Dear Dr. Church:

We sail tomorrow at 11:00 a.m., but before starting I am mailing you Life insurance premium notices as follows:

2 N.Y. Life \$17.50 + \$26.25 payable not later than Oct. 4th.
1 Provident Mutual \$46.25 payable not later than Oct. 5th
1 N.Y. Life \$48.65 payable not later than Oct. 26th.

I also enclose a credit voucher from the National Cloak and Suit Company for \$29.42. This, as they state on the face, may be used same as a check when endorsed. This amount will help a little in meeting the above insurance payments.

I am not quite clear as to exactly what Mr. Hester has paid up: There was one \$75.00 early in July, then you wrote of his paying another \$75.00 recently, but between these two, he wrote that he was going to make a payment of \$50.00 the day after he wrote, this I mentioned in a letter to you, so perhaps it was paid and you took it for granted that I knew of the matter, so did not write of it in your letter to me. I surely hope he has, for with insurance, taxes and farm loan installment, every cent will be needed. I shall write to the H. L Rust Company to send you a check for perhaps \$50.00 either in Oct. or Nov. to help out a bit more. I shall write to them from ship board, so it will be nearly a month before they can possibly do anything, particularly as I have quite taken up everything available from that source up thru September. But please, Mr. Church, arrange it some way so that these policies will not lapse.

Further notices of insurance premiums due I have instructed the agencies to send in your care: - perhaps you had better open them and keep in your office instead of forwarding to me hereafter.

I thank you ever so much for your endeavors to correct the false impressions Mr. Hoge may have created in his misunderstanding of the facts in the case.

The assignment of insurance policies is now signed, stamped and ready to drop in the mail. I wrote you from Ohio that it had been sent. It happened that I was writing to you and expected to go before a notary within the next few minutes and had the papers go out in the same mail, but the notary suddenly disappeared so the statement in my letter to you was inadvertently false, -however, I have got the fault corrected by catching up with my papers and another Notary Public.

My address in China I believe I have already given you, but I will repeat, in case I have not.

No. 6 Jen T'ien Hsi Li Ho-pei, Tientsin, China.

Oh, yes, please credit Hester with 81 cents postage on a suit case he sent me by parcel post.

With best wishes for a pleasant winter for you all,

Your truly Percy B. Tripp

Source: Special Collections University of Virginia Library

"Papers of Merton Elbridge Church, 1866-1959"