

AUG - 9 Rec'd
Thursday
July 15, 1943
L-280
P1/4

Dear William:
It has been a long time since I have had a minute to sit down & fulfill my sincere desire to write you a note, not that there is anything to relate of great interest - we just pursue the even tenor of our way - which isn't always too even. We spend much time in the country - working - I never did that sort of work in my life before & it is utterly exhausting to me. The enclosed clipping from the "American" typifies our

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(L-280 8214)
 gardening endeavor - Our boy who helped us last year is doing a man's job this year so we are on our own. It takes 4 hours to cover the lawn with the power mower - not to mention trimming under the pines - but it is healthful. I painted the yard furniture, the porch furniture, & the awnings - not to forget the screen doors - I don't see anyone says paint to me! We thought we would do it while there was paint available. Your father has lost over 20 lb. work & worry I guess will do it sooner than any thing else. He just can't follow the pace he sets for himself & the bare shelves in the store are enough to

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give anyone a headache.
Dr. Turner has bought the old Fleek home to use as a residence - He lives in the Harry Twisher place but his wife likes the Fleek house so - How does one acquire that much influence over a mere man? It is something I always wanted to achieve but never did - now it is too late to hope. You see - pessimism has me in its grip.
There has been a lull in activity which might make news for you - As far as the family is concerned they are all well & happy - and to date no casualties - Uncle Carey recuperated splendidly

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 Lillian wrote me recently
 that she & Aunt Bonnie are
 holding up very well & that
 her hip is slowly growing
 stronger. Someone who had
 seen them told me they
 suspected that Lillian had
 a slight stroke when she had that fall.
 We regret that it will be
 such a long time before you &
 Philinda come our way but
 we are anticipating it keenly.
 It just doesn't seem that almost
 4 years have passed since
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 We do enjoy your letters &
 I shall try to have more news
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Rain, Rain, Rain! - Weeds, Weeds, Weeds!

Don't you recognize dear Laurence in the throes of DE[S]PERATION