

January 2, 1944

JAN 13 rec'd

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Dearest William:

We did so enjoy your letter, also the copy of the one you wrote your folks, and Philinda's letter to her people. I should have answered sooner, but I have so little of interest to write, and it is so easy to put off writing.

First I want to thank you for the Christmas gifts. As you may have heard, Jeannette sent us dusting powder and hose from you, and Sarah sent us a fruit cake. Jeannette did not understand she was not to do your shopping as usual, so we got twice as much, which makes us feel more ashamed than ever, as we have not sent you anything at Christmas for some time. I haven't the faintest idea what to send. I don't know what size either of you wear in anything, and don't know just how to send a package to you. It is hard for me to shop and get packages off these days, so would be very glad if you would not send us anything. Hope you had a pleasant Christmas, and that 1944 will be better in every way for all of us.

Of course you have heard that Norman's office is to be moved to San Francisco about the first of the year, and Jeannette cannot go until after the baby comes, which

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Of course you have heard that Norman's office is to be moved to San Francisco about the first of the year and Jeannette cannot go until after the baby comes, which

worries us a lot, we hate to think of her so far from any of her family, and not even her husband with her. However she writes, the wife of a Lieut. in Norman's office is to stay with her, and both go to San Francisco together when she is able. If S.F. is anything like Miami, Norman will have a hard time finding a place for her to come to, especially with a baby. It worries us, but she does not seem worried about it all, so we hope it all turns out O.K.

Hope you and Philinda are not so rushed with work, now that you have more help and that you are rested. So glad you can go to the Beach on Sundays for a change and rest. Hope the mosquitos are not malaria bearing ones, the ones we have are not, but we do not have many like we used to have, and they never bother us in the house.

So you have learned to eat more vegetables! We had forgotten about the asparagus episode. That is one thing of which we are very fond, but it does not grow here, and the shipped is not so good, as it has to be fresh to be at its best. But we like the canned, especially as a salad. I was surprised to hear you eat cabbage. I remember when you were here in 1923, I had corned beef and cabbage one day. When it was cooking you said you would not eat any of it. I told you you didn't have to eat the cabbage, and as I had taken both from the meat to cook the

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¹ William was nine years old in summer, 1923

cabbage, the meat did not³ taste of the cabbage. You did taste the meat, and exclaimed "why this is the best meat I ever tasted," and was so surprised. Do you remember the big plates of chocolate ice cream you used to eat? I imagine you would like to have some of it now!

I don't get out to look at the stars as much as I used to, but everytime I do, I think of you and your mother, and how much pleasure both of you had together. I remember once you said you would like to go to Miami so you could see Canopus! Now you can see it, and what do you think of the Southern Cross? I have seen the largest star in it only twice, but can see the others every May. I must say I was disappointed in it, it can't compare with the northern cross in my estimation.

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They had a big time at the Orange Bowl game here yesterday. I heard most of it over the Radio. The Stadium is only 6 or 7 blocks from here, and we can hear the music and yells of the crowd every time they have a game there.

We do hope you won't have your usual cold this January. There is a great deal of Flu all over the world and we hope you folks won't have it. We have never had it in our lives and hope to escape it this time. We seldom have colds here and when we do, they do not last long.

We are about the same as usual. I can't see that I improve very much. Love to both from both of us, and best wishes for 1944.
"Ninnie".

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