

1328 Elliott Street

Saskatoon, Sask.

January 4, 1944

Dear folks,

A happy new year to you both from
Dad and me!

We should have written long ago but
while Vera was here we were busy - very
busy because we wanted every minute
to count. It was so good to see her and
have her here with us. How I do wish
you might have been here also! Marge
talked for letting us have her this Christmas!

The box was opened Christmas Eve after
our duck dinner. Thanks so very much
for all the things it contained - the sweets,
spoons, tie, raisins, cookies, hose and
cook book! I'm so glad to have the cook
book because there will be many things
to be gotten from it. Thanks so much
for the silk hose you sent too. They are
lovely. I'm certainly well kept in them
as I received two pairs for Christmas. And
your letter, dad, was the very best one we

got! Marge, marge take!

Fred gave me a fountain pen. I'd lost my other one in my travels this spring. We had some lovely chrysanthemums from the Bibbys and Mrs. Bell.

Arrie Cox's new book on handicrafts is coming out soon and she's giving me a copy for my Christmas present when it comes off the press. I can hardly wait to see it.

We had a very busy week while Vera was here - something every afternoon and evening! Then there were many people she didn't meet this time but perhaps there will be another trip up here for her. We were at Mr. Mitchell's home for Christmas Day dinner. We had the best English plum pudding for dessert. It's Fred's favorite so I'll try to make one next year if possible. Mr. Mitchell still isn't very strong so Fred carved the turkey and did a beautiful job of it too.

Week after next is the Livestock Convention for the province. I've been asked to talk to the women one afternoon. The subject will be flower arrangements, I think. I'm also going to take our cooky house over to show the people. On Jan. 25-26th I have two talks - one each day to the Provincial Convention of Nurses here in the city. The lady in charge was very nice about making arrangements for transportation of all my things - as I usually pack up half of our belongings to take on a jaunt of that kind!!!

Fred is still very, very busy with his work at school. He seems to get entangled in meetings and short-courses, etc., galore - which takes up the extra time. However, he says only that it's all good experience for him.

Time out here - must start the oven and put in the squash for supper!

Boxing Day (called that up here - it's the day after Christmas) we went to a hockey game and ate hot dogs and onions in buns! The game was good but not as exciting as the game we saw when you were here, mother.

We have a New Year's announcement for you - would you object ^{to} being grandparents if all goes well?? We are expecting a wee one sometime in the latter part of June or early July. I'm feeling very well and the doctor says to keep up the good work. Other than that we have no reports at present. Fred is so very good about thinking of things to do for me that I am more than mothered with kindness.

Next week is Farm and Home week here. I've been asked to be on the program with the topic "How to Improve Exhibits of Women's Work at the Fairs". I think it will be fun to do. Mrs. Lewis, who teaches weaving to the rural women in the province has asked for a display of my weaving.

Bang sent me a "Lannevirke" for Christmas. It certainly is a big edition. Fred's Aunt Mary sent us three pieces of sterling for a gift. They are a serving fork and spoon and gravy ladle all in the same pattern. There's nothing just like that in silver so we were very pleased to have these. She certainly is thoughtful of Fred.

It's quite chilly outside these days. It was thirty below this morning. Fred froze the tip of his nose. He declares he didn't know he was such a sissy!

He does enjoy those cookies you sent. He remarked about them again this noon after he'd eaten a couple for dessert.

Last night I got a fancy contraption to use for soldering. I can use an alcohol burner and so work it here at home. I'm anxious to try it out some day.

Best wishes to all! Greetings to Ann's

and Miss Voryd from us. Pie is twice
as much fun when we use her
server.

Sincerely,
Helene

Hi Folks!

Thanks for all the wonderful
things at X-mas — including
especially the gift for "pie-face".
The tie just goes with my suit too!

We had a wonderful visit
with Vera and we showed her
two of the 3 things everyone comes to
see here in Canada — the Hudson
Bay store and a couple of Mounties.
No northern lights as it was foggy
and cloudy.

Thanks again for everything!

Fred.

1328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.

January 13, 1944

Dear folks,

Tempus fugit - and I don't get things done when I say I'm going to.

We received the barrel in ship shape order - everything o.k. and what we've tasted certainly is wonderful! Mange, mange take! We had company Saturday and Sunday evenings for dinner and really initiated the carving set - it's so very lovely and I'm so happy to have it.

I'd forgotten that the trays Julia and Jens gave me were as large as they are. They're just so nice you know what I'd like ?? —

I'd like another half dozen if I could match these - a dozen trays is really a good number. Would you mind asking Julia where she got these and get me six more sometime so I'd have a whole set of the same kind? No hurry about them up here but I'd appreciate having them for future use.

Do you have Myren's address? Will you please send it to me. I'd like to write to him. I found Mrs. Larsen's address in the letter when I reread it - thanks anyway. Sorry I didn't read it the first time.

Fred is now a real "Molbo"! At least so I tell him. We were invited out for dinner and a show the other evening. It was 12:15 when we arrived home. He looked at the alarm clock and fixed it for alarm at six o'clock as usual.

When the alarm went off he got up - had breakfast and went off to work. He always resets the alarm for me for later. When I woke up and looked at the clock it didn't seem the right time for the amount of light outside - so I looked at my watch and sure enough something was wrong!

Fred had gotten up at three o'clock and was at work at 3:45 a.m. instead of 6:45 a.m. The clock had been three hours fast because it had stopped during the previous day but he had forgotten to reset it - even after he'd looked at it!! He didn't realize the mistake until he reached the building!! So he had put in his twelve hour day before five o'clock yesterday afternoon!!

Mrs. Bell downstairs had heard him leave - had looked at her clock, thought it must have stopped and went out to her kitchen to check with her electric clock - "my", she thought, "that man's extra ambitious today!"

I worked in the lab. this morning doing some analyses on calciums. Yesterday it was sodium determinations. Everything is going nicely with the research but we're holding our breaths and keeping our fingers crossed, cause one never knows when the unexpected will happen. I'm getting a bit more practice so that I can do things a little faster now for him. Everything has its own system, you know and one has to be very exact in this business especially when things are weighed out to the fifth decimal places in grams - pretty small amounts those!

Well, we had a wonderful time in Edmonton for Christmas. Fred has such a nice family.

Two days before Christmas we went up to Twattena, a place about seventy miles north of Edmonton, where Joyce (Fred's step mother) is teaching this year. We drove up with Fred's father who had the best time telling us funny stories about his Alaskan trip this summer. We were on the Alaskan highway about sixty-five miles of the way - it's just like any other good gravelled road in Grundy County - and not marked all the way - just like the Canadian roads we used to travel here!

We arrived at Joyce's school about seven p.m. The Christmas Concert began at about eight-thirty. People came in cars but several came by bob sled.

It was a regular country school Christmas program - just like at home. gas lamps and the organ had been borrowed from some one's home for the occasion. It was hot and stuffy in the room and yet people sat with all their wraps on! There were a variety of nationalities present - some of the parents spoke very little English - but all stood very straight and very still and listened or sang "Oh, Canada" at the beginning. The program ended with "God Save the King".

We stayed at the teachersage over night. The teachersage is a two room building for the teacher to live in during the school session. It didn't get light until after ten o'clock a. m. up there! I looked out at eight and one saw no more light than there would be seen at three! We didn't turn out the lamp until after ten thirty !!

The country up there is very pretty - tall spruce trees growing in muskeg - some open patches in between the wooded parts - I liked it - but it's not much for farming territory right there.

We spent Christmas at Newcombe's house. He's Fred's older brother who is a provincial field crops expert and has his office in the provincial capital (which looks like any of our state houses - not as pretty as the one at Regina)

Christmas Eve was open house at Newcombe's and friends of theirs dropped in to wish them well, etc. Bill Seminski and his wife, Peggy (whom I visited last Christmas) were in Edmonton for two days. Bill introduced Fred & me and is one of our best friends. He got his Ph.D. at Minn. in Agronomy and is now studying to be a navigator in the R.C.A.F. He and Peggy were married on Dec. 13th and they were on their honeymoon on his Christmas leave.

