luhrs, Jr. were cousins, Lloyd being about six years the youngest. Lloyd's father and mother were fond of George, Jr. and set him up as an example for Lloyd. As Lloyd grew older and older, he resented George, Jr. more and more. George liked Lloyd but understood why Lloyd resented him. George, Jr. was always hoping things would straighten out. When Lloyd took sick, George, Jr. felt very badly and tried to make Lloyd realize he was cared for very much. To make Lloyd more comfortable, George, Jr. sent his hospital bed to be used. George, Jr. went to see him, called upon the telephone, sent cards and flowers, all with love. He also gave Lloyd a check made out

to St. Luke's Hospital to start a Lloyd Eisele Memorial Fund, something Lloyd had always wanted to do. On one of George, Jr.'s visits to Lloyd, he started to tell George, Jr. why he had acted as he had. George, Jr. stopped him and said, "Lloyd I am glad I have a human cousin. If things had been reversed, I, George, Jr. would have felt and acted the same way." The dark cloud that had separated them for many years vanished immediately. They saw each other with different eyes. Again they understood each other. Unfortunately, Lloyd had to leave so soon. Lloyd and George, Jr. had made peace with each other.

Myrtle Anna Elliott lived in Sault Ste Marie, Michigan, where she was a school teacher for many many years, and everyone knew her. For sixteen years she would spend the winter at the Hotel Luhrs in Phoenix, Arizona. Miss Elliott was born February 10th, 1891. She died January 25th, 1980. Services were Tuesday, January 29th, 1980 at 4:00 p.m. at St. James Episcopal Church. Clergyman was Fr. William Heinrich. Internment was at Riverside Cemetery, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. A bout with pneumonia was too much for her.

On February 16th, 1980, the Arizona Republic stated, "500 Year Flood Feared Possible. Stewart Mountain Dam on Saguaro Lake Imperiled." The valley and the water shed had had a lot of rain. All crossings over the Salt River had been closed with the exception of the Central Avenue and Tempe bridges. The Maricopa Freeway bridge was closed. Certain areas were being prepared for

evacuation. Governor Bruce Babbitt, late Friday night, warned Valley residents within one mile of the Salt River to be prepared to evacuate.

Saturday, the second of February, 1980, Julie Kay Kagen and David S. Vandenburgh were married in the Bethany Lutheran Church, 4300 North 82nd Street, Scottsdale, Arizona. Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs (Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs) was the sister of Wilhelm Dodenhoff who was the grandfather of John P. Vandenburgh, Jr., the father of David Vandenburgh.

Mr. George Luhrs Stroud of Bainbridge Island, Washington, died suddenly of a heart attack at Port Angeles, Washington at midnight of March 29th, 1980 while enroute home from Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Luhrs, as he was called, was born in Phoenix, Arizona, September 29th, 1919, the son of the late Dr. Reginald James Stroud and Emma Luhrs Stroud who had their home in Tempe, Arizona for many years until Dr. Stroud passed away April 4th, 1947.

G. Luhrs Stroud attended the Tempe Grammar School and the Tempe Union High School. He received his A.B. and M.A. degrees from Leland Stanford Junior University and compiled a Japanese dictionary. He was a language research analyst with the War Department in Washington, D.C. He had some knowledge of German and was proud of the fact that one of his translations of Hitler's letters saved thousands of American soldiers lives. Later, he was associated with the Bureau of Fisheries and

Wildlife of the Department of the Interior before spending twenty-three years with the Central Intelligence Agency in a special research capacity. Since his retirement, he has lived in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada and Bainbridge Island, Washington. G. Luhrs Stroud was a member of the Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity at Stanford University; the Masonic Lodge; the Kena Temple of Arlington, Virginia; the National Cathedral Association of Washington D. C.; the National Association for Advancement of Science and the Instrumentation Society of America. Luhrs was the grandson of the late Geo H. N. Luhrs and Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs, early pioneers of Arizona and Phoenix, who were also the owners of the Commercial Hotel (later the Hotel Luhrs), started in 1887, and the block known as the Luhrs Properties upon which stands the Luhrs Building and the Luhrs Tower. He is survived by his wife, Lucile, a daughter, Catharina, a sister, Mrs. Jean Stroud Crane, an uncle, George H. N. Luhrs, an aunt, Miss Marion Stroud and two cousins, Allen Luhrs and John Luhrs.

Memorial Services were held at the Chapel of Memories, A. L. Moore & Sons, in Phoenix, Arizona, May 1, 1980, at 10:00 A. M. The Very Reverand E. Bradbury Usher officiated. George Luhrs Stroud was cremated, as was his infant son who had died many years before when but a few months old. They were placed in the mausoleum in Greenwood Memorial Park, 2300 West Van Buren, Phoenix, Arizona.

The Rosson House Restoration Committee sent out invitations to a preview of the restored Rosson House, Sixth Street and Monroe Street, Friday, May 2, 1980 or Saturday, May 3, 1980 6:00 to 9:00 P.M.

Friday night, May 16, 1980, George Jr. and his niece, Jean Stroud Crane, took the TWA plane for San Francisco, Calif., where they had dinner with Jack Cromer and his wife. As a young man, Jack Cromer operated an elevator in the Luhrs Tower for the Luhrs Properties. Later he was a Captain and air pilot, now being retired. George Jr. and Jean stayed with Milton Crane, Jean's husband, in his Foster City apartment. George Jr. spent Saturday, the 17th, with Peter Sylvester. They attended the luncheion of the Half Century Club reunion of Stanford University and visited with President Lyman of Standford University. They also visited with Carol Green Wilson, whose brother, Baldy Green, was a friend of George Jr. at Stanford and the second wife of Frank Fish Walker. Frank Fish Walker and George Jr. were members of the Breakers Club at Stanford. That evening Milton, Jean, Peter and George Jr. had dinner in Palo Alto.

Sunday, the 18th of May, Milton drove Jean and George Jr. across San Mateo bridge to Walnut Creek where they visited with Fred Shipp, a close friend of George Jr. They were both members of the Delta Chi Fraternity at Stanford University and were roommates. Dinner was had at the Round Hill Country Club. Fred had a slight stroke in February, 1980 from which he was

recovering. Jean and George Jr. returned to Phoenix, Sunday, May 18, 1980.

On June 13, 1980 George Jr. received a mailgram from Peter S. Bing, President of the Board of Trustee, of Stanford University stating that Donald Kennedy had been elected the eighth president of Stanford University as of August 1, 1980.

The Arizona Republic of Sunday, June 22, 1980 had a fine article with pictures of the Arthur and Sadie Luhrs' home on the east side of north Central Avenue, just north of Bethany Home Road, stating, "Vintage home retains its flavor as it ages." Designed by architect, Edward Varney, for Arthur and Sadie Luhrs, (the Luhrs family played a major role in the development of downtown Phoenix and several buildings, including a hotel, bear their name). The modified colonial style is reminiscent of an English country home. Spacious green lawns and enormous shade trees lend a park-like effect to the setting. The house, when built, cost $50,000.00 and that did not include the two and one half acres that went with it.

The Arizona Republic of Wednesday, June 28, 1980 stated, "City okays property acquisition for plan to expand Civic Plaza". Approval to acquire 28 parcels of property as part of a proposal to double the size of the Civic Plaza was given Tuesday by the Phoenix City Council. The parcels are in a four block area south of the downtown Plaza being the property bounded by Washington and Madison Streets and Second and Fifth Streets.

Skidrow and the "Deuce" which have always been a detriment to the downtown and the Civic Plaza are located in the four block area to be purchased.

In 1964, the Civic Plaza Association was organized, of which George, Jr. was a charter member. At that time, John Beatty of the City Planning Department, had prepared a layout for an area east of Central Avenue and south of Washington Street to be known as the Civic Plaza. The purpose was to balance the east and west side, south of Washington Street and also wipe out the skidrow and the "Deuce" with one sweep. Everything was going along smoothly until one day George, Jr. heard that the Civic Plaza was to be built north of Washington Street. This upset him. He wrote letters to each member of the association pointing out the many reasons the Civic Plaza should be south of Washington Street, if for no other reason than to get rid of the skidrow and the "Deuce." If the property north of Washington was bought for the Civic Plaza, the land south of Washington Street eventually would have to be purchased to get rid of the undesireable area.

The land value south of Washington Street was much less than the land value north of Washington Street. Thus, for the same price, much more land could have been purchased which would have made it unnecessary to secure additional land today, 1982. The price of land in 1964 was much less than in 1982. Unfortunately, the taxpayer has to pay for the mistakes.

George H.N. Luhrs, Jr. was 85 on June 28, 1980. He lives with his niece, Jean Stroud Crane, who with her husband Milton Crane sent out the following invitations to over three hundred of George, Jr.'s friends.

We would be pleased to have you help us celebrate

George H. N. Luhrs Jr.'s

85th Birthday

on Sunday afternoon from two to six o'clock

June twenty-ninth, nineteen hundred eighty

at 5201 North Saddle Rock Drive, Phoenix

Jean and Milton Crane

Regrets only
959-1171

The guest list featured a mix of local who's who, both past and present as several hundred old timers and newcomers turned up for a Sunday afternoon birthday party for Mr. Downtown himself, George H. N. Luhrs Jr., at the home of his niece Jean Stroud Crane. Although the 85 year old businessman has formally retired, he hasn't slowed down. Luhrs is busy working on a family history. The party was a big success. George, Jr. told them he extended an invitation to his 90th birthday.

On April 13th, 1979, Michael H. Peloquin and Richard Thomas acquired ownership of the Hotel Luhrs from Peter Pocklington of the Patrician Land Company of Alberta, Canada. The Hotel Luhrs (originally the Commercial Hotel) was erected on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street in 1887. It covered

a quarter of a block in downtown Phoenix. It had a fire June 28 1916, gutting out some of the interior. The hotel was not open from June 28, 1916 to February 10th, 1917, during which time repairs were made and the hotel modernized. In 1924, the exterior was changed and the name changed to the Hotel Luhrs after the founder an Arizona pioneer, Geo H.N. Luhrs. The hotel is the oldest landmark in the original City of Phoenix. When it was built, it was the tallest and largest building in the southwest. Everything was centered around the Commercial. It was the first brick hotel and three story building in Phoenix, the first to have refrigerated air conditioning, the first to comply with the City fire code and the site of the city's first movie theatre called the Lyric.

Peloquin and Thomas planned a six million conversion into a European style hotel.

On September 20th, 1980, the Arizona Republic stated, "Downtown Luhrs Hotel will be demolished to make room for high-rise." Mr. Peloquin acknowledged that the hotel had been slated for demolition because renovation plans proved to be unfeasible.

Although it could not be determined specifically when the Luhrs structural flaws were detected, city officials said the City Council rezoned the site last Spring to accomodate a high rise structure after the developers had indicated that a refurbishing was not realistic. Mr. Warner Leipprandt, the City Deputy Planning Director, said city officials are concerned about

the loss of the historical site but probably would not act to prevent it. Councilman Ken O'Dell, head of the Council's Redevelopment Committee stated, "if there is a structurally unsafe building in the downtown area, historical or not, we will not move to save it." It is difficult to understand how the Hotel Luhrs could be declared as an unsafe structure when the City Building Department, at all times, checked the work that was done.

In 1909 and 1911, additions were made to the Hotel. Licensed architects and contractors were employed. In 1916, when the hotel had a fire, the City Building Department checked the entire structure. The repairs cost three times more than was allowed by the first insurance companies. The Building Department required many changes to be made and much work to be done after a settlement had been made with the fire companies.

Unfortunately, our young cities that have become populated in recent years, do not appreciate the historical significance of old buildings. They have not lived in the community long enough to know what part certain buildings have played in the building of the Hay Town into a City. They let them be torn down before they realize what they have done. Our older and more experienced cities are willing to permit variances and exceptions to keep a historical monument. The Commercial Hotel was one of the City of Phoenix's last landmarks. When it was built, everything was brought by teams, there being no railroad closer then Maricopa. There was no electricity.

Everything was tough. The pioneers of early Phoenix put up with things that the late generation would not.

Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs did not know what it meant to quit. Without them there would not have been the Commercial Hotel and many other things. The Commercial Hotel (Hotel Luhrs) was not only the oldest hotel in Arizona but the oldest structure in the original City of Phoenix. All of Arizona's early Governors, United States Senators, United States Representatives, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert C. Hoover, early pioneers, developers, cattlemen, sheep men, cowboys and individuals in every trade and occupation stayed at the Commercial Hotel. (The early registration books and other valuable papers etc. have been given to the Library at Arizona State University.)

Historical monuments, once demolished, are gone forever. In the Arizona Republic of July 4th, 1980, was the following editorial under the caption, "Saving the Past." "Other buildings haven't fared so well. Some historical preservation leaders say too many are being torn down before the community realizes what it is losing in historical significance." Ann Patterson in the Arizona Republic of June 29th, 1980 said, "Restoration gives the past a chance."

The Commercial Hotel (Hotel Luhrs), during its 95 years of existence, stood sturdy on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street under all kinds of conditions, weather and circumstances for more years than the life of an average man.



Facing Patriots Park, in Phoenix, Arizona, bounded by Washington & Jefferson Streets and Central & First Avenues, are, on the left, the Hotel Luhrs, originally the Commercial Hotel, dating back to 1887. In 1878, Geo H.N. Luhrs had his wagon making shop, on the east portion of said property. The tall Bldg, in the middle, is the Luhrs Bldg., the first tall Bldg, in Phoenix, located on the S.W.Cor. of Jefferson St. & Central Ave. It opened April 1st,1924. Bichards Flour Mill was originally, on this property. It burned down. Geo H.N. Luhrs purchased the property, and the Commercial Corral & Fashion Livery Stable occupiws this corner,until the Luhrs Bldg was built. The tall Bldg, on the right, on the S.E.cor. of Jefferson St. & First Ave.is the Luhrs Tower,opened January 1st, 1930. In 1884, the Geo H.N.Luhrs family home, stood upon this cor.

The photograph was taken in December 1976 at the time the buildings and hotel were sold.

In the Arizona Legislative Review of March 18th, 1981 appeared the following, "In a matter of a few weeks, the oldest landmark in Phoenix will be gone, a victim of the cost of renovation and the changing pattern of the City's growth. The Luhrs Hotel stood on the corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street for 94 years and numbered among its guests many of the territorial governors, members of the legislature and prominent visitors to Arizona. It was originally called the Commercial Hotel and built by Geo H.N. Luhrs, a wagonmaker and Arizona pioneer. In the early days, it was the largest and tallest building (three stories) in the Rocky Mountain area. It was the first brick hotel in Phoenix, housed the first moving picture theater, was the first refrigerated air conditioned hotel in the city and the first building to conform to the city's recent fire code."

In 1966, California journalist, William Glasgow, described the Hotel Luhrs --"the only architecturally worthy vestige of the early West, in downtown Phoenix. The past and future of Phoenix came into most poignant conjunction at the intersection of Jefferson Street and South Central Avenue. There, delicately poised in time and space, amidst the fierce pressures of the inner city's fight for life, stands the Luhrs Hotel, too seldom recognized for what it truly is -- one of Phoenix's beautiful buildings. And, one of the few examples of good, indigenous architecture left in the city.

"This is a building that delights the eye. The columns

of its cool-shaded arcade marching in real rhythm; the veranda above, its greenery, still carefully tended, evoking the gamey chatter of cattlemen and drummers on hot desert nights; the tracery of the floor-to-ceiling doors and windows providing a perfectly harmonious frieze across the simple facing pink facade --- this is a structure that speaks in a quiet but firm voice. So many of the new buildings for all their height and strident glitter speak in anonymous voices. But not the Luhrs Hotel. If one but looks and listens, the Luhrs tells him where he is, where he's been and perhaps even where he is going."

"The history of the Luhrs Hotel is almost the history of the development of downtown Phoenix. It all began with a German immigrant, Geo H.N. Luhrs, who set up shop in 1878 as a wagon maker on a lot that became part of the land upon which the Luhrs Hotel stands. Though the hotel was built in three phases and many hands, the old hotel wound up with that peculiar structural unity that generations of builders were able to bring in the cathedrals of Europe, as though there were some internal organic quality of the structure itself which guided the hands of the different builders."

"To George Luhrs, Jr., the Luhrs Hotel, where he was born, is a living thing that he fiercely loves and refuses to let die. The Luhrs Hotel is truly a building with character. After the Commercial Hotel (Luhrs Hotel) fire, June 28th, 1916, which partly gutted the inside of the hotel, Geo H.N. Luhrs received

the following letter:

"Executive Office
State House
Phoenix, Arizona

July 1, 1916

Dear Mr. Luhrs:

Having heard of the serious loss which you recently suffered, through a fire, which destroyed a portion of your hotel, I desire to express my sympathy for you in your present trouble, and to venture the hope that this misfortune will not visit permenent hardship upon you.

The Commercial welfare of any community is directly dependent upon the individual success of its representative business man, among whom you are prominently numbered, so far as Phoenix is concerned.

With this explanation, you will understand how earnestly I am interested in seeing the Commercial Hotel recover its usual efficience as one of the leading hostelries of the State.

With Kind REgards
Yours Sincerely
Geo W.P. Hunt
Governor of Arizona"

The City of Phoenix made a big mistake in letting the Commercial Hotel (Hotel Luhrs) get away from them and be torn down. It was a gem of a historical monument that presents itself but now and then. The Commercial Hotel (Hotel Luhrs) depicts Phoenix, Arizona from 1887 to 1980, almost one hundred years. True, all costs are high today, 1982, but reasonable building concessions might have made it possible to have kept the historical hotel. In December, 1980, they started demolishing the Commercial Hotel (Hotel Luhrs). Soon thereafter, the landmark was gone. Its station on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson

Street was vacant for the first time since 1887. The King is dead, long live the King.

In the Phoenix Gazette of July 19th, 1980, appeared a story about Mr. Downtown's family history, which is the same as saying history of downtown Phoenix, because it is impossible to talk about George H.N. Luhrs Jr. and his remarkable family without talking about downtown Phoenix. They are one and the same. At an age when most of us would be happy just to sit and rock, Luhrs, 85, has embarked on a new career: author and historian. Since his retirement in 1976, when the last of his family's extensive downtown holdings were sold, Luhrs has been diligently researching the history of his family. "The history of my mother and father goes side by side with the history of the City of Phoenix," Luhrs said. "My mother and father deserve a lot of credit. I just made up my mind to write a history of the Luhrs family so there will be a record of this thing."

Luhrs has traced his family back to the 18th Century Germany, but for Phoenix the record begins when his father, Geo H.N. Luhrs, a German immigrant, settled here in 1878. The elder Luhrs built the Commercial Hotel, later renamed the Luhrs Hotel, at the northeast intersection of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street. The family's downtown property eventually included the Luhrs Tower, the Luhrs Building, the Arcade linking the Tower and the Luhrs Building, the Luhrs Parking garage and the Luhrs Central Building. The Commercial Hotel, where George Luhrs, Jr. was born, is the oldest hotel in Phoenix. Its guest registers,

which Luhrs donated to Arizona State University, are a who's who of Arizona and American history.

"In its early days, the hotel housed the people who helped make this a town and also helped make the State," Luhrs said. "The Luhrs family from 1878 to December 22, 1976, were continually building. People moved away from the downtown but we remained. We didn't let our buildings deteriorate. We kept them up. My father bought several pieces of property and every time he sold it was with the stipulation that something be done there, that it be improved."

Luhrs has no shortage of material to work with in writing his history. The rooms of his apartment in his niece's home on the slopes of Camelback Mountain, are filled with family letters and documents ranging from his father's immigration papers to almost every letter any member of the family wrote to one another. The walls are lined with pictures of the family and its buildings and Luhrs has 14 large boxes crammed with hundreds of other photos, each neatly labeled and dated.

"My father and sister Ella were great collectors. The rest of us collected a little bit," Luhrs said. "My father never threw anything away. He kept all the letters he and my mother wrote. I've got them all. My mother and father were a great pair. I never heard them speak one harsh word to each other. I give my mother credit for keeping my father going because there were lots of times when he wanted to throw in the sponge," Luhrs said. "My mother and my father worked from the

time they got up to the time they went to bed. I know there were times when my mother didn't eat so us kids could eat." Luhrs plans to complete his research and begin writing late this summer. "I'm just hoping the good Lord will let me stay well enough for a couple of years. I figure it will take me a couple of years to finish and then I would like to write a story about myself," he said. The good Lord seems to be keeping Luhrs fit enough. He walks and swims and works out at the Y.M.C.A., six days a week. "I have always been active. If I am not doing something, I'm nervous." Luhrs, who managed every facet of the Luhrs family business until the properties were sold, misses his day at the office. "My heart is downtown. I don't care where I live," he said.

In April, 1980, Albert Luhrs and his daughter, Dr. Caro E. Luhrs, M.D. called upon George, Jr. and his niece, Jean Stroud Crane. Dr. Caro E. Luhrs received her medical degree from Harvard and practices in Washington, D.C. She has done a considerable amount of research work tracing down the Luhrs' and is positive there is a relationship between her family and the Geo H.N. Luhrs family. The Luhrs' probably are related back about 1609. Both Albert Luhrs and his daughter, Dr. Caro E. Luhrs, M.D., are very fine people.

In the Arizona Republic dated July 21st, 1980, under the caption, COLLECTING ARIZONA HISTORY VIA WORD OF MOUTH, appeared the following article;

A one hundred year old woman was being interviewed

about the early history of the southwestern Arizona City. "What do you remember about the early days in the Yuma territory," she was asked. "Well," the woman answered in her most sage voice, "It was real hot in the summertime." Not everyone has fascinating stories to relate about Arizona history says Dr. Charles C. Colley, head of the Arizona Collection at Arizona State University but there are enough that we could go on interviewing forever and never catch up. For the past eight years, Colley has been virtually a one man staff assigned to compile an oral history of Arizona's pioneer years. Actually, the Arizona Historical Society began gathering data as early as 1886, Colley said, and Edith Kitt, the executive secretary of the Arizona Pioneers Historical Society, conducted as many as 2,000 interviews, mainly in Southern Arizona in the 1920's. But Colley is the first to attempt a comprehensive collection of tape recorded interviews with the people who shaped the state's future. "We have about 200 taped interviews," he said "but I could be in the field continually conducting more oral histories. There's a tremendous interest in the field now. The book 'Roots' stimulated a lot of that interest. But, if we don't get to those pioneers soon, they're going to die and we'll lost their historical insight."

Colley, who has a Bachelors, Masters and Doctoral degree in history, said history students are screened carefully before being allowed to conduct some of the interviews. The students must have patience and must prepare extensive background information

before they go out to interview. The oral history begins with a preliminary interview with the subject. The interviewer then listens to the tape and sends the interviewee an outline of topics to be discussed in more detail in the following interview. "Some of the elder people are self-conscious, especially with a tape recorder in front of them," Colley said. "Sometimes they cannot remember incidents, but don't want to appear senile."

The persons who are usually the best to interview are people who are used to expressing themselves either orally or in writing. Most people are flattered that they are asked to be interviewed and flattered that their opinions will be part of the record. Occasionally, people will refer Colley to a 95 year old whose mind is sharp as a tack. "That usually means that the person has been telling those stories for the last 60 years and the stories get better every year," he said. "But a George Luhrs makes it all worth while." Luhrs was born in 1895 in the Hotel Luhrs and has a "brilliant, encyclopedic" memory for names, dates and places associated with Phoenix, Colley said. George Luhrs, Jr. recorded more than seventeen tapes for Mr. Colley which are a part of the Luhrs history, which have been turned over to Arizona State University.

On May 16th, 1980, George, Jr. and his niece, Jean Stroud Crane, took the T.W.A. plane to San Francisco, California. Jack Cromer and his wife met the plane. Jack Cromer worked for the Luhrs Properties many years ago as an elevator operator in

the Luhrs Tower. Mr. and Mrs. Milton Crane, Mr. and Jrs. Jack Cromer and George, Jr. had dinner together. George, Jr. stayed with Milton and Jean Crane in the evenings in Milton Crane's apartment at Foster City, California.

On Saturday, May 17th, 1980, George, Jr. met Peter Sylvester on the Stanford University campus, where they attended the Half Century Club's annual Spring reunion. George, Jr. met and talked to Stanford University's President, Dr. Lyman and Carol Green Wilson, secretary for all the classes graduated fifty years or more. Her brother, "Baldy" Green was a friend of George, Jr. at Stanford University. Carol Green Wilson passed away shortly after this reunion.

George, Jr. also talked to Frank Fish Walker's second wife. Frank and George, Jr. were classmates at Stanford University and both were members of the Breakers Club.

The law school was visited. That evening, Milton and Jean Crane, Peter Sylvester and George, Jr. had dinner in Palo Alto at one of Peter's favorite places.

On Sunday the 18th, Milton and Jean Crane and George, Jr. took a ride over San Mateo bridge and on to Walnut Creek, California where they visited with Fred Shipp, a close friend of George, Jr. since 1918 and also a fraternity brother and roommate. Fred took them to lunch at the Round Hill Club. Fred had a slight stroke in February, prior to this visit. That evening, Jean Crane and her Uncle George, Jr. returned to Phoenix.

William Smith Pickrell II was born in Phoenix, Arizona in 1896. In the early days, his folks were engaged in the Ostrich Farm business, which business became extinct when ostrich plumes were no longer used. In the late 1900's, the Pickrells lived on the west side of north Second Avenue, just south of McKinley Street. In the early 1910's they moved to Seventh Avenue, just north of Five Points (or Seventh Avenue and Van Buren Street), now occupied by the Luke-Greenway American Legion Post. Smith, as he was called, became a good friend of George, Jr. from about 1908, when they both attended Center Street Grammar School. Smith and George, Jr. graduated from Grammar and High School together.

When the Pickrells lived on north Second Avenue, Smith and George, Jr. would ride their bicycles back and forth. When they were in the 7th grade they had Miss Sutherland for their teacher. One recess, after having had a written spelling test, Smith and George, Jr. checked with each other on the spelling of certain words, especially the word separate, which Smith had not spelled right. Smith went up to the classroom, and after finding his paper he corrected the spelling of the word separate.

Smith and George, Jr. both attended the same Sunday School class at the Episcopal Church on the west side of South Second Avenue between Washington and Jefferson Streets. Mrs. Martin, the wife of Dr. Ancil Martin, was the teacher. The Pickrell's home on Seventh Avenue was large. Smith's cousins William Watson, Dorothy and Kenneth Pickrell lived there too.

There was a tennis court that everyone enjoyed.

Perry and Martha Casey were good friends of Smith and Dorothy Pickrell. In high school, Carl Ruppert and Ivan Wiberg were friends of Smith. After graduation from Phoenix Union High School in 1914, Smith went to work for the Phoenix National Bank located on the northwest corner of First Avenue and Washington Streets. In 1961, Smith retired as Secretary-Treasurer of the Arizona Livestock Production Credit Association.

Smith and George, Jr. often talked about visiting their eighth grade teacher, Miss Pinkerton, who married B.J. Jarrett of the B.J. Jarrett Hardware Co. They never did. One time Smith and George, Jr. met at the Arizona Club. Miss Pinkerton's name was mentioned and they agreed they should see her. A friend of Smith's pointed upward, saying it was too late.

Smith died in his home on July 4th, 1980. Services were at 4:00 p.m., Monday July 7th, 1980, at the Christ Church of the Ascension, 4015 Lincoln Drive. Smith was survived by his wife, Pleasance, sons William III, Henry and John, and nine grand-children.

Friday, August 4th, 1980, Adam Diaz, his wife and daughter Sally, drove over to Newport, California, taking George, Jr. with them. George, Jr. visited Keith Davis at Tustin, Dick Lyon at Laguna Hills and John Carr at Long Beach, all Delta Chi fraternity brothers whom he had not seen for sixty years. The weather was fine, especially to get a good tan. Going swimming in the ocean was really enjoyed. Going over, the trip was by

way of Blythe. The return trip was through San Diego and Calexico, arriving in Phoenix at 1:00 a.m.

Adam Diaz and his wife and George, Jr. spent September 4th through the 10th, 1980 at the Coronado Hotel at Coronado, California. The trip, both ways, was by plane. Being Labor Day, everything was crowded. Most of the time was spent resting.

July 18th, 1980, George, Jr. received notice from Joel P. Smith, Chairman of Inaugural events, that Donald Kennedy would be inaugurated as the eighth president of Stanford University on the afternoon of Sunday, October 12, 1980. A formal invitation was received, August 27th, 1980.

George H.N. Luhrs, Jr., a graduate of the class of 1920, had provided funding for a large classroom in the Crown Quadrangle to be named the Luhrs Room. One of Arizona's most respected families, the Luhrs have played a prominent role in the history and growth of Arizona since 1869. George H.N. Luhrs, Jr. was born in Phoenix, June 28th, 1895 when the population was around 2,500 and continues today to have an active interest in community affairs. He is writing a history of the Geo H.N. Luhrs Family. In 1979 he received a special recognition award from the Phoenix Historical Society.

Mr. Luhrs received an A.B. in 1918 and J.D. in 1920 from Stanford University. As an undergraduate, he was a member of the Glee Club, serving as president in 1919. In 1918 he was head varsity yell leader and president of the Stanford Chapter

of the Delta Chi Fraternity. He enlisted in the infantry during World War I and became a Second Lieutenant, graduating from the Fourth Officers Training Camp. After being discharged, he entered the Stanford University Law School. Following graduation from the Law School, he returned to Phoenix, Arizona, where he served as assistant Chief Clerk of the State Senate and studied for the Arizona Bar Examination, with his schoolmate and friend, Ernest W. McFarland, '22, who later became Governor of Arizona, United States Senator and finally the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Arizona. George H. N. Luhrs, Jr. received the highest grade in the examination.

After passing the bar, he joined the Phoenix law firm of Armstrong, Lewis and Kramer. In 1922, he took a leave of absence to arrange financing and construction of the Luhrs Building and stayed on to build the Luhrs Tower in 1929 and in 1958 a large parking center, all in downtown Phoenix. Luhrs managed these properties, while his brother Arthur, a Stanford graduate of the class of 1908, managed the Hotel Luhrs, which their father, Geo H.N. Luhrs, built in 1888.

The Luhrs Properties were sold December 22nd, 1976, at which time George H.N. Luhrs, Jr. retired. In 1957, the Downtown Merchants Association honored George Luhrs, Jr. for his outstanding contribution to the development, improvement and beautification of downtown Phoenix. In 1972, he was chosen "Mr. Downtowner" by the Civic Plaza Association.

Since his undergraduate days, George Luhrs, Jr. has maintained strong ties with the University. He has been instrumental in developing Stanford programs in Phoenix. He organized and was the first president of the Stanford Club of Phoenix, in 1932. He also served as financial chairman of the 1954 Stanford Phoenix Conference. Among his other Stanford interests, he counts the Law School, the Buck Club, the Alumni Association, of which he is a life member, and his Delta Chi fraternity brothers. Early this year, George Luhrs, Jr. was elected a member of the Stanford Associates, in recognition of his faithful interest and generosity. In the Luhrs room hangs a portrait and a plaque of George H.N. Luhrs, Jr. The gift was made December 1st, 1980.

Mrs. Patricia Simmons, a resident of Paradise Valley was elected to the Board of Directors of St. Luke's Hospital Medical Center. Patricia is the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Eisele. Lloyd Eisele's mother, Marie, is the sister of Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" (Mrs. Geo H.N.) Luhrs. Mrs. Patricia Simmons is a graduate of the University of Arizona. She served on the Committee to Reelect the President and was coordinator of the State Republican Party. She is a board member of Barrow Neurological Institute and has been president of the Junior League of Phoenix, Inc., Chairman of St. Luke's Board of Visitors and the Cancer Ball, and a Board Member of Compas, Inc.

George, Jr. heard of Dr. Phillip Berger, M.D., who had

been very successful with depression cases. He was at the Stanford University Hospital. After telephoning and making arrangements, he and his nurse Alpha Crary, flew up to San Francisco and then to Stanford on December 15th, 1980. The entire Christmas holiday was spent in the hospital as a patient of Dr. Berger. Dr. Estes was with him. Shortly after New Year, 1981, Dr. Berger dismissed George, Jr. He and Alpha returned to Phoenix.

Having been very busy all of his life, George, Jr. makes it a point to be doing something. He spends many hours at the typewriter, writing the Luhrs Family History, checking and getting facts and figures and labelling all pictures and photos. To get exercise he goes to the Y.M.C.A. every morning with Adam Diaz. He jumps into the swimming pool every morning after getting up, regardless of how cold the water is. As a matter of fact, he believes the shock of the real cold water does him a lot of good.

February 25th, 1981, marked the 100th birthday of the City of Phoenix, Arizona. This historic occasion was celebrated in Patriot's Park bounded by Washington and Jefferson Streets and Central and First Avenues. A special table was provided for those who had lived in Phoenix since 1900 and earlier. Musical entertainment and a brief program began at noon. Birthday cake was served to all guests and Mexican food lunch and beverages were available for sale.



CITY OF PHOENIX • OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

MARGARET T. HANCE
MAYOR

February 18, 1981

Mr. George Luhrs
5201 North Saddlerock Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85018

Dear Mr. Luhrs:

February 25th will mark the City of Phoenix' 100th birthday. On that date in 1881, the Arizona territorial governor signed the Phoenix Charter Bill which officially established Phoenix as an incorporated City.

The City Council and I invite you to help commemorate this historic occasion by attending a celebration party on Wednesday, February 25, in Patriots' Square. Musical entertainment and a brief program will begin at 12 noon. Birthday cake will be served to all guests and a Mexican food lunch and beverages will be available for sale.

A special table will be provided for people who have lived in Phoenix since 1900 or earlier. Reservations may be obtained by calling my secretary, Nancie Williams at 262-7111. During the program, we plan to give special recognition to the people who have participated in the early growth of Phoenix.

I hope you and your friends, family and colleagues will attend this special event to celebrate our City's first 100 years.

Sincerely,

Margaret Hance

Margaret T. Hance
M A Y O R

CITY OF PHOENIX • OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

MARGARET T. HANCE
MAYOR

February 26, 1981

Mr. George Luhrs
5201 North Saddlerock Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85018

Dear Mr. Luhrs:

Thank you for participating in the City of Phoenix Centennial Celebration on February 25 in Patriots' Square.

I enjoyed seeing you and having the opportunity to introduce you to hundreds of new Phoenicians on this historic occasion.

As you know, enormous growth and dramatic change have come rapidly to Phoenix. People like yourself and your family represent the strength and values of the City's heritage and culture. This firm foundation gives Phoenix many reasons for pride in its past and optimism for the future.

Thank you for helping the City of Phoenix pay tribute to its history as we embark on our second Century.

Sincerely,

Margaret Hance

Margaret T. Hance
M A Y O R

CITY
OF
PHOENIX
PARKS, RECREATION AND LIBRARY DEPARTMENT

RECREATION BRANCH OFFICE
2700 NORTH 15TH AVENUE
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007

February 26, 1981

Mr. George Luhrs
5201 N. Saddlerock Drive
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Mr. Luhrs:

A special note of appreciation to you and to each of your fourteen "Early Bird" companions for taking part in the Phoenix Centennial Celebration.

You came, you settled, you built and you celebrated.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Madeline Duncan

Madeline Duncan

MD/ln

February 20, 1976

The Editor
Phoenix Gazette
P. O. Box 1950
Phoenix, AZ 85001

Dear Sir:

It has come to my attention that the time is not far distant when the new park between Washington and Jefferson Streets, extending from Central Avenue to First Avenue, will be given a name. Therefore, I presume, it is not out of order for an interested citizen to offer his suggestion.

I have been in and out of Arizona throughout my lifetime and have maintained my enthusiasm and interest in the Territory and State as long as I can remember. If, for no other reason than longevity, and the accident of being born in Arizona, I take the liberty of making a suggestion to the appropriate commission that I hope will not seem presumptious.

The Luhrs' family has been associated with that area in Phoenix as far back as the early 1880's. When I first visited Phoenix, in 1915, I believe the present Luhrs Hotel was known as the Commercial Hotel. However, that pioneer hostelry has always been identified with the Luhrs' family who have run it and operated it successfully since its beginning. In spite of drought, wars and periods of social and political unrest, the Luhrs Hotel has well served Arizona travelers.

One of my earliest memories of the Luhrs Hotel was going there to meet Nellie Cashman and bringing her out to our home for dinner. I may have made some remark that there were newer and more fashionable hotels in Phoenix at that time, but it did not impress that famous pioneer lady, who was then on her way back to her mine in Alaska. Incidentally, that was her last visit in the United States. She is now buried in the cemetery near the hospital in Victoria, B. C., which she helped establish about 1870.

As far back as the 1920's, it became obvious to me that the town of Phoenix would be moving north and that Washington Street would

probably be the southern boundary of the business area. Naturally I was interested because at that time our family was operating the Phoenix National Bank, which was located on the corner of Washington and First Avenue. And it was about that time that the Luhrs' family built the Luhrs Building, which housed the Arizona Club for many years. The Luhrs Tower was built a few years later and became the headquarters for many leading lawyers in that era.

Over the years the town moved gradually, but inevitably, to the north until now the northern boundary of the business district has reached as far as Camelback Road. However, due to the exceptionally good management and tenacity of the Luhrs' family, they not only maintained but continuously improved their three major properties in the old area. Had they not done so, that part of Phoenix would have deteriorated to the point of no return.

In the opinion of many people who have witnessed the almost continuous changes that have taken place in Arizona since Statehood in 1912, there are a few notable places that have survived. The names of San Xavier Mission, in Tucson; the Copper Queen Hotel, in Bisbee; the Gadsen Hotel, in Douglas; the Santa Rita Hotel, in Tucson; and the Luhrs Hotel and office complex, in Phoenix, immediately come to mind.

Today the State of Arizona owes a great deal to its pioneer families; and one of the few means of recognizing this is by keeping their names alive for future generations. The politicians usually get the preference in this respect, since politicians usually do the naming. They also have more time, as well as the people's money, to use. On the other hand, the pioneers were preoccupied with creating and building rather than seeking the kudos many of them deserved.

Sincerely,

FRANK CULLEN BROPHY

FCB:mm

The Luhrs Building, the Luhrs Tower and the Hotel Luhrs all faced Patriot's Park, which many Phoenicians wanted to be called Luhrs Square. The Luhrs' came to Phoenix in 1878. They settled, they built and now they celebrated. The Park was crowded, the Luhrs' being represented by George H. N. Luhrs Jr., his niece, Jean Crane Stroud and his nephews, Allen Luhrs and John Luhrs. Mayor Hance seemed pleased to have the opportunity to introduce the Luhrs' to hundreds of new Phoenicians on this historic occasion.

Late in February, 1981 George H. N. Luhrs Jr., was bitten by a black widow for which he was sent to St. Joseph Hospital for treatment. The evening of April 15, 1981 George H. N. Luhrs Jr. was walking in the rear garden of his niece, Jean Stroud Crane. He turned and fell on the cement walk near the swimming pool, breaking his right hip. Dr. Edward McLoone, specializing in orthopedic surgery and fractures, operated on him in St. Joseph Hospital. After many weeks he was sent home to his niece's house only to be sent back to the hospital, thinking he might have had a stroke. He didn't seem to know or remember anything. He was sent home again to recuperate. For a time he seemed to be in another world. Slowly, things changed and he began to remember things. It was not long that his memory returned and was as sharp as it ever was. George Jr. has wondered if he did have a light stroke or if it was the medication they gave him that caused his trouble. He lost a lot of weight. He then returned to work on the Luhrs' family history.

On May 1, 1981, the final payment was made on the Luhrs Properties by the Patrician Land Company.

Thursday, February 12, 1981, the Eisele family celebrated the 100th birthday of their bakery, owned and operated by Edward Eisele until his death and followed by his son, Lloyd, and now by his grandson, Edward. The bakery was originally called the Phoenix Bakery and located at 7 West Washington Street. As they grew and needed larger quarters, they moved to the southwest corner of Seventh Avenue and Washington Street and then to its present location, 408 South 23rd Avenue when it became known as the Holsum Bakery and became a big operation.

Sally Eisele's daughter, Nancy Taylor Hushek, baked a large birthday cake for the occasion. Nancy and her husband, Paul Hushek, had baked the cake for the City's 100th celebration. For that cake they used twenty five pounds of flour and twelve dozen eggs. The cake was six feet in height. Each generation of the Eisele family has seen the bakery grow and grow.

Ed Eisele was a very fine kind man. In the early days when the baker's wife had a child, he took care of the expenses. He told the delivery men to leave bread for the poor.

Mrs. Edward Eisele, Marie, was the sister of Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs. Ed Eisele was fond of George Luhrs Jr., the feelings being mutual. George Jr. called him his millionaire uncle. As a boy of seventeen, George Jr. wrapped Butter Nut bread in the Phoenix Bakery at 7 West Washington Street.

Edward and Marie Eisele had one child, a son named Lloyd. After graduating from the University of Michigan, Lloyd took over the operation of the Phoenix Bakery, Ed Eisele having passed away in 1928. Lloyd Eisele married Ruth Genevieve Morley, his university sweetheart. Edward (Eddie) Eisele, who now operated the bakery, is their son. Lloyd died January 22, 1980.

Heritage Square in Phoenix, Arizona is a city block bounded by Sixth and Seventh Streets and Monroe and Adams Streets on which block are located the Rosson House, built in 1895, and several other houses. They are the only remaining group of residental structures from the original townsite of Phoenix. Now preserved as a city park and cultural center, Heritage Square homes have been restored and placed on the National Register of Historic places.

Walter Joseph Thalheimer was born September 16th, 1893 in the Thalheimer home on the southeast corner of Fourth Street and Jefferson Street in Phoenix, Arizona. He passed away from a stroke February 8th, 1982 in Good Samaritan Hospital in Phoenix, Arizona. Mass was in Saint Mary's Church at 12:00 noon, February 12th, 1982, Phoenix, Arizona. Entombment was in Saint Francis Cemetery, Phoenix, Arizona. He is survived by his wife, Ila Thalheimer. Walter graduated from the Center Street Grammar School and the Phoenix Union High School. He graduated from Stanford University and received his law degree from the University of Michigan. During World War One, he was in the

Marines. Walter practiced law in Phoenix. He was Mayor of the City of Phoenix, Judge of the Superior Court of Maricopa County and an Arizona State Senator from Maricopa County. His father, Joseph Thalheimer and his mother, Anna Thalheimer were early settlers in Phoenix. Mr. Joseph Thalheimer owned valuable property on the north side of Washington Street between Central Avenue and Second Street in Phoenix, Arizona. He owned and operated the Central Hotel and Saloon on the north side of Washington Street between First and Second Streets. He was a director of the National Bank of Arizona in the early days.

Mrs. Anna Thalheimer and Mrs. Geo H.N. (Catharina Margarita "Gretchen") Luhrs were good friends. Each Sunday Mrs. Luhrs would take Ella, Emma and George, Jr. to the Thalheimer home to visit. The Thalheimer and Luhrs children played with each other. Thus George, Jr. knew Walter all of his life. His brother, Ulrich, was seven days younger than George, Jr.

On March 12th, 1982, John Arthur Luhrs and Gillian Agmas were married in Trinity Episcopal Church, 114 West Roosevelt Street, Phoenix, Arizona by Very Reverend Elmer B. Usher.

On March 16th, 1982, Phyllis Diaz passed away in Good Samaritan Hospital, Phoenix, Arizona. Mass was in Saint Anthony's Church on March 19th, 1982 at 9:00 a.m., Phoenix, Arizona. Interment was at Saint Francis Cemetery, Phoenix, Arizona. Phyllis Diaz was the wife of Adam Diaz, who was associated with the Luhrs Properties for fifty-two years, from 1924 through 1967.

Adam and Phyllis Diaz were good friends of the Luhrs family, especially of George, Jr. Adam and George, Jr. worked together operating the office buildings of the Luhrs Properties.

The Diaz's lived at 1313 South First Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona. Mrs. Diaz spent a great deal of time in the Diaz's yard and on the garden, of which she was so proud. The Diaz's were a devoted couple, spending much of their time together. They raised four fine children, Mary Louise, Sally, Olivia and Joe. Unfortunately, Mary Louise had a very tragic death. The children have worked hard to obtain a good education, all having university degrees. There are six grandchildren, all working for a good education. There is one great grandchild, four years old. Mrs. Diaz was troubled with a bad heart and diabetes for some time. Her heart finally gave out. Mr. and Mrs. Diaz were very attentive to George, Jr. after the death of his sister, Ella and brother, Arthur, when George, Jr. became sick himself.

GEORGE H. N. LUHRS JR. GREW UP WITH PHOENIX

September 30th, 1869, Geo H.N. Luhrs arrived in Wickenburg, moving to Phoenix March 7th, 1878. Geo H.N. Luhrs, a wagon maker, hooked up with a blacksmith, opening shop on Centre Street and Jefferson Street. June 28th, 1895, George H.N. Luhrs, Jr. was born in the Commercial Hotel located on the northeast corner of Center Street and Jefferson Street. There were 2,500 people in Phoenix, excluding the Chinese and undesireables, according to the City Directory. The undesireables are ladies of the evening.

George H. N. Luhrs, Jr., in 1983 is 88 years old. He lives with his niece, Jean Stroud Crane at 5201 North Saddle Rock Drive on the slope of Camelback Mountain. In one section of the home, occupied by George H. N. Luhrs, Jr., is an old rolltop pigeon-hole desk of his father. There are pictures covering every inch of Luhrs' wall space. There are pictures dating all the way back to the middle 1800's; pictures of Luhrs' grade school classmates dressed in bloomers and bow ties; of the fiftieth reunion of the Phoenix Union High School Class of 1914; of the Fourth Officers Training Camp, World War I, of which Luhrs was a member; of horse and buggy days; of the Geo H.N. Luhrs home in 1884, where the Luhrs Tower now stands; of the Commercial Corral and Fashion Livery Stable in the late 1800's, where the Luhrs Building now stands; of the Commercial Hotel, later known as the Hotel Luhrs, on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street; of panoramic views of Phoenix, 1910-1964; streets of early Phoenix; of the Luhrs family and relatives and of the 1914 Stanford University Glee Club, of which Luhrs was a member.

Luhrs described Stanford University at that time as a poor boys university. There was no tuition. It cost Luhrs about $500.00 a year, which included train rides to and from Phoenix. George H. N. Luhrs, Jr. received his Juris Doctor Degree in Law in 1920.

In the 1940's the nation and Arizona were recovering

from the depression. Winter visitors who made the Arizona Biltmore Hotel famous in the 1920's were returning. The Luhrs' owned some of the original Biltmore Hotel stock. Luhrs said things really started booming in the 1940's with the development of Luke and Williams Field Air Force Bases. Servicemen who were stationed at the two bases during World War II, really liked it in Phoenix. They returned with their families and lured their friends to Arizona. There was a notion in the 1940's that Phoenix was really going to grow -- that it was going to be a big city one day. It grew from a big town to a little city -- I guess you might call it a big city, but there was a conflict among businessmen and residents about whether the charm would survive the growth. One sore spot among growth and no growth advocates was agriculture. There was some question in the 1940's about whether community leaders needed to set aside land and make sure farming did not take a back seat to urban sprawl.

Forty years ago, Phoenix was small. Everyone knew everyone and people didn't have to lock their doors. People could buy just about everything they needed in downtown shops. The rest they obtained during trips to Los Angeles. Everyone was happy and friendly. But Phoenix has lost some of the charm it had in the 1940's. Phoenix did grow and problems came with the growth. Crime came. The problems came.

Luhrs devoted all of his time to the maintaining and management of the downtown office buildings of the Luhrs Properties. He was married to them and no longer an eligible bachelor. Very

few teenagers had automobiles, in those days. Most of them rode bicycles or walked. There was no staying out after midnight. There was one special place for teenagers to go for entertainment. That was Riverside Park, just south of town on the north bank of the Salt River. There they could dance and swim or have a picnic. The Arbor on North Central Avenue and the Arizona Canal had dancing. Morley's on east Van Buren Street and the Four Mile House had dancing and swimming.

There was another conflict at the time, one that involved shopping centers and downtown business districts. Luhrs said many downtown businessmen were clamoring to move uptown into more modern mall areas. Luhrs always preferred the downtown idea. He was born in the Commercial Hotel and his heart has always been with the downtown. Luhrs thought it was all right to have the food stores in the residential areas but business belonged downtown.

Luhrs retired December 22, 1976, when the Luhrs Properties were sold. Since then, he has been writing the history of the Luhrs family.

On September 22nd, 1982, John and Kristen VanDenburgh had a blessed event. Erin Alexis VanDenburg was born September 22, 1982 at 8:02 p.m., 8 pounds 15 ounces, 21 3/4 inches. John VanDenburgh's great grandfather was the only brother of Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs, nee Dodenhoff.

Francis Joseph "Frank" Ryley was killed in an automobile accident the morning of September 22, 1982 at 32nd Street and

Osborn Street, Phoenix, Arizona. Services were at 11;00 a.m., Saturday, September 25th, 1982 at Christ Church of the Ascension, Paradise Valley. The church was packed.

Frank Ryley started the law firm of Ryley, Carlock and Ralston. Frank was born in Boulder, Colorado. He graduated from the University of Arizona Law School. He was on the Board of Directors of the Arizona Bank for 37 years, Goodwill Industries of Central Arizona, Inc., Phoenix Historical Society, Sons of the American Revolution, and Paradise Country Club. He was a member of the Phoenix Library Board, a past chairman of the Arizona Board of Bar Examiners, a life member of the Elks Club, a member of the Kiwanis Club of the Desert Caballeros, Phi Delta Phi Law Fraternity and Chi Phi Fraternity. He is survived by his wife Fritz Struckmeyer Ryley, daughters, Francis Hurley and Christine Ryley, son John H. and two grandchildren.

Attorney Francis Ryley was an advocate with rare ability to disagree without being disagreeable. As a leading representative for the oil and gas industry and other special interest groups, Ryley was often involved in controversial matters, but he always radiated such a quiet persuasive dignity that those who opposed him most vigorously, held him in high respect. Frank Ryley represented his clients with extraordinary skills but in a legal practice in Phoenix that spanned almost half a century. He was most concerned about the people of Arizona. He was a visionary who focused always on what so many miss, that in most differences there are common elements of benefit for all

parties, most especially the people. Frank set the example in pro bono publico. He regularly made his consumate legal skills, his vast knowledge of government and his gift of persuasion available to Arizona. As chairman of the Council on Organization of State Government, he was instrumental in many beneficial reforms.

On a more informal basis, he was readily available for honest, intelligent advice and is credited with helping in many difficult tasks while the state was in transition from the last days of a frontier to a dynamic modern era.

The lawyer and civic leader walks among us no more. He died as the result of injuries suffered in a traffic accident. Arizona is fortunate indeed, however, that he came this way and did so much.

At 4:00 p.m., Sunday, October 31st, 1982, the Eisele family had their friends join them in dedicating the Eisele Memorial Fountain at St. Luke's Medical Center in memory of Lloyd Eisele, who, as a Board Member had rendered a great service to the Medical Center. Lloyd's mother was the younger sister of Catharina Margarita Luhrs, nee Dodenhoff. Lloyd Eisele and George Luhrs, Jr. were cousins.

Upon February 11th, 1983, the Governing Board of Phoenix Elementary School District No. 1, officially rededicated the Kenilworth School, 1210 North Fifth Avenue, at which time they established The Hall of Fame to honor former students of the District who made significant contributions to the district, benefited from their association with the district, or who

have been recognized in their field of endeavor. George Luhrs, Jr. was nominated to the Phoenix Elementary School District Number One Hall of Fame. His framed picture was hung in the hallway outside the District Historic Room. George Luhrs, Jr. attended Center Street Grammar School on the block bounded by Central Avenue, First Avenue, Monroe Street and Van Buren in Phoenix, Arizona. He began school at the Center Street School in the Fall of 1901 and graduated from said school in the Dorris Opera House on the north side of Washington Street, between Third and Fourth Avenue on June 2nd, 1910.

A couple of days after Christmas, 1982, George, Jr. had to be in St. Joseph's hospital to get his medicine straightened out. He was there ten days.

The hernia George, Jr. had on his right side kept getting larger and larger. The middle of March, 1983, he entered St. Luke's Medical Center and Dr. Zahn did the operation. It was the size of a grapefruit. George, Jr. entered St. Luke's Tuesday afternoon, was operated upon early Wednesday morning and went home Friday noon. He returned to the Y.M.C.A. for exercise Monday morning, March 28, 1983.

The middle of May, 1983, George, Jr. and his niece, Jean Stroud Crane, flew to San Francisco, California, going to Stanford University to see the classroom in the Stanford Law School funded by George, Jr. and named the "Luhrs Room" after him. They visited the "Luhrs Room" and seeing the portrait and plaque of George, Jr.

on the wall. The professor introduced him to the class as the man whose portrait and plaque was on the wall. The students clapped and George, Jr. acknowledged their applause. George, Jr., his niece and Peter Selvester had lunch at the faculty club house with the Dean of the Stanford Law School, John Ely and the Assistant Dean, Miss Victoria Diaz. The next day, George, Jr., his niece Jean Stroud Crane and her husband, Milton Crane, drove across the San Francisco Bay over Dunbarton Bridge to Walnut Creek, to spend the day with Fred Shipp, a close friend of George, Jr. since 1918 when they were roommates in the Delta Chi Fraternity House at Stanford University, sixty-five years before. They returned over the San Francisco Bridge, then driving around San Francisco. The next day they returned to Phoenix.

The later part of May, Milton, Jean and Gretchen Crane flew to Greece, sightseeing. While there, they took a cruise on the Aegean Sea, stopping at several islands and Istanbul, Turkey. On their flight back to Phoenix, they stopped at Madison, Connecticut for Nick Crane's graduation from Grove School.

On June 28th, 1983, George, Jr. celebrated his 88th birthday. Allen Luhrs and his wife Heather, had dinner for him at their home on East Glendale Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona. Present were his nephew, Allen Luhrs, and his wife Heather, his niece Jean Stroud Crane, his nephew John's wife, Gill Luhrs, Allen's son and George, Jr.'s Godson, Arthur Cleveland Luhrs II and his girlfriend. George, Jr.'s nephew, John Luhrs was at Pine Top, Arizona, playing golf.

Mary Todd Long, the mother of Alma Luhrs, nee Mishke, and the mother-in-law of John Arthur Luhrs, was born in Willowhill, Illinois, March 31st, 1895 and died in Phoenix, Arizona, July 22, 1983, being 88 years of age. She was the great niece of Mary Todd Lincoln, the wife of President Lincoln.

On March 31st, 1982, John Luhrs had a total hip replacement. In May, 1983 John Luhrs had eye surgery to have his cataracts removed.

On August 15, 1983 George, Jr. was presented with his 67 year certificate as a master Mason.

The last week of October, 1983, George, Jr. was admitted to St. Luke's hospital for pneumonia, he was treated for a week and released. At that time his medicines were fouled up and he was overmedicated and had a very adverse reaction to it.

In October of 1983, Virginia Luhrs Short, Allan Luhrs' second daughter, and her husband Rex Short had a son named Cody Short.

On November 6, 1983, George, Jr. was admitted to St. Joseph's Hospital for treatment of drug dependancy and depression brought on by the mix-up at St. Luke's Hospital a week before. He was at St. Joseph's Hospital until the 2nd of December. He was allowed to come home for Thanksgiving to be with his family.

He was home until the 31st of December when, under emergency conditions, he was admitted to St. Luke's hospital for aspiration pneumonia brought on by what was later diagnosed as a mild stroke. His condition was not good, and doctors weren't sure

that he was going to live. His recovery was very slow and he was in the hospital for 22 days.

On March 15, 1984, the Luhrs Insurance Agency, owned by John and Allan Luhrs, was sold.

On April 14, 1984, Deborah Taylor, daughter of Sally Ann Eisle Taylor and Robert Taylor was married to Jerry Keaton.

On May 1st, 1984, George, Jr. had the cataracts removed in his left eye.

On June 9th, 1984, Katherine Rorbach, daughter of Mrs. James Pat Simmons and Mr. Clark Rorbach, was married to Mr. Alfred Charles Cornish.

On May 1, 1984, George, Jr. underwent surgery for a cataract in his left eye, hoping for greatly improved vision.

On May 20, 1984, George, Jr. was given a reception in his honor by the Arizona Collection of the ASU Libraries and the ASU Library Associates for the presentation of the Luhrs Family Papers.

As of the year 1983, six generations of the Geo H.N. Luhrs family have lived in the United States of America (1867-1983), one hundred and sixteen years; in the State of Arizona (1869-1983), one hundred and fourteen years; in the City of Phoenix (1878-1983), one hundred and five years.

The first generation is Johann Christoph Luhrs, who came to the United States of America for seventeen years; to Arizona, fifteen years; to the City of Phoenix, Arizona, six years, after his son Geo H.N. Luhrs, the second generation, who came to the United States of America in 1867; to the State of Arizona in 1869; and to Phoenix, Arizona, in 1878.

The third generation are the children of Geo H.N. Luhrs and his wife Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs, namely Arthur Cleveland Luhrs, Ella Louise Henriette Taylor, nee Luhrs, Emma Sophia Johanna Stroud, nee Luhrs, and George Henry Nicholas Luhrs, Jr. The fourth generation are their grand children, namely Arthur Allen Luhrs, John Arthur Luhrs, George Luhrs Stroud and Jean Margaret Crane, nee Stroud. The fifth generation are their great grand children, namely Margaret Suzanne Rogers, nee Luhrs, Virginia Forbing Short, nee Luhrs, Jan Elizabeth Stephens, nee Luhrs, Arthur Cleveland Luhrs II, Marie Sandra Tiffany, nee Luhrs, Sarah Jene DeChristina, nee Luhrs, Catharina Luhrs Stroud, Mathew Nicholas Crane and Gretchen Simin Crane. The sixth generation are their great great grand children, namely Ann Elizabeth Emmons, Mari Emmons, Kelli Suzanne Short, Jennifer

Short, Lindsley Suzanne Stephens, Robert Luhrs Stephens, Jennifer Stephens, Michelle Todd Tiffany, Michael Edward Tiffany, Jr., Paul Luhrs Tiffany, Christopher John Tiffany, Lisa Luhrs DeChristina, Lori Lynn DeChristina and Joseph Bruce DeChristina.

Although some of the original, early farmers of the Salt River Valley, which in those days might more fittingly have been called "Hell's Hole", and now called the Valley of the Sun, met upon October 20th, 1870, for the purpose of founding a permanent town, which they named Phoenix, Arizona. It was not until February 25th, 1881, that the Arizona Territorial Governor signed the Phoenix charter bill, which officially established Phoenix as an incorporated city, which was the north one-half of Section 8, Township 1 N, Range 3 east.

On February 25th, 1981, Mayor Margaret T. Hance, the City Council and all of Phoenix, celebrated the City of Phoenix' Centennial (100th) birthday. George Luhrs, Jr., his niece Jean Stroud Crane, and his nephews, Allen and John Luhrs, were present for the occasion. As the City of Phoenix celebrated their 100th birthday, the Luhrs' celebrated their one hundred and third (103rd) birthday, George, Jr.'s father, Geo H.N. Luhrs, having ridden into Phoenix on horseback upon March the 7th, 1878, which was to be his home and that of his relatives for the rest of their lives. Thus, the six generations of the Geo H.N. Luhrs and his wife Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs family have lived and grown up together, side by side with the City of Phoenix, through the

good and bad times.

Two years after coming to Phoenix, Geo H.N. Luhrs was one of the largest land owners in Phoenix. When the Commercial Hotel (Hotel Luhrs) was built in 1887-88, it was the largest and tallest building in the southwest and the center of all activities in Phoenix. When he bought out his partner in 1890, people said he would not last thirty days. He and his wife were heavily mortgaged. In 1890, Geo H.N. Luhrs was threatened with foreclosure, but the Luhrs' did not know there was such a word as quit.

When George Luhrs, Jr. in 1923 proposed building the Luhrs Building, people in Phoenix said the city was not big enough to have a ten story building. When the bonding company was asked how they happened to let the Luhrs' have the money to build the building, and if someone didn't try to stop it, Mr. Alexander replied that one local bank talked against it but he found no one that said the Luhrs' didn't pay their bills.

Geo H.N. Luhrs taught his children to be honest, that their word was their bond, be truthful and always pay their debts. George Luhrs, Jr. dedicated his life to the Luhrs Properties and upon July 1st, 1968, he paid off the last Luhrs indebtedness. The Luhrs had vision, foresight and faith in the Salt River Valley (Valley of the Sun) as did most of the early pioneers of the Valley. They all had determination and "GUTS." The rugged, hard working, dedicated early pioneers of the Salt River Valley

giving their sweat and blood as they labored in the hot and arid desert, to make it liveable for those who came afterwards, laid a solid foundation for the generations to follow. The Geo H.N. Luhrs and Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs family are proud they were one of them. The Luhrs family left a lasting impact upon the City of Phoenix.

One of the biggest mistakes made by the City Fathers of Phoenix was letting the Hotel Luhrs (Commercial Hotel) be torn down. It had stood guard on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Jefferson Street for almost a century, being the oldest and last landmark of Phoenix. Older cities do everything they can to save and retain their old buildings. Newer cities wake up when it is too late.

Of great importance, and especially to the growth of Phoenix and the Salt River Valley (Valley of the Sun) was the erection of the Theodore Roosevelt Dam, dedicated in 1911. It brought in the Reclamation Service, with water from the Dam, to irrigate the desert land. The population greatly increased. The arid land was turned into farms and citrus groves.

Then came evaporative air-conditioning, followed in the early 1930's by refrigerated air-conditioning, of homes, offices, stores, etc. Phoenix became known as the air-conditioning capital of the world. In 1932, the Luhrs' cooled their office buildings by refrigeration, being one of the first installations in Phoenix. The Hotel Luhrs (Commercial Hotel) was cooled by refrigeration in 1936, being the first hotel so cooled in Arizona.

By 1936, the population of Phoenix was 58,000 people and the valley had about 110,000 inhabitants.

In 1942, during the Second World War, the United States Government placed Luke Air Field and Williams Air Field in the valley to train air cadets, the fields still being used for that purpose. A great number of cadets that were and have been trained at those two bases, liked the valley so much they returned after leaving the services. They brought their families and friends and it has been multiplying ever since.

The Luhrs family has been a part of it all. How Geo H. N. Luhrs and his wife, Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs would open their eyes to see Phoenix and the valley today, far different than the small hay town of March the 7th, 1878, when he rode into Phoenix to make it his home, and of March 17th, 1884, when he brought his bride, Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs to live here with him.

Letters They Wrote

Letters of Geo H.N. Luhrs and of Catharina Margarita "Gretchen", from May 26, 1887 through August 19, 1887, during the period of time she and their two children, Arthur and Ella Louise left Phoenix to visit her folks in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany.

They had been married three and one-half years before she left for her visit to Germany.

Letters from Geo H.N. Luhrs

to his wife

Catharina Margarita "Gretchen"

Most of the following letters from George to Gretchen have been reduced in size.

Letters written from Phoenix

1887

Letter 1

WELL HERRICK. GEO. H. N. LUHRS.

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

PROPRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE,

Blacksmith Shop, Madison Street, Between Center and Cortez. Livery Stable, South-West Corner Center and Jefferson Streets.

HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, June 26th May 1887

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 1

Phoenix, May 26, 1887

Dear Beloved Gretchen,

I had a great desire to write as soon as I arrived in Phoenix, but I returned too late, we met the mail in Greenhaws Ranch and only 20 minutes to 4 we arrived in Phoenix. I went to the house right away and it looked so strange, so empty and sad. There was no one there to greet me or to give me a friendly look or say a friendly word. So I went to the middle room and there I saw a baby carriage but my little baby was not in it. Everything looked so strange and empty, it made me feel very lonely and abandoned. So I left and went to see my business in order to catch up with my work. There was a lot to do. Even though you are far away, you are very near to me because you dwell in my heart and no matter what I do or where I am you are in my thoughts my dear sweet Gretchen. I went to bed at 10:30 and your fine hand did not forget me, instead there was a lovely surprise for me when I turned the blanket back and I saw a letter. I had to open it right away and read the contents but I could not read it all. I had to sit down to finish reading it. My heart felt very heavy and I had to pray to God to release my pain. I prayed that he watch over you all and bring you all safely back into my arms, which will be wide open for you dear Gretchen. We had a thunderstorm here last night and I thought about you and how frightened you would be if there were a thunderstorm where you are. This morning I went out to eat but it did not taste as good as it would have in your presence. Also, our Mudi was as unhappy last night as I have ever seen him before, he too seems to miss you very much.

Dear Gretchen, imagine my joy when I got to the post office today and found a letter for me from Deming and found out that you all arrived well. Don't dispair my beloved Gretchen, God will bring you safely back again. I am praying for this and trusting the dear Lord.

My dear, I did not think I could write a long letter, but now the sheet has filled all too fast. Travel happily towards your destination and when you arrive in Germany, you'll receive another letter from me.

My best regards to Arthur and Louise and to you my dearest, unforgetable and beloved Gretchen. Adieu, and please write soon.

Your Georg

P.S. (in the front page margin) Kind regards to Dodenhoff and family from me, as well as to Christine and tell her to help you. Embrace and kiss my dear Arthur and little Louise for me and tell them that their Papa started this letter with tears in his eyes and ends it with tears, so agitated is his heart. Dear sweet Gretchen, I embrace and kiss you in my thoughts. So long and write soon.

Letter 2

COMMERCIAL HOTEL.

HERRICK & LUHRS. Proprietors.

Phoenix, Arizona, den 1ten Juny 1887

Meine Liebe Gretchen ...

der Bogen ist jetzt immer zu klein für mich und
muß ich diesen zu legen es ist einer von unserm
Hotel wie du wohl sehen wirst, welche wir
haben drucken laßen, Ich will dir aber
doch etwas neues Schreiben, dein alter Indianer
ist wieder von dem Todten auferstanden,
und hat er sich hier wieder am letzten Pfingst
Sonntage blicken laßen und gestern Dienstag
ging er wieder hier vorbei, Letzten Sonntag
fing ich an die 4 Bett tücher zu nähen wie ich
aber ein und ein halbes fertig hatte war
das Garn Alle und mußte ich es bis nächsten
Sonntag aufschieben, ich habe Georg Kahrs
hier schon seit den 26sten May mir zu helfen
ich will deinen Wunsch genüge leisten wo du
mir sagst arbeite nicht zu viel sonst wirst du
Krank um euren halben meine lieben muß ich

Leben und will ich leben um Euch zu beschützen
und zu führen, Meine Liebe teure Gretschen
du kannst dir denken wie einsam ich hier sitzen
muß die Uhr ist jetzt beinahe zehn und Heinrich
ist noch nicht hier, letzten Sonnabend war die Uhr
schon elf bis er kam also kannst du sehen
daß ich nicht viel Gesellschaft habe, aber jetzt
wo ich diese Zeilen schreibe bin ich lieber allein
weil meine Gedanken dann ungestörter mit
dir verweilen und ganz und gar mit dir
sind, sobald ich deinen lieben Brief von
Chicago erhalte werde ich ihn sogleich wieder
beantworten, und wirst du wahrscheinlich in ein
paar Tagen nach diesem einen andern Brief von
mir erhalten, und wenn deine Sehnsucht
nach einem Brief von mir so groß ist wie
meine so wird es dir wohl lieber sein, wenn
du jeden Tag einen hättest wie jede Woche,
denn ich erwarte schon jetzt täglich einen Brief
und ich weiß daß deine Sehnsucht eben so
groß ist, Grüße Vater, Mutter, und Christine,
Willie und Marie so wie du meine herzens liebe
Gretchen mit unsern lieben Arthur und Louise
seid herzlich Gegrüßt und Geküßt von deinem
lieben Georg.

Letter 2

Phoenix, June 1st 1887

My Dearest Gretchen:

My sheet of note paper is not large enough for me, so I am using some of the hotel stationery to write my letter to you.

I have some news for you. Remember the old Indian you knew? Well, he came back to town. I saw him this Sunday. Last Tuesday he came by the house.

Last Sunday I started to sew four sheets, but my yard ran out, so I had to finish them this Sunday.

Since May the 26th, Georg Kahrs has been with me, helping out. As you requested, I shall try not to work so hard, so that I will not get sick. So don't worry. I want to be around to protect and guide you and the children. My dear, I am sure you can imagine how lonely I am without you.

It is one o'clock and Heinrich is not home yet. Last Sunday it was almost eleven o'clock before he got in. You can see I do not have any company. I am glad to be alone when I write to you, so that I can be entirely absorbed in thoughts without being disturbed.

As soon as I receive your letter from Chicago, I shall answer it immediately. I will, also, write you another letter in a few days.

If you feel as lonely as I do, which I am sure you do, you would like a letter every day; at least every week.

Give my kindest regards to your parents, Christine and Marie. My love to you, dearest Gretchen, and to Arthur and Louise.

Georg

Letter 3

NEWELL HERRICK GEO. H. N. LUHRS.

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

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PROPRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE,

Blacksmith Shop, Madison Street, Between Center and Cortez. Livery Stable, South-West Corner Center and Jefferson Streets.

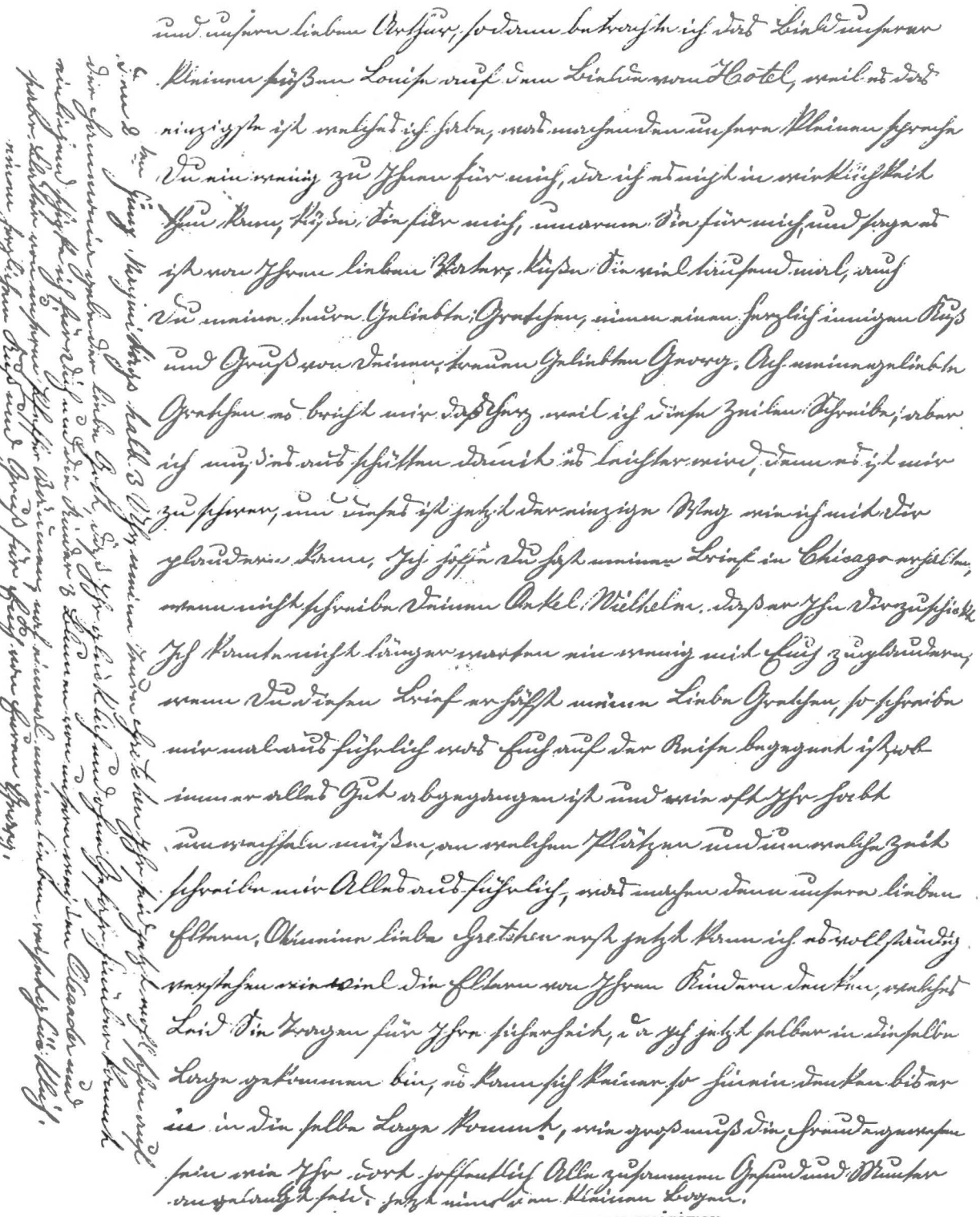
HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, den 1ten Juny 1887

Meine Liebe Theure Gretchen.

Ich hoffe daß Ich dich mit meinem Schreiben bei guter Gesundheit in Deutschland antreffe, so wie auch meine lieben Arthur und süße Louise. Meine teuren Ich kann garnicht sagen wie sehr Ich Euch entbehre, es vergehen keine fünf Minuten des Tages wo ich nicht Eurer Gedenke, vom ersten Augenblicke meines Wachens des Morgens bis sich meine Augen zuletzt schließen des Abends einsam und verlassen sitze ich da, was ich unternehme zu thun, hat keinen Trieb für mich wie sonst, wo ich Euch meine teuren herzlich geliebten in meiner Nähe wußte. Ach meine Herzens Geliebte Gretchen erst jetzt kann ich es vollständig empfinden, welchen Schatz ich in Dir habe, immer bin ich besorgt das Euch etwas befahlen könnte und ich so weit — so weit entfernt von Euch aber stündlich bitte ich den lieben Gott, daß er Euch sicher unter seinen Schutz nehme und glücklich wieder in meine für Euch weit geöffneten Arme zurückführe, welches Er auch sicher thun wird. Meine Gute Süße Liebe Gretchen, jeden Abend befohr Ich zu Bette gehe muß Ich erst deine Zeilen lesen, welche Du unter mein Kopf Kissen gelegt hattest und jeden Tag ein paar mal stehe Ich vor dem Bilde von Dir und

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION



LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 3

Phoenix, June 1st, 1887

My dear beloved Gretchen,

I hope you receive this letter in good health and happiness in Germany, with my dear Arthur and little Louise.

My dear ones, you cannot imagine how much I miss you. There are hardly any moments in a day when I am not thinking of you, from the time I get up in the morning until I close my eyes at night. I feel very lonely and deserted without you around. My dearly beloved Gretchen, only now I really know what a treasure I have in you. I am constantly worried that something may happen to you and I am so very far away from you. I pray to God every day that he may watch over you all and bring you back safely into my arms.

My dear Gretchen, every evening before I go to bed, I read your letter, the one you left under my pillow, and I look at the picture of you with Arthur and then the one of sweet Louise in front of the Hotel--this is the only one I have. What are our little ones doing? Please talk to them a little for me, since I cannot do it myself. Embrace them for me and kiss them, and to you too I send a very love-filled kiss and greetings from your loving and faithful Georg.

Dear Gretchen, my heart is so sad, but I have to spill it out on paper--since this is the only way now to communicate with you. I hope you received my letter in Chicago. If not, write to your uncle Wilhelm and have him send it to you. I could not wait any longer to speak to you, so I wrote you a letter. Please answer me as soon as you get this letter, write me a detailed description of your journey, if everything went well, and how often you had to change transportation and in which places.

How are our parents? You know, now I understand well how difficult it must be for our parents and how sad to have their children so far away--the constant worry about their well-being. Now I am in the same situation. No one can understand this until he is experiencing it himself. I can imagine how great the joy must have been for them when you all arrived.

Today is the 2nd of June, 3 p.m., you must be now on the Hammania and may God take you safely over the ocean. I am enclosing some flowers from our oleander bushes for you and the children. Travel well, my dear, and as always with all my love,

Your Georg

Letter 4

NEWELL HERRICK. GEO. H. N. LUHRS.

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

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PROPRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE,

Blacksmith Shop, Madison Street, Between Center and Cortez. Livery Stable, South-West Corner Center and Jefferson Streets.

HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, den 5ten Juny 1887

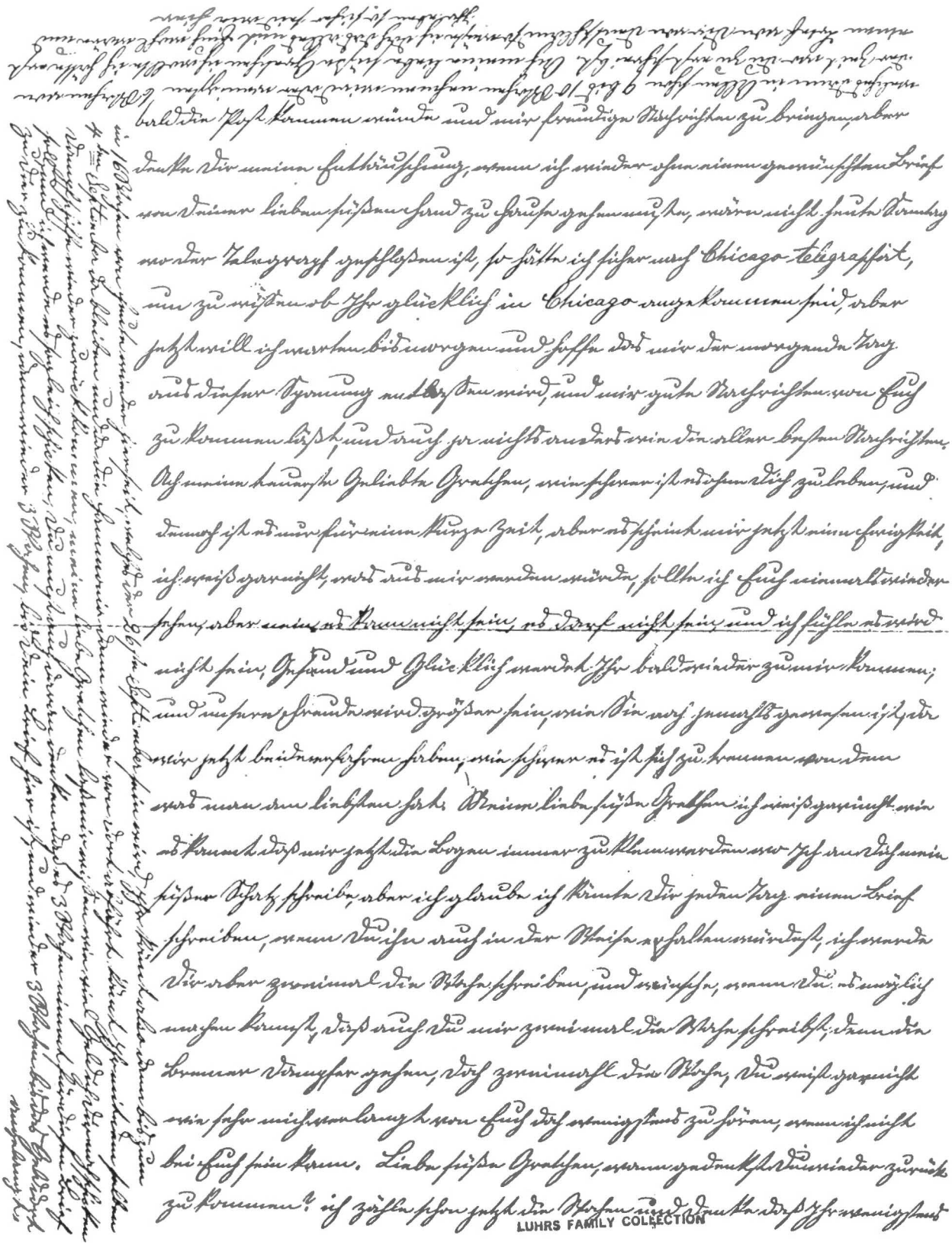
Meine Liebe Teure Gretchen,

Ich hoffe Dich mit meinen Schreiben bei guter Gesundheit anzutreffen bei deinen lieben Eltern, sowie auch meinen lieben süßen Arthur und Louise. Ich bin bis jetzt noch immer Gesund und Munter, aber mein Herz ist schwer und traurig, heute morgen nähte ich erst die Bettücher fertig, sodann fing ich an das Haus rein zu machen, und wurde ich jetzt einmal gewiß, wie viel Arbeit du davon hast, außerdem glaube ich nicht, daß ich es zum zehnten Theil so gut gemacht habe wie du es thun würdest, meine süße herzens liebe Gretchen du denkst dir gar nicht wie sehr ich Euch meine guten teuren Lieben entbehre, du meintest ich würde wohl nicht viel an Euch denken, aber es vergeht kein Augenblick wo ich nicht an Euch denke, heute den ganzen lieben Tag sind meine Gedanken bei Euch, und denke ich immer was meine liebe süße Gretchen und mein lieber Arthur so wie mein kleines süßes Baby dahwohl machen, auch du meine herzens liebe gute Gretchen wirst wohl oft denken was dein lieber Georg wohl macht und wie er hier jetzt die Stunden allein weilt.

Ach meine liebe Teure Gretchen gebe der liebe Gott das Ihr recht bald wieder in meine Arme zurück kehrt und niemahls laße Ich Euch ohne mich und meinen Schutz wieder gehen, ich habe es mir selber nicht so schwer gedacht, heute morgen wartete ich in großer Aufregung ob nicht

Meine liebe süße Gretchen ich wollte ich könnte erst wieder essen was du kaufst und in deiner Gesellschaft es schmeckt wie das viel besser D. Kaffee und Familie sind heute nach Tempe gefahren mit einen von dem 2 tägigen neuen Wagen der war hier heute morgen und fragte ob er einen haben könnte die Eisenbahn gedenken Sie bis zum 1 July in Phoenix zu haben, wenn Ihr wieder zurück kommt so könnt Ihr ja nur von Deming telegraphiren, wenn Ihr durch Abfahrt und wenn ich es mag ich machen kann keine ich Euch bis nach Malcolm entgegen ich nur, wohl einmal einen Bogen nehmen

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION



LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 4

Phoenix, Arizona, June 5, 1887

My dear precious Gretchen,

I hope this letter reaches you at home with your parents and everybody is in good health. Fortunately I am still in good spirits and good health even though my heart aches greatly for you. I finished sewing the bed linens this morning, and afterwards I cleaned the house. I realized now how much work this was for you, especially that you always did it ten times better than I have done. You have no idea how much I miss you all my dear beloved ones. You may think that I don't think about you, but there is not one moment where I don't think about you, like today the entire day I am thinking about my dear Gretchen, Arthur and Louise, wondering what you are doing. I suppose, you my dear Gretchen also think about me, what I am doing and how I pass the long lonely hours.

Dear Lord, I hope I can hold you all in my arms very soon and I shall never again let you go anywhere without my protection. I did not think it would be so hard. This morning I was anxiously expecting the mail and was hoping to get some good news about you, but nothing, you cannot imagine the great disappointment when again I did not receive anything from you. If today were not Sunday, I would send a telegram but the office is closed and so I have to wait until tomorrow and hope that tomorrow will relieve me from this anxiety and that I will hear from you. And the best news only I hope. My dearest Gretchen, how hard it is to live without you even though I know it's only for a short time, but it seems already like eternity. I don't know what would became of me if I should never see you again -- but this must never happen, it will not happen, I can feel it, you will return to me happy and healthy and our joy will be greater than it ever has been since we both have experienced how hard it is to be without each other.

The writing paper just does not seem to be large enough any more now when I write to you. I would like to write every day if I knew you could get them in this order, but as it is, I will write you twice a week and hope you my dearest will do the same if it's possible. The Bremer-ships go twice a week and so I should be able to communicate with you that way. I am so anxious to hear from you. When are you planning to come back? I am already counting the weeks, and hope you will be back in 16 weeks as of today which means you should be here on the 29th of September. You could stay therefore until the 4th of September and return with the Hammonia. Let me know how much money you need and I will send it right away. Remember it takes 3 weeks for each way, so only 6 weeks after you write will the money reach you, but it could take even 9 or 10. I only wish I had a letter from you from Germany telling me that everything is well with

Letter 4 (continued)

with all of you.

My dear Gretchen, I wish I could eat again some of your cooking and enjoy your company, it would taste so much better. Dr. Kahrs and family took a drive to Tempe in one of the new two-seater cars. He came here this morning and asked if he could have one. The railroad is supposed to be ready to go through Phoenix by July 1st, so when you come back you can telegraph from Deming when you leave there, and hopefully I can come to get you in Maricopa. I have to start another sheet of paper.

Letter 5

NEWELL HERRICK. GEO. H. N. LUHRS

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

PROPRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE,

Blacksmith Shop, Madison Street, Between Center and Cortez. Livery Stable, South-West Corner Center and Jefferson Streets.

HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, den 5ten Juny 1857.

Meine liebe teure Gretchen,

Es ist jetzt schon nach 10 Uhr und ich sitze ganz allein hier, also denke ich mich noch ein wenig mehr mit dir zu unterhalten. Es kam ein man hier heute an und blieb in unserm Hotel, ich wurde gewahr, daß er von Chicago kam also fragte ich ihn um welche Zeit er von dort abgereist sei und er sagte daß er von dort am letzten Sonntag abgereist sei habe sich aber 17 Tag unterwegs aufgehalten, und wenn ein Brief von dort am Montag Mittag abgegangen wäre so sollte er heute hier sein, also gedenke ich morgen sicher einen Brief zu erhalten. Meine Liebe süße Gretchen wenn du diesen Brief in Deutschland erhältst so sei auch ja nicht so traurig, sondern versuche doch etwas Vergnügen zu haben, denn du kannst ziemlich sicher sein daß es mir hier sonst gut geht nur daß ich Euch sehr entbehre, deßhalb schreibe mir recht oft da dieses doch jetzt der einzige Weg ist wie wir uns unterhalten können. Du kannst Vater und Mutter ja sagen, daß in 3 oder 4 Jahren Sie uns mal einen Besuch abstatten wir werden wohl die Reise bezahlen und dann kriegen Sie dieses Land und unsere Heimath auch mal zu sehen und sollte es Ihnen hier dann gefallen so könnten Sie ja auch hier bleiben sollte es aber nicht der Fall sein so würde es doch auch keinen Schaden thun wenn Sie uns mal besuchten, meine liebe süße Gretchen ich muß heute Abend wohl aufhören zu schreiben sonst habe ich morgen keinen

Meine Liebe teure Gretchen ich spicke der heute auch Alle Zeitungen und 1 Haaltbuchstaben deine Abreise hat auf 2 Kürzen mit rother Dinte gezeichnet, in deinem schreibe ich dir mehr meine liebe süße teure Gretchen ich will doch nicht in solcher Spannung lassen Grüße Vater, Mutter, Christel, Wilhelm und Maria so wie auch die mich mit fragen, gib ein paar herzliche Küsse, ein mich zu meinem deinem Orthur und mein süßes Bacy und du meine Herzens gute Gretchen sei viele mahls Gegrüßt und geküßt von deinem dich herzlich liebenden Lebens Wohl auf wieder ehe recht bald, laß mir nicht wenn du mehr Zeit haben muß Copy und ich werde regelmäßig schicken Ulr. Ad. Ali.

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Platz mehr auf diesen Bogen, wenn ich deinen Brief morgen Vormittag erhalte
Gute Nacht meine liebe süße Gretchen mit einem recht innigen herzlichen Kuß.
Auch zu dir mein lieber süßer Arthur und mein kleines süßes Baby gute
Nacht und wenn Mama diesen Brief erhält wird Sie Euch recht vielmahls
für mich küssen noch einmal gute Nacht Ihr teuren lieben daß es Euch wohl
gehe und Gottes Engel über Euch Wache und Euch beschütze. Gute Nacht.
Gute Nacht. Gute Nacht meine herzens liebe süße Gretchen.

Montag den 6ten Juny 1887.

Meine liebe teure Geliebte Gretchen

Du kannst dir garnicht denken mit welcher Spannung ich heute morgen
wieder auf einen Brief von dir wartete, die Post konnte gar nicht früh
genug kommen für mich und wie Sie zuletzt ankam wartete ich mit
Ungeduld und stand vor unsern Kasten es kamen 2 Briefe hinein einer
für Herrick & Co und der andere für — Newell Herrick vom Mrs Herrick
ich dachte jetzt kriegst du sicher einen Brief und wartete weiter, eine
Postkarte war das nächste von Chicago von der Lebensversicherung ich
wartete weiter immer ungeduldiger aber kein Brief, wird 2 Post
karten von Chicago Lebensversicherung ich warte weiter aber kein
Brief für mich denn jetzt waren alle Briefe abgeliefert, also das
nächste, ich gebe Herrick seinen Brief und warte mit Aufregung
den Erfolg, es kommt. Mrs Luhrs hat sich getäuscht gefunden in Ihrem
Onkel und Tante, sind am Sontag Morgen halb 8 Uhr in Chicago angekommen
und am Montag Nachmittag um 3 Uhr wieder abgefahren, also
fühlte ich mich doch ein wenig erleichtert, denn Ich wußte wenigstens
daß Ihr bis dahin Alle wohl waret, und denke jetzt in 2-3 Tagen einen

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Letter 5

Phoenix, June 5, 1887

My dear precious Gretchen,

It's after 10 p.m. and I am sitting here all alone with the desire to talk with you. Today a man arrived here, and stayed at the hotel. I heard that he was from Chicago so I asked him when he left there. He said he left only last Sunday and stopped for one day underway. He said if a letter was mailed there on Monday noon it should have arrived here today, so I am sure to find a letter tomorrow. My dear sweet Gretchen, when this letter reaches you in Germany, I hope you are not sad, but rather are having some good times. You don't need to worry about me. I am doing all right, but miss you very much. Therefore, I hope you'll write to me very often since this is now the only way we can communicate together. Tell mother and father that in 3 or 4 years they can come to visit us, we'll pay their trip and they'll be able to see this country and our way of life here, and if they like it here, they can stay here, but even if this is not the case, it will be an interesting visit, which they may enjoy. Dear Gretchen, I have to stop now, or else I'll have no space on this page to continue tomorrow after reading your letter. Good night my sweetheart, with a very loving, heartfelt kiss. Also to you my dear Arthur and sweet little baby - a good night. When Mama reads this letter to you, she'll kiss you many times for me. Once more, good night and may the Lord be with you and keep His watching eyes on your well being. Good night, good night, my dear beloved Gretchen.

Monday, June 6, 1887

My dear precious beloved Gretchen,

You have no idea with what anxiety I waited for the mail this morning, it could not have arrived soon enough. I was standing impatiently before our mailbox and could hardly wait for the mailman to put the mail in. I watched him put 2 letters in, one for Herrick and Company and the other for Newell Herrick from Mrs. Herrick. I thought any moment he'll hand me my letter, he gave me 2 postcards from an insurance company in Chicago, I was getting more and more impatient, but now all the mail was distributed and no letter for me.

I gave the letter to Herrick and waited anxiously for his comments. He read it to me. Mrs. Luhrs was disappointed in her uncle and aunt. They arrived Sunday morning at 8 a.m. and on Monday at 3 p.m. they already left. I felt relieved, because at least I knew that you had arrived there well and in about 2 or 3 days I should get a letter from you from New York. But how good it would have felt if I had gotten a few lines written by you. You can't imagine how deep my love is for you, so please don't let me wait too long for your letter. If I

had not heard about you this morning, I would have worried a lot and telegraphed to Chicago. I assume you did not receive my letter in Chicago. I mailed it too late because when I arrived from Maricopa the mail was already gone. So I wrote the next day, the 26th of May. I wrote today to Dodenhoff to forward my letter to Germany. Write to me, as soon as you receive it, and tell me whether it has been opened. I told him to write your name and address on the reverse of the envelope.

(First page margin): My dear Gretchen I am sending you today some newspapers and one Herald which describe your departure, I marked it with red pen. In 3 days I will write to you again, my sweet Gretchen, I don't want to keep you in suspense. Give my greetings to father and mother, Christine, Willie and Marie and to all who ask about me and to my dear Arthur give a specially warm embrace also to my baby and to you my dearest Gretchen all my love with a sincere kiss from your loving husband. So long, hope to see you soon and let me know if you need more money, I'll send it to you.

Bye-bye,
Georg

Letter 6

NEWELL HERRICK. GEO. H. N. LUHRS.

