

January 22, 1951

Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Klapis
48041 203 Street
Bayside, New York

Dear Pat and Andy:

I certainly enjoyed the fine long letter I received from you dated December 14.

Noticing the first paragraph in your letter saying that getting up for the 2:00 a.m. feeding seemed to sap your strength, it reminded me of our first baby, Blanche. She was a bottle baby, and although I was extremely busy and working long hours during the day, I always took care of the night feeding. We had a big base burner, something you and Andy may never have seen, with all kinds of isinglass to show the light within, and we burned hard coal. These stoves had a container that would hold about a scuttle full of coal, and as the fire burned down around the bottom the coal would come down to feed it but without the coal entering the storage container.

On the back of the stove we kept a teakettle filled with water, so that any time during the night there would be warm water. It would be my job to get up and get a bottle, usually filled, and place it in the teakettle until it was sufficiently warm for the baby. I don't recall so much the care of the succeeding children, but I always tried to do my share, realizing that Gertrude had the burden of their care daily.

I shall always be interested in your welfare, and I shall be glad to hear from time to time regarding the program of the little one. I can not hope to thoroughly answer your good letter this morning because of lack of time. I was very happy to get it and shall read it again.

You have my love and I feel sure that such a happy union as that of yours and Andy's will result in a successful future.

Cordially yours,

WCS:bjh

W. C. Simons