We four were invited over to Prof. Mac Gegg-Smith, a former prof. of Bill and Fred's at the U. We had a very nice Christmas Eve there. ~~Mr.~~ Mrs. G. Smith seemed very fond of Fred - Mrs. said he had helped her wash dishes several times at their home after dinner parties were over!

Christmas Day we opened all our parcels and had turkey dinner at Newcombe's - there were sixteen Bentleys! What a time we had! Much fun!

Fred had written up to some of them telling them that I was an artist - and the temperaments of an artist and that I did this and that - all in fun, of course, so they had some time - and I enjoyed it immensely too as they had believed some of his tall tales!!!!

Edmonton is a town about the population of Des Moines but much more spread out.

Many buildings have been taken over by the Americans. The biggest theatre and church basements have been rented for offices.

The American airport in Edm. is stupendous in the best sense of the word! There were several big hangars and they were building three more while we were there. There are blocks and blocks of low California red wood buildings put up to house the personnel! We saw all kinds of planes in the skies - American ones of various types including the huge bombers which are like those being ferried from there to Russia.

While in Edmonton I visited a college friend from Ames. She was a very good art student - is teaching two crafts classes and doing Red Cross and U.S.O. work while her husband is north on a highway project. We spent an afternoon together - and talked art, art, art!

We went to a weaving shop which was operated by Inger Christoffersen - a Dane! She had four wonderful looms - one a real Danish one! I could hardly leave her place!

One afternoon we went through "Canada Packers" plant in Edmonton. It's a packing plant where over 1000 people are employed.

ninty percent of the meat processed at this plant goes to Britain. Dad's younger brother, Gordon, is the plant chemist so he gave us a personally conducted tour. How interesting - to see them pack the meat, and everything! I was amazed!

New Year's Eve we went to a party at the home of some friends, then on to the annual grad. dance in the University - the girls all wore long dresses - first time I'd had mine on this fall. Much fun. After the dance, about twelve couples were invited to Newcombe's house which is just at the edge of the campus. We had a supper there and visited until quite late.

Someone mentioned, "My goodness, everything you look up, there's a Bentley!" The three Blochers and their wives being there did make up a large section of the company. Margaret and I commented on it afterward that we were a very lucky family to all be together this Christmas when so many men are gone overseas. We were truly thankful too.

We took the train back to Saskatoon Saturday night to avoid traffic. When we arrived Sunday morning there was a whole flock of cards and presents to be

opened! So we sat us right down and had Christmas all over again! And if all our Christmases are as good as this first one we shall be a very, very happy couple all your lives!!

Oh yes - did I tell you that Fred gave me a Persian lamb skin for my Christmas present? It's a lovely one - straight from the Hudson Bay in Edmonton. I can hardly wait to finish my coat and make the collar out of the lovely thing!!

Butter slip now so that this gets into the mail for your Sunday morning delivery.

Greetings to all —

Happy New Year!!

Sincerely,

Helena and Fred

1328 Elliott Street
January 21, 1944

Dear Dad and Mother.

Thanks so much for the card which we received this morning. I'd begun to wonder if Dile were still on the map, since we hadn't heard from you since we were in Edmonton. Now that we know you are still on the map, it's all fine!

I'm sewing on my coat today. First time this week as we've been busy in the laboratory. Today Ted has classes so we can't get in any lengthy research.

Yesterday the temperature was 30° above zero - a year ago yesterday it was 52° below! This is the mildest winter they've had here for fifty years! Really, it's not been as cold here to me as it was last winter in Minnesota. Perhaps the weatherman is on his good behavior for a newcomer!

We went skating last Saturday evening for the first time this winter. It was wonderful! The weather was about zero and very still out. The ice was almost too brittle because of the cold but we had a good two hour session and then came back to our apartment and had hot chocolate and sandwiches. There were two other couples - the fellows are students in the Soils Department.

Everything in the barrel arrived O. K. - nothing frozen or even the least bit icy. It's wonderful to have canned fruit. The peaches are delicious. We had only had one can before the barrel arrived - as the canned fruit here is too expensive in points. We have stamps each month to use for either jellies or canned fruits and the ration amounts to one ordinary ^{sized} jar of your preserves (about a cup full) or 1 can of fruit the

me - that is what we
can see how very
things were. Marge tak!
through O.K. too. Every-
condition.
at my "long edition"
was to read? I just
it all over again and
to our doors too
from Paul Walborg thanking
ture. Thanks to you for
a seed catalog yesterday
at the soils department.
handle a big garden!!!
any in our family for the
gardening - he said
now that I was a
much fun. He's so
thoughtful. It's much
a but I appreciate it
a.
day! I'd like to get in
my coat.
Tell Sweet Annie
got at the showers are
le!!!
Sincerely,
della
to think - you know that
the yellow edge - that I once had
find it among my things
the dark linen round doilies
they must be together somewhere
attic. Don't hunt too long for them
one that I'd like to use them at

size of a can of corn at home - that is what we have per person. So you can see how very much appreciated your things were. Marge tak!

all the glasses same through O.K. too. Everything was in the best condition.

Will you please send my "long edition" of the Edmonton trip to Vera to read? I just haven't the time to do it all over again and I'd like her to hear about our doings too,

We had a nice letter from Paul Walborg thanking us for the wedding picture. Thanks to you for sending it to them.

Frank brought home a seed catalog yesterday which had been sent him at the soils department. He hopes his wife can handle a big garden!!! I told him it was customary in our family for the man of the house to do the gardening - he said that thing had changed now that I was a Gentleman!!! We had much fun. He's so very good and so thoughtful. It's much more than I deserve but I appreciate it and I do love him.

More some other day! I'd like to get in
a good avhace at my coat.

Greetings to all! Tell Sweet Annie that the "baby" clothes I got at the showers are in the wash every week!!

Sincerely,
Delfin

P.S. Sat. 9.20.

Hello - I just happened to think - you know that white doilie - the very full one with the yellow edge - that I once had you send to Minnesota - could you find it among my things and send it to me? and also the dark linen round doilie with the bright red roses in it? They must be together somewhere in a corrugated box of mine in the attic. Don't hunt too long for them. The talk is Tues. first in the afternoon that I'd like to use these at

1328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.
January 24, 1944

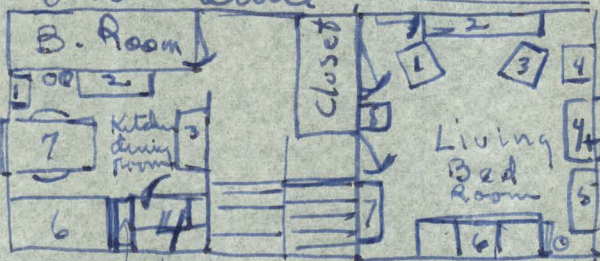
Dear Vera,

We received "ye omnibus" today! The pictures are super. Thanks a million.

I belong to Peggy's "crooked mouth" story today, being as how I had a tooth pulled. The anesthetic is about gone now so I can feel where the molar was - certainly was a queer sensation this afternoon for awhile. My right cheek felt as though it had been pulled up and out about three times its normal size.

You and the Hilgenbergs certainly have set up housekeeping in a fancy place! It looks fun. When we come down well sit under you under your balcony. Pretty fancy, yep, pretty fancy - nifty Beak!

This is our suite.



1 is an electric stove - two burners on top and then an oven and boiler unit inside. I'm hoping to get a little wall shelf built up over the stove sometime.
2 is a buffet - a nice modern

1+3 - brown upholstered chairs - comfortable for long falls.
2 - long low bookcase (made out of bricks piled up & planks of light colored wood) - we made this - above the bookcase we have "Jawa"

rather small one - but large enough in our case. On top I have the blue, green and yellow weaving and then a top that I have four little Hadley bowls, a big grey Russell Wright pitcher with some dried wild rose branches in it and behind this is my nice 20" poplar plate.