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

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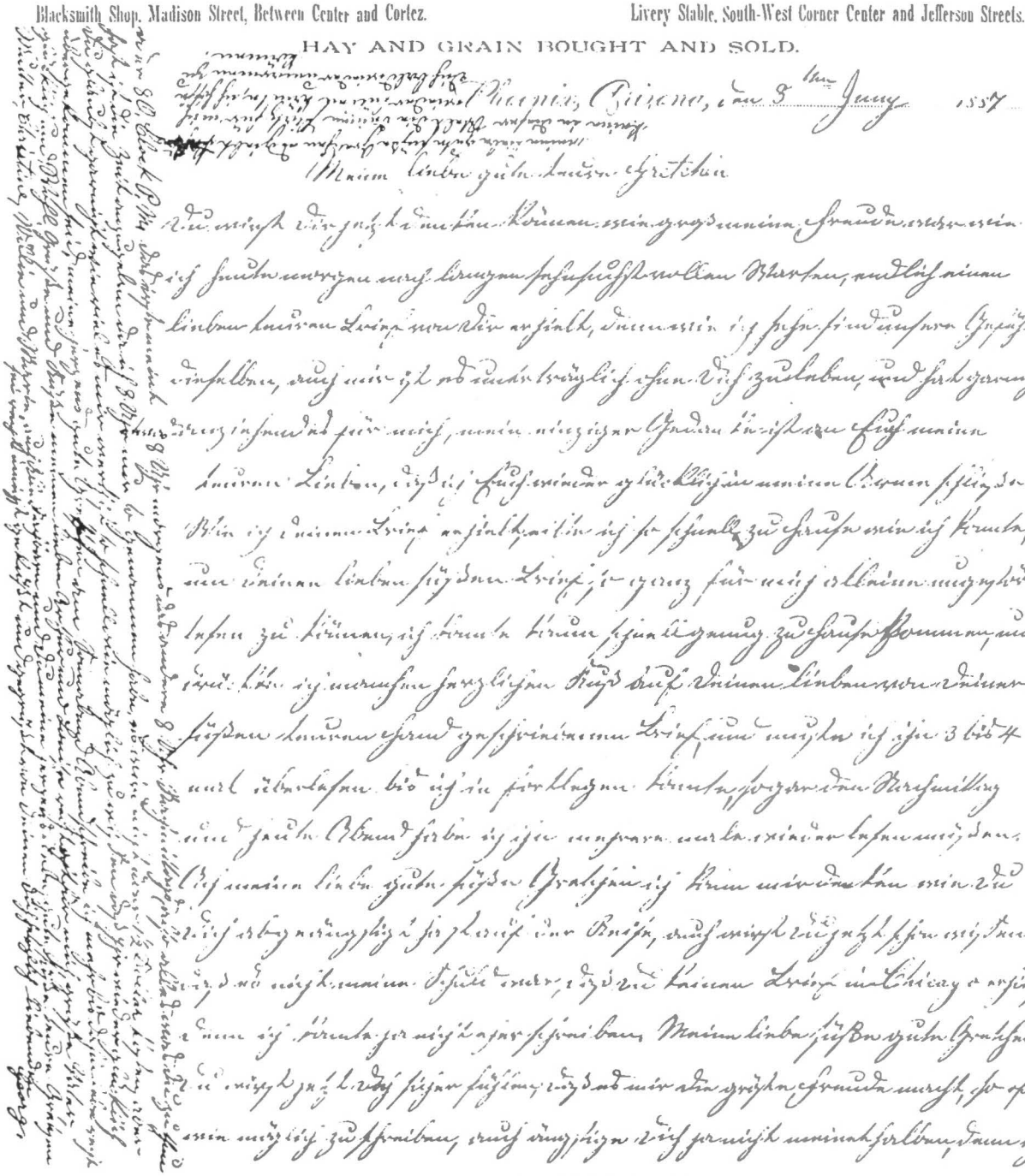
HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, den 8ten Juny 1857

Meine liebe gute teure Gretchen

Du wirst dir jetzt denken können wie groß meine Freude war wie ich heute morgen nach langen sehnsuchtsvollen Warten, endlich einen lieben teuren Brief von dir erhielt, denn wie ich sehe sind unsere Gefühle dieselben, auch mir ist es unerträglich ohne dich zu leben, und hat garnichts anziehendes für mich, mein einziger Gedanke ist an Euch meine teuren Lieben, daß ich Euch wieder glücklich in meine Arme schließe. Wie ich deinen Brief erhielt, eilte ich so schnell zu Hause wie ich konnte, um deinen lieben süßen Brief so ganz für mich alleine ungestört lesen zu können, ich konnte kaum schnell genug zu Hause kommen, und drückte ich manchen herzlichen Kuß auf deinen lieben von deiner süßen teuren Hand geschriebenen Brief und mußte ich ihn 3 bis 4 mal überlesen bis ich in fortlegen konnte, sogar den Nachmittag und heute Abend habe ich ihn mehrere male wieder lesen müssen. Ach meine liebe gute süße Gretchen ich kann mir denken wie du dich abgeängstigt hast auf der Reise, auch wirst du jetzt schon wissen daß es nicht meine Schuld war, daß du keinen Brief in Chicago erhielt, denn ich konnte ja nicht eher schreiben. Meine liebe süße gute Gretchen du wirst jetzt dich sicher fühlen, daß es mir die größte Freude macht, so oft wie möglich zu schreiben, auch ängstige dich ja nicht meinethalben, denn ich



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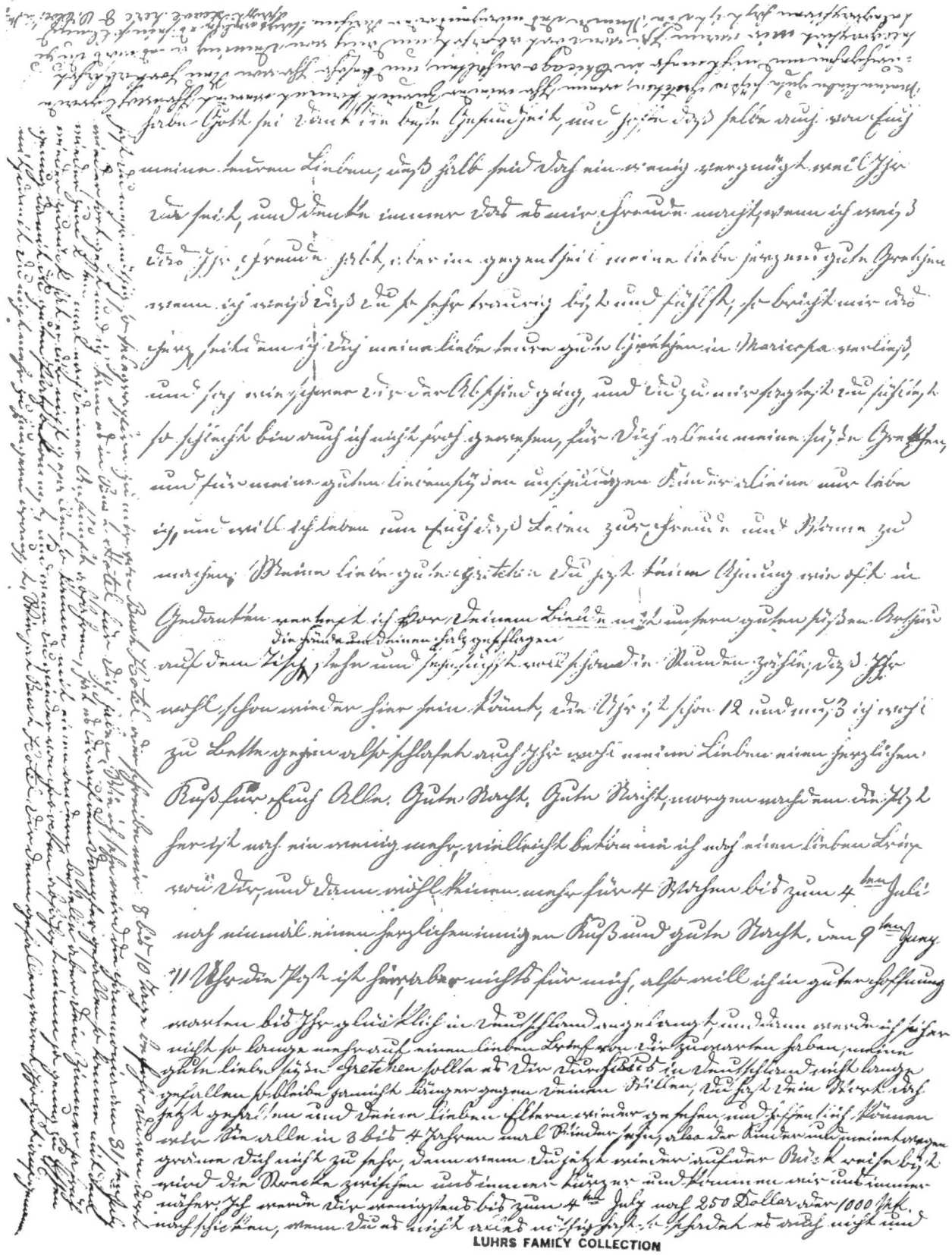

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Letter 6

Phoenix, June 8th, 1887

My dear, sweet, good Gretchen,

You will know now how big my joy was when this morning I finally received the long awaited letter of yours. From you letter I can see that our feelings are the same, I too find it impossible to live without you. There is no joy without you. My only thought is with you and our dear children and I long to hold you in my arms. After I got your letter I ran home as fast as I could, I was so anxious to read your sweet lines all by myself undisturbed. I was pressing it against my heart while I ran and sometimes kissed it. I could not get home fast enough, and I read it 3 and 4 times before I could put it down. And this afternoon and evening I had to read it again. On my dear sweet Gretchen, I can imagine how frightened you must have been on the trip and what a shame that you did not receive my letter in Chicago. But you see it was not my fault I could not write any sooner. I am sure you know that writing you now is my greatest joy and receiving your letters as often as possible. And don't worry about me, fortunately I am in good health and hope the same from you. Enjoy yourself therefore while you are there because it pleases me to know that you are happy and having a good time. But if you are not, that breaks my heart. When I saw you leaving in Maricopa, you were so sad and when you told me that you were not feeling good about it, it was also unpleasant for me and I got worried for you and the baby and Arthur to leave you alone, but I wanted to let you have the joy you wanted. You can't imagine how often I stop in front of your picture and in my thoughts I have my arms around you longingly counting the hours till you'll be back. It is midnight now and I should go to bed. I wish to all of you a good night, sleep well. A kiss to all of you and good night, good night. Tomorrow I may get another letter and I will write you more. After that, I will probably not get anything for 4 weeks until the 4th of July.

June 9th, 11:00 a.m. the mail arrived but nothing for me so I am closing this letter and try to be patient for another 4 weeks until you have arrived in Germany. After that I hope I won't have to wait so long anymore for your dear letters. And should you absolutely not like it there, don't stay longer than you want to. You have kept your word towards your parents and visited them like you promised and in 3 or 4 years we may see them again. So don't let it worry you for your children's and my sake, because you can come back anytime. I will send you in any case 250 dollars before the 4th of July, or 1,000 marks. If you don't need it all, well it's not lost, and if you need more, send me a telegram from the Bush Hotel, or write 8 or 10 days before you leave there and it will be at the Bush Hotel when you get there. As far as I know, the Hammonia will depart again on the 31st of July. If you liked that boat take it again, but if you did not, make reservations -- well ahead of time -- on another one. And at Hoboken, get enough food for your trip

so that you don't have to go hungry again. How did you like the Bush Hotel? Were you well served there? My dear Gretchen, I suppose you will not stop in Chicago on your way back. Send me a telegram from New York before you leave there stating your departure from that city also from Deming. Just let me know the time either a.m. or p.m., that's all you need to tell me: "leave here 8 a.m.". Of course, this is an example only. You let me know the right time. And such a short telegram will not cost more than one and a half dollars and it will mean a lot to me to hear from you as fast as possible that you have crossed well, and that you are on your way home. My beloved Gretchen, I will write more this Saturday. Stay well till then, give my love to Arthur and Louise, and my best regards to father, mother, Christine, Willie and Maria, also to all the neighbors. And to you my dearest, sweet Gretchen, a sincere embrace and kiss from all my heart, your loving husband,

Georg

Letter 7

NEWELL HERRICK. GEO. H. N. LUHRS.

527

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

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HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, den 10ten June 1557

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Letter 7

Phoenix, June 10, 1887

My dearest sweet good Gretchen,

I can't wait any longer to chat with you. I feel so lost and am so lonely, and since this is the only way to express my feelings to you now, I shall do it as often as I can and hope that you too will write to me very often because this brings us closer to each other. I hope this will please you too, to know that I am doing all right staying healthy and keeping you in my thoughts close to my heart. I wish I could be with you, I am sure the trip would have been easier on you if I had been with you. Stay cheerful my dear because you know you will soon be with me again and then you shall never have a sad moment again and I too will feel like a newborn. I wish I could get a letter from you every hour but I know it's not possible. I have to tell you some news now, the little girl of Gus Ellis who was 3 weeks older than our little Louise died this afternoon, fever from getting her teeth. I will send you the paper from now on, so you can read what goes on here. Also, the son of Mrs. Luke, Adolph Liebeman shot a woman this afternoon. She was that redhead who lived 2 years ago in Catton's house. He broke into her house and shot her. You will read it all in the papers. My dear sweet Gretchen now in Germany, I suppose you'll go sometimes to Dobrock, it's so nice there in Summer. How does Arthur like it there? Is he homesick for his beloved papa? And how is my sweet little baby, is she soon walking? Did you get her vaccinated? Don't forget to do that, and it would be a good idea if you and Christine also get vaccinated. They do it better there. Mrs. Ganz sends you her best regards. Now good night my dearest Gretchen, sleep well.

Saturday, June 11th, I received the Neuhaus paper yesterday, it was sent from Neuhaus on May 23, one day before you left here. Tomorrow the 12th you should be arriving in England and Tuesday evening I assume you will be arriving happily at your parents' house. My dear Gretchen,how long still before I will get a letter from you in Germany. It will probably be here 4 days after you receive this one from me, and you can be thinking about me and how I feel reading your letter which you have hopefully written immediately after your arrival.

I know my beloved that you are now thinking about me very often until we'll be together again. Every minute I am thinking about you, wherever I go, whatever I do, my thoughts are always with you. It is impossible to let you out of my mind even for a second. But my dear Gretchen, don't worry, just think how great our joy will be when we hold each other in our arms, our love will be still greater and more tender than ever. I pray to God that you will all return soon, happy and healthy into my arms which will be wide open for you.

Letter 7 (continued)

Stay cheerful, and remember your Georg far away from you but always with you in his thoughts. So long my dear ones, I feel always a little relieved after writing you. I don't feel like going out anywhere, I'd rather stay home and exchange thoughts with you, my dearest sweetest Gretchen.

It's unbelievable but the paper is just never big enough and I have to scribble in the margins. The woman who had the restaurant in our hotel moved out on the 9th and so we rented the place to the Chinese whom Burfeind wanted. Also the woman who took care of the rooms left on the 1st of June and so we have the man do the cleaning who also cleans up the bar room.

Give my love to all, and a big kiss to my Arthur and Louise and a specially big one to you my beloved sweet Gretchen,

Your loving Georg

Letter 8

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NEWELL HERRICK. GEO. H. N. LUHRS.

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

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HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, den 13ten Juny 1857

Meine liebe gute, süße, teure, herzens Geliebte Gretchen.

Du hast keine Ahnung mit welcher Sehnsucht ich der Zeit entgegen sehe, daß ich einen lieben teuren Brief von Dir erhalte, um zu hören, daß Ihr Alle Gesund und Munter seid, es sind jetzt noch 3 lange Wochen, welche ich zu warten habe, denn ich denke sicher, daß du mir sogleich nach deiner Ankunft geschrieben hast. Meine liebe herzens gute Gretchen, ich habe nie eine Ahnung gehabt, daß es so schwer sein würde ohne Dich meine herzens süße Gretchen zu leben, und ohne meinen lieben Arthur und meiner süßen Louise, was machen denn meine lieben süßen Kinder, hoffentlich seid Ihr doch Alle wohl, wie schrecklich würde es mir sein wenn ich Euch auf immer verlieren sollte, es wäre ja garnicht auszuhalten, es ist jetzt ja nur auf eine kurze Zeit und dennoch ist es schon so schwer so in ungewißheit zu leben wie es Euch wohl geht. Meine gute herzens liebe süße Gretchen, ich sollte eigentlich nicht solchen traurigen Brief schreiben, aber ich kann nicht anders, ich muß mein Herz ausschütten damit es leichter wird, aber wie froh werde ich sein, wenn ich erst mal einen lieben teuren Brief von Dir habe, dann brauche ich auch doch nicht so lange mehr auf einen andern zu warten sondern hoffe, daß ich wenigstens zwei in der Woche erhalten werde, und wenn ich dann den letzten Brief von da erhalte so kommt Ihr mir dann auch doch immer näher, wenn Ihr wieder zurück kehrt wirst du mir doch sicher noch 3 bis 4 Tage vor den letzten Brief schreiben, wenn ich den also dann erhalte, so habe ich ja nur 3 bis 4 Tage mehr zu warten, meine Gute liebe süße Gretchen, thue mir den Gefallen und schreibe mir recht oft du wirst Dir doch selber denken können, daß ein Brief von Dir mir nicht zu bezahlen wäre, eben so wenig wie einer von mir an Dich, und vergeße auch ja nicht mir von New York zu telegraphiren das ich doch weiß, daß Ihr so weit glücklich wieder zurück seid, und nach dem von Deming, wenn ich es irgend möglich machen kann werde ich Euch dann bis Maricopa entgegen kommen. Meine Liebe teure Gretchen du weißt garnicht wie viel leichter es mir und Herz wird, wenn ich Dir ein paar Zeilen geschrieben habe, ich habe so dicht zusammen geschrieben damit mir der Bogen nicht zu klein wird, und sodann schreibe ich auch viel kleiner, denn sonst könnte ich garnicht genug darauf bekommen. Ich habe gar keine Lust irgend wo hinzugehen, ich sitze hier lieber zu Hause und verweile in Gedanken vertieft bei Dir, Heinrich kommt auch immer erst um 11 Uhr und mit unter noch später zu Hause. Wie ist es meine liebe gute Gretchen wird es Dir auch überdrüßig das ich so viel und öfter schreibe? ich denke nicht du hast sicher gerne einen Brief von mir und je länger desto besser; schreibe mir mal ausführlich wie es Euch auf der Reise gegangen ist und weshalb Ihr nicht in Chicago sein mochtet. Meine liebe süße herzens geliebte Gretchen gestern habe ich das ganze Haus gründlich rein gemacht, aber du wirst Dir denken können, wie schmutzig es war, es hat mir bis nach Mittag genommen ich hatte alles vom Platz es war so staubig, ich ging nachdem mal nach Herricks hinüber und da niemand zu Hause war sah ich mal herum wie es da aus sah, aber ich kann Dir sagen es war ein großer Unterschied wie Tag und Nacht

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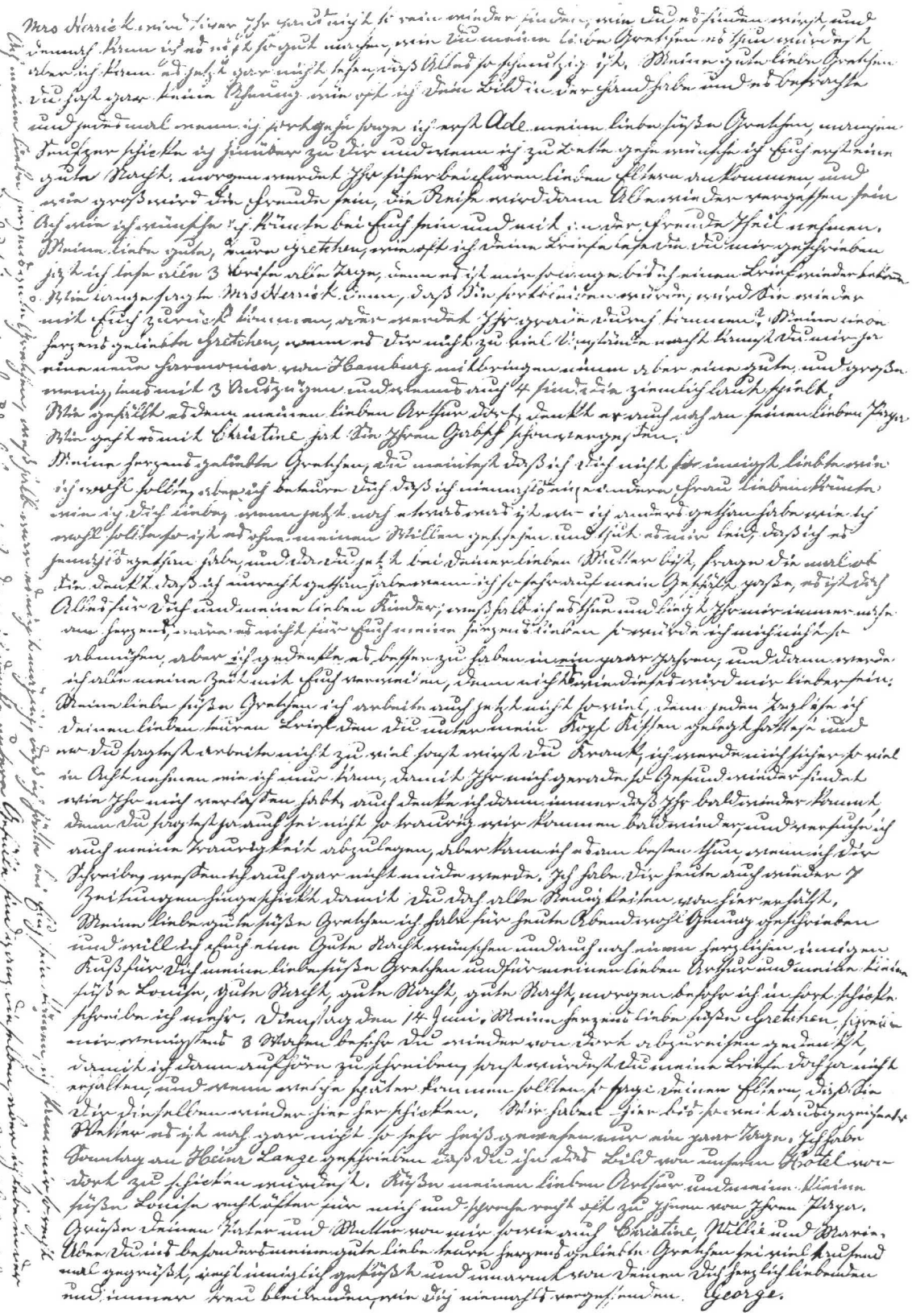


Letter 8

Phoenix, June 13, 1887

My dear sweet, good and beloved Gretchen, you have no idea how I yearn for a letter from you. I have to wait 3 more weeks, at least I hope you wrote to me right after your arrival there. My sweet beloved Gretchen, I never knew that it would be so hard to live without you and my dear Arthur and Louise, how are they? It would be terrible if I should lose you forever. I could never survive it, I can hardly stand it as it is, knowing it is only for a short time. It is so hard, this insecurity, not knowing how you are and the children. I should not really write such sad things but I just cannot help it, I have to free my heart from this anxiety. Once I get a precious letter from you it will be easier and than I shall not have to wait so long to hear from you again. I hope you'll write to me at least twice a week and once I receive the last letter from Germany, that will mean you are on your way back, coming nearer to me. You will certainly write to me 3 or 4 days before you depart and that I won't have to wait much longer for you. Please write often, you certainly know how priceless your letters are to me. I imagine the same goes for my letters to you and don't you forget to send me a telegram from New York so that I know you arrived there well, and then again from Deming and if I can make it possible I will go and meet you in Maricopa. My dear Gretchen, you have no idea how relieved I feel writing you this letter. I also started writing much smaller so that I can write more. I don't like to go anywhere, I would rather stay home thinking about you. Henry never comes home before 11 or even later

Are you getting bored my dear Gretchen by my letters? I don't think you are. I think you are also happy to hear from me and the longer the letter the better. Write to me all the details of the trip and why you did not like to stay in Chicago. My dear Gretchen I cleaned the entire house yesterday. It took me until the afternoon to get it all cleaned, I had to move all the furniture, it was so dusty. After that, I went to Herricks and since there was no one there I looked around and I can tell you it has changed, like night and day. Mrs. Herrick is not going to find her house as clean as you will find yours, even though I am not doing it as well as you have.

My dear Gretchen, I hold your picture in my hand so often now and I greet it when I come and go and send you a sigh of sadness once in a while and when I go to bed I wish you a good night. Tomorrow you will certainly arrive at your parents, and what a joy that will be. And soon the trip will be forgotten with all the joy. I wish I could be there with you and share all this happiness.

My dear, good Gretchen, I read your letters everyday over and over and can hardly wait for the next one. How long is

Letter 8 (continued)

Mrs. Herrick going to stay? Will she come back with you? My dear Gretchen, if it is not too much trouble please bring me back a new harmonica from Hamburg, but get a good one and a large one with at least 3 or 4 * which has a good and strong sound. How does Arthur like it there? Does he think sometimes of his Papa? And how is Christine, did she forget by now her Gabsch?

My beloved Gretchen, you thought that I did not love you very deeply as I should, but I assure you that I could never love another woman as I love you. If I have done you wrong, it was without my will and I am sorry for what I did. But now that you are with your mother, ask her if she thinks what I did was wrong when I dedicated myself to my business, after all I did it for you and our dear children. If it were not for you my dear ones I would not work so hard, but soon I will hopefully be better off, and then I can spend more time with you. My dear Gretchen, I don't work as much any more, every day I read your sweet letter which you put under my pillow where you say: don't work so hard or you'll get sick. I am taking care of this, because I want you to find me as well as I was then you left. I also try not to be sad, since you told me that you'll soon be back and I should not be sad. This I can do best my writing to you and it does not make me tired. I have sent you again 7 newspapers today, so that you can keep up to date with our news. I think I wrote enough for today, and I am wishing you all a very good night and I kiss you my beloved Gretchen in my thoughts, also our dear Arthur and sweet Louise -- good night, good night! I'll write more tomorrow before I mail it.

*illegible word

Tuesday, June 14, dearest Gretchen, please write to me and let me know at least 3 weeks before you leave Germany so that I can stop writing you, or else you would not get my letters anymore. And if some should arrive after you have left, please tell your mother to send them back. So far we had excellent weather, it has not really been hot except for a few days. Sunday I wrote to Heinz Lange and mentioned that you will send him the picture of our hotel. Kiss my dear Arthur and little Louise often for me and talk to them often about their papa. Also give my best regards to your father and mother as well as Christine, Willie and Marie, and to you my dear precious beloved Gretchen my most sincere greetings from all my heart, embracing you and kissing you, your loving and faithful and never forgetting you,

Georg

Oh, my dear good Gretchen, why can't I be with you. I am sure you would also be happier if I were with you, for I think we feel the same way. I am only living with the hope of having you here soon and then the sadness and sorrow will be gone because only with you

Letter 8 (continued)

can I be happy again. And I am glad to see that after 3 1/2 years of marriage our love is still growing, not like in some other marriages where it goes away and stops entirely.

Dear Gretchen, I guess it will take you some time to read this letter but as you can see my letters are getting longer and longer and deeper in feelings because every moment of my thoughts is filled with you and I don't feel so bound to the business. So long dear sweet beloved Gretchen and think about me also. I pray every day for your well being and for your happy return. Again, all my best wishes for a happier return trip and with all my love for you and the children, your Georg

P.S. When you get this letter, you can be sure that I will also have received one from you.

Letter 9

NEWELL HERRICK GEO. H. N. LUHRS.

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

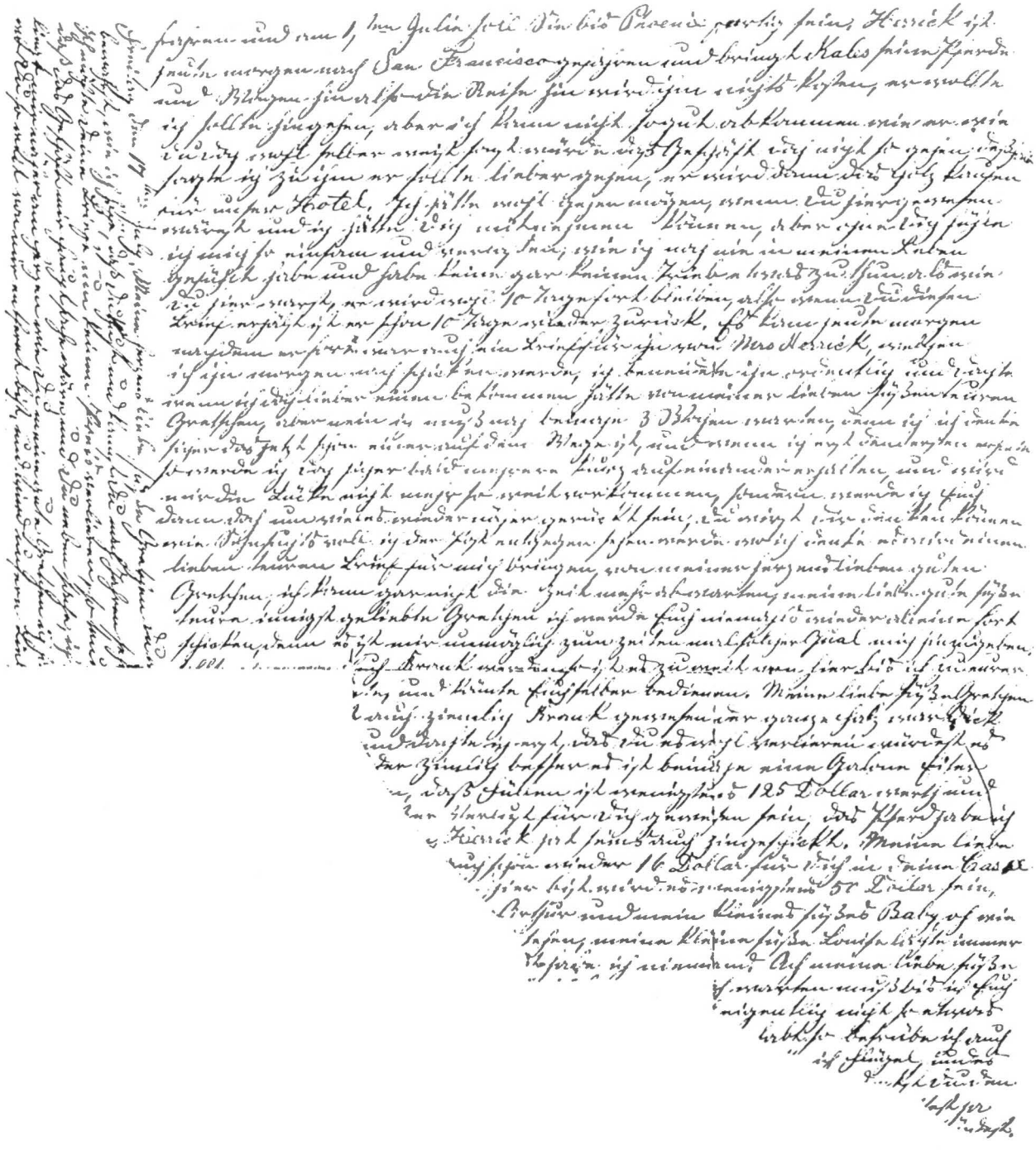
PROPRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE,

Blacksmith Shop, Madison Street, Between Center and Cortez. Livery Stable, South-West Corner Center and Jefferson Streets.

HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, den 16ten Juni 1887

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION



LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 9

Phoenix, Arizona, June 16th, 1887

My dear beloved sweet good Gretchen,

How are you my dear, I hope everyone ie fine and healthy. You have no idea how unhappy and lost I feel, to be here all by myself without you. You are 2 days closer to me now since I wrote to you last, but how much longer will I still have to go on this way until you are back, my dearest sweetest Gretchen? Every hour seems like a week. If only I could hear from you and be sure you and the children are all right. (The rest of the page is unreadable)

In the margin: My dear sweet Gretchen don't forget to write to me often. You were wondering what I would write to you before you left. Neither you nor I had any idea I would write so much and so often, but this is all the joy I have now until I get letters from you. But I am sure you'll enjoy getting letters from me too and that you are just as anxious to be back with me as I am. I am longing to hold you in my arms and in my thoughts I am kissing you. My dearest Gretchen, so long and stay cheerful and in good health and give my love to Arthur and little Louise. With all my love to you my beloved Gretchen, your loving Georg

(Page 2) The railroad is supposed to be coming to Phoenix on July 1st. Herrick went to San Francisco this morning to take Kales horses and car there so this trip did not cost him anything. He wanted me to go, but you know how it would be here if I went, the business would not go well, therefore, I told Herrick to go himself and buy the necessary wood for our hotel. If you were here I might have liked to go with you, but without you I feel so lost and lonely like I have never felt before in my life. I have no drive to do anything since you left. He'll stay there 10 days. Just after he left, a letter arrived for him from Mrs. Herrick which I will forward to him tomorrow. I envied him for getting a letter and wished it was I who received one from you. But, I have to wait another 3 weeks before I can get one from you. There should be one on the way now and hopefully another soon following so that there will not be a big gap. You can believe me that I am longing to go to the post office to find a letter there from you. My dearest, sweetest Gretchen I can hardly wait for your return. I already regret letting you go without me, I'll never do that again. I worry about your well being. Should you ever get sick, it would be too far for me to get there. (The rest of the page is unreadable)

Letter 10

NEWELL HERRICK GEO. H. N. LUHRS

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

PROPRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE,

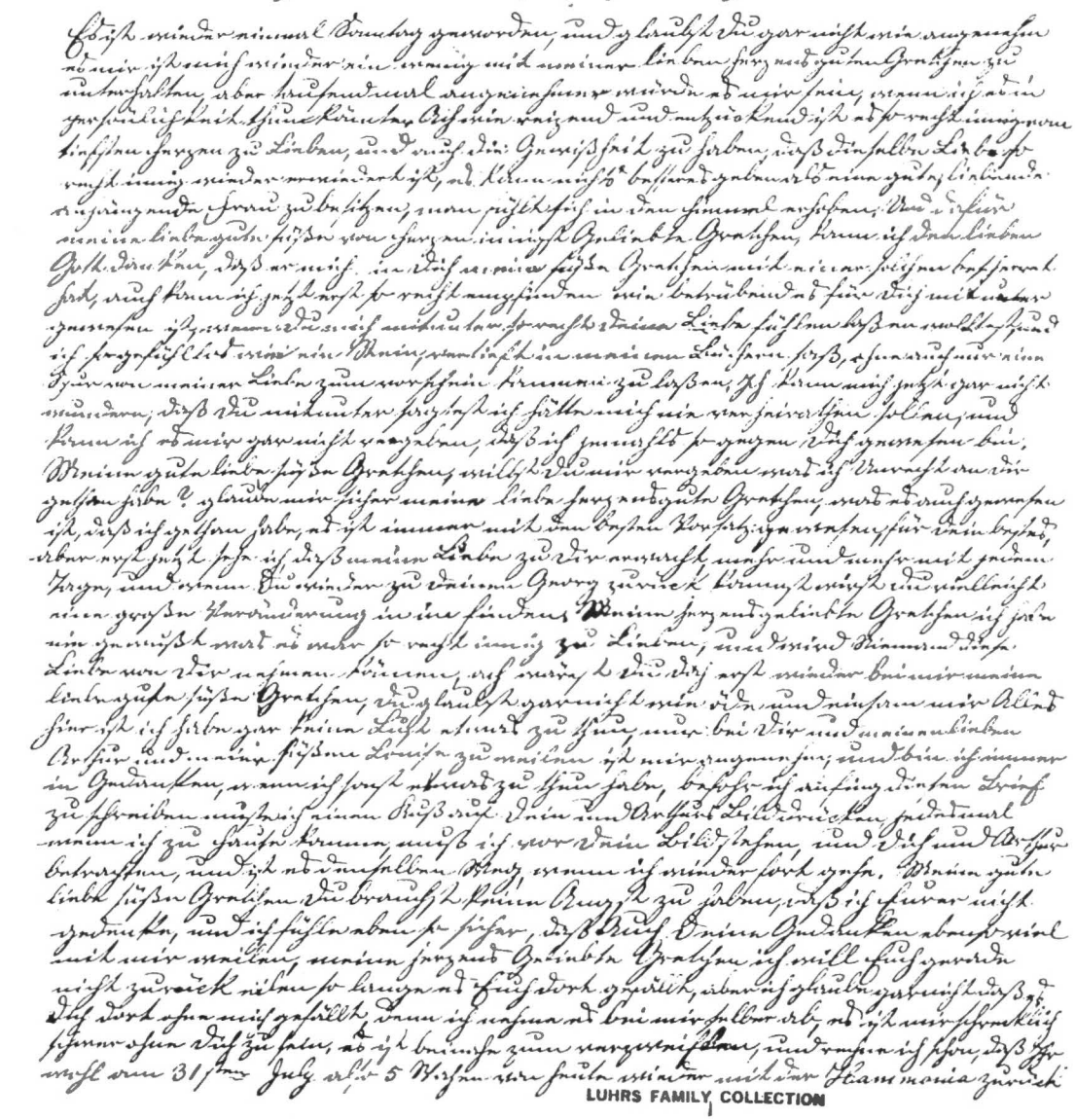
Blacksmith Shop, Madison Street, Between Center and Cortez. Livery Stable, South-West Corner Center and Jefferson Streets.

HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

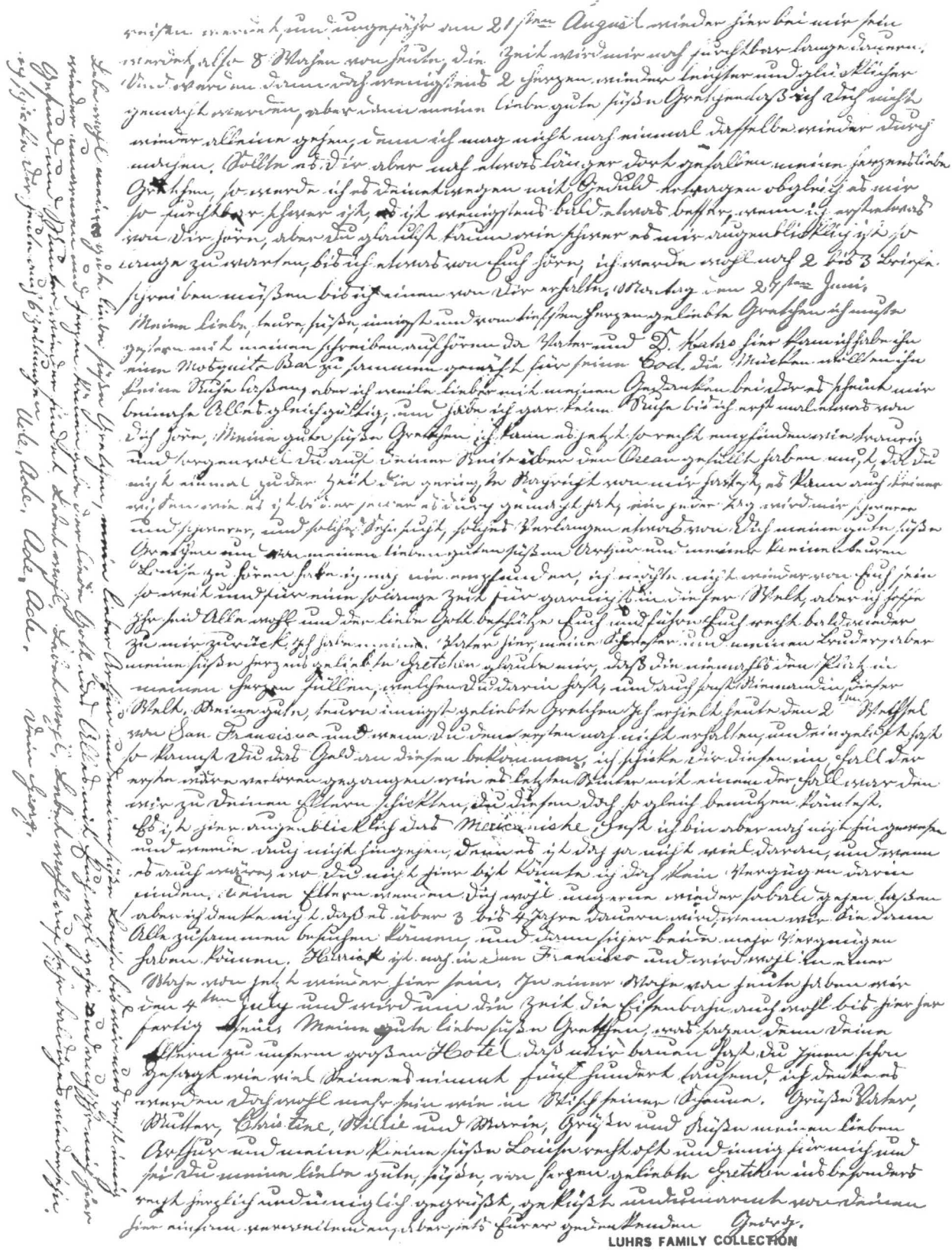
Phoenix, Arizona, den 26sten Juni 1887

Meine gute, teure, süße herzensgeliebte Gretchen.

Es ist wieder einmal Sonntag geworden, und glaubst du gar nicht wie angenehm es mir ist mich wieder ein wenig mit meiner lieben herzensguten Gretchen zu unterhalten, aber tausendmal angenehmer würde es mir sein, wenn ich es in persönlichkeit thun könnte. Ach wie reizend und entzückend ist es so recht innig vom tiefsten Herzen zu lieben, und auch die Gewißheit zu haben, daß dieselbe Liebe so recht innig wieder erwiedert ist, es kann nichts besseres geben als eine gute, liebende anhängende Frau zu besitzen, man fühlt sich in den Himmel erhoben. Und dafür meine liebe gute süße von Herzen innigst Geliebte Gretchen, kann ich den lieben Gott danken, daß er mich in dich meine süße Gretchen mit einer solchen bescheert hat, auch kann ich jetzt erst so recht empfinden wie betrübend es für dich mit unter gewesen ist, wenn du mich mitunter so recht deine Liebe fühlen laßen wolltest, und ich so gefühllos wie ein Stein, vertieft in meinen Büchern saß, ohne auch nur eine Spur von meiner Liebe zum vorschein kommen zu laßen. Ich kann mich jetzt gar nicht wundern, daß du mitunter sagtest ich hätte mich nie verheirathen sollen, und kann ich es mir gar nicht vergeben, daß ich jemahls so gegen dich gewesen bin. Meine gute liebe süße Gretchen, willst du mir vergeben was ich Unrecht an dir gethan habe? glaube mir sicher meine liebe herzensgute Gretchen, was es auch gewesen ist, daß ich gethan habe, es ist immer mit den besten Vorsatz gewesen für dein bestes, aber erst jetzt sehe ich daß meine Liebe zu dir erwacht mehr und mehr mit jedem Tage, und wenn du wieder zu deinem Georg zurück kannst wirst du vielleicht eine große Veränderung in ihm finden. Meine herzensgeliebte Gretchen ich habe nie gewußt was es war so recht innig zu lieben, und wird Niemand diese Liebe von dir nehmen können, ach wärst du doch erst wieder bei mir meine liebe gute süße Gretchen, du glaubst gar nicht wie öde und einsam mir Alles hier ist ich habe gar keine Lust etwas zu thun, nur bei dir und meinen lieben Arthur und meiner süßen Louise zu weilen ist mir angenehm, und bin ich immer in Gedanken, wenn ich sonst etwas zu thun habe, besehr ich anfing diesen Brief zu schreiben muß ich einen Kuß auf dein und Arthurs Bild drücken, jedesmal wenn ich zu Hause komme, muß ich vor dein Bild stehen, und dich und Arthur betrachten, und ist es denselben Weg wenn ich wieder fort gehe. Meine gute liebe süße Gretchen du brauchst keine Angst zu haben, daß ich Eurer nicht gedenke, und ich fühle eben so sicher, daß auch deine Gedanken ebenso viel mit mir weilen, meine herzens Geliebte Gretchen ich will Euch gerade nicht zurück eilen so lange es Euch dort gefällt, aber ich glaube gar nicht daß es dich dort ohne mich gefällt, denn ich nehme es bei mir selber ab, es ist mir schrecklich schwer ohne dich zu sein, es ist beinahe zum verzweifeln, und rechne ich schon, daß Ihr wohl am 31sten July also 5 Wochen von heute wieder mit der Hammonia zurück



LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION



LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 10

Phoenix, Arizona, June 26, 1887

My good, dear, sweet, beloved, Gretchen,

It is Sunday again, and believe me it's such a pleasure to be able to communicate with you again. I only wish I could do it in person. How wonderful it is to love from the bottom of my heart and to know that one is equally loved. There is nothing more beautiful and delightful in this world, one feels like he is elevated into heaven. I thank the dear Lord for my precious, good, dearly beloved Gretchen, and I can feel now the pain you must have suffered when I was not showing you any attention, instead sitting there brooding over my books, without showing you my love for you. I understand now what you told me then, that I should have never gotten married. I feel very bad about this now, to have caused you such grief. Dear Gretchen, will you forgive me for the wrongs I did? But believe me please, it was never done intentionally to hurt you. I was believing I was doing the best for my family. Only now I can feel how great my love for you is and that it is still growing and growing. When you return to your Georg, you'll find a big change in me. I never knew how to love before, but this love I have for you now, no one will ever be able to take away. If only you were here now, I feel so terribly lonely. I don't feel like working, I want to be with you, Arthur and Louise all the time. This makes me feel good. I am constantly with you in my thoughts. Before I started to write this letter, I pressed a kiss on your photograph. I stop before your picture every time I come near it, and take a long look at you and Arthur and whisper some words to you. My dear Gretchen, you don't need to fear that I'll forget you. I don't want to rush you to come back if you like it there, but I doubt you like it very much without me, at least that's how I feel, it is very difficult to be without you. I am almost desperate, counting the days when you'll be back. I am figuring that you'll leave on July 31st which is 5 weeks from now, that you'll be on the Hammonia and approximately on August 21st here in Phoenix. So in about 8 weeks I shall see you - this is still a very long time. At last 2 hearts will be happy again and I shall never let you go without me again, because I could not stand such a torture another time. Should you, however, like to stay longer, I will suffer it out for you my dearly beloved good Gretchen. If I get your mail, this will relieve some of my pain. I will probably have to write another 2 or 3 letters before I get anything from you.

Monday, June 27

My dear, sweet, precious, beloved Gretchen, I had to stop yesterday because father and D. Kahrs came here and I fixed a mosquito net for his cot. The mosquitoes were bothering him. I was glad when they left because I feel better to be alone with you. I have no

interest in anything else, I can hardly wait for your letter. I can imagine how sad the traveling must have been for you, alone without any news from me. No one can know how this feels until he has experienced it himself. Every day is harder and harder for me, I feel such a longing for news from you, how you and the children are doing. I never felt like this before, it is devouring me. I hope you are all well and God is with you and that He brings you back to me very soon. I have my father, sister and brother here, but believe me, they could never take the place in my heart which I have for you, nor could anyone else ever fill this place. I am sending you today the second check of the San Francisco bank. In case you did not receive the first one, you can use this one. Perhaps the first one got lost like it happened last winter with the one we sent to your parents. Use it right away.

We are having the Mexican festival but I have not gone there yet, and I will not go either. It's not very interesting anyway and without you it could be no fun. Your parents will not like to see you leave them, but in 3 or 4 years we could go together to visit them again and then we shall enjoy it a lot. Herrick is still in San Francisco and he'll stay another week. In one week from today, July 4th, the railroad is supposed to reach Phoenix. Dear Gretchen, what do your parents say about the large hotel we are building here? Did you tell them how many stones it takes? Five hundred thousand.

Give my best regards to your father, mother, Christine, Willie and Marie. Kiss my dear Arthur for me and sweet little Louise and to you my dearest, sweetest, deeply loved Gretchen, my deepest love, with a warm embrace and kiss from your lonely, grieving Georg. So long my dear sweet Gretchen, Arthur and Louise until we see each other again may God protect you and keep you healthy. Take care, take good care, good-bye my sweetest.

Your Georg

I am sending 6 newspapers today

Letter 11

NEWELL HERRICK GEO. H. N. LUHRS

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

PROPRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE,

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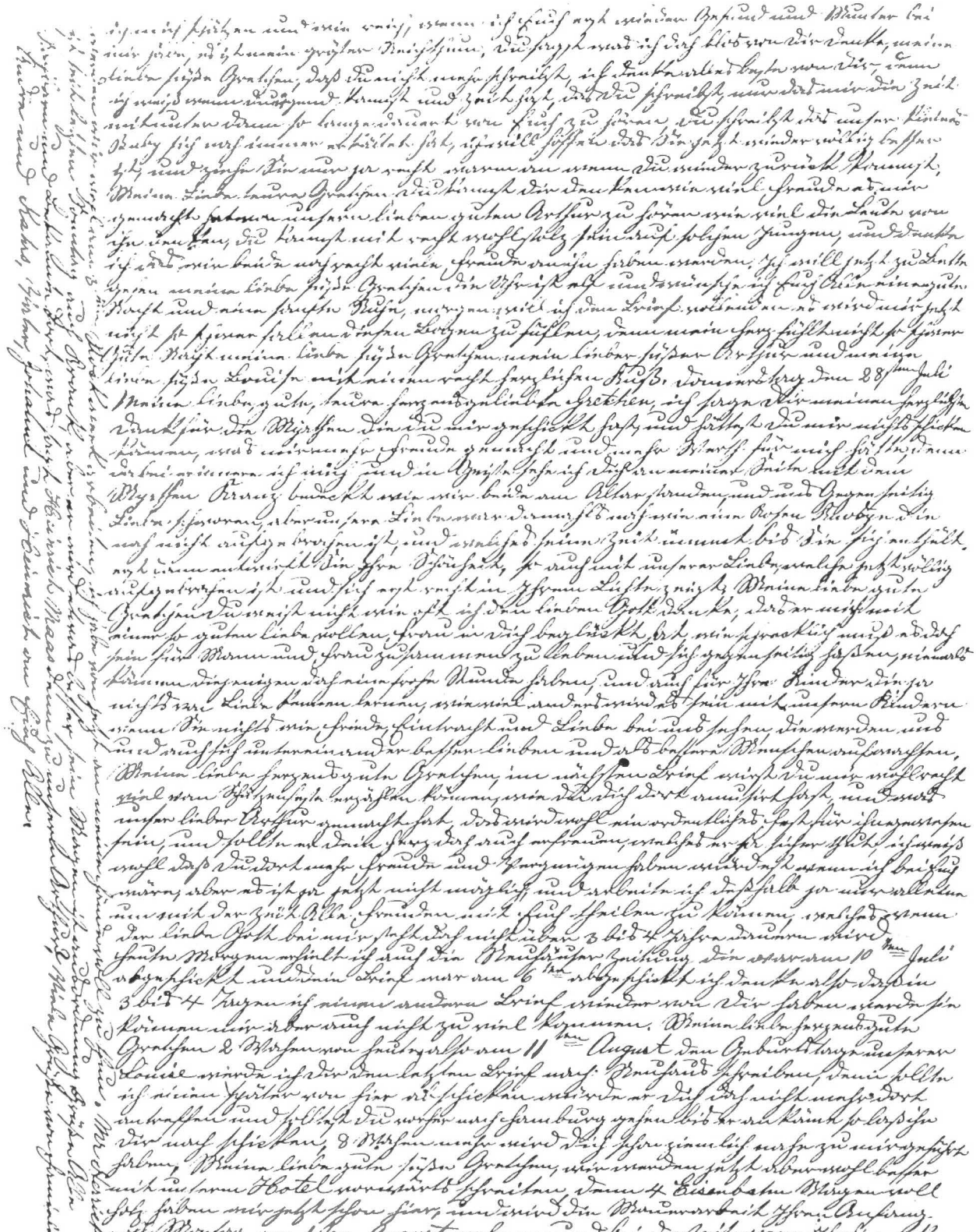
HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, June 27th 1887

Meine Liebe, gute, süsse, einzige Christine.

Deinen Lieben langen Brief vom 4ten July habe ich heute morgen um halb acht Uhr erhalten, und kann ich mich garnicht wundern, daß Du, Herzige, so ungeduldig warst, da ich schon 4 Wochen vergangen sind, ohne daß ich Dir nicht Briefe, Briefe mit mehr Freude zu senden, als Deine sind, die Du mir schreibst, daß Ihr Alle Gesund und Munter seid und sieht es mich sehr verdrießlich an, daß ich nicht bei Euch bin, und Euch Alle zu küssen, und Deine Arme Mutter zu trösten, die sich so sehr um mich grämt. Meine Liebe, gute, süsse, einzige Christine, ich muß Dir sagen, daß ich noch keinen Brief von Dir erhalten habe, worin Du mir nicht Deine Liebe versichert hast, und ich bin Dir dafür sehr dankbar, denn ich weiß, daß Du mich wahrhaft liebst, und ich Dich auch. Ich habe Dir schon so oft gesagt, daß ich Dich nicht mehr lieben könnte, als ich Dich liebe, und ich weiß auch, daß Du mich nicht mehr lieben kannst, als Du mich liebst, und ich bin Dir dafür sehr dankbar, daß Du mich so sehr



Letter 11

Phoenix, Arizona, June 27, 1887

My dear, sweet, beloved, precious Gretchen,

I received your precious letter of July Fourth this morning at 7:30 and I cannot tell you how much joy this brought me. I have waited for more than four days fruitlessly, there is nothing that could please me more than to hear from you. To know that you all are in good health and good spirit made me feel reborn. I had to go home right away to read it, everything else seemed unimportant. My dear good sweet Gretchen, I have never known before why Christine always cried when she got a letter from home, but now I know why, because her parents are the dearest people to her in the world, that's how it was with her then and how I am now feeling myself. Everytime I get a letter from you my joy is so great it makes me cry and the tears run down my cheeks when I read it, not only the first time but the second and third time I read it. Because you my dearest are all I want in this world. I have realized many times since you left that our separation may have some good sides. Because only now we can realize how much we mean to each other, which we may naver have known if you had stayed here. There is no money that could equal what you mean to me and I have the feeling that you feel the same way about me. I think you may think of me more highly now because I will prove my love for you not only with words but also with deeds. Words are easy to say but deeds speak for themselves. My dear sweet Gretchen, I am already looking forward to the time when you will be with me again and telling me everything that went on. I know you will have a lot to tell me and from now on we will feel a lot closer to each other then before.

How different your arrival here will affect me compared to the arrival of Mrs. Herrick to Mr. Herrick. Theirs was only a formal greeting, he hardly had anything to say to his children, did not even take them in his arms. He did not show any sign of love and happiness for his family. I am sure Mrs. Herrick never got any letters from her husband such as I am writing to you. My dear sweet good precious Gretchen, I am already imagining the words of my dear son Arthur with which he will greet his papa when he sees me, whether he will jump with joy or run to me in a hurry in order to be wrapped in my arms, and will I press him to my chest! Oh Gretchen, it makes me so happy to think about it, and I feel as rich just to know that you are healthy, in good spriits, and soon with me. You are wondering what I think of you because you don't write to me very much. I only think the best of you, because I know if you had enough time you would write to me. I only know that it seems like an eternity to me when I don't hear anything from you, besides it takes so long before I get your letters. You said that our little baby had a cold. I hope she has recovered by now. Do put enough clothes on her. Dear Gretchen, you have no idea how good it felt to hear that

Letter 11 (continued)

Arthur is well behaved and that people like him, you can be proud of this boy and I know we will still have a lot of joy with him. I will go to bed now, it is 11 p.m. and I wish all a very good night. I will finish this letter tomorrow, it will not be difficult for me to fill these pages since my heart is no longer sad. Good night my dear sweet Gretchen, Arthur and Louise, with a hearfelt kiss.

Thursday, July 28

My dearest, precious, beloved Gretchen,

Thank you for much for the myrtles. You could not have sent anything that would have made me happier or had more value for me, because the sight of the myrtle reminds me of our wedding when you were wearing a myrtle wreath and we were standing side by side in the church and promising to love each other. But at that time our love was only like a rosebud, still unopened. Meanwhile it opened to a full blossom and beauty. You have no idea dearest Gretchen, how often I thank God for giving you to me, such a good and loving wife. How terrible it must be if 2 persons are married and do not love each other. They cannot experience any joy, nor can their children learn anything about love. It will be very different for our children. They will experience peace, unitedness (union) and love with us which will enable them to love us and each other better and they will grow into better people.

My dear Gretchen, I hope you will write to me more about the "Schuetzenfest" in your next letter, the fun you and Arthur had and what you did. This will be a great event for him. I am sure he fills your heart with happiness even though I believe you would feel better if I were there with you. But this is, unfortunately impossible. Therefore, I work in order not to think too much about it, besides my work is important to enable us to have some happiness, and if the Lord helps me it should not take more than 3 or 4 years to get there. This morning I received the Neuhauser newspaper. It was sent on the 6th, so I believe I may get another letter from you in about 3 or 4 days.

Dear Gretchen, 2 weeks from now, on August 11th, which is Louise's birthday, I will write you for the last time to Neuhaus. There would be no point in writing you after that date since you would no longer receive the letter, and should you go to Hamburg sooner, let them forward my letters to you. In 8 weeks you'll be a lot closer to me.

Our hotel will soon get started. We already received 4 carloads of wood and on August 1st they are supposed to start the work and by the time you get here, we'll be working on the third floor. I am now very busy. Mr. Herrick is sick since last

Letter 11 (continued)

Sunday, but he'll probably be better tomorrow.

My best greetings to all the neighbors and friends. What does Heinrich Maas say about our Arthur? Best regards also from father and Johann and Henry to all of you. My dear, sweet, sweet Gretchen, say hello to mother and father, Christine, Willie and Marie, a warm kiss to our dear Arthur and Louise and especially to you my dearest Gretchen with my most heartfelt greetings and embraces.

Your loving Georg

June 30/87

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Für Dich zu haben, die Zeit bleibt
Ich Allein und mein Herz bricht
Du meinen Gedanken nicht zu
Fern

Letter 12

SEWELL HERRICK. GEO. H. N. LUHRS.

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

PROPRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE,

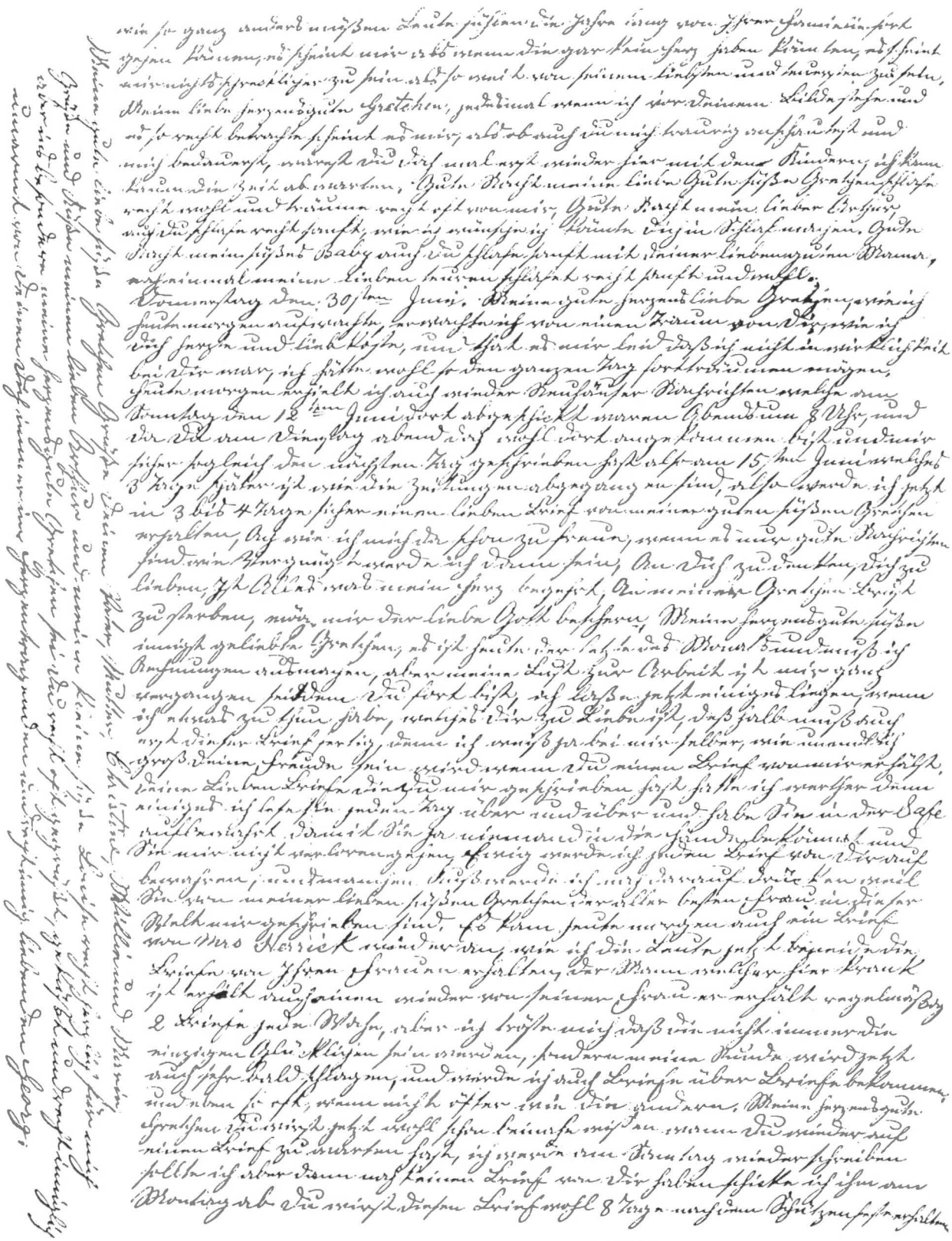
Blacksmith Shop, Madison Street, Between Center and Cortez. Livery Stable, South-West Corner Center and Jefferson Streets.

HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, den 29sten Juni 1887

Meinen guten, lieben, süßen, treu besorgten Geliebten Gretchen,

Ich will mich Dir meinen neuen Namen nennen und mich ein wenig mit Dir unterhalten, ist süßer besser manchmal für Alleinsitzen mit meinem Gedanken zu spielen und vor bei Dir selbst wenn ich in meinen Gedanken Dich mir recht nahe auf Lippenlänge vor mir habe, mir ein wenig mit meinen guten süßen Gretchen zu plaudern, ein Plaudern zu Dir so Herzenswarm, voller Liebe die Du ja weißt mir Dich ganz nahe bringt, Dich Deine Lippen, Deine Augen, Deine Hände, Deine Haare, Deine Brüste, Deine Arme, Deine Beine, Deine Füße, Deine Zehen, Deine Fingernägel, Deine Haut, Deine Muskeln, Deine Knochen, Deine Nerven, Deine Adern, Deine Blutkörperchen, Deine Lymphe, Deine Galle, Deine Leber, Deine Milz, Deine Nieren, Deine Blase, Deine Harnröhre, Deine Vorhaut, Deine Eichel, Deine Schwellkörper, Deine Hoden, Deine Samenstränge, Deine Prostata, Deine Samenbläschen, Deine Cowperschen Drüsen, Deine Scheide, Deine Gebärmutter, Deine Eierstöcke, Deine Eileiter, Deine Klitoris, Deine Schamlippen, Deine Schamhaare, Deine Afterfalte, Deine Pobacken, Deine Rückenmuskeln, Deine Wirbelsäule, Deine Rippen, Deine Lungen, Deine Luftröhre, Deine Speiseröhre, Deine Mandeln, Deine Zähne, Deine Zunge, Deine Speicheldrüsen, Deine Kehlkopf, Deine Stimmbänder, Deine Nasenhöhle, Deine Nasenmuskeln, Deine Augenlider, Deine Augenbrauen, Deine Augenwimpern, Deine Tränendrüsen, Deine Augäpfel, Deine Netzhaut, Deine Linse, Deine Pupille, Deine Iris, Deine Hornhaut, Deine Sehnerven, Deine Ohrmuschel, Deine Gehörgänge, Deine Trommelfelle, Deine Gehörknöchelchen, Deine Bogengänge, Deine Hörnerven, Deine Gleichgewichtsorgane, Deine Kopfhaut, Deine Kopfhaare, Deine Stirn, Deine Schläfen, Deine Wangen, Deine Kinn, Deine Ohrläppchen, Deine Halsmuskeln, Deine Halswirbel, Deine Schlagader, Deine Drosselvene, Deine Schilddrüse, Deine Brustmuskeln, Deine Brustwarzen, Deine Achselhöhlen, Deine Armmuskeln, Deine Oberarmknochen, Deine Ellenbogen, Deine Unterarmknochen, Deine Handgelenke, Deine Handwurzelknochen, Deine Mittelhandknochen, Deine Fingerknochen, Deine Fingergelenke, Deine Fingernägel, Deine Handflächen, Deine Fingerbeeren, Deine Daumen, Deine Zeigefinger, Deine Mittelfinger, Deine Ringfinger, Deine kleinen Finger, Deine Beckenknochen, Deine Hüftgelenke, Deine Oberschenkelknochen, Deine Kniegelenke, Deine Kniescheiben, Deine Unterschenkelknochen, Deine Fußgelenke, Deine Fußwurzelknochen, Deine Mittelfußknochen, Deine Zehenknochen, Deine Zehengelenke, Deine Zehennägel, Deine Fußsohlen, Deine Zehenbeeren, Deine große Zehe, Deine zweite Zehe, Deine dritte Zehe, Deine vierte Zehe, Deine kleine Zehe, Deine Achillessehne, Deine Wadenmuskeln, Deine Kniekehlen, Deine Oberschenkelmuskeln, Deine Leistenbeugen, Deine Leistenbeugenlymphknoten, Deine Bauchmuskeln, Deine Bauchhaut, Deine Bauchhaare, Deine Nabel, Deine Bauchspeicheldrüse, Deine Nebennieren, Deine Nierenbecken, Deine Harnleiter, Deine Harnbl



LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 12

Phoenix, June 29, 1887

My good, precious, sweet, deeply loved Gretchen,

I like to be close to you and chat with you and so I decided to write to you. It makes me feel good to sit here all alone thinking of you, rather than spending the evenings in public places. How nice it would be if you were able to walk with me outside in the evenings, the nights are so pleasant here. I wonder often what my dearest Gretchen is doing, with whom you are talking and whether you are also thinking about me. I hope you are enjoying yourself in Germany even though I cannot be with you and share the joy with you. But we have the great hope that this will be the last time, it also being the first time, that we are separated for so long. We have to bear it with patience now, that's all we can do. Every day is bringing us closer. Dear Gretchen, will you answer every one of my letters? I think you will. You cannot imagine how anxious I am to get a letter from you. I count the days and soon I'll count the hours when your letter will be due. How happy my heart will be when I open your first letter in which hopefully you will tell me nothing but good news about you and the children. I am so worried about you all, I will have no peace until I read your good news, which I hope will be soon. So much can happen between the times the letters go back and forth. My sweet Gretchen, I would love to see how proud you will be when people stop and look at Arthur and Louise all dressed up and well behaved and admire them. I would too, if I were there. Write to me about whom you have been visiting and all the things you and the children have been doing and going to. Please write often, and long letters.

The railroad will be completed all the way to Phoenix on July 1st. So on your way back, you can travel by train all the way home. Maricopa is now a place of the past. I didn't hear anything from Herrick but I think he'll be back by this Saturday. My sweet, beloved Gretchen, you won't believe this, but I come home sometimes during the day to do something here but I never accomplish anything. I am so sad for not having you here and I hate to leave the place without hearing anything from you, no Arthur calling me papa nor do I find the sweet smile of Louise. Some people leave their family for years, it seems to me these fellows have no heart. I feel there could be nothing worse than being separated so far away from my beloved wife and children. When I stop in front of your picture and look at you, it seems to me that you too have a sad look and are missing me. Good night my beloved sweet Gretchen, sleep well and dream about me. Also to you dear Arthur good night, sleep well and I wish the same to my sweet little baby. Once more, good night to all of you.

Thursday June 30th. My dearest Gretchen. I woke up this morning from a beautiful dream I had, dreaming that I was holding you in my arms, loving and kissing you. I wished it was reality, I regretted being awakened from it. I could have gone on dreaming

for the entire day. I received a paper from Neuhaus this morning which was sent on the 12th. As you were supposed to arrive there 3 days later, I assume I will receive your first letter from Germany in the next 3 or 4 days. I can hardly wait, hopefully I will get good news from you and this will make me very happy - to think about you and loving you is all my heart wants. I hope the dear Lord will let me die at my sweet Gretchen's side. I don't want ever to part from you.

Today is the last of the month and I have to send out some invoices, but I lost all my desire to work since you have left. I have left several things undone lately in order to spend the time writing to you and thinking about you. But I am sure you will be very happy to receive my letters. Your letters to me are the most precious things to me. I read them over and over and keep them in the safe. I like to keep them forever because they are written by my sweet Gretchen, the best woman in this world. This morning a letter arrived from Mrs. Herrick. How I envy all the people who get mail from their wives. The man who is sick here also got a letter today. He regularly, twice a week, gets mail from his wife. But I think they will not remain the only happy ones for long, or at least I hope my time will soon be here when I will get letters over letters. My dear Gretchen, you will be able to figure out now when a letter from me is due. I will write to you again Saturday, but if I have no news from you yet, I will wait until Monday to mail it. I should receive this letter about 8 days after the "Schuetzenfest."

Please give my best regards to your mother and father, Christine, Willie and Marie. Give a warm heartfelt kiss to Arthur and Louise for me. And to my dearest, sweetest Gretchen many greetings and kisses and love from your loving Georg. By the time you come back I may be a poet. I am constantly thinking of more and more poems to write for you or concerning you. I am sending you this time 3 blossoms of the red oleander. The largest is for you and the other 2 are for Arthur and little Louise.

So long, bye-bye

Letter 13

NEWELL HERRICK. GEO H. N. LUHRS.

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

PROPRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE,

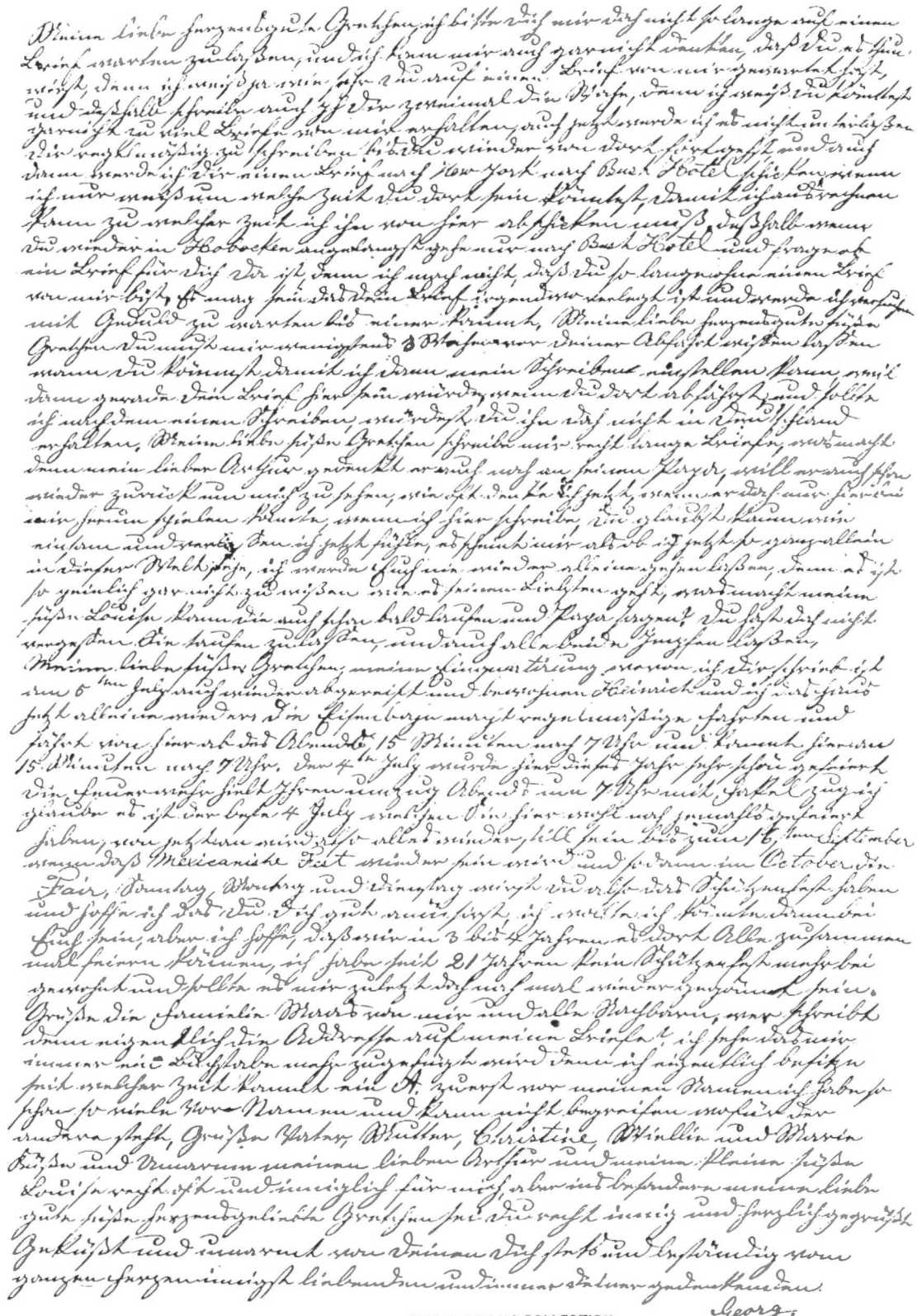
Blacksmith Shop, Madison Street, Between Center and Cortez. Livery Stable, South-West Corner Center and Jefferson Streets.

HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, June 6th July 1887

Meine liebe gute, süsse, kleine innig[e] und herzensgeliebte Gretchen.

Mit herzlichen Herzen sage ich mich [illegible] die mir gern Zeilen zu schreiben denn wenn ich solche morgen mit der Post finde, dann ist es beinahe wie ein Trunk für mich der [illegible] ist, denn ich bin Tag für Tag und manchen Trunk [illegible] und [illegible] dann [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]



LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 13

Phoenix, Arizona, July 6th, 1887

My dear, good, beloved Gretchen,

I am writing you these lines with a sad heart, since I have not received any letter from you this morning. I was so sure there would be a letter waiting for me at the post office from my beloved Gretchen. When I opened the mail box and saw several letters inside, my heart was jumping with joy, but after I went through the entire mail and found nothing from you, I was very disappointed and sad. I cannot understand why there was no letter, there was the Neuhaus newspaper mailed on June 19th, 5 days after you wrote me a letter that you would write once more the same week. I went back 4 times but there was nothing for me. My dearest Gretchen, since you left I cannot do my work efficiently. I am only half efficient because my thoughts are always with you. I do hope to get a letter from you tomorrow, because I can feel it. I know you wrote one. You could not leave poor Georg in such despair. Maybe it got lost somewhere. I still did not get your letter from Plymouth, it probably got lost.

Mr. Herrick sent some money to his wife today and she is supposed to be back on August 1st. We had a terrible sandstorm today. It was as bad as any you have ever seen. The air was so filled with sand that it became dark in the middle of the day, as if it were night. I was glad that you and the children were not here then, you would have been frightened.

I am closing for today and wishing you a good night. To you my sweetest Gretchen, Arthur and Louise a warm kiss and embrace. I am praying for you.

Thursday, July 7th - Another day without your letter. You don't know how much I worry. I can't think of anything else but you. I get so frustrated and sometimes angry with myself and I don't know what to do. Please my beloved Gretchen, don't let me wait so long for your letters. I am sure you don't like to be without news from me either and this is why I write to you twice a week because I know it cannot be too much. I will not stop writing you regularly until you leave and even then I'll write to you in New York at the Bush Hotel. Let me know in time when you leave, so that it reaches you just when you get there. As soon as you arrive in Hoboken, go to the Bush Hotel and ask for your mail. You have to let me know at least 3 weeks before you leave when you plan to be here so that I know when to stop writing. Please write long letters, all about the children, what they are doing and whether Arthur remembers his papa and does he want to come back to see me soon? I miss him very much. How nice it would be if he were near me, to play with me and talk to me, I would not be so lonely. I feel as if I were all alone in this world. I will never let you go away from me, because it hurts not to

know how my beloved family is doing. Is Louise already walking and saying some words? Did you baptize her by now and get her immunized? The people who were living here as I wrote to you have moved out on July 5th and so Heinrich and I live alone in the house.

The railroad goes regularly back and forth and leaves here every evening 15 minutes after seven. The 4th of July was a very nice celebration this year. The fire department had a parade with torches after dark, it was the nicest 4th of July I have seen and one of the greatest celebrations Phoenix has had. Now everything is quiet again until September 16th when the Mexicans will have their festival, and in October we'll have the fair. You will have the "Schuetzenfest" this Sunday, Monday and Tuesday and I am sure you will have some fun. I wish I could be there with you. Maybe we can go all together in 3 or 4 years to celebrate a Schuetzenfest together. It has been 21 years for me that I have not attended one.

Please give my greetings to the family Maas and all the neighbors. Who is writing the address on the envelopes? I see they always add a letter to my name. I already have two middle initials but they always add another A.

Give my love to mother, father and Christine, Willie and Marie. Embrace and kiss Arthur and Louise for me. And to you my dearest, beloved Gretchen, all my love, a warm heartfelt kiss and embrace, from your loving Georg, who constantly thinks about you.

Letter 14

NEWELL HERRICK GEO. H. N. LUHR

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths.

HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

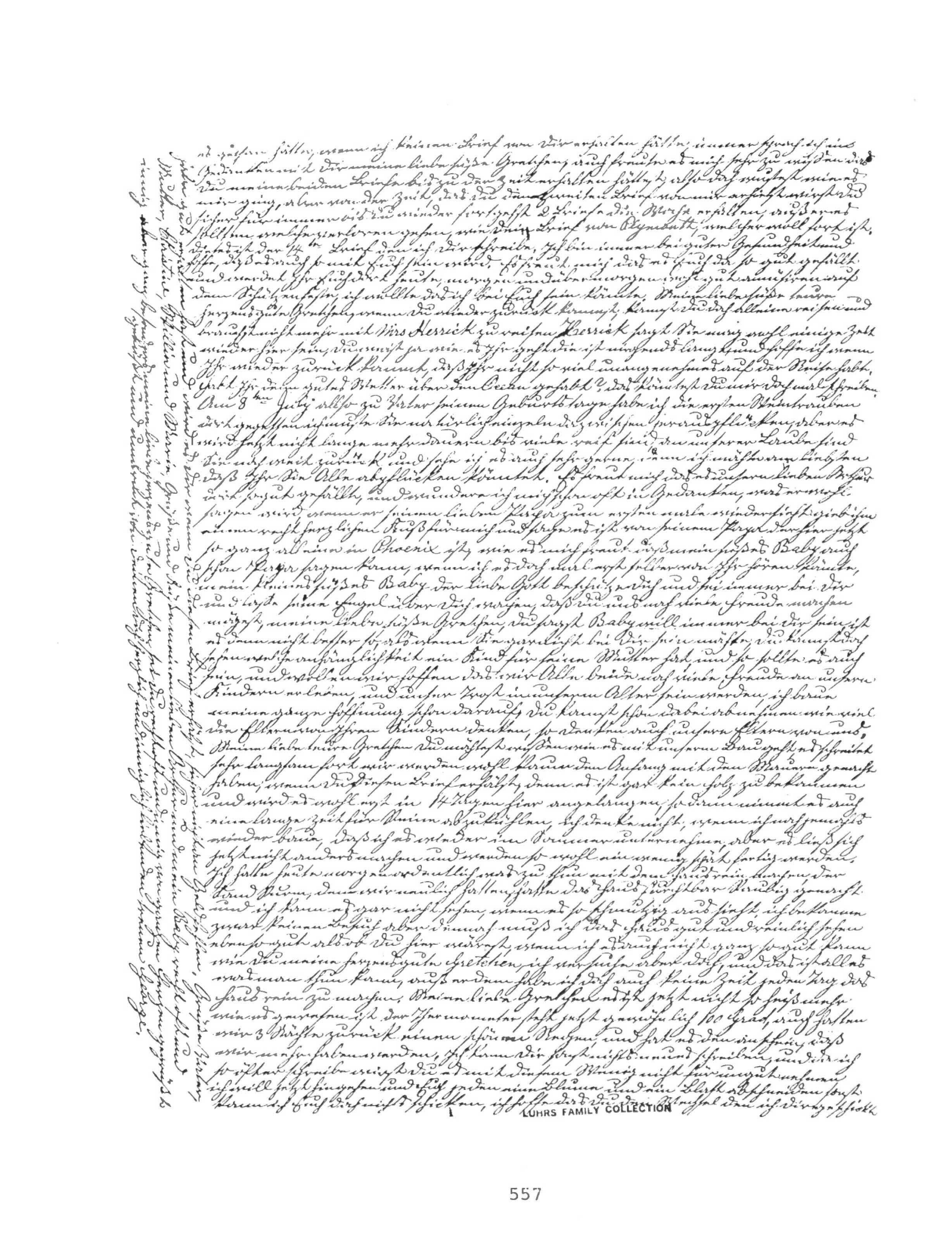
PROPRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE.

Blacksmith Shop, Madison Street, Between Center and Cortez. Livery Stable, South-West Corner Center and Jefferson Streets.

HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, June 10 July 1887

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION



LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 14

Phoenix, Arizona, July 10, 1887

My dear, good, sweet, precious, beloved Gretchen,

I received your lovely precious letter of June 21st today and my joy was so great I could hardly bear it because I have been waiting for it daily for the last 4 days. This morning when I arrived at the post office, I told the postman if he didn't have a letter for me again, I would get mad at him. He said there was nothing and so once more I had to go home sad and disappointed because you promised to write to me the very first week that you arrived there. But, one hour later, I went back to the post office because I noticed that they had not finished sorting all the mail while I was there. And this time I did not go in vain. Your letter was in our box all by itself. I rushed home with it in order to read it undisturbed.

My dearest Gretchen, you have no idea how much joy your letters bring to me. My heart stirs in such a delightful way when I open your letters, it's a feeling I never experienced before. Every time I read your letters, tears roll down by face and fill my heart with joy and happiness. You say you could not mail the letter any sooner because something always prevented you. I believe you my dear Gretchen, I can imagine how everyone showers you with questions, but it should be a little calmer now and I hope you won't let me wait too long for another one. You should get one from me about every 3 or 4 days, that's how I will write to you and wish you could do the same. I promised you that, and you will see when I make a promise I keep it. You write that I should write you very soon, but by now you must have received several of my letters, probably more than you anticipated. I hope you don't mind, but there is nothing that I like to do better now because I feel this brings me closer to you. The cleaning of the house was a joy this morning after reading your letter. I felt very peppy, not like the days when I came home empty-handed. I was glad to find out that you have received my 2 letters and from then on you should get 2 letters every week unless some get lost like the one you sent from Plymouth. This is the 14th letter I am writing you.

I am fortunately in good health and hope the same from you. I am glad you like it there and I am sure you'll have a lot to talk about for the next few days and have some fun at the "Schuetzenfest". I wish I could be there with you. My dear, sweet Gretchen, I am sure you can make your trip back alone and don't have to depend on Mrs. Herrick. Herrick says she may be back soon, you know how she is, she does not like it long anywhere. I only hope that your trip back will not be as bad as the one going. How was the weather while crossing the ocean? Write to me how all your trip was. On July 8, on father's birthday, I ate the first grapes, there were only a few ripe then but soon there will be many.

Letter 14 (continued)

In our back porch they are still completely green, which is fine, because I would like them to ripen when you come. I am glad that Arthur likes it there and wonder often what he'll say when he sees his papa again. Kiss him for me and tell him it is from his papa who is all alone here in Phoenix. How nice that our little baby can already say papa. I wish I could hear it myself. May God protect my little sweet baby and have His angels look after you so you will bring us a lot of joy. You say, my dear Gretchen, that baby wants to stay only with you. Isn't it better than if she did not like staying with you at all? A child should feel a need for its mother, this is just natural. Let's hope we will still enjoy many years together with our children. They will be our force when we get old. I am sure our parents thought the same thing and built their world around us.

You are wondering how our building is progressing. Not very fast. By the time you get this letter we'll have just barely put up the outside walls. We cannot get any wood, it has to be shipped and will not arrive here before 2 weeks. Also, the stones will have to cool down first. If I ever build again, I won't do it during the summer. But now we cannot change it, it will just take some time.

I had a lot to clean this morning after the sandstorm, the house was very dusty. I don't like to see it like that, so I had to clean it. I like to see the house the same was as when you were here even though I cannot do such a good job as you did. I also don't have much time for that, but it had to be done. It is not quite as hot as it was a while ago, it is about 100° now. We also had a nice rain 3 nights ago and it looks like we'll get more.

I think I'll close this letter now and add a flower for each of you. I hope you get the money order which I have sent you and that you have enough money now for all your needs. Give my greetings to all of your family and kiss my dear Arthur and Louise often for me. To you, my beloved sweet Gretchen, a very strong and warm embrace, and kiss from your faithful and loving Georg. So long my dear sweet good Gretchen and think about me often and please write as often as possible because it makes me so happy to hear from you and it makes the time go by faster and brings us closer to each other. Bye-bye.

Letter 15

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

NEWELL HERRICK. GEO. H. N. LUHRS.

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

PROPRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE,

Blacksmith Shop, Madison Street, Between Center and Cortez. Livery Stable, South-West Corner Center and Jefferson Streets.

HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, den 13ten Juli 1887

Meine liebe, gute, treue, süße und treue Frau zu meiner Hochzeitstag Gratulire
Deinem lieben treuen Brief vom 28sten Juni habe ich heute erhalten und
freue dich mich unendlich zu hören daß Ihr alle wohl seid Gott sei Dank
und mir auch hier ist es noch recht, wenn ich Dich erhalte und bei
Fleiß kann ich Dir Dein Brief vom 29sten Juni Mittags zu 12
und 1 Uhr noch durch arbeiten zu können und Dir heute Mittag Zeit zu schreiben
erübrigen kann 15 Tage nun, daß ich Dein Portemonnaie Dir zu senden
kann Brief zu Brief Dir Dir und Dir ist es genau 2 Wochen zurück
kommt, daß Du die Post Karte zurück bekommst erhalt ab
ist Brief kommt, Meine liebe süße Frau zu Deinem Geburtstag
gerne wie Du mir wieder so für mein Herz Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir
ab 66 Dollar je mal ich noch 3, 4 Tage ab Christine nicht machen
Phoenix zu Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir
noch 3 Wochen mal daß Du Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir
Dir zu Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir Dir
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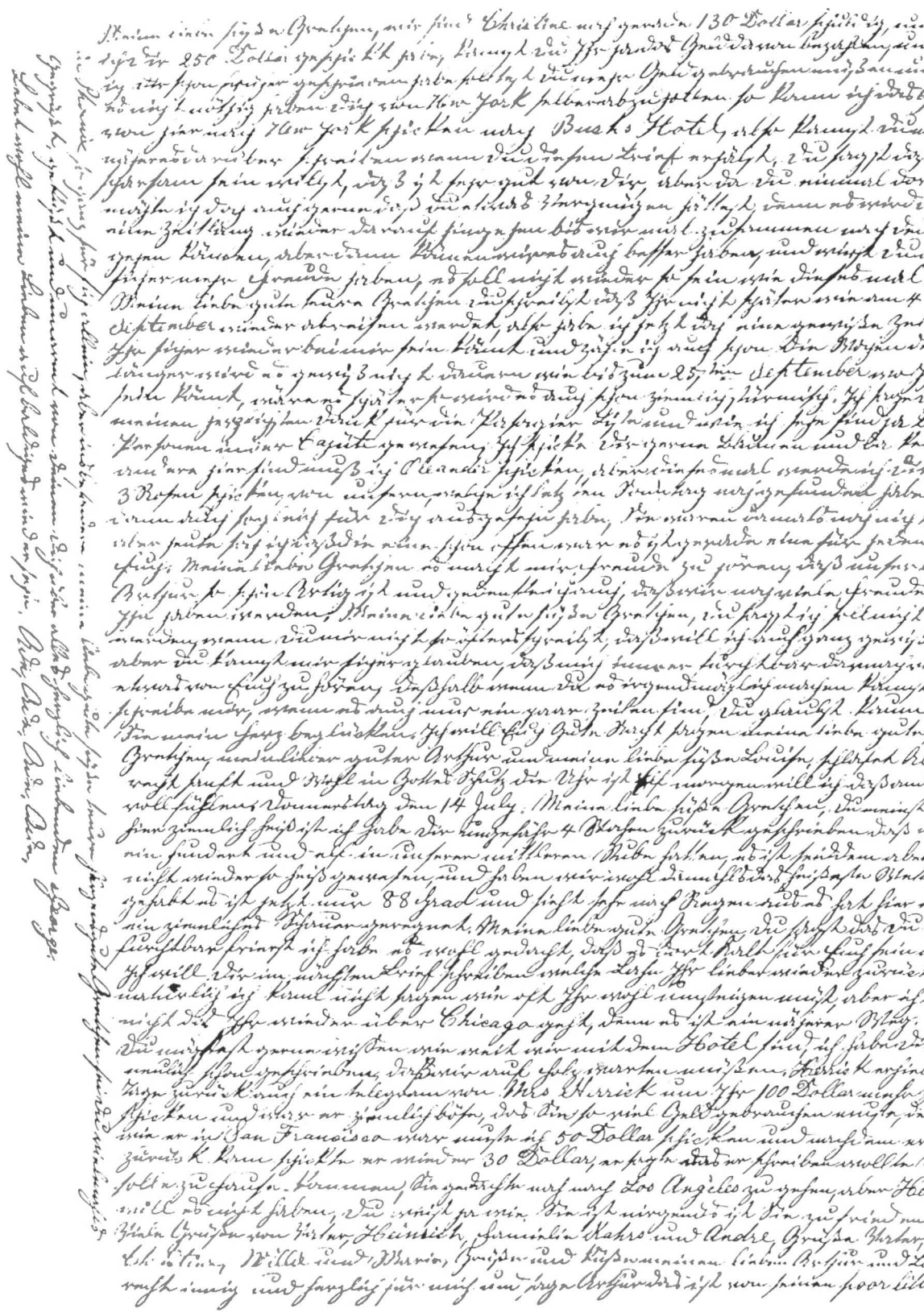


LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 15

Phoenix, Arizona, July 13, 1887

My dear, good, precious, sweet and beloved Gretchen,

I received your precious letter of June 28th today and I am so happy to know that you are all right. I was surprised to get this letter already after seeing the date on the envelope stamped June 28, noon, that's hardly 15 days. This is the fastest travel a letter has even taken. I wish you could also travel so fast, but I think this is impossible. Dear Gretchen, you would like to know how much it is for one person to go from New York to Phoenix, it is 66 dollars. You say in your letter that Christine does not want to come back, that she does not like Phoenix, probably because of Gabsch. Who knows what is best. I would have liked her to come back with you because it will be hard on you and you cannot do all the work alone. Try to find a girl who would like to come and you could use Christine's ticket for her, or else it is lost. In the letter of June 21st you say that Elise wants to come back to Phoenix. She could certainly help you on the voyage, however, I don't think you would like to have her around here, she is so strange. Therefore, dear Gretchen, try to find someone good because I don't want you to work so hard and be alone at home. Although, I am going to spend a lot more time with you from now on. I will not neglect you anymore as I sometimes used to. I hope you'll forgive me.

If you are coming back alone, let me know in time. I would then meet you in New York. I would not like you to travel alone with the children through the country. I would not have any peace knowing you are doing it alone. I don't care how much it costs, but I shall never let you go alone anymore. On the boat you should be able to get some help, but I can imagine that with 2 children, it's not going to be easy there either. I wish you were already here.

We owe Christine 130 dollars. Pay her from the 250 dollars I have sent you already and should you need some more money, especially if I don't need to go to New York myself, let me know and I will send it to you. I can send it to the Bush Hotel in New York. You write that you will save your money and not spend much, this is very good of you. But, since you are there now I want you to have some fun. It may take some time before you'll be back there, so enjoy yourself. Next time we'll go together and then we shall have a good time together. You say that you will not stay longer than September 4th, so I can plan for the time that you'll be back. You should be back then, at the latest, September 25. Thank you for the passenger list you sent me. I see there were 243 people on board. I like to send you flowers, but the only ones here are oleanders. However, this time I'll send you 3 roses from our garden. Last time they were not open yet, but yesterday I saw that they just opened into buds.

Letter 15 (continued)

There were exactly one for each of you.

My dear Gretchen, I am very pleased to hear that our little Arthur is well behaved, we will have a lot of joy with this boy. You tell me that I should not get angry with you because you don't have much time to write to me. Of course I understand, however, the joy of reading your letters is so great that I cannot stop longing for them. Therefore, please write whenever possible, even if it is only a few lines. I like to hear about you and the children's wellbeing. I'd like to say good night now, my dearest Gretchen, Arthur and little Louise, sleep well with God's protection. It is now 11 o'clock and I'll finish this letter tomorrow.

Thursday, July 14, - My dearest sweet Gretchen, I wrote to you in my last letter how hot it is here. We had 111 degrees in our living room but it is a little cooler again, usually around 88°. At that time it was about the hottest we have had so far. It may rain again, we had one shower already. You tell me my dear Gretchen that it is cold where you are and that you are freezing. Next time I will write to you about which train you should take on your way back. I don't know, however, how often you may have to change but I don't think you have to go over Chicago, there is a shorter way.

You ask how we are progressing with the hotel. We are still waiting for some wood. Mr. Herrick received a telegram 2 days ago that his wife wants another 100 dollars for him to send her. He was angry that she is spending so much money because while he was in San Francisco I had to send her 50 and when he returned he sent her 30. He said he'll ask her to come home. She also wanted to go to Los Angeles but Herrick does not want that. You know how she is, she is never happy anywhere.

Many regards from father, Henry, family Kahrs and Andre. Give my regards to your father, mother, Christine, Willie and Marie. Kiss my little Arthur and Louise for me sincerely and tell Arthur that it is from his "poor little papa in Phoenix, all by himself." And to you my dearest, sweet, beloved Gretchen, a strong embrace and a tender kiss with all my heart.

Your loving Georg

Letter 16

NEWELL HERRICK. GEO. H. N. LUHRS.

