

## Letters of Aubrey Hearn and Florence Conner, 1925-1926

**Howard College**  
**Our Room**  
**January 5, 1925**

My dear Miss Conner,

I really wanted to telegraph my thanks to you for that delicious box of candy my "Old Lady" brought. The rest of the Hearn here join me in thanking you most heartily for it.

I feel like I almost know you through your brother. He speaks of you so often. I'm crazy about him, and you are his sister, so I was tempted to begin the letter: "Dear Florence".

You should have been with us on the evening of January 1. We gave a little surprise birthday party for your brother. Although we had only two guests, we had a mighty nice time.

Recently, I learned to play chess and almost immediately discovered Allen a chess "shark". But I am apt to be lonesome this week as Allen has sworn off until after exams and Dr. Hearn (*Uncle Fletcher*) is away at one of his churches this week.

And I will have to do a little studying myself, for a change, in preparation for exams. After them, I will be a junior, and your brother and I will be rivals in almost everything.

We have about given Allen a new name. Did you ever hear the old song: "The man with Plenty of Good Peanuts"? The second line reads: "And giveth his neighbor none". We have changed the last word of the second line to "some". It seems to fit very well.

The bell will ring soon, or rather, it will soon be time, for the first class, and my public speaking professor may not like my being late. With best wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,  
Aubrey Hearn

**East Lake, Alabama**  
**June 22, 1925**

Dear Florence,

If you enjoy making candy as much as we enjoy eating it, you enjoy making it to a very high degree. We appreciate your kindness, and the candy was delicious. Your brother's box of salted peanuts also came in at a very good time. I am thoroughly convinced that the Andalusia Peanut co. is still operating.

I am very sad to announce that the Hearn, Hodges, & Hearn Co. has gone bankrupt. We had a slight bit of trouble in marketing our product.

I was glad to hear of your winning the music scholarship. I believe I noticed in the News that the school had already begun. How do you enjoy studying in the summer? If it is as hot there as it is here, I can sympathize with you. Sitting in classes four hours a day doesn't exactly appeal to me. But they don't require a great deal of study, which makes them bearable.

Probably Allen has already told you, but my sister is coming to Howard next year, or perhaps July 15, and expects to specialize in music.

Is your brother behaving himself these days? We really didn't know what he would do without our censure and encouragement. I noticed he carried all his books home—to review them again, I guess. He had a habit last year of studying his lessons, a week or so ahead of time, and laying chess, tennis, and other helpful things aside.

Wish you could be with us to enjoy some tennis, authors, chess and other sports in which we sometimes indulge.

It's a rather busy life we lead in summer school. The second half of the first term (I count the days like Allen does in regular session) begins, and in three weeks, we'll start our 5-weeks term.

Must drop a few words to your brother.

Yours sincerely,  
Aubrey Hearn

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**Andalusia, Alabama**  
**August 31, 1925**

Dear Mr. Hearn,

Allen felt that his mind was so burdened with his own personal affairs (dates etc.) that a letter from him at this time would not be appreciated by you. Since I don't have to think much on the more serious affairs of life (he doing it for me) I am the very one to be his secretary.

You've heard about our "Bob Jones" meeting haven't you? Mr. Jones surely is wonderful. He preaches the truth as taught in the Bible so that one would almost stumble over the simplicity of God's plan. I don't see how any one could hear him and then leave Jesus out of their life. A "Thank Offering" was given to him at the close of the meeting amounting to three thousand or more. The Ku Klux Klan gave him fifteen hundred sixty eight dollars.

Daddy will be taking me to Atlanta next Friday in the car. Mamma, Eady and Walter are going too, to see Grandmother Allen. Allen and Lewis will be at home by themselves with Allen as chief cook and bottle washer. You should come down and be with him (then you could have all the peanut butter you wanted, because he would have you helping him make it). You would also have the opportunity of seeing the rapidly progressing city of Andalusia.

Allen says he can cook enough to keep from getting hungry. But I think he will either be buying canned food or going to the restaurant after the first two or three days.

Did Allen tell you about all of us girls wanting his "Entre Nous" next year? Evalyn Kirkland said she wanted it. I told her that was all right I could get one from some where else. I told Allen he must make the band and I could have his sweater. Then Louise Bozeman, a girl Allen has suddenly fallen for, said "I'll just take your A.B. degree, Allen". I don't care about his A.B. I may have one myself some day (doubtful).

Allen has a date with Margie for the first time in an age. Poor boy, his time is almost beaten I'm afraid. He says he can sing with you, "The Pal that I love stole the Gal that I love".

I wish for you the greatest success possible during the coming school year.

Respectfully,  
Florence Conner  
By, "The Order of the Boss"

**Birmingham, Alabama**  
**December 4, 1925**

Dear Florence and Grace,

Allen says you stay together most of the time, so I'll just write you together.

(By the way, he is just now trying to learn a new song, "On Venetian Waters", or something like that, so I am not responsible for what I say).

Incidentally, may I say that a certain box of candy we received from Atlanta Tuesday was super-delicious. To say that we enjoyed it would be putting it mildly. We appreciate it very much.

Occasionally, they make some candy here, and I always try to hold up to my reputation as 'chief sampler and taster'. Before my sister came to college I used to get a box regularly but I believe this is the first one that's come here with my name on it, in the past three months.

We are just recovering from some abominable things they call "six weeks tests". We played tennis all yesterday afternoon in celebration.

I guess you, like me, are counting the days 'till the holidays.

Allen and Mildred say it's almost class time, so I'll have to close.

Yours affectionately,  
Aubrey Hearn

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**Birmingham, Alabama**  
**December 14, 1925**

Dear Florence,

Please excuse the delay in answering your letter. I have been trying to think of a gift that would fit your requirements. Allen has so many things that it is hard to suggest anything in the usual line.

I believe he would like a sport sweater, or 'lumberjack' we call them at the college, a vest watch chain, a good tie or two, or perhaps an automatic pencil. I don't think he has a pair of gloves or a vest pocket knife, either.

Sorry you had the disturbance about my letter and hope it had no disastrous results.

We are all pepped up over going home Wednesday. Guess you also won't regret the arrival of mid-term vacation.

Hoping you have the best and merriest Christmas ever.

Affectionately,  
Aubrey Hearn

**Birmingham, Alabama**  
**January 4, 1926**

Dear Florence,

I appreciate very much your beautiful book mark and New Year wish.

I was glad to suggest a few gifts for Allen, though I fear the suggestions were not so good.

Your brother left us suddenly yesterday, moving to the "Y" in town. We were surprised and greatly disappointed. It is awfully lonely since he left. We are all fond of Allen, and I love him as a brother.

Guess you are back in school by this time. I hope you had a pleasant Christmas. Mildred and I had such a delightful one that we almost hated to come back to school.

Wish you could have been with us New Year's morning, when we had a birthday celebration for Allen. Aunt Lizzie had written a poem for the occasion, dedicated to him. Joy had put a little art work on it, and we presented it to him, all with our best wishes.

Wishing you, too, a very prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,  
Aubrey Hearn