

Cornelia W. Hall Letter Regarding Yale Scholarships June, 1929

Compiled by Ted Hine – September 2005

Kirt Hine's mother Rose kept most of her son's letters sent home from his Yale and later years and through a fortunate series of events they have survived. Among these I found the following letter written by Cornelia W. Hall (Kirt's "Cousin Nell") to Ellen Louise Hine (Kirt's "Aunt Nell") in, or prior to, June of 1929. Aunt Nell then forwarded it to Kirt's parents in Seattle. Both Nells lived in Ohio.

In the letter Cornelia Hall indicates her willingness to designate Kirt as a recipient of the Boardman scholarships at Yale (there were apparently 2) if he could attain the academic credentials to be admitted. She also questions whether Kirt could achieve this in Seattle public schools. Several months later in the fall of 1929 Kirt was enrolled by his parents in the private Lakeside School in Seattle. 6 years later he enrolled at Yale.

Cornelia apparently has names and/or relationships a little confused in the letter as she refers to Kirt as S. K. H. Jr. possibly thinking he was the son of his uncle, Samuel Kirtland Hine, who had no children. In spite of the name confusion the intent was clear.

(In the letter the name Charlie is mentioned. This would have been Kirt's uncle Charles Potter Hine, a Cleveland attorney and Yale graduate. Also mentioned is Fitch Bishop another Kirtland descendent who apparently was also a candidate for using the Boardman scholarships.)

Cornelia Wade Hall, who lived in Warren, Ohio, was Kirt's second cousin once removed. They both descended from Turhand Kirtland (1755-1844), one of the first settlers in eastern Ohio around 1800.

Cornelia, whose brother Charles Hall had apparently attended Yale, had obtained the ability to designate recipients of the Boardman scholarships by virtue of being the niece of Lucy Hall (another descendent of Turhand Kirtland) who married Judge William Boardman, a wealthy New Haven, CT landowner. The Boardman's, who lived near the Yale campus, had no children and sometime after Williams's death Lucy made provisions in her will to set up the Boardman scholarships upon her death at nearby Yale where her uncle, Jared Potter Kirtland, had been educated. The scholarships were established in 1909. Also to honor her uncle Lucy funded the construction of a building on the Yale campus around 1902 which today still goes by the name Kirtland Hall. Upon Lucy's Hall-Boardman's death the ability to designate scholarship recipients was passed along to her nearest relatives. This included her niece, Cornelia W. Hall.

117 Mahoning Avenue
Warren, Ohio

Wednesday.
Eve.

My Dearest Nell.

Yours just came and
I am so glad to have S. H.
H. Jr. have the Boardman
Scholarship for "Yale"; as you
say to you seems a long
way off, but things like
scholarships go on and, he
can have both of them if
he works to keep himself - but
I tried to have Fitch Bishop
have use of both - but it

a ruling no boy can unless
he works at some odd job
to keep himself - and now-a-
days no boys want to do that.
and the scholarships are only
for boys who need to be help-
ed - then there are papers etc.
to sign but that comes just
as they enter, and can prove
they have passed the proper
examinations etc. - Lucien
and Geo. B. Sr. worked out
Fitch's as I was in Maine.
but if I should die during
the time it would all

have to be taken up - with the
 Bureau of appointments, a
 Mr. Crawford is head of it
 now - but if Charlie is alive he
 can see to it. I suppose I
 want all the kin to use it.
 Fitch graduates in June -
 Always the trouble has been
 that the boys didn't measure
 up, or at last minute found
 some other ex's were easier -
 Will Kirk's graduation from
 Seattle public school admit
 him = I think that is a
 great trouble often - our
 schools do not - I am

often in Plover. driving up
 with some one, but I can't
 get time to see you - the days
 rush by and there is much
 to do - I am so sorry Phas.
 is not well - I was in hopes
 warm days and golf would
 catch him up - to a high
 level - I am ashamed to own
 I have not written or called
 the S.R.s - I was gone a whole
 week - and 2 days this and so
 it is - a wedding and a
 luncheon yet to go to -
 Much love -
 Nell -

Nell Hall



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