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

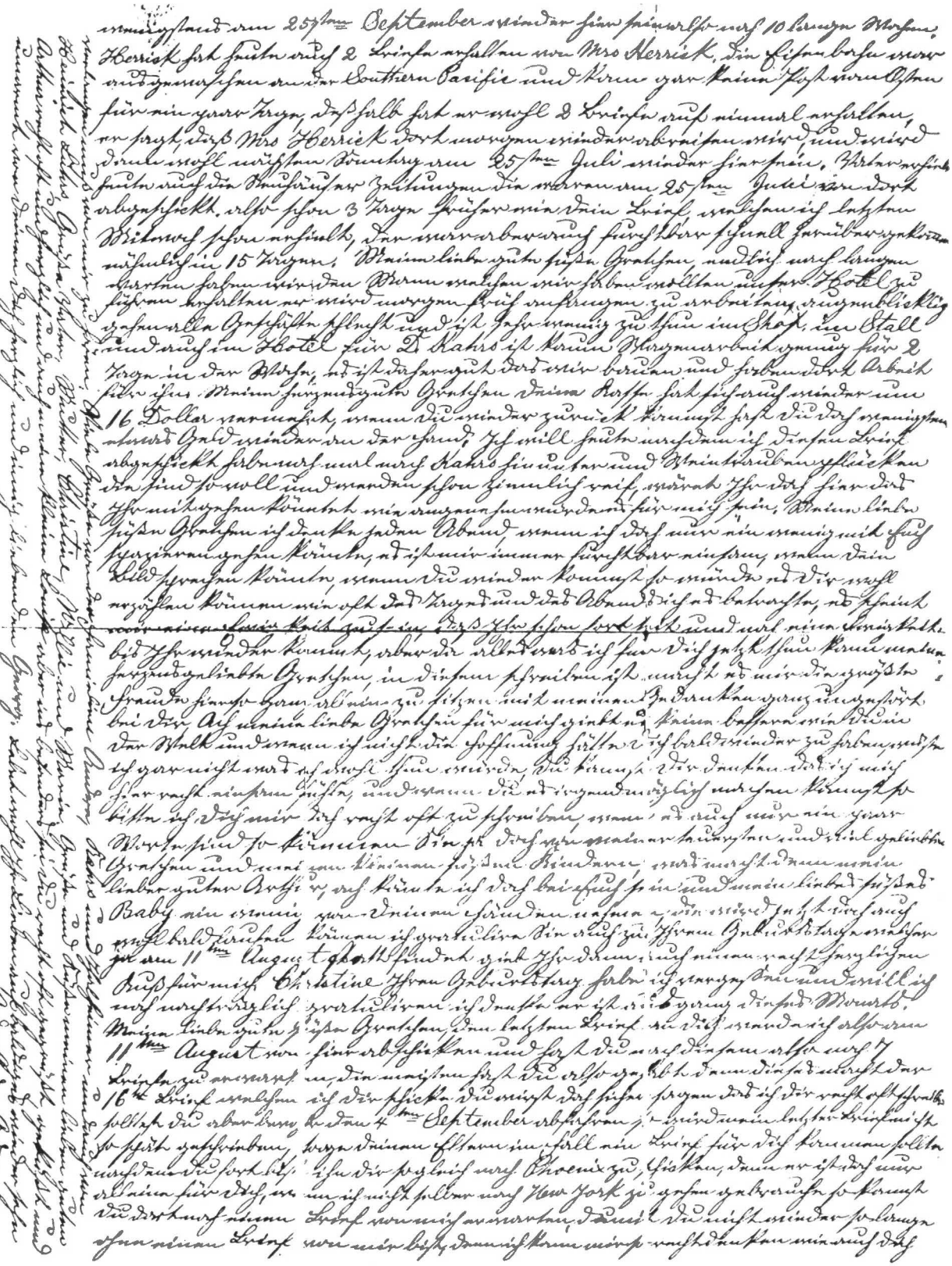
PROPRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE,

Blacksmith Shop, Madison Street, Between Center and Cortez. Livery Stable, South-West Corner Center and Jefferson Streets.

HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, den 17ten July 1887

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION



Letter 16

Phoenix, July 17, 1887

My dear, sweet, good, early loved Gretchen,

It is Sunday again and time is drawing closer when I can embrace you and I look forward to the time when I can have you here again and we can share together the joys and sorrows. Even now I think about how terrible the journey from New York to Phoenix will be for you and especially if you will be alone with the children without any help, which I hope will not happen. Should you be alone, please let me know in time so that I amy come to New York to help, since I do not want you to travel alone on the train.

I have forwarded your regards to Mrs. Thalmeimer and she mentioned that if you could would you please bring her a girl from Germany. If Elise wants to come back and she does not have any money she would advance the cost of travel and she could work for her until the money is repaid. Also, dear Gretchen, in case Christine does not want to come back with you, please look for somebody for you as you have enough work with the children. Should you at a later date no longer want this help, we can always find a place for her somewhere else. She would also be of great help on the way back and it would not be necessary for me to come to New York. It also would cost us a few hundred dollars more. If you got a girl she could work for the cost of the fare and you would profit by it. I should think there would be a few girls who would like to take this journey.

My dear Gretchen, I enclose a note on which I wrote the train connection you should take on your way back to Phoenix, which I assume is the shortest route. However, you have to change trains six times, which is still the best you can have. The changes will have to be made at the following places: Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Marshal, El Paso and Maricopa Junction. You also have to change because the railroads are owned by different companies and there is just no other way to get to Phoenix. When you arrive in Hoboken, go over to the Hotel Bush and give the owner of the hotel the note and ask him to order the tickets for you and to bring you to the railroad station.

My dear Gretchen, I count the weeks till you arrive. However, should you leave as late as September 4, then you will be here September 25, after ten long weeks. Herrick also received two letters from Mrs. Herrick, the railroad was washed out at the Southern Pacific and no mail came from the East for a few days, which is most likely the reason he got two letters today. He mentioned that Mrs. Herrick will leave tomorrow and will be here next Sunday, July 25. Father received the Neuhaus paper today, which was mailed on June 25, three days earlier than your letter which I received on Wednesday, which, however, arrived very fast. It only took fifteen days.

Letter 16 (continued)

My dear lovely Gretchen, we have finally found the man to run our hotel and he will start to work here tomorrow. Right now business is not doing too well, there is little to do in the shop, in the stable or in the hotel. D. Kahrs has hardly enough work for two days of the week and therefore it is good that we are building and have work there for him. My dear Gretchen, your cash has increased by $16.00, so when you return you will have some cash on hand. Today, after I have mailed this letter, I shall go down to Kahrs' and pick grapes, which are plenty and almost ready to harvest. If you were here, it would be so nice to go together.

My dear Gretchen, my thoughts are with you every evening and I feel so lonely; if I only had you here we could take a walk together; if only your picture could talk. When you return, I can tell you how often during the day and in the evening I look at it and think that it is an eternity since you have been gone and it will be an eternity until you return. All I can do for you now, my dear Gretchen, is write this letter and as I sit here undisturbed and alone with my thoughts, I realize that you are the dearest possession in the world and that if I did not know that you would return very soon I would not know what to do and now you know why I feel so lonely. Whenever it is possible, please write to me even if it is only a few words, they come from my dear Gretchen and the children.

How is my dear Arthur? I wish I could be with you and hold our dear baby in my arms. She should be ready to take her first steps very shortly. August 11 is her birthday, please give her a kiss for me. I forgot Christine's birthday, which I believe was at the beginning of the month, please give her my best wishes.

My dear Gretchen, on August 11, I shall mail the last letter and after this one you can expect 7 more. You have received the majority and this makes 16 letters which I mailed to you. Should you leave before September 4, then my last letter will not reach you. Tell your parents to return any mail to Phoenix after you have left, these letters are for you only. If I do not have to come to New York, you can expect a letter there so that you will not be without a note from me for a long time. I can imagine that you too are anxious to hear from me.

Best regards from the families Andree, Kahrs and Thalmeimer and Heinrich Luhrs. My regards to your father, mother and Christine, Willie and Marie. Love and kisses for Arthur and my little Louise, but especially you. As ever, your loving Georg. Goodbye, my dear ones and I hope to see you soon.

Letter 17

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

NEWELL HERRICK. GEO. H. N. LUHRS

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

PROPRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE,

Blacksmith Shop, Madison Street, Between Center and Cortez. Livery Stable, South-West Corner Center and Jefferson Streets.

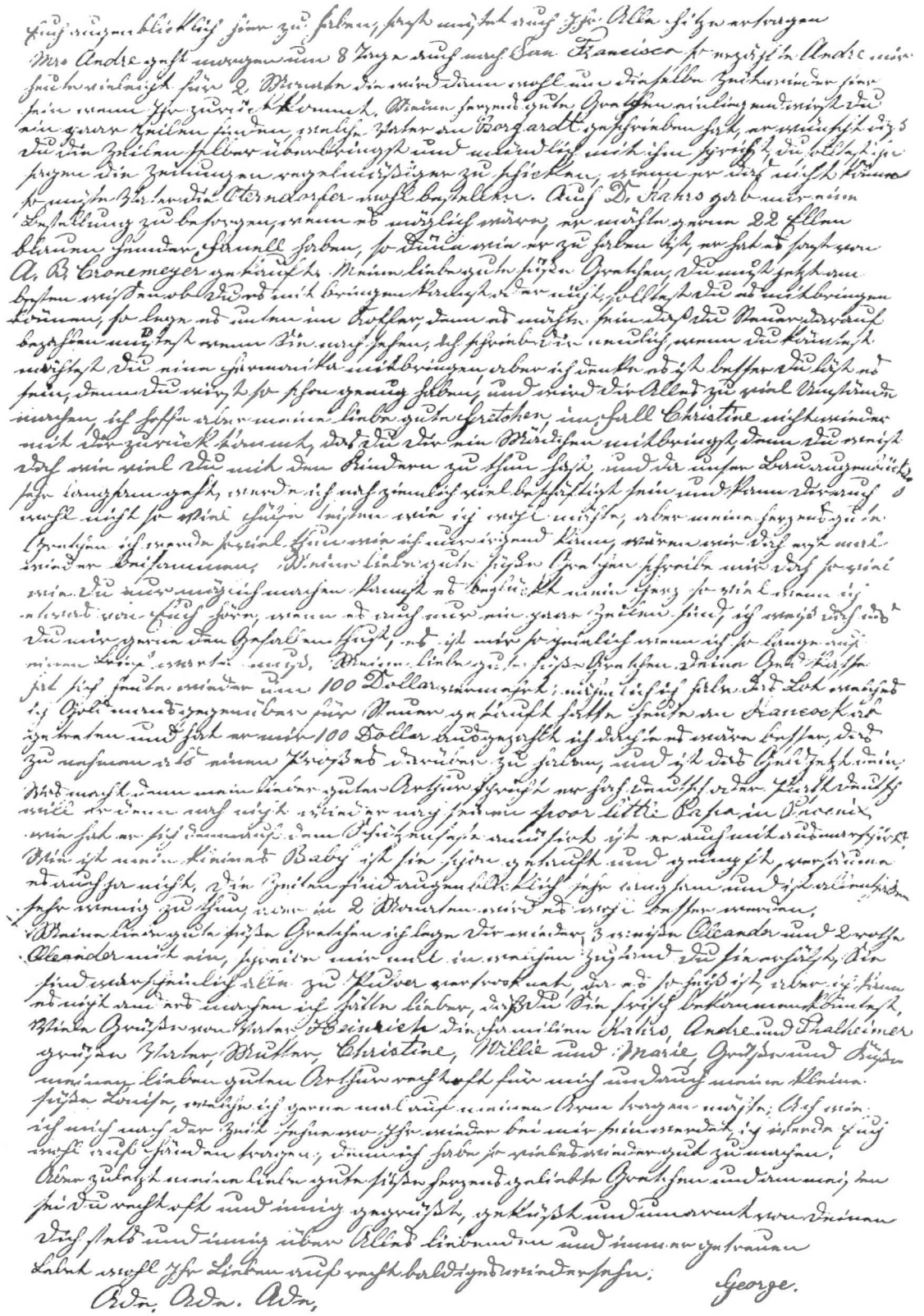
HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, den 29ten July 1887

Meine liebe, gute, süsse, treue und unendlich geliebte Gretchen

Ich habe heute 1 Brief mit dem Letzten Trink gute der anfällt und der nächste
ist in 2 Tage, der Brief wird wieder wenig, das zu schreiben, da ich dir das sage
Brief in 15 Tagen wieder ein Briefmann aber will ich nicht sagen für einen Brief
wird nicht kommen. Trink gute der erwarten bis zum Tage der Abreise selbst sagen
aber für mich ist das, denn das ist ja ganz klar. Ich will alles mir selbst
nimmt schreiben und das Antwort einen Brief und ich denn mit dem Brief
zusammen einen Trink zu nehmen bei meinen Leute zu bringen, und Freude ist der
mich machen schreiben, wenn ich nicht einen Trink zu bekommen von dir, denn ich
ist nicht einen Brief zu bekommen von dir, so nicht so erlebnis zu
schreiben, weil mich mit Kinder gewiss ist weil nun ihre Antwort zu bekommen
ist dann da ich mich mit einen Freunden zusammen, dann denn ich mich
denn dich auf einen Wunsch von Gretchen und Hoffnung dich
meine Zeilen auf bei der besten Gesundheit antreffen mögen, Meine liebe
gute Gretchen ich habe wieder zu klagen über Hitze 106 Grad
106 Grad aber den Wärmste sind schon Hitze, ist schon auch dann schon und
wenn ist wenig, so wenig 8 Uhr, ganze Morgen und Grad schon dann
ich wieder zu Pferd für mich, da ich nicht mehr mit nimmt Arbeit zu
stellen, ich habe Abend ziemlich warten in der Nähe zu sitzen und die Hitze
und wieder so wenig Einigen die Hitze und dann Herrad zieht einmal und die
Leuten sagen, aber ich kann nicht arbeiten, drei zu schreiben,
dann ich ist gar für dich meine liebe gute süsse Gretchen und denn ist ich
schreiben antworten aber Briefmarken ich meinen, die Frau sein Kind
damit ist meine Leinen Gretchen mich die in der süssen Liebe
streuen, Mein gestrichen der Brief ich Gretchen süsse Gretchen ich
die dich dann einen Brief einen Brief einen Scherz machen, die nicht mit einen
wieder zu erzählen haben, wenn die wieder zurück kommt, erscheint ich
mich Besuch schon der Zeit nutzen schön, ich gleiche Hitze schön einen
Blumen-Garten zum Spazieren, und ich habe einen schönen gleiche
Hitze ist genug. Ich denke schon meine Hände zu gleiche Hitze
ich will so viele mir möglich haben denn ich habe viel Hitze gehabt genug. Ich
wieder Brief, ich will alles gute Briefe zu mir selbst bringen ich
einen Brief zu schreiben, schreibe viele liebe gute süsse Gretchen
meine Briefe und andere süsse Küsse, Gute Briefe, Gute Briefe, Gute Briefe,
Phoenix, den 31ten July. Meine liebe gute süsse Gretchen, ich habe dir
wieder süsse Briefe geschrieben, aber ich nicht mehr wieder zu
bekommen, weil schon 110 Grad, ich komme mich, dass ich
ein Brief nicht zu antworten, ich habe gerne bei Euch aber ich nicht mehr

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION



LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 17

Phoenix, Arizona, July 20, 1887

My dear, good, sweet, precious and beloved Gretchen,

It is one week today that I have received your last letter and I am waiting every day for news from you. Of course, I cannot expect every letter to travel only 15 days like the last one, but by Sunday I should have a letter from you because you said you would write to me every week. The time between your letters seems so very long, it would pass faster if I could hear from you more often and I would know what to write to you if I could answer your questions. This way I don't have much to tell you except the same things, but I hope you don't mind. At least you know that I am alive and all right.

My dear Gretchen, it got hot again, 106 degrees but the nights are still cool so I sleep on the porch. Last night and the night before, I even had to go into the house towards morning, it got too cool since I had no blanket out there. Now I am sitting in the room and it is still fairly warm and as you know, at this time of the year we get so many flying insects which swarm around the lamp. They are a nuisance but yet, all of this is not going to prevent me from writing you, this is always a pleasure to me. Of course, it would be a lot nicer if you were here and we could take a walk outside in the fresh air.

How do you like it there? Did you have a good time at the festival (Schuetzenfest)? You will certainly have a lot to tell me when you come back. I long for this time so much. I have already picked many grapes from our garden, they are slowly ripening and everytime I pick some I wish you were here and could pick some yourself. I will try to leave as many as possible on the vines, hopefully you will come back in time to get them. Now, good night my dearest, tomorrow I will finish this letter. Sleep well my dear Gretchen, Arthur and Louise. Good night, good night.

Thursday, July 21st - My dear sweet Gretchen, I thought we were done with the hot weather this summer but now it's back again. It was 110° in the house today. I am glad that you don't have to suffer this heat. I wish I could be there with you myself. Mrs. Andre goes tomorrow to San Francisco for a week and Mr. Andre said she may even stay 2 months, which means she would come back at the same time as you do. I am enclosing a letter from father which he would like you to give to Borgardt personally and talk with him and tell him to send the newspapers regularly. If he cannot do it, father would have to ask the Oterndorfer. D. Kahr has a request, he would like you to get him 22 yards of blue shirt material, as thin as possible. He said he used to buy it at A.B. Cronemeyer. My dear Gretchen, I leave this up to you, if it is possible for you to get it. If you can bring it, then put it in the bottom of your trunk because you may have to pay duty otherwise.

Letter 17 (continued)

I asked you last time to get me a harmonica, but if it's too much trouble just forget it, it's not that important.

If Christine does not come back with you, I think seriously you should find yourself a girl to bring along because it will be otherwise too hard on you to take care of the children and everything yourself. And since our building is progressing very slowly, I will be too busy there and won't be able to help you as much as I would like to and as much as you would need it. But I will do as much as possible. Please write to me more often, this is my only happiness, besides it is so embarrassing not to get mail from you for a long time. Everyone asks me all the time.

My dearest Gretchen, your savings account increased today another 100 dollars. I have sold today the lot which I took over from Goldman for taxes, to Hancock for 100 dollars. I think this is better than having a process over it. What is my dear Arthur doing? Does he speak high German or Plattdeutsch? Does he want to come back to his poor little papa? How did he like the Schuetzenfest? And my little baby, how is she, has she been baptized already? Please don't forget to let her get the vaccines. Business is slow now, not much to do, but it will pick up again in 2 months. Dear Gretchen, I am enclosing 3 white and 2 red oleander blossoms, write to me how they look when you get them. Perhaps they are all dried to a powder by the time they arrive.

Many greetings from father, Heinrich and family Kahrs, Andre and Thalmeimer. Greet for me your father, mother, Christine, Willie and Marie, with a kiss and embrace to my dear Arthur and little Louise who I would like to be holding in my arms now.

You can't imagine how I long for the time when you all will be here again. But you my dearest Gretchen, to you my most sincere greetings and a very warm embrace and loving kiss from your Georg who loves you above everything in this world.

Letter 18

W. H. HERRICK. GEO. H. N. LUHRS.

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

PROPRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE,

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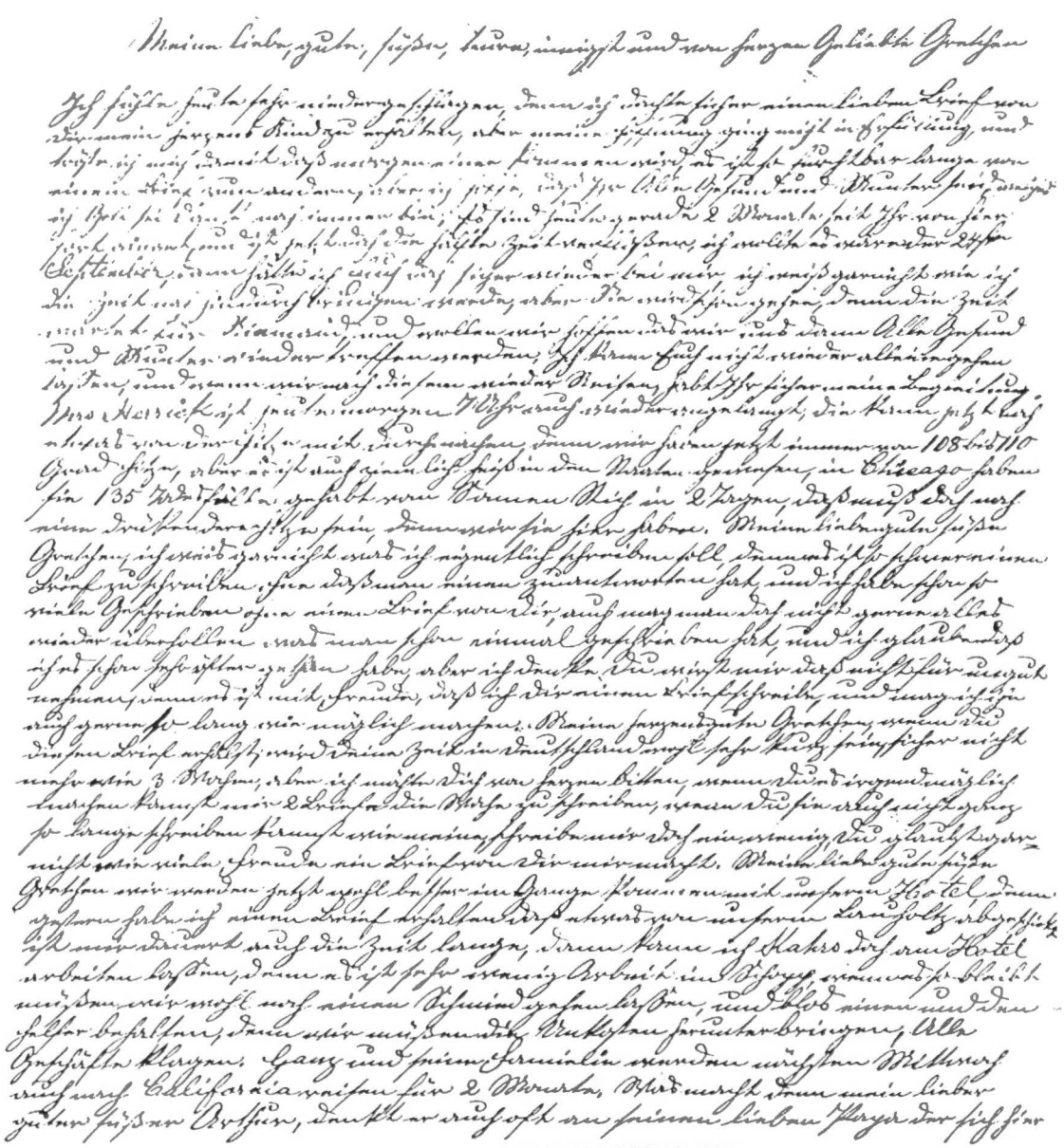
HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phenix, Arizona, den 24ten Juli 1887



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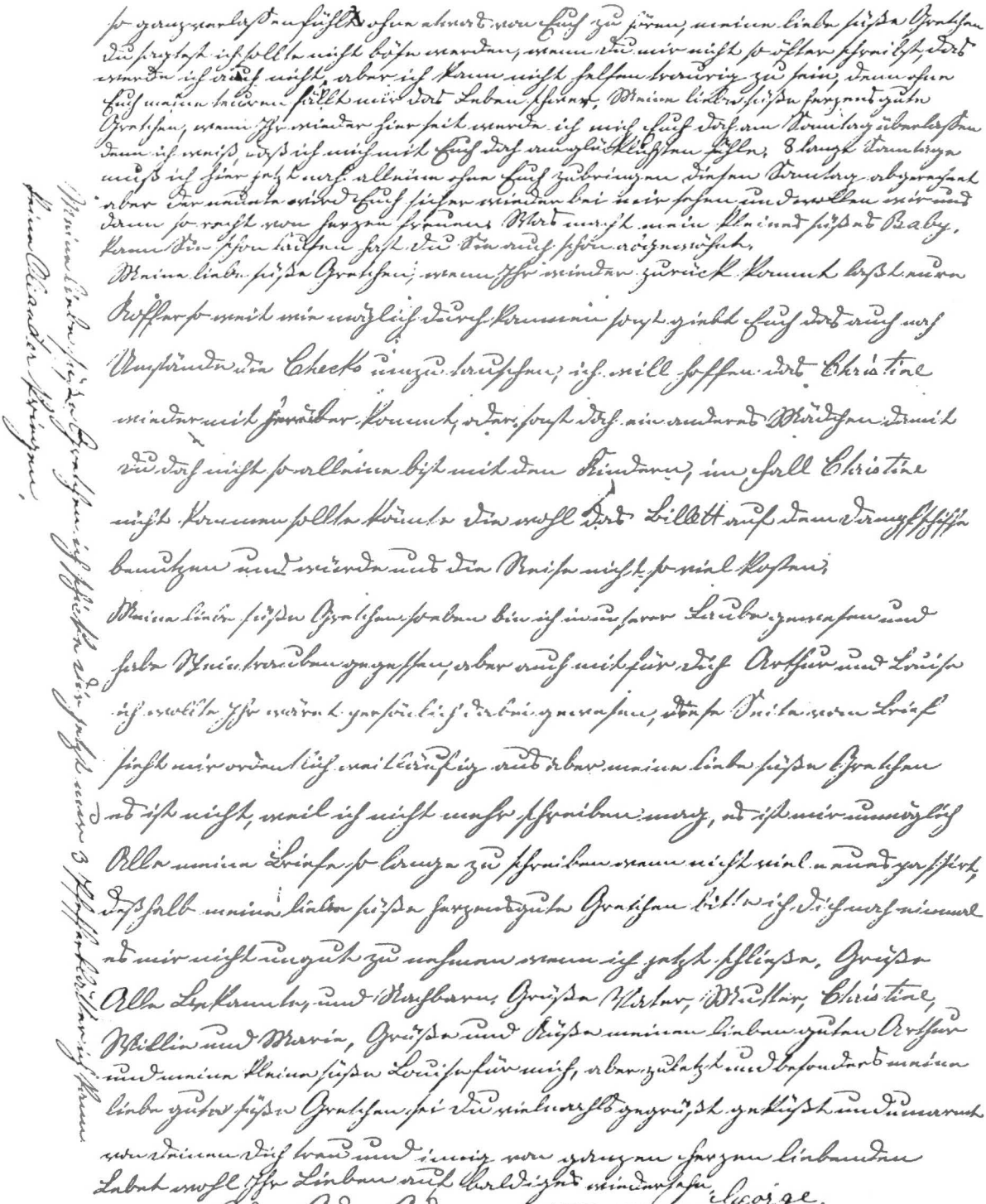

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 18

Phoenix, Arizona, July 24, 1887

My dear, good, sweet, precious, dearly loved Gretchen,

I feel very depressed today. I was so sure I would get a letter from you by now my dearest Gretchen, but my wish was not fulfilled. I hope you are all fine, I can say that much of me, thank God. Today, it's exactly 2 months since you have left and it's only half of the time. I wish it were already September 24th and you and the children were safely back. I don't know how I will manage till then, but I have no choice. I'll just have to remain patient. Time does not stand still for anybody, so we'll just look forward to the joyful moment when I'll have you back here. I will never let you go alone again. If we visit Germany again, you'll have me by your side.

Mrs. Herrick arrived this morning at 7 a.m. She will have to suffer the heat now because we are having about 108° or 110° every day. I heard it is hot everywhere in the United States. In Chicago there were 135 casualties from the heat within 2 days. It must have been worse there than here.

My dear Gretchen, I don't really know what to write since I am not getting any news from you and I have written to you so many times, always the same. It's not fun to have everything repeated all the time and I think I did that too often already, but I feel so relieved to pour out my heart on paper to you my love and hopefully you will enjoy reading all my letters like I enjoy reading yours. By the time you get this one, your stay in Germany will be approaching the end. I would say in about 3 weeks you will be leaving. Until then, please write to me twice a week even if it's only a few lines.

My dearest Gretchen, our hotel should be progressing now. I got a letter saying that some of the wood is already on its way. I hope we can start soon, then the time may pass faster for me and I can also put Kahrs to work on the hotel, since there is very little to do in the shop. If it goes on like this we'll have to dismiss one of the smiths and keep only one and the helper, in order to lower the overhead expenses. Everybody complains that business is no good. Ganz and his family are leaving for California too for 2 months.

What is my dear Arthur doing? Is he remembering his papa who is so lonely left behind and is eager to hear from him and all of you? You asked me not to be angry if you don't write often, and I won't be, but I cannot help being sad when I don't get any news from you. My dear Gretchen, when you are here again, I will from then on spend all the Sundays with you because I know now that it is with you and the children that I am the happiest. Eight more Sundays I have to sit here by myself, hopefully on the

ninth you will be here already. And how is my sweet baby, can she walk now? Did you potty train her?

My dear Gretchen, on your return trip try to get your luggage shipped directly here, if possible, so that you don't have to bother with it all the time. I do hope that Christine will come back with you or some other girl who could use Christine's ticket. My dearest Gretchen, I just came in from the garden and brought in some fresh grapes which I'll have to eat myself, pretending I am eating them for you and Arthur and Louise. This page does not look too good, I have been using double space and it's not that I don't like to write to you but I just don't have any more news to give you. So please forgive me that I am making it short and please write to me soon.

Give my regards to all friends and neighbors and to your father, mother, Christine, Willie and Marie. Greet and kiss my dear little Arthur and sweet Louise for me. And you, my dearest sweet Gretchen, I embrace you and kiss you. Your faithful, loving husband,

Georg

This time I am sending you, my sweet Gretchen, only pepper-tree leaves because I could not find any oleander blossoms.

Letter 19

COMMERCIAL HOTEL.

HERRICK & LUHRS. Proprietors.

Phoenix, Arizona, July 25th 1887

Meine liebe gute, süsse, herzensgute Schwester.

Ich bring heute mit Mrs Herrick und sie erzählte mir daß
Ihr die einzigen Fremden gewesen wären welche 3ter Classe
gefahren wären, und daß Ihr doch immer genug Geld hätten, und
daß die gewesen Fräulein die wollten nicht weiter 3te Classe fahren.
Ich sage ab auch viel lieber wenn ich 2ter Classe fahren könnte
anstatt 3ter, wenn es auch nicht viel mehr kostet so sieht man
auch so viel besser und kommt schneller in die Dining Room Cars
gehen und doch kann Herrick alles um die zwölf Dollar die es
mehr kosten wird lieber daß man nicht verhungern, dann niemand
Zeug gewesen ist, kommt man schon dann schon so kommt
man auch über den Missouri, und so weiter dann kann man auch
die zwölf Dollar bekommen, machts es auch mehr kosten will, auch
wenn Ihr erster Klasse reist und wollt absolut Geld sparen so
Ihr ja nur dem Porter sagen und der wird es Dir gerne
Euch bringen, Mrs Herrick ist auch erster Klasse wieder zurück
gekommen, und war die ganze Reise sehr angenehm die ganze
gemütliche Leben ist will nicht daß Du vor der Zeit sterben sollst.
wenn Du kein Geld genug Leben wirst so lasse es mir gefälligst
wissen damit ich so viel wie nur Bueno & Bettel für Dich
schicken kann ich will Dir gerne sagen wie viel es kostet
von New York nach Maricopa, damit wenigstens genug Du doch
kein Billet lösen, Erste Klasse limited 3 mal die Woche geht
durch ohne überhaupt. 95 Dollar und 30 cent. zweiten Klasse
80 Dollar und 5 cent aber in dieser Klasse sieht sie nicht besser als
wie in der dritten der dritten Klasse 62 Dollar und 50 Cent.
also wie Du sind es 32 Dollar und 80 Cent. und von
Maricopa nach Phoenix kostet es 3 Dollar. auf will ich Dir
genau und dann Zettel wieder mit wie lange wo und was Deine
Reise sich etwa verändert wo St Louis und dann wo
die Herrad Zeit sparst hier gelten sind wenn in den
südlichen Staaten und da kann es wieder ab der beste sein

LUHRS F... COLLECTION

von St Louis nach Kansas City zu gehen und von dort hast
du dann den selben Weg wieder den wir damahls
gekommen sind durch Kansas. Meine liebe gute süße
Gretchen ich habe heute noch keinen Brief erhalten, aber
ich denke er wird morgen kommen, wenn du wüßtest wie
mir fühlt, wenn ich so lange nicht von Euch höre, würdest du
mir gewiß öfter schreiben, wenn es auch nur ein paar Zeilen
wären, aber ich kann mir auch nicht denken, daß es deine
Schuld ist daß der Brief nicht kommt er muß sicher etwas
länger auf den Weg sein, also will ich hoffen von einem
Tag zum andern bis er zu letzt kommt. Meine liebe
süße Gretchen deine Koffer kannst du nur bis St. Louis
schecken lassen, und von dort nach Maricopa, wo du ihn
dann wieder schecken lassen mußt, aber von Maricopa
werde ich Euch abholen, wenn du mir eine Depeche von
Deming schickst, welches du doch sicher thun wirst.
hiermit will ich für heute schließen, Grüße Vater, Mutter,
Christine, Willie und Marie, Grüße und Küsse
meinen lieben Arthur und meine kleine süße
Louise recht oft für mich. Aber du meine liebe gute
süße Gretchen sei recht oft und herzlich geküßt
gegrüßt und umarmt von deinen dich herzlich
liebenden und immer Eurer gedenkenden

George.

Letter 19

Phoenix, Arizona, July 25, 1887

My dear, good, sweet, beloved Gretchen,

I talked to Mrs. Herrick today and she told me that you were the only 3 women traveling in 3rd class and that there was a lot of fighting among the passengers. I would like you to come back 1st class, even though this will cost more, but this will be a lot better for you and you will be able to go to the dining room car to eat your meals. We can pay those extra dollars, it will be worthwhile. Like the proverb goes: "If you can jump over the dog you can also jump over the tail." This way, if you need something you can call the porter and have him bring it to you. Mrs. Herrick also took 1st class to come back and if she can do it, so can you. I don't want you to have less than she has. If you need extra money, let me know. I will send it to the Bush Hotel. Here are the prices, buy it in New York because you cannot buy them any farther. First class is $95.30, second class $80.05, but is not much better than 3rd class and 3rd class is $62.50. So the difference is $32.80, and from Maricopa to Phoenix it's $3.00. I will enclose a new schedule for you, because there are some changes after St. Louis. At that time of the year there are lots of yellow fever epidemics in the southern states and so it will be better if you avoid them and go from St. Louis to Kansas City and then the same way as we have come.

I still did not get a letter from you dear Gretchen, but I hope I'll get one tomorrow. I am sure if you knew how badly I feel when I have no news from you, you would write more often. But I believe it's not your fault that I have to wait so long, it is probably delayed somewhere on the way. You can send your luggage straight to St. Louis and from there direct to Maricopa and I will meet you there and take care of it to Phoenix. Send me a telegram from Deming so that I know when you arrive.

Give my regards to father, mother, Christine, Willie and Marie and kisses to the children. And to you my dearest, sweetest, Gretchen, I am always with you in my thoughts, with all my love,

Your Georg

Letter 20

NEWELL HERRICK. GEO. H. N. LUHRS.

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

PROPRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE,

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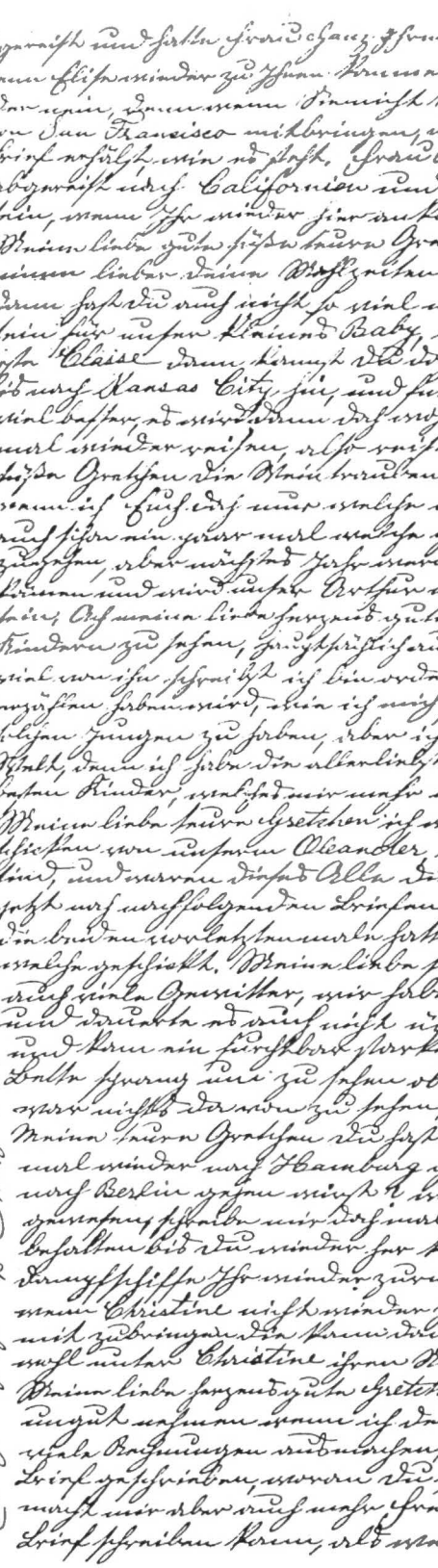
HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, Dec 31st July 1887

Meine liebe, gute, süsse, treue, herzensgute Gretchen.

Es ist wieder eine Woche traurig schön und die Zeit wo Ich Deine wieder bei mir sein werde ist um so viel näher gerückt, in fünf Wochen heute werde ich Dich in meine Arme schließen und Dich nicht wieder fortlassen. Es ist auch die letzte, der langweiligste Monat und nun die so traurig schönen Herbsttage, wo ich Dich so recht innig liebe und mich nach Deiner Nähe sehne. Ich habe Dir schon geschrieben, daß ich Dich nicht mehr bitten werde zu mir zu kommen, ich bleibe nicht hier, dann ist Deine Gesundheit zu kostbar, aber meine liebe gute süsse treue Gretchen will ich nie wieder in Gefahr bringen durch Arbeit die Deine Gesundheit zu Grunde richten könnte, und darum bitte Dich nun wieder recht innig mich nicht zu verlassen, dann alle andere Opfer sind nichts gegen das Opfer Deiner Gesundheit. Ich habe Dir geschrieben daß ich Dir 2 Pferde für Deine Reise kaufen werde, dann ist alles in Ordnung, und die Pferde werden dann so schnell auf Deine Ankunft Kommando, daß die ganze Reise Zeit selber nicht zu danken ist. Meine liebe, gute, treue, herzensgute Gretchen ich kann nicht mehr Worte finden Dir zu schreiben, wie sehr ich Dich liebe, weil Du mir nicht bei mir warst so bin ich froh daß immer bis jetzt Du gesund warst, ich habe nicht Deine Briefe und Photographie und Deine liebe Handschrift, die Du so gut ausarbeitest, aber meine liebe gute Gretchen ich danke immer Dir, wenn ich Deine Photographie sehe, und Deine liebe Handschrift, die mir mehr als Worte sagen können, ich bin nicht zu fortgearbeitet, aber ich werde immer Dir danken



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Letter 20

Phoenix, Arizona, July 31st, 1887

My dear, good, sweet, precious Gretchen,

Another week has gone and brought you closer to me, only 5 more weeks to go until you start your trip back. Today is the last day of the month, and as you know this means a lot of paper work, sending invoices, etc. Also, today is Sunday and this is the day I have to clean the house. I don't like to see it dusty, but during the week I have no time to do it. I realize now the hard time you have had keeping the house spotless. Anyway, the house is clean now, maybe not as good as you would have done, and the bills can wait. First comes my dear, sweet Gretchen. I like to chat with you, dwell my thoughts on you and everything else is not important.

I know that you like to hear from me and that we agreed that I would write you twice a week. I am sure my letters will make the time go faster for you and will cheer you up. This way you are constantly posted about my well being and don't need to worry about me. The only complaint I have is that I am sick at heart from grief over your absence. I weighed myself today and I have gained 4 pounds since you left. This is a good sign that I am not sick. I know you like to hear that, this is why I write it so you don't worry, because I know you think I work all the time and you always told me not to work myself sick. I like to keep my good health, because I know you need me.

The construction of the hotel is now in full force, from now on it should go fast. My dear Gretchen, I am expecting your letter every Wednesday, at least I hope you won't let me wait more than a week. My time for writing you is getting short. In about 2 weeks I'll have to stop because you would not get it anymore. I will be missing this opportunity, because writing to you is such a pleasure.

Tell Elise that Ganz would like to have her back, if she decides to come back. Ganz and his family left for California last Wednesday and they left a message with her brother to tell me about Elise and request a prompt answer. Because if Elise does not come back she will find herself someone in San Francisco. So please let me know soon. Mrs. Andre also left last Thursday and will be back about the same time as you will my dear, sweet Gretchen since you will travel this time with the railroad and eat in the dining car, you won't have to bring so much food along and it will certainly be better this way for you and the children. Therefore, you should take the 1st class. We won't travel soon again, so make this trip comfortable for yourself.

The grapes are getting ripe now, I wish I could send you some. Father also brought me some because I don't have much time

to pick them. Next year you and Arthur can enjoy picking them. I am longing to see you and the kids so much and am curious to see how Arthur grew and how he behaves and what he is going to tell me. I think I am the luckiest man in the world to have such fine children and such a wonderful, lovely and good wife as you.

Today my sweet Gretchen, I'll send you again some oleander which started to bloom anew. There should be more soon and I will send you some in every letter. My dear Gretchen, I wonder how the weather is in Germany now, do you have lots of thunder-storms? We only had one this summer and it was a short one in the middle of the night and so strong that it woke me up and I thought it hit our house, but it was not that close and soon it was all gone.

My dearest Gretchen, you never wrote me that you have been in Hamburg nor that you are planning to go to Berlin. Tell me about all the places you have been. Don't keep me waiting until you come back, please write to me. Tell me also with which boat you are coming back and don't forget to get yourself a girl there, if Christine does not come back with you. The girl could use Christine's ticket and would probably have to use her name. Now, I will close this letter my dearest Gretchen. I hope you don't mind that I write to you so much but I think you enjoy reading my letters and the longer the better.

Give my regards to your father, mother, Christine, Willie and Marie. Kiss our children Arthur and the baby for me tenderly and I embrace you my dearest, precious Gretchen and kiss you with all my love,

Your Georg

So long my dearest one, take care and soon I shall see you, bye-bye...

Letter 21

NEWELL HERRICK. GEO. H. N. LUHRS.

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

PRORRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE,

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HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

St. Marie, Bijou, den 3ten August 1887

Meine liebe, gute, treue Schwester, herzensgeliebte Gretchen,

Ich danke heute morgen dass ich schon einen lieben Brief von dir erhalten habe, dann dir sage, dass ich 1 Woche krank bin gewesen, ich schreibe dir heute morgen schon einen Brief, und der ist dann Brief, dass wir heute morgen schon abgesandt. Heute will ich einen Spaziergang machen, Hoffentlich gehe ich meine Hände noch, soll mir dann Leid und nimmt da Alles meine Zeit in Anspruch aber so bald Zeit, meine liebe herzensgute Gretchen eine Einsendung zu schreiben muss ich sagen dass ich mich sehr freue, dass du mir noch 3 Briefe schreiben, da ich auf den Brief, Meine liebe Zeit Gretchen gehabt, dass ich dachte weil dass verheirathet Bruno zu schreiben meinetwegen Mrs Thalheimer ist am 17ten August auf glückliche Reise am Bord Dampfer Bijou von Guaymas 9 Tage unterwegs, dann ist es auch das Zeitung zu lesen gehen, jedenfalls auch schon drei Tage Bruno verheirathet ist. Heute Abend habe ich Zeitung für; nämlich das Geo Tantau von der Firma Tantau und Keller, sind schon wohl 4 Monat hier Bruno und Margaret Blake von Visalia in Californien und das die 5te September zusammen sind, meine liebe Gretchen das glücklich freue mich sehr, wir ist, mache mich einen lieben Brief von dir so sehr erwarte und muss dann ich einen zu erhalten mir dass zu schreiben, kommen ist heute noch freue ich Zeit abwarten und der Hochzeit zeige zu kommen und dann bleiben die Briefe noch fleissig sind, und wenn ich dann kommen erhalten sollen ist mich sehr dass gleich und freue ich so ganz sicher zu verheirathen meine liebe Gretchen ich glaube sehr dass die dass einen Brief zu erhalten Zeit abgeschickt sehr schnell und mit einem lieben Antwort sagt ist, weshalb darum den Briefschreiben mir sehr Bier sehr zwei ziemlich warmen Tagen, aber dass Bier sind schon sehr süss, Spruchschluss dennoch zu Verschlag ist viel Lust zeigt zu den Dorf sagen meine liebe gute Gretchen meine liebe Arthur und meine Einbrüche Louise schon sehr wahrscheinlich und kommt recht bald, dass mir meine allen Einbrüche dass ich bald Briefe mir dass Zeit, dass mir zu schreiben zu Hause, dass ich bei mir sehr viel nimmt Gute Briefe, Gute Briefe, Gute Briefe, schlafe recht Spruch und dass Gott segne dich aber auf meinen und sage bestens, dass mir dass Dampfer dann 4ten Aug Meine liebe gute Gretchen, dass ich mir dass kein Brief zu kommen und dass ich nicht danken, meinen dass Brief nicht kommt, dass gute mir gehen auf die Briefschreiben Zeitung und schreiben, dass der 18ten July aber zu mir gehen 12 Briefe, dass dann Lobster Brief aber zu sind, also zu mir schreiben, dass mir schreiben sollen, meine Herz ist voller Einbrüche zu Pflegung, Meine liebe gute, gute, herzensgute Gretchen ich meinen Mund, dass ich nicht dass also zu Hamburg mir dass verheirathen, mir sehr wenn ich dass mich auch mir dass mir zu mir, dass ich dass gehen, ich dass ganz sehr zu mir in der Welt, wenn ich dass mir

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Herz erfreuen könnte, und von einem Tag zum andern sitzt man in Gedanken vertieft, kein freundliches Wort hört man und auch kein freundliches Lächeln begrüßt einem, aber wenn Ihr erst wieder hier seit wird es doch wieder besser werden, Wie ist mein kleines süßes Baby ist Sie völlig wieder über Ihre Erkältung und kann Sie schon laufen? lange wird es doch jetzt nicht mehr dauern bis ich Sie Papa rufen hören kann, und Sie mir dann auch wohl bald entgegen laufen wird an unsern lieben Arthur seiner Hand, du hast doch nicht vergessen Sie Impfen zu lassen, wie ich dir geschrieben habe, denn hier können Sie es doch nicht so gut, und da hier immer so viel fremde Leute her kommen, kann es leicht möglich sein das hier mal die Blattern ausbrechen, und dann ist es doch immer besser wenn man geimpft ist. Meine liebe gute Gretchen, wenn es so bleibt wie es augenblicklich ist werde ich wohl bald den Schopp ganz zu machen letzten Montag Abend habe ich Carrier auch gehen lassen, erstens war sehr wenig zu thun, und zweitens ging er immer zu viel auf Town er baut sich jetzt selber eine Schmiede nördlich von Andre sein Schopp an derselben Seite und im selben Block, wir haben jetzt nur einen Schmied und einen Helfer, und Kahrs muß die Hälfte Zeit Zimmer arbeit thun, es ist mir so ganz recht, da eher ich mit dem Schopp auf hören kann desto besser, dann habe ich auch nicht so viel Arbeit mehr nach dem ich alle meine Rechnungen ein kassirt habe, und habe mehr Zeit für dich meine liebe süße Gretchen. Meine liebe herzens gute Gretchen vergieß nicht wenn du in Hoboken ankommst mir sogleich zu telegrafiren (arrived safe) glücklich angekommen und dann auch wieder von Deming um welche Zeit Ihr dort abfahren werdet, Meine liebe gute süße Gretchen ich hätte dir gerne einen längern Brief geschrieben aber ich muß schon wieder nach dem Hotel ich habe meine Hände jetzt sehr voll und wollte ich daß wir es erst fertig hätten, unser Hotel ist jetzt noch immer voll und wenn wir es erst ganz fertig haben werden wir Geld machen, Grüße Vater, Mutter, Willie und Marie.

Grüße und Küße meinen lieben guten Arthur und meine kleine Louise recht herzlich für mich, aber du meine liebe, gute, süße Gretchen sei hauptsächlich gegrüßt, geküßt und umarmt von deinem dich herzlich, innig und ewig über alles liebenden.

George

Lebet Wohl auf baldiges und glückliches wieder sehn meine aller Liebsten, Ade. Ade. Ade.

Letter 21

Phoenix, Arizona, August 3rd, 1887

My dear, good, precious, sweet Gretchen,

This morning I thought for sure I would get a letter from you since it is exactly one week from the time I got your last one. I hope it will arrive tomorrow, anyway I will finish this one tomorrow and can tell you about it. I am very busy now with the construction and I will take that much time away from work to write to you since there will be only 3 more letters that I can send you. My dearest, sweet Gretchen, I have some news to give you. Mrs. Thalheimer gave birth to a 9 pound boy on August 1st. It was in the paper and tonight I read in the paper that Geo. Tantau of Tantau and Keller got engaged to a Margaret Blake from Visalia, California and they will be married this September.

Dearest Gretchen, you don't know how painful it is to wait for a letter so anxiously as I do and then not to get it, and have to go home disappointed and then wait again for next day's train and hope there is a letter there today. And when there is none, I am so very sad and cannot get over it. It is probably not your fault, I am sure it's the way it travels which delays everything. It still is very warm here during the day but the nights are pleasantly cool. I sleep outside on the porch. Now I wish you a good night my sweet, beloved Gretchen, and dear Arthur and Louise sleep well and dream of me and soon we'll all be together again. I can hardly wait. Good night, sleep well, good night. May the Lord's angels look after you and protect you.

Thursday, August 4th: My dearest Gretchen, again no letter from you. I wonder why I don't get anything from you. There was the Neuhaus newspaper and it was mailed on July 18th, which is 12 days later than your last letter was mailed. I don't know anymore what to think and what to write, my heart is crushed. I feel so depressed.

My dearest Gretchen, in about one month from today you should be sailing from Hamburg. How happy I will be when you will be here again, you are all my world. Here I sit, all alone now, without hearing one friendly word nor seeing a friendly smile, but all this will change the minute you walk in here. How is my little baby, is she completely over her cold? It should not be very long before I see her run and cry out papa. I hope you did not forget to have them vaccinated. Here they don't do it as well and with all the strangers coming through here we could easily get an epidemic of chicken pox.

My dear Gretchen, if business keeps on going like this, I will soon close the shop. Yesterday I had to also let Carrier go because there was no work and besides he was always going away

and now he is building his own shop north of Andre's shop in the same block and on the same side. Now, we have only one smith and one helper and Kahrs has to spend half his time with carpentry in the hotel. It's just as well, the sooner I can finish with the shop the better. Than I'll have less worries with the bills and will have more time for you my dear, sweet, precious Gretchen. Don't forget to telegraph me as soon as you arrive in Hoboken, just way "arrived safely" and another one from Deming about what time you'll be leaving there. My dearest Gretchen, I have to go now, the hotel keeps me very busy and I like to get it finished. Our hotel is always full now and when we have the other completed we'll make a lot of money.

Give my best to father, mother, Willie and Marie. To my dear children, lots of kisses and to you my dearest, sweet, good Gretchen, a warm embrace and kiss from your husband who loves you very much.

Georg

So long my dear ones, to a soon and happy "Wiedersehn", love, bye-bye.

Letter 22

JEWELL HERRICK GEO. H. N. LUHRS.

OFFICE OF HERRICK & CO.

Wagon Makers and General Blacksmiths

HORSE SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

PROPRIETORS FASHION LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE,

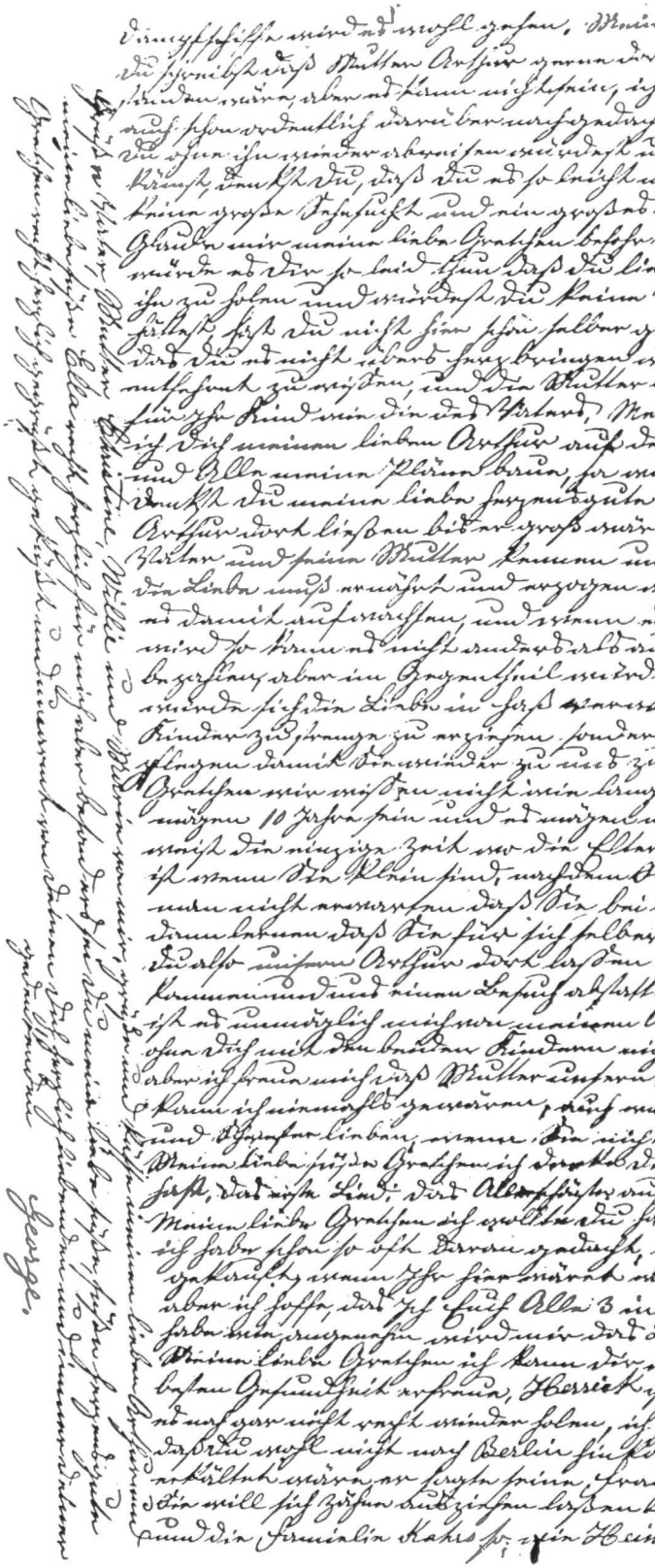
Blacksmith Shop, Madison Street, Between Center and Cortez. Livery Stable, South-West Corner Center and Jefferson Streets.

HAY AND GRAIN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Phoenix, Arizona, den 7ten August 1887

Meine liebe, gute, süsse Frau, was für ein langer, lieber Brief!

Wie ich mich freue, endlich deinen lieben, lieben Brief von 15 Juli in Händen zu halten ist gar nicht zu beschreiben, ich konnte ihn kaum lesen, so sehr zitterten mir die Hände vor Freude, da ich Dir geschrieben hatte, Du möchtest mir doch bald schreiben, und Du mir so prompt geantwortet hast, und wohl die Befürchtung kam mir, Du könntest krank sein, und Du hast so lange nicht geschrieben, dann ich weiß Du wirst mir nicht böse sein, wenn ich mir die Freiheit nehme, Dir zu sagen, daß Du mir fehlst, wenn ich mir auch sagen muß, daß Du Deine Pflicht thust, wenn Du Dich so lange mit Deinem Briefe verspätest, so ist es doch so schön, Dir zu schreiben, und Dich zu sehen, wenn auch nur auf dem Papier, und Du kannst Dir nicht denken, wie ich mich freue, wenn ich Deine Briefe lese, und wie ich sie immer wieder lese, bis ich sie auswendig weiß, und dann sehe ich Dich vor mir, wie Du sie geschrieben hast, und Du bist mir dann so nahe, daß ich Dich fast berühren kann, und Du kannst Dir nicht denken, wie glücklich ich dann bin, und wie ich Dich dann liebe, und wie ich Dich dann küsse, und Du mich wieder küssest, und wie wir dann so glücklich sind, daß wir gar nicht wissen, was wir thun sollen vor Glückseligkeit, und dann sind wir wieder so traurig, daß wir nicht wissen, was wir thun sollen vor Traurigkeit, und dann sind wir wieder so glücklich, daß wir



LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 22

Phoenix, Arizona, August 7th, 1887

My dear, good, sweet, precious, beloved Gretchen,

I can't tell you enough how happy I am to receive a letter from you at last. Thank you for your sweet and precious letter of July 15th. I could hardly wait for the postman to sort the mail. Every morning I was there waiting and wondering why there was no letter from you. I did not want to think badly of your because I knew that if it were possible, you would certainly write. Now I can see why it took so long, this letter was 22 days on its way.

My dearest Gretchen, you feel that it's been so long now since we parted and that you can hardly stand it any longer. I feel the same way and am counting every day and wish I could count the hours from now on instead of days. But the distance between us is getting shorter now and when you receive this letter you will probably have only a few more days there before you leave. I will send my last letter to you this coming Thursday, but if you leave already the end of August as you mentioned you might do, that letter will not reach you.

You ask what I think of our baby's new name. I think Ella is a pretty name and if you like it then it's O.K. with me. Like I told you before, I leave this up to you, it's short for Eleanor. My dear, sweet Gretchen, take good care of our baby and keep her warm, she is delicate and cannot stand much. I worry about her and do hope you and the children will arrive here safely and healthy. Dear Gretchen, I don't think you could have found a better date for the baptism than her birthday, as you did. This will make it easy to remember.

My dearest Gretchen, be sure you bring a girl along for you. I am sure there must be someone who would like to come. A strange girl may even be better, since Christine and Elise think they are doing us a big favor and we are asking too much of them. I am sure you would have done more for them than they are willing to do for you. But, if you have to come back alone, let me know right away because in that case I would pick you up in New York. I don't want you to travel alone with the children on the train. You tell me that mother wants to keep Arthur and ask my opinion about that. I don't think I would like it and I am sure you would not like it either. Did you think about it very seriously? I am sure that in less than 2 days after leaving him you would already regret it and it would break your heart. You would find no peace until you turned back to get him. Did't you always say that when other people do such things that you could never do it yourself? I am sure your family would be good to him, but there is nothing like the true mother's love to a child. Therefore, my beloved, dear Gretchen, I beg you to bring my Arthur back to me. I have put all my plans and hopes on that boy and if we leave him there

until he is half grown, we would be strangers to him. He could not love us. His love for us must be strengthened by our care and our presence with him, or else a child cannot feel love. It is our love and tender care and upbringing that will reflect his love for us. If we don't bring him up ourselves, he may hate us for that. My dearest Gretchen, we don't know how long we may live, it may be only another year, or perhaps 10 or 40, but in any case, as you may know, the children stay with their parents only while they are little. Once they are big and grown, parents cannot hold them anymore, they have to let them go to live their own life. If Arthur grew up in Germany, he might come and visit us occasionally, but that's all and he would go again. I would not be happy without him, I want you and both children, you are all my world. It pleases me, however, to know that mother likes Arthur and that she would have liked to have him, but I cannot fill this wish for her. Also, Arthur and Ella would not know each other as brother and sister if they don't grow up together.

My dear, sweet Gretchen, thank you for the songs you have send me. The first one: The nicest thing in this world, fits us very well. I wish you could eat some of our grapes, we have so many. So far, I have not bought any fruits and every day I think how nice it would be if you and the children could eat these grapes with me. Well, in about 7 weeks I shall be seeing all 3 of you and my world will light up again and I shall be so happy.

At least I can tell you that I am physically very well. Herrick has been ill for the last 14 days and is not doing very well. I saw Andre today and told him that you will not go to Berlin. He and his wife send their greetings to you, she is going to have some teeth pulled in California. Also many greetings from family Kahrs, father and Heinrich. Give my regards to your father, mother, Christine, Willie and Marie and dear Arthur and sweet little Ella. Kiss them for me and my best regards to you my precious Gretchen. I embrace and kiss you and am always with you.

Your Georg

My dear Gretchen, father has a request. He would like you to bring a Paynes illustrated calendar for 1888. I still did not get the letter you mailed in Plymouth, it must be lost. So long my dearest, and see you soon. Bye-bye.

Letter 23

COMMERCIAL HOTEL.

HERRICK & LUHRS. Proprietors.

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Phoenix, Arizona, den 11ten August 1887

Meine liebe, süße, gute, teure und geliebte Gretchen
soeben um 5 Uhr brachte ich deinen Brief nach der
Post und sodann sah ich das die Post wieder
hereingekommen war und wie ich in unsern
Kasten sah war ein lieber Brief von dich darin
also sagte ich den Postmeister er solle mir den
Brief wieder zurück geben denn ich mußte dir
den doch noch beantworten da es ja der letzte
ist. Meine liebe gute süße Gretchen ich freue
mich daß du doch wenigstens ein Mädchen gefunden
hast, denn sonst würde uns die Reise noch mehr
gekostet haben und unser Bau hätte wohl
ganz still liegen müßen denn du weißt ja
daß ich immer allenthalben fehle ich werde dir
noch lieber 100 Dollar nach New York schicken
und wenn du es nicht gebrauchst so ist es ja
auch nicht fort das Mädchen kann ja Christine
Ihr Dampfschiff Billett nehmen und für Ihren
Namen durch laufen. Meine liebe süße
Gretchen auch ich werde mich freuen wenn du
wieder hier bist und will dir Alles unangenehm

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daß du gehabt hast vergessen machen, du bist
die beste aller Frauen der Welt und wenn du
mir etwas zuwieder gethan hast ist alles vergeben
Nur für dich meine liebe süße Gretchen und unsere
beiden lieben Kinder lebe und arbeite ich um
Euch das Leben angenehmer zu machen und
will ich hoffen, daß der liebe Gott mir bei
steht wie er es bis so weit gethan hat.
vergesse nicht mir zu telegraphieren und
frage in Hobocken nach ob Geld für dich da
sei nähmlich 100 Dollar denn das werde ich
sicher schicken, Lebe Wohl denn meine
liebe süße Gretchen und bald wirst du alles
Leid vergessen Lebe Wohl mein Arthur
und meine Ella mit einem herzlichen
Gruß und Kuß von Euren

Georg

dein Brief war am 26sten Juli von Neuhaus
abgegangen am am 6ten August von New York
und kam hier am elften August an also
17 Tage, sollte dieser dich in derselben Zeit [illegible]
so wird er am 27sten August dort ankommen
und solltet Ihr am 28sten abfahren wirst du
ihn nicht mehr erhalten.

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 23

Aug 11, 1887

My sweet, dearly beloved Gretchen:

Just now at 5 o'clock, I took a letter to the post office and then I saw that we had another delivery of mail and when I looked into our box I noticed that one of your dear letters had arrived, so I told the postmaster to return my letters since I had to answer the one I just received.

My dearly beloved Gretchen, I am so glad that you have found a companion, since the journey would have cost even more and I would have had to shut down the construction had I been away. I shall send you another $100.00 to New York, should you not need it, it is not lost. The girl can take Christine's ticket and change it to her name. My dearly beloved Gretchen, I shall be very happy to see you here again and I shall make you forget any unpleasantness you had. You are the most wonderful woman in the world and if you ever caused me any grief, it is all forgotten. I breathe and work for you my dear Gretchen and our two children so that they will have an easier life and I hope that God will stand by me as he has until now. Do not forget to send me a telegram and check in Hoboken if $100.00 did arrive for you, as I am going to mail it for you. So long then dear Gretchen, Arthur and Ella, and with best regards and all my love, I remain,

Your Georg

Your letter left Neuhaus on July 26 and New York on August 5, and arrived here August 11, 17 days, and should my letter take the same time then you should receive it August 27, but if you leave on August 28, it will not arrive in time.

Letters from

Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs

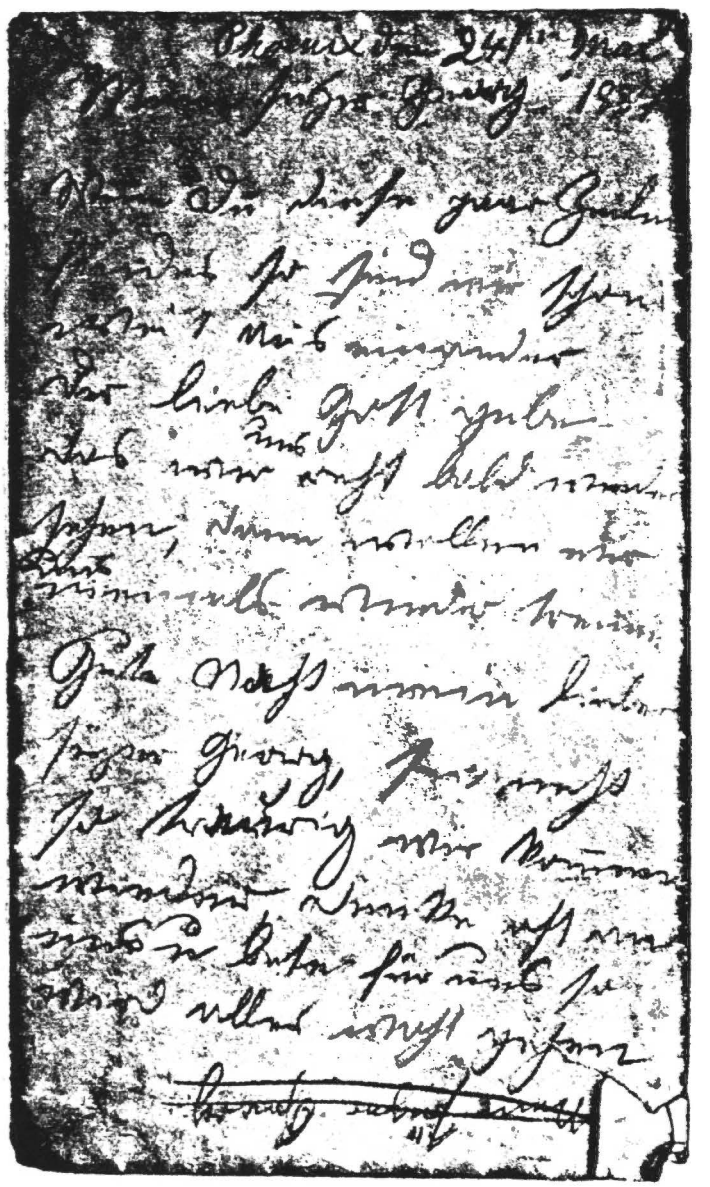
to her husband,

Georg H.N. Luhrs

Letters written from Germany

1887

Letter 24



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Letter 24

Phoenix, May 24, 1887

My sweet Georg,

By the time you find these lines, we'll already be far away. May the dear Lord bring us together again soon and may He never part us again. Good night my dear, sweet Georg, don't be sad, we'll be back again. Think of us and pray for us so we all stay well.

Oh my dear boy, if you knew how heavy my heart is. Good night my sweetheart, I kiss you and may you sleep well. My kindest greetings to you also from Arthur and little Louise. Don't work too hard, or else you'll get sick!

So long my dear!

Letter 25

BUSCH'S HOTEL,

Cor. Hudson & 3d Sts.

ROBERT WINKLER, PROPRIETOR.

Hoboken, N. J. 1 Juni 1887

Mein lieber Georg!

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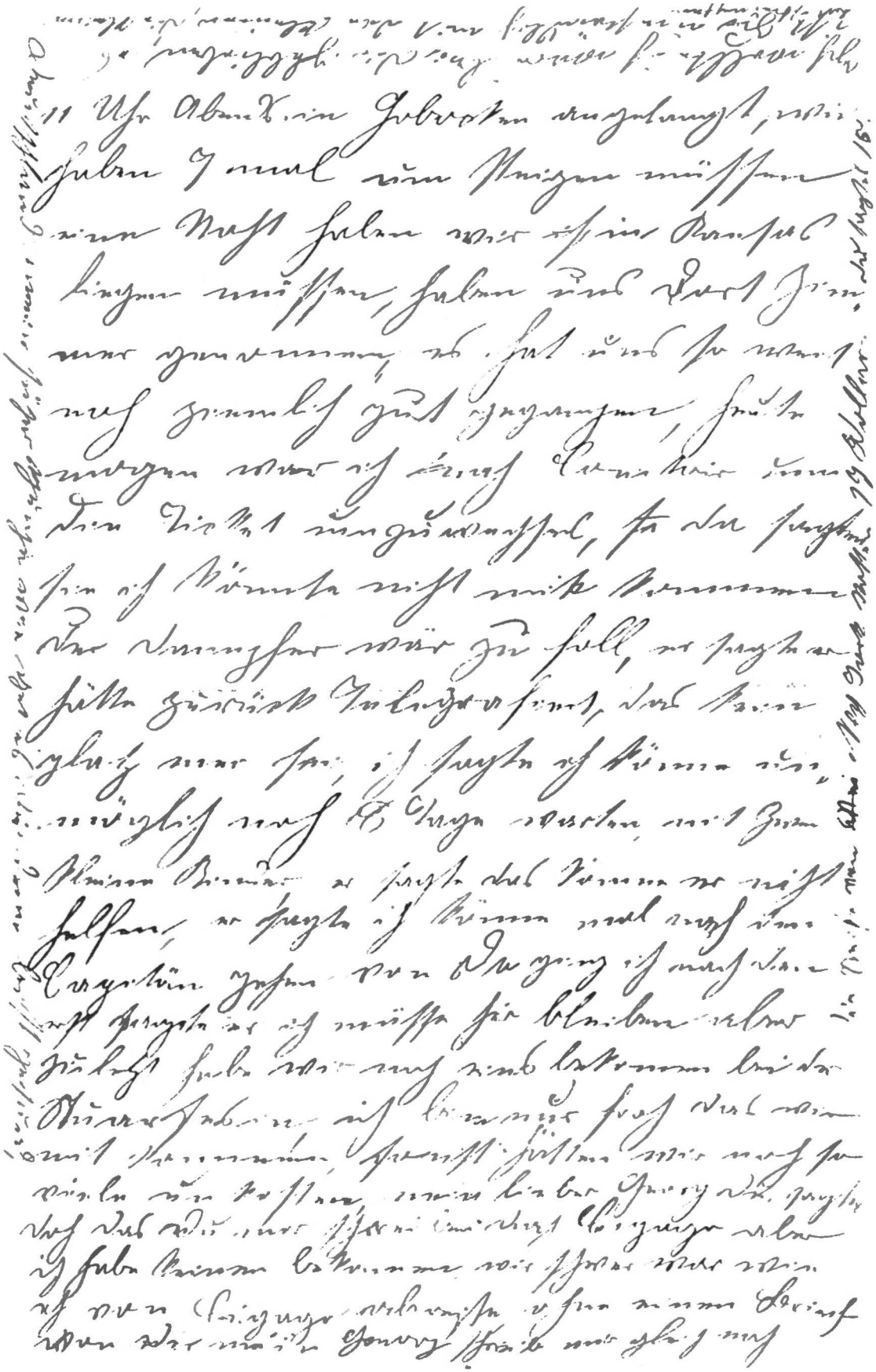

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Letter 25

Hoboken, June 1st, 1887

My dear Georg,

We are now in Hoboken. I am glad we arrived, it was a terrible journey. The children were very restless. You have no idea what I had to go through. I lost at least 10 pounds. All my clothes are too big now. Some days we went without food and some without milk for the little one. We stayed only one day in Chicago, we did not like it there. We left there Monday afternoon and arrived only Tuesday night at 11 p.m. in Hoboken. We had to change transportation seven times. One night we had to stay in Kansas, we took a room there and until then it was not too bad. This morning I went to change the ticket and they told me I could not get on the ship any more, it was already filled. He said he had telegraphed us about it. I told him I could not wait another 8 days with 2 small children, but he answered he could not help it. And so, he first told me to stay there and wait for the next, but finally he did find us a space and so I am glad we did not need to stay, which would have been such an extra expense.

My dear Georg, you said you would write to me in Chicago, but I did not receive any mail there. My heart was sad when I left Chicago without a letter from you, my dear Georg. Please write to me directly in Germany, my sweet darling. How are you? Stay healthy. I wish I had stayed with you, it is too troublesome to travel with little children.

The trip from New York is 17 dollars. You told me 15. I really wish I had stayed home, so far I have not had a happy moment.

Best regards from your dear Arthur and Louise. Arthur always asks where is my papa?

My sincere greetings, also from Christine and Elise, to you my beloved Georg and a kiss.

Your loving Gretchen

Letter 26

Neuhaus a/d Oste den 14 Juni

Mein lieber Georg!

Wir sind gott sei Dank glücklich angelangt und haben es jetzt recht gut Mutter hat das Haus so schön rein gemacht mir gefällt es recht gut hier, nur was mir fehlt bist Du, wie schön wäre es nun wen Du hier sein könntest, ich habe es heute wohl schon 20 mal gedacht, was machts Du den mein Georg bist Du munter ist auch heiß dort? hier ist es ziemlich kalt die Kinder haben sich beide erkältet, es wird ~~so~~ aber schon wieder besser werden, mein lieber Georg ich bin so schrecklich müde, es ist schon so spät Du wirst es nicht war ungut nehmen das ich dir nicht mehr schreibe, es ist die erste Nacht vor ich mal ordentlich schlafen werde, darum gute Nacht mein Georg, ich schreibe dir diese Woche

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 26

Neuhaus, the 14th of June

My dear Georg,

Fortunately we arrived well and are doing quite well now. Mother cleaned the house so nicely and I like it here very much. The only thing missing is you! How nice it would be if you were here, I have been thinking it at least 20 times today already. What are you doing my Georg? Are you all right? Is it hot there? It is rather cold here, the children caught a cold but they will get over it.

My dear Georg, I am so terribly tired, it is late and I hope you won't mind if I don't write you much but this is the first night that I will sleep well. Therefore, I wish you a good night dear Georg and I will write you a long letter this week. Did you receive the letter from Plymouth? If you have time, please write very often.

Sincere greetings and a kiss from your Gretchen, Arthur, Louise, Mother, Father, Willie, Marie and Christine. So long, bye bye.

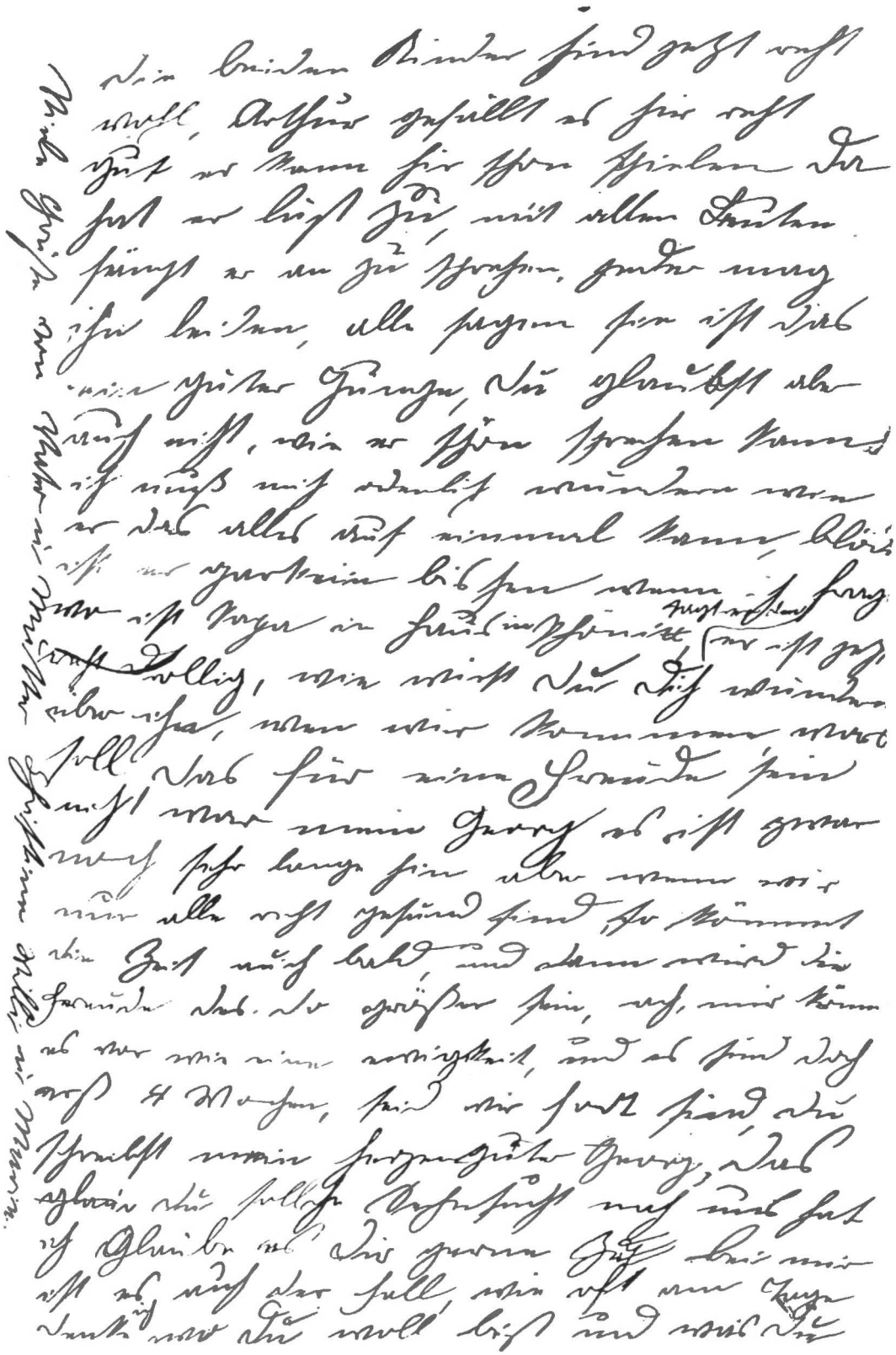
Letter 27

Neuhaus d. 21 Juni 1887.

Mein lieber guter Georg!

Wie unrecht von mir, daß ich Dir
nicht früher geschrieben habe, aber
ich habe keine Schuld immer wenn
ich schreiben will kommt etwas
dazwischen, und Bibi will immer
auf arm sitzen, u. immer bei mir
sein wie geht es Dir denn noch sind
bist Du auch immer wohl, Deinen
lieber Brief habe ich beide erhalten, und
habe mich unendlich dazu gefreut
wir sind jetzt endlich an Ort u. Stelle
u. haben es jetzt recht gut, ich habe
aber auch ordentlich was Dürf. gemacht
ich kann es Dir nicht alle schreiben
ich werde es alles Dir erzählen
ich wenn ich wieder bei Dir bin ~~wenn~~
~~da ich Dir alles erzählen~~ meine guter
Georg, ein Monat sind wir jetzt
schon fort eine lange Zeit

Schreibe recht bald wieder





Letter 27

Neuhaus, June 21, 1887

My dearest Georg:

I am very sorry I did not answer your letter sooner, but every time I wanted to write, something of great importance came up. How are you? Well, I hope. I was most pleased to receive both of your lovely letters. We finally got to Neuhaus, and everyone was so glad to see us. There was a lot of excitement. We are all having a good time visiting and talking things over. I would rather not write everything that has happened. I think it best to wait until I get home. Then, when we are alone, I can tell and explain everything to you. Dear Georg, one month has already passed since we left. It seems like a very long time doesn't it?

Both of the children are well and having a very good time. Arthur likes it here and enjoys talking to everyone. They all admire him and remark what a fine boy he is. He has so much fun playing. When we get home you will enjoy watching him. Right now, dear Georg, that seems a long time. I hope it will pass quickly so that we can be together again, safe and healthy.

The four weeks that we have been away seems like an eternity. It will be so wonderful when we are all together again. I can hardly wait.

You write how lonesome you are and how much you miss me. I feel the same way, dear Georg, and keep wondering how you are and what you are doing. Please don't worry so much. Soon we will be home and all together again. I shall never go away again without you. I can imagine how lonely you are, my dear. Thinking of it breaks my heart. If it had not been for my parents, I would never have left you back home alone. It was a great pleasure and delight for my mother to see us. She was so happy, she kept weeping for joy.

I would have enjoyed it a lot more to have traveled without Mrs. Herrick. I would rather go alone. Have you heard from her? Please give my regards to Mrs. Herrick, Mrs. Andre and also Mrs. Thalmeimer.

Congratulations from me for father (Johann Christoph Luhrs) on his birthday, which is on July the 8th. Also my regards to Johanna.

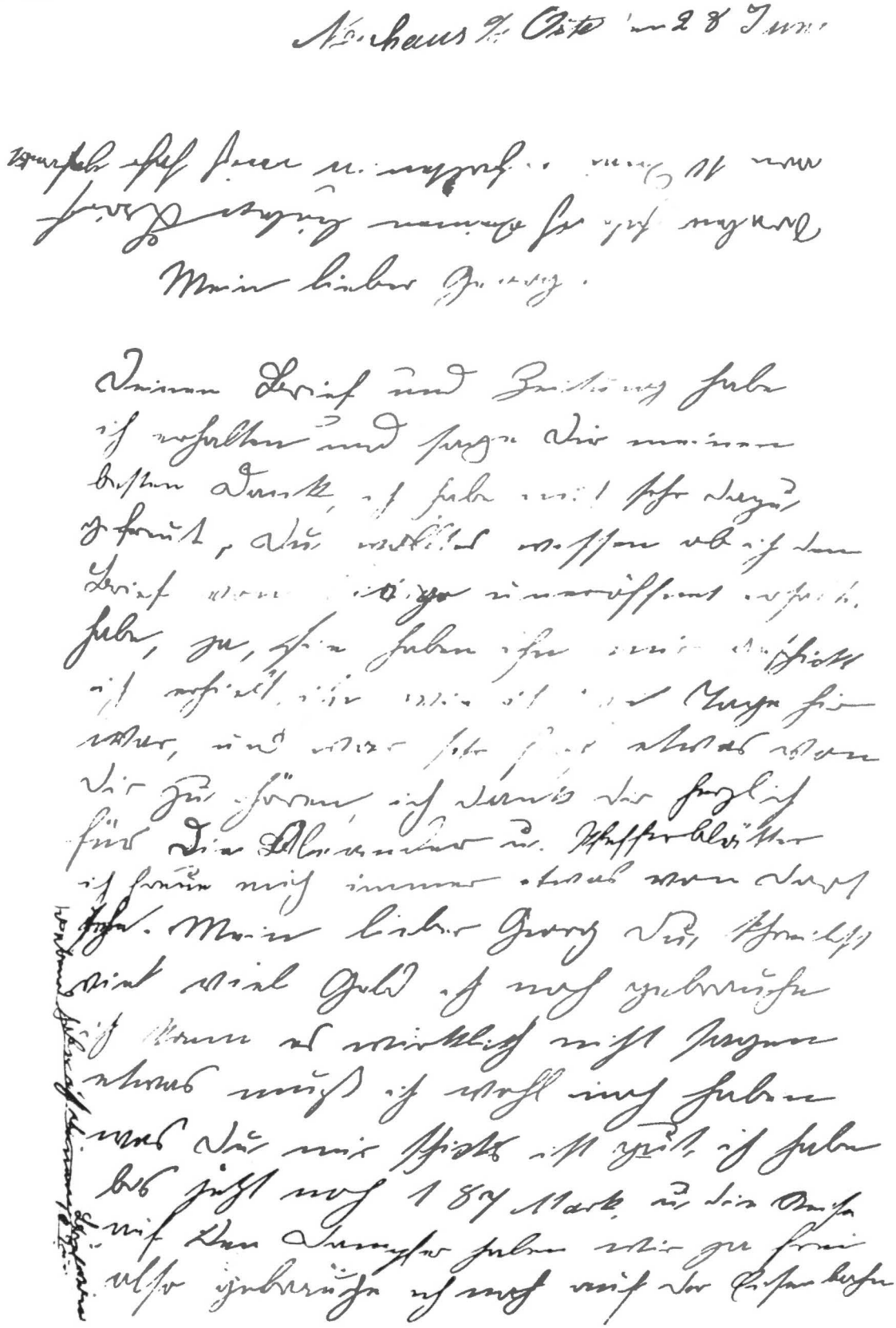
Mother really has a lot to do. We go with her every day. I almost forgot to tell you that our little one can say papa. There is a bird here that bites everyone, even Arthur and other children. Today, we went after Louise.

Letter 27 (continued)

I hope I will hear you very soon, for you know that is the only pleasure I have,

Gretchen

Letter 28



bezahlen kann so habe ich genug ich
will sparsam sein, daß ich mit
dem was ich habe aus kommen
kann, du brauchst Christine ihr
aber noch nicht zu schicken vielleicht
besinnt sie sich noch wieder, du
brauchst mir aber nicht über 100 Dollar
zu schicken, schreibe mir mal
welche Bahn ich nehmen muß von
Nay York nach Phönix, ich will ganz
Du reisen, nirgends aufhalten
desto eher bin ich wieder zu Hause
Du schreibst mein lieber Georg wann
wir wieder abreisen, später als
den 4 September garnicht, ~~wie~~ ich schreibe
dir den woher. Lieber Georg ich schick
Dir die Tagesliste mit kannst mal
sehen wie viel dort gewesen sind.
neues weiß ich dir garnicht zu schreiben
ich gehe nirgends hin ich kann auch
nicht die kleine ist jetzt ziemlich
unruhig muß den ganzen lieben
langen Tag Kinderwarten das ist
alles, jetzt lieber Georg muß ich wieder
aufhören zu schreiben den die kleine

Letter 28

Neuhaus, June 28

My dear Georg,

I received your letter and the newspaper and I thank you very much. I was very pleased. You wanted to know whether I received the letter from Chicago unopened. Yes, I received it two days after I arrived here and I was very happy to hear from you and thank you for the oleander and the pepper leaves.

Dear Georg, you ask how much money I need, but I don't know at the moment. I will certainly need some but probably not very much, whatever you send will be all right. I still have 187 marks and for the trip on the boat I don't need to pay, so I only need money for the railroad. Write to me how much it costs for one person to go from New York to Phoenix, because Christine is not going to return to Phoenix anymore. She says she does not like it there. I am very sad about that, and if I had known this I would not have left because what am I going to do with two small children all by myself on such a long trip. It was already bad enough on our trip here. Be prepared Georg, because she will ask you for the rest of her money. I don't know how much it is and she doesn't either, it's written on a paper which is in the top drawer of my desk. I think you gave her 100 dollars when we left didn't you? And we said we would pay for her voyage, right? If you send me enough for the railroad, then that's all I need. I will not spend much here. I think I can manage with what I have. And don't send Christine's money yet, maybe she'll change her mind. Don't send me more than 100 dollars and write to me which railroad I should take. I want to go straight through, without stopping anywhere, the faster I get to Phoenix the better. You ask when we'll leave here, certainly not later than September 4th. I will write to you with enough notice.

I don't have much news to tell you, I don't go anywhere. I can't because the baby is very restless and so I have to be nursemaid the whole day long. And now my Dear Georg, I have to stop writing because she is crying again, so terribly loud, she does not want to stay with anybody, only me. Greetings and kisses from your dear Arthur. He has become a well-behaved child, you'll be happy to see him. He tells everyone his papa is at home in Phoenix, watching the house.

Letter 28 (continued)

Dear Georg, stay well and cheerful and write to me as often as possible, and if I don't write to you so very often, don't be angry with me, as I have so much to do. I will tell you everything when I get back. You don't need to send me any papers, I have no time to read it. How is the hotel going? Is it hot there? Here it is cold, I am always freezing. I had to get some winter clothes made for the children.

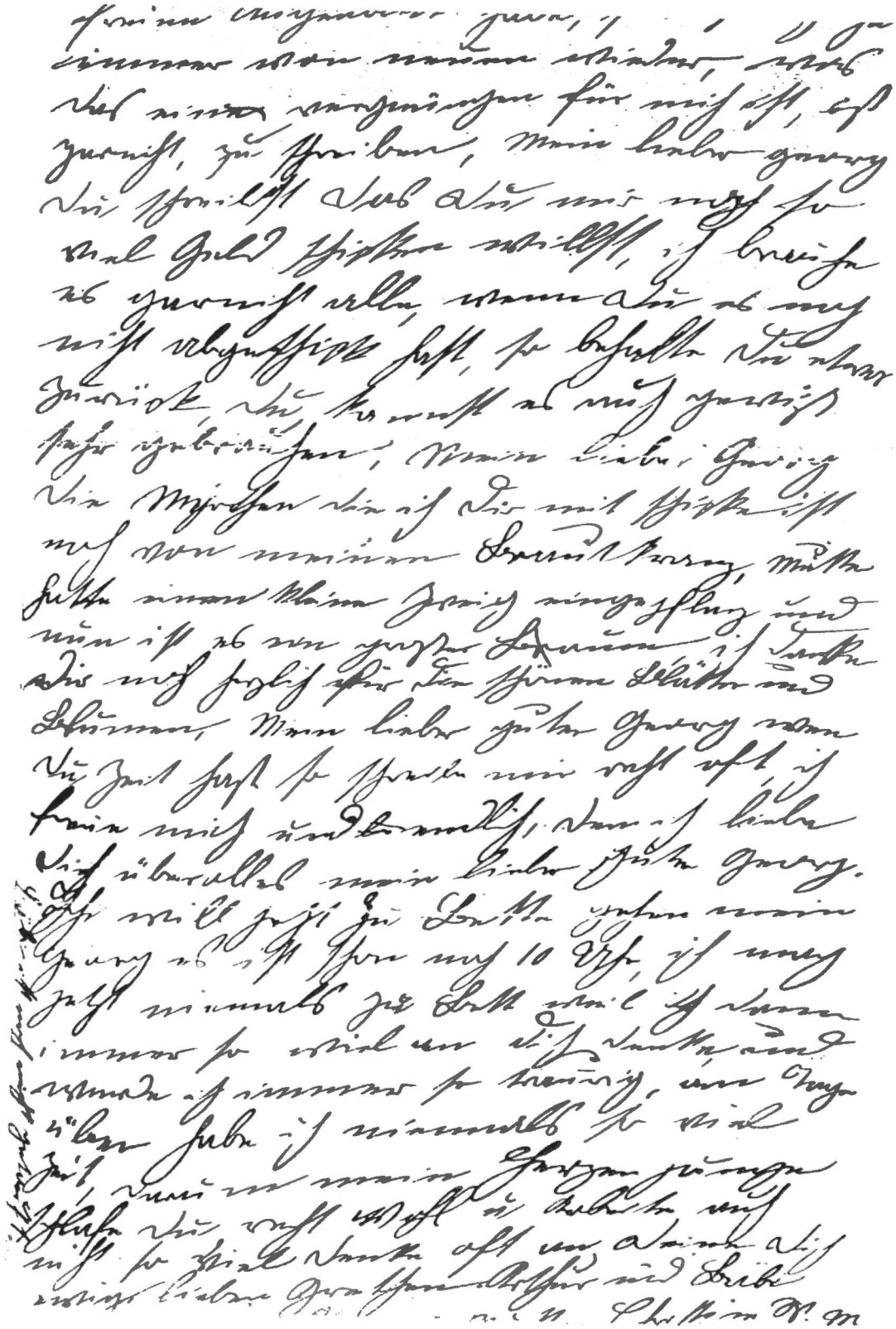
Well, dear Georg, take a heartfelt greeting and kiss from your Gretchen and also best regards from mother, father, Christine, Willie and Marie. Give my regards to Mrs. Andre and all others. Write often, this is my only joy -- your letters!

Love, Gretchen

P.S. I just received your sweet letter of June 10, which gave me great joy.

Letter 29

Mein lieber guter Georg!



die Zeit rückt immer näher wieder
heran das wir zu dir kommen,
ich denke den 4 September von Hamburg
ab zu reisen, u wenn Christine nicht
wieder mit will, so will Elise
wieder mit nach Phönix also bin ich
auch wieder geholfen, Mein süßer lieber
guter Georg! ich kann mir so recht denken
wie einsam du fühlst, ich denke so
oft mit schweren Herzen daran, und
stelle mir den ganz in deine Lage
wie muß es bloß schwer für dich sein
aber mein lieber Georg beruhige dich wir
kommen bald wieder und gehe ich
nicht wieder von dir, auch ich fühle
es immer mehr das ich ohne dich nicht
leben könnte, darum mein guter
Georg sei unverzagt und hoffe das
wir bald wieder zusammen kom-
men, ach was habe ich dir alles
zu erzählen, und du sollst mir auch
alles erzählen, wie es dir ergangen
hat, aber für eins muß ich dir herzlich
danken, das du mir immer so
recht lange briefe schreibst u auch so
oft, du kannst glauben das es eine
große Freude für mich ist, ich habe im-

Letter 29

Neuhaus a/d Oste
July 4, 1887

My dearest Georg:

I do not know what you will think of me since I have not written for such a long time, however, you know how little time I have since our baby still has a cold, a remnant of the journey. She has such a hard time recovering and the journey was almost too long for her. When she is well again, then I shall write to you. She should also calm down again so that I will not have to be with her all day.

Our sweet Arthur is being adored. He is quite courageous and he is so cute and talks all day long. When I ask him, "where is your father?" he says that you are far far away across the water in Phoenix. This morning he found an old pipe and he came to me and told me that it was grandfather Luhrs' pipe and we all started laughing. I told myself that I had to mention this to you. Dear Georg, I can hardly wait for the time we will be together again. You will be surprised about Arthur, everybody says that he is quite clever for his age and tall and strong. Our neighbor Dohne says he does not care about children, but that Arthur is terrific. He is always eating baked dumplings with him. The people from the village Neuhaus come over to see the boy and he speaks to them in high German, "plat" (a dialect) or in English, and the people enjoy it. If somebody walks by on the road he says "Good day" and shakes hands. There is hardly anybody who does not know him and I am so proud of him and always wish that you could see him and hear him.

