

MAY 21 REC'D

Newark, Ohio .
April 30th 1942.L-29
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Dear William:

I believe that this is about the longest stretch that I have gone without writing to you and I really feel quite badly about it. In the first place, I have had sinus trouble for the past three weeks and had to have both sides punctured and have been having them washed out every day for the past ten days. That trouble is much better now and I hope that today will be the last treatment that I have to take. In the second place we have been terribly busy in the store. When the people find that they are not going to be able to buy merchandise they all want it. There is so much of our goods that can not be purchased without high priorities that it will be but a short time until we shall not have much to sell. Lawn mowers, sprinkling hose, machinists tools and all the good tools, wire cloth, electrical supplies, plumbing supplies and dozens of other articles cannot be purchased and it is quite a worry now and will be worse in the time to come unless we can soon defeat the Axis and that looks as though it were quite a little time off.

I suppose that Janie has written to you and told you of her plans and that she expects to be married around the middle of June. I do hope that she has chosen wisely and that everything will go fine with them. I have never met the man nor have I ever had any word from him in regard to marrying Janie. I shall do the best I can for her under the circumstances and give her as nice a wedding as possible.

She is figuring on coming home or rather leaving her job on May 28th and shop a few days in New York and then come home to get ready. I see in the paper that Majory Kibler is going to marry John David Jones in June. Many of the young fellows are in the service and it is hard to keep track of them. Billy Gulick is stationed at Panama in the Navy and Bobby has just completed a Navy course in aviation. What do you hear of Bud Francis. His grandmother told me that he was going to stay over there for another six months. You have never mentioned him but the one time and I wonder how he is getting along.

Janie told me that she had received a letter from you and would forward it as soon as she answered it, but we have not yet received it.

Grandpa wants to come down to visit Betty and the rest of us, but he does not want to come on the train. Leonard is working six days a week and can't bring him down and I have more than I can do at the store, so I have asked Herman to take our car and go up for him and I think he will be able to do it the first of the week.

Help has been so hard to get in the country and I could not get all of the grapes trimmed. Had three or four different ones working on them but they would not stick to it. Charlotte Graham finally did the most of it and in the midst of that her boy friend came home from the army and they were married. He has gone back now and she is finishing the tying and getting the brush out. I saw Penick last night at the farm. He is doing the spraying and has as much on hand as usual, always more than he can get done and do it right. He told me that he had no word from his boy since the fall of the Baatam. He is a first Lieut. in the Marine Corp, probably in Corrigedor, as his company got off the Island

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I do not know how the setting of a price ceiling will affect us but on thw whole I think it is the proper thing to do. After the last war the drop in prices was terrible and every one lost a lot of money, on paper at least and I hope that we shall not have that same thing over again after this one. It seems to me that farm prices are at a very good level and the farmers should be able to make some money, the first time in a number of yeagsrs, for farm prices have been lagging. We have a very good boy, so I hope, on the Stasel farm and I believe they will be able to make a little money if prices stay where they are now.

I saw Jim Sperry a week ago Sunday, he is also a 2nd Lieut. in the Marine Corp and is stationed in Virginia. Bob Hughes was sent to Australia, he left California on March 18th and landed there around the third of April. He was promoted to Major before he left the country. John Montgomery is down on the Texas border and he likes it very much. You know he went to training school and got his commission.

We have been having very warm weather and really need rain very bad now as it will be three weeks tomorrow since we had any and the ground is very hard.

We enjoyed your last letter very much and was glad to know something about the country. I do hope that you have received your boxes by this time and that all came through in good condition. The bank told me that you had cabled about the money for the car, so I presume that it must be on the way. Hope that it does not get sent to the ocean bottom. We are losing a bunch of boats off the east coast and it is geeting serious. The sugar rationing strats the first part of May, but that will not be a serious thing for us as a half pound a week per person will be sufficient for us.

Sarah is is plugging along with the school work and she will be glad when the next seven weeks or over as it gets to be a drag, especially in the hot weather.

Janie told me that she had received a very nice letter from Philinda and that she had changed her work and liked it very much.

The boys in the store all wish to be remembered to you, they are alright but all of us are just about run down with the extra work that we have had to do.

There is too much going on now, so I shall have to close. We have been expecting a letter from you as it has been five weeks since your last one came. It will probably come today as I have just gotten this off to you.

With love and best wishes from all of us and God bles you .

Yours,

Laddy