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Doris Holmes Blake - Correspondence with Helena "Lena" G. Fowler, 1931-1932

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13 Pomeworth Street, Stoneham, Mass.
November 10, 1931

Dear Folks,

I seem to be getting off my schedule lately. Last Friday I substituted in Winchester High School. I really had a very easy day, but I had had a rather bad attack of colitis the day before, so I came home with a sick headache. Consequently I was in bed at the time I usually am writing to you.

I hope that you are both finding that you can take things a little easier by this time. You are terribly thin and tired looking in your picture. If you are any more so now, goodness only knows what will happen to you before the winter is over. I do wish that Mr. Holmes could realize that he is only hurting himself and wearing you out by fretting about things all the time. I think that you ought to have some one to help you so that you could get a chance to rest. I think that the picture is a very good one of all of you. I think that little Doris is a dear, just as sweet as she can be. Doris is very good in it too. Sidney looks too thin, though it is good of him. I was especially pleased to see the smile on Mr. Holmes' face. It makes him look like his old, good-natured self. Your face shows as patient and sweet as it really is, but, oh, so tired! I am sending it back, although I should like to keep it, I supposed that it is the only one that you have. I wonder if Maude would get one printed for me, or send me the negative in your next letter, and let me get it done here myself. How are Maude and Ralph? I am glad that you have them to run in and cheer you up once in a while.

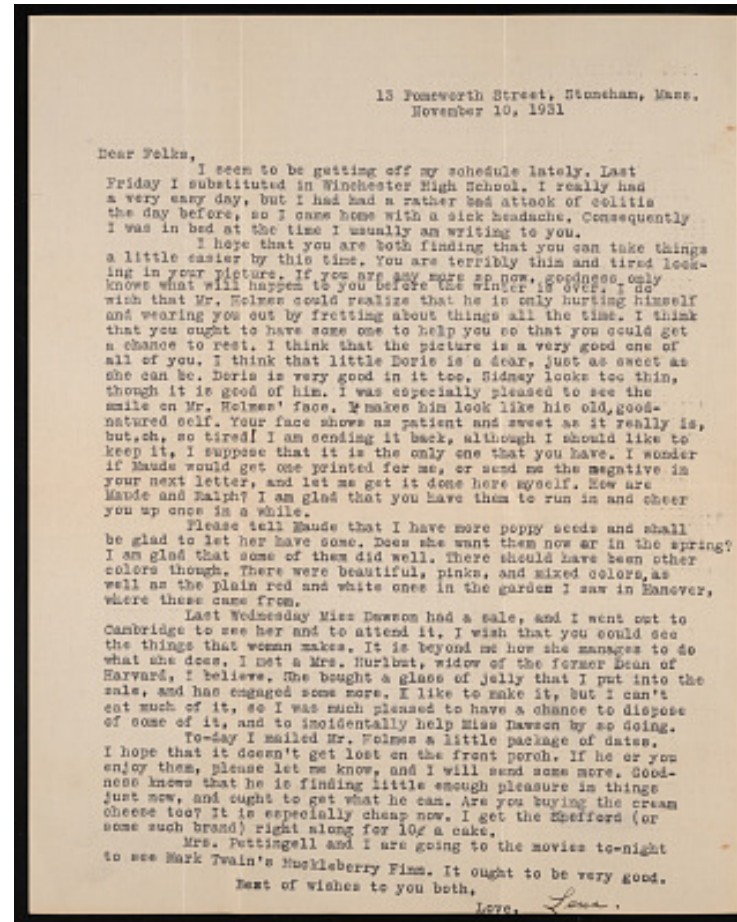
Please tell Maude that I have more poppy seeds and shall be glad to let her have some. Does she want them now or in the spring? I am glad that some of them did well. There should have been other colors though. There were beautiful, pinks, and mixed colors, as well as the plain red and white ones in the gardens I saw in Hanover, where these came from.

Last Wednesday Miss Dawson had a sale, and I went out to Cambridge to see her and to attend it. I wish that you could see the things that woman makes. It is beyond me how she manages to do what she does. I met a Mrs. Hurlbut, widow of the former Dean of Harvard, I believe. She bought a glass of jelly that I put into the sale, and has engaged some more. I like to make it, but I can't eat much of it, so I was much pleased to have a chance to dispose of some of it, and to incidentally help Miss Dawson by so doing.

To-day I mailed Mr. Holmes a little package of dates. I hope that it doesn't get lost on the front porch. If he or you enjoy them, please let me know, and I will send some more. Goodness knows that he is finding little enough pleasure in things just now, and ought to get what he can. Are you buying the cream cheese too? It is especially cheap now. I get the Shefford (or some such brand) right along for 10¢ a cake.

Mrs. Pettingell and I are going to the movies to-night to see Mark Twain's Huckleberry Finn. It ought to be very good.

Best of wishes to you both,
Love,
Lena.



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