Dear Georg, the time is getting closer for us to come back home. On September 4, I believe I want to come back. Elise will go back with me to Phoenix and I shall have help from her. My dearest Georg, I can believe that you are lonesome and my heart is heavy when I think about your loneliness. It must be difficult for you, but relax, we are coming soon, and then I will never leave you again as I know I could not live without you. Therefore, dear Georg, be not dismayed and hope that we will be together again shortly. I have to tell you so many things and I hope that you too will tell me what happened while I was gone.

I wish to thank you for your lovely, long letters and believe me it was a great joy for me. I always have one in my pocket so that I can read it if I have a free moment. You do not know what it means to me. Dear Georg, you mentioned that you want to send me some more money. I do not need it, and if you have not already mailed it, hold some back because I am sure you can use it.

Dear Georg, the myrtle I enclose is from my bridal garland, mother planted a small twig and now it is a big bush. My heartiest thanks for the beautiful leaves and flowers.

Letter 29 (continued)

My dearest Georg, whenever you have time, please write to me because I enjoy it so much and I do love you more than anything else. I am going to bed now dear Georg, as it is already 10 o'clock. I hate to go to bed because I think so much about you and miss you and I am sad. During the days I am busy, and I do not have time to think my dearest. So sleep well and do not work too hard.

Yours forever,

Gretchen, Arthur and baby

Best regards from father and mother and Christine. The baby has not been baptized yet.

Greetings and a kiss from your Gretchen, and best regards to (your) father and Johanne. I have received all your letters, also the one from Chicago.

Letter 30

Neuh. d. 9/2 Oct. den 15 Juli

D.

Mein geliebter herzengüter Georg!

Wie unendlich lange haben wir
uns nicht gesehen, ich kann es kaum
mer ertragen, wäre es nicht gar
so weit, so möchte ich schon viel
früher wieder zu Dir mein lieber
Georg, aber wie lange nimmt es
nun noch, eher wir uns wie-
der sehen wenn doch nur erst die
Zeit dar wäre, ich glaube es ist
besser ich reise ausgang August
mit Abnehmen Mond, ach mein
guter Georg Du glaubst kaum wie
ich mich nach Dir sehne, des Abens
ist es manchmal recht schlimm
am Tage über habe ich kaum
so viel Zeit den unser klein
Ella kann es hier nicht vertragen
es muß hier zu kalt sein
für sie, immer fehlt Ihr etwas
wenn ich meine sie ist wieder besser
so geht es wieder von neuem an,

500 Mark, mit will sie nicht wieder
es ist vielleicht auch eben so gut, denn
sie ist immer so ecklich mit mir
wenn ich nur erst mal jemand hätte
die wieder mit geht, Lieber Georg
nach Schützenfest bin ich 2 mal gewesen
Montag und Abend allein mit
Vater u. Dienstag nachmittag mit
Arthur für die Kleine was es
zu kalt, es ein solch scharfe
Wind, Lieber Georg ich glaube
kaum das ich nach Berlin komme
denn die Kleine ist ja immer
erkältet also kann ich Ihr nicht
allein zu Hause lassen, ich habe
dann gar keine Ruhe davon u.
mitnehmen kann ich Ihr auch
nicht, kannst es Mrs. Andere man
sagen, das es mir wohl nicht
möglich ist hin zu gehn, und
zum zweiten kostet es mir auch
zu viel Geld, ich will es lieber
sparen, denn kann noch nicht wissen
was ich gebrauche. Ach mein guter
Georg ich wünschte ich wäre bei dir

Letter 30

Neuhaus, July 15

My beloved, dear Georg,

It's so long since we have seen each other now, I can hardly stand it. If it were not so far, I would leave here much sooner. How much longer do I have to wait to see you again? I think I'll leave here the end of August, with the moon decreasing. My dear Georg, you can't imagine how I long for you sometimes it gets very bad. During the day I don't have much time, out little Ella keeps me busy constantly. She is always suffering of something. The climate here does not agree with her. She probably cannot get used to the cold. As soon as she is over one thing, she comes down with something else. But you need not worry my dear Georg, we take good care of her and it's only the cold. She can stand alone now and perhaps she'll run soon, before we leave here.

Oh my dear Georg, how happy we"ll be when we get there again. I could not finish this letter last night because the baby woke up and I had to stay near her bed. By the way, what do you say my dear Georg to her new name, "Ella." Mother gave it to her because she says everybody pronounces Louise differently and she does not like that. She'll be baptized on August 11th, on her birthday.

My dear Georg, thank you for the 1000 marks you sent. I have to give half of it to Christine, she says we owe her 125 dollars which is 500 marks. She does not want to go back, which is perhaps just as well because she is not kind to me. I only wish I had someone to help me on the trip back.

Dear George, I went twice to the "Schutzenfest" (festival) Monday evening with father and Tuesday afternoon with Arthur. The baby had to stay, it was too cold, such a strong, cold wind. Dear Georg, I don't think I'll go to Berlin, because the baby is always sick with cold and I cannot leave her alone at home. This would worry me, nor can I take her with me. You can tell Mrs. Andre that it was not possible for me to do, besides it would cost me too much money, I'd rather save it, since I don't know yet what may come.

Oh my dear Georg, I wish I had stayed with you, this costs so much money and is such a hardship. I'll never go without you again! Without you, it also is no fun. Please stay well, take care and don't be so sad. I wish I knew whether Elise would go with me. I wrote to her but she has not answered me yet. I have to go now, Ella is awake and Christine no longer wants to take care of her, so I have to be with her all the time myself. Mother is too busy, she has no time. Mother suggested that I leave Arthur here if it's o.k. with you until he is grown. She

thinks I could get him later some time, but I don't think I would like this, would you?

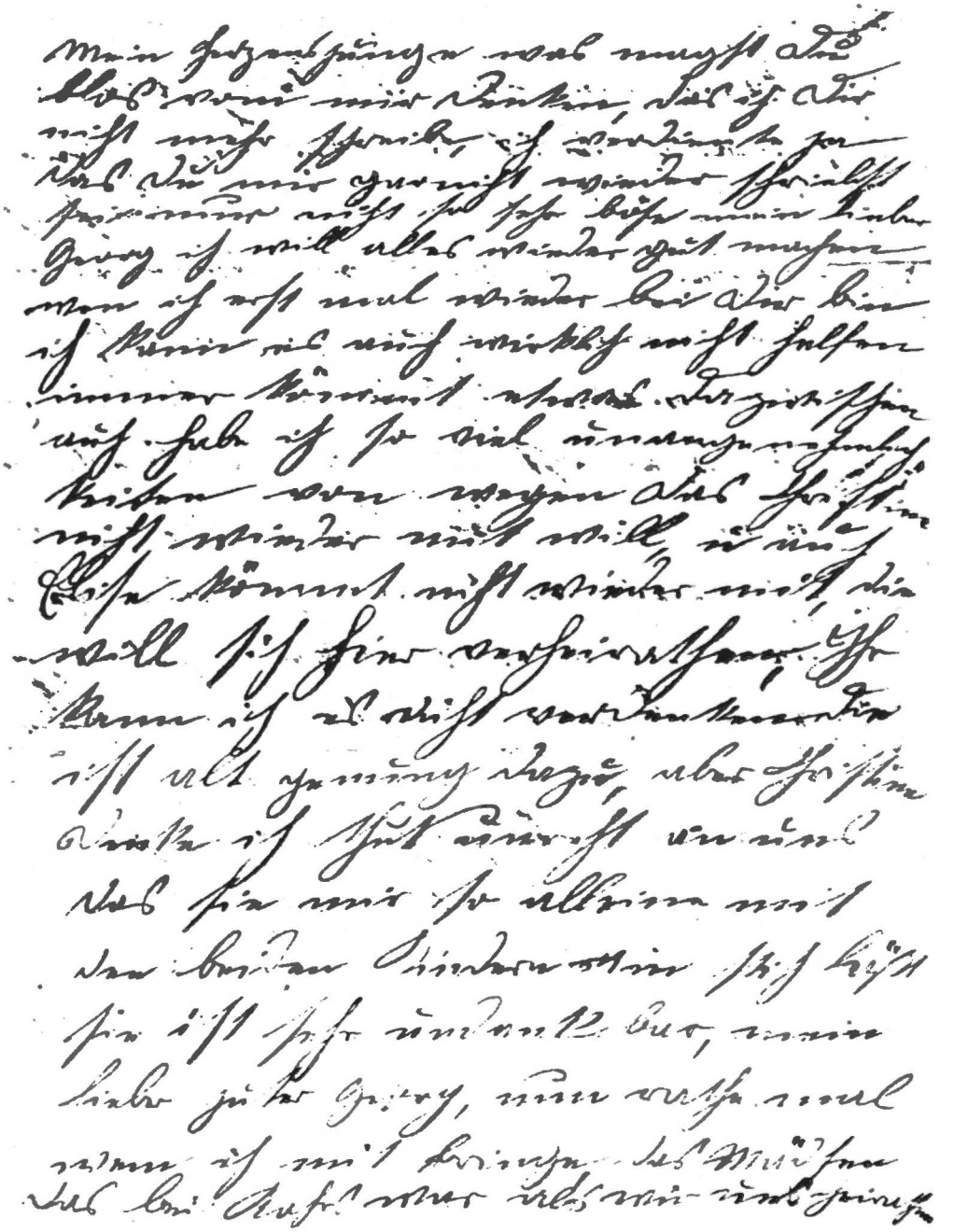
Our best regards to you and Johann and love to you from your Gretchen, Arthur and Ella, also from father and mother, Willie and Marie.

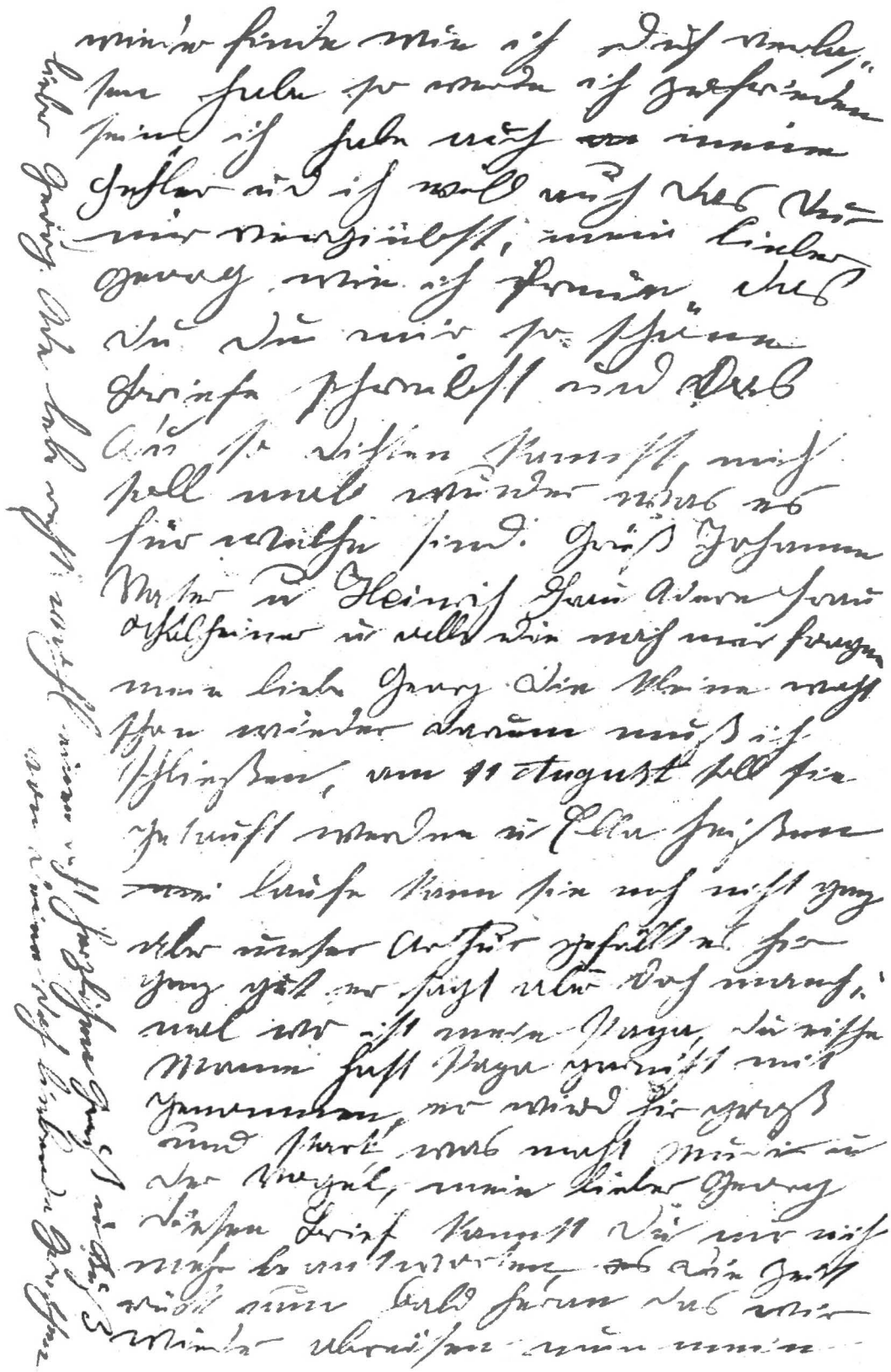
Write soon again!

Letter 31

Neuhaus a/ Oste den 25ten July

Mein lieber guter Georg!





LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 31

Neuhaus, July 25, 1887

My dear, good Georg,

What you must think of me, my poor, dear sweetheart, because I don't write to you? I know I deserve your anger, but please don't be angry with me my dear Georg, I will make it up to you when I get back home. But I can't help it, there is always something else preventing me from writing. I have had a lot of disagreeable talks with Christine, but she is not going to come back with me nor is Elise going back. Elise wants to get married here, I cannot blame her for that, she is old enough, but Christine is unfair to let me go by myself with the 2 children. She is very ungrateful, my dear good George, now guess who I will bring along. The girl who was at Kahrs' when we got married. I think she is o.k., anyway she is the only one I could find. There are no homeless girls here. I am glad to have gotten her, because what else would I do with the children alone? I'll have to pay her trip but she wants to pay us back with work.

On my dear Georg, what problems I have to face, it will be good to be back with you. I know now where I belong. When we got married everything was so new and strange for me, but now I can see everything from a different perspective. My dear Georg, thank you for the 1000 marks you sent. I gave Christine her salary. She said we owed her 125 dollars, so I gave her half of it. I don't know if I'll have enough money for ourselves now, I may have to ask Christine to loan me some and we can send it to her later.

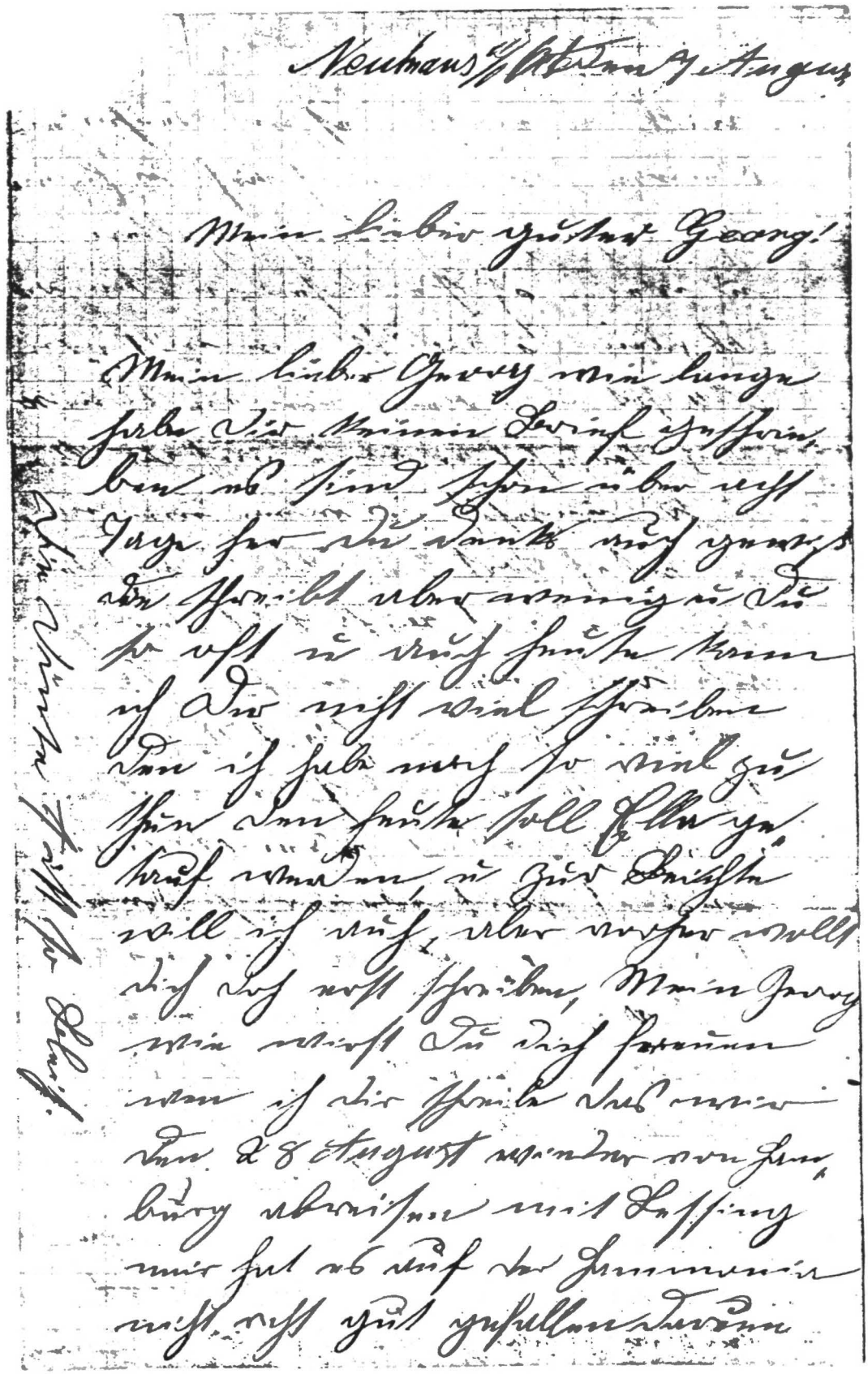
My sweet boy, you must be so lonely. I think of you very often and wonder how you are doing. I know now I cannot live without you. Everything here is secondary to me, nothing excites me, I wish I were back home with you. I am planning to leave here on the 28th of August or September 4th. I'll write to you exactly when. You say that you have done me wrong. You did not my sweetheart, you are the best man in this world and if you stay the way you were, I will be satisfied, after all I have my faults too and

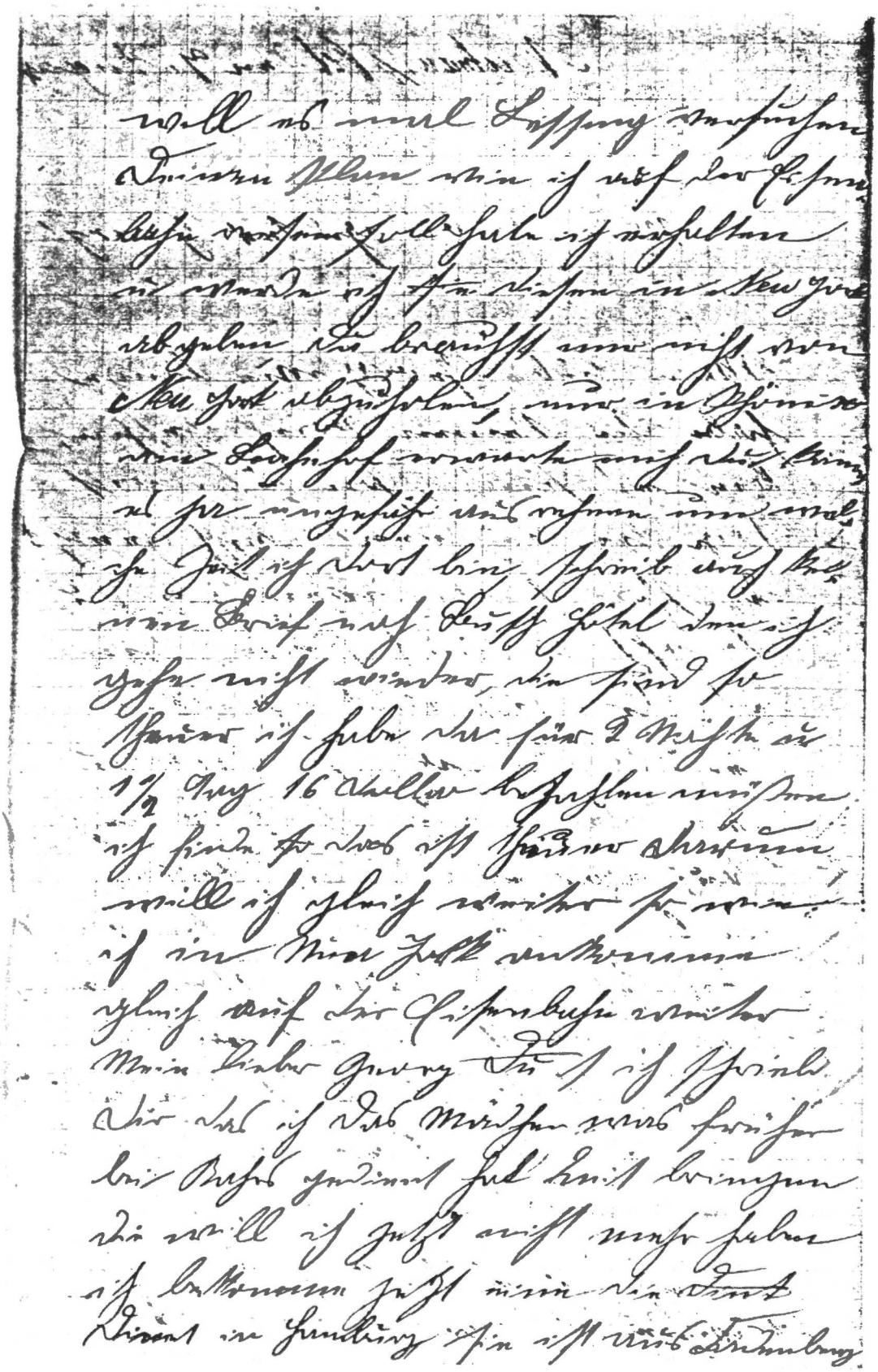
you will have to forgive me too. My dearest Georg, I enjoy your lovely letters so much, I am so happy that you write such nice letters to me and that you are thinking of poetry. I am anxious to hear some.

Give my regards to Johann, (your) father and Heinrich, Mrs. Andre, Mrs. Thalheimer. My beloved Georg, I have to go now, the baby is crying again. She will be baptized on August 11, and her name will be Ella. She is not walking yet. Arthur likes it here but sometimes he asks "why is my papa not here, why did you not bring him along mama?" He is getting big and strong. How is the bird doing? My dear Georg, you will not be able to answer this letter any more because by that time I will not be here anymore. Well my dear Georg, take care and stay cheerful. Sincere greetings and kisses from your loving Gretchen.

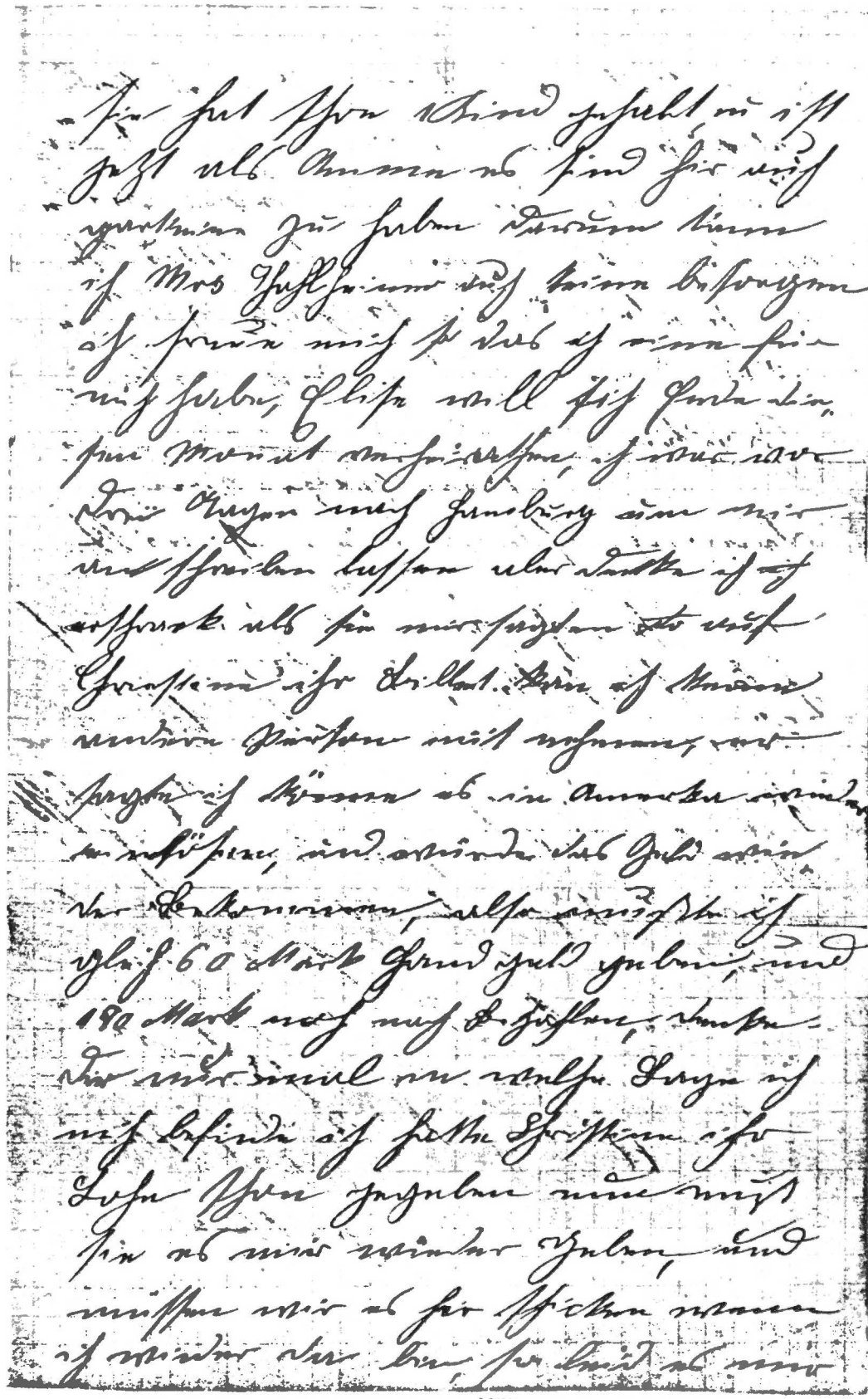
I don't want to go to Berlin, the baby still has a cold and I cannot leave her. So long.

Letter 32





LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION



LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

auch thut das ich dir so viel Geld
gebrauche kann ich das doch nicht ändern
dem meine lieber Georg viele
grüße von Arthur Ella Mutter
u Vater viele herzliche grüße
von deine dich Ewig liebende
Grethen

Mein Gegen von
Deming theilgefrieren ich nicht
vor Georg herrick ihren Brief
habe ich erhalten, u auch lesen
können ich kann Ihr nicht wieder
schreiben, den ich kann nicht Englisch
schreiben aber lesen kann ich es
darum Grüße ihr von mir es
thut mir so leid daß sie
immer krank war, sag ihr
wir wären alle Gesund nur
klein Ella hat Keuch husten.

Deine Grethen.

LLURS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 32

Neuhaus, August 7th, 1887

My dear, good Georg,

Again I have not written to you for a long time, more than a week. You write so much and so often and I so little. And today, again, I cannot write much, I still have so much to do. Ella is going to be baptized today and I want to go to communion and so I am writing early in the morning.

I guess you'll be happy to know that we are leaving from Hamburg on August 28 with the Lessing. I did not like the Hammonia so I wanted to try it with Lessing. I received your plan for the railroad and I will purchase my ticket in New York accordingly. You don't need to come and get us in New York. Just wait for us at the Phoenix train station. You can figure out when we'll arrive there. Don't send anything to the Bush Hotel, they are so expensive. I paid for 2 nights and one day and a half, $16.00, that is a lot I find, therefore, I want to leave New York as soon as I get there. Last time I wrote to you that I will bring the girl who worked at Kahrs, but now I don't want her anymore. I will take one who is working in Hamburg, she comes from Odenburg. She had a child and is now working as a child nurse. There are no girls to find here, therefore, I cannot find any for Mrs. Thalheimer. I am glad I found one for myself. Elise wants to get married at the end of this month. I have been to Hamburg to register for the trip and I was astonished when they told me that nobody else can use Christine's ticket, but he said I could get it refunded in America. So I had to make 60 marks deposit on her ticket and I'll have to pay another 190 marks. Just imagine in what position this put me, now that I have given half of the money to Christine, I have to ask her to give it back and we'll send it to her when I get home. I am sorry to spend so much money but I could not help this.

My dearest George, many kind greetings from Arthur, Ella, mother and father and many heartfelt greetings from your dearly loving,

Gretchen

I received Mrs. Herrick's letter and I read it but I cannot answer her because I cannot write in English, I can only read it. So please tell her thank you and give her my regards, I am sorry that she is always sick. Tell her that we are healthy so far except for little Ella, she has the whooping cough.

Your Gretchen

Letter 33

COMMERCIAL HOTEL.

HERRICK & LUHRS. Proprietors.

Phoenix, Arizona, July 17th 1887

from New York to Pittsburg by the Pennsylvania Rail Road, from Pittsburg to Cincinnati by the Pittsburg, Cincinnati and St Louis Rail Road. from Cincinati to St Louis, by the Ohio & Mississipi Rail Road from St Louis to Marshal, Texas, by the St Louis Iron Mountain and Southern Rail Road, from Marshal to El Paso, by the Texas and Pacific Rail Road. from El Paso to Maricopa Junction, by the Southern Pacific Rail Road, and from Maricopa Junction to Phoenix by the Maricopa and Phoenix Rail Road

List 33

July 17, 1887

A listing, written by Geo. H.N. Luhrs of the railroads that Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs and the children will have to take on their way home to Phoenix, AT.

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Hamburg-Amerikanische Packetfahrt-Actien-Gesellschaft.
Abtheilung Passage.

TELEGRAMM-ADRESSE:
Hapag, Hamburg.

Hamburg, den 9 August 188
Deichstrasse No. 7.

Letter 34

Frau Catharina Lührs,
Neuhaus a/O. Oste

Ihre Postkarte von gestern beantwortend bedauern wir, Ihrem Wunsch, die für Sie in dem 28 August nach New-York abgehenden Dampfer Lessing belegten Plätze, auf die am 4 Septbr. zur Expedition gelangende Hammonia, zu übertragen, nicht entsprechen zu können, da die Hammonia in der Rechte bereits ganz vollständig besetzt & nicht ein einziger Platz in derselben mehr frei ist.

Achtungsvoll

i. V. der
Hamburg-Amerikanischen
Packetfahrt-Actien-Gesellschaft.

[signature]

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 34

Hamburg, August 9, 1887

Mrs. Catharina Luhrs, Neuhaus a/Oste

Answering your postcard which we received yesterday, we regret to inform you that we cannot comply with your wish to transfer your ticket for August 28 on the steamer Lessing to the steamer Hammonia sailing on September 4th, because the Hammonia is entirely booked.

Sincerely yours,

Hamburg-Amerikanishen
Packetfahrt, Inc.
(signature)

Letter 35

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Mutter hat sich ordentlich erschrocken
so Elend habe ich aus gesehen, mein
lieber Georg Du schreibst mir das
ich Dir nicht von der Reise wie
es uns gegangen hat geschrieben
habe, das habe ich Dir alle in
den Brief geschrieben den ich von
Klymont geschickt habe und den
hast Du nicht erhalten, aber jetzt
komme ich ja bald zu Dir, dann
will es Dir erzählen, also den
28 August mit den Dampfer Lessing
reisen wir ab, ich habe die Zimmer
85 u 86, ich weiß nicht ob dir schon
mal geschrieben habe, das ich nicht
nach Busch Hütel gehe sonder gleich
weiter Reise, da da eher bin ich wie
der bei Dir mein liebster auf der
Welt ich werde aus Vorsicht, mir
noch Geld leihen von Christine die
braucht es ja doch nicht, wir können
es ihr ja gleich wieder zurück schicken
ich denke es ist das Beste man kan

Neuhaus 9/11 Ostende den 15 Aug

(35)

Mein lieber guter Georg!

Wie bin ich doch einmal schlecht
das ich Dir auch doch so wenig
schreibe aber mein guter Junge
Du kannst es mir sicher
zu glauben das ich es nicht
absichtlich thue, jeden Tag will
ich schreiben und niemals komme
ich dazu was magst Du blos
denken von mir Du schreibst
mir so oft, und so schöne
Briefe Du schreibst mir das
ich in der ersten Klasse zu-
rück kommen soll, wozu
das, ich bin in der dritten
gekommen u komme

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 35

Neuhaus, August 15

My dear, good Georg,

I am so bad at writing, I know it is terrible, but believe me, I don't do this intentionally. Every day I say to myself that I will write to you but I just cannot get to it. My poor Georg, you must think badly of me. You write so often and such beautiful letters. You write that I should go back 1st class. What for? I came here in 3rd and I can go back in 3rd. It's a big difference in price, and if you want to pick me up in Maricopa, I shall be very pleased. I'll send you a telegram from Deming, probably just saying "Gretchen", you know what that means there is no need to say more. So when you get the telegram from Deming, get started for Maricopa. We can take a 1st class car from there to Phoenix. No one needs to know how I am traveling, even Mrs. Herrick. I have said to her that it was awful only because she was saying it all the time, but I am sure there will be more women traveling 3rd class from New York. If only we make it safely, I read again in the paper that there was a great accident on the train in America. I can tell you my dear Georg, that I am frightened of this long voyage and trip back. I don't believe I'll ever take such a trip again. It frightens me. People like me should not travel. Once I get there it will take me 2 weeks before I shake off all fear and exhaustion. I was so exhausted when I arrived here, I could hardly walk. Mother was shocked when she saw me, I looked that terrible.

My dear Georg, you say I did not tell you about my trip, but I wrote all this in the letter I mailed in Plymouth. You did not get that one, and now it's not worth it any more to write it, I'll tell you everything when I get there. So, I am leaving from Hamburg August 28th, with the boat Lessing in cabins 85 and 86, and like I said, I will not go to the Bush Hotel but go straight to the train station. The sooner I will be there with you the better, my dearest man in this world. To be on the safe side, I'll borrow some money from Christine, she does not need it, and we can send it to her right away after I arrive. I think this will be the best, one does not know what can happen, it's no good to be without money.

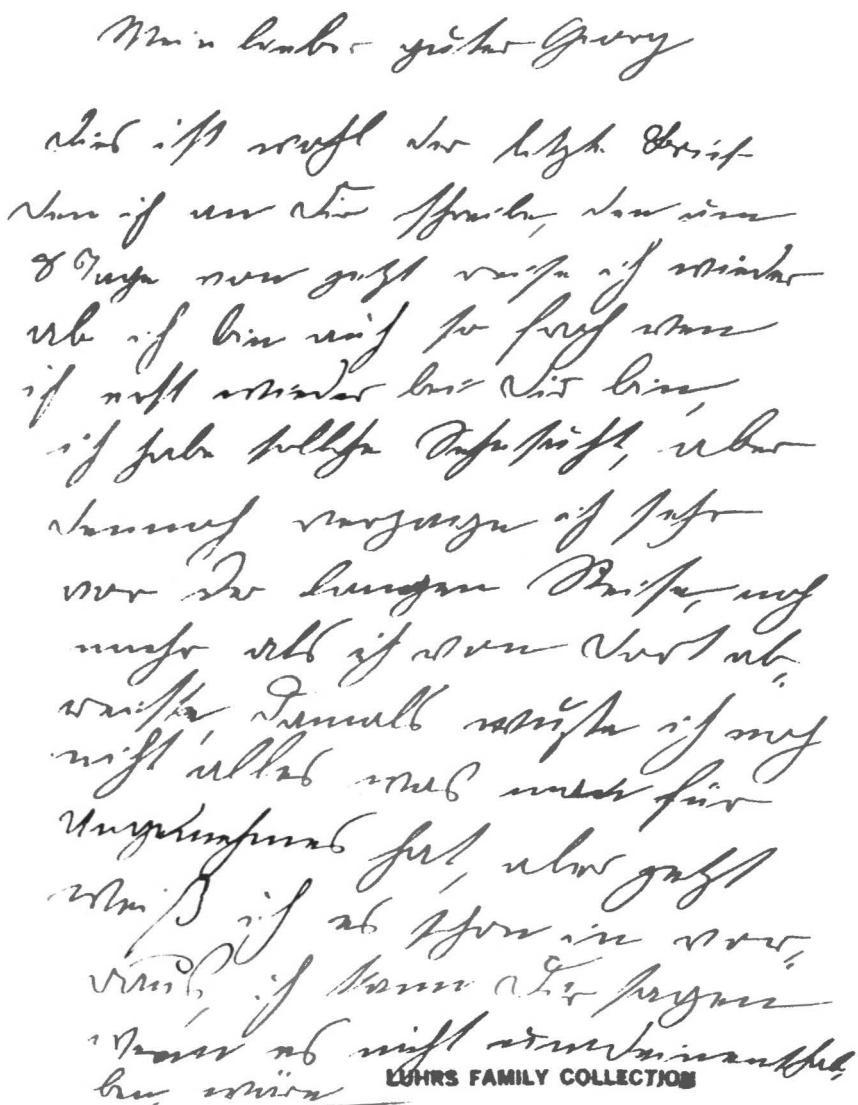
I can hardly wait to be with you again. Did I tell you that I am bringing another girl along, her name is Rebeka Arg. My sweetheart, best regards to you from your loving wife Gretchen, also from Arthur and Ella. My dear Georg, I long for you so.

Letter 36

Neuhaus d. 19 Juni 19 August

Mein lieber guter Georg

Dies ist wohl der letzte Brief
den ich an Dir schreibe, den um
8 Tage von jetzt reise ich wieder
ab ich bin auch so froh wenn
ich erst wieder bei Dir bin,
ich habe solche Sehnsucht, aber
dennoch verzage ich sehr
vor der langen Reise, noch
mehr als ich von dort ab-
reiste, damals wußte ich noch
nicht alles was man für
Ungemehmes hat, aber jetzt
weiß ich es schon im vor-
raus, ich kann Dir sagen
wenn es nicht um deinen Hal-
ben wäre



LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 36

Neuhaus, August 19

My dear Georg,

This is probably the last letter I will be writing you because in 8 days I am leaving. I am so glad and wish I were already there, I long for you so much. But I am afraid of the long journey this time, even more than before I left because at that time I did not know how it would be but now I know and I can tell you it's no fun. If I had known before I would never have left, it's too much trouble. The little one does not walk yet but wants to be everywhere. My dear Georg, when you get this letter, we'll already be on the ship or in New York and soon after that we'll be with you. We are leaving Sunday the 28th with the boat Lessing and everything else I will tell you in person when I get there. Now I have to stop, it's already 11 p.m. and I am very tired.

Good night my sweetheart, sleep well and remember you will not be alone for long after you get this letter, I'll be very close. Good night, my sweetheart, many kind regards also from Arthur and Ella and kisses from me your loving,

Gretchen

Sleep well my sweet, sweet Georg.



Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs, wife of Geo H.N. luhrs.

Portrait by Roth



Geo H.N.Luhrs.

Portrait by Roth



Easter Sunday,1926, at the Stroud home in Tempe Arizona. The Geb H.N.Luhrs family. Back row, left to right: Arthur "Cap" Taylor, Ella Luhrs Taylor, Arthur C. Luhrs, Sadie Allen Luhrs, George H.N.Luhrs Jr,Emma Luhrs Stroud, Jean Stroud, Dr Reginald Stroud, M.D.,Front row, left to right: John Luhrs, Geo H.N.Luhrs, George Luhss Stroud, Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs (Mrs Geo H.N.Luhrs), Allen Luhrs.

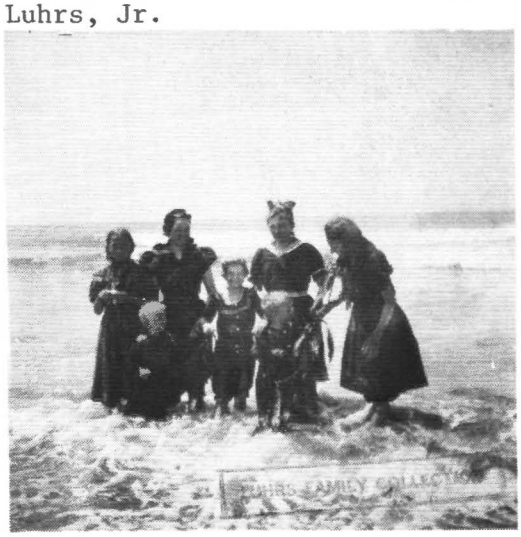
1962. Back row, left to right: Arthur C. Luhrs, George H.N.Luhrs Jr. Front row, left to right: Ella Luhrs Taylor, Emma Luhrs Stroud.





Left to right: George Luhrs, Jr. Arthur Luhrs, Ocean Park, CA. Early 1900's.

Santa Monica, CA., 1898. In rear, left to right, Eva Luke, Mrs. Frank Luke, Emma Luhrs, Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs, Ella Luhrs. In front, left to right, Frankie Luke, George Luhrs, Jr.





Left to right, Ella Luhrs, George Luhrs, Jr., Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs, Emma Luhrs, Geo H.N. Luhrs. Ocean Park, CA. About 1914.



Left to right, George Luhrs, Jr., Geo H.N. Luhrs, G. Luhrs Stroud, Ella Luhrs Taylor, Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs, Emma Luhrs Stroud. At Ocean Park, CA. About 1921.

Left to right: Joe Thalheimer, Ella Luhrs Taylor, G. Luhrs Stroud Emma Luhrs Stroud, Mr. Geo H.N. Luhrs, Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs. At Ocean Park, CA. About 1923.



Letters written from Phoenix

1888

Letter 37

Ich liebe Dich von ganzen Herzen bist Du mein Georg Dein Grethen

COMMERCIAL HOTEL.

HERRICK & LUHRS, PROP'S.

Phoenix, Ariz., den 16 Januar 1888

Mein Herzensgeliebter Georg!

Mein guter Georg wie ist es doch schrecklich ohne Dich zu sein der Tag dauert mir mal so lange wie so wenn Du hier bist, wann kömmst Du wieder weiß Du es schon lasse es mir ja wissen dann kann ich doch schon ausrechnen wie lange ich noch allein sein muß. mir geht es grade so wie Dir ich habe eigentlich Lust zu, stehe immer und denke an Dich wo Du wohl sein kannst und ob es Dir wohl gut geht, hast Du auch die Nacht gefroren wie Du von mir fort gingst es war glaube ich die kälteste Nacht ich konnte garnicht warm werden, Arthur u. Ella habe ich bei mir im Bette und Anna schläft ~~mir~~ bei mir in der Schlaf stube auf ihre Kalt, die erst nacht habe ich nicht viel geschlafen, ~~liebe~~ Nacht besser, Lieber Georg ich kann Dir auch schreiben, das die Thüren u. Fenster heute gekommen sind. sie haben schon welche rein gemacht ins Hotel, es sieht gut aus, wenn Du wieder zurück kommst, sind sie wohl alle rein, dann wirst Du gewiß freuen

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Ella Ella Arthur. Ella Arthur. Ella Ella
Ella. Arthur. Ella. Ella. (Gretchen Georg) Gretchen
Arthur. Arthur.

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 37

Phoenix, Arizona January 16, 1888

My dearly beloved Georg,

How dreadful it is to be without you, the days seem to be twice as long. When are you coming back? Let me know when you are ready to come back. I am like you, I don't like to go anywhere without you; just stay at home and think about you and what you are doing. Were you cold the night you left? It was the coldest night we had, I could not get warm. Arthur and Ella sleep in my bed and Anna sleeps in my room on the cot. I did not sleep much the first night.

Dear Georg, the doors and the windows arrived today and they already put some in. It looks good. By the time you come back they will be done, all of them, and you'll be happy. Dear Georg, I asked you to buy curtains, but I think you should first send me some samples so I can choose. Do you want me to send you the paper or can you buy it there? Kahr did not come here yet, which is fine with me but Heinrich was here last evening.

I get up early now, the first morning I woke up at 5 and could not go back to sleep and today at 6. My dear Georg, I will have some supper now, the children are asleep. Arthur says he wants you to take him along when you go on a train ride again. Good night my dear George, when the evenings approach I feel so depressed and lonely when I see all the men go home to their families. Many greetings and lots of kisses from your Gretchen, your Arthur and Ella.

I love you from all my heart, you are my Georg - your Gretchen.

On my heart, why are you so sad!

Letter 38

COMMERCIAL HOTEL.

HERRICK & LUHRS, PROP'S.

Phoenix, Ariz., den 18 Januar 188

Mein guter neuer Georg!

Wie ~~ist doch~~ geht doch die Zeit langsam ich wünsche wie
wäre erst 2 Wochen weiter dann kömmt doch bald wieder
Lieber Georg ich kann dir schreiben das Herrick sagt, er
kann die Corner über Hotel verkaufen 9000 Dollar
die wollen da Stoffbauen u. Tischler die kommen
aus Kansas, hier sind schrecklich viel fremde Leute
jetzt für mein lieber Georg wie geht es hast schon
Aufsehen erfolg gehabt muß es mir auch gleich
schreiben du wolltest wissen was Herrick mit
[illegible] Mann gemacht hat [illegible] nicht so viel
[illegible] 1000 Dollar gegeben die hat er geliehen
von Hitzer er hat 2500 geliehen aber die 1500 will
er fort schicken die Gracht für die Eisenbahn für
unser hat Schind bezahlt die Wagen sind fertig
[illegible] Hotel [illegible] in den obersten Stockwerk sind die
unser alle [illegible] es macht sich sehr schön, alle
Leute gehen will u. besehen es.

Letter 38

Phoenix, Arizona January 18, 1888

My good, precious Georg,

How slowly the time goes by, I wish we were 2 weeks further ahead, then your return would be nearer. Dear Georg, Herrick said he can sell the corner across from the hotel for 9000 dollars, they want to build there, they are coming from Kansas. There are many strangers coming in.

My dear Georg, how are you, did you have success? Write to me how everything is. You wanted to know what Herrick discussed with that man. I don't know everything, I only know that he paid him 1000 dollars. He took a loan for 2500 but said he needs 1500 to send away for the shipment of the windows. The ground floor is ready and on the top floor the windows are already in and it looks very nice. Everybody comes to look at it and admires it.

Dear George, I am writing you the address where you can buy the things which you wanted to bring me. The bamboo you'll bet in the Golden Rule Bazaar in the Market or Sutter Street. The bronze, silver and copper you get on Market Street, near 91st Street. The curtains you'll find at O'Brian on Market Street, between 6th and 7th Street. The album you will get where you buy the bamboo canes. The album should be either yellow or dark red. Bring 18 bamboo canes, Mrs. Andre wants 2 tables and I too, and Mrs. Herrick wants one and Mrs. Thalheimer wants a chair.

Dear Georg, the 15 dollars which you won arrived, but Herrick would not give them to me, nor the number. I sent Heinrich there to get it but he would not give it to him either. My dear sweet Georg, this is all for today, hoping I will hear from you soon. Yesterday, I received the letter you wrote on the train. Dear, good Georg, come back as soon as possible.

Many kind regards from our children and from your always loving,

Gretchen

Let me know when you are coming back.

Letter 39

COMMERCIAL HOTEL.

HERRICK & LUHRS, PROP'S.

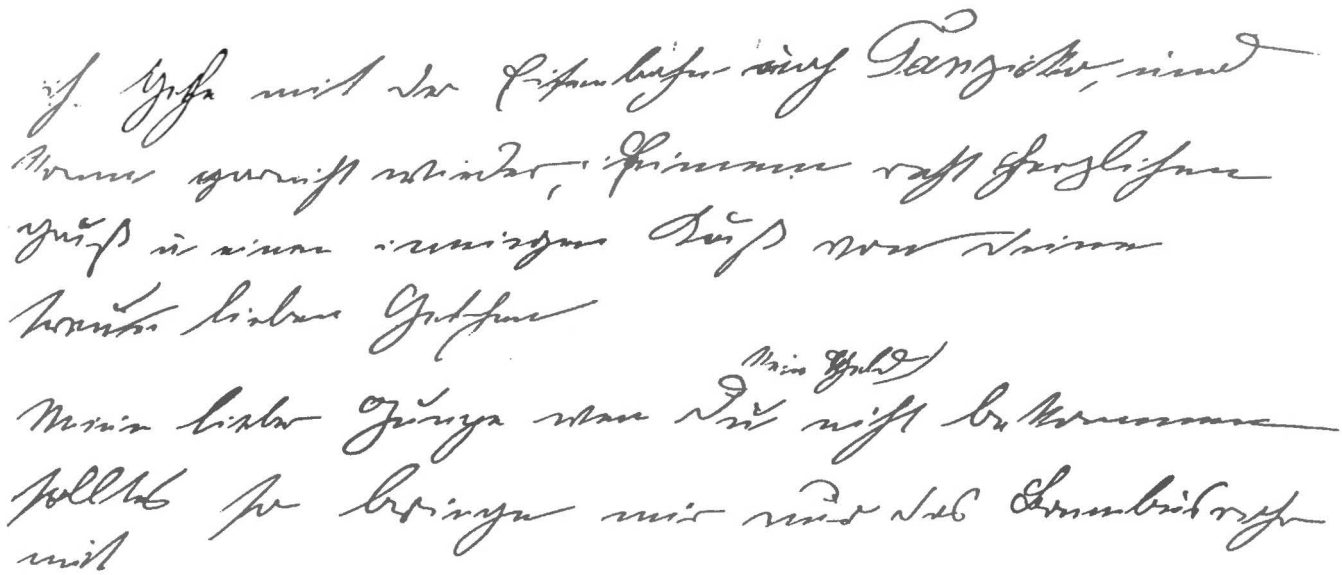
Phoenix, Ariz., Jan 21th 1881

Mein lieber guter Georg

Dein lieber Brief habe ich heute morgen erhalten, u. gesehen
das Du noch nichts ausgerichtet hast, es macht mir sehr traurig
Ach dann kommst Du fürs erste wohl noch nicht wieder
ich fühle mich sehr einsam hier allein ohne Dich.
Mein lieber Georg ich schicke Dir einen Brief mit
den hat Mrs Herrick mir gebracht, sie meinte Du könn-
tes es besser selber besorgen, Mein lieber Georg ich
weiß garnicht recht was ich Dir schreiben soll, ich werde jetzt
ja nicht neues gewahr, darum lieber Georg nimm
es mit den Wenigen vorliebt, Deine Nummern
haben nichts gewonnen, die 15 Dollar hat Herrick
behalten, mache nur zu lieber Georg das Du bald
fertig wirst, den Herrick ist ein Bummler, er ist
jetzt fast jeden Tag betrunken, so das er mitunter
kaum stehe kann, Mein lieber Georg ich schicke Dir
mein Bild mit die Kinder ihres ist nicht gut ge-
worden ich muß nächste Woche noch mal wieder
hin, herzlichen Gruß von deinen lieben süßen Kinder
der Arthur frägt öfters nach Dir heute Morgen sagte

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 39



Letter 39

Phoenix, Arizona January 21, 1888

My dear, good Georg,

This morning I received your nice letter and could see that you were not yet able to settle anything. This makes me sad because I was hoping you would be back before the 1st. I feel so lonely without you. I am sending you a list of Mrs. Herrick, she thinks you can take care of this.

My dear George, I don't know what to write to you, there is nothing new. Your numbers did not win anything and Herrick kept the 15 dollars. Please come back soon dear George. Herrick is becoming a bum, he is drunk almost every day now to the extent that he can hardly stand on his feet

Dear Georg, I am sending you a picture of me with the children, but it's not very good. I'll go back next week and get another one made. The children are asking about you and are sending you their regards. Arthur said this morning he'll go to San Francisco with the train and won't come back.

My best and sincerest regards and love from your faithful,

Gretchen

My dear boy, if you don't get any money, then just buy the bamboo.

Letters written by:

Catharina Louise von Hein Dodenhof,
mother of Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs

Christine Dodenhof Hahnefeldt and
Marie Dodenhof (Eisele),
sisters of Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs

Else Hahnfeldt Diekmann,
niece of Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs

Johanna Kahrs,
sister of Mr. Geo H.N. Luhrs

Letter 40

Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs
Catharina Margarita (Dodenhof) Luhrs

(letter has no beginning) .... give him my regards and tell him I received his letter. He did not mention anything about it. I don't mind if it's a nice girl, I hope he knows what he is doing. Soon we'll have Christmas and I am sure you are all looking forward to it and are begging Santa Claus to bring you lots of presents and a Christmas tree. I'd like to present my best wishes to Arthur and Emma's birthday. Arthur must be a big boy now and how is Emma? Is she in good health now? They are all going to school now I suppose and little George is probably papa's and mama's darling. Ella must be helping her mama already with the Christmas preparations. Little Else is also so anxiously looking forward to her Christmas tree and then she'll be happy. Christine sends her regards, she is feeling all right. She is expecting a baby in April and this will mean more work again. As far as I am concerned, I am doing fine but I often feel tired and don't want to get up. However, if it stays like that, I cannot complain, it's not bad for my age. Best regards to all the family from your sister and mother. I'll also write to Willie.

Mother

(Catharine) Louise (von Hein) Dodenhof

(Louise Dodenhof was referring to her son, Willi Dodenhoff)

Letter 41

Neuhaus a/d Oste 1898

Mr. and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs
Willie Dodenhof
Phoenix, Arizona

My dear children,

Your dear letter arrived and gave me great joy. I thank you very much for the "Duber", you are so sweet Gretchen, you still think about your mother. So far I have not had a cane, even though walking is not always easy but I got used to it. I bought some "Torf" for the winter but so far the weather is very nice, it's not cold yet.

I suppose it's nice at your place, not so hot anymore. I am glad that you, dear Gretchen, went on a vacation with the children to a cooler place. It must be terrible to suffer such heat. Your hotel must be going well now, does it keep you very busy? What kind of girl (maid) do you have now? Marie had a great desire to go stay with you but then the heat discouraged her, also she did not have the money for the traveling. She wrote to her uncle for some but did not get any answer. In my opinion, she should have stayed, but Marie likes to get around and the old Rendel has also put a bug in her head. At times she seems to be easy going, but eventually she'll learn the hard way. Guess where she is now, London, England. She first went to Hamburg to take a job there but then she got that offer to go to London. She left November 10th and arrived on the 12th. She just wrote to me that they paid her trip to go there and she gets 360 marks per year. It's a very fine house, everything of silk and velvet. The lady dresses only in pure silk and expensive hats. Marie works with a cook and a butler. I wonder how she will like it. She says these people are from Hamburg who moved to London. I only hope she'll stay healthy and that she can stand the climate.

I am surprised that Willie is getting married so soon, he is so young. Now I have to give up hope for his return. Of course I would have liked him to come back home but this is over now. (letter is unfinished)

Your mother

(Catharine Louise von Hein Dodenhof)

Letter 42

Neuhaus, December 2, 1898

Mr. Willie Dodenhoff
Phoenix, Arizona

My dear Willie,

It's been a long time since I have written to you, Marie has been the one writing to you, she was at home for 2 months. Now she is in London as you may know from Gretchen. She left on November 9th. She said she also wanted to go to a foreign country to look for her luck. Whether she'll find it is a big question. But as long as she stays healthy, that's the main thing - this is happiness, and as she wrote, she seems to be quite satisfied with her position. The people she works for are good to her and are very rich. It'l all silk and velvet, 2 coachmen, one butler, a gardener and a cook who went there with her. But the cook did not like it there and left, now Marie has to do it all herself. The lady gave her lots of presents and is nice to her but Marie says there is nothing like Germany and when her year is completed there she wants to come back.

How are you my Willie? I hope fine, and I heard from Gretchen that you want to get married soon, to which I congratulate you. I would have liked to see you again and was hoping that you might come back, but now this hope is gone. The main thing is to get yourself a good wife, Willie, who will make you happy and satisfied for the rest of your life. Therefore, one has to be sure. "The choice is short and the regret is long." I'd like to meet your wife, please give her my regards and I hope I can see you one of these days.

Soon we'll have Christmas and I'd like to wish you a very merry Christmas and a lot of happiness in the New Year. Have a good time and think about your mother who is rejoicing with you. I'll go with Christine, the little Else is so funny. She'll get a nice Christmas tree and she'll be so happy. She is so clever, you can't imagine, she knows everything.

I am all right otherwise, just the normal old age troubles from time to time. My best regards to you and love from your mother and Christine.

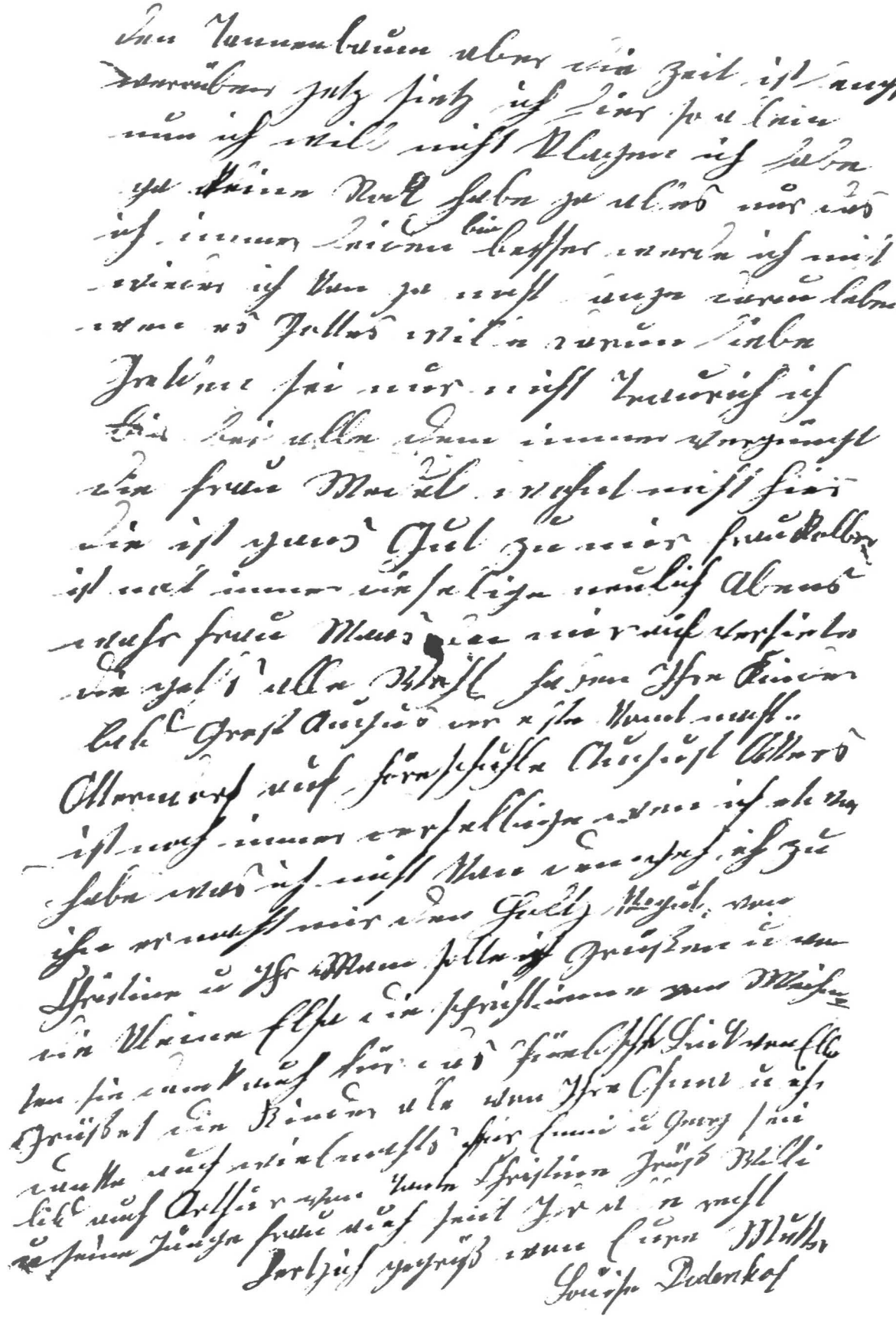
(Catharine Louise von Hein Dodenhof)
(Christine Dodenhof Hahnefeldt)

Letter 43

Neuhaus d/O. Oste den 2c Dezember 1898

Meine liebe Minna

Deinen Brief habe ich erhalten habe mich sehr gefreut weil ich daraus Deine Liebe sah daß Du mich noch nicht vergessen hast. Auch habe ich Dich alle Woche in Deinen Briefen gebeten Dich wieder zu verheirathen aber Du hast mir darauf noch keine Antwort gegeben. Ich habe Dir auch geschrieben daß ich Dich lieben will wie meine Frau. Ich habe Dir auch gesagt daß ich Dich nicht zwingen will Du sollst mich nur so lieben wie Du mich liebst. Ich habe Dir auch gesagt daß ich Dich nicht verlassen will



Letter 43

Neuhaus a/d Oste, December 20, 1898

Mr. and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs
Willi Dodenhoff
Phoenix, Arizona

My dear children,

Your letter arrived and gave me a lot of joy because I can see that you are all doing well and this morning I also received the money for which I thank you very kindly. May the good Lord reward you for the kindness you give me. I would be poorly off if I did not have your help. I cannot work for money anymore, my body is weak, I could not work under stress anymore. I have sold some vegetables this summer from my garden, but that's all I can do, or else I would not ask you to help me. I know you need quite a lot of money for your own families. Willie is going to be surprised to see that it takes a lot more to provide for a family than just himself. You tell me Gretchen that Willie has started to economize and save his money, I can hardly believe it. The main thing is that they are happy and healthy. I just didn't like the idea that he did not tell me anything about it. If you dear Gretchen had not written to me about this, I would not have known. I also received 10 marks from Uncle Dietrich, he is doing very well. He wrote that they got a letter from Marie saying that her health is very poor. It's a pity that she gets sick so often, she should have stayed in Hamburg, but she is so strong headed. "Who does not accept advice cannot be helped."

Now my dear Gretchen, I'd like to wish you a very happy birthday, it may reach you too late, but I hope you'll forgive me. In any case, I wish you mainly good health and a lot of happiness and joy with your family. How is Georg doing? I think he is still the same. Please give him my thanks for the lovely Christmas present. I'll be able to go through winter well. It is getting cold now, today it's snowing and it's cold.

By the time you get this letter, the holidays we were longing for so long will be past. The children will have received lots of toys I am sure, and will have been excited. I remember how it was when you were little, how you enjoyed the Christmas tree. And now, I am all alone. I should not complain, because I have everything I need, it's just that I am not feeling all that well and am all alone. But I don't want you to worry my dear Gretchen, because I am cheerful in spite of this. Mrs. Wedel does not live here, but she comes to see me and she is very good to me. Mrs. Maas also visited me, they all are doing well. Their children are almost grown, the oldest son will go to high school in Otterndorf and August is always the same. If I need to have something fixed he does it for me.

Christine and her husband send their regards and little

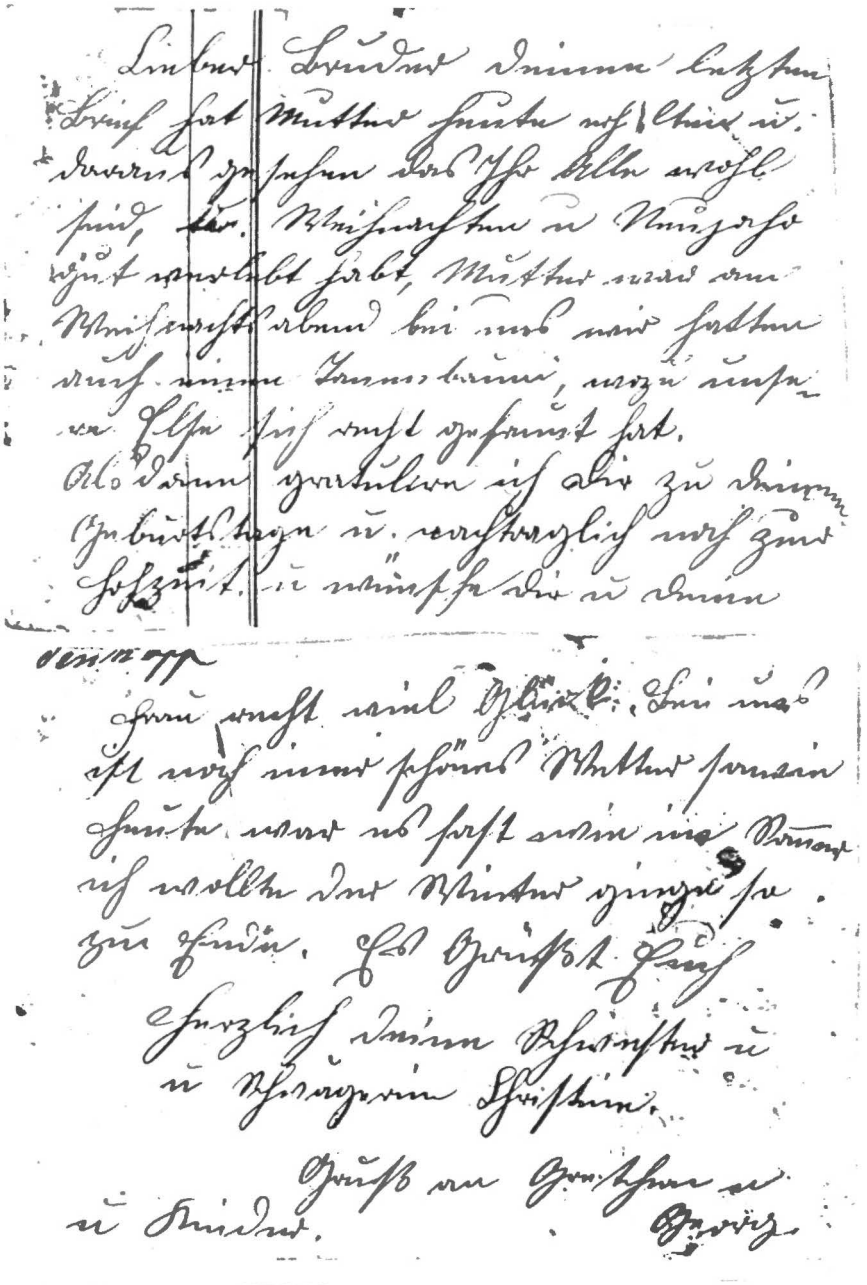
Letter 43 (continued)

Else is constantly talking about Christmas. She sends her thanks for the nice book Ella sent her. Give my love and kind greetings to all the children from their grandmother and thank you also for the nice picture of Emma and little George. Best regards to Arthur also from Aunt Christine and to Willie and his young wife and to all of you,

Your mother,

(Catharine Louise von Hein Dodenhof)

Letter 44



Letter 44

Willi Dodenhoff
Phoenix, Arizona

(letter has no beginning) ... she is still with the old one, but one can get used to everything. So far, we have not had much frost, it's pretty mild this year. I am sure it is nice at your place too, not so hot anymore. Mrs. Maas sends her greetings, she comes to visit me often.

Dear brother, today mother received your letter and was glad to see that you are all doing well and that you had a nice Christmas and New Year. Mother spent Christmas Eve with us and we had a nice Christmas tree, which made our Else very happy.

I wish you all the best for your birthday and also my best wishes for your new married life to you and your (unfinished)

your sister,

Christine Dodenhof Hahnefeldt

Letter 45

Neukaus a. d. Oste den 8 Januar 1899

Mein lieber Willi

Jetz haben wir alle feiertage wieder hinter uns u. nun geths wieder in das alltags leben was ein den auch immer am besten bekömt, wie geths dir den in den Ehestand bis du zufrieden wie ich aus deinem brief gesehen habe ist ja deine Hochzeit den 10 dezember gewesen du hattes u. Eingeladen aber so spedt konten doch ja nicht mehr hinkommen also gratuliren wir noch nachträglich u. wünschen dir viel Glück

sie wolte ja durchaus in Ausland
u. Ihr Glück dort suchen so leicht
ist es sich nicht hinden sie kan
ja einmahl nicht viel abt
da hatt ich Ihr geschrieben sie
solte wieder rüber kommen Eher sie
da ganz krank wird was ich da
auch alles mit habe ist gar nicht
zu sagen den dies u. den das
Ihr fehlt auch immer was ist auch
geschlimm genugt für Ihr muß
einmahl bei fremde Leuten sein
u. kan nichts alt, wie geths euch
den alle hoffentlich seidt Ihr alle
Wunder wozu ich nicht [illegible] auch immer
[illegible] ich Brief bekomme das es
euch das Gut geht Grüß Georg u. Grethen u.
die Kinder von Ihre Ohma auch seist du
u. deine Frau herzlich gegrüß
von deine Mutter

page 2

Letter 45

Neuhaus a/d Oste, January 8, 1899

Mr. Willi Dodenhoff
Phoenix, Arizona

My dear Willie,

Now that all the holidays are over, the old routine of life has picked up again. How are you doing, do you like your new country? From your letter, I could see that you were planning to get married on December 10th. You invited us, but so late, that there was no time for us to prepare a trip. Well, we want to congratulate you and wish you and your wife a lot of happiness and may you both be very satisfied with each other, and then God will help you. I think you are marrying too early, all your friends in New York are still single, so is August Dodenhof and Ernst Struck. The main thing is that you are happy and stay healthy. Mother probably worries too much.

My dear Willie, the 19th is your birthday and I'd like to wish you a very good year and may it bring you a lot of happiness. You did not even write who your wife is. Is she an American, or from which country is she?

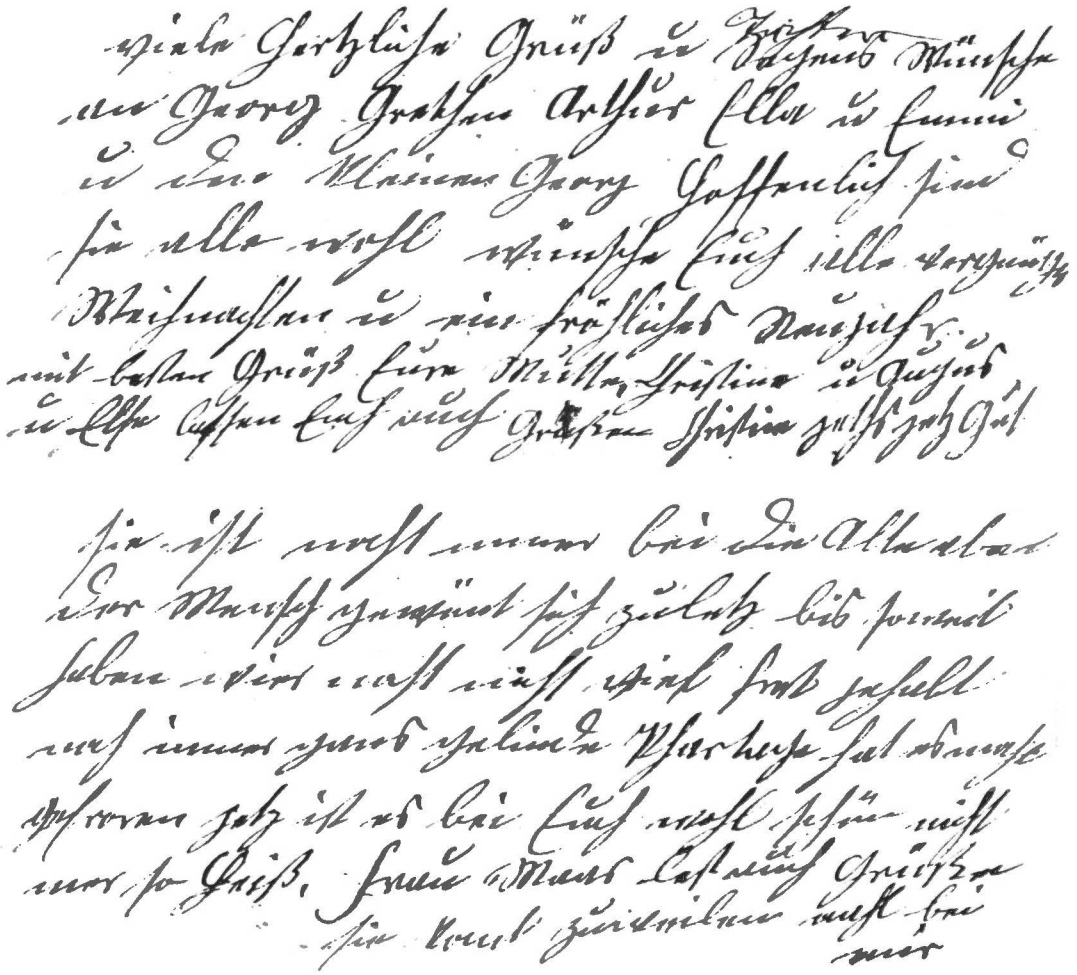
I received a letter from Marie recently and she does not like it there very much, she has a lot of work and is still alone. She has no help, has to do the cooking herself and feels weak. I think she should go back to Hamburg. She wanted to find her happiness in the foreign land, but happiness is not so easy to find and I think she'll be better off if she comes back before she gets too sick. I wrote her that.

How are you all doing? I hope you are cheerful and write to me again. I am always so happy to receive news from you and hear good things about you. Give my regards to Georg and Gretchen and their children and to you my dear son and your wife, my sincerest greetings.

Your mother

(Catharine Louise von Hein Dodenhof)

Letter 46



Letter 46

Mr. and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs
Phoenix, Arizona

.... many sincere greetings and good wishes to Georg, Gretchen, Arthur, Ella, Emmi and little George. Hope you are all doing fine and had a very merry Christmas and a very happy New Year. With best regards, your mother, Christine and August and Else send you their good wishes also. Christine is doing well now.

.... wishing you a lot of luck. The weather is still very nice here, today it was almost like a summer day. I wish winter was gone.

Best regards to all of you,

Your sister and sister-in law
Christine

Regards to Gretchen, Georg and children.

(Christine Dodenhof Hahnefeldt)

47 Nachaus Oste d. 16 Juli 1899

Meine liebe Schwester u. Schwager!

Da Ihr wißt, daß unsere liebe Mutter seid langer Zeit sehr krank war, gebe ich Euch jetzt die traurige Nachricht, daß unsere liebe herzengute Mutter am 11 Juli 5 3/4 Uhr Nachmittags ruhig eingeschlafen ist. Die Beerdigung war am 14 Juli. Nachträglich seid Ihr noch Alle dazu Eingeladen. Ihr müßt entschuldigen daß ich nicht gleich an Euch geschrieben habe, aber mit den besten Willen, war es mir nicht möglich früher mit meine Gedanken zusammen zu sein. Wie ist alles jetzt so öde u. trübe liebe Schwester so ganz allein bin ich jetzt tag täglich

An Milli habe ich auch noch nicht geschrieben ich denke morgen viele herzlich Grüße von Onkel August. Vergeßt nicht bald wieder zu antworten. Wenn Ihr doch hättet unser Mutter noch einmal hättet wiedersehen können die liebe gute Mutter wie mußte sie so lange leiden

Viele Grüße
von Eure Marie
Christine u. August
Else u. August

u. ~~[illegible]~~ muß ich bitterlich
weinen wenn ich dran denke
daß ich jetzt eine Waise bin
daß wir nun keinen Vater
und keine Mutter mehr.
Am liebsten möchte ich recht
bald zu Euch reisen und Euch
Alles mündlich erzählen von
unserer Mutter ihr letztes
Leiden. Meint Ihr nicht mich
lieber Schwager und Schwester
das es wohl das Beste wäre ich
käme nach dort hier steh ich
nun so ganz alleine in der
Welt wie Ihr doch auch wißt
kann ich niemals Zuflucht
bei Christine suchen niemals
könnte ich dort einige Stunden
verleben Christine ist recht gut

aber Ihr Mann. Ach wenn ich
doch recht bald zu Euch hin könnte
was ja jetzt stets mein einziger
Wunsch ist. Habt Ihr schon einen
Brief von Onkel Dietrich erhalten
wir möchten nämlich gerne
wissen wie es hier nun
werden soll wer es übernehmen
soll Onkel August oder Onkel Johann
oder Mars ob es verkauft oder
vorläufig erst vermiethet werden
soll. sendet bitte recht bald Vollmacht
und schreibt auch recht bald was
ich machen soll ob ich nach dort
kommen soll. Für heute will
ich denn schließen mit den
besten Grüßen an die lieben Kinder
und auch an Euch Georg u. Gretchen

Eure Marie.

Letter 47

Neuhaus a/d Oste, July 16, 1899

Mr. and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs
Phoenix, Arizona

My dear sister and brother-in-law,

Since you knew that our dear mother was suffering for quite some time, this sad news may not come as a great shock to you. Our beloved, good mother fell into eternal sleep on July 11th at 5:45 PM. The funeral was on July 14th. You must forgive me that I did not write to you any sooner but it was just not possible. How empty and sad everything is now for me, dear sister, I am now all alone. I cry all the time when I think about it, I am an orphan now. We have no mother and no father anymore. I wish I could go to stay with you and tell you in person all about mother's last days. Don't you think my dear sister and brother-in-law that I should come to live with you since I am all alone now? As you know, I could never stay with Christine, not even a few hours. Christine is good enough, but her husband is something else. If only I could go to see you very soon, this is now my only wish.

Did you receive a letter from Uncle Dietrich? We would like to know what we should do with the place here, whether it should be sold or rented out. Please send your power of attorney very soon so we can proceed. And please write as to what I should do, whether I should come. Thats all for today, please give my regards to your children and to you Georg and Gretchen.

Your Marie
(Dodenhof Eisele)

I didn't write to Willie yet, but I shall do it tomorrow. Greetings also from Uncle August. What a shame you did not come to visit mother, poor dear mother, she had to suffer for so long.

Many greetings from your Marie, Christine and August and Else and August.

Letter 48

Neuhaus a/d Oste den 16 Juli 1899

Lieber Schwager Schwester u Bruder

Es ist schon lange her, daß ich
Euch geschrieben habe, u. demnach
fällt es mir diesmal schwer
u sogar sehr schwer, denn Ihr
wißt doch das unsere liebe
Mutter sehr krank war, u
der liebe Gott sie jetzt von
Ihren Leiden erlößt hat, sie
starb am 11 dieses Monats 5 3/4
Uhr sie hatte sich schon lange
darauf vorbereitet den letzten
Herbst sprach sie schon davon
den sie hatte eine weiße
Schitze da sagte sie zu mir
die wollte sie in ihr schwar-
ßes Kleid machen das denn
alles fertig war, ich sagte dann
zu Ihr davon mußte sie nicht

was in unsern Kräften stand
die läßten zehn Tage ist Marie
Tag u Nacht bei ihr ~~ge~~ im ganze
gewesen u ~~[illegible]~~ wollen hoffen das sie doch
gesund bleibt schreibt bitte mal
darüber was Ihr denkt was
Marie machen soll. Onkel wird
es Euch auch wohl schreiben.
Seid bitte nicht böse das ich
nicht gleich geschrieben ich fühlte
mich diese Tage immer zu schwach
um es Euch wissen zu lassen.
Alsdann liebe Schwester u Bruder
möchte ich Euch bitten sobald wie
möglich Eure Vollmacht zu schicken
u. wie Ihr darüber denkt, da es das Haus doch
nicht so alleine dastehen kann
Kartoffel u Obst mußt dann
auch ja verkauft werden u Zin-
sen müssen bezahlt werden denn
es sind zwei Tausend fünfhundert
4 Mark Schulden was die Bestattungs-
Kosten sind hat August erst aus-
gelegt alsdann muß auch noch
der Arzt bezahlt werden

1

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

sprechen, also nun weiß ich es
so recht einzusehen wie lange
sie schon gelitten hat, deshalb
habe ich jetzt auch den lieben
Gott gedanckt das er Ihr von
Ihren Leiden erlößt hat, aber
Ihr könnt nicht denken wie
mir das Herz schwer ist, denn
wo ich Tag täglich hin gegangen
u. jetzt hat alles ein Ende o. nein
es ist nicht zu begreifen u. doch
muß man sich darin fügen wenn
man zu Hause geht u. es ist
alles leer. Am Freitag den 14ten
wurde Mutter bestattet Nach-
mittag 4 Uhr. Onkel aus Hamburg
war auch hier, er hat Mutter
sehr viel Gutes gethan, auch
er war sehr Mitleidsvoll u.
hat auch Marie noch beschenckt.
2 nun steht unsere Schwester
allein in der Welt u. hat

kein Heim mehr. Mutter sprach
die letze Zeit immer Marie solle
diesen Herbst nach Euch gehen wenn
sie nur irgend etwas besser wür-
de, aber ich dencke sie hat es
deshalb wohl immer zu mir gesagt
sie hat es wohl gefühlt das sie
Sterben müßte ich weiß es nun
so recht ein zu sehen, ich hatte
damahls immer Hoffnung das sie
wieder besser würde, aber jetzt
ist sie erlößt von all Ihren leiden
es war die letzen 14 Tage auch zum
Herz erbrechen diese Sie konnte
sich selbst nicht helfen, das Wasser
war so sehr angeschwollen u.
zuletzt brach auch noch der Nagel
auf könnt dencken wie muß
unsere Mutter wohl gelitten
haben von allen Seiten hatten
sie Mittleid u. wurde immer
reichlich beschenckt mit Essen u.
Leinenzeug, den Essen mochte
sehr gerne faßt bis an den
letzen Tag aber alles hat nichts
geholfen wir haben gethan

3

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 48

Neuhaus, July 16, 1899

Mr. and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear brother-in-law, sister and brother,

It has been a long time since I wrote to you, yet it is so hard to do it today, so very hard, because the news is so sad. You knew that our dear mother was very ill, and the dear Lord finally had mercy on her suffering and took her on the 11th at 5:45. She was prepared for quite some time. Last fall, she told me that she found some white lace and she wanted me to put it on her black dress, so that everything was ready. She must have suffered for a long time, more than she ever said, and this is why I am grateful to God that he took her out of her misery. But you have no idea how sad this is for me. I used to go see her every day and now it's all finished and gone. Her funeral was on Sunday, the 14th, in the afternoon at 4 p.m. Uncle from Hamburg was there, he was very helpful to mother and so sad now. He gave some presents to Marie. Our sister is all alone in this world now and has no home. Mother advised her last fall to go live with you, but she only said it to me not to Marie. I guess mother knew her end was near. At that time I was hopeful and thought she would get better again, but the last two weeks were very bad. She was helpless, full of water and so swollen. She got help from all sides, people brought her food and fresh linens. She liked to eat almost to the last day, but nothing we did helped. Marie was around her day and night for the last 10 days. I hope she is doing all right. Please write to her. Please forgive that I did not write any sooner but I felt so bad and tired these last days.

Dear sister and brother, please send us your power of attorney and write soon what your suggestions are. We cannot leave the house alone. The potatoes and fruits must also be sold, the taxes must be paid and the funeral expenses, which are 2,500 marks and the doctor also has to be paid.

Your sister

(Christine Dodenhof Hahnefeldt)

Letter 49

Hamburg d. 15.9.99.

Meine liebe Schwester!

Du lebst gewiß schon immer in der Hoffnung, daß ich jeden Tag bei dir eintreffen werde. Sonst wäre es auch wohl schon möglich gewesen aber der Agent hatte ein Versehen gemacht und mich nicht hier in Hamburg angemeldet. Von Hamburg dachte ich, würde ich Nachricht erhalten aber es verging ein Tag wie der andere zuletzt dachte ich denn mal selbst nach Hier zu reisen und ist ja ein Glück gewesen sonst wäre ich diesen Herbst gewiß nicht mehr nach dort

page 1

gegangen sonst war Mutter immer dabei und gab mir so manchen Rat nun ist alles vorbei niemals kann ich mehr Mutter sagen ich kann es garnicht vergessen

Hier bei Tante Bertha ist es sehr schön sie bewohnen eine herrliche Wohnung seit 3 Tagen bin ich hier es gefällt mich sehr schön heute Nachmittag reise ich wieder nach Neuhaus. Also heute in 14 Tagen reise ich denn ja von hier ab. denn bin ich Ende Oktober wohl bei Euch Was machen denn die Kinder ich freue mich sehr sie bald mal zu sehen Hedwig ist recht groß Ostern wird sie Confirmiert jetzt will ich schließen besten Gruß von Onkel Tante Hedwig und von Eure Marie

page 4

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

JUHBS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 49

Hamburg, September 15, 1899

My dear sister: (Gretchen Luhrs)

I am certain that you are hoping my arrival could be any day now. It would have been possible, however, the agent made an error and did not book me in Hamburg. I thought I would receive notice from Hamburg, however, several days went by and I finally decided to travel to Hamburg, which was fortunate, or I would not have made it this fall. Today, I shall try again and I believe that I shall leave here on the steamer Kaiser Friedrich on October 1, or otherwise on October 8, but I do believe that I will choose the first one even though it costs 30.00 marks more; all ships are solidly booked and I can hardly wait to get there. I believe it is not all that much money, as long as I can leave here soon.

Uncle August has received the power of attorney. Yesterday, I went to the dentist here because my teeth needed to be worked on. I thought if I had to go over there it might be too expensive, even though it is not inexpensive here either. Even for one person, life if every expensive. I purchased a suitcase for 35.00 marks and so I spent 166.00 marks and gave Christian 100.00 marks, which pleased him very much, because he does not get very much cash. We shall be seeing each other soon, but I do not believe we will recognize each other. I look forward to seeing you, but it is sad that our dear mother cannot be among us. It will be so different to leave home, usually mother was with me and gave me advice like only a mother can do. It is so hard for me to forget.

It is very nice here at Aunt Bertha's (von Hein); they have a nice apartment which I have shared with them for the last three days. I like it here very much, but this afternoon I shall return to Neuhaus. In two weeks I shall leave from here which should bring me to you by the end of October. How are the children? I am looking forward to seeing them. Hedwig is quite tall and will be confirmed at Easter. I shall close now. Best regards from Uncle, Aunt Hedwig, and yours truly, Marie (Dodenhof).

Letter 50

Neuhaus a/d Oste, den 29.4.1915.

Liebe Tante Marie!

Wir danken Dir recht herzlich für Deinen lieben Brief. Bei uns ist es noch immer kalt u. ungemütlich, sonst geht es uns so ziemlich gut. Augenblicklich ist es eine schreckliche Zeit Neuhaus ist wie ausgestorben alle Menschen sind im Krieg. Hier sind bis jetzt 3. gefallen, für Dich alle unbekannt. Hauptsache ist nur das Deutschland siegt, schade um alle jungen Leute die ihr Leben lassen müssen. Ich wollte diesen Sommer recht oft zu Vergnügen nach dem Dobrock, ~~habe~~ sonst seit der Schulzeit noch nichts mitgemacht, hoffentlich nächste

Mit den Lebensmitteln geht es noch so ziemlich, wir bekommen alle 14. Tage 2 rot u. Mehl Karten bloß es ist alles gleicher teuer. Wir

page 1

seine Tochter Lehrerin geworden?
Liebe Tante Marie lebte doch nur noch unsere liebe Mutter, wir hätten es so schön haben können, aber leider hat es nicht so sollen sein. Dodenhoff der gefallen ist, ist uns unbekannt.
Wie geht es ~~geh~~ Tante Gretchen u. Familie?
Grüße Sie alle recht herzlich von uns.

Nun liebe Tante will ich schließen, viele Grüße von uns Allen sendet Dir Deine

Nichte Else.

Hoffentlich ist der Krieg bald zu Ende.
Hiddeck, sagen wir immer das bedeutet, Hauptsache ist das die Engländer keine bekommen. Schreibe bitte bald mal wieder. Liebe Tante du wirst entschuldigen daß der Brief so unanständig aussieht, denn ich ihn wieder zurückbekommen.

page 4

haben letztes Jahr zwei Schweine geschlachtet.
Da haben wir erst eine Zeitlang was zu
essen. Wir haben auch noch fünf Schafe u.
kleine Lämmer. Sonst ist es bei uns immer
gleicher still. Ich freune mich daß es Sommer
wird, Papa arbeitet augenblicklich bei
Großmutter Ihr altes Haus. Sonntags gehen
wir oft zu Onkel Ökers, seine Haushälterin
ist auch gestorben vor etwa drei Wochen.
Sie war 30 Jahre bei ihm, ich mochte sie gerne
leiden. Er ist jetzt ganz alleine. Hermann
wird jetzt recht kräftig er spielt viel drau-
ßen. August geht noch fleißig nach dem Amt
zum Schreiben es ist ja grade nicht viel,
aber was soll er sonst machen mit seinem
Bruch. Onkel Adolf u. Tante Emmi haben
uns auch besucht, da gehen wir diesen

Sommer mal wieder hin. Großmutter
feiert im Mai Ihren 80jährigen Ge-
burtstag, Sie ist für Ihr Alter noch ganz
rüstig, schade daß Sie nicht hören
kann. Tante Reisen wo Mutter viel
mit verkehrte wohnt nun ~~bei~~ mit Ihren
beiden Töchtern in Hamburg.
Liebe Tante Marie gar zu gerne möchte
ich mal zu Euch, aber leider ist der
Weg zu weit, hoffentlich sehen wir uns
noch mal wieder. Es freut mich, daß es
Euch allerwohl geht. Wie geht es Lloyd mit
seinen Schulaufgaben, ist Er ziemlich be-
gabt, was will er werden? Hermann
soll nächstes Jahr vielleicht nach Otterndorf
auf die Schule. Ich will diesen Sommer
das Schneidern lernen. Ist Onkel Willi

Letter 50

Neuhaus a/Oste, April 29, 1915

Dear Aunt Marie (Eisele),

We thank you very kindly for your nice letter. It is still very cold here and uncomfortable, but otherwise we are doing well. At the present, Neuhaus is like a ghost town, it's terrible, all the men are at war. Three of our townsmen died already, unknown to you. The important thing is Germany's victory! It's a pity all the men who have to die.

I wanted to have some fun this summer, but it looks like there won't be any. Since school started, I have had no chance to do anything for pleasure. We can still manage with the food. Every two weeks we get bread and flour, but it is so expensive. Last year, we slaughtered two pigs and so we still have some meat. We still have five sheep and small lambs. I am glad it will soon be summer. Papa is now working on grandmother's old house. On Saturdays we often go to visit Uncle Oekers. His housekeeper died about three weeks ago, whe was with him almost 30 years. I liked her. He is now all alone. Hermann is getting strong and plays outside a lot. August still goes diligently to the office. He doesn't do much but what else can he do with his profession. Uncle Adolf and Aunt Emmi came to see us and we'll go to visit them this summer. Grandmother will celebrate her 80th birthday this May. She is doing very well for her age, except she cannot hear. Aunt Reisen, who was a good friend of mother's, lives with her two daughters in Hamburg now.

Dear Aunt Marie, I would love to go to visit you, but it's too far. I do hope we can see you some time again. I am glad to hear that you are all doing well. How is Lloyd doing with his schoolwork? Is he a good student? What does he want to become? Hermann may go next year to school in Otterndorf. I want to learn dressmaking this summer. Is Uncle Willie's daughter a teacher? My dear Aunt Marie, if only our mother was still alive, we could have had it so good. But unfortunately it was not supposed to be. Dodenhoff, who died in action, is unknown to us. How is Aunt Gretchen and her family doing? Please give them my regards. Well, my dear aunt, I will stop now with best regards from all of us here,

Your niece Else

I hope the war will end soon. We say here: Hiddeck. This means, down with the Englishmen. Please write soon.

Letter 51

Los Angeles Cal.
5ten Mai 1929

Meine liebe Gretchen u. Ella!

Dem Telegram haben wir heute morgen erhalten, das Father gestorben ist.

Es ist nur eine Woche seit ich seinen letzten Brief erhielt, hatte keine Gedanken daß Er uns so schnell verlassen mußte. O, es ist so schwer für Euch Alle ihn auf zu geben, Er war so gut zu Euch, es war Gottes wille, er wird Euch helfen und strengt geben, er ist mit uns in Spirit.

Wer nur den lieben Gott läßt wallten und hofft auf Ihn alle Zeit den wird er wunderbar erhalten in aller Noth und Traurigkeit, wer Gott den allerhöchsten traut, der hat auf keinen Sand gebaut. Ich habe so viel an Euch gedacht seit ich wider in Los Angeles bin, Ihr waret Alle so gut zu mir.

Hoffe bald mehr von Euch zu hören
Viele Grüße von Deiner Dich liebenden
Schwester und Tante

Johanne Kahrs.

Letter 51

Los Angeles, May 5, 1929

My dear Gretchen and Ella,

We received your telegram this morning, about (your) father's death. It's only one week since I received his last letter. I had no idea then that he would pass away so soon. This must be very hard for you all, he was so good to you. It was God's will. He will help you and give you strength. He is in our spirit. Those who let the Lord rule and believe in Him, will receive comfort from Him when in need or sadness.

I have been thinking about you all very much since I arrived in Los Angeles. You were always very good to me. I hope to hear more from you soon.

With best regards and love,

Your sister and aunt Johanne Kahrs

Letter 52

Neuhaus a/d Oste den 12, 10.37.