3. is my kitchen table. We had Wong make a base for it to raise it about four inches, making it much more comfortable to work at. On the wall is my wall hanging of the Iowa Farm scene.

4. is the pantry. It really wasn't very handy so we got bricks and planks and built up a good set of shelves - some deep and some shallow.

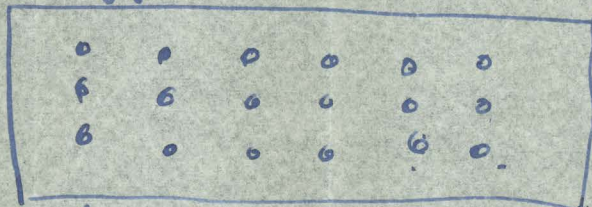
5. is a shelf which is about four feet high and about three feet wide. I store all kinds of stuff - like sewing supplies, leather tools, block printing ink, etc. all in nice little boxes I've collected. There's a blue cover over these shelves.

6. is a day bed. I've just made a nice blue

landscape" by H. Wood. It creates a lot of comment by Canadians.

4 is a tall cabinet affair - modern in design - where I keep my good porcelain and goblets and sherbets and stuff like that there! On top of this I have the lady and the spade which I did with Christian Petersen. Back of her I have some Italian hand blocked paper mounted on a piece of corksheet which is glued to the wall.

4+ is my carved chest. It is in front of the window. Mother gave me two sets of pillows. The only one set. So I took the other two and made a cover out of a long greyed red orange drapery. I tufted it like this and in place of upholstery buttons I have huge balls of ball fringe in egg shell - looks super!



I hung the draperies which I bought in Waterloo when we were both home two years ago in February - remember? I was then going to make a new bedspread out of them!

cover for it. This material and the material used for the curtains on the shelves is the same. I'm going to find some more pillows and cover them with green.

7. is our eatin' table and chairs. They are in front of the kitchen window. I've just gotten some very nice yellow seersucker for kitchen napkins. I just hung it over the rods yesterday and how it does brighten up the whole atmosphere!! I've three little vines in the upper half of the window. From that window we can look over town and see the smoke rising from the Besseborough - it looks like a real old country castle.

The kitchen floor is also hardwood and has linoleum on the greater share of it.

5 is a modern unfinished chest of drawers - like those we saw in mfrs. at the unfinished furniture store. Some day I'm going to fix it, I think.

I have my nicest candlestick on top of it and two lovely china ducks we acquired as a wedding gift. They're super - blue green necks. Back of the candlesticks I have a cut paper flower design made last spring. I don't think you've seen it.

6. is the Rome Bed!!! It's really a lovely studio couch with no side arms. I think it's grand - Ted bought it second hand so it's well worn something long enough to sleep in. It's actually called a Rome Bed! I laughed and laughed!!!

Above the studio couch I've hung two flower prints in square frames. 7 is a dresser - there's a lamp on the one side of the dresser top. The lamp was moderistic so I've covered some of the chromium with dark violet-red paper so that the lamp doesn't pop out above from the corner. Then I also bought a new 79¢ lamp from H. W. Wood to take care of the situation.

8 is just a straight chair.

There are hardwood floors - very nice ones - a small but fairly nice rug on the floor and the walls and woodwork are painted ivory in color.

Tues A.M. Good Morning to You!!!

There are, of course, many things which could be improved upon for convenience sake, but we feel most fortunate to be able to have as good a place as this or very close to the campus. The people downstairs are so very, very nice; always are remembering us with vegetables they've stored from their garden.

Dad said that in looking at apartments all summer he didn't find anything which even compared to this in looks or cleanliness for the same amount or a great deal more money. So you see why we think we're so fortunate.

Your stationery is such fun! And the brown ink makes it look that much nicer.

I'm starting to teach a class in weaving to a group of girls from 10 to 14 who meet down at a Hobby Club here in town. The club is sponsored and financed by the Lions Club. Tonight is the first time down there. So I'll report more later on that.

Much love

P.S. When you have finished with this will you send it to the folks, please?

Helen

1328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.
February 3, 1944

Dear Dad and Mom,

Thanks for the newspapers, the dillies and the pictures! All came in very good shape. I was especially glad for the papers this time as I was convalescing from a tooth extraction. One of my teeth had a bit of an abscess so it was removed. I've been taking a vacation for about a week! But improved on Monday enough to get my things together for the talk on Tuesday. It went O.K. There were about 165-175 women there from the three prairie provinces. They came up afterward and expressed their pleasure and appreciation. I enjoyed visiting with them.

I was invited to their luncheon the next noon at the Bessborough (our Hotel Fort Des Moines!). Dr. Petersen from Minn. was the guest speaker. I went up to say "hello" and he said as soon as he saw me that he'd been looking for me - that he had feelings from over so many on the Home Economics Faculty at Minn. It was like old home day for me!!!

We had a student in for lunch today. It was fun and the youngsters do enjoy a meal away from the boarding house.

1328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.
February 5, 1944

Dear Dad,

We received your telegram yesterday morning. Thanks so much. Mother hasn't arrived yet but she could hardly be here before tonight on the Winnipeg Flyer at 10:30. If she doesn't come then she might arrive most any time tomorrow depending on what route she takes.

Fred is just coming home. He's been at the lab. since before noon today. So he'll be quite hungry by now.

after supper
Now that we've washed the dishes, here I go again. We're going over to the Clayton's for a little while this evening. Jack is in the Soils division here too. We like him and Nellie a lot.

I've almost finished my new black coat. It looks so nice with the Persian lamb trimming. It was fun to make.

How is Vera? If you hear from her will you let us know, please?

Here's a clipping from my talk last Tuesday. When you've read it, will you please send it back to me? It's the only copy I have.

Write of now to the Claytons. Here's hoping all goes well for you while mama is away — and that you get invited to lots of duck dinners!

Sincerely,

Helen

Dear Mr. Petersen,

How's batching? I'll bet you're really on the go what with the shop & being your own chief-cook- & -bottle-washer. Helen & I are greatly excited — Mrs. Petersen should get here sometime in the next 24 hrs — what we don't know is when!

Helen is taking excellent care of me & helps me at school a lot too. I'm very busy trying to get the work done for my degree before I get lazy & quit trying. I'll send a full account of everything back with Mrs. P. Hope you're making out O.K.

Fred.

Saskatoon, Sask.
Feb 8 - 44

Dear Dad

Here I am at Helen and Fred's nice little nest. I arrived Mon. 7 a.m. Took Taxi out here and found Fred off to work and Helen still asleep, and I soon crawled in with her and have had a good rest all day + nite.

So now she sent a telegram to his that I'll be in Wayne, Wed. a.m. at 5-²⁵

It is about a 12 hours ride over to there, but I won't have to change trains, so I'll probly sleep most of the way.

We did a poor job of planning this route as I had to go by Moose Jaw and lay over 2 1/2 hrs and ride back to Regina and lay over and catch another train for Saskatoon, when if I'd gone over Winnipeg I'd gotten on a direct road and on a fast train and been here Sun. afternoon instead of Mon. a.m.

at Portax they were going to put me off the train untill I could give real proof of my Citizenship, and had it not been for a kind man who happend to be there to help this new Officer then I would have been put off - and I could see why the new man was so strict, the other fellow took more time and asked all about my side as well as about your Citizenship, and so he finally convinced the new man that he'd accept my word, if I that I'd get back again 9/1.

So now you get Elmer or David to send me an affidavit that they have really seen your papers, so you let them look at it and give the serial number of your Citizens paper.

They told me if only I had something at all to prove it, and this I think will help me out.

I met a couple on the train the husband was a U.S. miner, he married a Canadian girl, and she said, that once she was held 3 days before they

Could come into U.S. with him. She says they are more strict in U.S. than in Canada.

They have 3 children and they can choose either to be Canadians or U.S. folks.

my marriage certificate helped me some, but there's nothing really to show you are a U.S. guy. See?

well Helen has a wonderful husband, He is so thoughtful in every way, and we could not have found any one nicer than he if we had wanted to go to the end of the world.

He's also so full of fun, They pulled a good one on me last night, they ~~did~~ had a surprise for me after supper, and all they tell me was that there were 2 of one kind, so when they got me seated on one arm of the easy chair and Helen on the other, they showed me 2 long hairs among the rest on his head, and here I was set to hear some great news, well they just wished there were 3 of them so Helen could braid them, Oh those kids.

x well I'll write when I get out on the farm - and in the meantime Miss Voogd if you want Emma H. or Alma Nielsen in to clean up the house just do so, if you want company. lots of love to both of you

from Ma

Tues. morning

Dear Dad,

Have you done the week's washing yet? I tell you an easy way - and insisted that I send mine to the laundry last week when I was vacationing!

It's too good to me. So I haven't really had a chance to try out my new iron.

We are catching up on all the news while mother is here. We're sending three lbs. of rationed coffee to Wayne. Guess that ought to help out their "after-midday kaffe too" for a few days!

Greetings to Miss Voogd and everybody else!

Sincerely

Helene and Fred

Fred's lab
February 17, 1944

Dear Dad,

I'm over here at the chem. building this afternoon working with Fred. It's quite snowy and blowy out so I put on my white Sox to come. I didn't feel the least cold.

We had a note from mother a couple of days ago saying that his was being taken to Calgary to the Hospital. Walby went along for a few days. Guess mother wishes she'd waited a few days to come to Wayne since Oakley is to be at home these days.

Have you seen him? Is his training finished now or not? We haven't heard from him for some time. Guess he's busy like everyone else.

We had a letter from the Gledsteins thanking us for the wedding picture they got. They were very pleased.

Tomorrow night we are chaperoning a fancy dance here at the University. The idea is a "night club" party which the students are putting on. The sides of the ~~rooms~~ will be lined with tables where the guests will sit when not dancing. There is to be a supper served and special favors which are being made by the ceramic engineers. There is to be an actual 15 minute broadcast over the local radio station. It sounds like fun. We hope it is.

I've finally finished my winter coat. We think it looks all right. It seems to be quite warm too. I wore it downtown yesterday morning when there was a terribly high wind - didn't freeze either.

We're going over to the Mosses this evening to listen to a new set of records he has. Harold is in the Soils division here. We like him and his wife very much. He is a Welshman - came over here when he was a boy.

Dad is about ready to leave, he says, so we will go home and warm up some potatoes and gravy for supper.

Greetings to everyone in Pile.

Sincerely,

Helen and Dad

Friday.

P.S. Hello again!

Didn't have an envelope at the lot yesterday so it's not going to reach you for Sunday! Anyhow here's the letter mother sent me. I thought you might enjoy reading it too.

It's nice out today - its 12° above zero - practically spring!!! Snowing just a little too.

Maybe we go to the big dance! Much fun!

Sincerely,

Helen

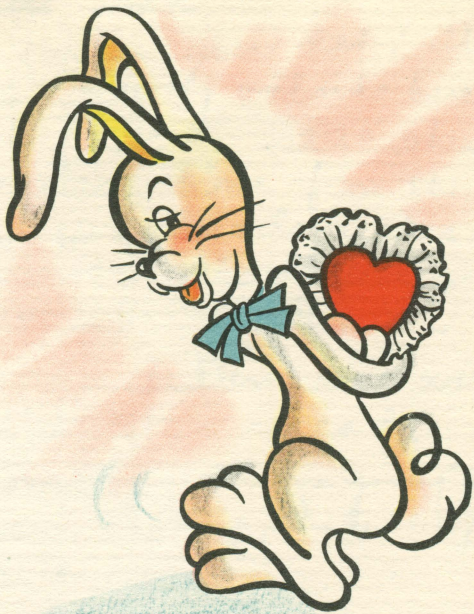
*I'M SENDING YOU THIS VALENTINE
TO SHOW I'M THINKING OF YOU,*



*AND JUST TO SHOW I'M NOT TOO SHY
TO TELL YOU THAT --*

--AH. SHUCKS.

I AM
TOO!



Fred and Helen

Dear Mr. Petersen

We saw Mrs. Petersen
off to Wayne yesterday.
Unfortunately we are at
the moment having
our first cold weather
of the winter. Mrs. P.
will be getting a very
bad & more or less
incorrect idea of our
winters. I guess you
will be getting the tail
end of this according
to forecasts.

Hope you're making out
oke!

Bye now

Fred

(see inside)

Hello, Dad!

Vardon over yet? It's
a bit chilly outside here
today - only -22° when
we came home from the
lat at 10:00 o'clock this
evening. Didn't feel so
very cold out though.

It's bedtime and we're
going to be up early
tomorrow - I'm going to
wash clothes, Fred is off
to the office

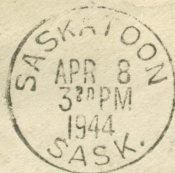
Greetings to all!

Sincerely,

Walter

Mrs. Fred Bentley
1328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



Mr. Thorwald Petersen
Dike, Iowa

Airmail

Dear Mrs. Petersen:

April 6 afternoon

I am writing this letter so want
be any misunderstanding about the
last one. Walborg went with me to
Wayne this morning ~~there~~ and
I saw her sending you them duty 25 \$.
In your place I would not accept
such chicken feed. They just sold again
yesterday \$900 worth of wheat and she
was telling me on our way home
she has got now 2000 \$ in the bank.
We had me call up Johan Schulz this
morning and they are here right now
talking things over again. So much
I could hear its about his will. I am
sure surprised about this to, ever since
yesterday he is talking about changing
the Mortgage over again. Right now
he is feeling somewhat better but this
morning I had to carry him from the
bed to the table. I will let you know
what's coming out of the conversation

this afternoon, but if my letter
should not reach you in Saskatoon,
please tell Mrs. Bentley to forward it
to you to Sirke and not send it
back here to Wayne.

Yours truly

Elinor A. Hogan

Please destroy both of these letters so
nobody ever will find out I am
writing to you.

Dear Mrs. Petersen:

Just a note in a hurry.
Miss just send me down to mail this
letter for you. He also had me to call
up John Schultzy to come to Weyne
at once. He surely not going down
port again since you left. Wish you
could manage to stay in Canada
for a little while longer.

Yours sincerely

W. A. Hogan

Kære Marie:

Tak for dine to Breve. Ser at Vi er
søstret af Manij. Vi sender en Mønjärder
af 25 Dollars. Det er ikke bedre med Vi
Hav kan ikke love bedre, som den gang
Vi var her. Kærlig hilsen fra os alle

Bror Nis

Det glæder os Vi tager din ti der oppe
reisen er jo lige Dyr.

Saskatoon, Sask.

Apr. 8- 44

Dear Daddy

Last nite I finished writing a letter to Miss Voogd, and it was for her, however I wrote in it for her to tell you to meet me next wed. in Cedar Falls,

But just now I got a letter from Miss & Bied man, I had asked him to please let me know of any change in Miss's condition, but that I didn't want them to know about it, and if necessary ~~we~~ we would ans. from Dike by another address.