Meine liebe Tante Marie

Endlich nach langer Zeit bekommst du auch mal ein Lebenszeichen von uns wieder. Deinen Brief vom 18.5.37. habe ich erhalten. Welche Freude jedesmal wenn ich von dir Post erhalte. Es ist doch immer daß Mütterlicherseits zusammen Gehörigkeitsgefühl. Ella hat uns auch ja allerlei von Euch erzählt. Es ist doch schön wenn man sich persönlich kennen lernt. Hoffe doch, daß es Ella und Mann auch bei uns gut gefallen hat? Es war ja nur schade, daß es wieder so schlechtes Wetter war, konnte man doch nun nicht soviel Aufnahmen machen. War es nicht gut, daß wir Euer Elterhaus auch noch von drinnen gesehen haben. Ella hat es Euch ja alles erzählt.
Wie ist es nun, hast du liebe Tante Marie und Tante Gretchen nicht den Mut uns nächstes Jahr zu besuchen? Wenn ich noch mal das Geld dazu habe, werde ich Euch auch noch mal besuchen. Man muß immer in Hoffnung leben, dann hat das Leben Inhalt und ist gut.
Bei uns ist inzwischen eine kleine Veränderung eingetroffen, Herta und Thea haben ein Brüderchen bekommen. August-Georg-

Mir und dem Kleinen geht es gut. Er ist am 7 August 1937. geboren. Ich bin im Otterndorfer Krankenhause gewesen, hatte dort gute Verpflegung Liebe Tante du bist doch so gut und läßt es Tante Gretchen und Kinder wissen was ich dir geschrieben habe. Haben Sie doch jetzt noch mal soviel Interesse an unserer Familie. Wir haben Ella u. Arthurs Brief von London erhalten. die Bilder sind sehr gut geworden. Ich habe Sie gleich eingerahmt und auf den Schreibtisch gestellt. Wir danken noch für den Brief u. Bilder. Herta hat auch den Willen an Jean einen Brief zu schreiben. Sie muß noch etwas ~~bes~~ mehr English lernen oft macht sie mit dem Schreiben einen Anfang, aber immer ist es nicht gut genug. Mutti hat augenblicklich nun auch nicht so viel Zeit um mit zu helfen. Wem hat es nun von Ella u. Emma am besten in Deutschland gefallen? Hitler hält gerade eine Rede vom Nürenbergerparteitag. August, mein Mann legt noch für Doktor Stroud einige Briefmarken bei, hoffe doch daß Sie ihm gefallen. Werden nächstes Mal noch einige mehr senden. Nun will ich schließen, der kleine Augustgeorg bekommt seine Flasche es ist jetzt 9½ Uhr abends. Wenn meine Mutter ihre Augen nun mal wieder öffnete, wie schön könnte alles sein. Man darf das Leben nicht so schwer nehmen. Nun liebe Tante Marie seiest du u. Alle Angehörigen dort vielmals

Ist das Schwerpunkt für Tante Gretchen noch gut gewesen?
Vielen Dank für Euer schönen Bilder. Du u. dein Mann ihr
geht gut Zwerf aus. Schade daß man es nicht in Natur sehen kann.

gegrüßt von uns Allen, deine Nichte Else. Vergesse auch nicht wieder zu schre
Vater, August, Hermann u. Tante Marie lassen auch grüßen. Wir erzählen oft von Euch dürben.

Letter 52

Neuhaus a/d Oste, October 12, 1937

My dear Aunt Marie (Eisele),

After a long silence, you hear from us again. Thank you for your letter of May 18, 1937. It's such a joy to get mail from you. It always feels good to hear from mother's relatives. Ella has told us a lot about you all there. It's nice to know each other personally. I hope Ella and her husband also liked it here. Unfortunately, we had such bad weather while they were here and one could not take many pictures. We went to look at the inside of your parents' house, Ella certainly told you all about it. How about you Aunt Marie and Aunt Gretchen, are you going to visit us next year? When I have enough money I'd like to visit you again. One has to have hope, this makes life meaningful.

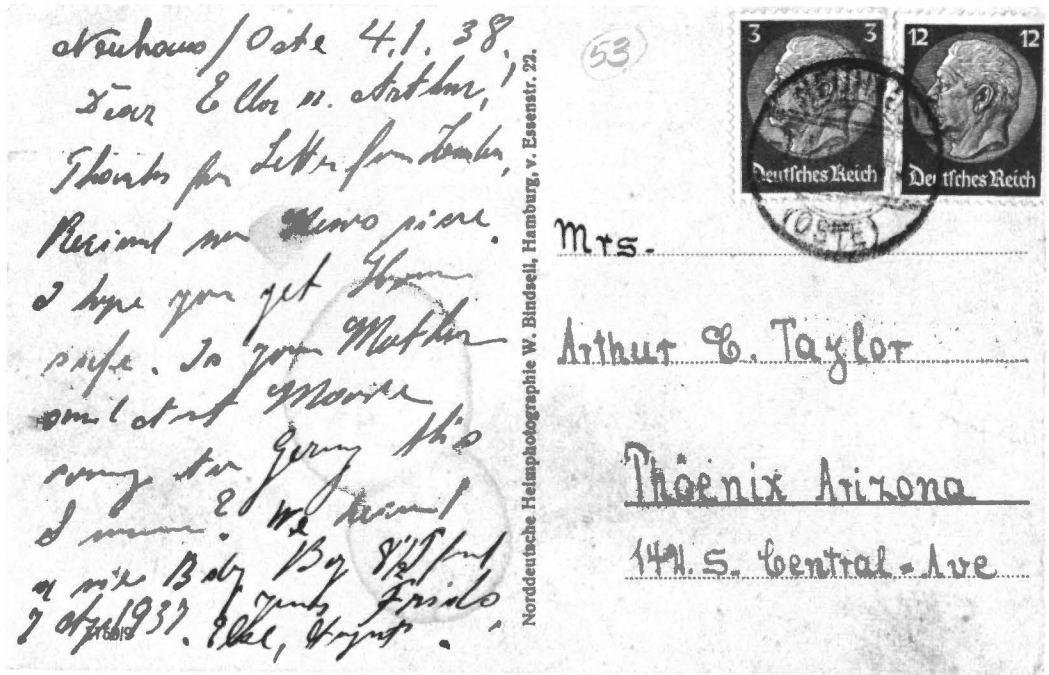
We got a little addition to our family. Herta and Thea got a brother, August-Georg, and the little fellow is doing very well and so am I. He was born on August 7th, 1937. I was in the Otterndorf hospital and I got very good care there.

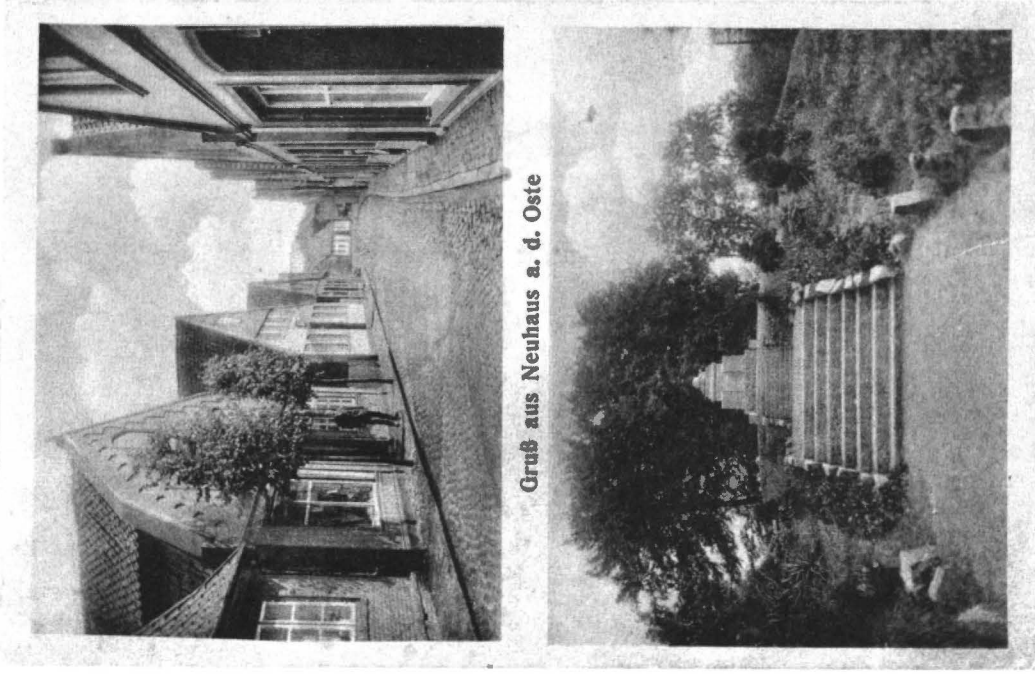
Dear Aunt Marie, I'm sure you will tell Aunt Gretchen and her children everything I write to you, won't you? They still seem interested in our family. We received Ella and Arthur's letter from London and the pictures were very good. I framed them right away and put them on the desk. Thank you again for the letter and the pictures. Herta wants to write a letter to Jean but she has to learn some more English. She started several times but then thinks it is not good enough and Mama does not have much time to help her.

Who liked it better in Germany, Ella or Emma? Hitler is just giving a speech in Nuerenberg. August, my husband, is enclosing some stamps for Dr. Stroud. I hope he'll like them. Next time, we'll send some more. I have to go now to feed little August-Georg his bottle, it's 9:30 PM. If my mother were still alive, everything would be so beautiful. But one must not take life so hard. Please give all our love and sincere greetings to everybody.

Your niece Else

Write again, and Father also sends his greetings. So does August and Hermann, and Aunt Marie he often talks about you. How did Aunt Gretchen receive the dark bread, was it still good? Thank you for the pictures, you and your husband look good.





Letter 53

POSTCARD from Else Diekmann to Ella & Arthur Taylor
January, 1938

Letter 54

Neuhaus a/d Oste den 23. 11. 38.

Liebe Tante Marie!

Deinen lieben so lang ersehnten Brief mit bestem Dank erhalten. Es tut uns furchtbar leid, daß Ella Ihren Mann auf so tragische Weise so früh verlieren mußte. Mein Mann August u. ich mochten ihn gerne leiden. Wir wünschen Ella noch Innige Teilnahme. Unser kleiner Sohn August-Georg ist nun schon 14 Monate Alt. Er läuft schon. Er wird von allen Angehörigen verhätschelt. Ich bin nun auch schon 42 Jahre Alt. Wir würden uns sehr freuen, wenn du liebe Tante noch mal nach Deutschland kommen würdest. Platz haben wir für dich kannst hier gerne auf längere Zeit bleiben. Von Lloyd und Familie hätte ich auch gerne mal ein Bild. Hat Lloyd

Hat dann doch die Schwester Dora Cahl (geb. Wendorf) eine große Stütze an Sie. Mimi Claßen ist eine nette Frau. Sie besuchte von Heins ja viel. Wir haben augenblicklich sehr stürmische Witterung uns geht oft das Licht aus. Schade, es müßte immer Sommer bleiben. Bestelle liebe Tante Marie einen schönen Gruß an Tante Gretchen, hat sie das Schwarzbrot eigentlich bekommen? Hat es Ihr noch geschmeckt? Es war doch ein Brot aus der Heimat. Herta lernt noch fleißig Englisch, ich muß immer Vokabeln abhören. Sie wird auch noch etwas schreiben. Nun hoffe ich, liebe Tante, daß Ihr Alle gesund u. munter seid, wenn du diesen Brief erhälst und recht bald mal wieder etwas von Euch hören läßt. Bis dahin verbleibe ich mit den besten Grüßen für Euch Alle, deine Nichte Else. August und Kinder.

ein Geschäft, oder was betreibt er sonst?
Mein Bruder August ist augenblicklich
in Meersburg am Bodensee. Er muß
dort einen Kursus mitmachen. Er mußte
Tag u. Nacht mit der Bahn fahren, be-
vor er dort anlangte. August ist noch
nie so lange vom Hause fort gewesen.
Der Kursus dauert 1/4. Jahr. Zu Weih-
nachten kommt er wieder nach Hause.
Unser lieber Vater wird im den 11ten
Februar 82 Jahre Alt. Er ist noch ziemlich
rüstig. Hermann hat sich im August
verlobt. Seine Braut stammt aus
Cuxhaven, Tante Marie Dodegge geht es
gesundheitlich gut. Sie freuen sich alle
mit mir, wenn du geschrieben hast u
lassen vielmals wieder grüßen

Ende September bin ich mit meinem
Mann nach Hamburg gewesen. Wir haben
bei dieser Gelegenheit Hedwig auch mal
aufgesucht und kennen gelernt. Leider
war Ihre Mutter, Tante Bertha, im August
verstorben. Hedwig war von einer Er-
holungsreise zurückgekehrt. Ich habe
sonst nicht viel erfahren, ich war nur
auf einen Augenblick dort und dann
ist man sich auch noch zu fremd. Werde,
wenn ich nächstes Jahr nach Hamburg
komme, sie noch mal wiederbesuchen.
Mimi Claßen war in letzter Zeit auch
mehrere Male bei uns im Geschäft. Sie
weilt bei Ihrer Schwester in Neuhaus,
der Ihr Mann ist oft schwer krank.

Letter 54

Neuhaus, November 23, 1938

Dear Aunt Marie (Eisele),

We have received your long expected letter with great joy. We are very sorry about the tragic loss of Ella's husband. My husband and I liked him very much. Please give our deepest sympathy to Ella. It's sad that she lost her husband so early.

Our little son August-Georg is now 14 months old. He is running about now and all the relatives are spoiling him. I am 42 years old now and I do hope you'll come and visit us in Germany again. We would be very happy if you would. We have enough room for you, you could stay as long as you wish.

I would also like to receive a picture of Lloyd and his family. Has he got a store or what exactly is he doing? My brother August is presently in Meersburg on Bodensee (lake), he is attending a course there. He had to travel day and night to get there. It's the first time he has been so far away from home, the course will last one quarter of the year. He'll be back for Christmas. Our dear father will be 82 next February. He is still doing pretty well. Hermann got engaged last August. His fiancee comes from Cuxhaven. Aunt Marie Dodegge is in good health. They are all so glad to hear from you. Last September my husband and I went to Hamburg and on this occasion we looked up Hedwig and got to know her. Unfortunately her mother, Bertha, passed away last August. Hedwig had just returned from a small vacation which she took to recover from her grief. I did not find out much more, since I only stayed a moment and we were still strangers. If I go back to hamburg next year, I'll look her up again.

Mini Classen came to our store several times lately. She is staying with her sister in Neuhaus, her husband is often very ill. Her sister, Dora Cuhl (born Wendorf) has a great support in her sister. Mini is a very nice person. We are having a storm right now, the lights are often going out. What a pity that we cannot have constant summer.

Please give my best regards to Aunt Gretchen. Did she receive the dark bread? And did she like it? It was bread from her home country. Herta is still learning English, I have to listen to her vocabulary drills. She is also going to write some. I hope dear aunt that you are all very healthy and cheerful, and please write again.

Until then, with best regards to all of you,

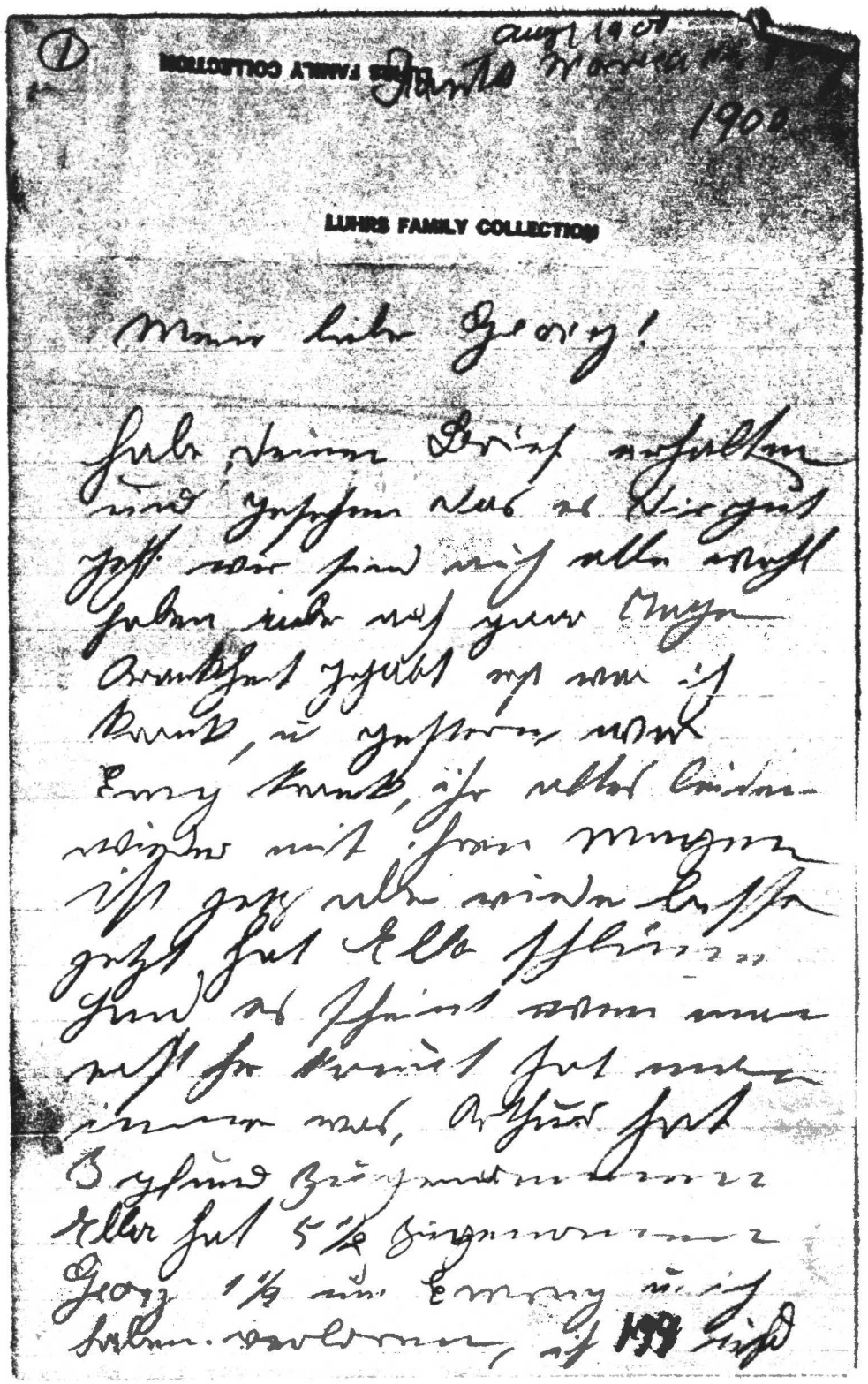
Your niece Else, August and children

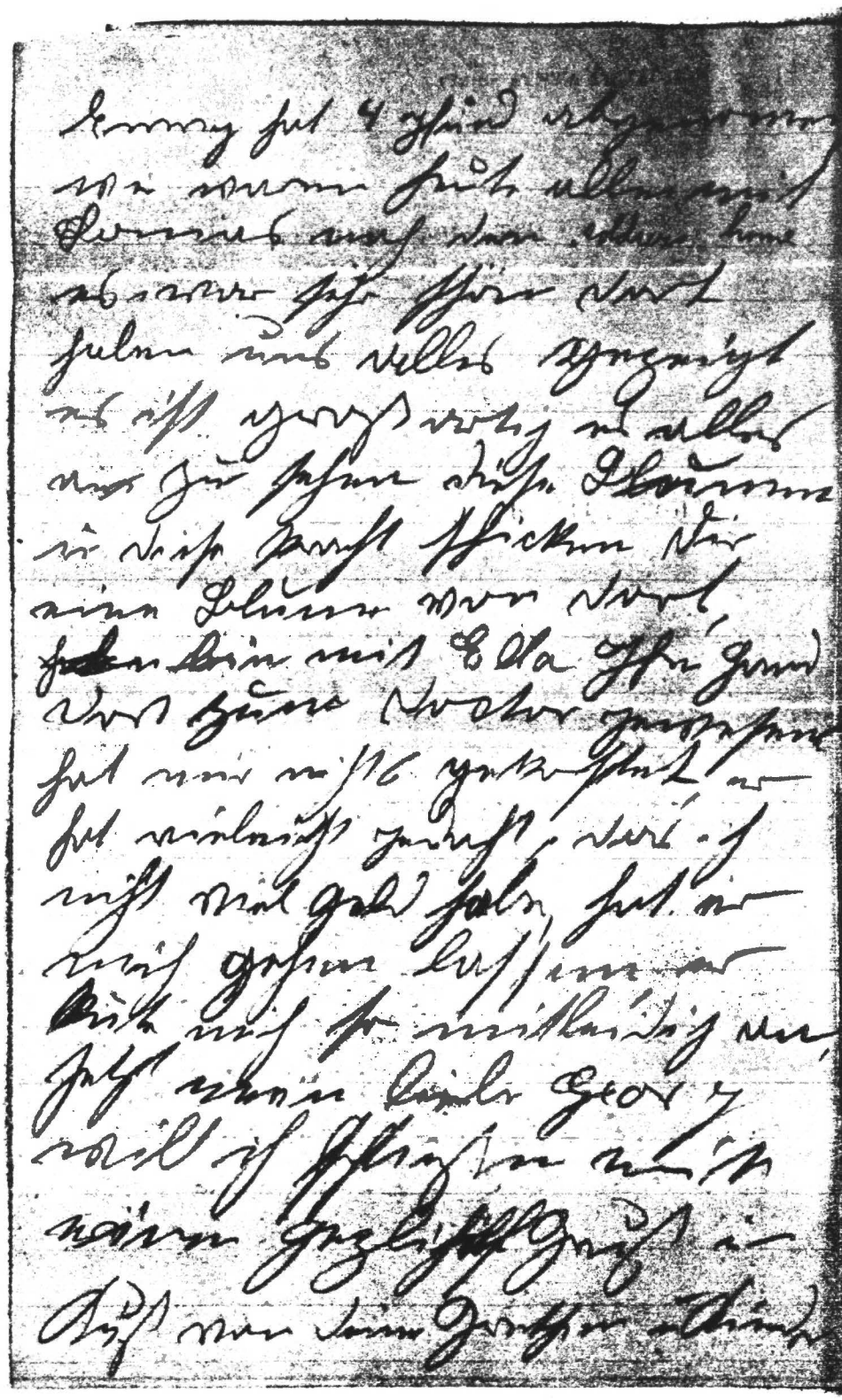
Letters from Catharina Margarita "Gretchen,"
to her husband, Geo H.N. Luhrs

August 1, 1900, through September 29, 1920.

Letters were written at the "Coast " (Los Angeles beaches and San Diego), at Stanford University, California, and at Gleeson, Arizona, where Emma and her husband, Reg Stroud, MD, were living.

Letter 1





Letter 1

August 1, 1900
Santa Monica

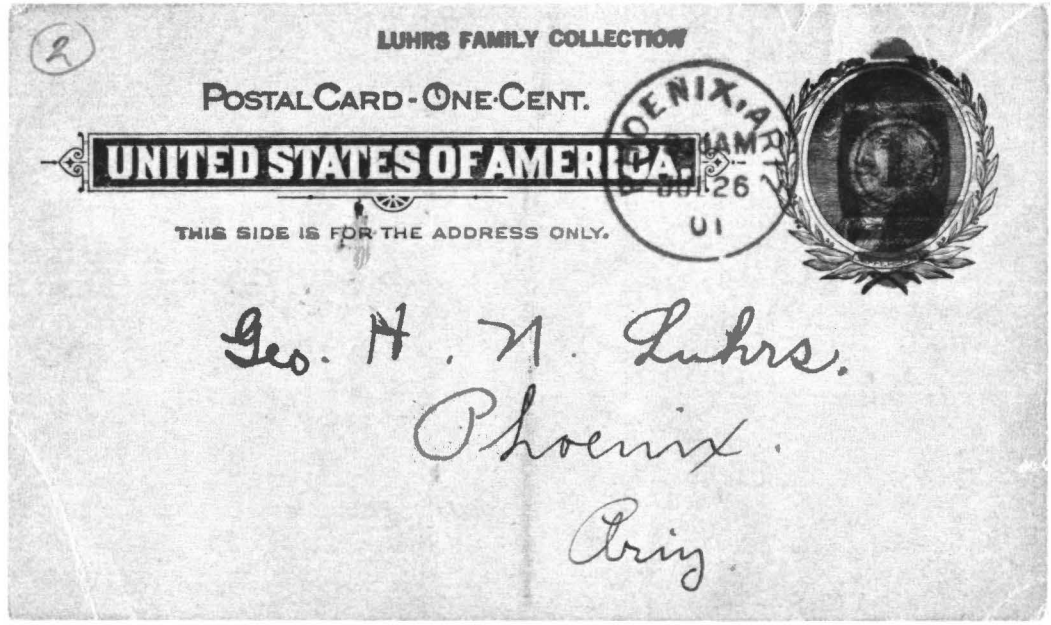
My dear George,

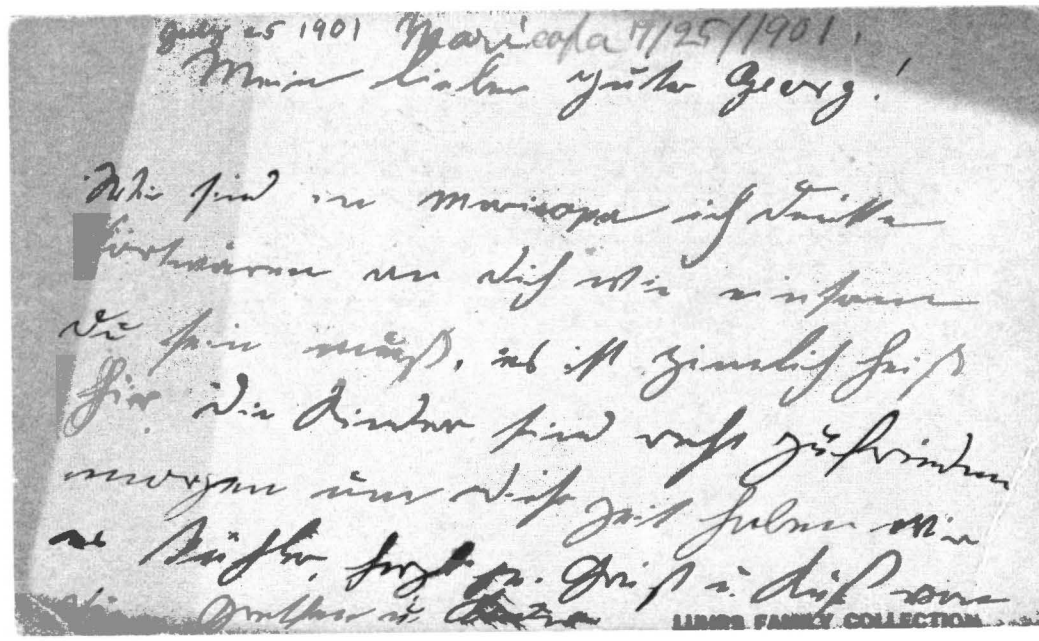
I received your letter and see that you are all right. We are still homesick and have had a few days of sickness. First I was sick and yesterday Emma was sick, her old trouble with her stomach, but it is better now. Now Ella has a bad hand. It seems like if you get something then there is always something else. Arthur gained 3 pounds, Ella gained 5 1/2 pounds, Georgie gained 1 1/2. Emma and I lost weight. I weigh 139 and Emy lost 4 pounds today.

We were all close to the old Wise home with Bonillas, it was very pretty there. It is spectacular to see all these flowers in their beauty. I sent you one of the flowers from there. I took Ella to a doctor there about her hand, it didn't cost me anything. Maybe he thought I didn't have any money, so he let me go. He looked at me so sorrowfully.

Now my dear Georg, I close with a very dear greeting and a kiss from your Gretchen and children.

Letter 2





Maricopa, July 25, 1901

My dear Georg,

We are in Maricopa. I think how lonely you must be, it is pretty hot here. The children are content. Tomorrow, at this time it should be cooler.

Greetings and kisses from
your Gretchen and children

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

July 28 1901

Rooms for Housekeeping. Rates Reasonable.

Letter 3

The Atlanta.

J. M. Orr, Proprietor

Santa Monica, Cal., den 28 Julie 1901

Mein lieber Georg!

Wollte dir gestern schreiben
war aber den ganzen Tag unter
wegs um ein Haus zu finden
aber habe noch nichts, die sind alle
so schmutzig u. die feineren
sind so theuer, ich habe 2 in
Aussicht, die werden aber nicht ler-
bis Donnerstag, ich denke bleibe
so lange hier im Hotel, es kostet
mir 5 Dollar die Woche ich kann
unser Essen hier kochen. Walheimer
waren sehr überrascht haben sich
sehr gefreut waren 2 mal zum
Essen Dort auf Lucke sind
recht aufmerksam das Haus
das ich zum Essen bekommen
kann ist dicht bei Luckes, es ist

Ich bringe u. küsse Dich deine liebende Gretchen.

Letter 3

July 28, 1901

Rooms for housekeeping Rates Reasonable

THE ATLANTA
J.M. Orr, Proprietor
Santa Monica, Cal.

My Dear Georg,

Wanted to write to you yesterday, but I was busy all day trying to find a house. We haven't found anything, they are all dirty and the fine ones are so expensive. I have two prospects, they will be empty on Thursday.

I think I will stay in the hotel until then, it costs me 5 dollars per week, if we cook our food here ourselves. We are really surprised and happy that there are two times for dinner. The Lukes are very attentive. The house that I'm going to get at the 1st (of the month) is close to the Lukes'.

It is very cold here, we are almost freezing; I wish you could have some of it you poor boy. You must be sweating so much there, I wish you could be here with us. We miss you so much. Do you think you are now (illegible)...that you may be (illegible)...We are all homesick for you. Marguerita Kahrs (Timm) and her husband were at the railway station in Los Angeles. They want to come to Santa Monica on Sunday.

The trip from Phoenix to Los Angeles was very hot and dusty, Arthur and I had to get out 3 times and clean our bed, it was full of dust.

My dear Georg, I must close. I have to go to look for a house again, it is hard to do, I have had enough of it. The one house I might get lies to the back and costs 25 dollars a month. The other lies to the front and costs 50 dollars a month and is half as long as we have here.

Greetings and kisses,

Your loving Gretchen

Letter 4

Rooms for Housekeeping. Rates Reasonable.

The Atlanta.

J. M. Orr, Proprietor

Santa Monica, Cal., den 30 July 1901
July 30 1901

Mein lieber Georg!

Wie geht es dir ist es noch
so heiß. Arthur hat deinen
Brief den du auf den Tyrreiten
geschrieben hast erhalten, ich denke
hast es recht gut gemacht, du
kannst dich eigentlich alles bis gereicht
so dum wie geht es den Vogel
singt er noch so schön, wir sind
noch im Hotel müssen noch bis
Donnerstag hier bleiben, können
dann ein Haus bekommen
es kostet uns aber 35 Dollar
den Monat, das das 2te Monat
30 also kommt die Miethe
mit dem im Hotel hier auf
55 Dollar für die Zeit das ich hier

Local Check
Duplicate
Santa Monica
73048, D

Letter 4

July 30, 1901

My Dear Georg,

How are you? Is it still so hot? Arthur received the letter you wrote with the typewriter. I think that you did it well. You can do almost anything, you are not so dumb after all.

How is the bird? Is it still singing as nicely? We are still in the hotel, we have to stay until Thursday, then we can get a house. But it costs us 35 dollars for the first month and then 30 dollars a month. So the rent with the hotel will be 55 dollars. For the amount of time I was here, that is very expensive. But what can one do. I can't live that badly.

A man drowned today, right next to the Frank Luke house. Ella saw it. She was the first to tell the people. It made me feel really badly.

Greetings to Willie and Johanna and John. How is he? Does he do everything well? Now, good night dear Georg, I want to go to bed. The children are all asleep, I wish I could be with you.

Greetings and kisses,

Your Gretchen

Sleep well, good night.

Letter 5

5 Rates for Housekeeping. LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION Rates Reasonable.

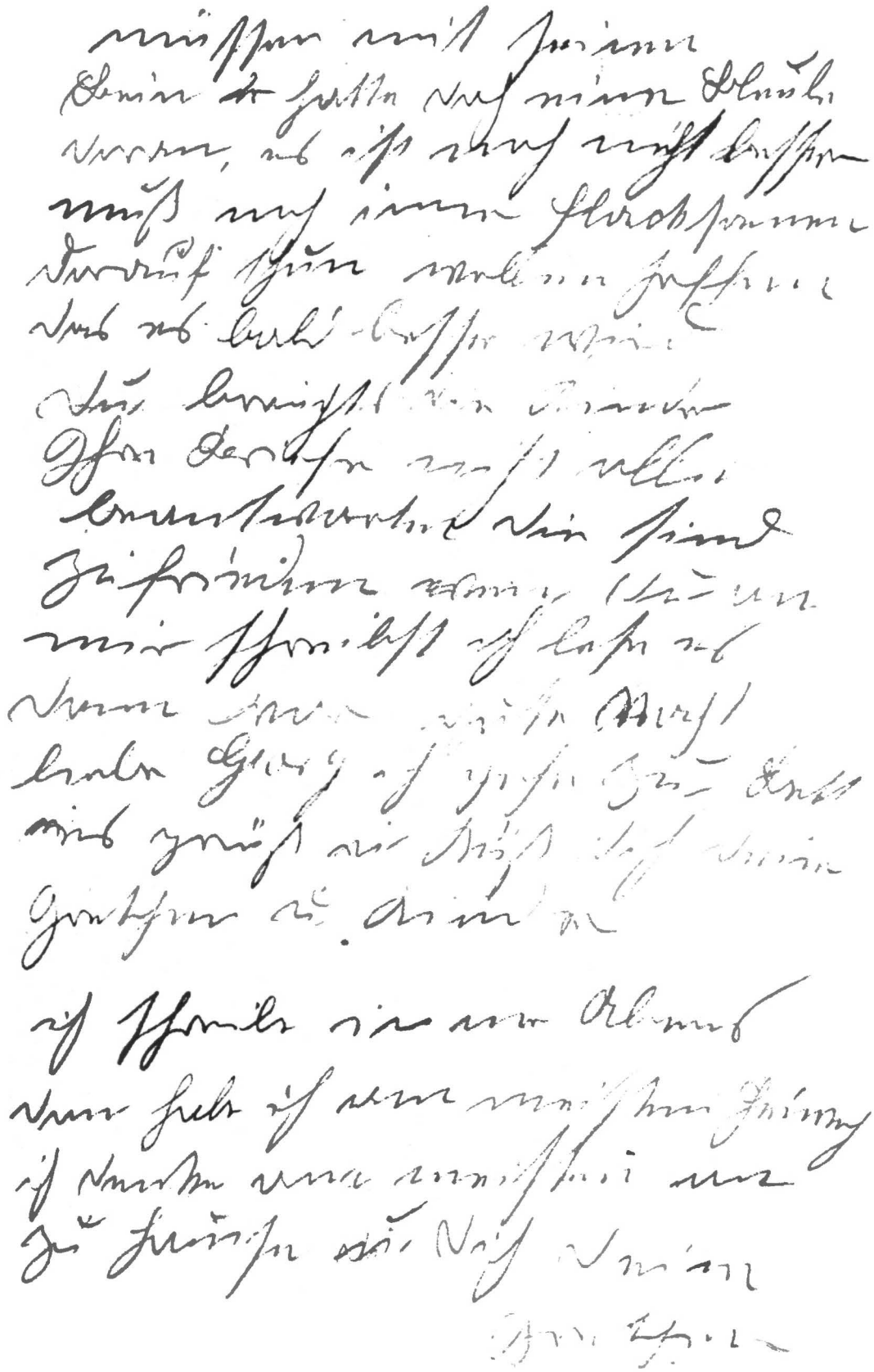
The Atlanta.

J. M. Orr, Proprietor

Santa Monica, Cal., Aug 1 1901

Meine liebe Georg!

habe deinen lieben Brief
heute morgen erhalten
ich freue mich das es Dir
hat geht. ich habe noch etwas
heimweh gegen Abend ist es schlimm
den am Tage, denke aber es
soll bald besser werden, ~~morgen~~
den 1 Zeichen wie in unser
Haus an der Beach, ich bin
froh das ich nicht dort war wie
das Gewitter war, wie schmeckt
Dir das Essen bei den Chinesen
geht es um 3 ich wünsche die
Zeit wäre, erst mal um das
wir wieder kommen können
es ist noch so lange hin der
kleine Geo hat noch recht aus halten



müssen mit seinen
Beinen hatte doch eine Beule
daran, es ist noch nicht besser
muß noch immer Flachsamen
darauf thun wollen hoffen
das es bald besser wird
Du brauchst die Kinder
Ihre Briefe nicht alle
beantworten die sind
zufrieden wenn Du an
mir schreibst ich lese es
dann [illegible] Nacht
liebe Georg ich gehe zu Bett
und grüß u. küß dich deine
Gretchen u. Kinder

ich schreibe in mein Abend
dann habe ich am meisten Heimweh
ich denke am meisten an
zu Hause u. dich deine
Gretchen

Letter 5

August 1, 1901

My Dear Georg,

I received your dear letter this morning. I am glad that you are all right. I am still homesick, at night it is worse than during the day. I think it will get better soon. Tomorrow, the 1st, we move into our house at the beach. I am glad I wasn't there during the thunderstorm.

How do you like the food at the Chinaman's. Is it good? I wish the time would pass so that we could come back, but it is still such a long time. Little Geo has to hold on to us, his leg still has a boil. It is not better yet. I still have to put flaxseed on it. We hope it is better soon. You don't have to answer all of the letters from the children, they are satisfied if you write to me. I read to them at night.

Dear Georg, I am going to bed now.

Your Gretchen

Letter 6

August 4th 1901

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Letter 6

August 4, 1901

My Dear Georg,

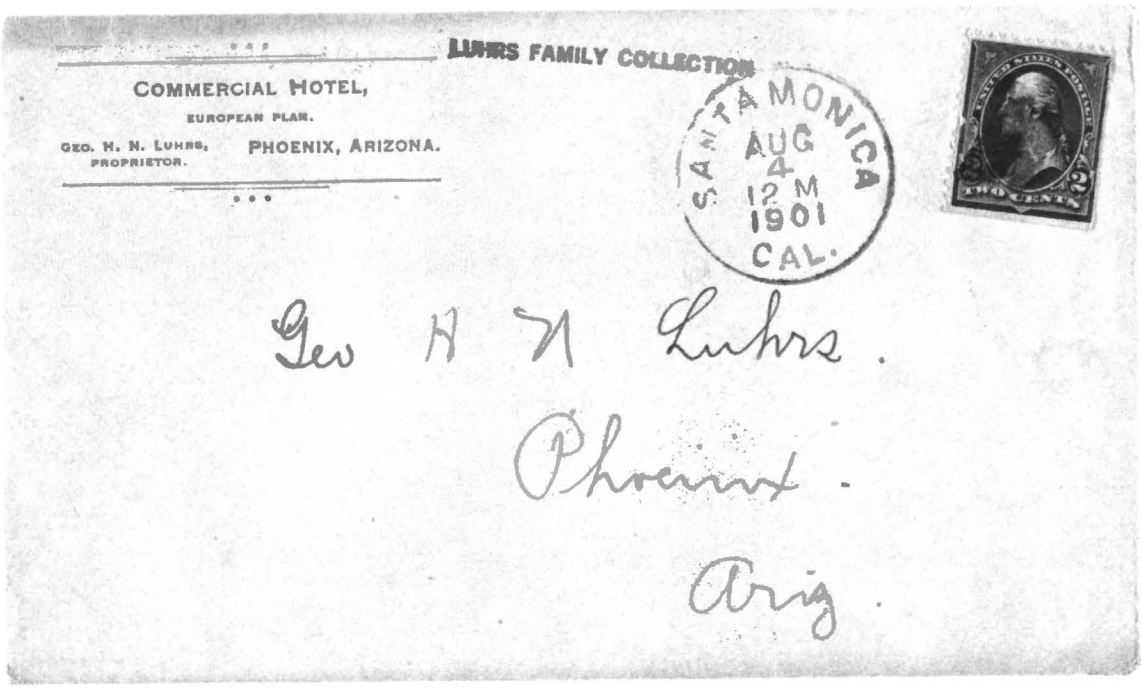
I received your dear letter and the bedsheets. I thank you so very much. They came at the right time. We picked them up at the railway station on Thursday. You did it just right.

The Meltzers were here yesterday, they went back to Los Angeles. They haven't decided what they want.

Georgie's leg is not better yet, he has a little fever. I wish it would get better, he can't go swimming, you can tell Doctor Hughes. I am still putting flaxseed on it. There are many little...(illegible) coming down from the big... (illegible).

Greetings to Willie, I will close now. I hope that you are fine and that business is going well.

Greetings from your loving Gretchen and children.



Letter 7

Santa Monica d. 7, 1901

Mein lieber Georg!

Habe Deinen lieben Brief gestern erhalten, ich denke Du thust sehr gut mit deinem Seigreiter ich freue mich immer wenn ich etwas von dir höre ich wünsche Du könntest auf 2 Wochen kommen, würden die Kinder sich aber freuen vielleicht überrascht Du uns noch, ich bin nichts schuldig im Rosten Store lasse dir die Bill geben und rauf schreiben wofür es ist ich habe noch ein paar Tage bevor ich fort ging

gefragt ob ich etwas schuldig sei dem sagte mir Moor nein, so gehe hin u frage für was, das andere in New York ist recht auch bei Stein ist recht, wie geht das Geschäft müssen dieses Jahr viele Miethe bezahlen 35 Dollar diesen Monat, habe aber gutes Haus, komme gerade aus dem Bade es war schön

Herzlichen Gruß u. Kuß

von Deinen

Gretchen

wann war ich letzten Monat krank?

Letter 7

Santa Monica, August 7, 1901

My Dear Georg,

I received your dear letter yesterday. I think you are doing fine with your typewriter. I am always glad when I hear from you. I wish you could come for 2 weeks, the children would be very happy. Maybe you are going to surprise us.

I don't owe anything to the Boston Store, they should give you the bill, tell them to write down what it is for. A few days before I left, I asked if I had to pay anything and they told me no. So go there and ask them what it is for. Everything is paid at the New York Store, also at Stein's.

How is the business? We have to pay a lot of rent! Thirty five dollars this month, but we have a good house. I just came out of the bath tub, it was nice.

Dear Greetings and kisses,

Your Gretchen

P.S. When was I sick last month?

Letter 8

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Santa Monica den 15 Aug.

Mein lieber Georg!

Habe deinen lieben Brief erhalten
auch die Bill von den Boston Store,
das ist nicht recht. Dafür hat
die Hose im New York Store
gekauft und dafür bezahlt, er brachte
eine zu Hose von Boston Store zu
Hause, die gaßte ihn aber nicht
so hat er sie zurück gebracht
er hat sie einen Mexicaner
gegeben der da im Store arbeitet
sie können ihn ja fragen, das Hemd
hat er gleich bezahlt, wie ich sah

das er ihn gaffen thät, sagte
ich, jetzt gehe hin u. bezahle
gleich, die Spitzen sind auch
bezahlt Ella hat es geholt habe
ihr 15 cent gleich mit gegeben
aber was ich Schuldig bin
ist die Weste 1,50 ℳ das
hatte ich vergessen, so bezahle
das, ich denke ich kaufe niemals
aus dem Store wieder, die machen
immer einen irrthum, du gehst
hin und lasse dir das geld
zurück geben, oder ich kann
niemals wieder, lieber Georg
du hast Ellas Geburtstag vergessen
hast Ihr nicht gratuliert es hat ihr
sehr weh gethan, uns geht es alle
gut Geo. sein Bein wird auch
besser Doctor H. ist gut, die Salbe hat
ihn gleich geholfen.

Viele herzliche Grüße u. Küsse von
Deine Gattin, wie geht es mit
den Maschinen, in Zahn gleich
Mille u. gesamte Bahn.

(8)

Letter 8

Santa Monica, August 15, 1901

My dear Georg,

I received your dear letter, also the bill from the Boston Store, which is not right. Arthur bought the pants in the New York Store and paid for it. He brought one pair of pants from the Boston Store, they didn't fit him so he took them back. He gave it to a Mexican who works there. They can ask him. He paid for the shirt right away, after I saw that it fit him I told him to go the store right away and pay for it. The lace was paid for too, Ella picked it up. I gave her 15 cents but I still have to pay the $1.50 for the vest, I forgot about that, so pay for it. I don't think I will buy anything in that store anymore. They always make mistakes. You must go there and get the money back they owe you, or I will never go back.

Dear Georg, you forgot Ella's birthday and didn't congratulate her. It hurt her very much. We are all right. Geo's leg is getting better. Doctor G.L. is good, the medicine helped him right away.

Many greetings and kisses from your Gretchen.
P.S. How is everything going with the machines in...(illegible)?
Greetings to Willie and Johanna Kahrs.

Aug 19 1901

Santa Monica den 19 Aug 1901

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 9

Mein lieber Georg!

Habe deinen lieben Brief erhalten u. habe gesehen das es dir gut geht nur das die Geschäfte so schlecht gehen thut mir leid, hoffentlich wird es bald besser uns geht es jetzt recht gut wir haben kein Heimweh mehr ich habe 1½ Pfund zugenommen auch Emma hat 3 Pfund u. Ella auch 3 Pfund Arthur 2 Pfund nur Georgie hat 2 Pfund verloren, sein Bein hat so lange genommen bis es besser wurde es ist noch

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

SANTA MONICA AUG 19 12 M 1901 CAL.



Geo. H. N. Luhrs,
Phoenix,
Ariz,

Letter 9

Santa Monica, August 19, 1901

My Dear Georg,

Received your dear letter and see that you are all right. I am sorry that the business is not going yet. I hope that it changes soon. We are all right, we are not homesick anymore. I gained 1 1/2 pounds, Emma 3 pounds, Ella 3 pounds, Arthur 2 pounds, only Georgie lost 2 pounds. His leg took so long to get better. It is not the best yet, but it is better. He wasn't swimming much until now. I am afraid that the water makes it worse.

Tell the laundry man that he has to starch whatever needs to be starched. He knows it, I didn't tell him not to do it. I doesn't matter if he washed the curtains, he has to cover them good so they don't get dusty.

I got 25 dollars from Mrs. Thalheimer. She said I can pay it back in the winter. Ella was very happy about the 2 dollars.

Many dear greetings and kisses

Your loving Gretchen

Letter 10

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Santa Monica den 22 Aug 1901

Meine liebe Gute Georg!

Habe deinen Brief mit dem Scheck gestern erhalten und danke dir herzlich, warum hast du mir aber so viel geschickt, 50 wären genug gewesen, ich will Mr Thalheimer die 25 Dollar gleich zurück bezahlen ich hatte erst 5 Dollar von Ihr gebraucht, also habe ich jetzt noch 95 Dollar, da soll ich doch jedenfalls mit fertig werden, was ich nicht gebrauche bringe ich wieder mit, ich war krank am 10 Aug. ich quälte mich schon wieder ab, aber es war unnützt es kann

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

wir erhalten Zeitungen jeden Tag nur kommen sie sehr unregelmäßig, das kommt aber wohl von dem Wachsamt. Auf Georgie freut sich sehr zu die Bunten Zeitungen er frägt stets ob eine für ich darein ist, Arthur ist in der Küche und backt Pfannkuchen die Essen wir fast jeden Morgen die schlagen mehr an, den Eier, es ist noch nicht 7 Uhr Morgens und ich sitze hier und schreibe an dich Aug u. Georgie schlafen noch Ella ist am Strand u. sucht Muscheln, es ist ein schöner Morgen, so klatt und angenehm ich habe meine dicke Jacke an und bin noch beinahe kalt, wir decken uns jeder Nacht mit 2 Quilt. zu, nur eins fehlt mir und das bist du, aber die Zeit wird bald vorüber sein. wir haben eine gute Zeit

Aug 22 1901

722

Letter 10

Santa Monica, August 22, 1901

My Dear Georg,

I received your letter with the check yesterday. Why did you send so much? 50 dollars would have been enough. I want to give Mrs. Thalheimer the 25 dollars back right now. I spent only 5 dollars, so I have 95 dollars. That is enough for sure. What I don't spend I will bring back. I was sick on the 10th of August. I... (illegible).

We receive newspapers every day, only they don't come regularly. That's probably because...(illegible). Also Georgie is glad about the newspapers, he asks if there is one for him.

Arthur is in the kitchen and fixing pancakes, we eat them every morning and they have put some weight on us.

It is not 7:00 AM yet and I sit here and write to you. Emy and Georgie are still asleep. Ella is at the beach, looking for shells. It is not a nice morning, so cool and unpleasant. I wear my thick sweater and I am still cool. We cover ourselves. with 2 quilts every night. I only miss one and that is you, but the time will be over soon. We've had a good time and we are all healthy. Geo's leg is better, it took four weeks. I've had enough of that.

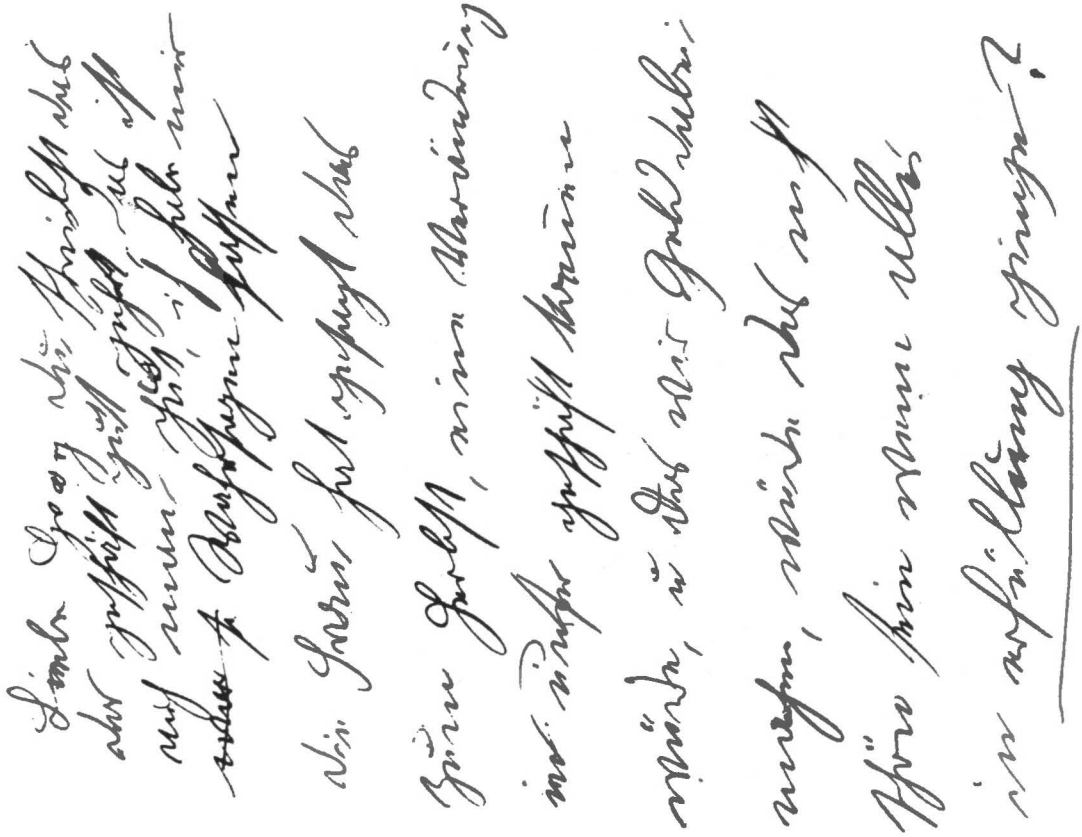
Dear Greetings and Kisses from all

Your loving Gretchen

P.S. How is your hand? Does it still hurt?

Santa Monica
Aug. 28. 1901.

Mein liebe Georgy!



Letter 11

Santa Monica, August 28, 1901

My Dear Georg,

I washed (laundry) this morning. I feel fine, we want to go swimming right away and then go to eat. The food tastes very good here. Marguerite Timm is still here, she stays until Thursday. Tell Johanna (Kahrs) hi from her. Yesterday, Mr. Eisele sent Ella 5 dollars and 4 candy bars and 4...(illegible). It came very late. Maybe he forgot it; I mean Ella's birthday. He is very nice, Ella was very happy.

Dear Georg, you wrote me that business is going good. That is very fine. I went to a palm reader. The woman said there is a change in the business in Fall and that we will get more money. Wouldn't that be nice, if everything came true? The children are fishing, they are having a terrific time. Yesterday evening they all went bowling, Georgie too. They were so proud that it was the first time that the girls won.

How is your hand? Is it still hurting?

Many Dear Greetings and Kisses!

Your Gretchen

P.S. Greetings to Willie and John

Letter 12

Sept 4 1901

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Santa Monica
den 4 Sept 1901

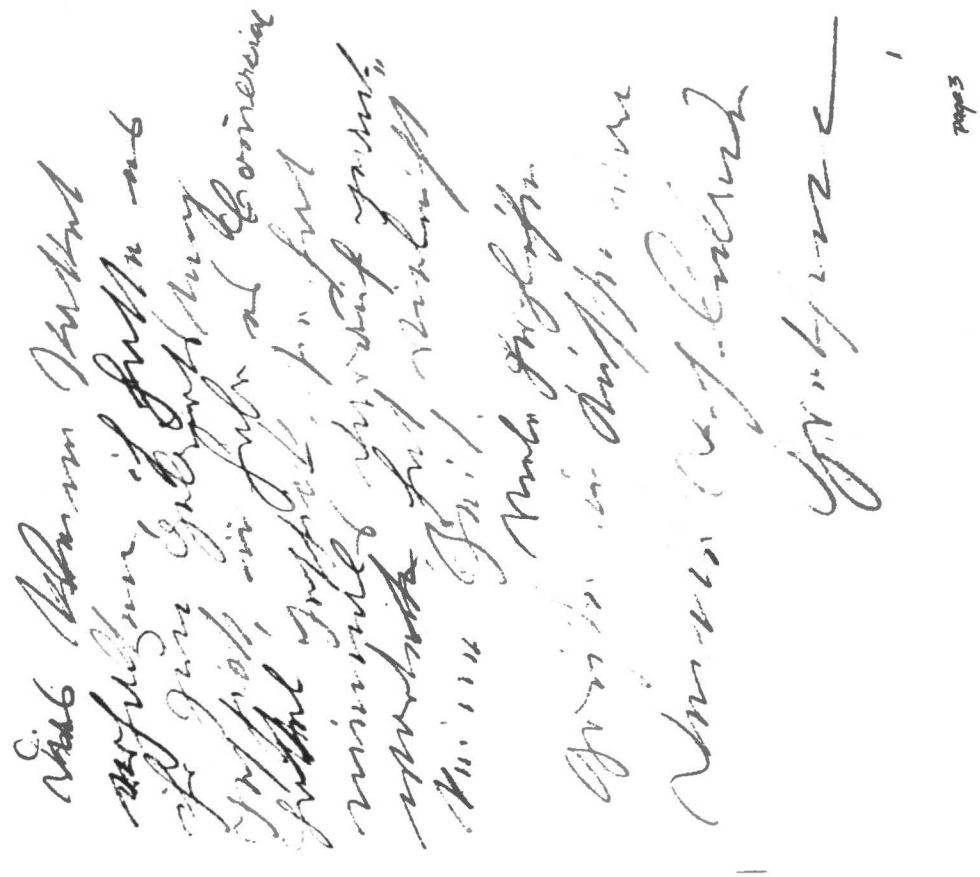
Mein liebe Georg!

Es ist 6 Uhr morgens u. ich
sitze hier mit alle Kinder
am Wasser u. Fische, es macht
die Kinder so viel Spaß haben
schon 6 Fische gefangen in
1/4 Stunde Georgie klagt seine
Hände für vergnügen, wenn
uns an seine Beine beißt.
Morgen Dienstag um 8 Tage den
12 Sept gehen wir nach Los
Angeles. Arthur hat großen
großen Fisch gefangen
sollt ihn mal sehen

page 1

er lacht über's ganze
Gesicht, ich freue mich sehr
daß du nach Mexicaya
kommst, wenn wir kommen
die Zeit wird jetzt
gehen daß wir zu Hause
gehen da werden
[illegible]
es ist gut daß deine
Hand etwas besser wird
wollen hoffen daß es
ganz besser wird bald.
Georgie [illegible] ist ganz
besser habe auf 5 Wochen
[illegible] damit gehabt, ich denke
ich muß schließen die Kinder
sprechen so viel daß ich
immer aufhalten muß
wie gefallen dir die
Bilder die Arthur dir gestellt
hat? hat Anni Weinbaum

page 2



Letter 12

Santa Monica, September 4, 1901

My Dear Georg,

It is 6:00 AM nad I'm sitting here at the beach with the children, we are fishing. The children are having so much fun. We caught 6 fish already in 15 minutes. Georgie claps his hands and laughs when they bite his legs.

Next morning.

In eight days, September 12, we are going to Los Angeles. Arthur just caught a big fish, you should see him. I'm glad that you can come to Maricopa when we come. The time is going so fast, so we will be home soon. Georgie's leg is better, we had five weeks with it. It is good that your hand is a little better, we hope it is all well soon.

I think I must close, the children take so much time that I have to stop often. How do you like the picture that Arthur sent you? Did Anni Winburn receive the little present? I sent it for her birthday, I sent it commercial, she never answered, maybe she doesn't have time.

Many Dear Greetings and Kisses

From Your Loving Gretchen

Phoenix Ariz
Sept. 7, 1901.

Dear Mr. Pazai—

It would not be just [illegible]
[illegible] I have not had time
[illegible] I have not had time
[illegible] I have not had time

Letter 13

September 7, 1901

My dear Georg,

This will be the last letter that I write you because I have a lot to do before we go. The children can write once more. I think if you order the meat (Bar-B-Q Roast) for Sunday, he can give us a good piece for about 25 or 30 cents, and then buy eggs and coffee and butter and bread. Then we can finish on Sunday. You can buy some fruits too and flour and sugar. Then I can make pancakes and rice. I think that is all. I am glad to be going back home. I hope there are no more thunderstorms. Tell John to put up the cots on the porch. I think we can still sleep outside.

Yesterday, we received the picture of Marie with her baby, it's very nice.

We are all very sorry that the President was shot. Geo was very excited all day about it. we know it here on the same day he was shot. It is better if you don't send anymore newspapers or letters here to Los Angeles, we leave here Thursday at 3:00 PM so we can get to the post office. So if you send us something, we can receive it there.

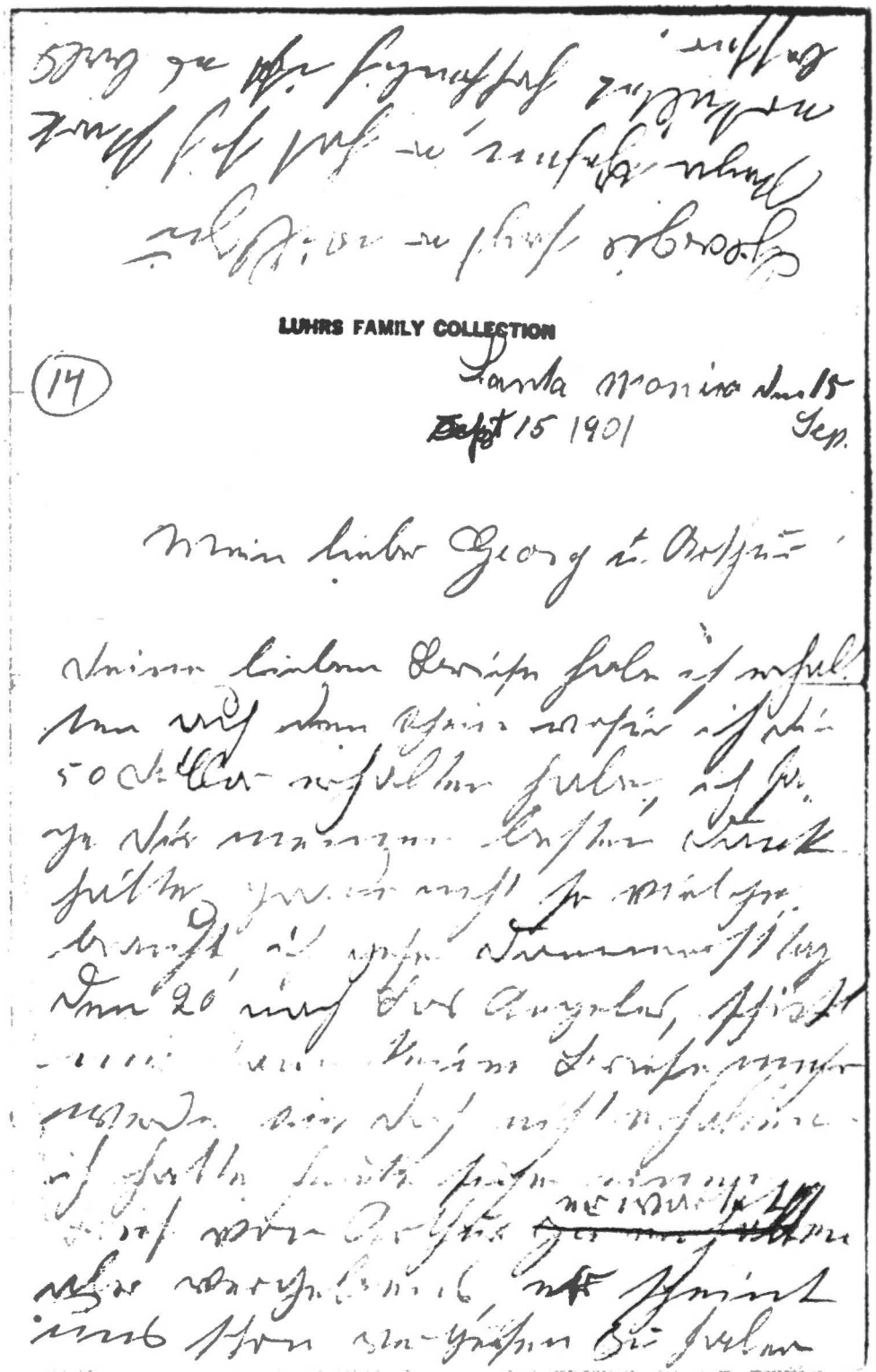
With the Best Greetings and Kisses

from your Gretchen

P.S. Buy potatoes and a can of peas...(illegible)

Letter 14

Georgie sagt er nicht für
Deine Zeilen, er hat sich stark
erkältet hoffentlich ist er bald
besser.



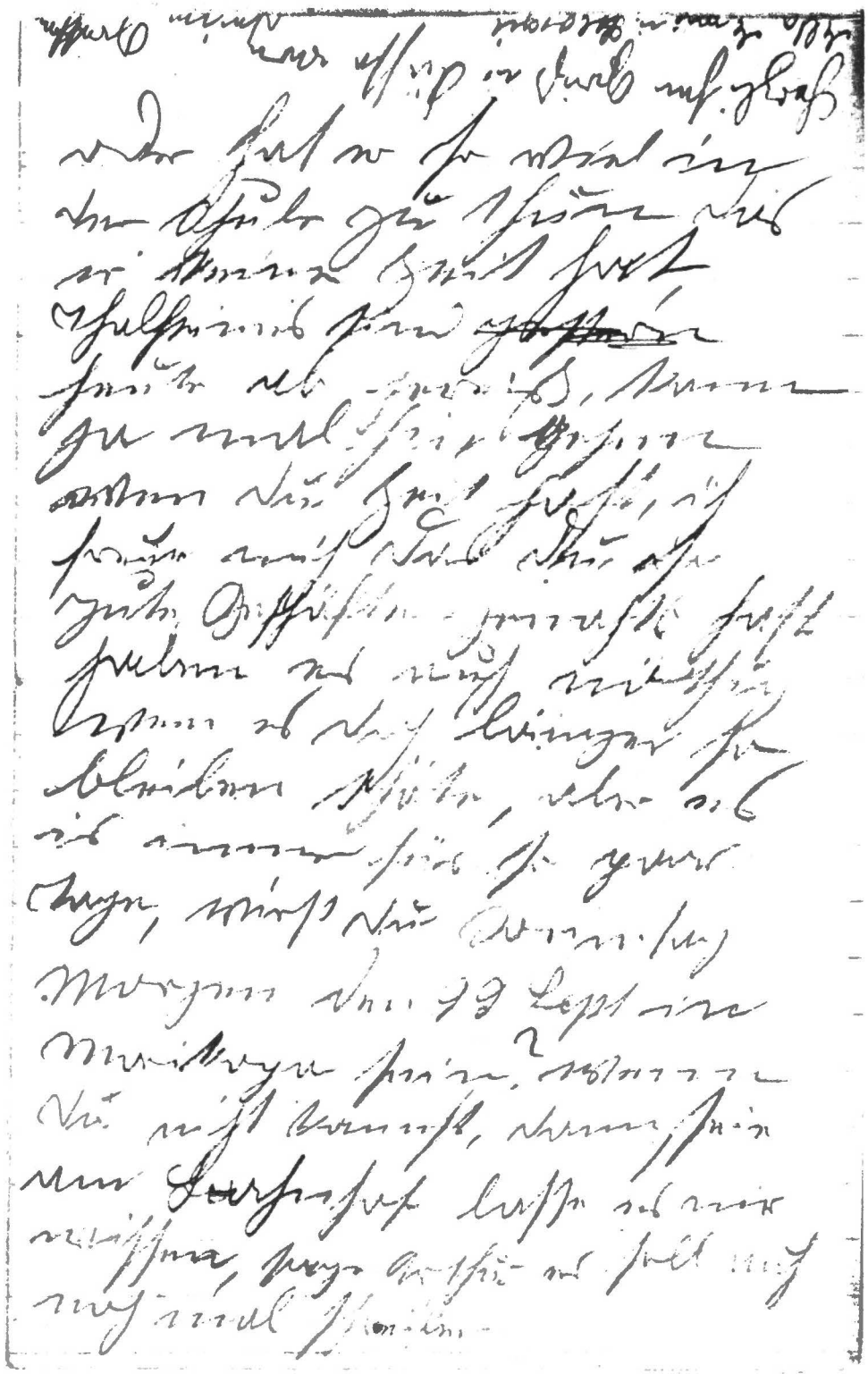
LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

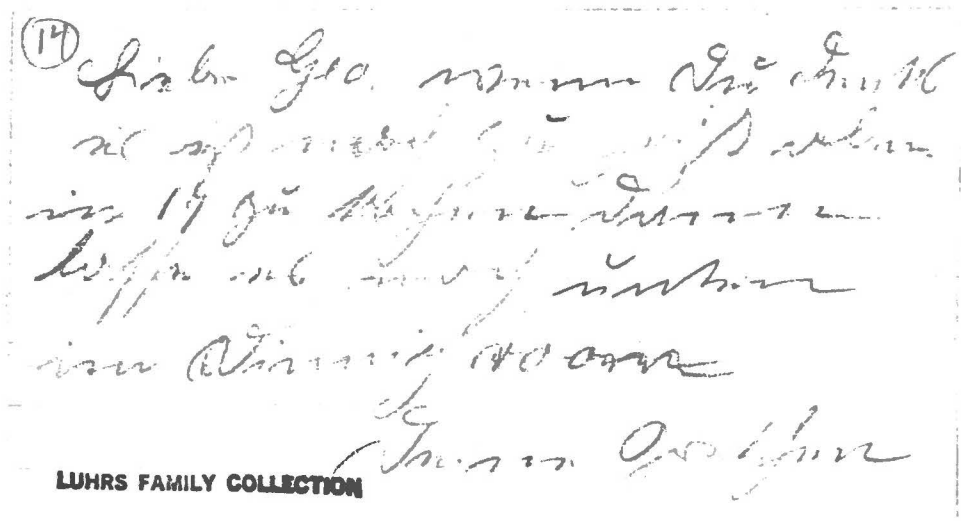
(14)

Santa Monica den 15 Sep.
~~Sept~~ 15 1901

Mein lieber Georg u. Arthur

Deine lieben Briefe habe ich erhalten auch den Schein wofür ich die 50 Dollar erhalten habe, ich sage dir meinen besten Dank hätte gerade nicht so viel gebraucht, ich gehe Donnerstag den 20 nach Los Angeles, schickt mir dann keine Briefe mehr werde sie doch nicht erhalten ich hatte heute sehr einen Brief von Arthur ~~[illegible]~~ erwartet aber vergebens, er scheint uns schon vergessen zu haben





Letter 14

Santa Monica, September 15, 1901

My Dear Georg and Arthur,

I received your dear letters and the bank note certificate for the 50 dollars. I thank you very much for it. I didn't need that much. Thursday, the 20th, I go to Los Angeles, don't send me anymore letters. I won't get them anymore. I expected a letter from Arthur today, but I waited in vain. It seems like he forgot us already, or he has so much to do for school that he doesn't find the time.

I'm glad that you had such good business deals. It would be nice if it stays that way. But it is always only for a few days. Will you be in Maricopa on the 22nd? If you don't come, be at the railway station. Let me know. Tell Arthur to write too.

Dear Greetings and Kisses,

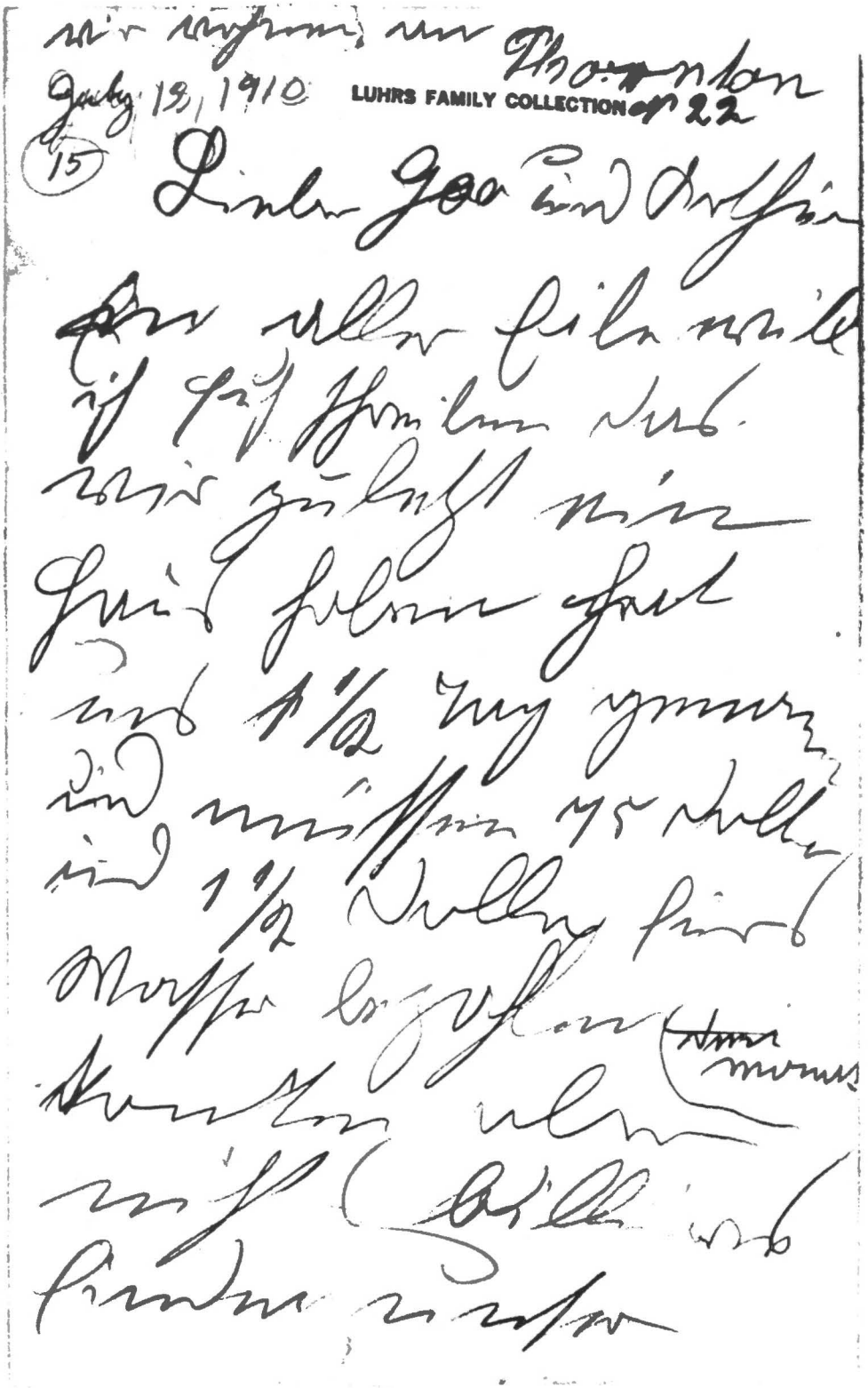
Your Gretchen, Ella, Emy and Georgie

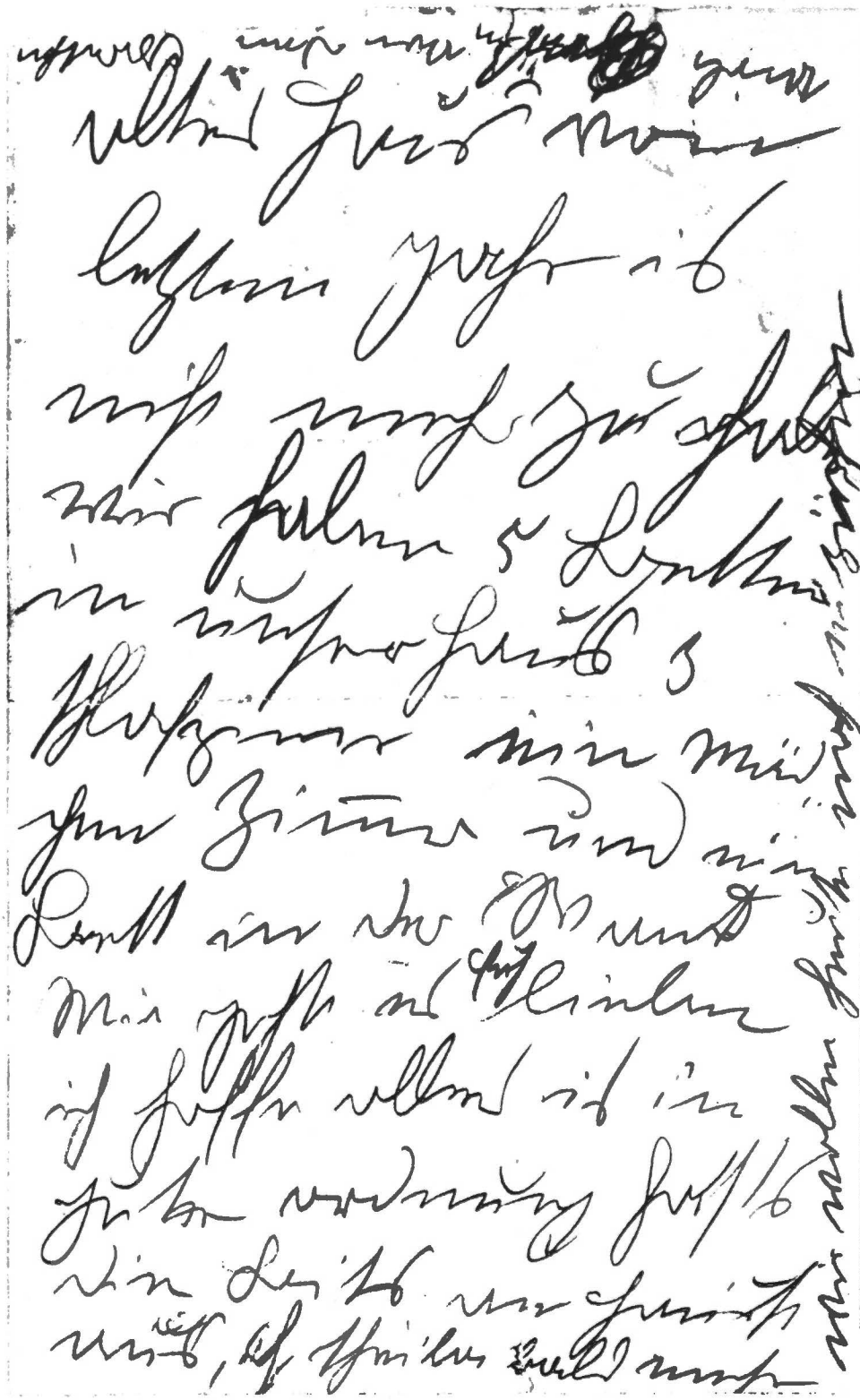
P.S. Georgie says he wants to go to school. He has a bad cold, hopefully it will be better soon.

Dear Georg, if you think it is still too hot to cook upstairs in Room 17, then you can leave it downstairs in the dining room.

Letter 15

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION





Letter 15

July 13, 1910

Dear Geo and Arthur,

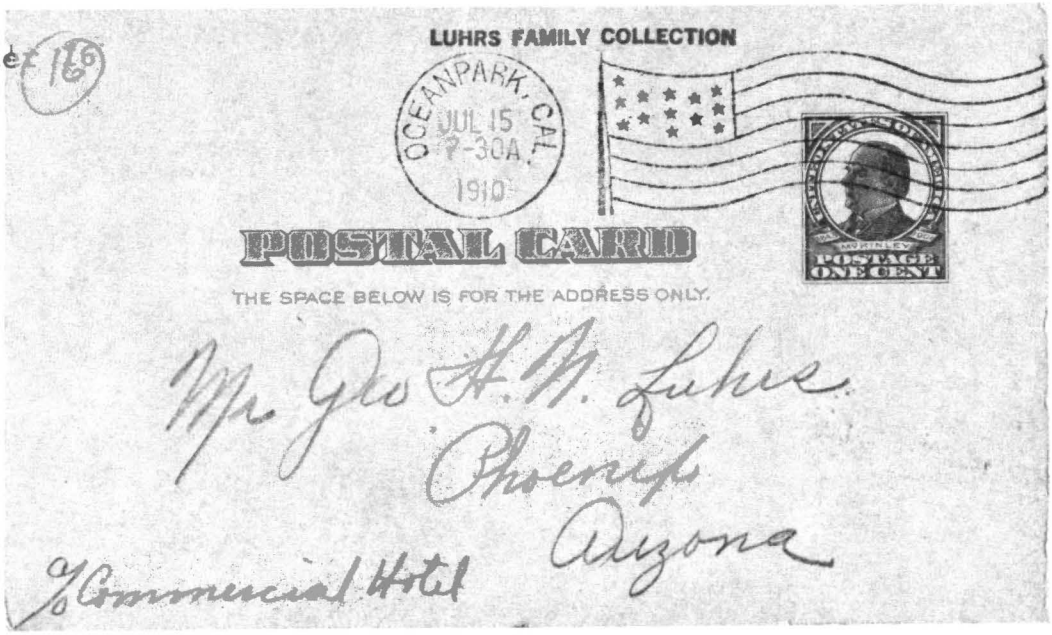
I have to write you in a hurry. We have a house now. It took us 1 1/2 days to fine it, we have to pay 75 dollars a month and $1.50 a month for water. We couldn't find anything cheaper. We couldn't get the house from last year. We have 5 beds in our hours, 3 bedrooms, one girls room and 1 bed in the wall.

How are you two? I hope everything is fine. I'll write more soon, we want to go to...(illegible)...today.

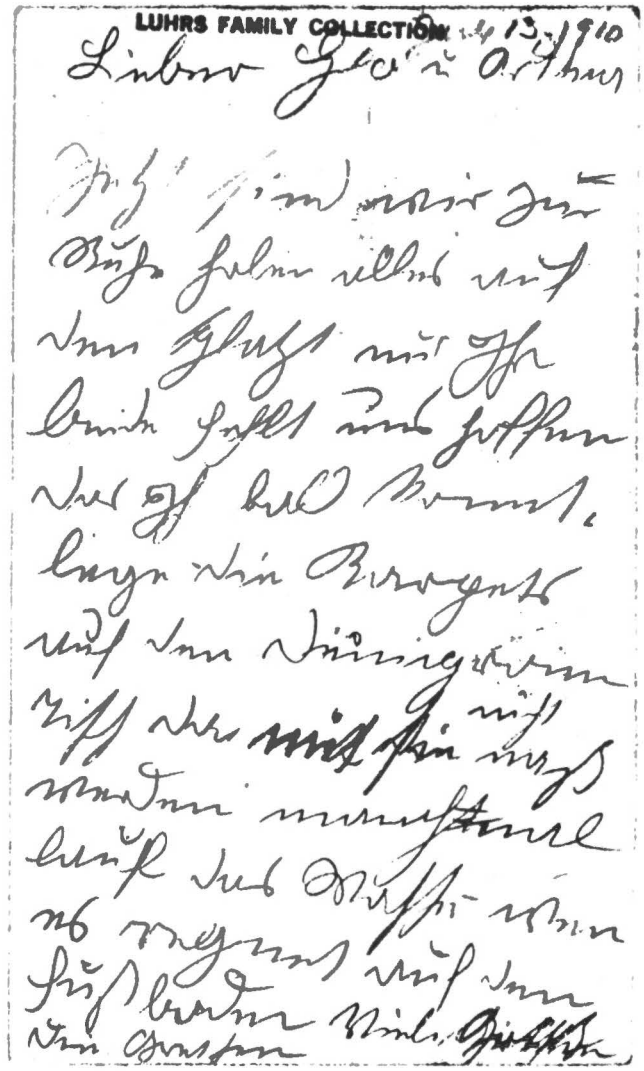
Dear Greetings

Your Gretchen

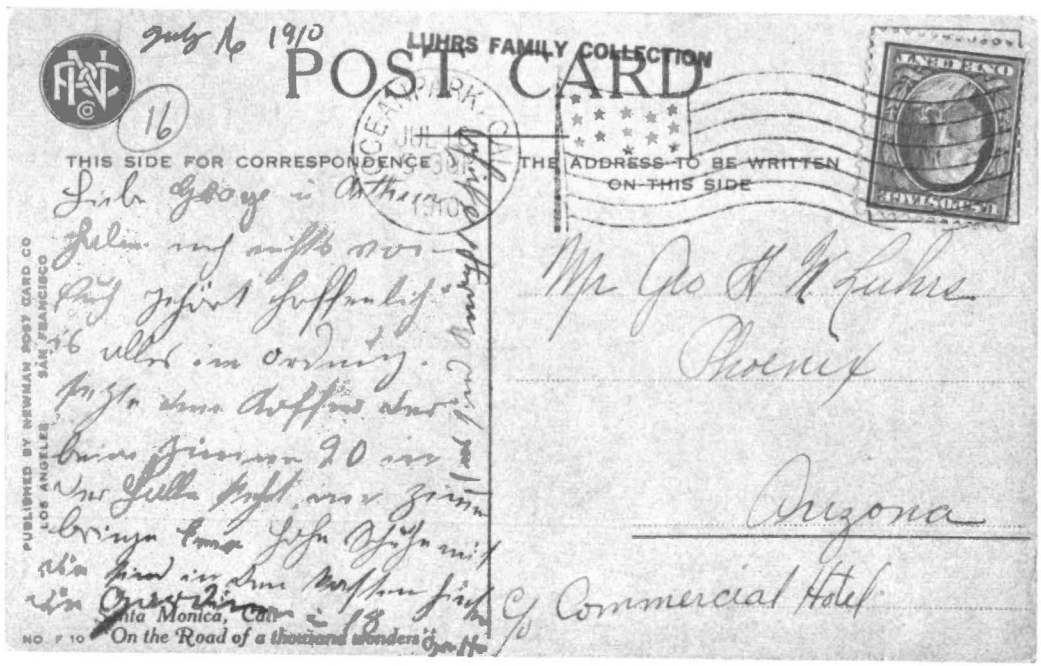
Letter 16

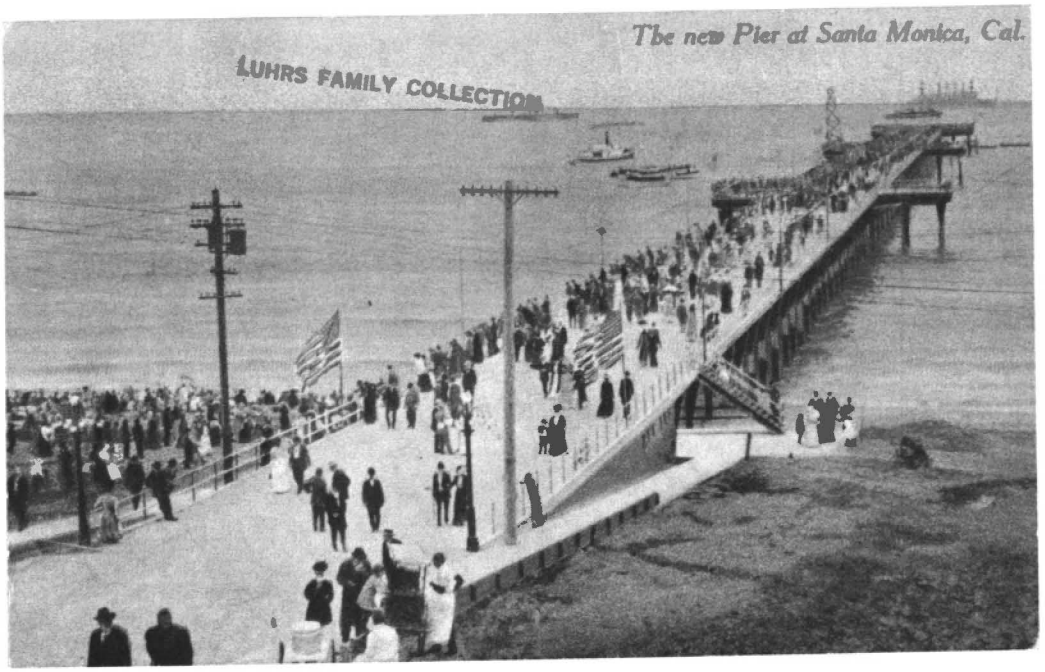


LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION



LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION





Letter 16

POSTCARD - 1¢ stamp - July 15, 1910

Dear Georg and Arthur,

Now we are ready and have everything in place. Only you two are missing. We hope that you are coming soon.

Put the carpets on the dining room table so they don't get wet...(illegible)...from the water on the floor when it rains.

Dear Greetings

Your Gretchen

POSTCARD - 1¢ stamp - July 16, 1910

Dear Georg and Arthur,

Haven't heard anything from you, we hope everything is all right. The suitcase is in Room #20 in the hall. Bring Emma's high shoes with you. They are in the suitcase behind the curtains in Room #18.

Gretchen

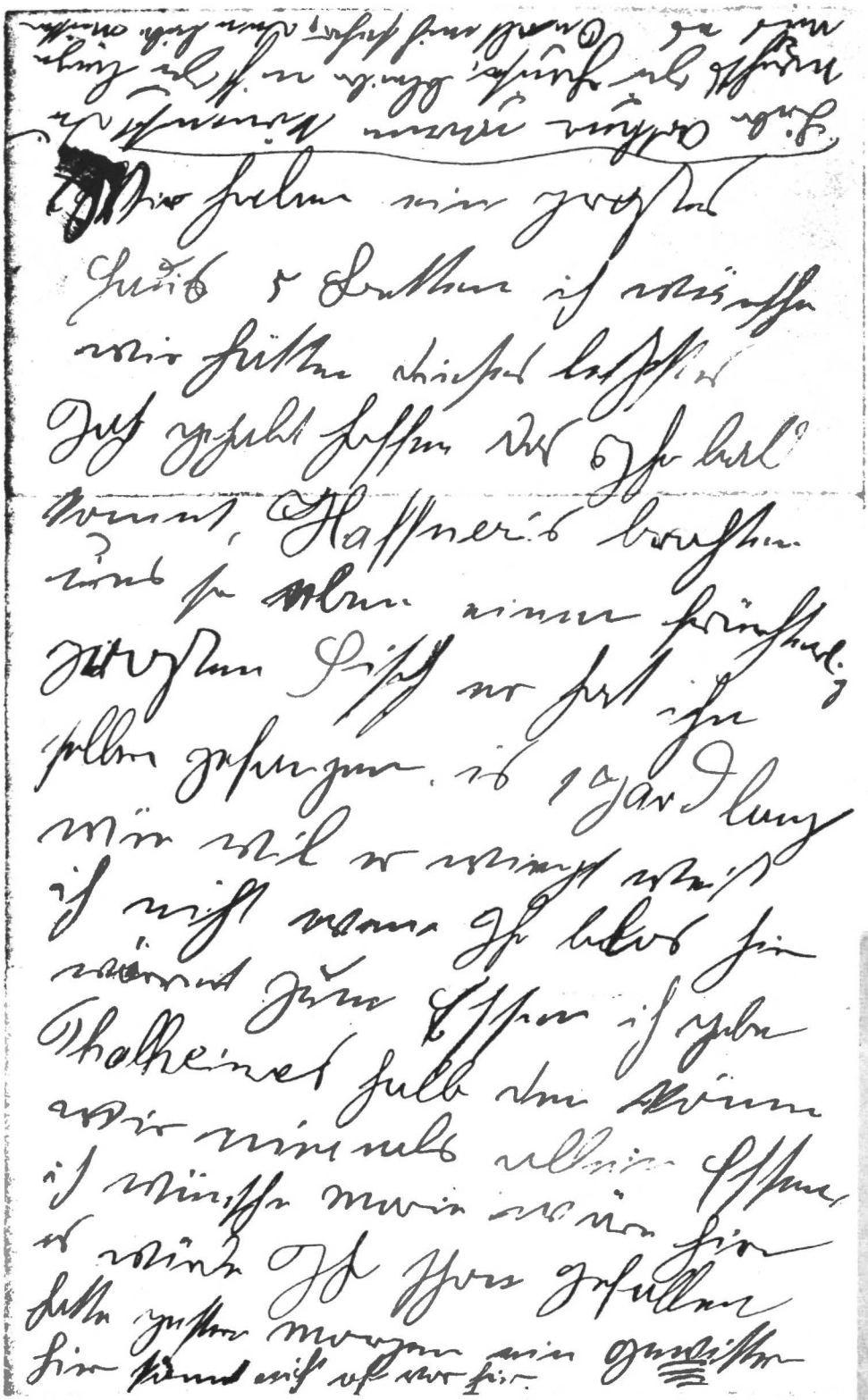
Letter 17

July 20 1910

17

Liebes Geo. und Arthur

LIPPES FAMILY COLLECTION




OCEANSIDE, CAL.
JUL 28
12-M
1910
Mr. Geo A. Luce
Phoenix
Arizona
LUCES FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 17

July 20, 1910

Dear Geo and Arthur,

We received your letter, it was about time that you wrote, we had to wait a long time. I'm glad that Anton wasn't sick. I'm always afraid. How is Sam? Is he still there? Let him make good wine, he has to clean the palms and...(illegible). Ask Anton if he can clean five rooms a day, he has to...(illegible). This year I am not content here, I always think about the hotel.

We have a big house, 5 bedrooms. I wish we would have had this house last year. We hope both of you follow soon. Haffner has just brought us a very big fish. He caught it himself. It is a yard long, don't know how much it weighs. If you could only be here to eat the fish with us. I gave half of it to the Thalheimers because we can't eat it alone. I wish Marie were here, she would like it.

Yesterday, we had a thunderstorm here. That doesn't happen too often.

Dear Arthur, what time are you coming home at night? Don't stay out so long, it worries me a lot.

Your loving Mother

Dear Geo. Write me everything. Did Nangel pay and how is the building work going?