Well here I am all set to leave mon. nite, but much as I hate to change my plans, I'll stay here a few days longer till I see whats cooking in Wayne, So I think its best for me to wire you when Im in St. Paul, unless I can manage to write you in time. But dont tell anyone why Im not coming so soon as I planned, (just not about these letters Im inclosing)

I'll write to Wayne and let them know I'll still be here for a ~~while~~ few days yet. Miss gave me \$25. when I left and if I needed more then I could write for more, so since I got

bought a coat + hat besides a few other things, & that he could just as well send me another \$25. I can take \$10. across the border and I want that nice underwear for you too, and it isn't ^{if} as they haaint the money, ~~but~~ ^{but} you can see. It doesn't realize everything,

However I know Johan felt we should have the mortgage on all 3 quarters, But his told me the Sawyer told them that she needn't sign her name to the home place unless she wanted to, But they did it, and now it seems mabe she's regreted it, But I told them you'd been so fair with them all the time, and all we want out of this security is what we actuly have coming, I think she has him all worked up at this time and if its necessary I'll go back there again, I asked Elmer if the land really isn't worth more than \$10 per acre, he ans- sure it ~~is~~ is,

But can you get it? especially when they know we want it sold quick, anyone one will lay low for this chance to get it for much less, and that's the reason we must have all of it for protection,

his told me he was willing to leave everything as it stands even the will,

now you see even tho the mortgage is drawn up,
he still can't file it untill he gets the clear title
to the land, he had received the receipt for full
payment on the land while I was there, But
the papers would come later, and thats why.

untill this is fixed up they might change their minds

But had they not left things in my favor then I
would have wired for you to come up here,

ya lillie Lysen it hasint been all sunshine for me
but I hope you will think Im doing the right
thing up here, Be sure to destroy the inclosed letters
as he wouldint want to have anyone know about it
But he doesnt want to see us be beaten out of anything.

Helen says I think you owe him a Bonus after all this.
He is so honest, and can see Johnnie would like to loan them
money, and later bleed them But nix I dont think will
ever have anything to do with him, but she might, I dont
trust her, shes tricky in small ways,

Ill write just as soon as I get more news which
probly wont be long

(now dont write anything) love from
to wayne about this letter, mama, and you might write to me

1328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.

May 25, 1944

Dear Dad and Mom,

I don't exactly know how to start - I was so overwhelmed at all the wonderful things that came out of boxes and letters! Many, many thanks to you both. We certainly are celebrating by eating cookies and running to the pantry to count the raisins, prunes and sugars of which we've never seen so many at one time since we came here. We're going to wait and have the ice cream cones when the weather warms up a bit here. Everything came through very well. None of the cookies were the least bit broken or crushed. Fred likes the ones with the coconut in them the very best of all. We were so surprised to find the candy in among and underneath cookie layers. It was all very good, indeed, of you both and we thank you very much.

This morning when I got up I saw two pints of currant jelly on our table in the kitchen. They were from Olive and Mrs. Bell.

Don't we live with the best people though?
Fred is giving me a set of "Textile Color" which is a
new kind of stencil paint which is very
permanent on cloth. We can't get it here
so Fred is "negotiating" with Vera.

We haven't heard from her for some time.
Is her school about out? I thought perhaps she
is busy just at the close of the year.

Last Sunday I drove with two of the Extension
men up to Saint Valburg, a town up in the
northwest corner of the populated part of the province.
The railroad stops at this place so you know
it wasn't any metropolis!! It's the end of the line!!!

The community was having a fair, which
consisted of a calf show which was judged by
the men, and a handicraft exhibition which I
judged. The articles included bread, muffins,
cake, jelly roll, baking powder biscuits, canned goods,
knitting, quilting, embroidery work, various
binds, sewing including aprons, children's
dresses, tailoring, a made over project and a
project made of flour or sugar sack material,
house plants, darning and patching, etc.
It was a very good exhibit and I had a good
time. Afterwards I was given a box of
chocolates by the organization sponsoring
the show.

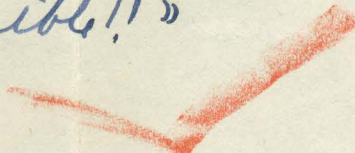
There are many nationalities of people living in this community. There were several Ukrainian ladies there with kerchiefs over their heads. They came and looked but didn't visit much. There are several German people there and some English folks.

The town is reputed to have a certain person in it who was a leader in a German Bund Organization in the community. He has been interned a couple of times for his activities. He was just recently released.

I met one lady who had moved from Algona, Iowa to northern Saskatchewan. She seemed so very pleased to visit with someone from home. When she had first moved up there, schools were nonexistent so she taught her children for the first few years at home.

There are a number of lakes up in this district. I liked the landscape. It was quite rolling and covered with woods or "bluffs" in many spots.

On the way up we saw a camp of Indians along a stream. I enquired of the men what these Indians did for a living, to which one replied, "As little as possible!"



We didn't see any game larger than gophers on the trip so I guess we weren't in any great danger, but Mr. Cooper said that one of the calves which was judged had had its leg bitten by a timber wolf!

We came back to Saskatoon Tuesday noon. I enjoyed the trip very much. The Saskatoons and pin cherries were in blossom all the way. There were many wild strawberries and patches of very blue violets in many places.

It's quite probable that I'll be on a tour during July and August judging similar fairs throughout Saskatchewan. Mr. Paynor of the Extension Division asked if I'd be interested in doing it. I think it will be fun to do and also very interesting to see the various parts of the province. And best of all I'd be getting paid for it!

Fred has been in and out the past weeks. He was to have gone to Swift Current this past week but Mr. Mitchell suggested that another fellow go in his place this time. He is quite anxious that Fred get as much of his thesis done as possible.

And has been notified by the University authorities that his appointment for the next school year has gone through and been granted. So we are sure for that length of time at least where we will be. I think we are very fortunate.

Did I tell you about my pictures being sold at the art exhibition here a couple of weeks ago? I entered a couple of flower prints and when I went to see the show both had a small star on the numbers indicating they were sold. There was only one other which was so marked. I wonder who got mine. I hope to find out.

I was glad to hear about Raymond and I'd like his address when you get it.

Thank you very much for the invitations home for the summer. I'd like to come but if I can get this judging work here I think it will be what I should do.

Did I tell you that I'm getting a loom?? I've been talking it over with a man who is a carpenter here in town. He has made a loom once before and seems very interested in the project. So I'm hoping for something in the way of a weaving apparatus. Mr. Wilkins

is English and his wife is Danish. They showed me pictures which they'd taken on a trip to Denmark and England a few years ago. He is very interesting to visit with and seems to be very exacting in his work. He has made some end tables and a radio cabinet that are beautifully finished.

Thank you for reminding me about the seven dollars extra on the water fitcher. I had forgotten about it entirely - and I am so glad you told me about it. Thank you so much. Please be sure to subtract the \$9.00.

The party for Janette sounds very nice. Everyone must have had a good time.

We are going on a picnic this evening so I'm off to make some potato chips for the occasion.

Best wishes to all and thanks for the birthday presents!!!

Sincerely,

Helen

Hi Folks,

Well this being my wife's birthday we're taking it easy. Later we're going down by the river to roast some weaners. And Mr. Peter we're going to have an icecream cone! My but you should see what wonderful cones you can get here for a dime!

When I'm away or Helen's away we're both lonesome but we have such wonderful reunions afterwards! I'm

very glad Helen gets the occasional chance to get out & see a bit of the province. Not only is it interesting for her but it breaks the monotony all for now. Bye Fred

109 South Highland
Ames, Iowa
June 11, 1944

Dear folks,

Mu er smiens' datter kommen
tilbage til Amerika for en tid!

It's just grand being here for Jim living
with Mrs. Goulding out near the campus.
What luck I did have in getting to stay
here!

I'm to teach handicraft for six weeks
to the children here in Ames. The youngsters
will range in age from about eight to
twelve. How many will be in the
classes we won't know until tomorrow.
In the mornings I will be down at Central
School and in the afternoons out here at
Welch School which is only a half block
from Gouldings. I'll be through at 4:30
in the afternoons. There will be two or
possibly three assistants to help me.
The biggest problem as I now see it is
that of getting materials. But I suppose
that will be solved soon enough in
some manner.

As I didn't know of this job until
Tuesday a.m. and as I wasn't sure

when I'd arrive here or when I'd be able to stay I couldn't let you know any sooner than Saturday morning. Did that surprise you??

Of course, one main object in taking this job is to see my relatives and friends and to eat strawberries if there are any in Pike! So with that in mind I called the bus and train stations to find out how I can get to Pike. This is the best way: Leave Ames at 6:20 p. m. by bus & go to Webster City where I take the Illinois Central train to Cedar Falls where the train arrives at 12:25 mid night. If I can manage things would you be able to meet me there on Friday night of this week?

I have some extension work lined up at Saskatoon beginning July 20th which means I should be back there by the 19th. Classes here are out the 15th of July so I won't be able to visit in Pike after I'm through teaching here. So that's why I thought perhaps I'd better come on the weekends when I can see that I have the time.

Excuse this pencil business, please. I lost my fountain pen out at the air force school one of the last times I was out. So I'll have to see about one here one of these days.

Miss Goulding is home these days from Washington, D. C., where she's been since March. She's writing a book on Home Nursing and the Care of the Sick for the National Red Cross. She leaves again tonight at eleven thirty. Wasn't it fortunate that I happened to come while she was still here?

Vera, I was down at Tilden's yesterday and spied some violet purple just the same as the lady's shawl! I got a third of a yard of it to make the border of the wall hanging. It was just a piece of luck!

Must go find a place to eat now. My goodness, this place is full of navy men!

Hope you didn't send my white shoes to Sabsatchewan - now I can collect them personally!!!

Much love to you all!

Sincerely,

Helene



Wineglass Elm

Richardson Lomo

Lloydminster
July 23, 1944

Dear folks,

We have just arrived at Lloydminster, a town right on the boundary between Alberta and Sask. One half of main street is in one province and the other half in the adjoining province.

There is a three day fair here beginning tomorrow. I drove up with three other folks who are helping with judging and the Farm Boys and Girls' camps. We had a pleasant ride up here today. The weather was warm but breezy so that it wasn't too tiresome riding in the car.

I got home Friday morn
from my trip to Melfort. The
fair there was from the
twentieth to the twenty-
second. There was some
very nice weaving
shown at that place
for judging.

The fields along the
way were very lovely.
The wheat, oats and
barley are heading
nicely and prospects
looked very good. How-
ever, the same cannot
be said for all parts of
the province. The
southwest is very hard
hit because of drouth.

Nellie Clayton's baby
arrived this morning
at five or six o'clock. It
was a boy so they

are very happy. Jack
called to tell me before
I left town this
morning.

We had a very
nice trip up from Saint
Paul on Sunday evening
and Monday. Ethel went
with me. The baby was
quite good all the way.

While in St. Paul I
saw several folks from
the campus. Miss
Garnett had me to breakfast
Sunday morning. There were
four or five others there
also. We had a lovely
time. It was good to see
everyone again, and
all were so very surprised
to see me.

We had a letter from
Oabley the other day. So I
must write him this
evening when I come
back fire to the house.

The trunk came
through all right. I
just opened the box to
see that all was O.K. and
then put it back
again as I just didn't
have time to take care of it
because there were so many
things to do.

Dad was at home when
I got back to Sachatom. He had
the apartment beautifully
in order. We went off on a
picnic Tuesday afternoon
late. The river was very
nice. Wednesday I was off
again. We haven't seen
much of each other by
fall. Perhaps we can

again set up housekeeping
in earnest at 1325
elliott. He has been
taking his meals at Mrs.
Aldepick's house where
he lived last summer.
It's good that he can
be there.

I made some red
currant jelly and black
currant jam Friday
afternoon when I came
home from Milford. Olive
had the currants out
in her garden.

Many thanks for
everything. It surely was
good to get home and
see everyone.

Greetings to all.

Helen



Birch

Richardson Lamo

North Battleford
August 1st, 1944

Dear Dad,

Best wishes on your
birthday! Here's hoping
the hay fever isn't
so bad but what you
will have a good day!

Fred and I both
wish we could be
in Sike to celebrate
with you but instead
we'll see that you
get another twelve-
months of "Readers
Digest".

We are both out these days on the road. Fred is busy harvesting test plots around the province. The University coöperates with a fertilizer company in running these tests on the various small grains.

Fred came up to Prince Albert last week while I was judging the fair. He was on work in that vicinity the following day so I went out with him. One can certainly see the difference in the fertilized plots.

the heads of the grain are larger, they ripen more quickly and the whole plant looks more healthy. Bud took some pictures which will send when they're developed if they turn out all right.

I was at home long enough to get the laundry done this weekend. That's the first I've done since before I left for Iowa in June! We've been sending the necessities to the laundry.

Now I'm on my way to the last fair of the season. I came partway by train and will meet one of the men judges here tomorrow morning when we will

go the remainder of the way to Turtleford by car. The fair is a one day meeting so I hope to get back to Saskatoon by Thursday noon if possible.

It's chilly here tonight—like a September evening at home. I'm going to ask for another blanket for the bed.

I've had my eye out for another bow tie for you but no success as yet. However, I'll still keep trying.

Best wishes to you from us both!

Sincerely,

Helena and Fred

Golf Course
Prince Albert, Sask.
August 19, 1944

Dear folks and Vera.

We are up at P.A. for the weekend. Fred and Bob Baird have some plots to harvest in this area. The next ones won't be ready until Monday so the men are golfing this morning. As I'm not busy at fairs just now I came along for a "vacation" until Monday evening when I take the train back to Saskatoon where I'll stay a few days. Thursday I give a talk and Friday there is another fair which will take me back up to P.A. and then about forty miles northeast of here. I think that will be my last excursion for awhile.

Mr. Wilkins who is making my loom called the early part of this week to say that the loom was finished. Tuesday evening I'm to go over and see it. I can hardly wait to get at weaving again. Yesterday afternoon I got a bundle of ripe straws ready for weaving while the men were harvesting some of their barley plots west of town.

This is a lovely place. The South ~~and~~ North Saskatchewan River flows along here. There is a solid bank of evergreen trees on the other bank. The town lies on this side. Out here on the golf course one can look down over the town and across the river for a long stretch. There is an advanced R.C.A.F. training base here and just a few minutes ago nine planes flying in formation crossed over the course.

This is one of the oldest settlements in the province. There are some enormous old brick homes here which are very nice but also subject to high taxes and consequently they have been sold or can be bought for \$2500.00 or \$1800.00 cash.

Directly across the river from here is a tuberculosis sanitarium, a very nice set of buildings and grounds.

There is a penitentiary here corresponding to one of our federal ones. This one takes care of inmates from all western Canada. There is also a federal jail here. In that place are housed offenders who are serving not more than two or three year sentences. Those men who are in for a longer period go to the penitentiary rather than the jail!

In town there is an airplane factory, a packing plant and a large seed and feed company. A great deal of alfalfa seed is raised around here and shipped to the United States.

By now Vera is probably at home or on her way. I'm surely anxious to find out what she decided concerning the Stevens College position. As let me know when you find out, please.

Thanks for sending me all the addresses of Oakleys. Surely by now he has received some mail from us.

Oliver is making Graser a grey coat with maroon velvet trim. I fixed the button holes. As you think you might run across a pair of maroon socks or three-quarter socks for her? She'd be ever so pleased.

* We're so glad you got the money from Mrs. Just as you get the rest. *

Later—

Concerning bonds in Canada. This is the explanation Iud just gave me:

Here one pays \$100.00 for a bond. At the end of so many years one gets the bond plus the interest on the hundred dollars. If he should wish to use the money in the mean time, he would take the bond to a bank and the bank would purchase the bond at its appropriate value at the time of sale. Does this help you any?

The interest is paid each year and so the value of the bond stays the same as it goes on (ie. \$100.) at maturity (if you keep the bond that long) you get your \$100. back.

Iud

Iud and Bob are very enthusiastic about the golf course here. They are getting up at six to go play in the morning provided the weather doesn't intervene.

This has been a most restful day here. I think Iud must have planned the weekend with that thought in mind. I've not had such a "workless" day in a long, long time! We've had lovely meals here at the hotel too. The dining room is very nice. I stayed here last week when I was judging at the fair. The hotel was a bit noisy during fair week.