Dear Greetings and Kisses

From All of Us,

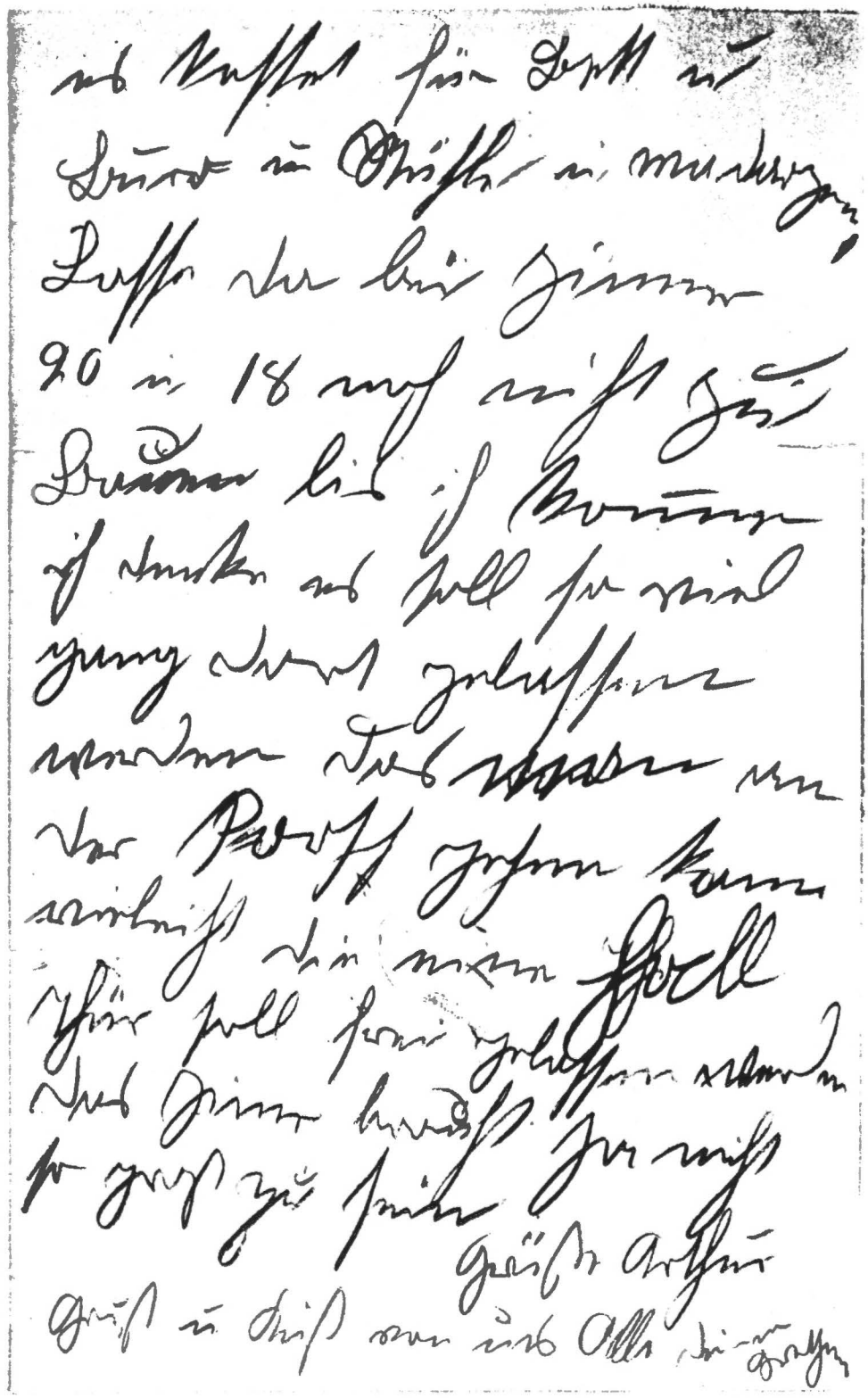
Your Gretchen

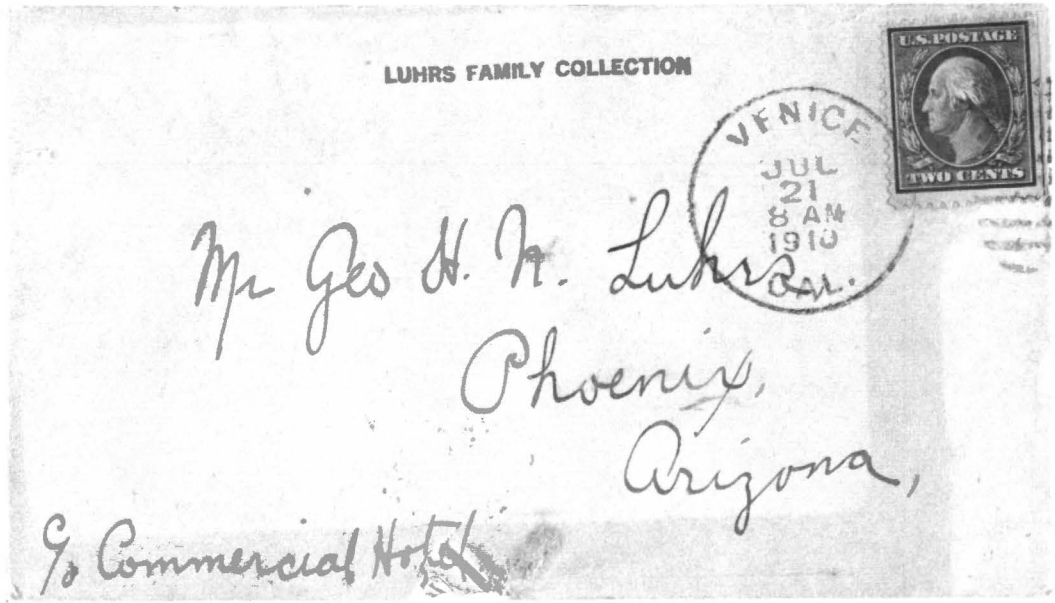
LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

July 21 1910

Letter 18

Liebe Ida





Letter 18

July 21, 1910

Dear Geo,

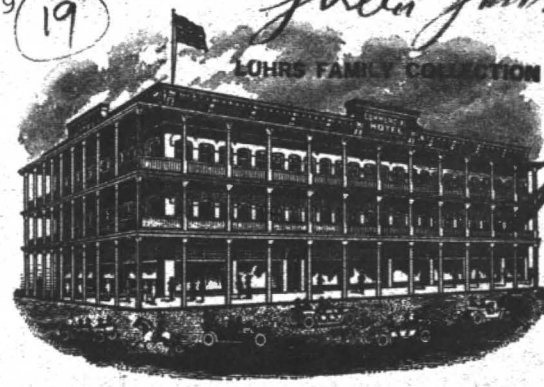
You don't have to bring a big globe for the light, we have some here. Bring a little piece of the material so we can see if we can get a sample here. You can find a piece in #59, you can cut off a piece of it.

Tell Anton it is in the corner, go to...(illegible)... and ask how much it costs for bed and board and chairs and ...(illegible). Don't let rooms #20 and #18 be remodeled until I come home. I think we should leave enough hallway that we can walk on the porch. We should leave the one hall door open, we don't need the rooms to be so big. Greetings to Arthur.

Greetings and Kisses from All of Us

Your Gretchen

Letter 19 (19)


LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Habe heute keinen Brief von Euch erhalten

Commercial Hotel

Geo. H. N. Luhrs, Proprietor

LEADING BUSINESS AND FAMILY HOTEL IN ARIZONA

Sept 21 1910

PHOENIX, ARIZONA.

CENTER AND JEFFERSON STS.

Den 21 September 1910

Lieber guter Papa u George

Ich habe heute Abend heimweh
nach Euch bin froh wenn wir
wieder zu hause sind, ich wünsche
es wäre nicht so heiß in Phoenix
dann würden wir gleich kommen
aber jemand hat mir gesagt es
wäre 104 das es noch sehr heiß
muß mir gleich schreiben wenn
es kühl wird ich denke ich bin
selbst süchtig, ich bleibe hier

Letter 19

September 21, 1910

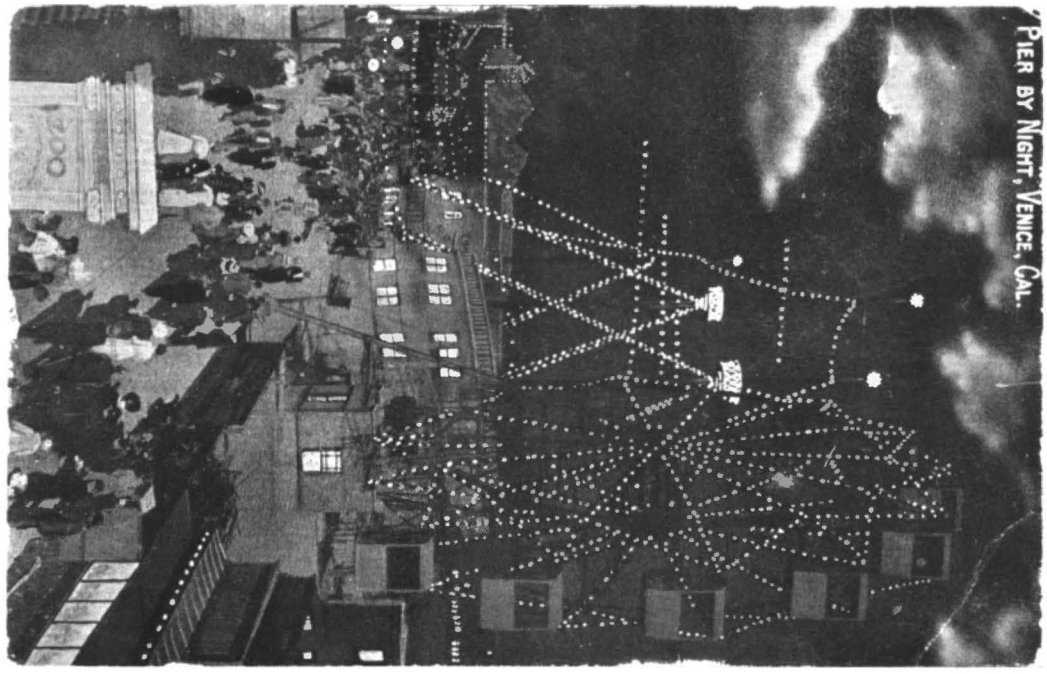
Dear Papa and George,

Tonight, I am homesick for you. I'll be glad when we are home again, I wish it wouldn't be so hot in Phoenix, then we could come right away. Somebody told me that it was 104°. You have to write me right away when it is cooler. I think I'm selfish, I stay here where it is cooler and you poor people have to sweat so much.

Dear Georg, I will make it up to you when I'm home again. We are going to be so happy, Papa, I live only for you and if you are content I am happy. I don't care about other people. I hope that Myron liked it in Phoenix. Too bad that he couldn't stay longer. ...(illegible) is fine, builds the whole day, he is dear. Tell Geo he doesn't cry anymore.

Greetings and Kisses,

Your Loving Gretchen



Letter 20

POSTCARD - Ocean Park, July 15, 1912

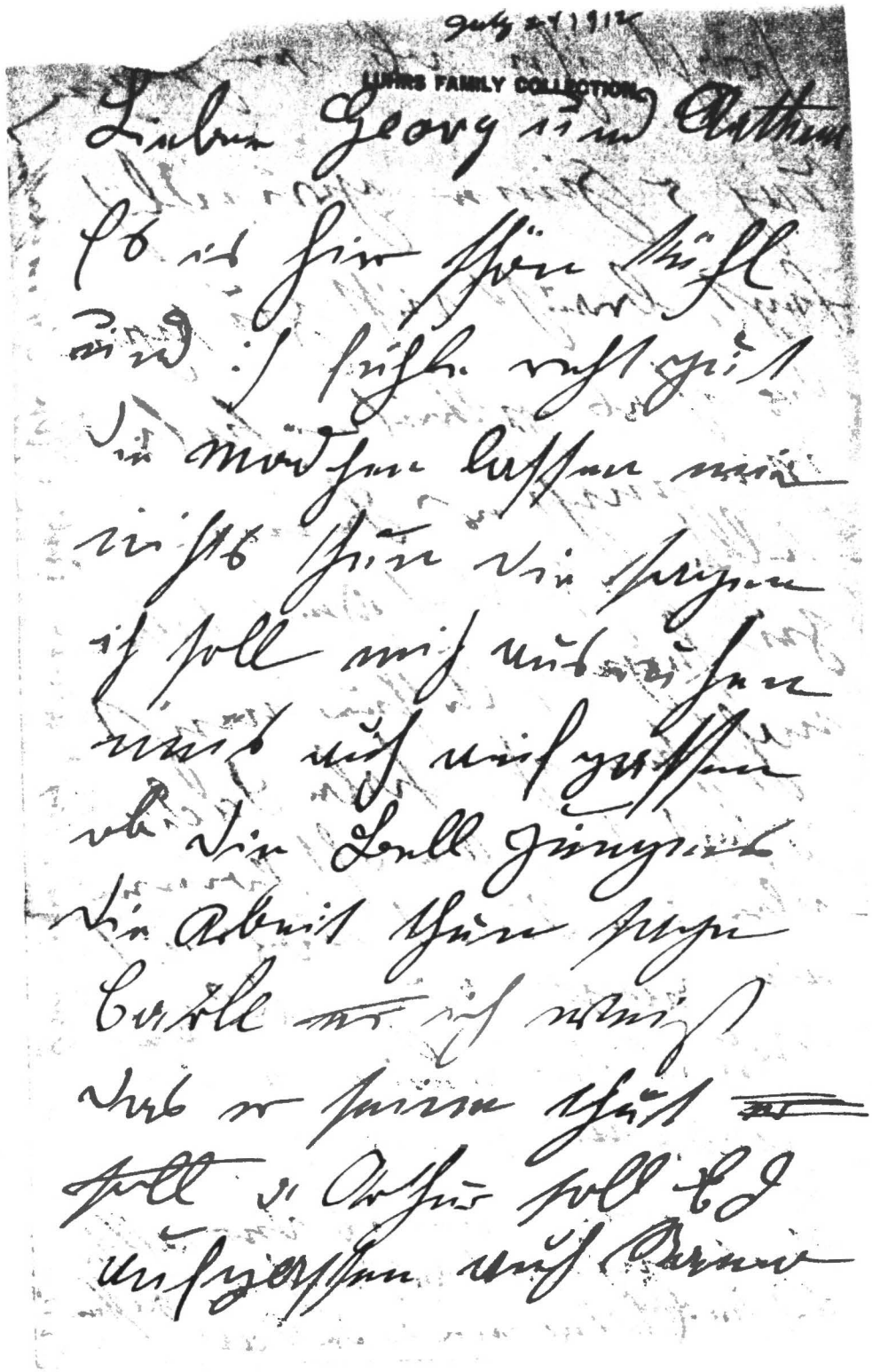
Dear Geo and Arthur,

We are looking for a house. We saw Sadie this morning. She looks good. It was hot in Los Angeles. We came here right away.

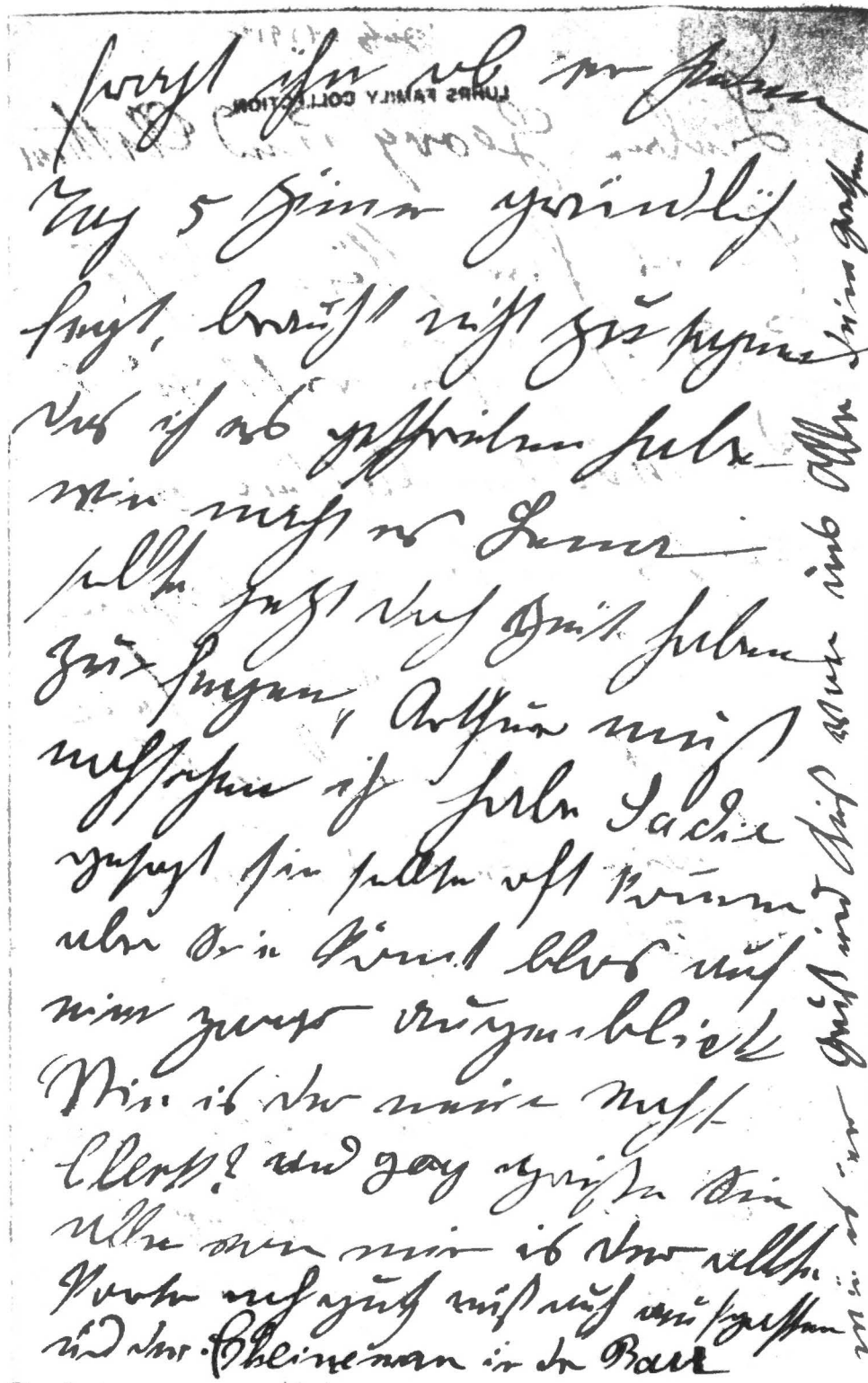
Greetings,

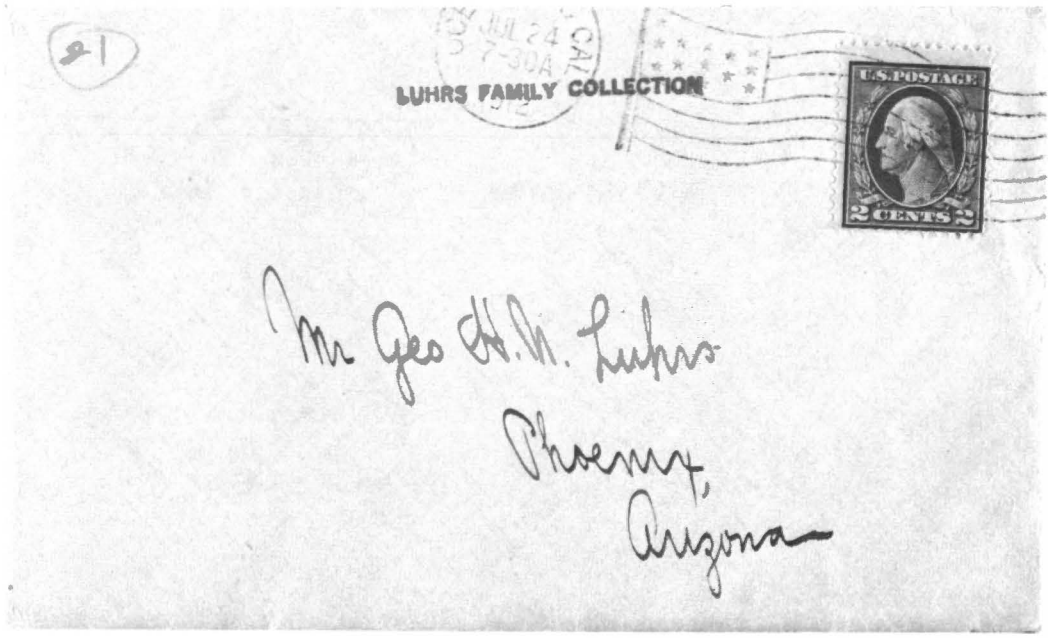
Your Gretchen

Letter 21


LUMIS FAMILY COLLECTION

LUMPS FAMILY COLLECTION





Letter 21

July 24, 1912

Dear Georg and Arthur,

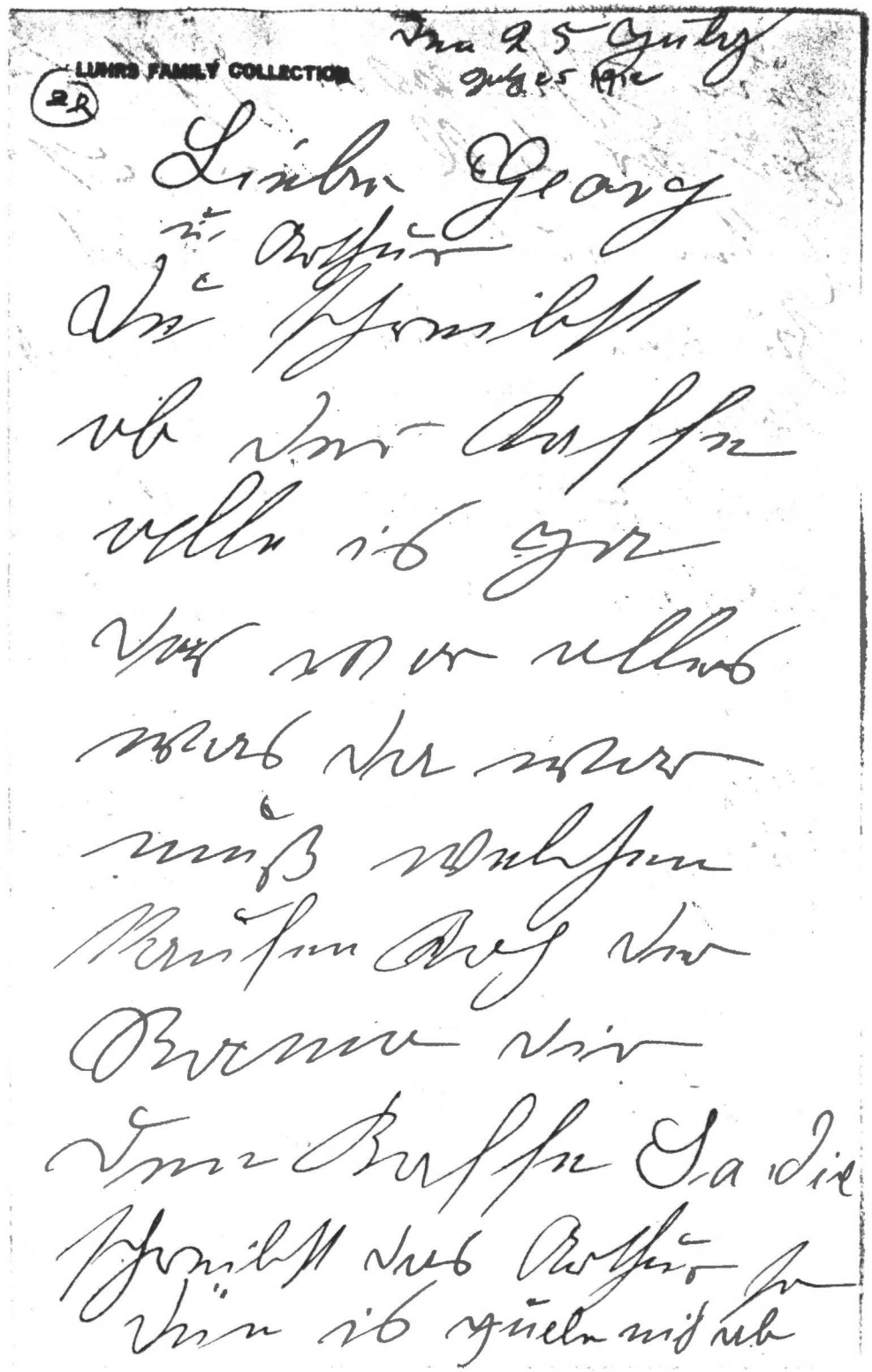
It is nice and cool and I feel fine. The girls won't let me do anything. They say I have to rest. I have to watch the bellboy do the work. Tell Carle that I know he does his work and Arthur should watch ...(illegible). Ask him if he can clean five rooms a day and don't tell him I wrote it. How is ...(illegible)... doing? He should have time to clean, Arthur has to look after it.

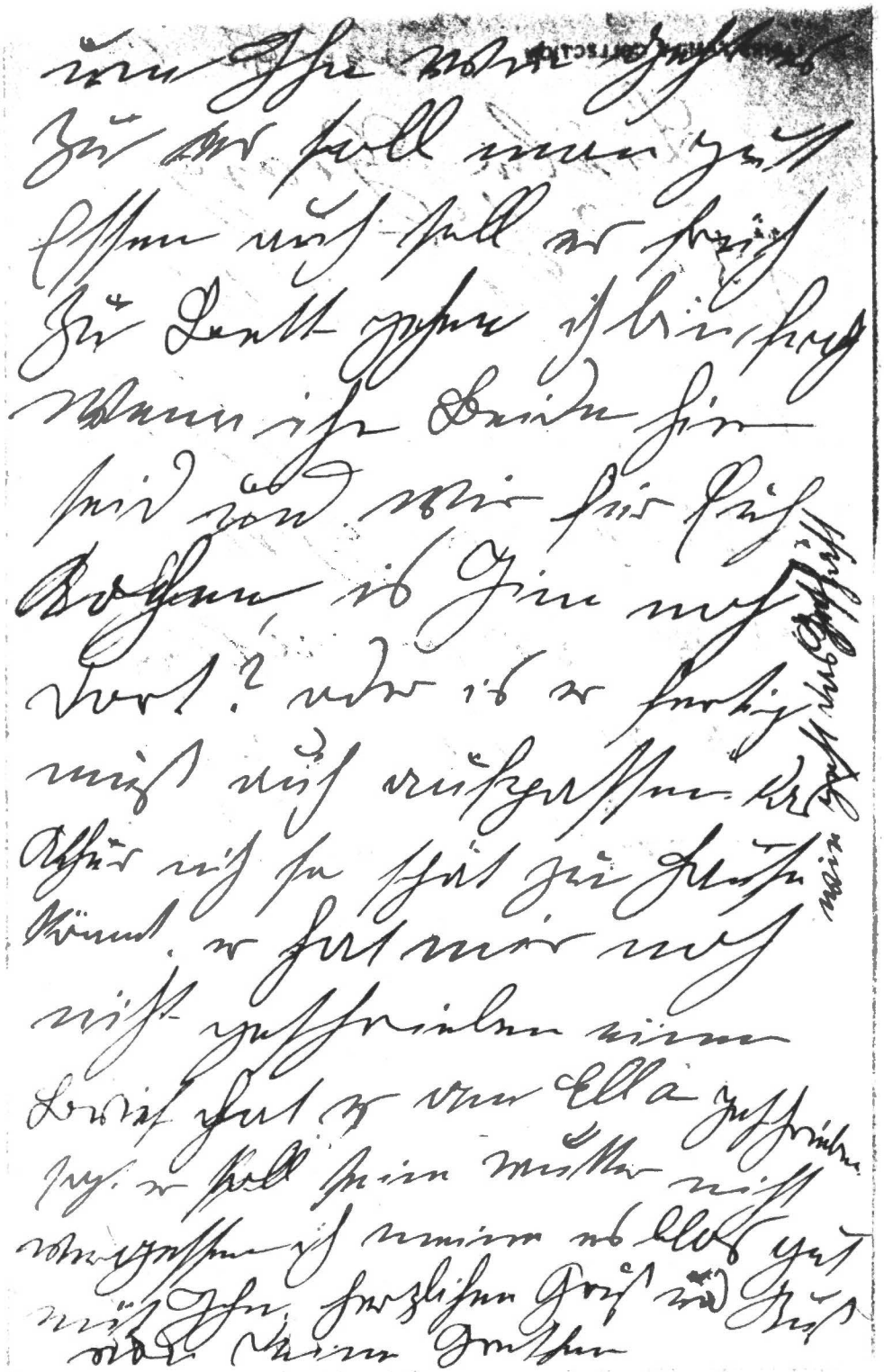
I told Sadie to come often, but she only comes for an eyeblink. How is the new night clerk? Tell everybody hi from me. Is the old porch still good?

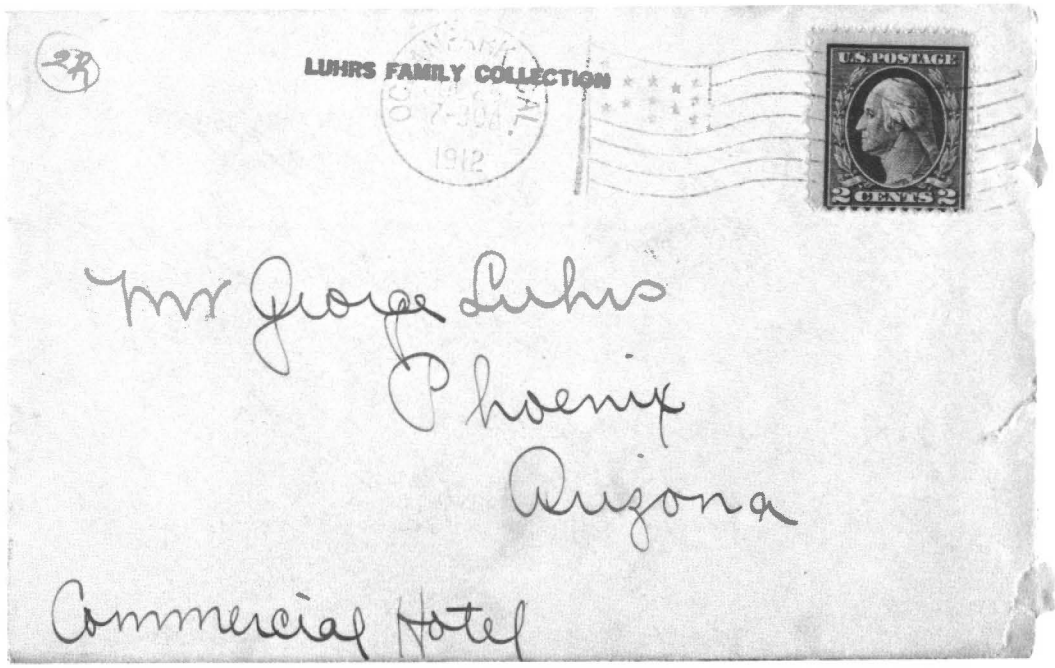
Greetings and Kisses,

Your Gretchen

Letter 22







Letter 22

July 25, 1912

Dear Georg and Arthur,

You asked in your letter if all the coffee is gone. It was all we had, you have to go and buy some.

Sadie wrote that Arthur is so thin. It worries me a lot about him. He should eat more and go to bed earlier. I'm glad when the two of you are here and we can cook for you. Is Jim still there, or is he finished? You have to watch that Arthur doesn't come home too late.

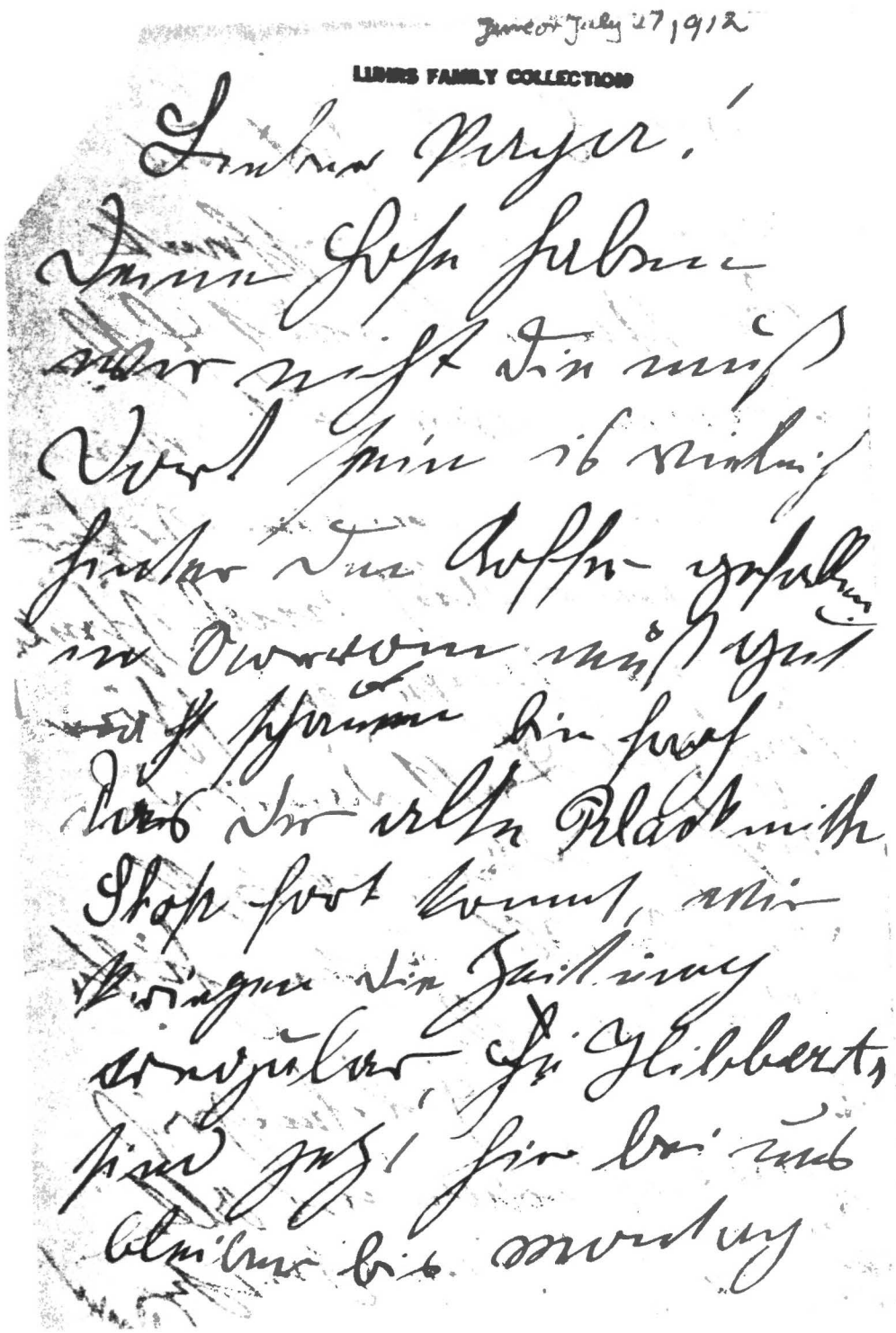
He wrote to Ella but didn't write to me yet. Tell him he shouldn't forget his mother, I only mean it well, naturally.

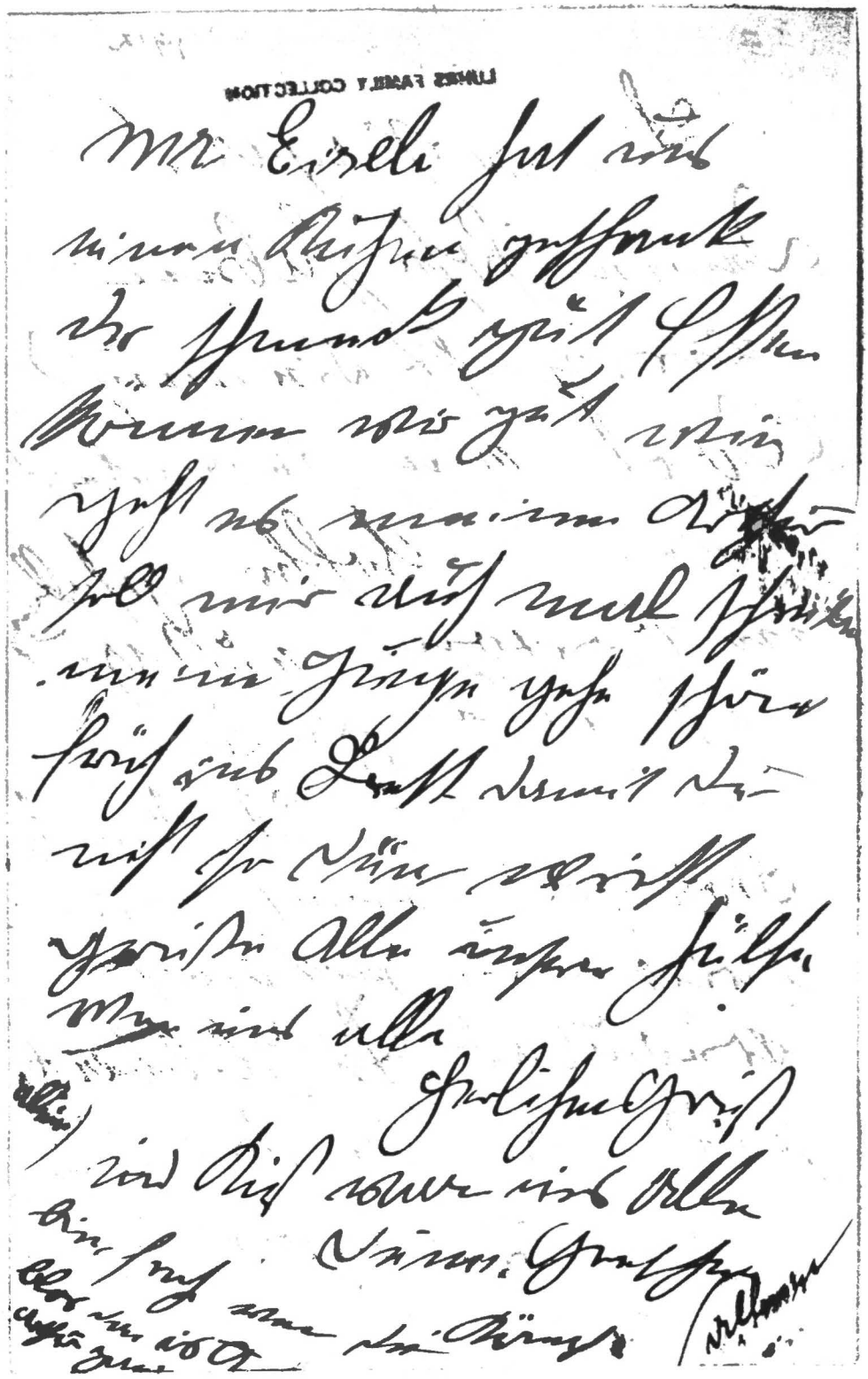
Dear Greetings and Kisses,

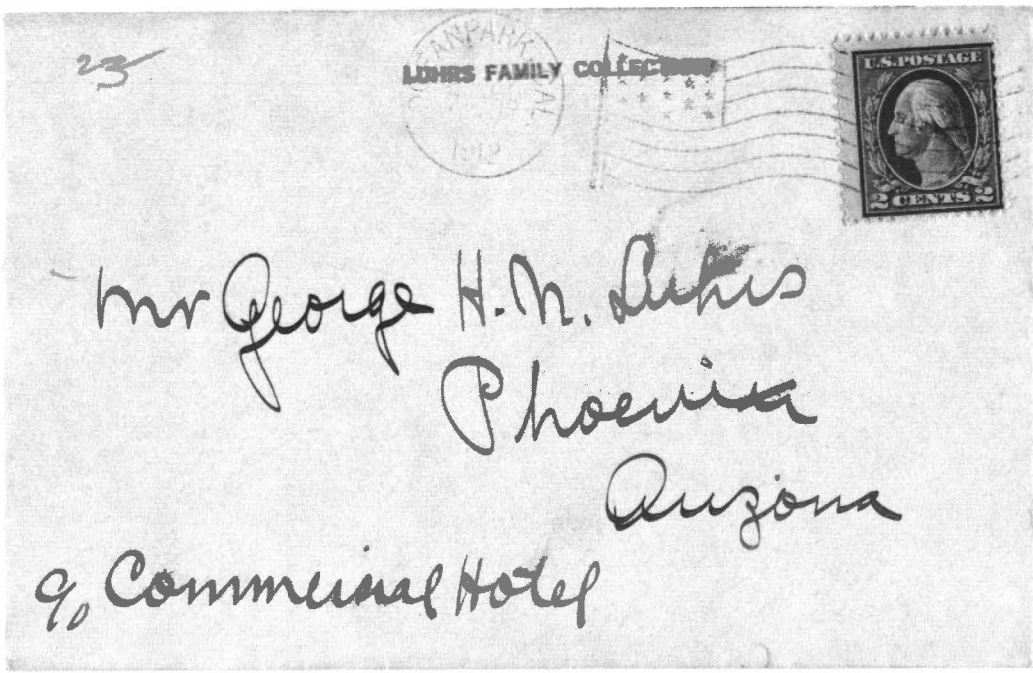
Your Gretchen

P.S. How is the business doing?

Letter 23







Letter 23

June or July 27, 1912

Dear Papa,

We don't have your pants, they must be there. Maybe they fell behind the suitcase in the storeroom, you have to check real good.

I'm glad that the old blacksmith shop will be gone. We get the newspaper regularly. The Hibbards are here now, they will stay until Monday.

Mr. Eisele gave us a cake, it tasted good, we eat well.

How is my Arthur? He should write me too. My boy, go to bed early so you don't get too thin.

Greetings to all our help from all of us.

Dear greetings and kisses from all of us.

Your Gretchen

P.S. I'll be glad when you and Arthur are here.

Letter 24

24

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION
LOCATED IN THE BUSINESS CENTER.



CORNER CENTER AND JEFFERSON STREETS.

Commercial Hotel.

GEO. H. N. LUHRS.
PROPRIETOR.

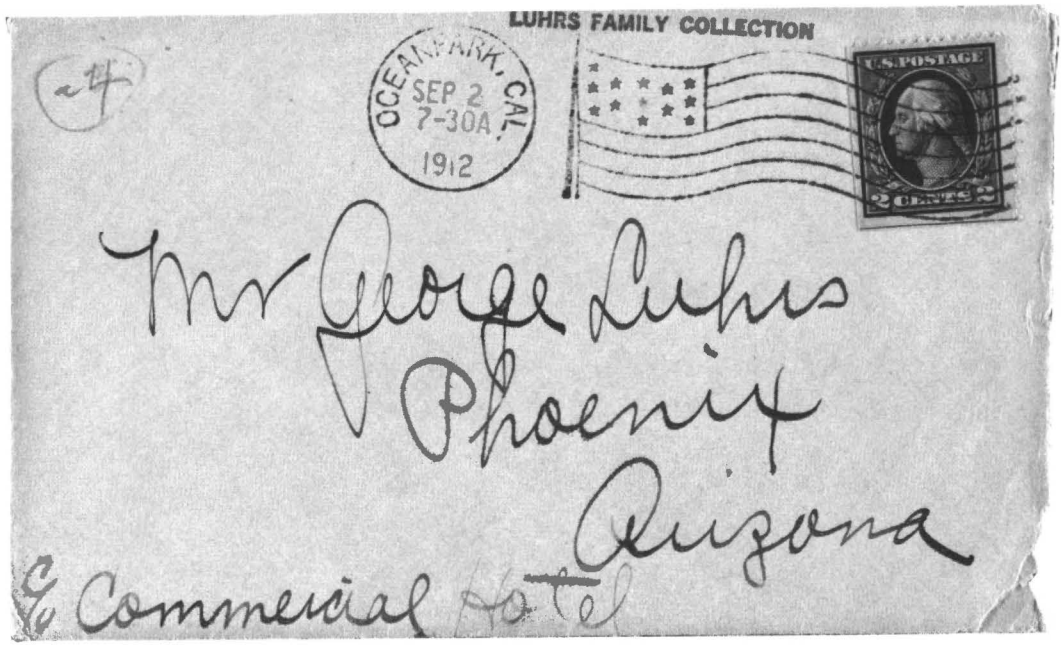
EUROPEAN PLAN.

Leading Business and
Family Hotel in Arizona.

Phoenix, Arizona, den 1 Sept. 1912

Lieber Georg

heute Sonntag bis du schon zu
Hause wir haben oft an dich
gedacht alle Zeitung sind hier
hier und du kontest sie nicht
lassen Ella Ihr Auge ist noch
nicht besser habe gesagt sie
soll nicht raus gehen die
Sonne thut es schaden
wir waren heute nicht baden
nur Georg er sagte das es



Letter 24

September 1, 1912

Dear Georg,

Today, Thursday, you are home already, we think often about you. All the newspapers are here couldn't let it(?)..

Ella's eye is not better yet. I told her not to go out in the sun so much, it could make it worse. We weren't swimming today, George said the water was high.

Did you eat at Marie's? Don't let the people (the Bongs?) who rented the shop, bring anything into the back yard. We don't want to make it too dirty. How is everything? Is it hot? How hot has it been?

When Anni Wells comes, tell her that I'll be home in the middle of September, when the house cleaning starts. She can help me. I miss you.

Greetings and kisses from your wife and children.

Letter 25

(25)

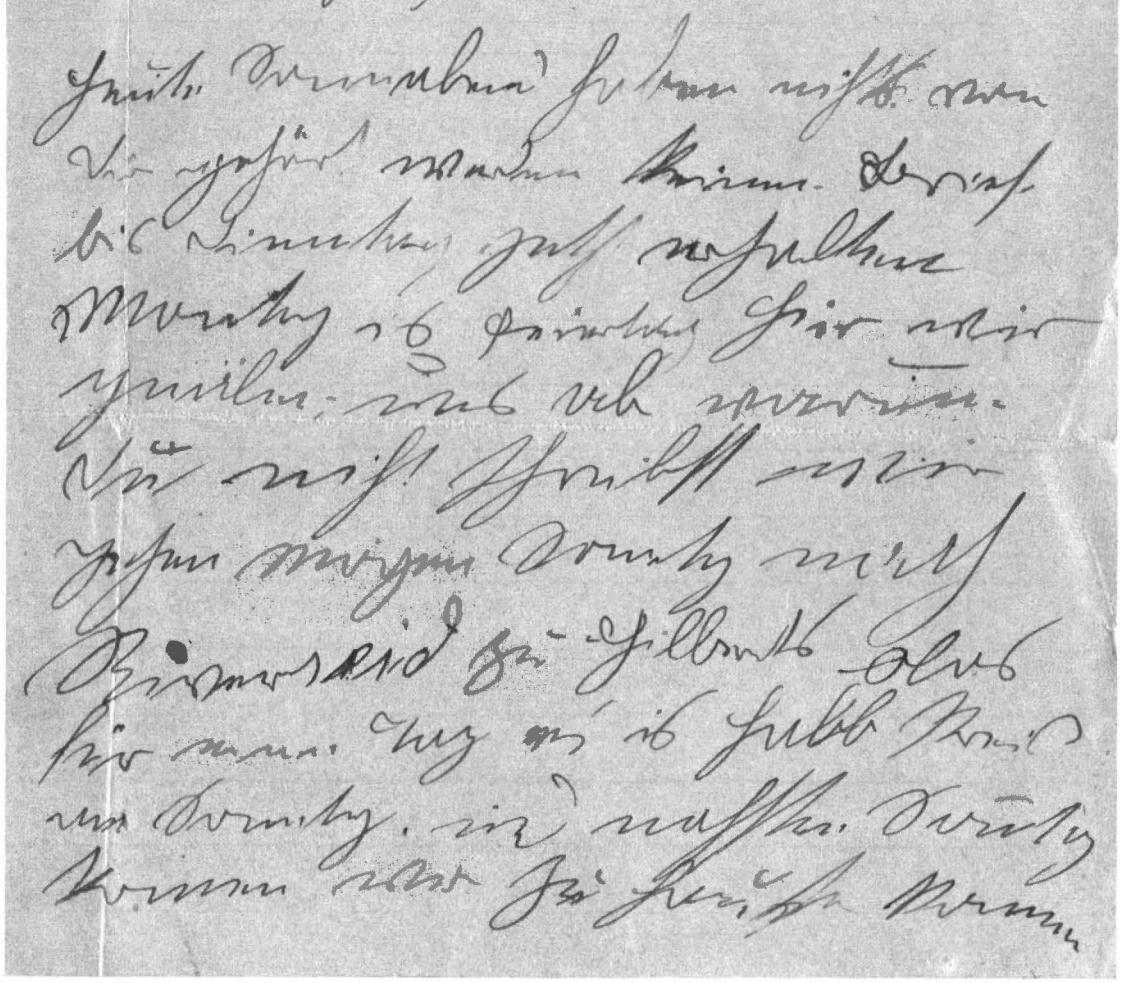
LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Sept den 7, 1912

Sept 7, 1912

Lieber George

Heute Sonnabend haben nichts von
Dir gehört werden keinen Brief
bis Dienstag geht erhalten
Montag ist Feiertag hier wir
quälen uns ab warum
Du nicht schreibst wir
gehen morgen Sonntag nach
Riverside zu Gilberts Also
für einen Tag es ist habb Preis
am Sonntag. in nächsten Sonntag
kommen wir zu Hause kommen



(25)

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

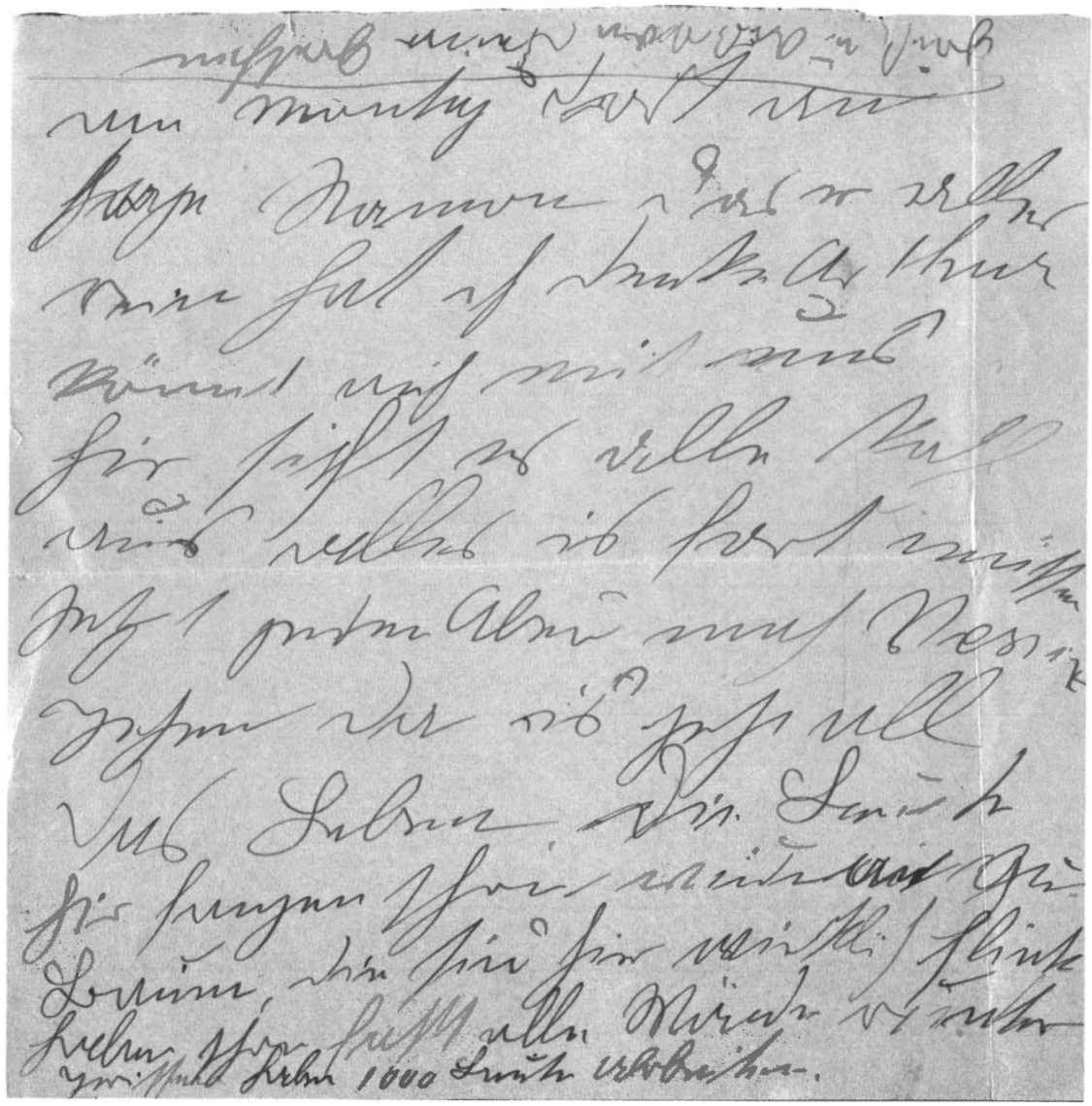
LOS ANGELES, CAL. SEP 9 9-AM 1912

WORLD'S PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION IN SAN FRANCISCO 1915

U.S. POSTAGE 2 CENTS 2

Mr George Luhrs
Phoenix
Arizona

c/o Commercial Hotel.



Letter 25 September 7, 1912

Dear Georg,

Today, Saturday, we didn't hear anything from you. We don't get any letters until Thursday. Monday is a holiday here, we are worried because you haven't written for so long.

Tomorrow, Sunday, we are going to Hillbrant's at Riverside for one day. It is half-price on Sunday. Next Sunday we come home and will be there by Monday. Ask Ramon how he has everything. I think Arthur is not coming with us. Everything looks dreary here, everything is gone. We have to go to Venice every evening, that's where all the life is now.

The people here start right away, they are really fast here. They have almost all the walls broken down. They have 1000 people working here.

Greetings and Kisses,

Your Gretchen

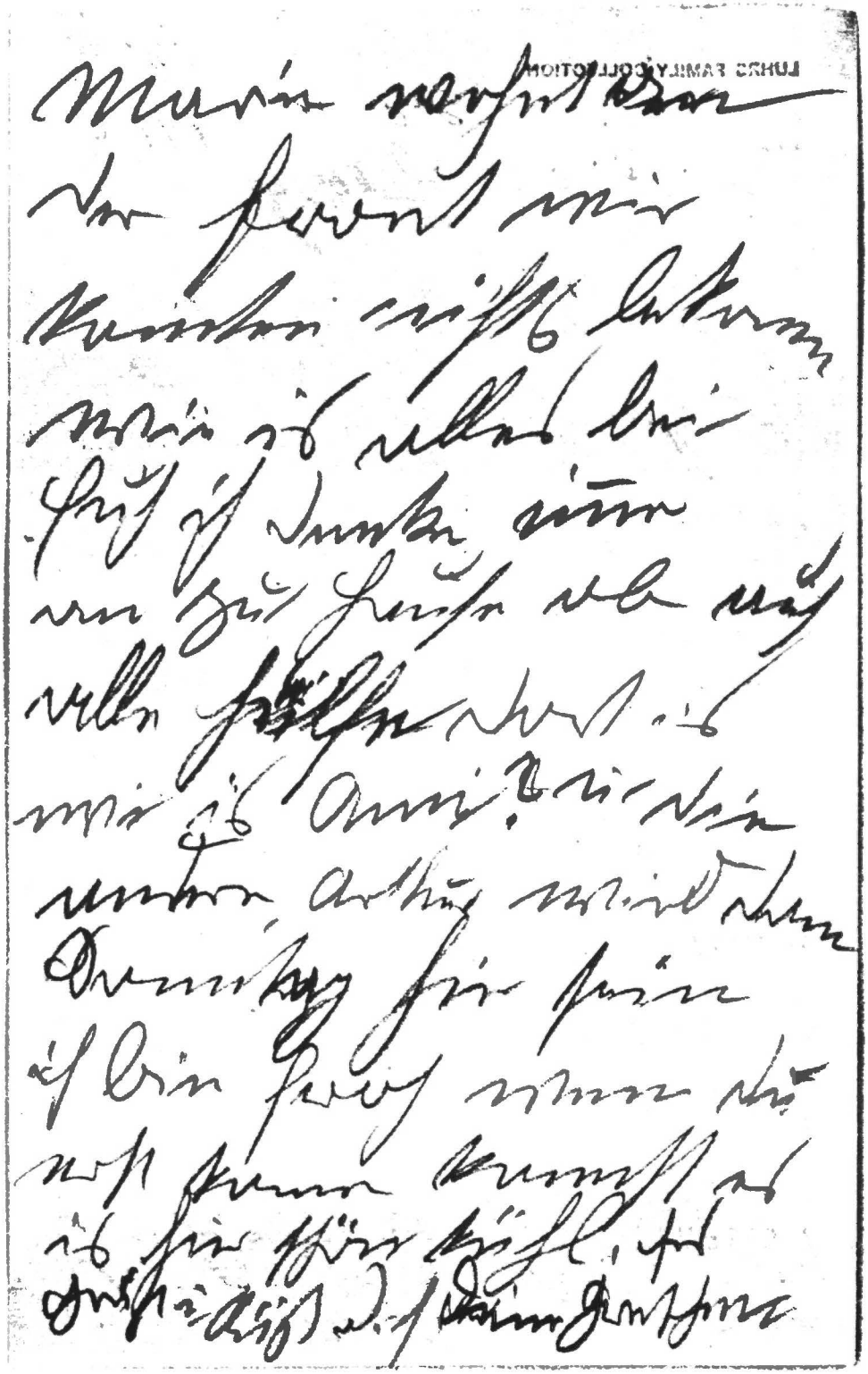
LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 26

July Nov 18 th
July 18 1913

Liebe Georg

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION



Letter 26

July 18, 1913

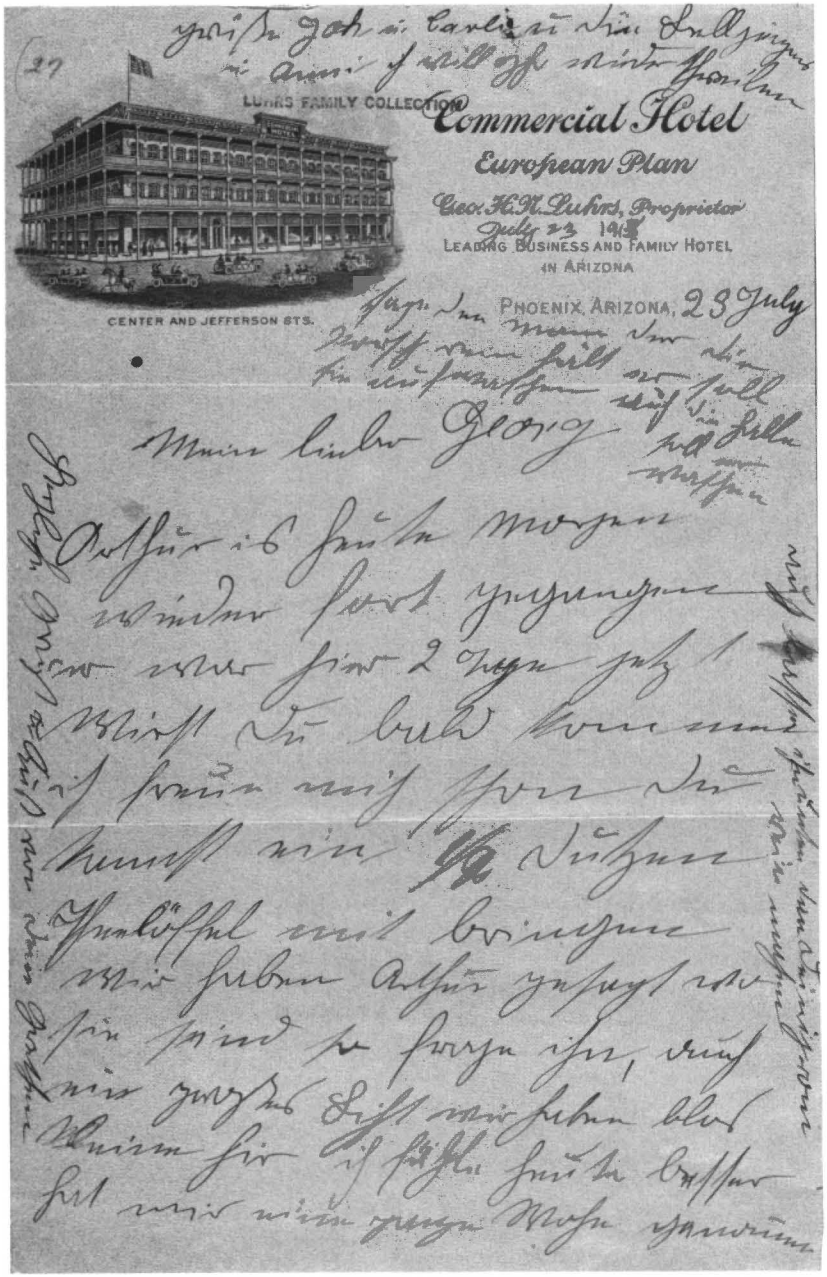
Dear Georg,

Received your letter and saw that there was a thunderstorm. I'm glad I wasn't there. We have a house, Thornton Ave.. #23. We have to pay 100 dollars a month, couldn't find anything cheaper. There are not many houses left. Marie lives to the front, we couldn't get anything like that. How is everything with you? I think a lot about home, if all the helpers came. How is Anni and the others?

Arthur will be here Sunday. I'll be glad when you are here too, it is nice and cool here.

Greetings and Kisses,

Your Gretchen



(27)

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Commercial Hotel

European Plan

Geo. H. H. Luhrs, Proprietor

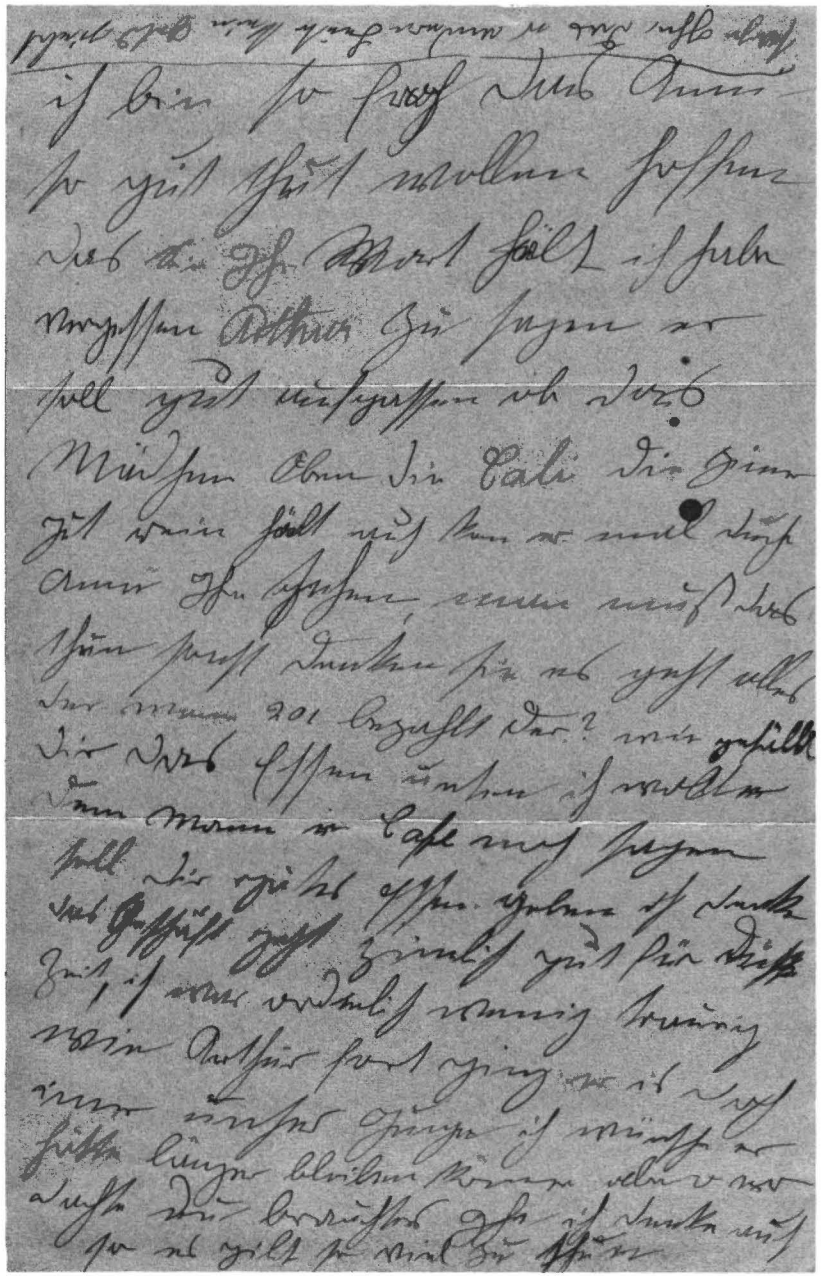
July 23 1913

LEADING BUSINESS AND FAMILY HOTEL IN ARIZONA

CENTER AND JEFFERSON STS.

PHOENIX, ARIZONA, 23 July

Meine liebe Gloria



Letter 27

Greetings to Joh. and Carli and the bellboys and Anni. I'm going to write her again.

July 23, 1913

Tell the man who takes care of the porch that he has to scrub it; also the hall, and let him scrub the dining room downstairs too.

My Dear Georg,

Arthur left this morning, he was here for 2 days. Now you will be here soon, I'm very glad. You can bring 1/2 dozen teaspoons, we told Arthur where they are, so ask him. Also bring a big light, we only have small lights here. I feel better today, took some young poppyseeds.

I'm glad that Anni is doing so well, we hope that she keeps her word. I forgot to tell Arthur that he should keep an eye on the girl to see if she keeps the rooms really clean. He can also go and look after Anni, we have to do that or they think they can do what they want. The man in 201, is he paying? How do you like the food down there. I wanted to tell the man in the cafe that he should give you good food.

I think the business is going pretty good for this time of year. I was not so sad when Arthur left, he will always be our boy. I wished he could have stayed longer but he thought you needed him. I think so too. There is so much to do. Tell him not to give money to the people.

Dear Greetings and Kisses,

Your Gretchen.

Sept 8 1913

Liebe Georg



Letter 28

September 8, 1913

Dear Georg,

Received your letter. You write that it is still hot there, I think we had better stay here until the 18th, don't you think so? Write us, I would like to stay that long. I know that when I come home I have to work right away and here I have it so easy, sleeping until 8 in the morning. Arthur is here now, we went swimming this morning, it was great. He said it was cold, but I told him to go get in the water all the way and he would be warmer.

You don't have to tell Ramon that he should scrub the floors in our room. Arthur says he has a porter for the whole day, let him clean everything and Anni can iron everything. If all is not as it should be, it's all right. We are going to do that later, we miss you, we are visiting the Thalheimer's today.

Greetings and Kisses,

Your Gretchen and Children

POSTCARD

September 6, 1913

Dear Georg,

It is foggy this evening, we wish you were here. We miss you very much, it is spooky here. Next year you have to stay with us.

Gretchen

Letter 29

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION



HOLLENBECK HOTEL CO.

Hollenbeck Hotel

AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN PLANS

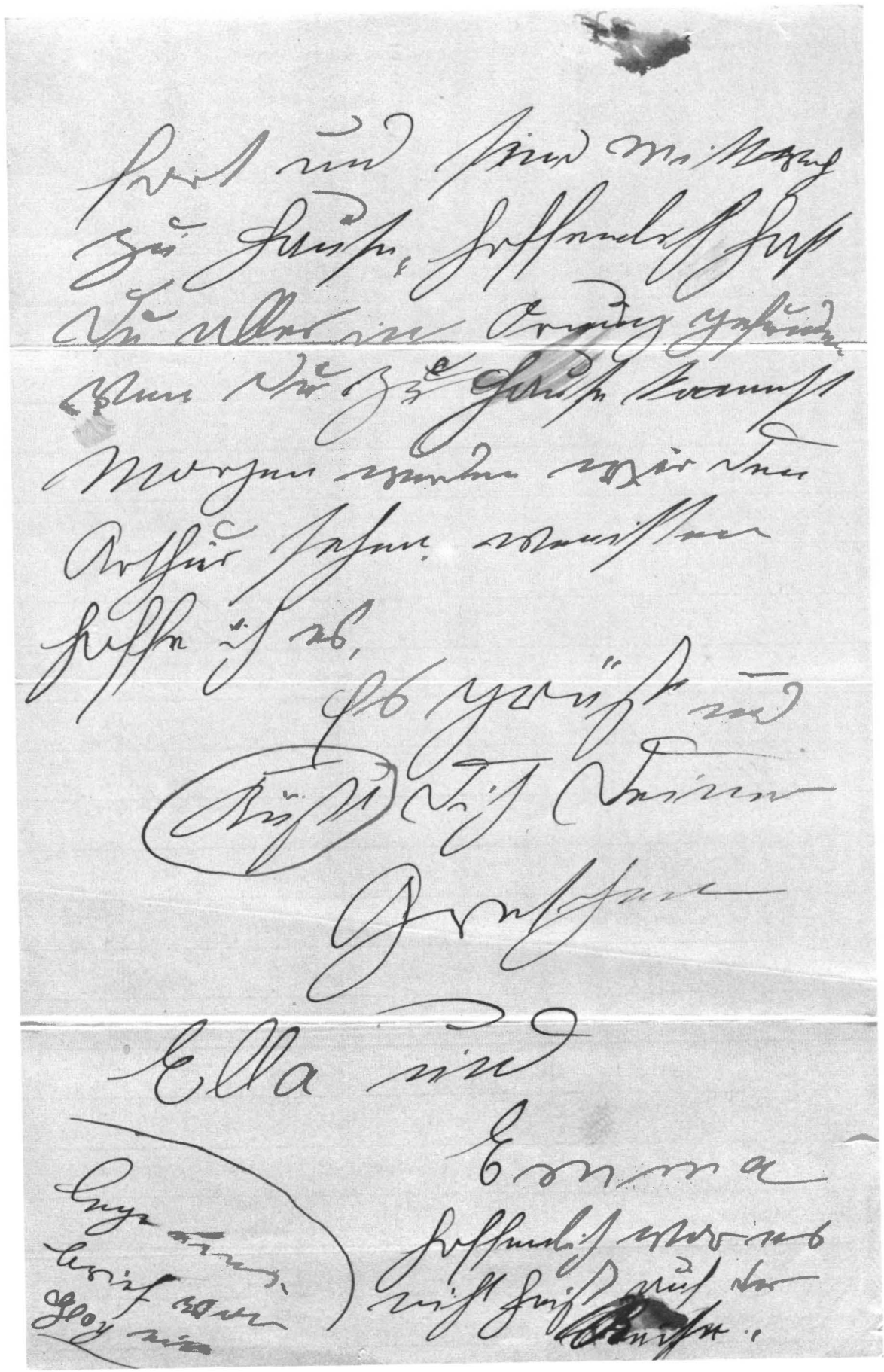
JNO. S. MITCHELL
PRESIDENT AND MANAGER

Los Angeles, Cal. 191

Sept 18 1915

Liebster George

Jetzt bist allein zu Hause,
habe dich heute vermißt bis
doch der beste Mann von
alle andern, Wir sind heute
den ganzen Tag in die
Stors rumgelaufen und
sind heute Abend sehr müde
haben einen Brief von Hilbert
erhalten u. schreiben das
Sie sehr froh sind wenn
wir kommen also reisen
wir hier Montag morgen



Letter 29

September 18, 1915

Dearest Georg,

Now you are home alone, I missed you today. You are the best husband of all. We were in town for the whole day and we are all very tired this evening. We received a letter from the Hillbrands, they write that they are glad that we are coming, so we are leaving Monday morning and we will be back home Wednesday.

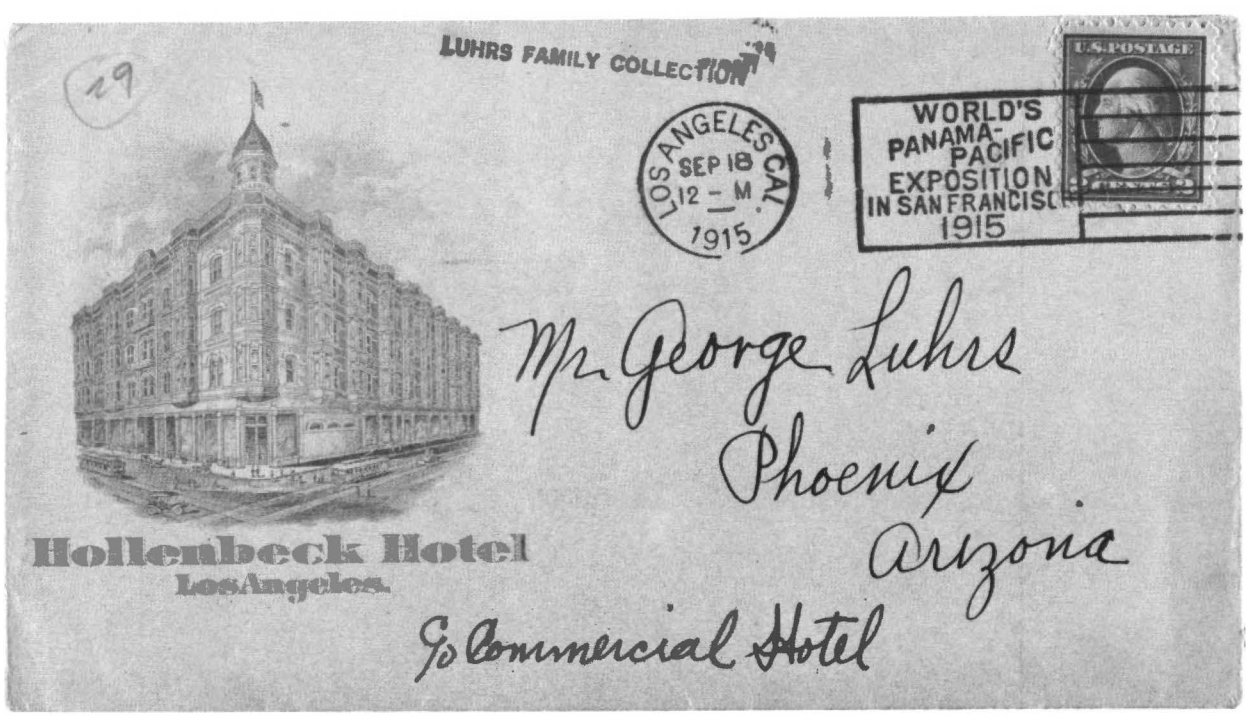
I hope you found everything in order when you came home. Tomorrow we will see Arthur, hopefully.

Greetings and Kisses

Your Gretchen
Ella and Emma

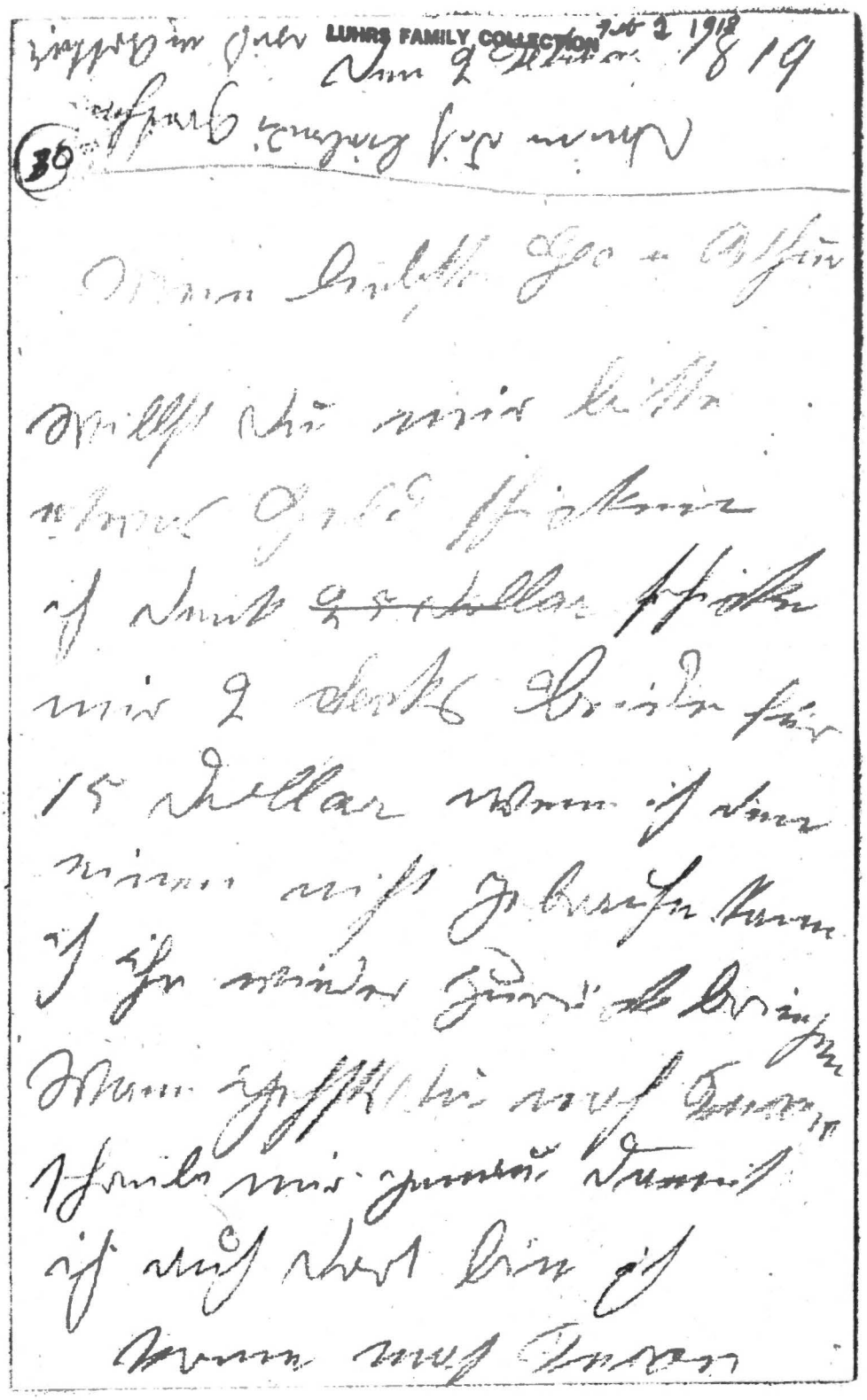
P.S. Put a letter from George in your next letter. I hope it wasn't too hot when you were traveling.

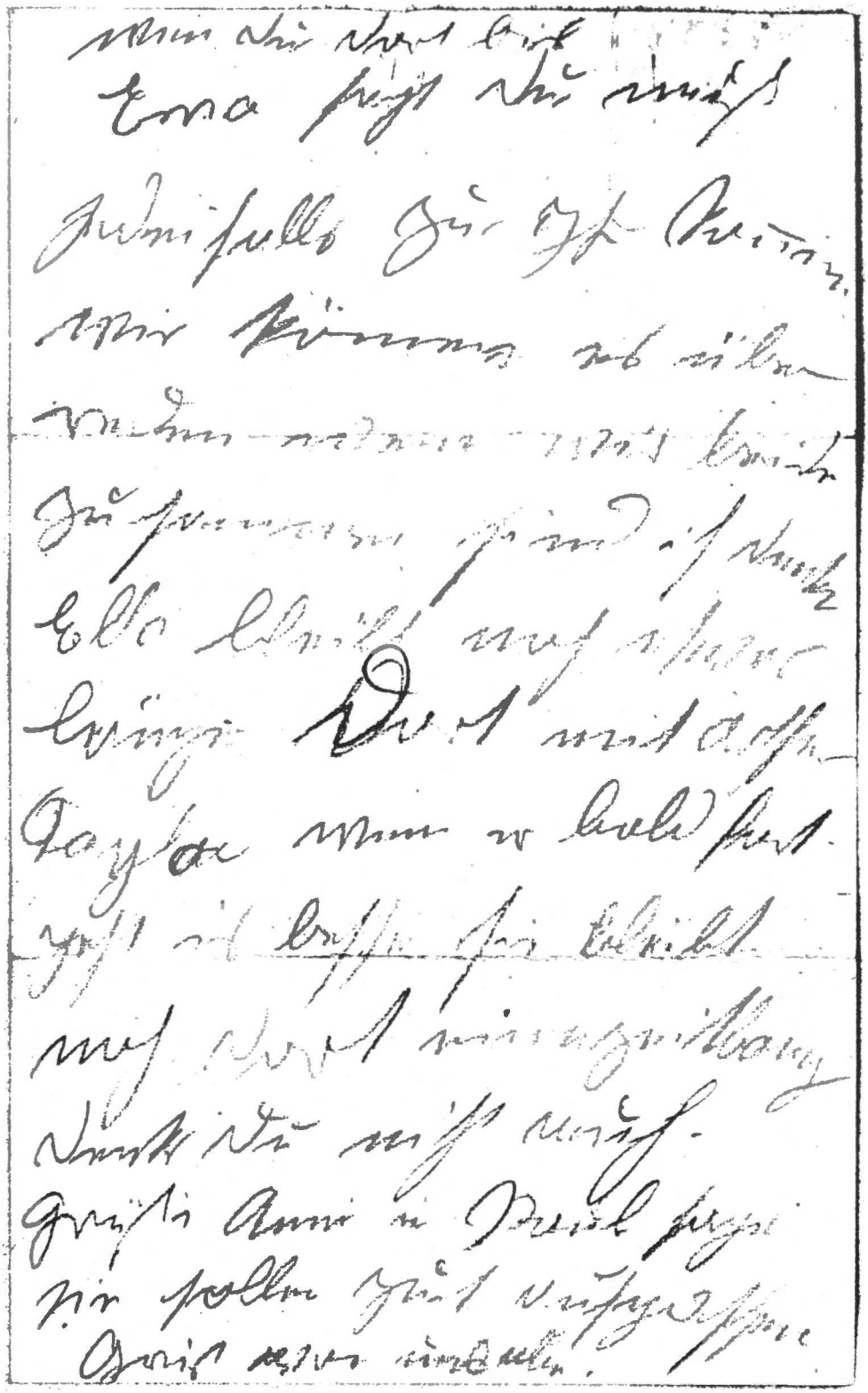
(This letter was written near the end of the usual summer vacation at the "beach". Geo H.N. and George, Jr. had recently gone so that Arthur Luhrs could have his yearly vacation at the "beach".)



Letter 30

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION





Letter 30

Gleeson, Arizona February 2, 1918

My Dearest Geo and Arthur,

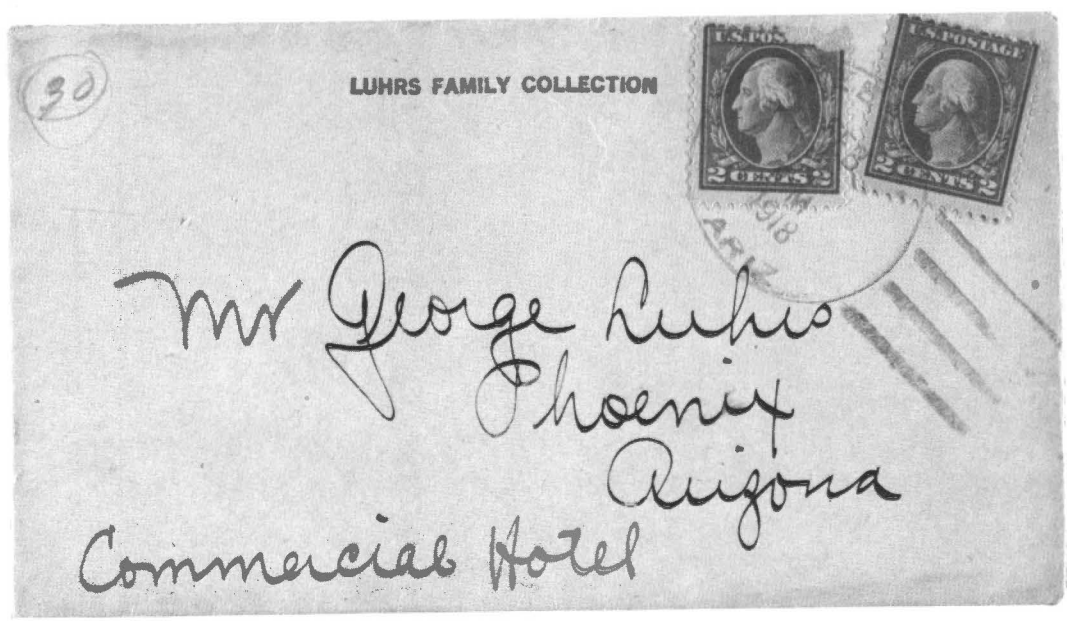
Would you please send me more money. I think you should send me two check each for 15 dollars. If I don't use one then I can bring it back.

When do you go to Tucson? Write exactly so that I can be there. Will come to Tucson when you are there. Emma said that you have to come here. We can talk it over when we are together. I think Ella will stay here a little longer with Arthur Taylor; he goes away soon. It is better when she stays here a little longer. Don't you think so too?

Greetings from all,

Your Loving Gretchen

P. S. Greetings to Arthur.



Letter 31 (31)

Den 8 Febr 1918

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Mein lieber Glo u. Arthur

Dies is der letzte
Brief den ich Dir
Schreibe bringe Kamm
u. Bürste und kleinen
Spiegel ich habe kein
mitgebracht hoffen
das alles gut in Ordnung
Zu is Erna sagt wenn
Du jetzt nicht kommen
kannst, das thut Ihr
sehr leid hat sich so

Gefreut dazu die
arme Haut, ich denke
Du kommst vielleicht
in März kommen
Arthur my Boy
write to your
Mother, you know
I miss you
With much
love and
Kiss from
your
Grethen

Letter 31

Gleeson, Arizona, February 8, 1918

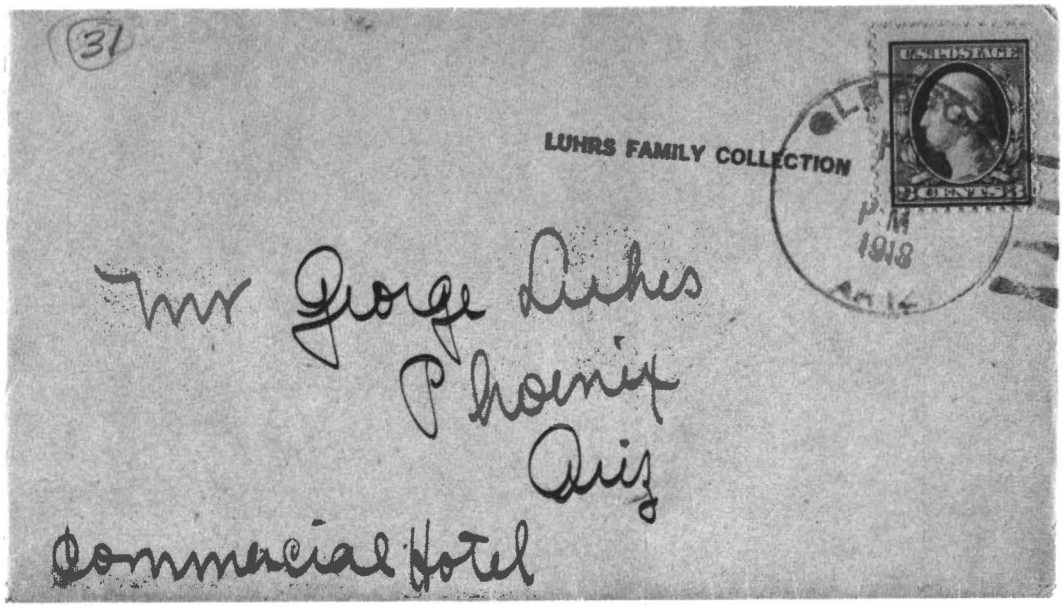
My dear Geo and Arthur,

This is the last letter that I write you. Bring a comb and brush and a little mirror, I didn't bring one. Hopefully, everything is in order. Emma said she will be very sorry if you can't come in March.

Arthur my boy, write your mother, you know how much I miss you. With much love,

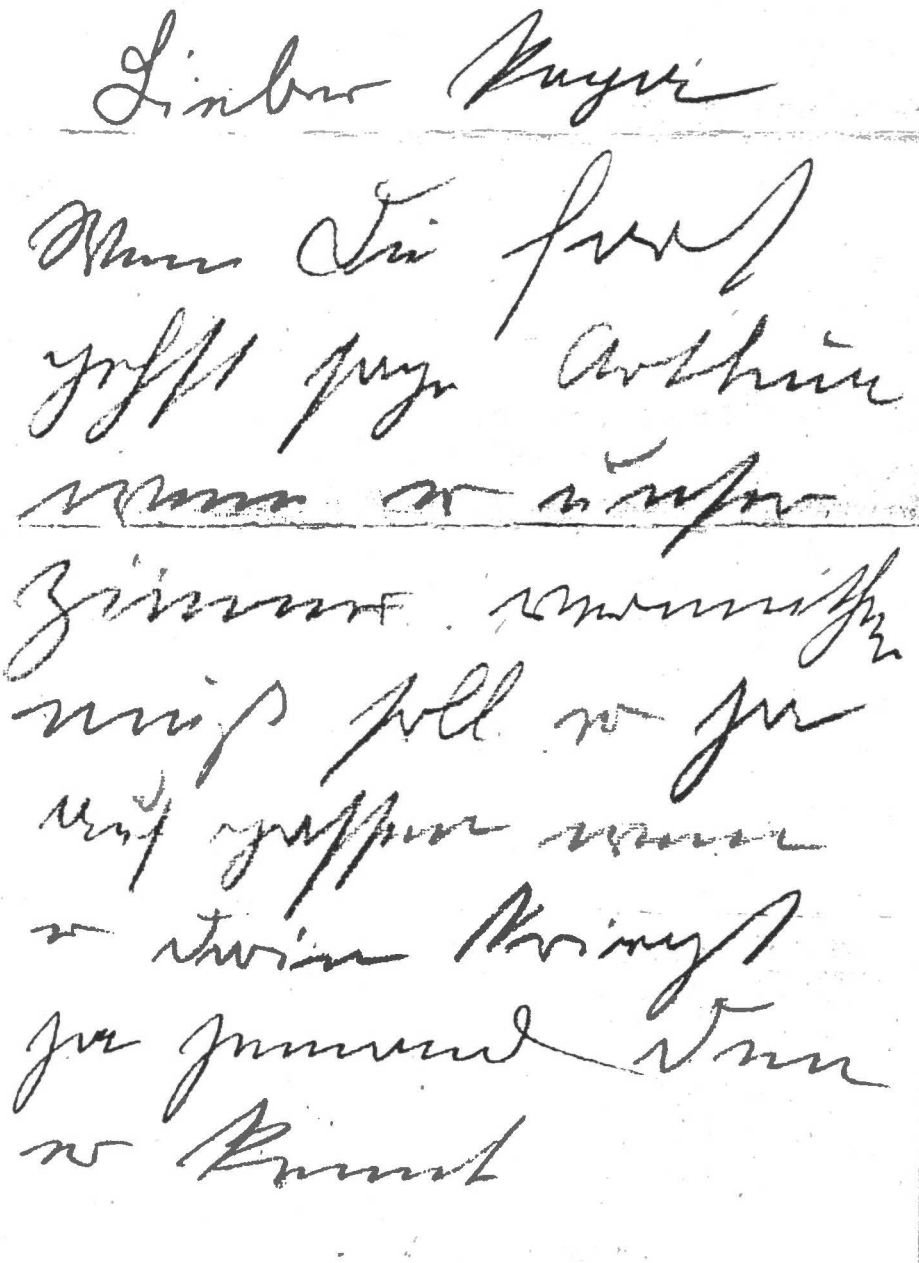
and kisses,

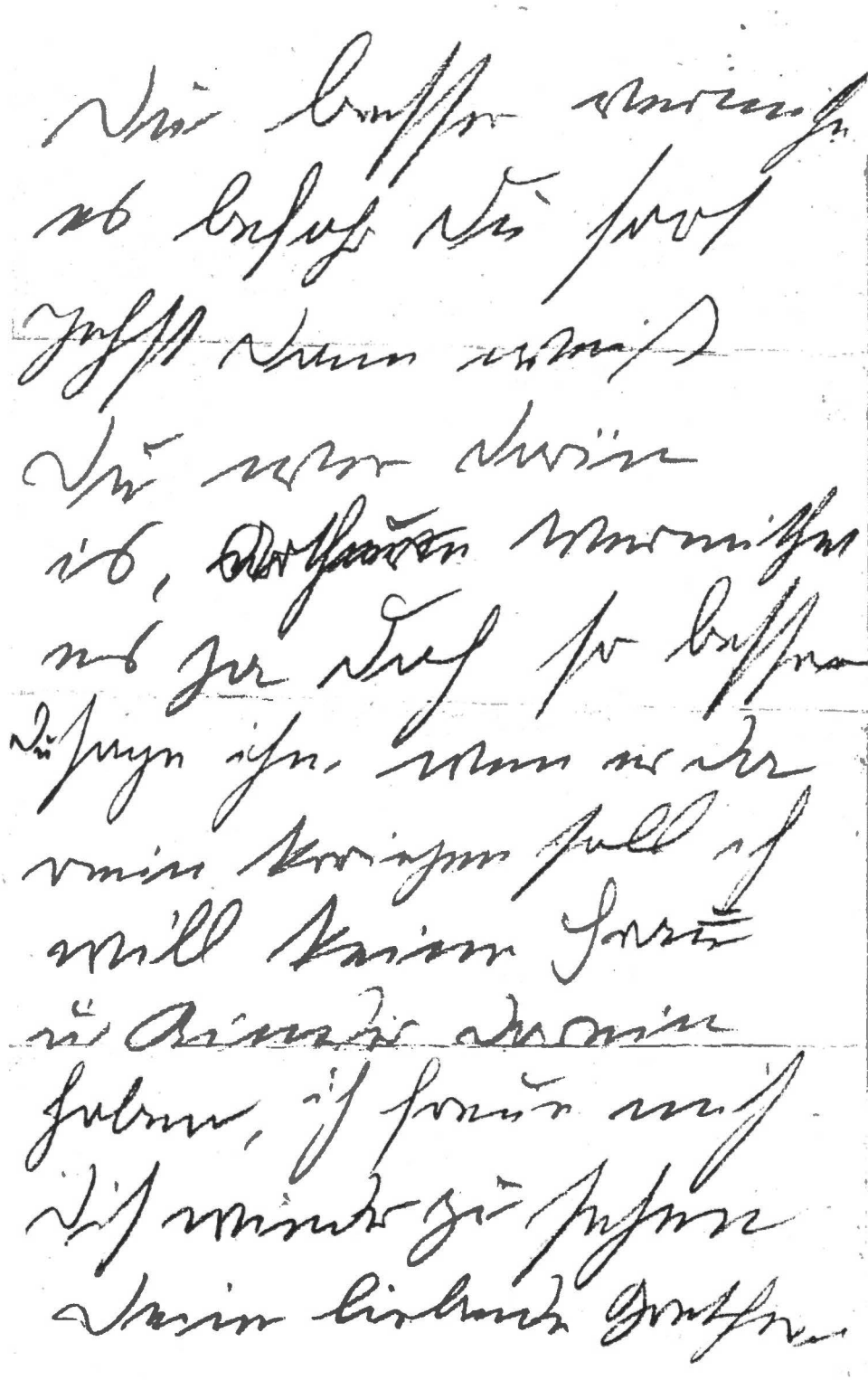
Your Gretchen



Letter 32

Feb 9 1918





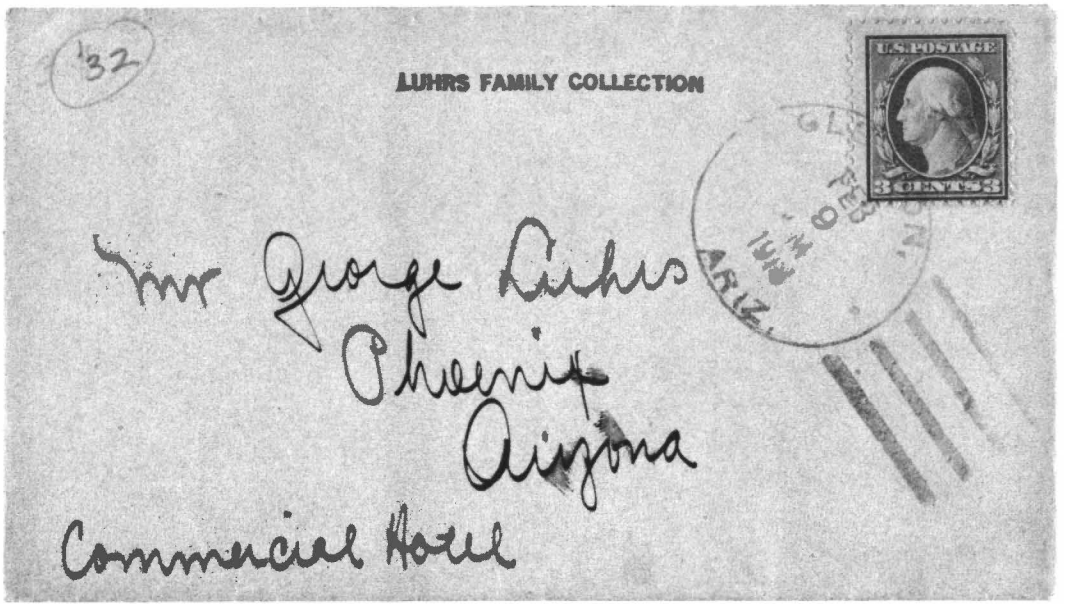
Letter 32

Gleeson, Arizona, February 9, 1918

Dear Papa,

Before you leave, tell Arthur if he should have to rent out our room he should watch and give it to someone he knows. It is better if you rent it to somebody before you leave so you know who is in there. It would be better if you told him that I don't want a woman and children in it. I am glad that I will see you again.

your Loving Gretchen



Am 16 Feb. 1918

Feb 16 1918

33

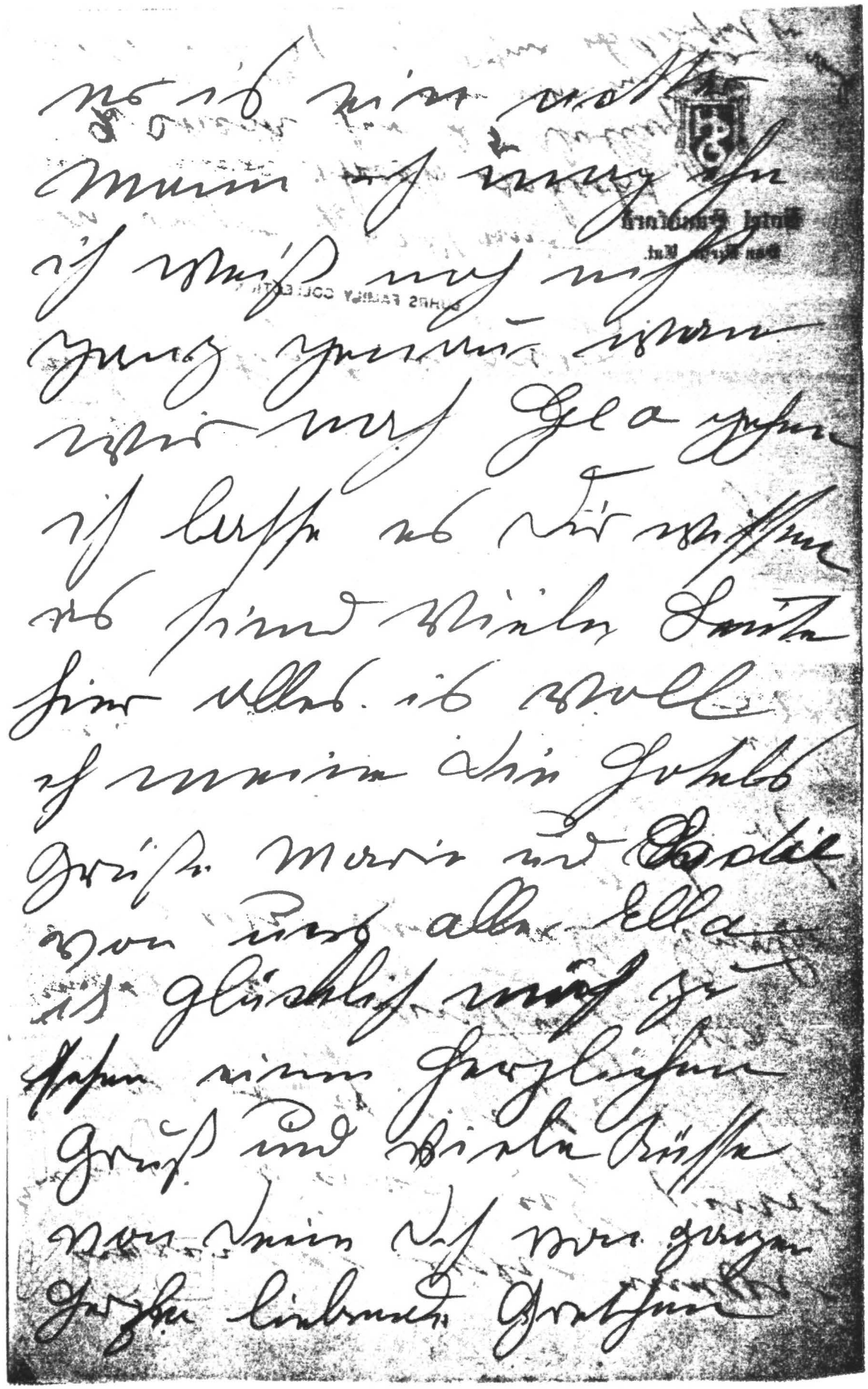
Hotel Sandford
San Diego, Cal.