Thank you very much for sending Mrs. Goulding the towel and wash cloth.

Greetings to all!

Sincerely,
Kelen

Sunday Eve.

Dear Mon & Pop Petersen,

First off I want to wish you many healthy happy returns of the day Mr. Petersen. Too bad all three of your children should be away for the occasion — but maybe they'll all be able to be home for your next birthday!

We've had a wonderful restful two days. The car was being fixed yesterday so we couldn't work. Played golf both yesterday and today. Helen says it's so long that she can't recall when she last spent two such "lazy" days. It's just what she needs as she's certainly been on the go all summer what with Olives, fairs & house work. Pretty soon now (when she gets one more fair done) we're going to settle down to a more reasonable sort of home life.

I was delighted to hear the news from Wayne. Farmers here are prospering as much as in Grundy Co. so unless there was drouth or hail the people at Wayne should have lots of income this fall.

Again happy birthday Mr. Pete and now as Mrs Pete says Toot toot.
Fried.

1328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.
September 3, 1944

Dear folks,

Here still on the mop up here even though you wouldn't think so because you've not heard from us for so very long. In fact I'm about sure I've not written since I was at Prince Albert two weeks ago! Pretty bad! But here goes to relate our experiences since then.

I came back by train to Saskatoon on Tuesday and scouted around for ideas and materials for my talk on the Thursday of that week. Everything went very well and I had the loveliest flowers to work with. It was such fun to do it all. After the afternoon session was over we were all invited to tea at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Peterkin who have a lovely home on the river over past the Broadway Bridge (that's the bridge the street car goes on). Such a wonderful yard and flower garden as we saw. The land was beautifully terraced down to the water. It looked just right - not in the least amateurish. It didn't compare with the Lily's garden in Indianapolis, U.S.A., but it was as beautiful as that but on a more modest scale. Looking at the landscape in general here, one would think such a place was right to impossible.

"His worship," the mayor was introduced to me at the tea!!! Bud and I were invited to the banquet on Wednesday evening. There

we happened to sit at the same place in the room as the Bishops. We got into conversation with them and found them to be sweet pea growers. When we got over to the fruit and flower show with them Mr. Bishop was awarded the sweepstakes cup for sweet pea culture. You should see the sweet peas he had there! We were astounded. The Bishops invited us to see their peas some evening the next week.

On Friday last week I was to judge a fair up north, Trippe Albert. I had a round trip plane ticket all bought and the reservation made, etc.; but ten minutes before I was to leave the house, Mr. Payner called and said that the fair was called off on account of heavy rains. So my plane trip wasn't taken! I was so looking forward to taking it but there will be some other time.

As it happened it was most fortunate that I had an extra day unexpectedly. Ned's very good friend, "Buck" Burton was coming back from Edmonton to Ottawa and stopped here Saturday and Sunday to visit. Buck and his wife and fifteen-month old son were here for dinner Saturday evening. Buck has a chance to be on the faculty here if he wishes so this week he has been deciding. We are, of course, very interested in what his decision will be.

He and Ted have been very good friends since their university days.

On the day that the Burtons were here we had a telegram from Ted's father saying he was coming to Saskatoon on Monday. So we were looking forward to that too but later we got another wire saying he couldn't come after all.

So on Monday I made some buttonholes on Fraser's coat and started making her a little beret of the maroon velveteen. The hat isn't yet finished but will be tomorrow, I hope.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday I was busy entertaining and golfing and canning. Bob Baird, one of the men who has been out on flat work this summer was here for dinner Tuesday evening. He is a representative of the ~~consolidated~~ Mining and Smelting Co. which sells fertilizers of all sorts. Bob's wife is in Alberta and so he is alone when he's in town.

Wednesday afternoon Bob and Ted played nine holes out at the Exhibition Golf Course. I went along to watch where the balls went and I was lucky enough to find 10 good balls in the grass. Ted was very happy. There are not many good balls he had these days. He lost one that same day in the bush so was a bit heartened at having gotten a couple others.

Thursday and Friday I did this summer's canning for the Bentley household! Believe it or not, it's true. Of course, our box in the basement doesn't hold very much so it's not

the task to fill it that it would be to fill a fruit room.

Fred likes pickled onions so I pickled a few quarts. But when all was added up they cost 50¢ a quart without electricity or labor included! So I guess we won't do many of those until we get our own garden! Olive gave me some beets so I pickled them too.

Then I made chokecherry and crabapple jelly, and plum and crabapple jelly and pin cherry jelly and canned some three and a half quarts of apple juice. Yesterday (Sat.) morning I finished off by canning a quart and a half of apple sauce for ~~apple~~ ^{apple} sauce some time.

Fred likes sauerkraut very much. Olive gave me some lovely cabbages so we now have four quarts of sauerkraut brewing in the kitchen. Fred tells me it's going to smell there when the stuff gets to working, but I don't mind for a few days. He certainly exhibits a glow of anticipation when he looks at those cans of sauerkraut!!!

Thursday evening we went to see the Bishop's Sweet peas. They were really wonderful. Instead of letting the vines grow as they will, only one main stem is allowed to grow. all others

are nipped off as they come. In this way the strength goes only in one direction and the blooms are supposed to be greater. When the vine has reached the top of an eight foot pole ~~they~~ it is carefully taken off and the vine laid along the ground for about two feet and then the stem started up another pole. In this way one sees a wreath of stems down near the ground around the ring of supports. It really was most interesting. The blossoms are gorgeous. Mr. Bishop picked me a bouquet to take along. I've been moving them back and forth between kitchen and living room because they're so fragrant and/or colorful.

Last night we really were among Saskatoon's "Hoo !!!" A Miss. Rowles whom we know is to become Dean of Women here at the University. She has formerly had charge of the Prov. girls work here in Sask. (like our 4-H.) and I've occasionally helped her with some things. Miss Rowles' brother used to be in the Soils Dept. here. Dad knew him awhile. Chuck Rowles was getting his doctorate at Minnesota. Miss Rowles' father is on the Board of Governors for the Univ. and a sister of hers is on the University Senate (a group of rep. graduates who help set the policy of a university for various things).

This sister, Mrs. Caldwell, had a very nice party for Miss Rowles. We met all sorts of interesting people, many of whom I'd heard but whom I'd never seen.

Today Fred is over at the lab. working on hydrogen content of his soils samples. He's pretty nearly finished with his research. We are still keeping our fingers crossed, however, until all is done. One never can be sure until all is actually completed.

Instead of having dinner here we are taking some corn ears and some ground round & steak down to the river bank to our favorite picnic place for dinner there about four o'clock. The Mitchell's (Fred's chief) have invited us to their house this evening. They have just moved into a lovely new house on University Drive. So we are very anxious to see their home.

Tomorrow is Labor Day here as well as in the States. Dad is working at the lab. so we're celebrating by really laboring. Tuesday morning I set off again for another fair. I had said I didn't care to go this time but another woman who was to have gone finds she can't. So now as I said I'd go in her place. I'll be back by noon Thursday if all goes well.

Now to answer some of the questions in your last letter, mother.

The green cotton is nice but a little ^{too} dark I think to be just right on the white crocheted place mat. However, I know it's very

difficult to get just the right color.

We were glad to hear about the nice birthday party for dad. Til lypke! Hope the hay fever doesn't last too long.

About the maroon three-quarter socks for Fraser. I think a pair in size $6\frac{1}{2}$ or 7 would fit her well. Sample enclosed for color.

and about the mittens I think whatever you think is right will be o.k. You know best what would be the fair price. Thanks so much for taking care of it for me.

Guess your friends must have had a real time at Chicago in the Humpsholm. Thank you for sending the letter from Miss Goulding. I didn't know that she was back in Iowa. I'll write her a little note soon.

The loom is for any kind of material —
Ain't it wonderful!!!

Greetings to Miss Voogd! It's nice that she is again back with you in Ohio.

Will you please forward this letter to Vera? I looked for some carbon paper but don't seem to have any here at the house.