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Letter 33

Lieber Papa und
Arthur

Ella und Arthur
sind sehr glücklich
zusammen ich bin
so froh darüber
ganz genau wie
wir zusammen leben
ich wünsche er könnte
mit zu Hause kommen
wenn wir kommen



Letter 33

San Diego, February 16, 1918

Dear Papa and Arthur (Luhrs),

Ella and Arthur (Taylor) are very happy together. I'm glad about that. I wish he could come home with us. He is a nice man. I like him. I don't know when exactly we will go to Geo's, I will let you know.

There are many people here, everything is full, I mean the hotels. Greetings to Marie and Sadie from all of us. Ella is glad to see me.

Dear Greetings and Kisses,
I love you from the deep of my heart

Your Gretchen

P.S. You better send me two checks, each for 25 dollars. It costs so much when we go to Geo's. (at Stanford)

/Letter 34

(34)

Feb 20 1918

Mittwoch den 20 Feb. 1918

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Hotel Sandford
San Diego, Cal.

Mein lieber Geo. u. Arthur

Habe heute 2 Briefe von Dir erhalten gestern keinen auch Ema hat mir geschrieben es scheint als ob Sie etwas besser fühlt sie schreibt das Sie sich freut wenn der Monat vorbei ist damit wir kommen Bey hat auch an Ella geschrieben es schreibt das es sich freut wenn ich wieder komme

Wir waren gestern nach Caradas

3

Hotel Sandford
San Diego, Cal.

4

Letter 34

San Diego, Wednesday, February 20, 1918

My Dear Georg and Arthur

Received 2 letters from you today. Emma wrote me yesterday, it seems that she feels a little better. She said that she will be glad when this month is over so we can see each other. Reg wrote to Ella also, he wrote that he will be glad when I come home again.

Yesterday, we were in Coronado. I liked it very much. We also went to the place where all the ...(illegible)...are. We don't know if we will get to see Geo or whether he will come to see us. It doesn't cost that much for him to come here as it would for the both of us to go there. (Stanford) I'll let you know what we are going to do when we've decided. If he would leave there tomorrow morning, Thursday, he could be here Friday morning.

He doesn't have school on Friday, so he can stay with us for three days. I can't wait until we find out in which class he is in.

Thank you for the checks, I didn't expect that much. I'm glad that everything is going fine at home. Anni hasn't written me, Arthur just came. I will close now, he wants to go out for dinner. Greetings to Sadie and the children and Marie. I'm glad that you were there for dinner Sunday.

I don't know yet when we are coming home, I will let you know as soon as we decide.

Greetings and Kisses from your

Loving Gretchen

P. S. I'm having a good time here.

Letter 35

1

Nm 21 Feb 1918

(35)

Feb 21 1918

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Hotel Sandford
San Diego, Cal.

Mein lieber Geo u Arthur

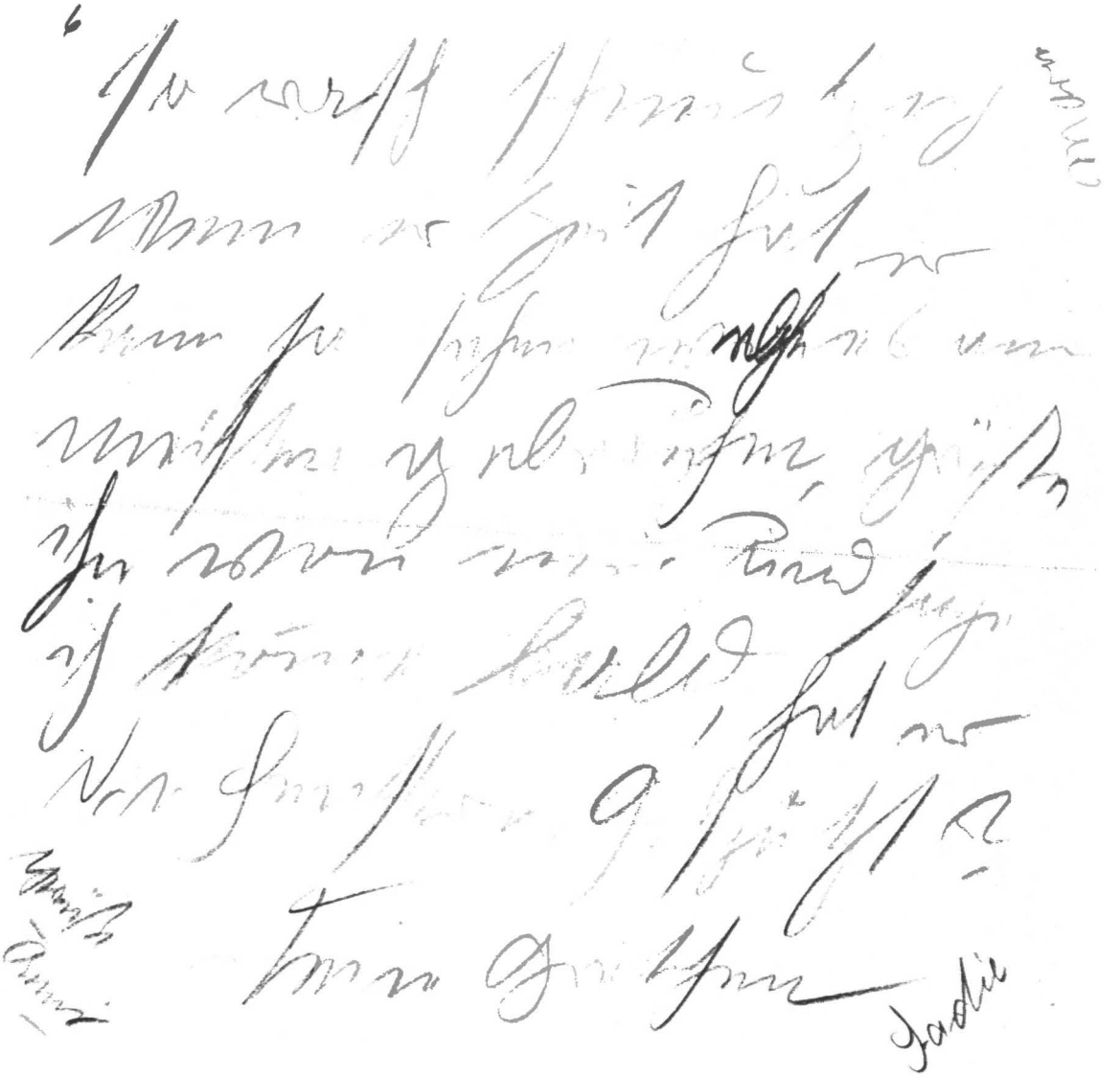
Kannst das Packet von
Hibarts Dort behalten.
Wie geht es mit Deinem
Report bis bald fertig
ich bin froh wenn es
vorbei ist dann hat Du
es einen wenig besser
Gestern War Arthur
Hier er sagt Freitag ist eine
Größe Rewich und er will
haben wir sollen kommen
wir wollten nach Geo gehen

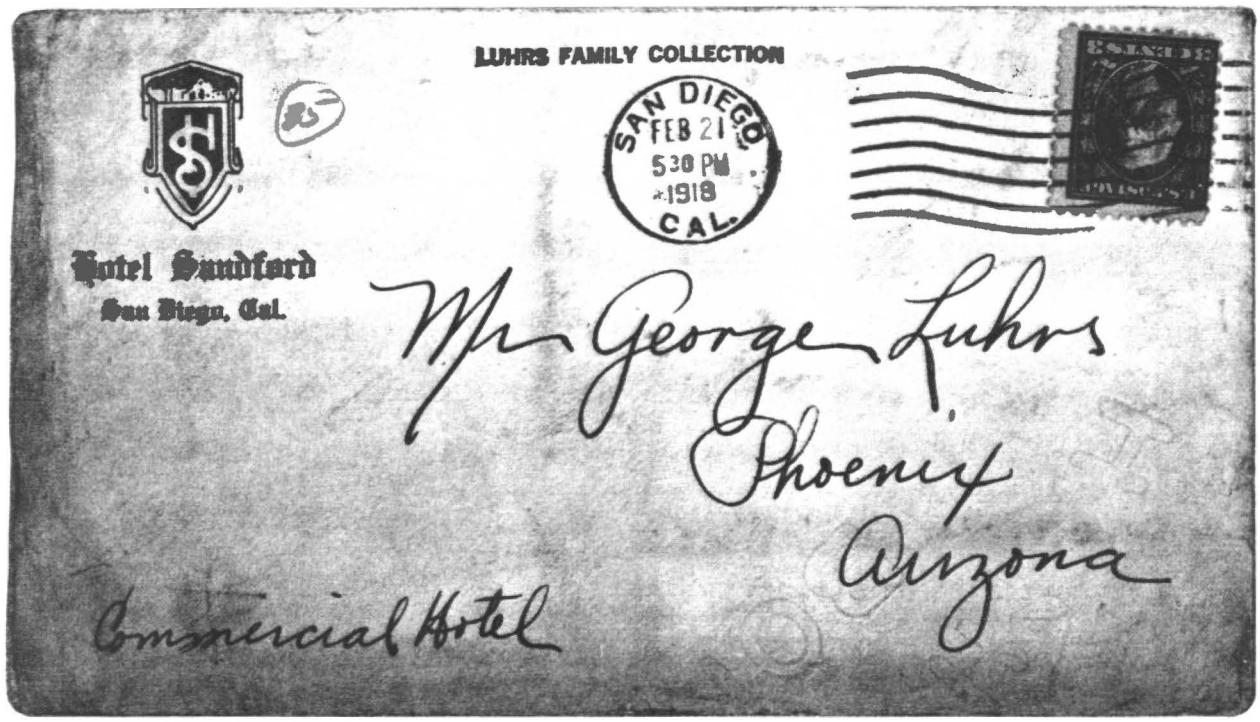
35

Hotel Sandford
San Diego, Cal.

(35) 5 LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Hotel Sandford
San Diego, Cal.




LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION
SAN DIEGO
FEB 21
5:30 PM
1918
CAL.
Hotel Sandford
San Diego, Cal.
Mr George Luhrs
Phoenix
Arizona
Commercial Hotel

Letter 35

(San Diego) February 21, 1918

Dear, Dear Geo and Arthur (Luhrs),

You can keep the baggage from Hibbards there. How is it going with your report, will you finish soon? I'll be glad when it is over, you are going to have it better than before. Arthur (Taylor) was here yesterday, he said that there is a big parade on Friday. He wants us to come.

We want to go to Geo's on Sunday, so we thought it would be better if he came over here, we sent him a telegraph that he should come to us and stay until Sunday. The answer was that he can't come because he has to have a physical on Saturday, the 23rd, so he has to stay there. I thought you said that he had to report for induction on Monday? In the telegraph he said to please come and see him, so I think that we will have to stay a week longer. If he has to go to San Jose on Saturday, that would take the whole day so we would have only one day with him. I think we will go next Friday, then we can stay Saturday, Sunday, Monday with him. By that time they will know if Taylor has to go too. Then Ella can come here from Los Angeles. To think that both will have to go, nobody knows. Ella wanted to be home on the 28th so she could go to the Eastern Star meeting. But it looks like right now she can't go. I would like to come home but I think we will go see Geo first and then come home, one doesn't know what to do.

Greetings and Kisses From

Your Loving Gretchen

and Ella and Arthur (Taylor)

P.S. Tell Paul that he can use the vacuum cleaner again in the rooms for the carpets get dirty just like that. If he has time he can check and see which need it the most. Tell him hi from me and tell him that I'll be back soon. Did he clean the windows? How did the office curtains come out. Did they wash them good?

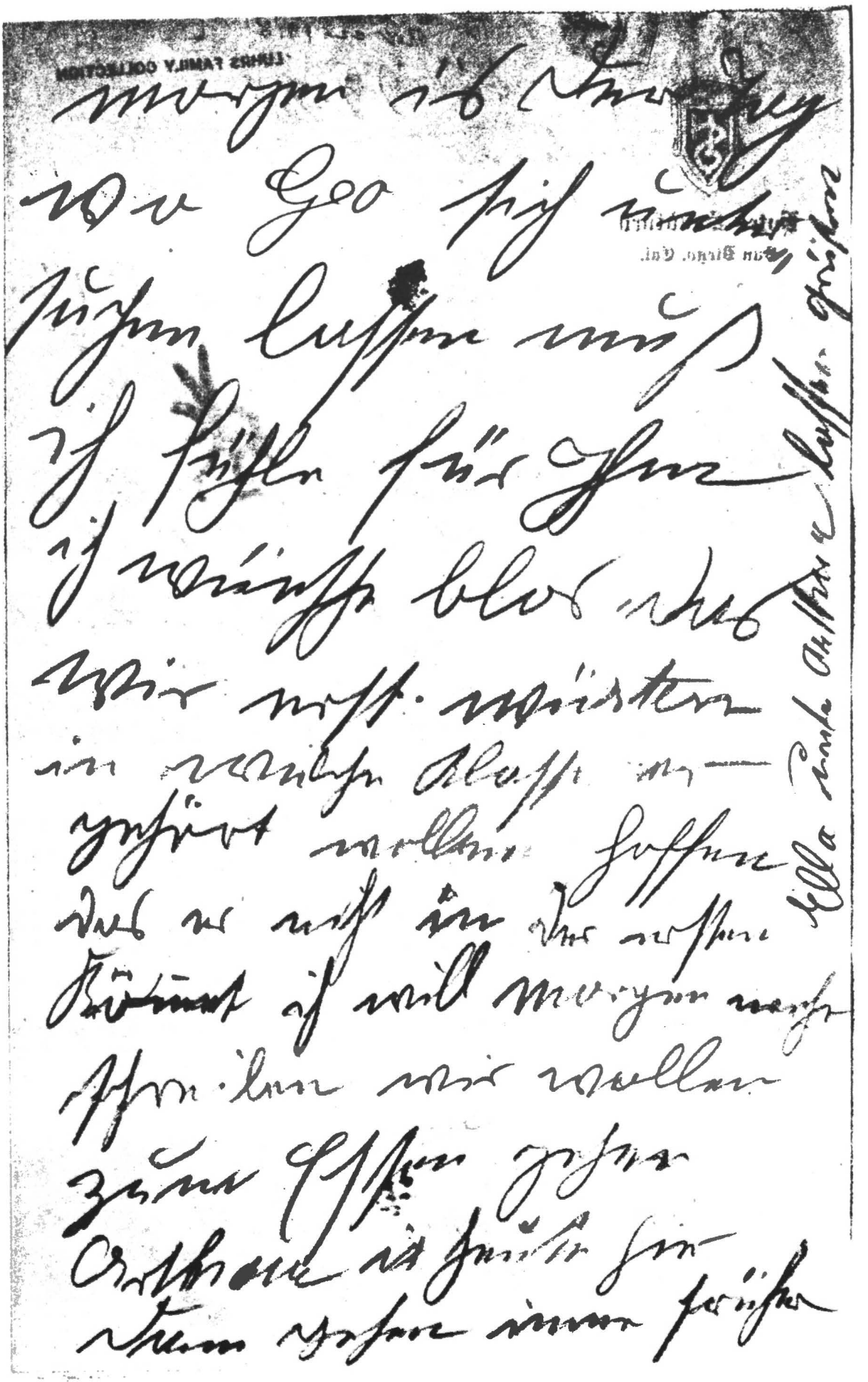
Greetings to Anni and Sadie

Your Gretchen

Letter 36

LUDWIG FAMILY COLLECTION

Hotel Sandford
San Diego, Cal.



Letter 36

February 22, 1918

Dear Papa and Arthur (Luhrs),

It is raining hard here, so they will not have the big parade, that's too bad, maybe we will not see it then. Nobody knows when it will be. Tomorrow is the day when Geo has to go to his physical. I feel for him. I wish we knew in which class he would be classified (for the draft), hopefully not the first.

I will write more tomorrow, we want to go out for dinner. Arthur (Taylor) is here today, so we will go earlier.

Greetings from Ella and Arthur (Taylor)

Many Greetings and Kisses

Your Loving Gretchen

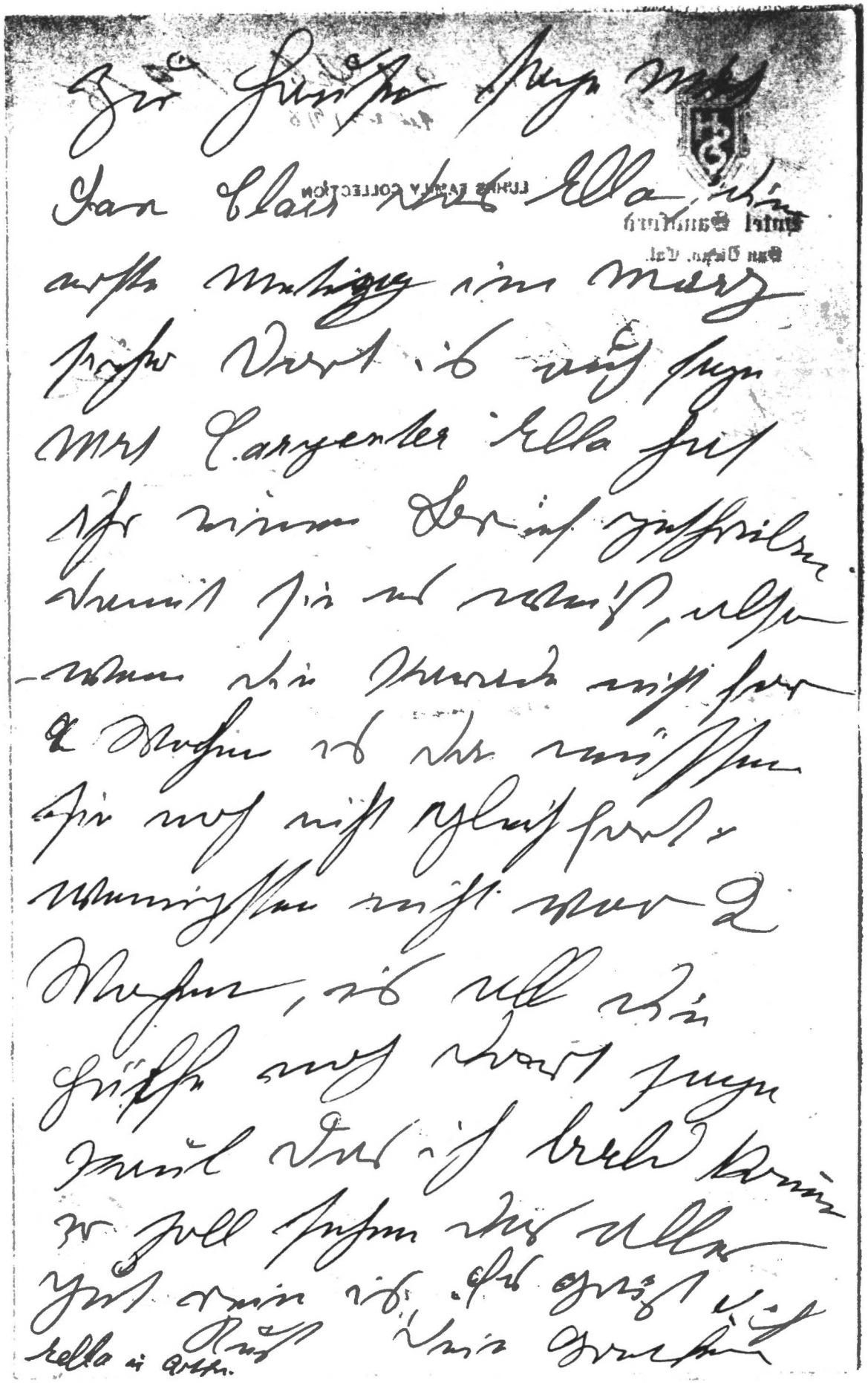
Letter 37

Den 23 Feb 1918
Feb 23 1918

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Hotel Sandford
San Diego, Cal.

Lieber Geo u. Arthur
heute ist der Tag wo
sich Geo untersuchen lassen
muß ich kann gar nichts
anders denken meine
Kopf thut mir weh
davon wenn wir doch
mal erst wußten
in welche Classe er
ist die große Parade
wird nicht für 2 Wochen
sein da bin ich wieder



Letter 37

February 23, 1918

Dear Geo and Arthur (Luhrs),

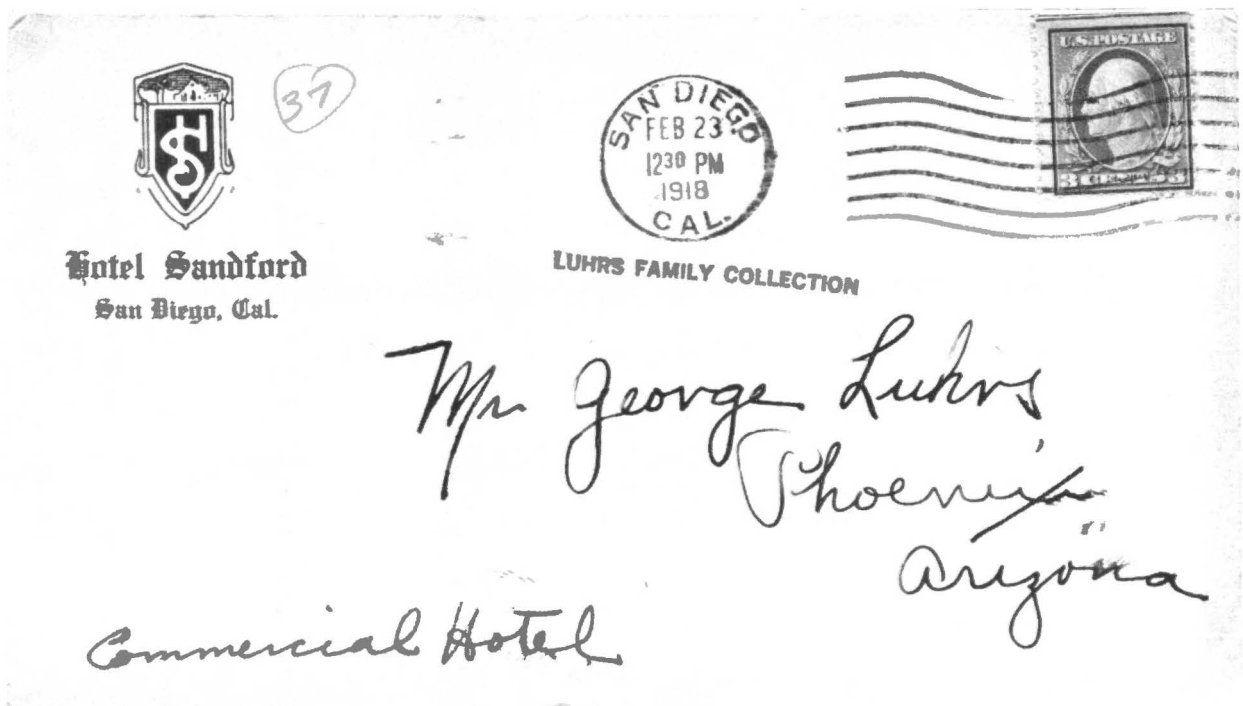
Today is the day that Geo has to go for the physical. I can't think of anything else, my head rushes from it. If we would only know what class (classification for the draft) he will be in. The big parade will be in two weeks, I will be at home by then. Tell Mrs. San Clair that Ella will be there in March for the first meeting. Tell Mrs. Carpenter that Ella wrote her a letter so she knows that if the parade is not for two weeks they don't have to leave right away, at least not for two more weeks.

Is all the help there? Tell Paul that I will come soon, he should see that everything is really clean.

Greetings and Kisses,

Your Gretchen

and Ella and Arthur (Taylor)



Letter 38

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Den 25 Feb 1918

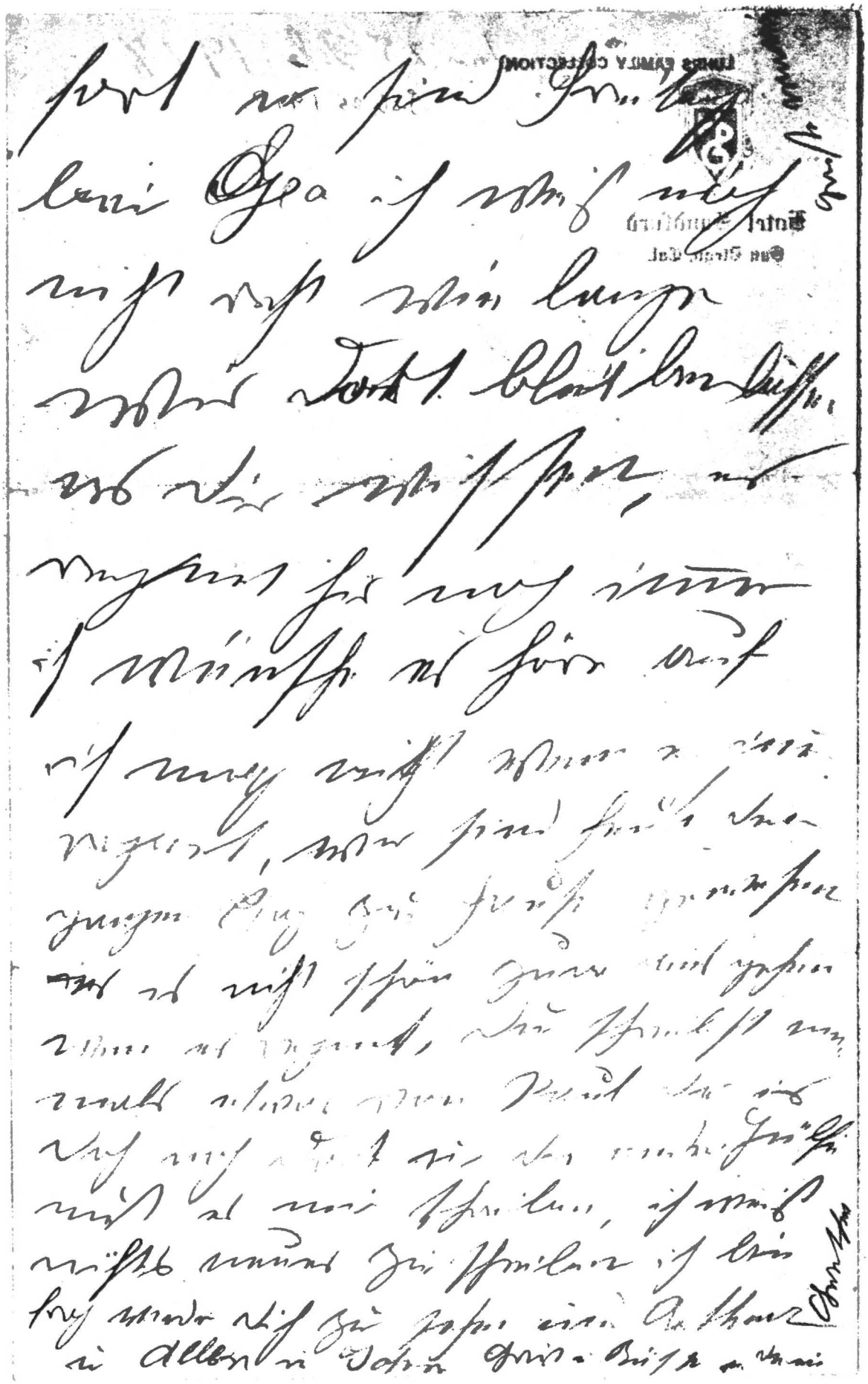
Feb 25 1918

Hotel Sandford
San Diego, Cal.

Mein liebster Geo. Arthur

Wieder ist ein Tag vergangen
bald sind wir wieder
bei Dir die Karten
kann nicht ab es regnet
so stark es wird nicht
bis am 8 März geht
sein, schade ich hätte es
gerne gesehen, dann
tag um 3 Uhr gehen
wir von hier

Grüß Mama
Lillian Arthur



Letter 38

(San Diego) February 25, 1918

My Dearest Geo and Arthur (Luhrs),

Another day is over and we are together soon. The parade isn't until the 8th of March. It is still raining hard, too bad, I would like to see it.

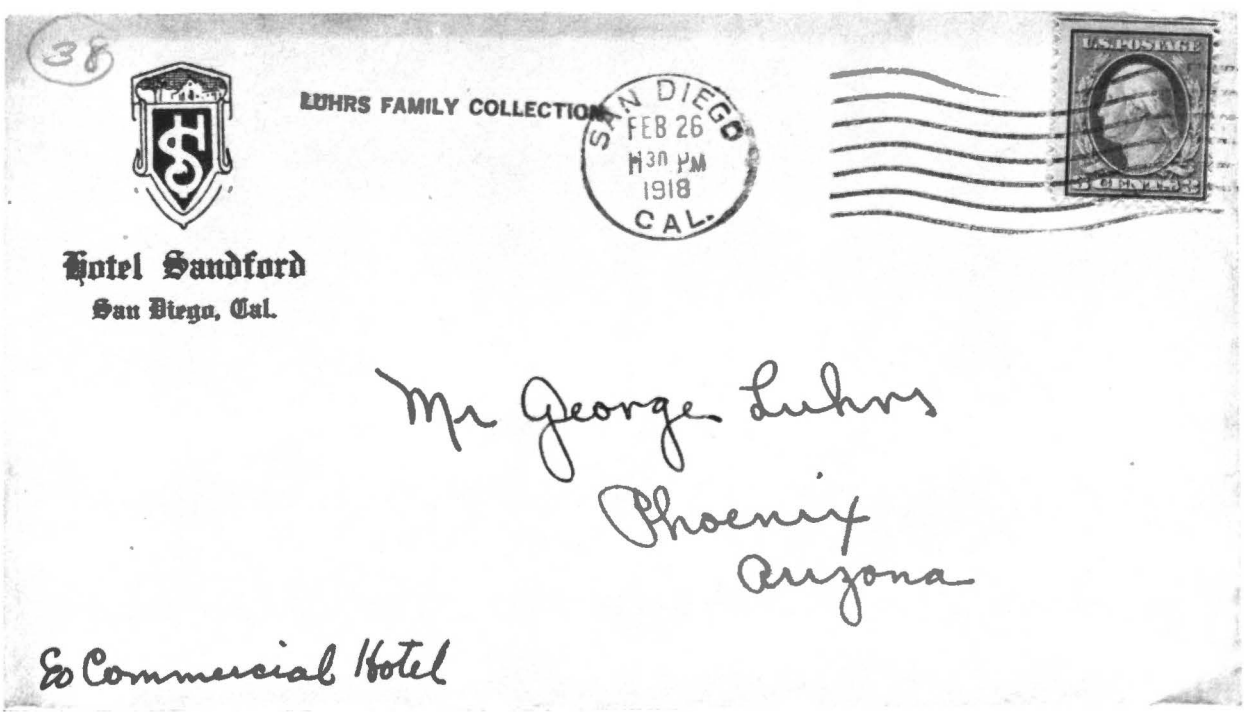
Thursday at 3 o'clock we leave from here, so we will be with Geo on Friday. I don't know how long we will stay with him. I'll let you know. It is still raining here and I wish it would stop. I don't like it when it rains all the time. Today we stayed at home all day.

It is not nice to go outside when it is raining. You wrote something about Paul, isn't he still there? He has to write me. I don't know what else to write, I'll be glad to see you again soon and Arthur and John and all.

Greetings and Kisses

Your Gretchen

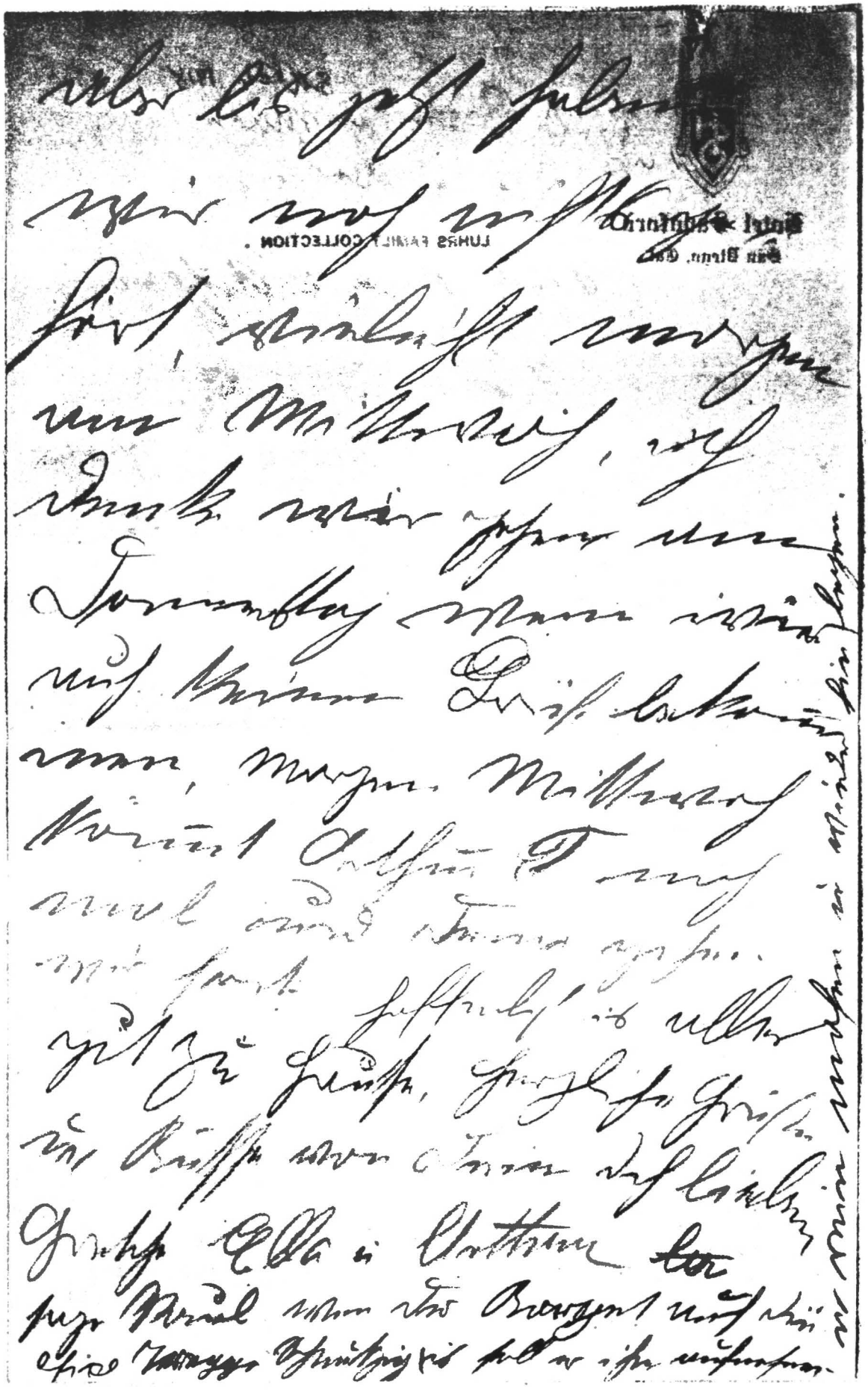
Greetings from Ella and Arthur (Taylor)



Letter 39

Hotel Sandford
San Diego, Cal.

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION



Letter 39

February 26, 1918

Dear Papa and Arthur (Luhrs),

I didn't receive a letter form you today. From Geo (George, Jr.) either. We thought for sure that we would get one, we wrote to him to let us know if its o.k. if we come on Thursday to visit him. We haven't heard anything yet, maybe tomorrow, Wednesday. I think we will go Thursday, even if we don't get a letter. Tomorrow, Wednesday, Arthur (Taylor) is going to come once more before we will leave. I hope everything is fine at home.

Dear Greetings and kisses from your Arthur (Taylor) and Ella. Tell Paul that if the carpet in the office is dirty, he should take it out, wash it good and put it back.

Greetings to Sadie and Marie, Anni and Paul.

Letter 40

Nov 27 Feb 1918

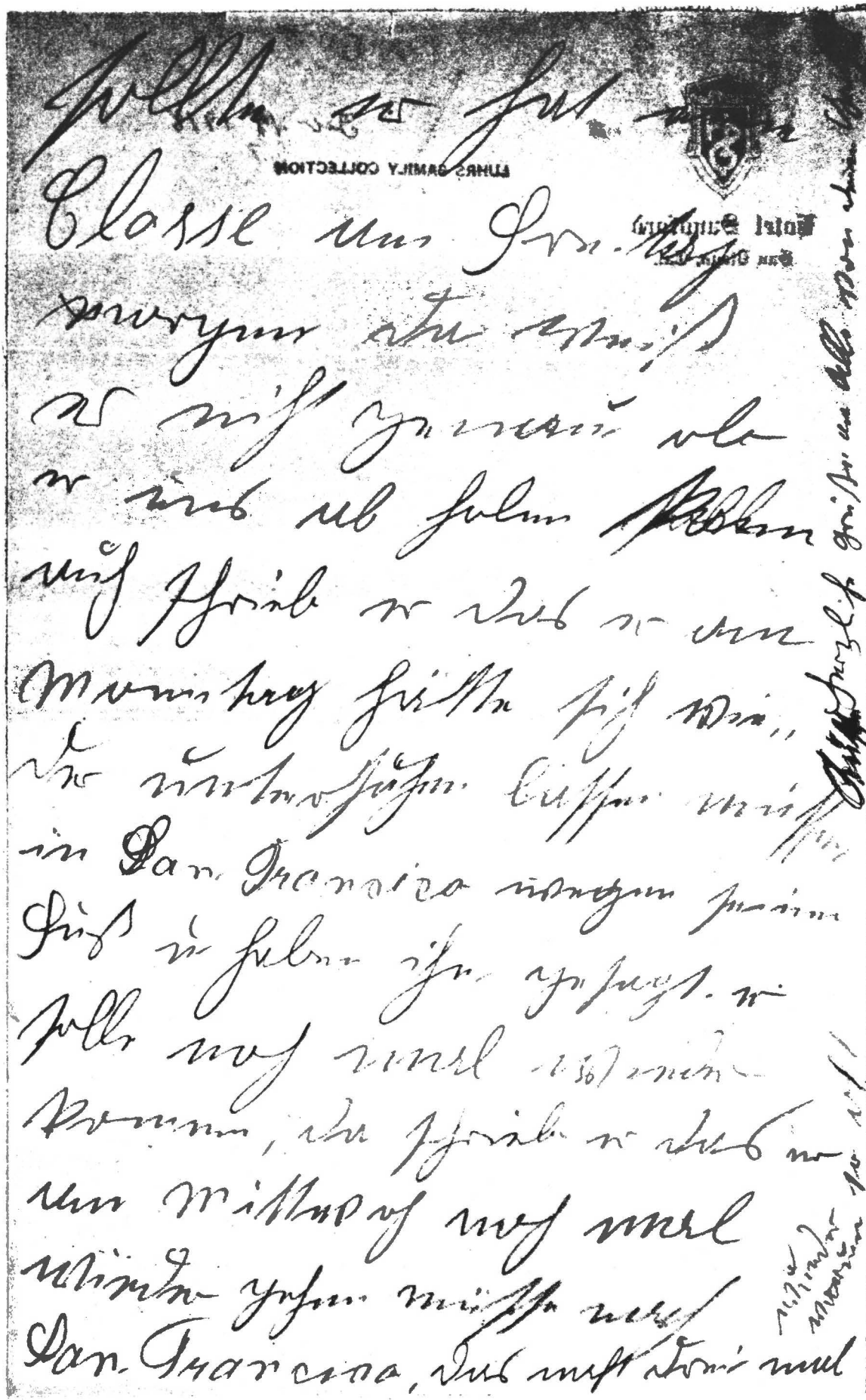
Feb 27 1918

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Hotel Sandford
San Diego, Cal.

Mein liebe Geo
Arthur

Morgen gehen wir von
hier fort um 3 Uhr.
Dann sind wir Freitag
Morgen bei Geo, er hat
uns heute einen Brief
geschrieben u. uns gesagt
wie wir zu seinem
Hause gehen sollen wenn
er nicht am Bahnhof sein



Letter 40

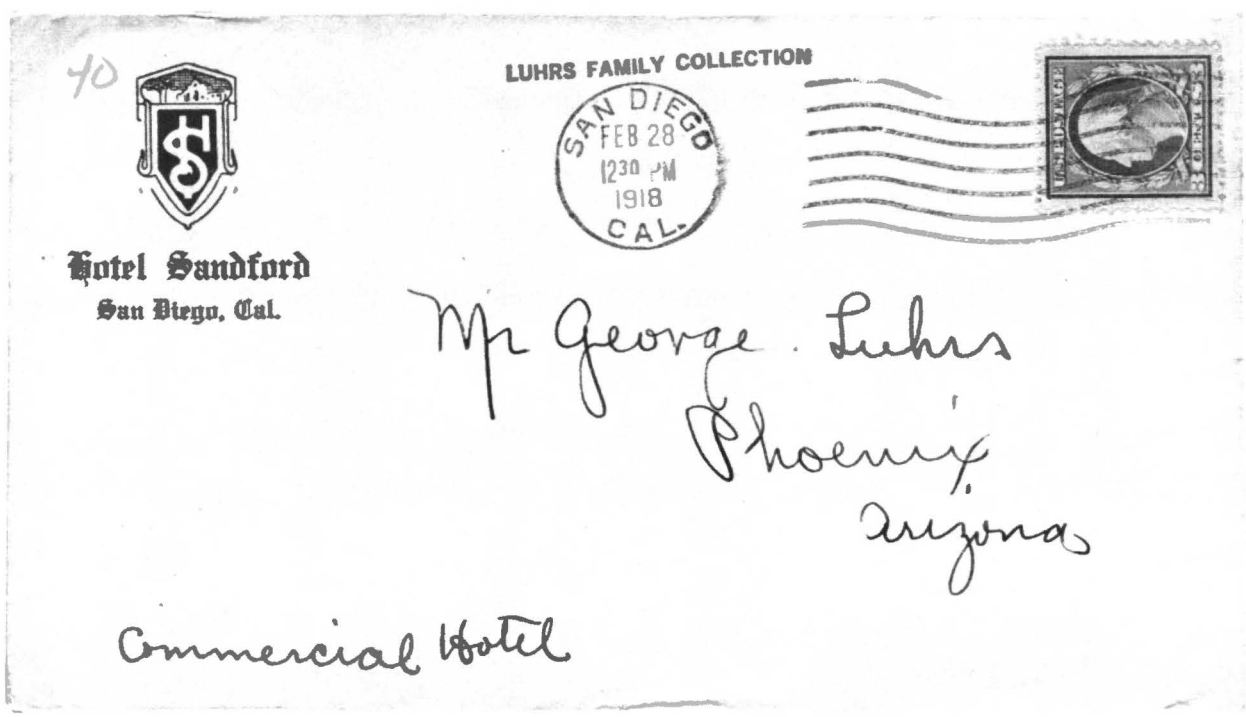
San Diego, February 27, 1918

My Dear Geo and Arthur (Luhrs),

We leave tomorrow at 3 o'clock, then we will be at Geo's (George, Jr.) on Friday morning. He wrote us a letter today. He told us how to find his house if he is not at the railway station. He has to go to a class Friday morning, so he doesn't know if he can pick us up. He also wrote that he has to go to San Francisco to have his foot checked again. They told him that he has to come back again. So he wrote that he has to go to San Francisco again on Wednesday, that is enough, 3 times, I wonder why so often.

Dearest Greetings and Kisses,

Your Gretchen



Letter 41

28 Feb.
Feb 28 1918

Hotel Sandford
San Diego, Cal.

Lieber Papa

Wir schicken Dir
meinen Mantel
wir hatten keinen
Platz in unserm
Koffer kannst ihn
aufhängen wir gehen
jetzt am Train es ist
2 Uhr ich freue mich
ohne zu sehen Gruß
von Deine Gretchen

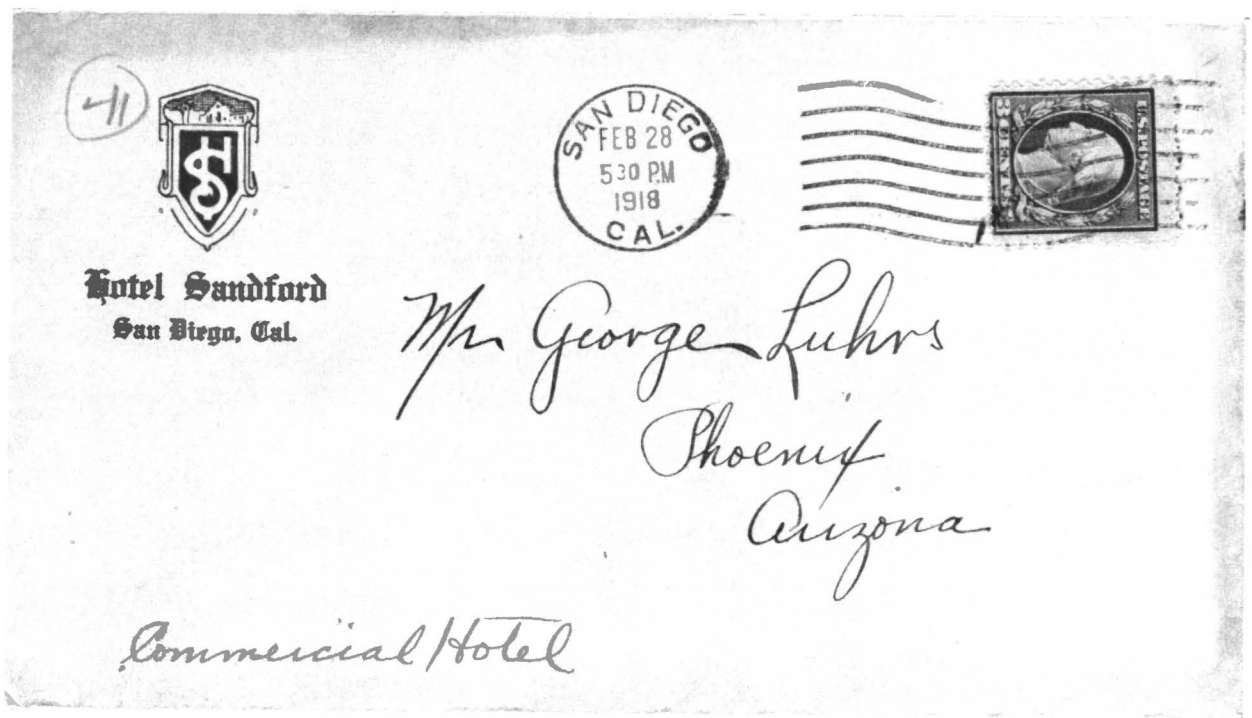
Letter 41

San Diego, February 28, 1918

Dear Papa,

We sent you my coat, we don't have enough room in our suitcases, you can hang it up. We go now to Stanford, it is 2 o'clock. I'll be glad to see him again.

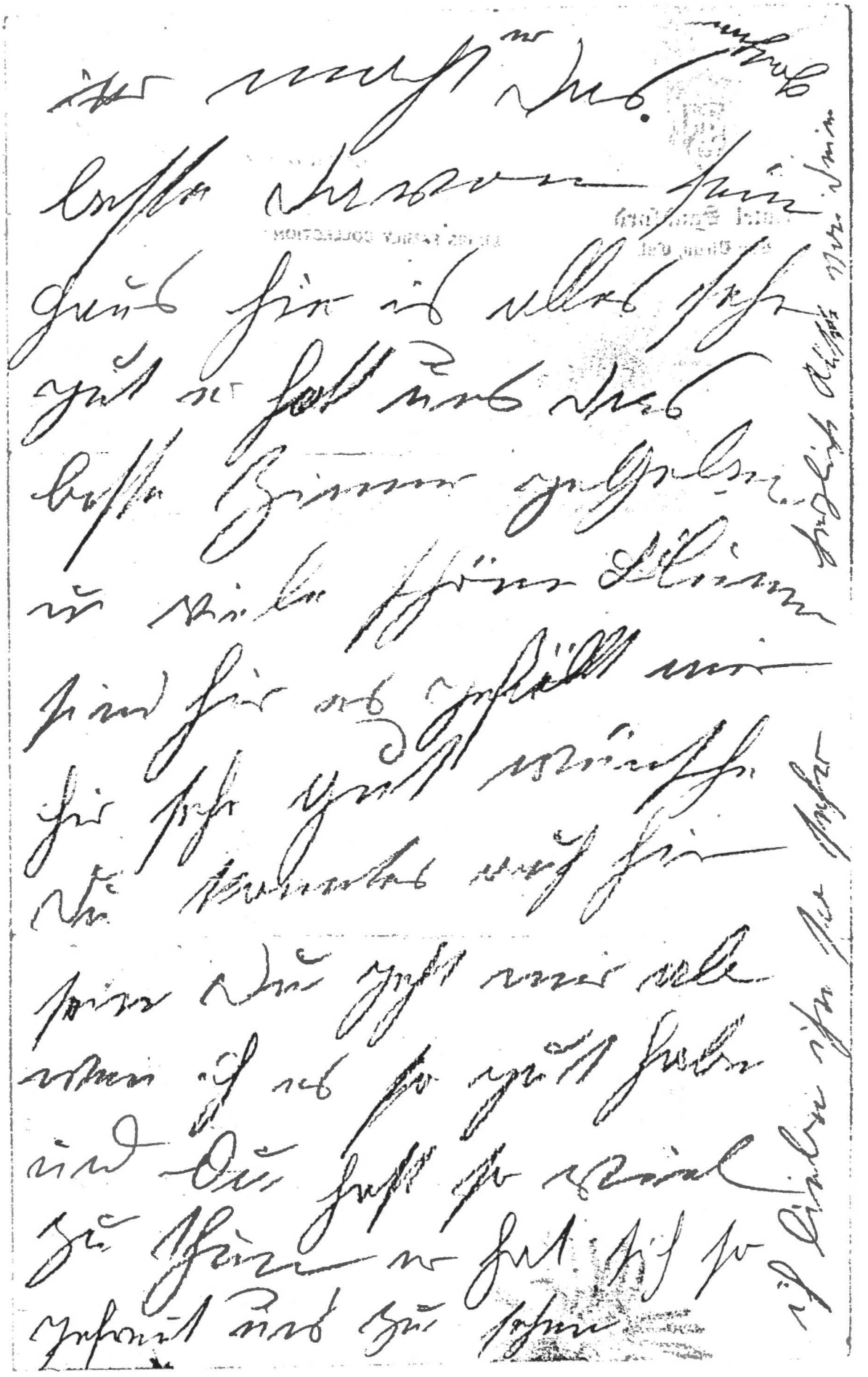
Greetings from your Gretchen



Letter 42

Hotel Sandford
San Diego, Cal.

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION



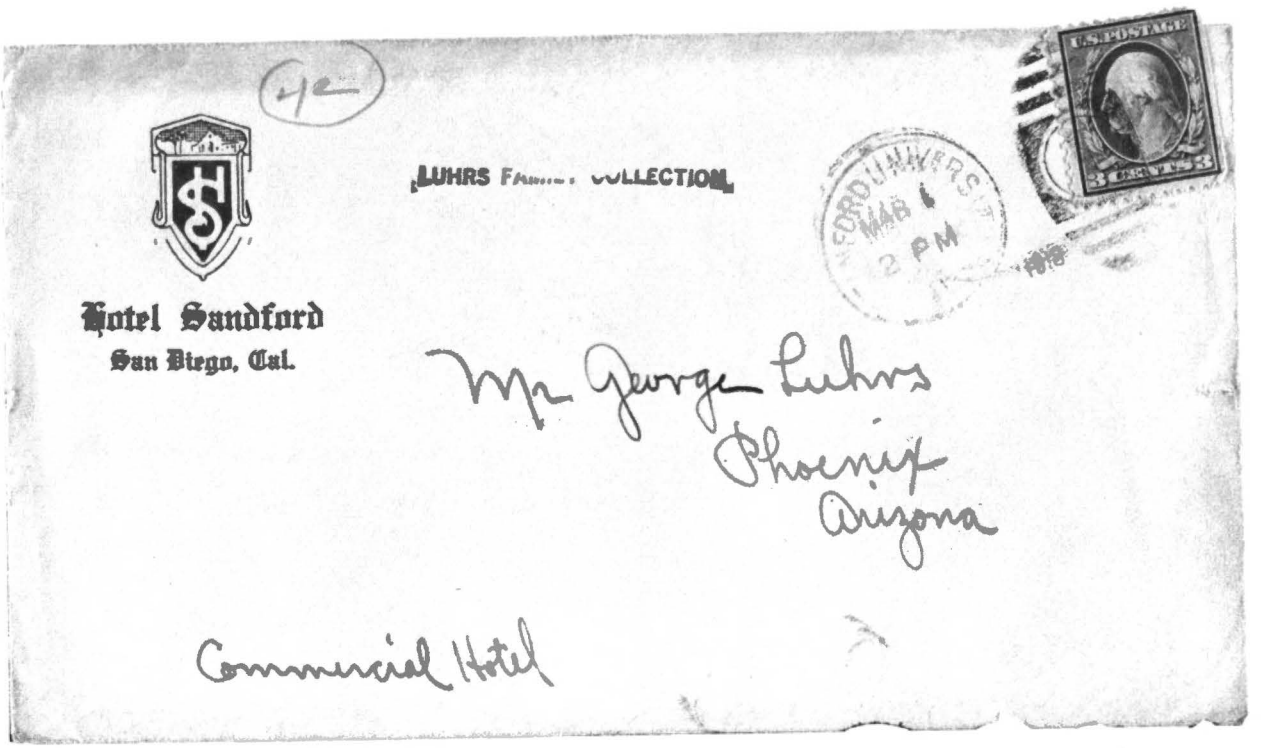
Letter 42

Stanford University, March 1, 1918

My Dear Geo and Papa,

We just arrived at Geo's (George, Jr.). He picked us up at the railway station. He is the best boy. He says that he is in the first class (classification for the draft). He is very brave. He says that if he has to go he is making the best out of it. The house that he has here is very nice. He gave the best room to us. There are many nice flowers here. I like it very much. I wish you could be here too. I miss you very much when I'm having such a good time and you have to work so hard. Geo was very glad to see us.

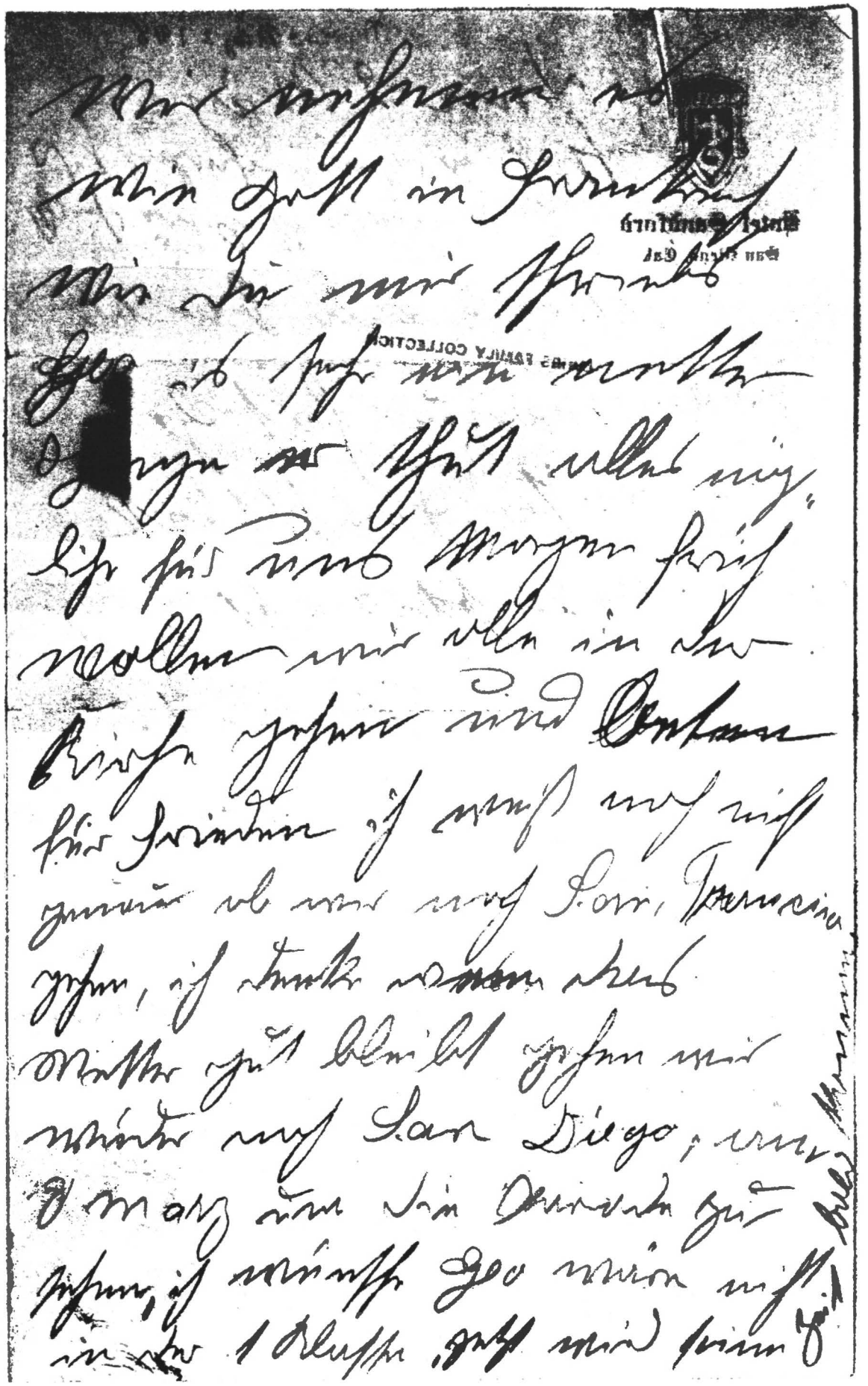
Dearest Greetings from Your
Gretchen.



Letter 43

Hotel Sandford
San Diego, Cal.

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION



Letter 43

Stanford University, March 2, 1918

My Dear Geo and Arthur (Luhrs),

This morning Geo (George, Jr.) brought our breakfast to our bed, what do you say to that? We got up at 9:30, we were very tired and hadn't planned anything for today. We like it here. We take it like "God in France", as you write me.

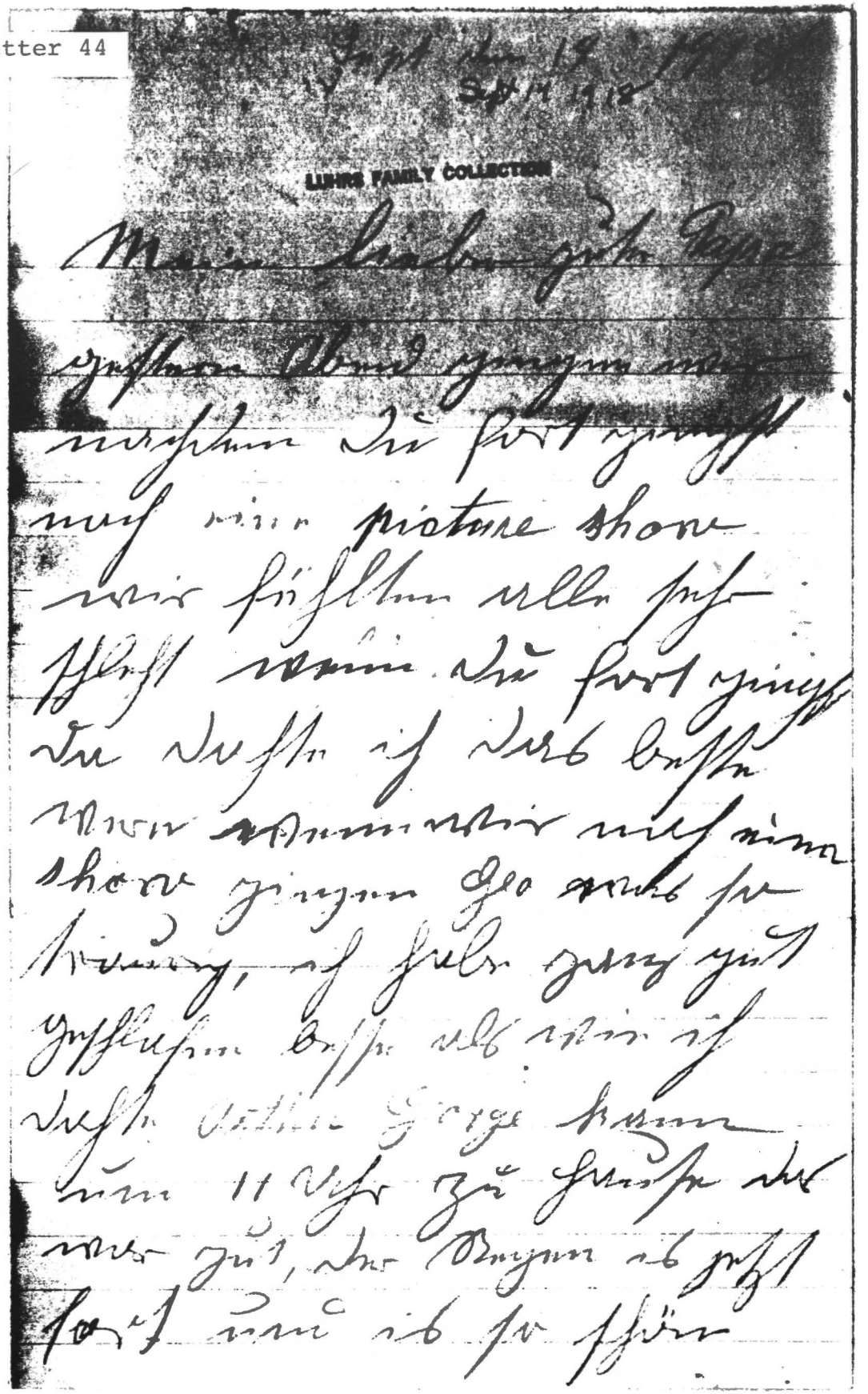
Geo is really a nice boy, he does everything for us. Tomorrow morning we are going to church (Memorial Church, Stanford) to pray for peace. I don't know yet if we will go to San Francisco. I think that if the weather stays nice, we will go back to San Diego, March 8th to see the parade. I wish that Geo wouldn't be in the first class, now his time soon is here.

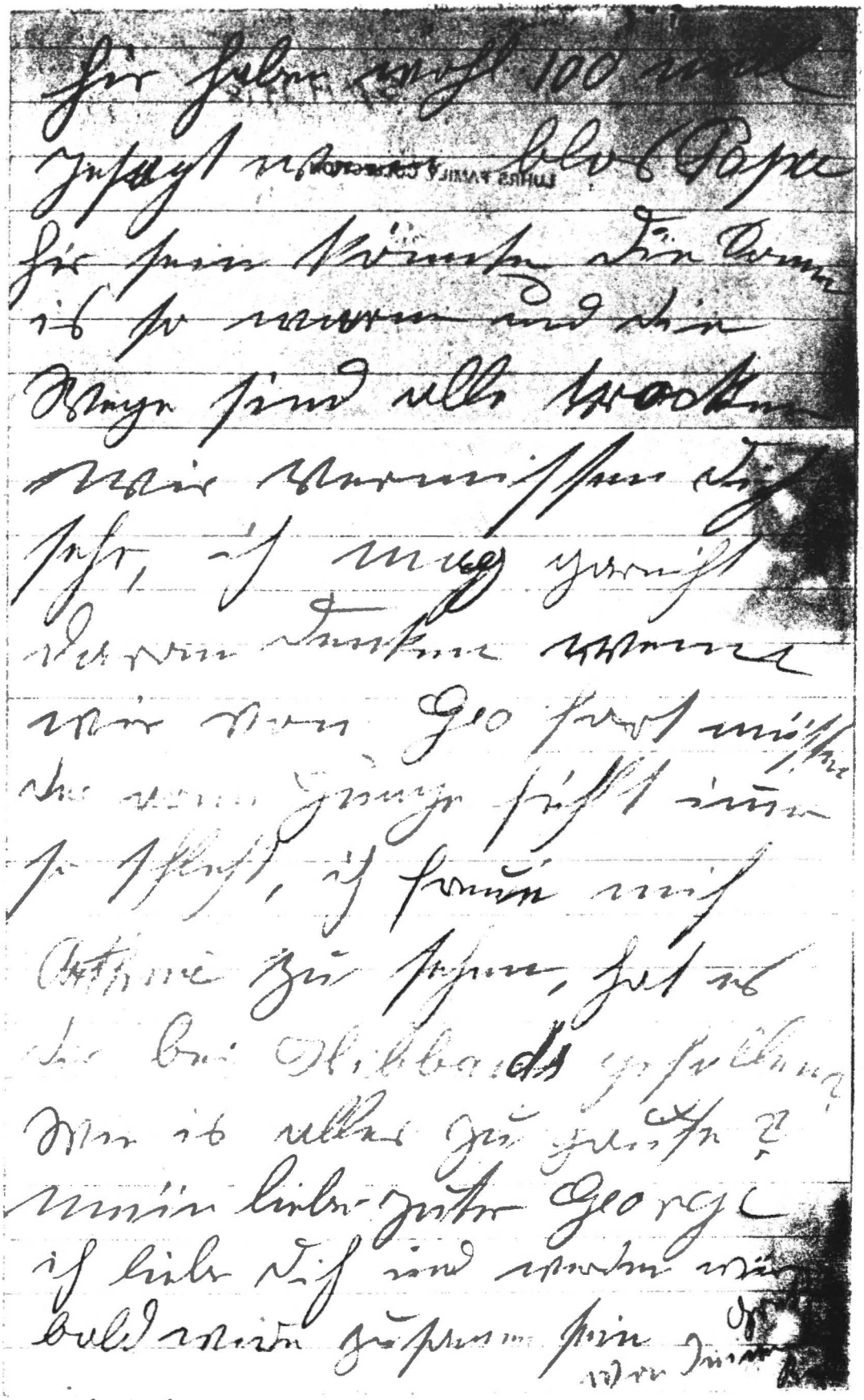
Greetings and Kisses from Your

Loving Children and Gretchen

Letter 44

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION





LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

wir waren heute
morgen in der
Kirche und haben
auch für Dich gebetet
und Dann gingen
wir nach Palo Alto
zu Fuß

HOTEL CLARK

F. M. DIMMICK, LESSEE & MGR.
4TH AND S. HILL STS.
LOS ANGELES

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

STANFORD UNIVERSITY
SEP 14
8 PM
CAL.

1910

44

Mr George Luhrs
Phoenix
Arizona

Commercial Hotel –

Letter 44

Stanford University, September 14, 1918

My Dear Good Papa

Yesterday evening, after you left, we went to a picture show. We all felt bad after you left. So I thought that the best thing to do was go to the picture show, Geo (George, Jr.) was so sad. I slept very good, better than I thought. Arthur (Luhrs) and Geo came home at 11 o'clock, that was good. It has stopped raining here and it is so nice here. I've said it a hundred times, "if only papa could be here," the sun is so warm and the roads are all dry. We miss you very much.

I don't like to think about leaving Geo, (George, Jr.) the poor boy doesn't feel very good most of the time. I'm glad to see Arthur. Did you see the Hibbards? How is everything at home? My dear Georg, I love you and we will be together very soon.

Kisses from your Gretchen

P.S. We went to church (Memorial Church, Stanford) this morning and prayed for you too, then we walked to Palo Alto.

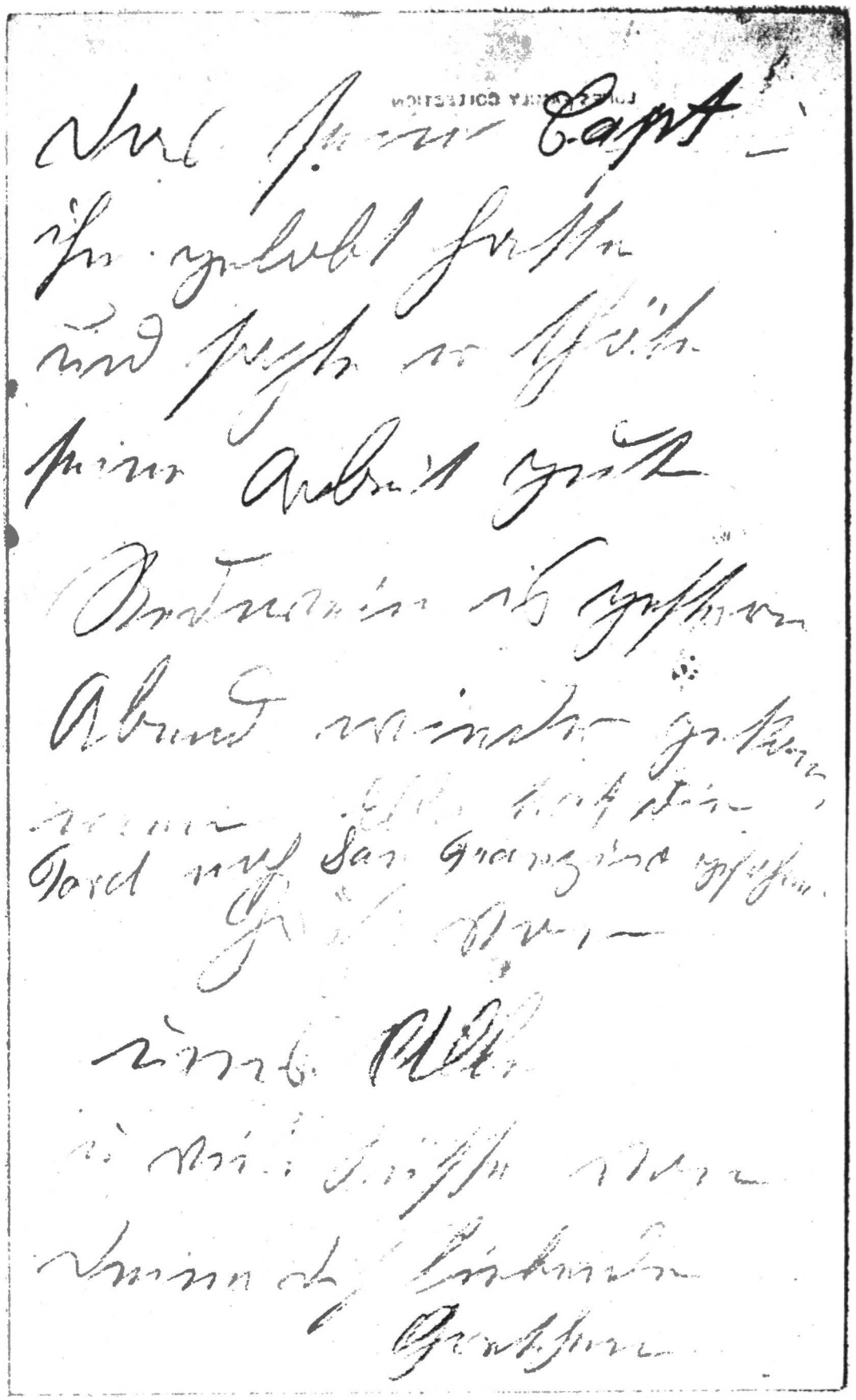
Letter 45 LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Den 17. Sept
Sept ~~16~~ 17 1918

Liebster Georgl

Wir haben deine beide
Briefe erhalten u freuen
mich das es dir bei
Hibbarts so gut gefallen
hat, wir waren
gestern bei uns Geo
Georg gewesen haben
eine gute Zeit gehabt
Geo war gestern
Abend hier und sagte

LUCE COLLECTION



Letter 45

Stanford University, September 17, 1918

Dearest Georg,

We received your letters and I'm glad that you like the Hibbards. Yesterday we visited Mrs. Leonard George. We had a good time. Geo (George, Jr.) was here too last night and he said that his captain praised him and said that he is doing a good job.

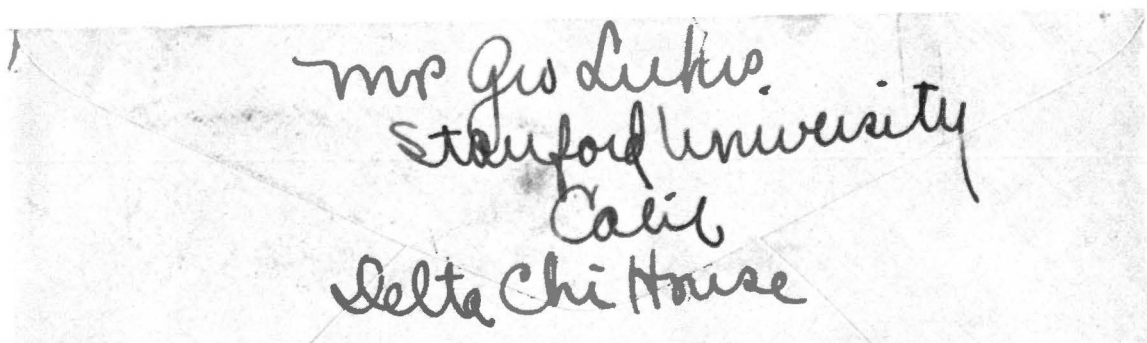
(Name) Redwine came back yesterday, Ella drove the Ford to San Francisco.

Greetings from all of us and

dear kisses from your loving

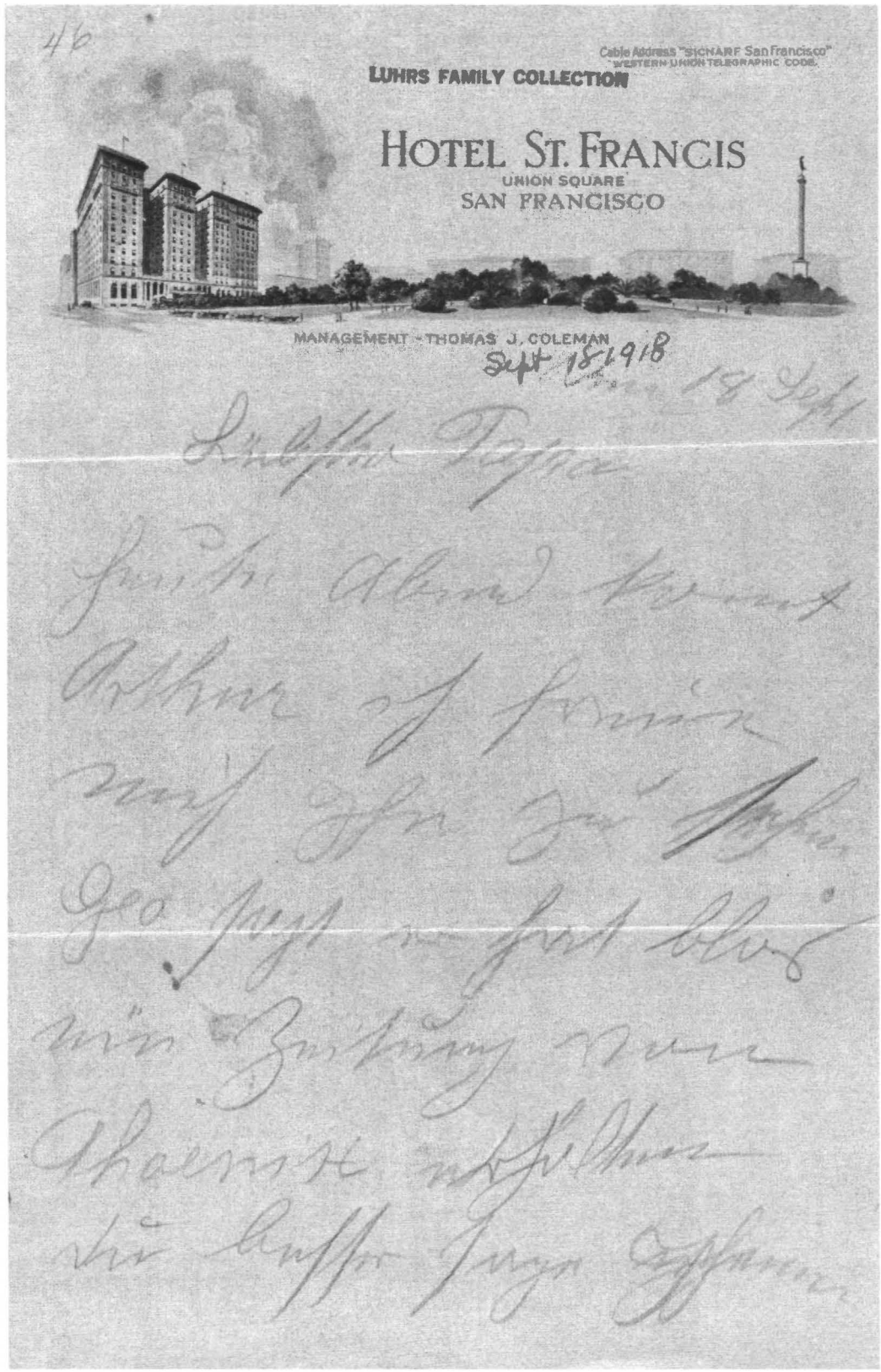
Gretchen

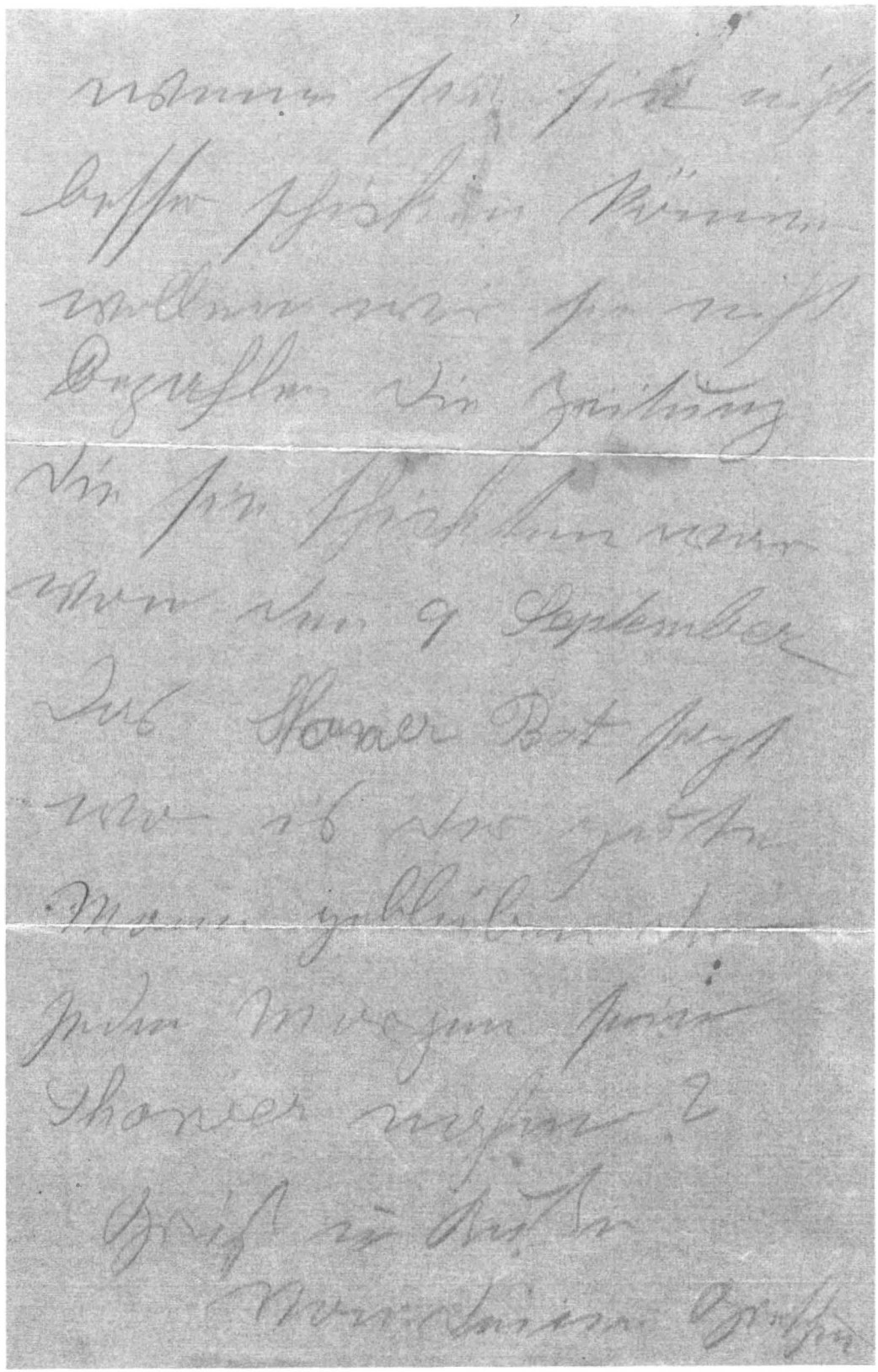




Back of envelope

Letter 46


46
Cable Address "SICNARF San Francisco"
WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPHIC CODE.
LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION
HOTEL ST. FRANCIS
UNION SQUARE
SAN FRANCISCO
MANAGEMENT - THOMAS J. COLEMAN
Sept 18 1918



Letter 46

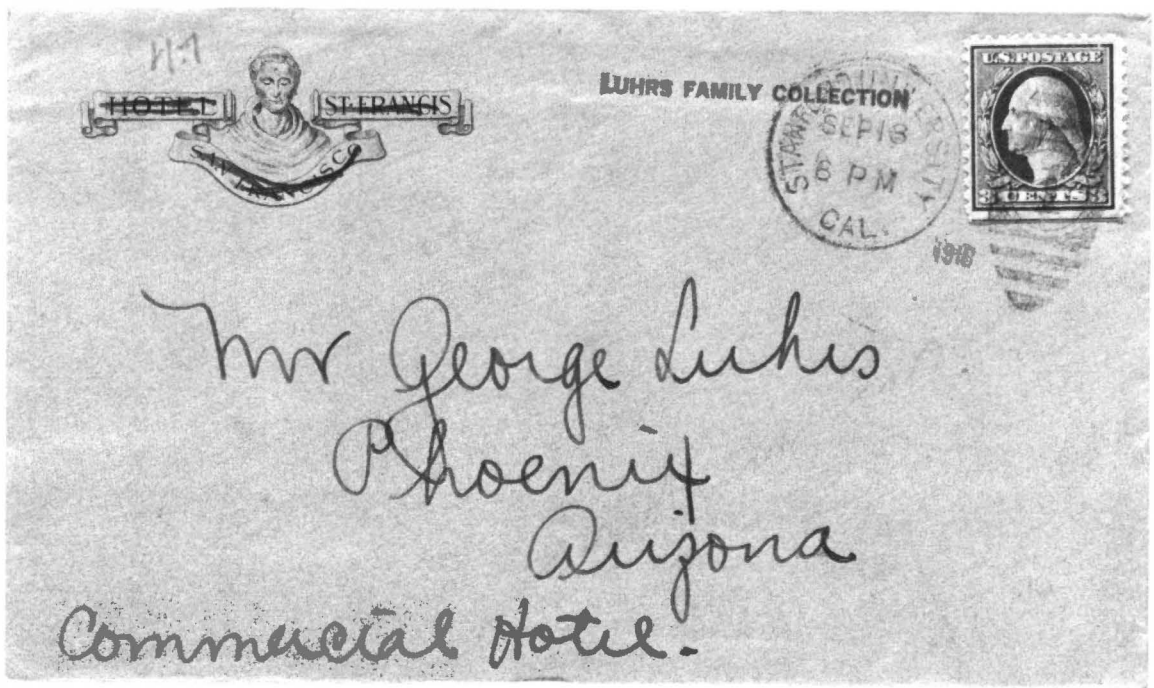
Stanford University, September 18, 1918

Dearest Papa,

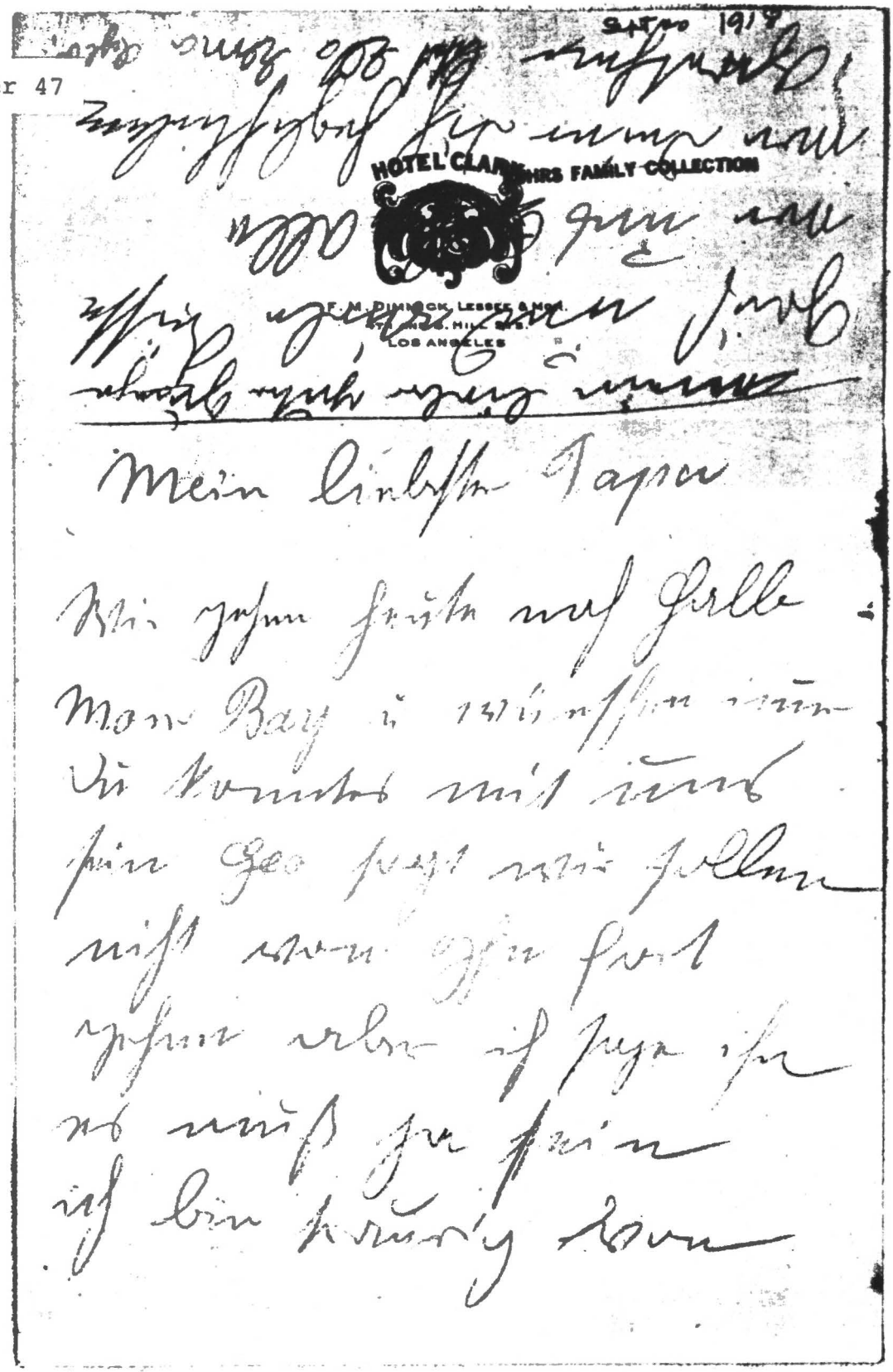
Arthur is coming today, I'll be glad to see him. Geo (George, Jr.) said that he received only one newspaper from Phoenix. You had better tell them if they don't send the newspapers, it is better we don't pay for it. The newspaper they sent was from the 9th of September. The shower bath asked, "where is the good man who took a shower every morning."

Greetings and Kisses from

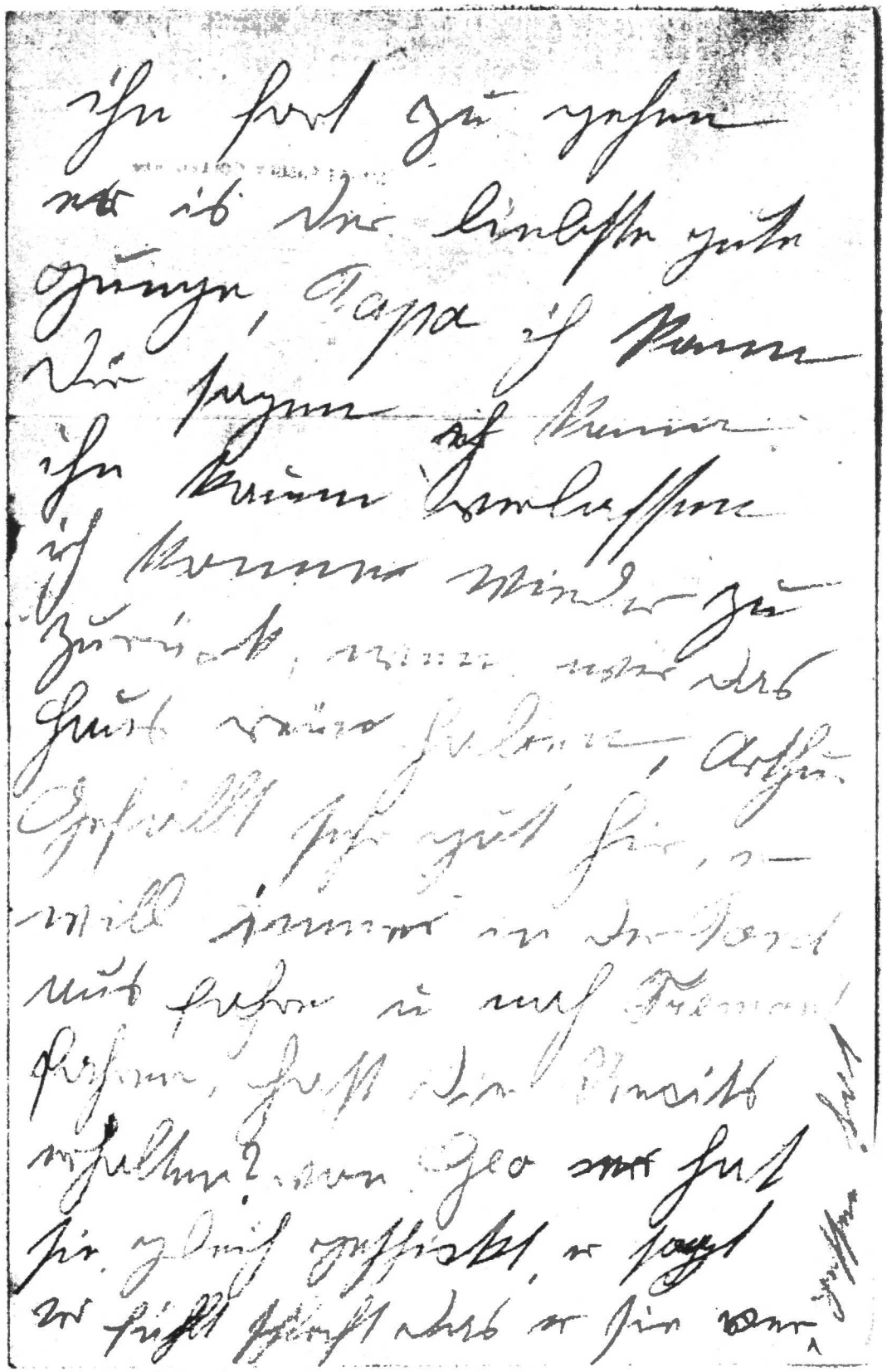
Your Gretchen



Letter 47



Mein liebster Papa



Letter 47

Stanford University, September 20, 1918

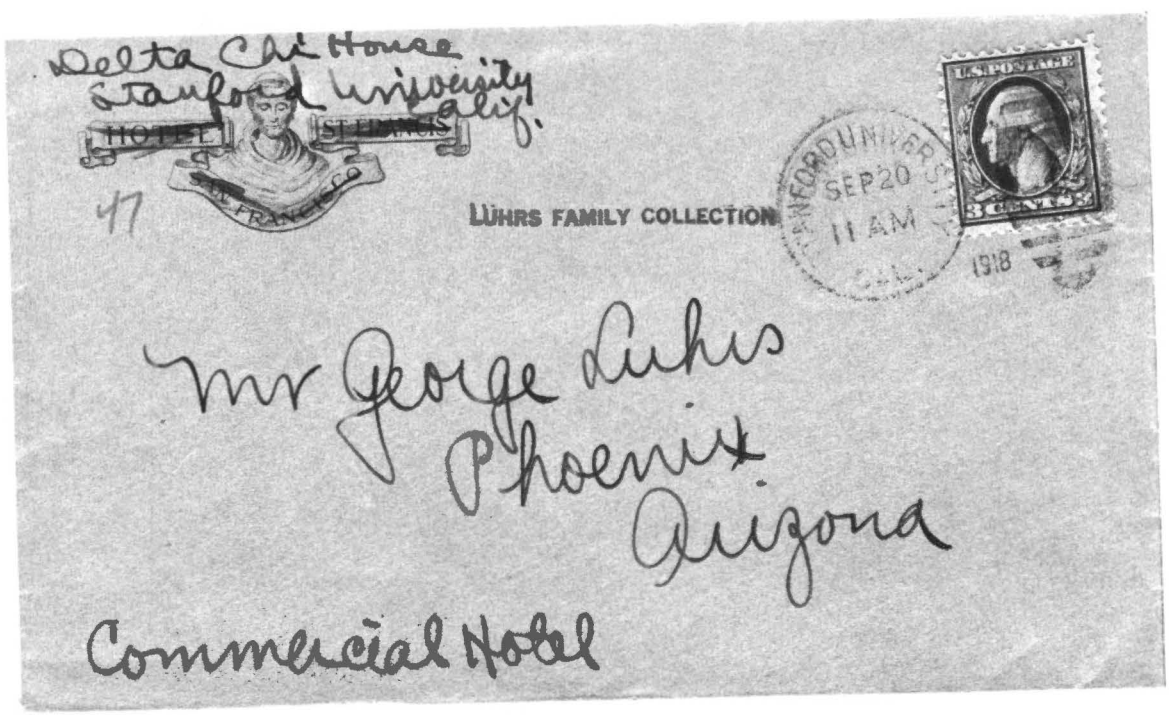
My Dearest Papa,

We are going to Half Moon Bay today, we only wish you were here with us. Geo (George, Jr.) said we shouldn't leave him, but I told him that we have to go. I am sad that I have to go away from him, he is the dearest good boy.

Papa, I tell you it is very hard to leave him alone. I will come back here after we have cleaned up the house (the hotel in Phoenix). Arthur likes it here, he always wants to drive us with the Ford and drive to (Camp) Fremont (Menlo Park). Did you get the receipt? Geo sent them right away, he said he felt bad that he forgot them. My dear good boy, greetings and many kisses from all of us.

From Your Loving Gretchen

Ella, Emma, Geo



47 Den 17 Sept 1920

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Lieber guter George!
Ich habe Dich sehr ver-
miß ich liebe Dich am
besten der kleine
Luhrs ist wieder
besser wir haben ihn
heute aus gesehen
er war gut

page 1

Gretchen + + + + + +

bleiben können
aber Arthur muß
auch Rest haben
ich freue mich ihn
zu sehen
Gruß an
Georg ich hoffe bloß
das er gut hin gekommen
ist ich habe mich den ganzen
Tag abgeäult hoffen das ich bald

Wenn ihr für deine Dich liebende

page 4

page 2

page 3

Letter 48

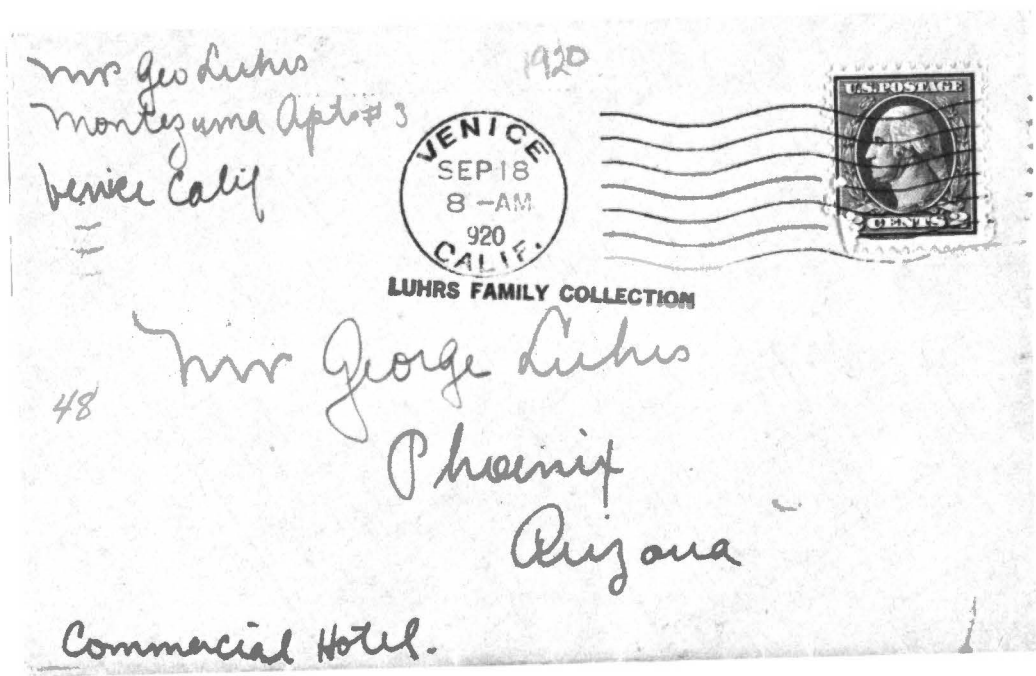
Venice, September 17, 1920

Dear Good Georg,

I miss you. I love you very much. The little Luhrs (Stroud) is better again, we took him out today, he was very good. You can tell George (George, Jr.) that he shouldn't tell Arthur everything. He doesn't have to know what is going on in the business. I don't have very much to write about. I slept good, did you take room #154? We are fine, it is nice and cool here. I only wish that we could stay longer but Arthur (Luhrs) needs a break too, I'll be glad to see him.

Greetings to George (George, Jr.), I hope he had a good trip. I was worried all day. I hope to hear from him soon.

Your Loving Gretchen X+X+X



Sept 19, Sonntag

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Mein lieber George

Heute is so schön hier
habe so oft gewünscht das
Du hier wärest auch George
habe ich vermißt, Arthur
is heute nicht gekommen
zu uns habe den ganzen
Tag auf ihn gewartet hatten
ein gutes Mittag essen gekocht

morgen dann werde
ich ihn fragen was er denke
ich bin froh das alle Hülfe
noch dort is, wenn ich
komme werde ich gerne
wieder das Haus rein ma-
chen ich habe jetzt ja ruhe
gehabt und wenn mein Bein
es haushalten kann bin ich froh
es zu thun, viele Grüße an
George und Arthur u. Marie und du
mein lieber George viele Küsse

page 4

page 1

Letter 49

Venice, September 19, 1920 Sunday

My Dear Georg,

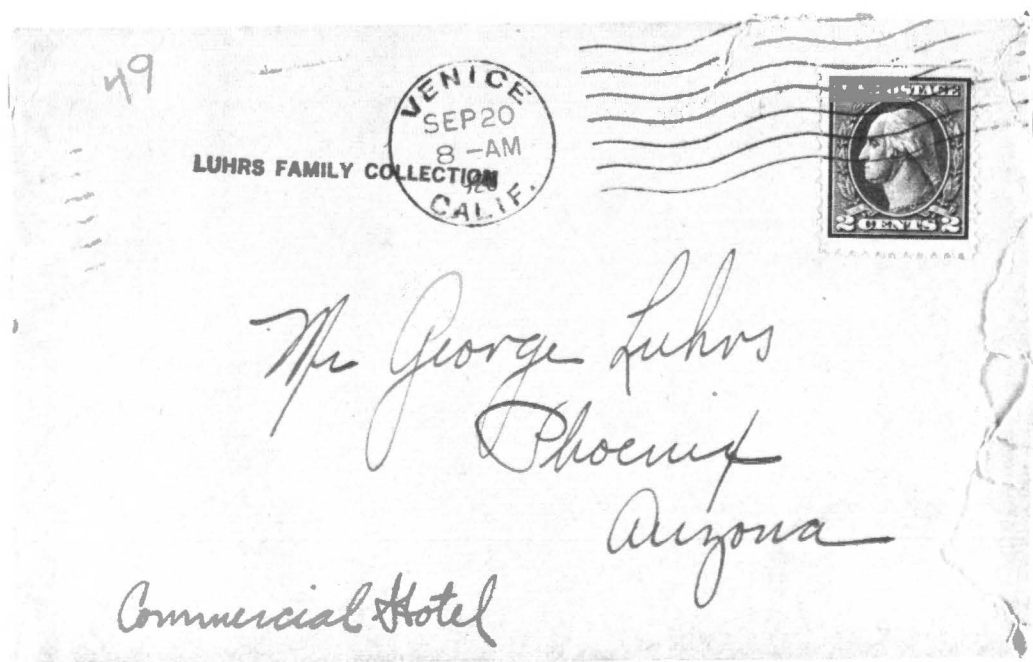
It is very nice here today. I wish that you could be here with us often. I miss George (George, Jr.) too. Arthur (Luhrs) didn't come to see us today. We waited all day for him. We cooked a good lunch, but we 3 had to eat it alone. Little Luhrs (Stroud) is well again and laughs as he did before in Gleeson. He is so lovely, I wish you could see him.

We received the telegram from Geo (George, Jr.) on Saturday morning at 9 o'clock, I was so glad. I was worried all the time. Too bad it is so hot in Phoenix. Don't get sick and don't drink so much water. Do you think that we should stay until the 1st of October? I think that we can come home a little earlier. I'll let you know when we know the day.

I think that Arthur will be here tomorrow. I'll ask him what he thinks. I'm glad that all the help is still there, if I can I will clean the house. I have had a rest now and if my leg will stand it, I'm glad to do it.

Many greetings to George and Arthur and Marie and you my dear Georg.

Many Greetings



Letter 50

(50)

Sept 20 1920



LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Commercial Hotel

European Plan

Geo. H. N. Luhrs, Proprietor

LEADING BUSINESS AND FAMILY HOTEL IN ARIZONA

PHOENIX, ARIZONA.

CENTER AND JEFFERSON STS. LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Dem 20 Sept

Lieber Papa and George

Ich bin so froh das Arthur heute hier war, ich wußte nicht was los war das er Sonntag nicht kamen wurde den ganzen Tag auf ihn, hätten wir gewußt das er nicht früher ging hättet Ihr noch ein paar Tage länger hier bleiben können das Wetter is hier sehr schön jetzt

Letter 50

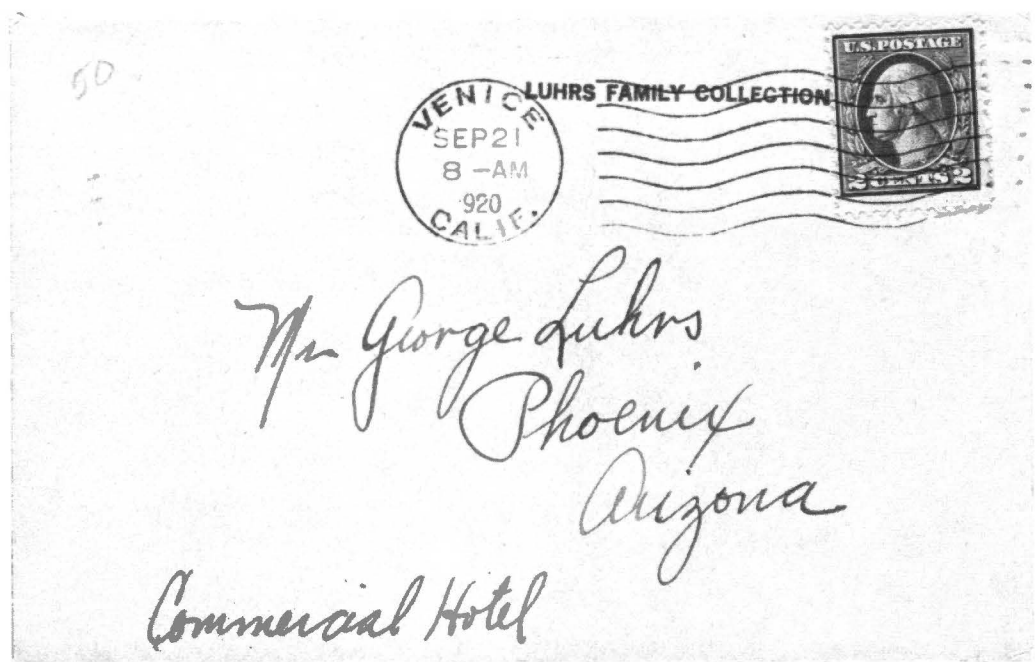
September 20, 1920

Dear Papa and George

I am glad that Arthur (Luhrs) was here today, I didn't know what was happening when he didn't show up on Sunday. I waited all day for him. If we had known that he didn't leave earlier, you two could have stayed for a few more days. The weather here is very nice. Tell Arthur T. that I got his letter and that I thank him for picking you up. I received the letter from Geo and we are very sorry that he had such a bad time. Dear good Geo, when we come home we will give you a better home. We will wait until you tell us that it is cooler there, then we will come home. Tanta Johanna and Gretchen (Marguerite Timm) were here for dinner today, we were 7 persons for dinner, Arthur, Sadie, Tanta and Gretchen (Marguerite Timm) and us. (Ella and Emma were there too)

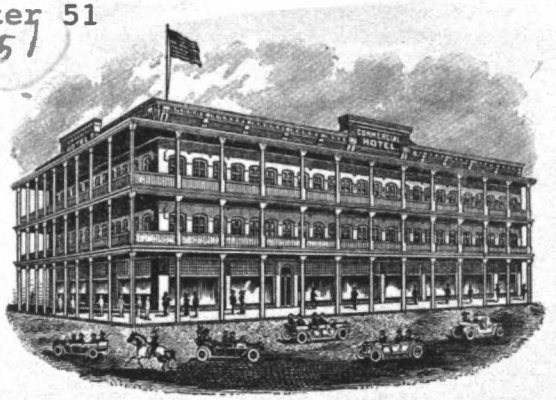
Greetings and Kisses for you two,

Gretchen



Letter 51

51



CENTER AND JEFFERSON STS.

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Commercial Hotel

European Plan

Geo. H. N. Luhrs, Proprietor

LEADING BUSINESS AND FAMILY HOTEL IN ARIZONA

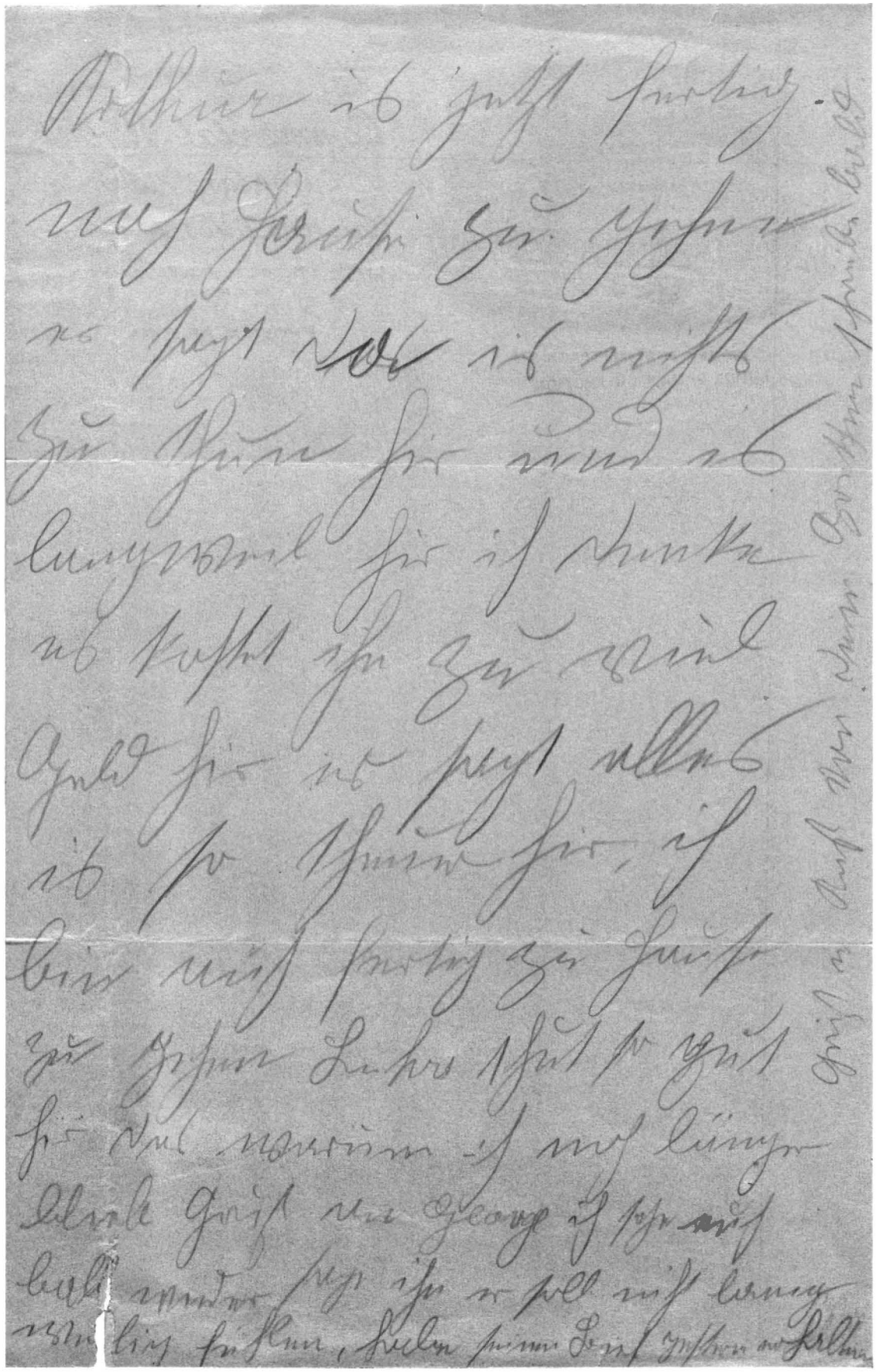
Sept 23 1920

PHOENIX, ARIZONA.

Dnn 23 Sept

Mein lieber guter George

Was is blos los ich habe in 3 Tage nichts von dir gehört, ich quäle mich sehr ab hoffentlich bis du nicht krank schreibe mir oder ich komme gleich nach Hause, gestern waren Arthur u. Sadie wieder hier, ich denke



Letter 51

September 23, 1920

My Dear Good Georg,

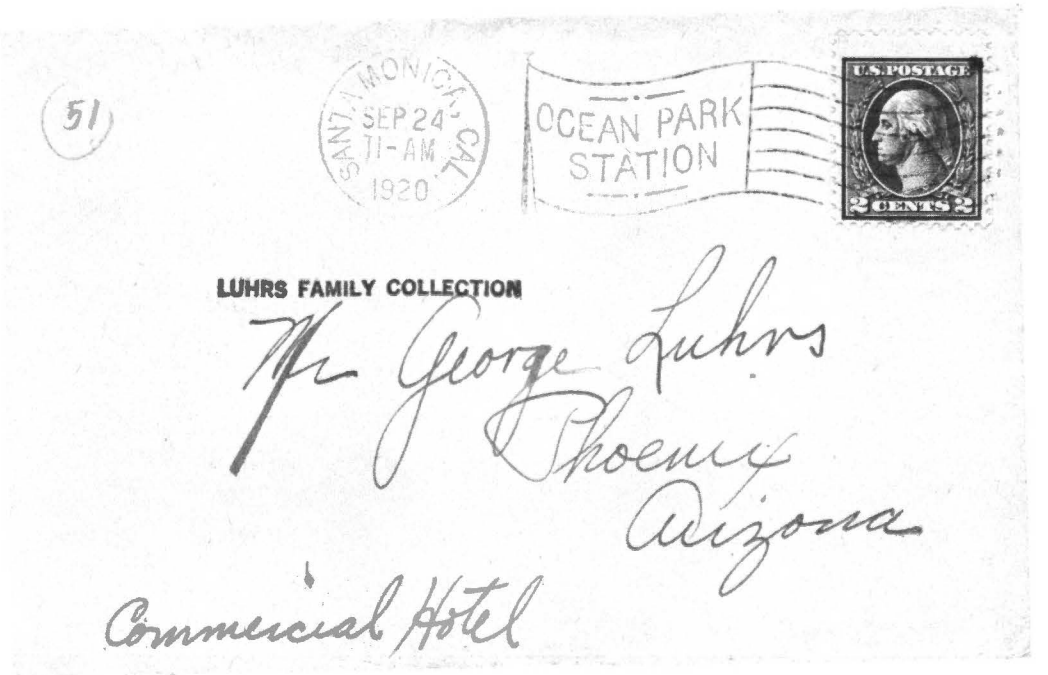
What is the matter, I haven't heard anything from you in three days? I am very worried, hopefully you are not sick. Write me or I will come home right away. Yesterday, Arthur (Luhrs) and Sadie were here again. I think that Arthur is ready to come home. He says there is nothing here for him to do and it is getting boring for him. I think it costs him too much money, he says everything is so expensive here. I am ready to go home too, Luhrs (Stroud) is doing so fine here. That is why I'm staying here longer.

Greetings to George (George, Jr.), I'll see him soon too. Tell him he shouldn't be bored, I received his letter yesterday.

Greetings and Kisses from

Your Gretchen

P.S. Write soon!



Letter 52 (52)

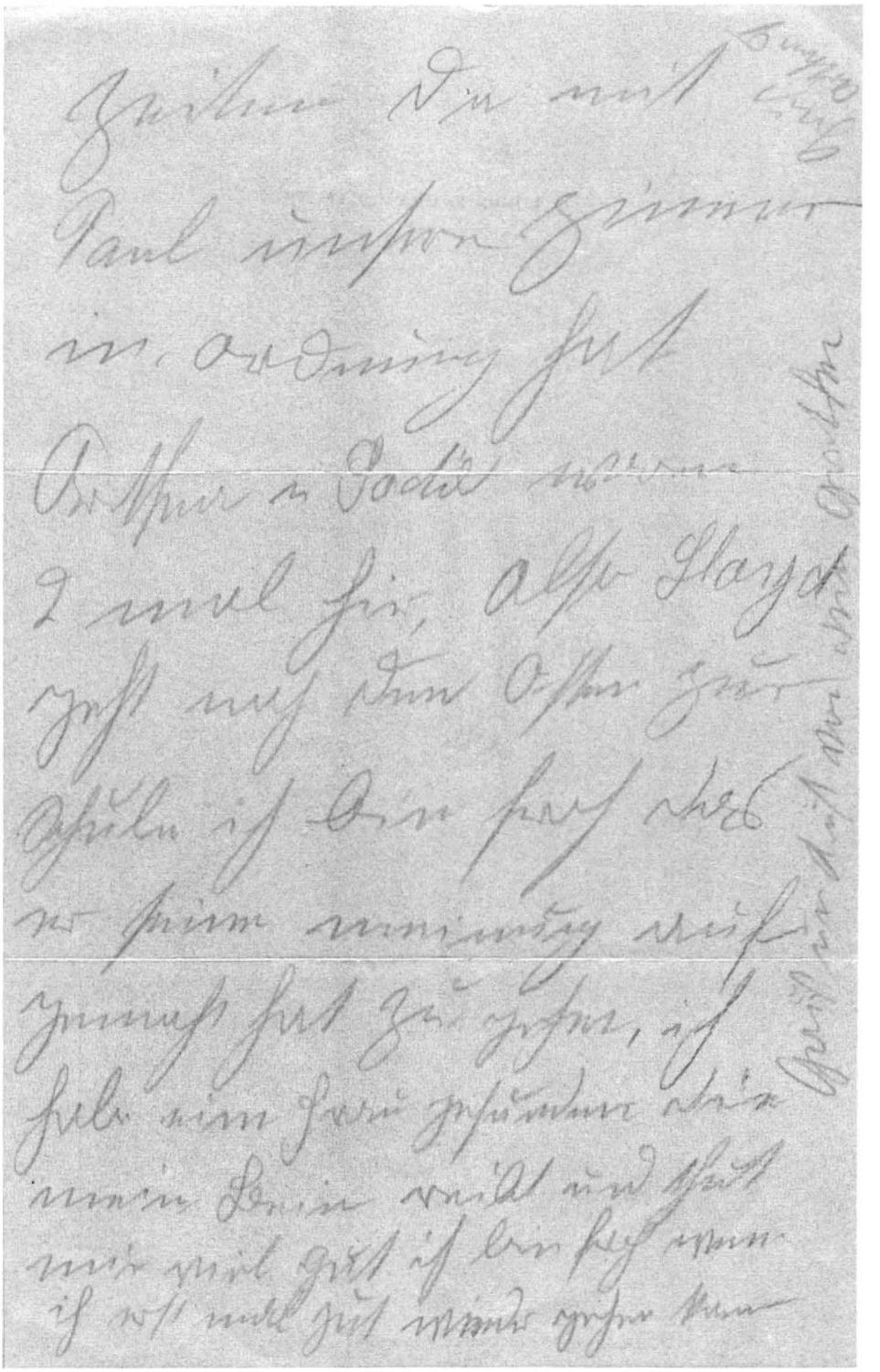
Sept den 24 Sept 24 1920

Gruß meine lieben Georg Papa Mutter
Schwester Carl

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Lieber Papa u Georg

Heute habe ich Deinen lieben
Brief erhalten ich war
sehr von dir zu hören
ich habe immer angst es is
etwas nicht recht wenn
ich nicht von Euch höre
Wir kommen nächste Woche
zu Hause welchen Tag
weiß ich noch nicht genau
lasse es dir wissen in



Letter 52

September 24, 1920

Dear Papa and George,

Today I received your dear letter. I was glad to hear from you. I always think something is wrong when I don't hear from you. We are coming home next week. I don't know yet which day, I'll let you know in time so Paul can prepare our rooms.

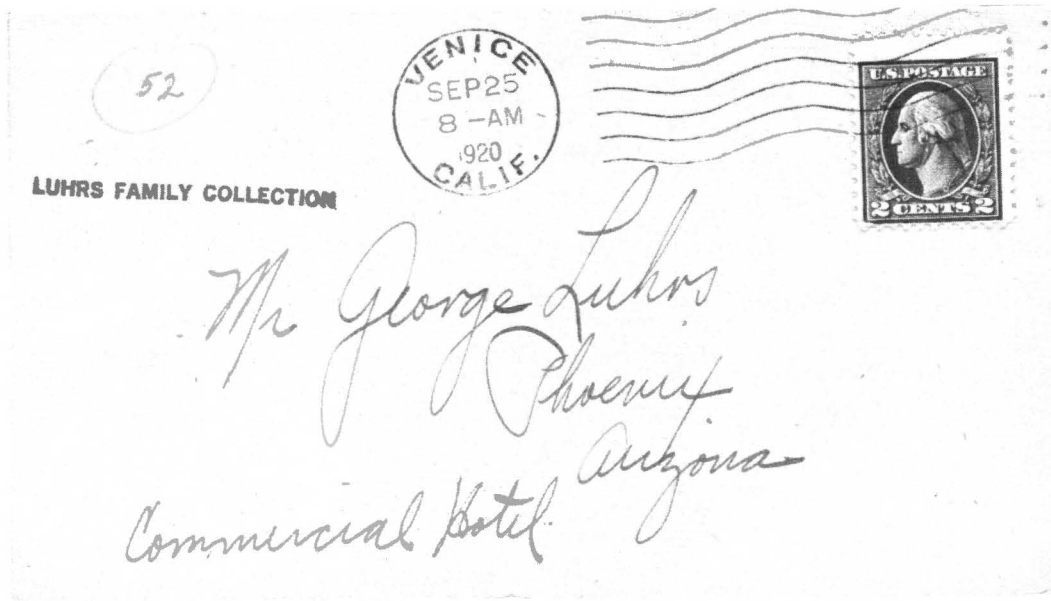
Arthur (Luhrs) and Sadie were here twice, also Lloyd (Eisele) goes to school in the East. I am glad that he made up his mind to go.

I found a woman that massages my leg and it feels very good, I'll be glad when I can walk right again.

Greetings and Kisses from

Your Gretchen

P.S. Greetings to Arthur T. Greetings to my dear George, tell him that mother is coming soon.



Letter 53

Sept 26 1920

Sept den 26

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Lieber Papa u George

Arthur und Sadie waren
heute bei uns er sagt
daß er Sonnabend von
hier fort geht und Sonn-
tag wieder in Phoenix
is ich glaube wir werden
hier am Freitag fort gehen
u kommen Sonnabend
morgen an

ich habe die Rente bis
zum 1 bezahlt, ich habe
ihr 15 Dollar gegeben u.
gesagt das machen 100
Dollar den Monat ich
bin froh Euch beide
Wieder zu sehen.
habe deine beide Briefe
gestern erhalten freue mich
immer von Euch zu hören
Viele Grüße an meinen
lieben George u. Arthur D
von deiner dich liebend Grathen

Letter 53

September 26, 1920

Dear Papa and George,

Arthur (Luhrs) and Sadie were here today. He says that he leaves Saturday and will be in Phoenix on Sunday. I think that he can leave Friday and be in Phoenix on Saturday morning. I paid the rent until the first, I gave $15.00 and said that makes $100.00 a month.

I am glad I'm going to see you two again. I received your two letters yesterday. I am always glad to hear from you. Many greetings to my dear George and Arthur T. (Taylor).

From your dear loving

Gretchen



Letter 54

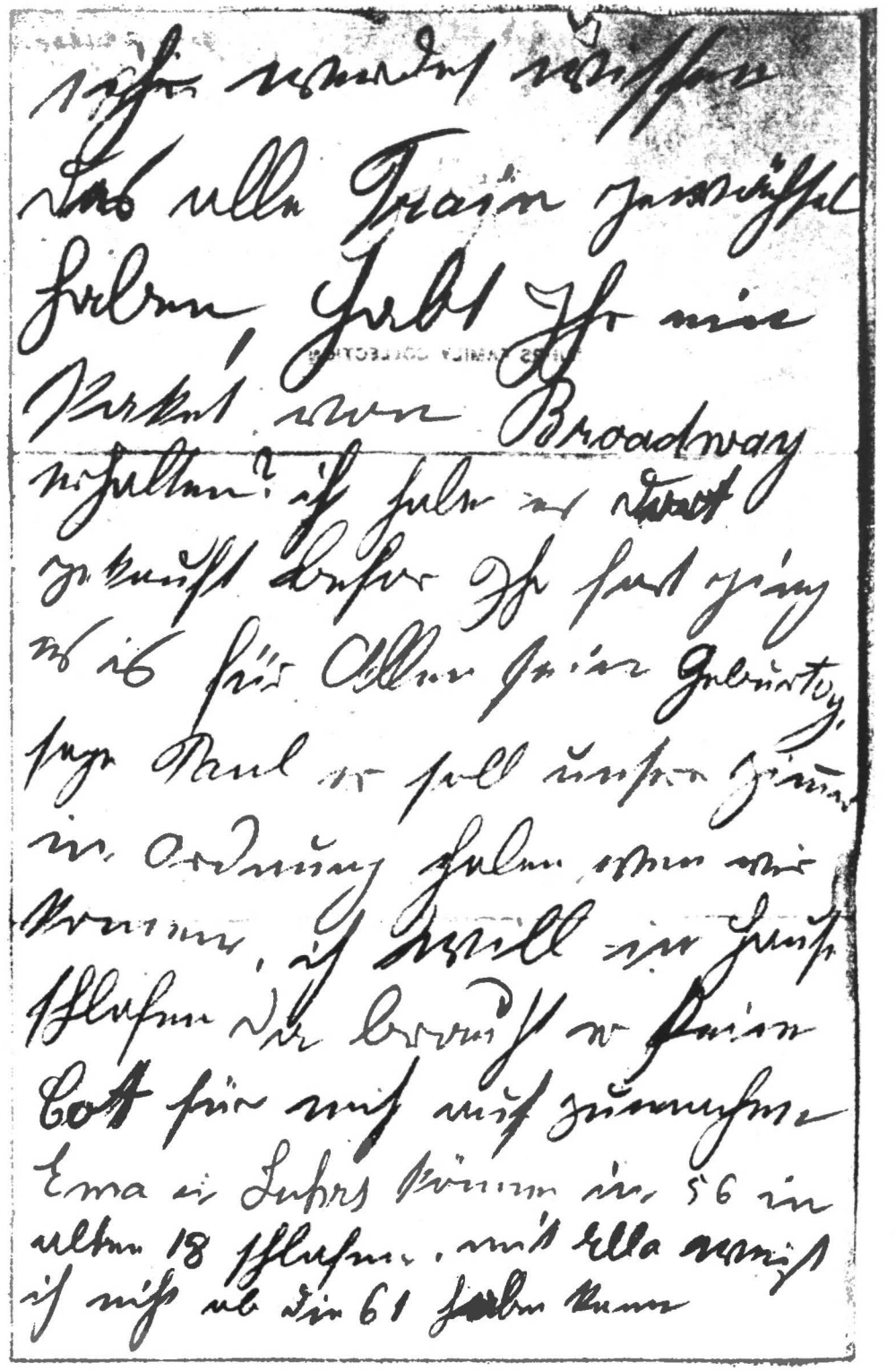
Sept 28, 1920 ~~[illegible]~~ Sept. 28 1920

Mein lieber guter Papa u George

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Habe heute 3 Briefe von Euch
erhalten 2 von Papa u einen
von meinem lieben Sohn
George habe mich sehr gefreut
Wir gehen von hier am
Sonnabend den 2 Oktober
fort u kommen am
Sonntag den 3 Oktober
Morgens um 1/4 nach 8 Uhr
bei Euch. Wir gehen hier
von Los Angeles um 4 Uhr fort

Denke Dir für die Blumen



Letter 54

September 28, 1920

My Dear Good Papa and George,

Received 3 letters today, 2 from Papa and 1 from my dear son George. I was very happy.

We will leave here Saturday, October 2nd, and we will be home Sunday, October 3rd, in the morning at 8:15. We leave Los Angeles at 4:00. Did you know that all trains have changed? Did you receive the parcel from Broadway? I bought it before I left, it is for Allen's (Luhrs) birthday. Tell Paul to get our rooms ready when we are coming.

I want to sleep inside the house so he doesn't have to get a cot ready (on the porch). Emma and Luhrs (Stroud) can sleep in 56, in old 18. I don't know yet if Ella can have 61. I will be glad to see you both again. Greetings to Arthur T.

Many Greetings and Kisses

Your Gretchen

P.S. Tomorrow, September 29, is little Luhrs' (Stroud) birthday, we bought a cake and will eat it for him.



Letter 55

29 Sept Sept 29 1920

LUHRS FAMILY COLLECTION

Lieber Ga u George

Well heute haben wir Ge-
burtstag gefeiert wir 4
ganz alleine, haben George
seinen Brief u auf deinen
erhalten an Letzt seinen
Geburtstag Ema hat sich
dazu gefreut sie sagte des
Morgens wunder ob Papa
u George daran denken
werden

COLLECTION

Letter 55

September 29, 1920

Dear Geo and George,

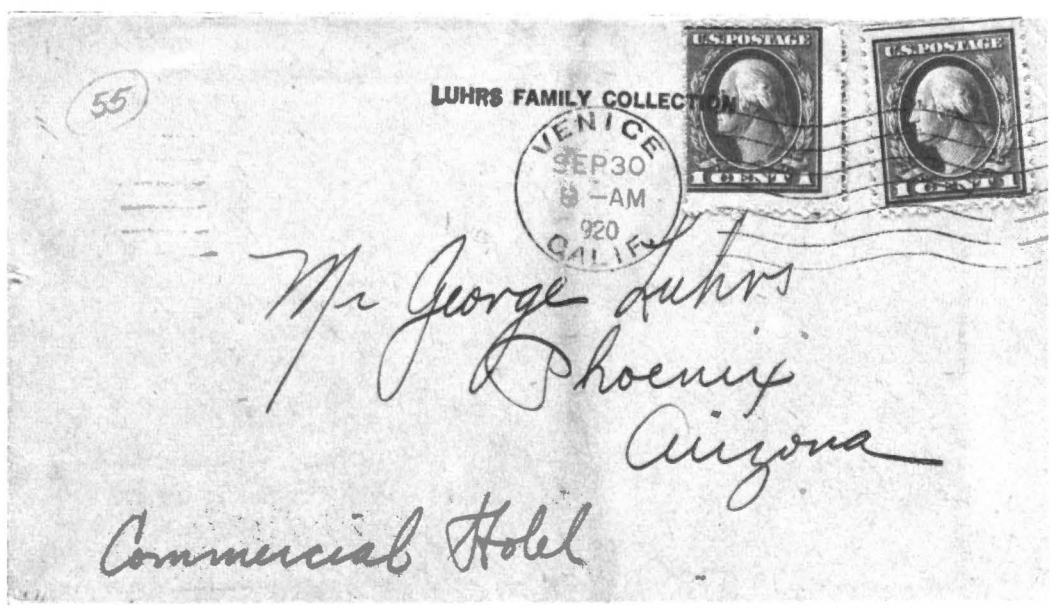
Well, today we had a birthday party, the four of us alone. We received George's letter and yours too. Emma was so happy at Luhrs' (Stroud) birthday, she was wondering if Papa and George thought about it. Sunday we will be with you. I am glad to see you again.

Thalheimers are going to leave tomorrow. We are the last, but I like it here so much, and Luhrs is feeling better here, that's why I stay too.

Greetings to Arthur T. and my dear George.

Greetings and Kisses

from your dear Gretchen



SUMMARIES OF THE LETTERS

SUMMARIES

I. Summary of letters written by Geo H.N. Luhrs of Phoenix, Arizona, to his wife Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs, while she was visiting her folks in Germany. The letters cover the period May 26, 1887 through August 11th, 1887. They had been married three and one half years.

Letter 1, May 26th, 1887: Geo H.N. Luhrs tells her how he misses her and the children and was pleased to find the letter she had left under the pillow. The two children were Arthur C. Luhrs and Louise Luhrs, whose name was changed while in Germany to Ella Luhrs. She was baptized in Neuhaus a/d Oste, Germany.

Letter 2, June 1, 1887: A nephew, Georg Kahrs was staying with him. It was almost 1:00 AM and his brother Henry had not gotten home. He was out late every night.

Letter 3, June 1, 1887: He tells her how much he misses them, and that he had written a letter to Chicago, which he hoped she would get, but did not. At the time of writing this letter she must be on the SS Hammania.

Letter 4, June 5, 1887: Asked her if she needed money, for it took three weeks each way to get it. The railroad would be coming into Phoenix, July 1st, 1887, so he could meet her in Maricopa when she returned.

Letter 5, June 5, 1887: He tells her to enjoy the trip. He believes her folks can come to Phoenix in three or four years to visit them or stay. He would pay for the transportation.

Letter 6, June 8, 1887: He received her awaited letter and it made him so happy. He went home and read it several times with tears in his eyes. He was glad she was well and he was too. He was sorry she did not receive the letter he mailed to Chicago. Hoped he would get another letter tomorrow, otherwise it would be four weeks, because it would take that long for her to get to Germany and get a letter back to Phoenix.

June 9, 1887: He received no letter and was very sad. He would have to wait four weeks. He would send her $250.00 or 1,000 marks before the fourth of July. On your return have enough food so you will not be hungry as she was going to Germany. When you return to the U.S.A. send him a telegram. It could not cost more than a dollar and a half.

Letter 7, June 10th, 1887: He is well but misses her and the children. The little girl of Gus Ellis died. The son of Mrs.

Luke, Adolph Liebeman shot a woman. Get Louise vaccinated, also herself and Christine. Mrs. Ganz sends her regards.

Letter 8, June 13th, 1887: When you return, write three or four days before you depart. Also send a telegram from New York so he will know she is back in this country. Send a telegram from Deming so he can meet her in Maricopa. He does not go out. He would rather stay home and think of her. He could never live without her. His brother Henry never gets in before eleven P.M. Write all the details of your trip. Tomorrow, June 14th she should arrive at her folks. Bring back a new harmonica from Hamburg. Ask her mother if she thought he did wrong dedicating himself to his business and not giving her and the children enough time. He loves her so much he will be more attentive to them when they return. He keeps reading the letter she put under the pillow telling him not to work so hard or he would get sick. He was so glad that after three and a half years their love is growing stronger.

Letter 9, June 16, 1887: You are 2 days closer to me now since I wrote to you last. Herrick went to San Francisco to take Kales horses and car. Herrick wanted him to go along, but who would run the business.

Letter 10, June 26, 1887: He can understand how she felt when he was working all the time and not giving her any attention. It will never happen again. He will not let her go away again, without him. He remembers she told him he should never have gotten married, and asked for her forgiveness. He did not do it intending to hurt her, but thought it would be necessary to take care of the family. He did not know how much he loved her. No one would ever take her place. What did her parents say about the hotel they were building? It will take five hundred thousand stones. A Mexican celebration is on. The railroad will come to Phoenix July 1, 1887.

Letter 11, June 27, 1887: Received her letter of July 4th and was glad she was well and in good spirit. Their being separated showed them how much they meant to each other. He was glad to hear Arthur was so well behaved and that people liked him. How good it is to know real love. Their children will experience peace, united union and love with them, which will enable the children to love them and each other better, and they will grow into better people. In three or four years they should not have to work so hard. The hotel will soon get started. Have received four carloads of wood, and Aug. 1, 1887 will start work. When she returns they will be on the third floor. He is very busy now. What does Heinrich Maas think of Arthur?

Letter 12, June 29th, 1887: How proud you must be when people stop you and admire Arthur and Louise, all dressed up and well

behaved. The railroad will be complete July first, 1887. I value your letters so I keep them in the safe, for I wish to always keep them.

Letter 13, July 6th, 1887: Had a terrible sand storm. One of the worst he had seen. It was so bad, it was dark at mid-day. When you return go to the Bush Hotel and ask for mail. Is Louise walking? Had a big celebration on July 4th. The Mexicans will celebrate on the 16th. The fair will be in October. You and Arthur will see the Schuetzenfest. He had not seen it for 21 years.

Letter 14, July 10, 1887: Received her letter of June 21st. He was glad to know his Louise could say papa. The hotel building is going slowly. Cannot get any wood for two weeks. By the time she gets this letter, the outside walls will barely be up. The temperature is about 100 degrees.

Letter 15, July 13th, 1887: Received her letter of the 28th. That is hardly 15 days after she mailed it. Real fast service. It costs $66.00 to go from Phoenix to New York. Sorry Christine does not want to come back to Phoenix. See if you can find someone else. You need someone for the children, for he will be spending more time with you. If she comes alone, he will meet her in New York. While you are there have a good time, even if it costs more money. She said she would not stay any longer than September 4th, so she should be in Phoenix not later than the 25th of September. There were 243 on the boat going over. Glad Arthur is well behaved. In his July 14th letter he wrote it was 111 degrees in the living room, which was about the hottest they had had. Usually it is about 88 degrees. Still waiting for lumber. Mrs. Herrick is always writing Mr. Herrick for more money, which makes him mad. She is never satisfied anywhere. Father, brother Henry, the Kahrs family and Andre send their regards.

Letter 16, July 17th, 1887: He thinks about the terrible journey from New York to Phoenix with the children and no one to help. He will come to New York if that happens. Told Mrs. Thalheimer hello for her. She said if you find anyone, bring them for her. If Elise wants to come, she will advance the transportation, and she could work for her until paid back. If Christine does not want to return, try and find someone. He would put up the money for the transportation, which she could work out. He wrote the train connections for her to take on the way back to Phoenix. It is necessary to change trains six times in Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Marshal, El Paso and Maricopa Junction. The changes are necessary for the reason that the railroads are owned by different companies. When you get to Hoboken, go to the Bush Hotel and give the note to the owner and ask him to get the tickets and take you to the station. If you get home

September 25th, it will be 10 long weeks that you have been away. They have found a man to run the hotel, he starts tomorrow. Business is not too good. Nothing to do in the shop or stable or hotel. On August 11 he will write his last letter to Germany, but will have one in New York for her when she gets there.

Letter 17, July 20, 1887: It got hot again, 106 degrees. At this time of the year a lot of insects fly around the lamp. Did you have a good time at the festival? Have already picked a lot of grapes from the garden.

July 21, 1887: The weather was 110 degrees in the house. D. Kahrs would like you to get him 22 yards of blue shirt material, as thin as possible. Her savings account has increased another 100 dollars. He sold a lot, which he took over from Goldman, for taxes to Hancock for $100.00.

Letter 18, July 24, 1887: It is two months that she left Phoenix. The weather is 108 and 110 degrees every day. In Chicago they had 135 die of the heat, within two days. She should be leaving Germany in about three weeks. Work is progressing on the hotel. Some of the wood is on its way. Everyone complains that busines is bad. When she returns he will spend every Sunday with her and the children. On your return try to get the baggage shipped direct.

Letter 19, July 25th, 1887. Mrs. Herrick told him that they had gone thrid class. He wants her to get first class. Get the ticket in New York. First class is $95.30; Second class is $80.00 and Third Class is $62.50, so the difference is only $32.80 and it is worth it. Then she can go to the dining car to eat like the proverb goes, "If you jump over the dog, you can jump over the tail." If she needs more money he will send it to the Bush Hotel. He is sending a new schedule for there are some changes from St. Louis. At that time of the year there is a lot of yellow fever in the South, so it is better to go from St. Louis to Kansas City and then the same way they came. You can send your baggage straight to St. Louis and then to Maricopa.

Letter 20, July 31, 1887: Only 5 more weeks until you start your trip back. Being the last of the week he is busy with paper work and sending out invoices. Also must clean the house. Construction on the hotel is in full swing and should go faster now. Tell Elise that the Ganz's would like to have her back. He thinks he is the luckiest man in the world to have such fine children and such a wonderful, lovely and good wife. She had not told him she had been to Hamburg and planned to go to Berlin. Tell him about all the places she had been. Tell him which boat she is taking to come home.

Letter 21, August 3, 1887: He is now very busy with construction work, but will take time off to write to her. Mrs. Thalheimer

had a 9 pound boy August 1st. Geo Tantau of Tantau and Keller got engaged to Margaret Blake of Visalia, California and will be married in September. It is still very warm, but nights are pleasant. He sleeps outside on the porch. Received no letter.

August 4, 1887. Still no letter. He is in the house alone, does not go out. If business continues as it is, he will close the shop. Had to let Carrier go. He is building his own shop, now have only one smith and helper. The sooner he closes the shop the less trouble he will have with bills, etc. The hotel is always full and when the other is finished they will make a lot of money.

Letter 22, August 7th, 1887: Was very happy to receive a letter of July 15th. The letter was 22 days on the way. You want to know what I think of the baby's new name. Ella is a pretty name, short for Eleanor. If she likes it, it is fine with him. She could not have found a better date for the baptism than on her birthday. Try to find a girl to bring back. It might be best not to have Christine and Elise, for they always thought they were doing you a favor. Do not approve of your mother keeping Arthur, and do not believe you do either. Am sure your folks would be good to him but there is nothing like the true mother's love. If we leave him there until he is half grown, we would be strangers to each other. Children only stay with you when they are young. If he stayed in Germany, he would lose his love for us and maybe only come to visit us. I want you and both children. It would divide our family and we would not know each other, if we did not grow up together. I am glad your mother likes Arthur, but I have put all my plans and hopes on that boy. Father Luhrs would like her to bring a Paynes Illustrated Calendar for 1888.

Letter 23, August 11, 1887: Received your letter. I am so glad that you have found a companion to come with you. It will save us money and I will not have to shut down the hotel construction while I was away. I will send you $100.00 to New York. I shall be so glad to see you here again and make you forget any unpleasantness you had. You are the most wonderful woman in the world and if you ever caused me any grief, it is all forgotten. I breathe and work for you my dear Gretchen and our two children, so that they will have an easier life.

II. Summary of letters written by Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" (Mrs. Geo H.N.) Luhrs to her husband, during her trip to Germany to visit her folks. Letters were written from May 24th, 1887, through January 21, 1888. Her sister Christine went with her.

Letter 24, May 24th, 1887, Phoenix: Note left under the pillow for her husband to see and read when he went to bed the first night she and her children, Arthur and Louise, were away.

Letter 25, June 1, 1887, Hoboken: They are in Hoboken. They had a terrible journey. She lost 10 pounds. Some days went without food, and some days without milk for the children. Stayed one day in Chicago. Did not like it. They had to change transportation seven times. When she went to change her ticket, they said they had nothing on the boat. They said they sent her a wire. She said she could not wait 8 days with two children. Finally, they had got taken care of. She wishes she had stayed home.

Letter 26, June 14, 1887, Neuhaus; All arrived well and doing good. She wishes he was there with her. It is cold and the children have colds. She is very tired and going to bed. Will write more before the end of the week.

Letter 27, June 21, 1887: Sorry she did not write sooner, but there is always something going on. She also misses him. The children are having a fine time. Arthur likes it there and plays so nice. Everyone likes him. Had it not been for her folks she would not have gone. Her mother cried with joy when she arrived. Did not enjoy going with Mrs. Herrick. Louise can now say papa. There is a bird that bites everyone, even Arthur and Louise.

Letter 28, June 28, 1887: Received the letter to Chicago unopened. Two days after getting to Neuhaus. You want to know how much money I need. Right now I do not know. How much is the railroad fare from New York to Phoenix? Christine is not going back to Phoenix. She does not like it. She will want the money we owe her. The amount is written on a paper in the top drawer of my desk. I have 187 marks left. All I will need is for the railroad fare, I think. Don't send me more than 100 dollars. When I go home I want the fastest way I can and stop nowhere. Will leave no later than September 4th. Not much to tell. I do not go anywhere. The baby is nursing all the time. Arthur has become a well behaved boy. He tells everyone his papa is at home in Phoenix watching the house. Don't send any paper for she has no time to read them. Just got your letter of June 10th.

Letter 29, July 4th, 1887: The baby keeps her busy, for she has

not gotten over the cold she had on the trip and is having a hard time recovering. The journey was almost too much for her. Arthur is being adored and talks all the time. He says his father is far, far away across the ocean, in Phoenix. He found an old pipe and said it was grandfather Luhrs' pipe. Everyone says Arthur is clever for his age and tall and strong. The neighbor Dohne does not like children, but says Arthur is terrific. He is always eating baked dumplings with him. Everyone in Neuhaus seems to know him and he speaks to them in High German or English. I wish you could see and hear him. Have received all your letters and the one from Chicago.

Letter 30, July 15, 1887: Thinks she will leave the end of August, with the moon decreasing. Ella is always sick with a cold. She cannot stand the cold weather. She can stand alone now. Soon will be running. How do you like her new name of Ella? Her mother did not like the name Louise because everyone pronounced it differently. She will be baptized August 11th, on her birthday. Thanks for the 1000 marks. Gave half to Christine, for we owed it to her. She does not want to go back and it is just as well for she does not treat Gretchen very nice. Went to the Schutzenfest twice, once with her father and once with Arthur. Tell Mrs. Andre she will not be going to Berlin. Her mother suggested that Arthur stay over in Neuhaus with them.

Letter 31, July 2th, 1887: Sorry she has not written more often, but there is always something preventing her from writing. Have had a lot of disagreeable talks with Christine. Neither she nor Elise are going back with her to Phoenix. Elise is going to get married. Bringing the girl who was at the Kahrs when George and Gretchen got married. There are no homeless girls in Neuhaus. She has had to face many problems. She sees things differently now than when she got married. Paid Christine, after receiving the 1000 marks. Plan to leave August 28th or September 4th. You have done me no wrongs. Stay just as you are. She has her faults too. Ella will be baptized August 11th. She is not walking yet. Arthur likes it there, but asks why his papa did not come with his mother. She is not going to Berlin.

Letter 32, August 7th: Ella is going to be baptized today. Leaving Hamburg August 28th on the Lessing. Did not like the Hammonia. Received the plans for the railroad. Will buy tickets in New York. George need not come to New York. Bush Hotel is too expensive, so will leave as soon as get to New York. Not bringing the girl from the Kahrs, but one from Odenburg. Can find none for Mrs. Thalheimer. When went to Hamburg to register for the tickets, was told the girl could not use Christine's ticket, so had to buy one. Will get a refund in America. To have enough money, got the money back from Christine and will send it to her from Phoenix. Received Mrs. Herrick's letter. Can read English, but not write it.

List 33, July 17, 1887: A listing of the railroads Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs and children will have to take on their way home.

Letter 34, August 9th, 1887: Cannot change ticket to Steamer Lessing to Steamer Hammonia, sailing September 4th, because the Hammonia is entirely booked.

Letter 35, August 15, 1887: She came over third class and can go back that way too. There is a big difference in price. If you wish to pick her up in Maricopa, that is all right. She will wire from Deming, probably just say "Gretchen." She is frightened about the long trip. I will tell you everything when I get back. Leaving August 28th on Lessing in Cabins 85 and 86. Will not go to the Bush Hotel, but straight to the railroad station. The girl she is bringing is Rebecca Arg.

Letter 36, August 19, 1887: This is the last letter because in 8 days she is leaving. Wishes she was home then. Dreads the long trip more going back, for did not know coming over how bad it would be. Ella does not walk yet, but wants to be everywhere. You will not be by yourself very long after you get this letter.

III. Summary of letters written by Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs to her husband while he was in San Francisco trying to borrow money and get things for the new hotel.

Letter 37, January 16th, 1888: She is lonesome without him. The weather is very cold. The doors and windows arrived today, and have put some in place. They look good. By the time you return they will all be in. Do not buy any curtains until you have sent me samples to choose from. Kahrs has not been around but Heinrick was here last night. Arthur wants to go along when you go on a train ride.

Letter 38, January 18, 1888: I wish it was two weeks later, then you would be returning. Herrick said he could sell the corner across from the hotel for $9,000.00. They want to build on it. They are from Kansas. Many strangers are coming in. You want to know what Herrick talked about to the man. He paid him $1,000 dollars, took a loan for $2,500, but said he needed $1,500 to send away for the shipment of windows. The ground floor is ready. On top floor, windows are already in and look nice. Everyone comes to look and admire it. The $15.00 you won arrived but Herrick would not give it to either Heinrick or me. Received the letter you wrote on the train.

Letter 39, January 21, 1888: Received your letter and see you have not settled anything yet. Your number did not win anything and Herrick kept the $15.00. Hurry home, Herrick is a bum. He is always drunk and can hardly stand up. If you do not get the money, then just buy the bamboo.

IV. Summary of letters written by members of Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs' family to Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs, her husband Geo H.N. Luhrs, and her brother Willie Dodenhoff. All the letters, except Letter 51, were written by members of the family who remained in Neuhaus a/d Oste or who had not yet emigrated to Arizona. Letter 51 is written by Geo H.N. Luhrs' sister, Johanna Kahrs living in Los Angeles. The letters cover the period 1898 through 1938.

Letter 40: Louise Dodenhof, Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs' and Willie Dodenhoff's mother, asking about the family and about Christmas preparations.

Letter 41, 1898: Louise Dodenhof asks about the hotel. (Commercial) and is glad Gretchen went to the beach. Marie Dodenhof (Eisele) has gone to work in London, England. Louise Dodenhof is surprised Willie Dodenhoff is getting married so soon. He is so young. Now she has given up hope that he will return to Germany.

Letter 42, December 2, 1898: Louise Dodenhof to her son, Willie Dodenhoff. She tells Willie about Marie in England. She writes that Gretchen has told her of Willie's planned wedding. She gives the advice "the choice is short and the regret is long."

Letter 43, December 20, 1898: Louise Dodenhof to her children, Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs and Willie Dodenhoff, thanking Gretchen and Geo for the money they have sent her, because she can no longer work. She can hardly believe Willie has started to economize and save his money. Marie's health is poor in England. She also wishes Gretchen a happy birthday. Louise remembers former Christmases. She is alone now but cheerful. Else Hahnefeldt sends her thanks to Ella for the book.

Letter 44: A fragment of a letter from Christine Dodenhoff Hahnefeldt to Willie Dodenhoff wishing him a happy birthday and best wishes for his new married life.

Letter 45, January 8, 1899: Willie Dodenhoff's mother congratulating him and wishing him and his wife a lot of happiness. Marie Dodenhof (Eisele) isn't too happy in England; she reports she is overworked. Louise Dodenhof thinks Marie should go back to Hamburg.

Letter 46, January 4, 1913: Letter fragment from Christine Dodenhof Hahnefeldt to her sister Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs and Georg.

Letter 47, July 16, 1899: Marie Dodenhof (Eisele) writes of the death of their mother. Marie asks to come and live in Phoenix

with her sister and brother-in-law. She could never stay with Christine because "her husband is something else." Send a power of attorney so that they can dispose of their mother's home.

Letter 48, July 16, 1899: Christine Dodenhof Hahnefeldt writes of the death of their mother. Please send a power of attorney so that they can take care of Mother's house, pay the taxes, funeral expenses of 2,500 marks and the doctor.

Letter 49, September 15, 1899: Marie Dodenhof (Eisele) writes from Hamburg that her arrival has been delayed because the ships are solidly booked. She thinks she can leave Hamburg on the Kaiser Friedrich on October 1. Uncle August (Hahnefeldt) received the power of attorney. Marie is in Hamburg visiting the von Heins, her uncle and aunt.

Letter 50, April 15, 1915: Else Hahnefeldt thanks her aunt, Marie Eisele, for her letter and gives the family news. She would like to visit her aunt, but it is too far. She hopes the war ends soon and that Germany is victorious.

Letter 51, May 5, 1929: Johanna Kahrs writes to Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs and Ella Luhrs Taylor about the death of Geo H.N. Luhrs.

Letter 52, October 12, 1937: Letter to Aunt Marie (Eisele) from Else Hahnefeldt Diekmann after Ella Luhrs Taylor and "Cap" Taylor's visit to Europe. Else and her family were delighted with Ella and Arthur Taylor's visit. She also announces the birth of August-George (Diekmann). Herta wants to write a letter to Jean (Stroud) but needs to learn more English.

Letter 53, January, 1938: A postcard to Ella and Arthur "Cap" Taylor.

Letter 54, November 23, 1938: A letter from Else Hahnefeldt Diekmann to her aunt Marie Eisele. Please give our sympathy to Ella Taylor on the tragic loss of her husband. She gives news of her family and friends.

V. Summaries of letters written by Catharina Margarita "Gretchen" Luhrs to her husband Geo H.N. Luhrs from August 1, 1900, through September 29, 1920. They were written from:

the "coast" where she would take the children to avoid some of the summer heat in Phoenix;

San Diego, California, where she went with Ella Luhrs Taylor to be with her new husband, Arthur C. Taylor before he was shipped out to France during World War I;

Stanford University, California, where Catharina Margarita Luhrs and Ella Taylor stayed at the Delta Chi fraternity house while visiting George Luhrs, Jr. who was in Officer's Training Camp at Camp Fremont between Stanford University and Menlo Park, California;

Gleeson, Arizona, where she had gone to visit Emma Luhrs Stroud and Emma's husband, Dr. Reg Stroud, who was practicing medicine at the time.

Letter 1, August 1, 1900: In Santa Monica, California, with Arthur, Ella, Emma and George, Jr. Saw Bonillas. Are still homesick.

Letter 2, July 25, 1901: Postcard from Maricopa, Arizona. Mailed from the train.

Letter 3, July 28, 1901: In Santa Monica, while looking for a house to rent stayed at the Atlanta Hotel in Santa Monica. Cost $5.00 a week, if cook your own food. The Lukes have been attentive. Marguerite Kahrs Timm met the train. House hunting is hard. Houses are expensive.

Letter 4, July 30, 1901: Arthur received your typewritten letter. We will get a house Thursday for $35.00 a month. Ella saw a man drown today, next to the Luke house.

Letter 5, August 1, 1901: In Santa Monica, still homesick. Still such a long time until we return. Little George has a boil on his leg. Put flaxseed on it.

Letter 6, August 4, 1901: Thanks for the bedsheets. They arrived right on time. Meltzers were here yesterday. Georgie's leg not better..has fever..can't go swimming.

Letter 7, August 7, 1901: In Santa Monica, wish you could come for two weeks. I don't owe anything to the Boston Store, the New York Store or at Stein's (in Phoenix).

Letter 8, August 15, 1901: Bill from the Boston Store still not right. Father forgot Ella's birthday. It hurt her very much. Geo's leg is getting better after 5 weeks.

Letter 9, August 19, 1901: Not homesick anymore. All except Georgie have gained weight. Gives instructions to the laundry man at the Commercial Hotel in Phoenix. Borrowed $25.00 from Mrs. Thalheimer.

Letter 10, August 22, 1901: In Santa Monica, received a $100 check from Father. Want to pay Mrs. Thalheimer back right away. Receive the newspapers daily, but irregularly. Today is cold and unpleasant.

Letter 11, August 28, 1901: Marguerite Timm is still visiting. Mr. Eisele sent Ella $5 and four candy bars for her birthday. Yesterday we went bowling. Glad that business (in Phoenix) is going fine.

Letter 12, September 4, 1901: In Santa Monica, 6:00 AM at the beach with the children fishing. Caught 6 fish in 15 minutes. Children are having fun; Georgie claps his hands and laughs when they bite his legs. Glad you will meet us in Maricopa when we come home.

Letter 13, September 7, 1901: Last letter before we go home. Order some Bar-B-Q roast for 25 to 30 cents and other food for our return. Have cots put up on the porch. Received a picture of Marie (Eisele) and her baby (Lloyd). President McKinley was shot. Geo (George, Jr.) was very excited about it.

Letter 14, September 15, 1901: Arthur is already home getting ready for school. We leave here (Santa Monica) Thursday the 20th.

Letter 15, July 13, 1910: In Santa Monica, have a house for $75 a month. Could find nothing cheaper. Couldn't get the house from last year. Has 5 beds, 3 bedrooms, one girls room and 1 bed in the wall.

Letter 16, July 15, 1910: Postcard. Everything in place here. Put the carpets on the dining room table (in Phoenix) so they don't get wet from the water on the floor when it rains.

Letter 16, July 16, 1910: No letters from you. When you come, bring Emma's high shoes. They are in the suitcase behind the curtains in room #18.

Letter 17, July 20, 1910: This year I am not content here; I always think about the hotel. Haffner brought a yard-long fish. Gave half to Thalheimers. Wish Marie (Eisele) were here. Worry that Arthur stays out so late.

Letter 18, July 21, 1910: In Santa Monica, you don't have to bring a big light bulb; we have some here. Discussion about the remodling of the hotel (Commercial Hotel in Phoenix).

Letter 19, September 21, 1910: Homesick. I am selfish to stay where it is cool while you poor people have to sweat. Dear Georg, I live only for you.

Letter 20, July 15, 1912: Postcard, in Ocean Park, California, looking for a house. Saw Sadie this morning.

Letter 21, July 24, 1912: In Ocean Park, cool and feel fine. The girls won't let me do anything. Arthur should watch the bellboy (at the Commercial Hotel in Phoenix) do the work. He should do 5 rooms a day.

Letter 22, July 25, 1912. It worries me that Arthur is so thin. He should eat more and go to bed earlier. Tell Arthur to write his mother.

Letter 23, June or July 27, 1912: In Ocean Park, we don't have your pants. Glad the blacksmith shop is being torn down. Hibbards are here. Mr. Eisele gave us a cake. Will be glad when you and Arthur are here.

Letter 24, September 1, 1912: You are home already. Think of you often. Annie Wells can help with house cleaning (of the Commercial Hotel) when I get home the middle of September.

Letter 25, September 7, 1912: Monday is a holiday here. Tomorrow, Sunday going to Hillbrant's at Riverside for one day. Evenings we go to Venice where all the life is. Workmen quickly tearing everything down. They have 1000 people working.

Letter 26, July 18, 1913: In Ocean Park, have a house at 23 Thornton Ave. for $100 a month. Couldn't find anything cheaper. Marie (Eisele) lives to the front. Will be glad when you are here. Arthur arrives Sunday.

Letter 27, July 23, 1913: In Ocean Park, Arthur left this morning. Was here for two days. Glad you will be here soon. Bring 1/2 dozen teaspoons and a big light. Have only small lights here. Talks about work at the hotel in Phoenix. Tell Arthur not to give money to people.

Letter 28, September 8, 1913: In Ocean Park, still hot in Phoenix. Would like to stay until the 18th. When I get home, have to work right away and here I have it so easy. Arthur here now. Went swimming this morning. Also a postcard. September 6, 1913: Miss you very much. Spooky here. Next year you have to stay here (all summer).

Letter 29, September 18, 1915: Now you are home alone. Hope the trip wasn't too hot. You are the best husband of all. Received letter from the Hillbrands. They are glad we will be visiting. (Only Ella and Emma are with her)

Letter 30, February 2, 1918: In Gleeson (Arizona), with Ella visiting Emma and Reg Stroud. Mrs. Geo H.N. wants to know when Geo H.N. Luhrs will go to Tucson for Grand Lodge so she can meet him. Ella will stay a little longer in Gleeson to be near "Cap" Taylor because he leaves area soon. Greetings to Arthur (Luhrs).

Letter 31, February 8, 1918: In Gleeson, bring a comb and brush and little mirror to Tucson. Emma will be sorry if you don't visit her in March.

Letter 32, February 9, 1918: In Gleeson, tell Arthur (Luhrs) to rent our room only to someone he knows and then only to men. Better that you rent it before you leave. Glad that I will see you soon.

Letter 33, February 16, 1918: In San Diego, Ella and Arthur (Taylor) are very happy together. Glad about that. I like him. Don't know when we will go to see Geo (George, Jr.). Hotels are full here. Please send two checks for $25 each.

Letter 34, February 20, 1918: In San Diego, don't know if Geo (George, Jr.) will come to San Diego and if Ella and I will go to Stanford. Eagar to know which class (classification for draft) George, Jr. is in. Thanks for the checks. I didn't expect that much.

Letter 35, February 21, 1918: In San Diego, George, Jr. can't come to San Diego. He must report for physical on Saturday, the 23rd. Will go to see him next Friday so we can stay Saturday, Sunday and Monday with him. Ella wanted to be home on the 28th for the Eastern Star meeting, but won't be able to. I would like to come home, but will go to see George first. Am worried that both (George, Jr. and Arthur Taylor) will be sent overseas.

Letter 36: In San Diego, raining here so the big parade has been postponed. Tomorrow Geo (George, Jr.) has to report for his physical.

Letter 37, February 23, 1918: In San Diego, my head rushes from thinking about Geo (George, Jr.) and his physical. The big (military) parade (in San Diego) will be in two weeks. Thus they (Arthur Taylor's company) don't have to leave right away, at least not for two weeks. Questions about the hotel in Phoenix.

Letter 38, February 25, 1918: In San Diego, leave Thursday to visit Geo (George, Jr.). Don't know how long will stay. Raining hard.

Letter 39, February 26, 1918: In San Diego, no letter from you today. None from Geo (George, Jr.) either. Will go to see him anyway. Tomorrow, Wednesday, Arthur (Taylor) will come once more before we leave.

Letter 40, February 27, 1918: In San Diego, leave tomorrow. Had letter from Geo (George, Jr.) giving directions to his house in case can't meet us because has class.

Letter 41, February 28, 1918: In San Diego, we now go to Stanford. Sent you my coat. There isn't enough room in the suitcase.

Letter 42, March 1, 1918: At Stanford University, Geo (George, Jr.) met us. Took us to the fraternity house. Gave us the best room. Is in class 1 (military classification for the draft). I like it here. Miss you very much.

Letter 43, March 2, 1918: At Stanford University, Geo (George, Jr.) BROUGHT US BREAKFAST IN BED. We got up at 9:30. Tomorrow go to church (Memorial Church, Stanford) to pray for peace. Go back to San Diego to see the big parade on March 8th.

(Later in the year the family went back to Stanford University to visit George, Jr. Arthur Taylor had been sent overseas.

Letter 44, September 14, 1918: At Stanford University, Geo H.N. Luhrs left for Phoenix. Am glad to see Arthur (Luhrs). George, Jr. is at Camp Fremont. (Ella, Emma and Mother staying at the Delta Chi fraternity house)

Letter 45, September 17, 1918: At Stanford University, visited Mrs. Leonard George. Geo (George, Jr.) said his captain praised him for doing good work. Redwine came back. Ella drove Ford (Model T) to San Francisco.

Letter 46, September 18, 1918: Geo (George, Jr.) has received only one newspaper, from the 9th.

Letter 47, September 20, 1918: At Stanford University, going to Half Moon Bay for day. Hard to leave Geo (George, Jr.). Will return here after we have cleaned hotel (in Phoenix). (Ella, Emma and Mother are staying at the fraternity house)

Letter 48, September 17, 1920: In Venice, California, little Luhrs (Stroud) is well again and laughs as he did before in Gleeson. Arthur (Luhrs) didn't show up today. Do you think

we should stay until 1st of October? Think we can come home a little earlier. I'll ask Arthur (Luhrs) tomorrow when he comes.

Letter 50, September 20, 1920: In Venice, California, if we had known Arthur (Luhrs) was going to stay in Phoenix longer, you (Geo H.N. and George, Jr.) could have stayed here few more days. There were seven for dinner today..Tanta Johanna, Gretchen (Marguerite Timm), Arthur (Luhrs), Sadie, Ella, Emma (and Mrs. Geo H.N. Luhrs).

Letter 51, September 23, 1920: In Venice, California. Am worried because I haven't heard from you in three days. Write me or I will come home right away. I am ready to come home. I'm staying because Luhrs (Stroud) is doing fine here.

Letter 52, September 24, 1920: Received your letter today. Coming home next week. Don't know which day. Found a woman who massages my leg. Will be glad when I can walk right again. (She had broken her leg in Phoenix earlier in the year.)

Letter 53, September 26, 1920: Arthur (Luhrs) leaves Saturday and will be in Phoenix on Sunday morning. We will leave Friday and arrive Saturday morning.

Letter 54: In Venice, received 3 letters today. Was very happy. We leave Saturday, October 2, and be home Sunday morning at 8:15. Tell Paul to get our rooms ready. Bought a cake for little Luhrs'(Stroud) birthday tomorrow. We will eat it for him.

Letter 55, September 29, 1920: In Venice, California, had a first birthday celebration for little Luhrs (Stroud). (Ella, Emma and Mrs. Geo were there. Geo H.N. and George, Jr. sent presents). Thalheimers leave tomorrow. We are the last.

DECLARATION OF INTENTION.

No. 721

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

District Court of the Fourth Judicial District of the State of California,
In and for the City and County of San Francisco.

I George Lührs do declare on oath that it is bona fide my intention to become a CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, and to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to all and any foreign Prince, Potentate, State and Sovereignty whatsoever: and particularly to the King of Prussia

Sworn and subscribed this 11th day of January 1869 before me, Signed,

Wm Sedlie Georg Lührs
dep. Clerk

Office of the Clerk of the District Court of the Fourth Judicial District of the State of California, in and for the City and County of San Francisco, } ss.

I, WASHINGTON BARTLETT, Clerk of the District Court of the Fourth Judicial District of the State of California, in and for the City and County of San Francisco, said Court being a Court of Record, having common law jurisdiction, and a Clerk and Seal, do certify that the above is a true copy of the original Declaration of Intention of George Lührs on his application to become a Citizen of the United States, remaining in my office, upon the Records of said Court.

In Testimony Whereof, the Seal of said Court is hereunto affixed, this 11th day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-Nine in the year of our Independence the ninety-third

WASHINGTON BARTLETT, Clerk.
Wm Sedlie Deputy Clerk.

Naturalization documents have been reduced in size.

CERTIFIED COPY OF ACT OF NATURALIZATION.

No. .....

In the District Court of the Fourth Judicial District

OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

IN AND FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO.

PRESENT: HON. R. F. Morrison JUDGE.

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF

George H. N. Liehrs

AN ALIEN

TO BECOME A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

IN OPEN COURT,

May TERM, A. D., 1876

THIS 16th DAY OF June

A. D. 1876 AS YET OF SAID TERM.

IT APPEARING, TO THE SATISFACTION OF THIS COURT, BY THE OATHS OF

John F. Denny and Frederick Wellbrook

citizens of the United States of America, witnesses for that purpose, first duly sworn and examined, that

George Henry Nicolaus Liehrs

a native of Hanover (Germany)

has resided within the limits and under the jurisdiction of the United States five years at least, last past, and within the State of California for one year, last past: and that during all said five years' time he has behaved as a man of good moral character, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the same; and it also appearing to the Court by competent evidence, that the said applicant has heretofore and more than two years since and in due form of law declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States and having now here before this Court taken an oat that he will support the Constitution of the United States of America, and that he doth absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity, to every foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty whatever, and particularly to

William I. Emperor of Germany

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED, that the said

George Henry Nicolaus Liehrs be, and he

is hereby admitted and declared to be a CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

R. F. Morrison

DISTRICT JUDGE.

SIGNATURE: George H. N. Liehrs

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE 4th JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, IN AND FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO. } SS.

I, THOS. H. REYNOLDS, Clerk of the District Court of the Fourth ~~Judicial District~~ of the State of California, in and for the City and County of San Francisco, said Court being a Court of Record having common law jurisdiction and a Clerk and Seal, do certify that the above is a true copy of the Act of Naturalization of George Henry Nicolaus Liehrs as the same appears upon the Records of said Court, now in my office, and of the whole thereof, and that the same has been compared with the said original Record.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of said Court, this sixteenth day of June in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six and in the year of our Independence the one hundred th

THOS. H. REYNOLDS, CLERK.

BY Jno. F. Bodee DEPUTY CLERK.

No. 482. Gesehen im Kaiserlich Deutschen Consulat zu San Francisco, Cal. zur Beglaubigung umstehender Unterschrift des stellvertretenden Clerk der Stadt und Grafschaft San Francisco, Herrn Ino F. Boden.

San Francisco, den 16. Juni 1876

Geb. Prov. 2-15 ego
= Gold $ 1.87½

Der Kaiserliche Consul
Adolph Rosenthal

KAISERLICH DEUTSCHES CONSULAT IN ST. FRANCISCO

District Court
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
ACT OF NATURALIZATION
OF

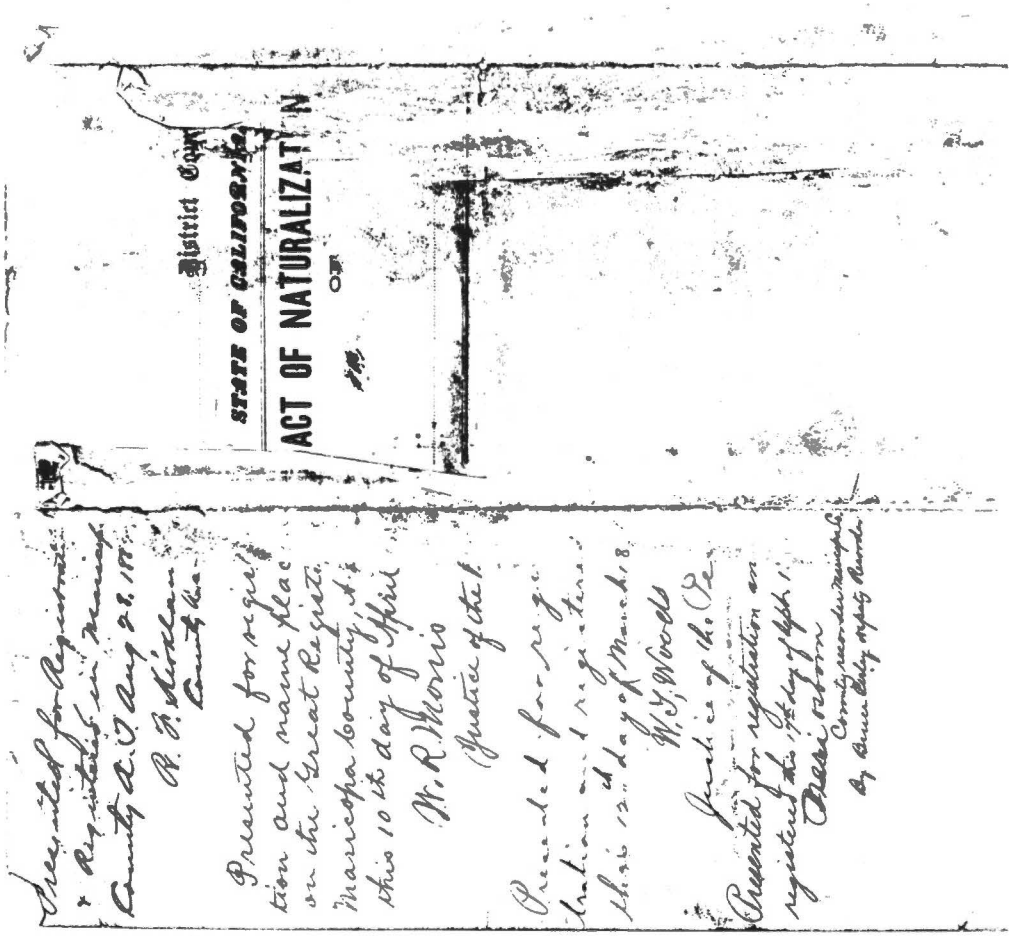
Presented for Registration & Registered in Maricopa County A.T. Aug 28, 1877
R. F. Kirkland
County Clerk

Presented for registration and name placed on the Great Register Maricopa County, A.T. this 10th day of April
W. R. Morris
Justice of the P.

Presented for registration and registered this 12th day of March 18
W. J. Woods
Justice of the Peace

Presented for registration and registered this 17th day of Sept. 1
Preciosborn
County recorder Maricopa Co.
By Bruce Craig Deputy Recorder





Affidavit of Registration

For Primary and General Municipal Election in the City of Phoenix
For the Year 1928

STATE OF ARIZONA }
County of Maricopa, City of Phoenix } ss.

Deponent subscribing hereto, being duly sworn, deposes and says: My name is Geo. H. N. Luhrs.

My age is 21 years or over. Sex MALE I am a citizen of the United States, and of the State of Arizona.

I am a native of Germany State.

I reside at No. 49 So Center St Precinct 12

of the City of Phoenix, County of Maricopa, State of Arizona. I shall have been a resident of Arizona for one year next preceding MAR 3 1928, and within said city at least ninety days next preceding MAR 3 1928 I am an elector of the State of Arizona aforesaid, and will be an elector of said City of Phoenix MAR 3 1928

I am a foreign born citizen of the United States. I was naturalized as a citizen of the United States on the 16 day of June, ~~19~~ 1876 in the 4 Judicial Dist court, San Francisco, State of California

I am able to read the Constitution of the United States in the English language in such a manner as to show that I am neither prompted nor reciting from memory, and am able to write my name.

I am prevented by physical disability from being able to read the Constitution of the United States in the English language in such a manner as to show I am neither prompted nor reciting from memory, or able to write my name.

My name is Ge on the City tax roll of said city.

Geo. H. N. Luhrs.
(Voter's Signature)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 13 day of Feby 1928.

By
City Clerk.

R. P. Rozine
Deputy.

Affidavit of Registration

For Primary and General Municipal Election in the City of Phoenix
For the Year 1928

STATE OF ARIZONA
County of Maricopa, City of Phoenix } ss.

Deponent subscribing hereto, being duly sworn, deposes and says: My name is Margarite E. Luhrs

My age is 21 years or over. Sex ~~MALE~~ FEMALE I am a citizen of the United States, and of the State of Arizona.

I am a native of Germany State.

I reside at No Luhrs Hotel 419 E. central Precinct No 12

of the City of Phoenix, County of Maricopa, State of Arizona. I shall have been a resident of Arizona for one year next preceding MAR 3 - 1928, and within said city at least ninety days next preceding MAR 3 - 1928 I am an elector of the State of Arizona aforesaid, and will be an elector of said City of Phoenix MAR 3 - 1928

I am a foreign born citizen of the United States. I was naturalized as a citizen of the United States on the ____ day of by marriage 19____ in the ____ court, State of ____

I am able to read the Constitution of the United States in the English language in such a manner as to show that I am neither prompted nor reciting from memory, and am able to write my name.

I am prevented by physical disability from being able to read the Constitution of the United States in the English language in such a manner as to show I am neither prompted nor reciting from memory, or able to write my name.

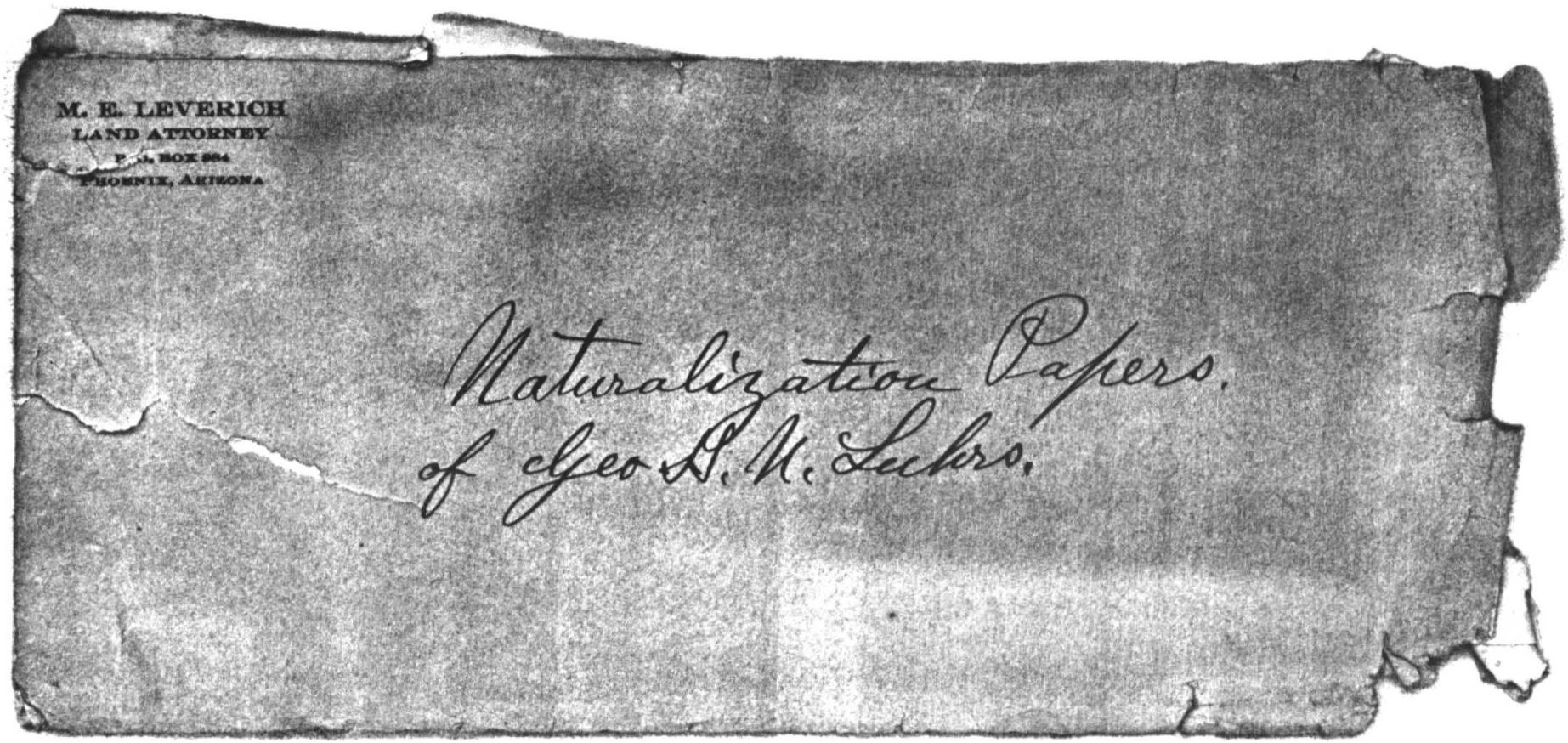
My name is yes on the City tax roll of said city.

Margarite
(Voter's Signature)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 13 day of Feb 1928.

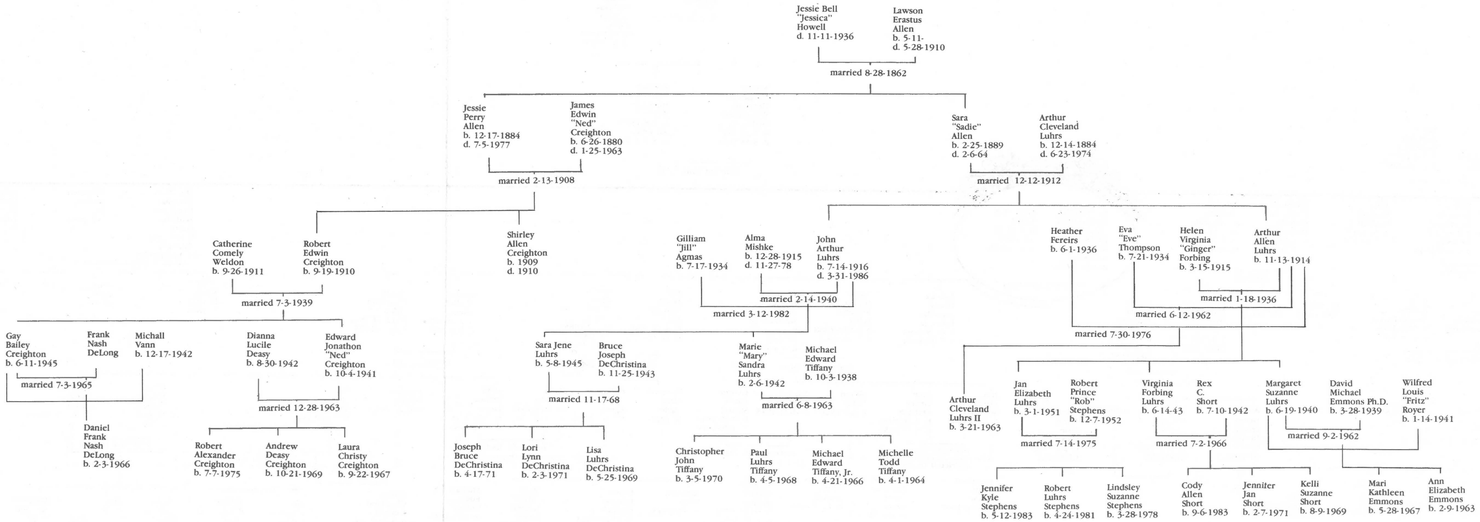
By JOS. C. FIRST
City Clerk.

Margarite Carpenter
Deputy.

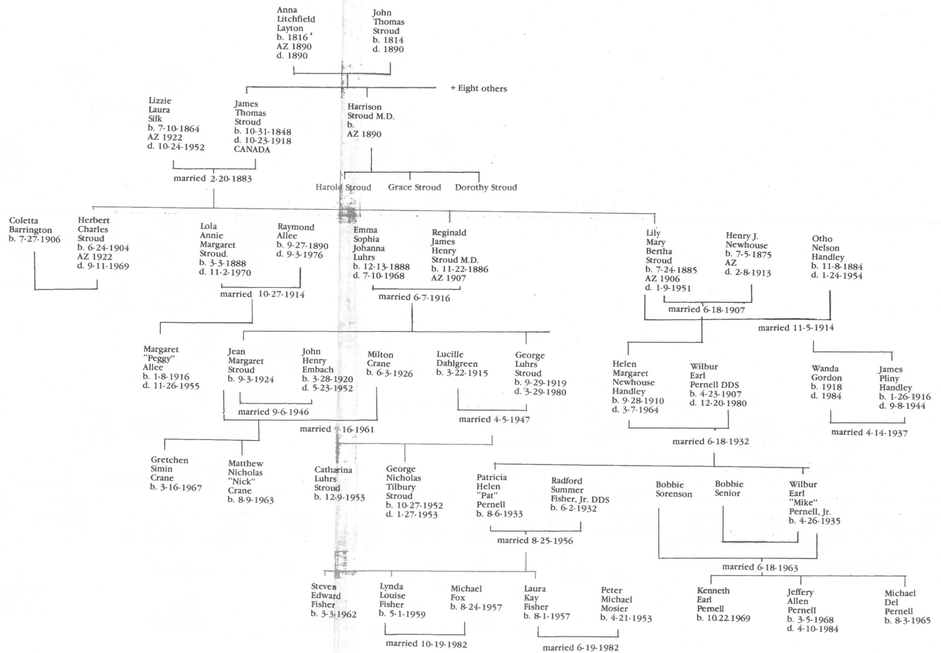

M. E. LEVERICH
LAND ATTORNEY
P. O. BOX 984
PHOENIX, ARIZONA
Naturalization Papers.
of Geo. D. H. Lukes.

Notes~

The Allen Family



The Stroud Family



The Dodenhof-Luhrs Family