Greetings to Louis from us!

Sincerely
Helin

Sunday Afternoon
upon returning from the
Lab.

Dear Mom & Pop Petersen,

See you folks should be here to go on
our picnic with us. Just a perfect fall day.
And Helen has such good ideas for food.
Ummmm. We'll think of you!

Helen is more than busy these days. She
has been canning everything from sauerkraut
(for me) to crapapples. She is well along
with that now and was just going to start
some sewing except (1) no material.
(2) she has been pressed into service to go
judging at one more fair. And just after
me getting more or less used to having
her home for more than 2 days at a time!
However she'll only be gone two days and will
be travelling with pleasant people for
company.

I'm not getting a great deal of my work in
the lab done lately because I've been
busy harvesting & threshing grain from
our fertilizer plots. However I hope to
get all of my lab work done before school
starts early in October. Bye for now
Fred.

SASKATCHEWAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES' ASSOCIATION

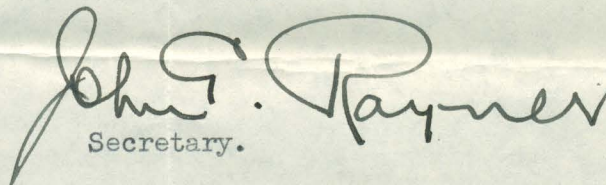
University of Saskatchewan,
Saskatoon, Sask.,
August 29, 1944.

Mrs. C. F. Bentley,
1328 Elliott St.,
Saskatoon, Sask.

Dear Mrs. Bentley:

At the Horticultural Societies' Convention held last week a vote of thanks was passed to you for your intensely interesting and helpful address on good flower arrangement. I can assure you that your address was very much appreciated and I appreciate very much your courtesy in undertaking to give this address notwithstanding the fact that you were busy with other appointments. I hope your contact with our Convention was worthwhile from your standpoint.

Yours faithfully,


Secretary.

R/B.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES' CONVENTION
AUGUST 23-24, 1944

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23

Physics Theatre
University of Saskatchewan

Chairman: J. E. Park.

- 1.30 - Registration.
- 2.00 - Address of Welcome: Dr. L.E. Kirk, Dean of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan.
Reading of the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting.
Report of the Secretary-Treasurer.
Presidential Address: J. E. Park.
Report of the Work of the Horticultural Societies: John G. Rayner, Director of Extension, University of Saskatchewan.
Presentation of Delegates' Reports.
- 4.15 - Address: "New Styles and Methods in Vegetable Gardening", R.M. Wilson, Indian Head Experimental Station.

Chairman: W. G. Wood.

- ✓ 6.00 - Banquet at the Elite Cafe by Courtesy of the Saskatoon Horticultural Society.
- ✓ 7.15 - Address: "The Provincial Fruit Show", John Walker, Chairman, Fruit Show Committee.
Moving Pictures.
- ✓ 8.00 - Visit to Provincial Fruit Show and to Saskatoon Horticultural Show, Massey-Harris Building, Saskatoon.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24

- 8.45 - Visit to Points of Interest in Saskatoon under the direction of A. H. Browne, Parks' Superintendent.
- 10.15 - Visit to the Department of Horticulture, University of Saskatchewan, under the direction of Dr. C. F. Patterson, Professor of Horticulture.
- 12.15 - Lunch in the University Dining Room.

Physics Theatre
University of Saskatchewan

Chairman: J. E. Park.

- 1.15 - Presentation of Resolutions.
Election of Officers and Directors.
Address: "The Horticultural Program of the Illustration Stations", R.H. Anderson, Melfort Experimental Station.
Presentation of Delegates' Reports.
- ✓ Address: "Good Flower Arrangements for the Home", Mrs. C.F. Bentley.
- ✓ Address: "Storage for Horticultural Products", R.M. Blakely, Swift Current Experimental Station.
- ✓ 4.30 - Garden Party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Peterkin, 129 Saskatchewan Crescent, W., by courtesy of the Saskatoon Horticultural Society.

.....

Boys
Dike, Ia.

Helen's
letters

Miss. Vera Petersen

6415- Elmcrest Drive

Des. Moines 11

Iowa.



1328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.
September 13, 1944

Dear folks,

Ored has just come from the seed barn where he has completed the threshing of the plot yields for this year. He has been at threshing steadily for several days and has his hair and ears practically filled with chaff each night!

The yields really are good as you can see by the height of grain in the two pictures enclosed.

Did you notice the write up about Ruth Crouse in the Conrad section? I'm returning it to you just in case you've not. She is a very nice looking person, don't you think?

The two rolls of Oike papers which you've sent this summer are just now looked over. I'd not seen the Henningsen Sten or Vonneseu Blacksmith ~~writings~~ last year so they were interesting. I wonder who did them. No need to send "Lutheran Tidings" as I still get a copy here each time it comes out.

thanks just the same for sending them.

I canned a box of pears yesterday. Some of the jars did not seal properly so we now have nine twice-canned jars! They look a little the worse for the wear but at least they will be edible this winter. Several people here have had a good deal of difficulty because our rubber jar rings (war time issue) are not entirely satisfactory. Perhaps you've experienced the same.

Would you (again!) look through the box or bundle of scraps of materials I mine to see if you can locate some dark blue silk crepe scraps for me? My blue suit needs some patches in the lining - especially in the arm's eye and at the cuffs. I've looked here but I see I didn't bring any lining. The lining may be by itself or with some dark blue wool of one of my suits. Just in what sort of box I put it into last fall I don't recall but I would appreciate getting it as it's the washable kind and doesn't come off (with dye) when a person

gets overheated and perspires
in in the process, turning the pleated
skirt in side out and back side
front. It will take a while to get all the
pleats basted but I think the result
will be worthwhile in wear and
looks. So far I've certainly had my
money's worth in wear and looks
out of it and I still like it very,
very much.

Just yesterday I finished Fraser's
hat. Now were on the hunt for some
frog grain ribbon for trimming.

We happened onto some elegant
candy downtown right before last.
The candy is made by one of the confectionery
men here and is an English
Toffee with raisins in it. I've been
enjoying it tremendously.

Dad just came out of the shower
and will be off for the Lab. so I'll
close and send the letter with
him.

Saturday will be our 1st and
again we thank you for all you
did and gave us on the 16th
of last year! Marge take!

Sincerely,

Julia

Tuesday Eve.
Sept 12/44.

Dear Mom & Pop Petersen,

It was just 52 weeks ago last mite that I arrived in Dike. My but it's been a wonderful year! There has never been one like it for me — but I'm looking forward to many more. Of course I missed Helen very much when she was away this summer but we partly made up for that with the wonderful reunions we had afterwards.

As I write this I am on momentary call to aid Helen. She bot a box of pears today & they must be canned today — or at least before we retire. She has been very busy canning &c &c lately & is getting a good sized store of things laid by for us. I think I've already mentioned that she has even made sourkrant for me! (This letter now continued after I peeled about 15 pears for Helen!)

I'm very busy at work these days. We are threshing our samples from the fertilizer

trials we had this year. Of course they are only small samples (1 sq. yd each) but as each must be threshed and bagged separately it is slow work. However we hope to finish the threshing tomorrow. And of course there's always my thesis work awaiting me!

Now as Saturday is our anniversary I thought I'd send some snaps to you folks. Mr. Petersen you'll probably remember that last year you sent some yield data for corn in Grundy Co. so I could see just what Grundy silt loam and good old fashioned fertilizer could do. Well I'm sending you a picture of some of our sack wheat as it grows in the field. This picture is from a farm where we had a fertilizer trial and you can see one of our stakes in one picture. This was with commercial fertilizer! Just think what that kind of fertilizer would do for Iowa corn! Well we'll be thinking of you folks (4 years ago) on Saturday. So Bye for now,
Fred

1328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.
October 18, 1944

Dear Folks,

Guess it's about time that I let you hear from us. To be very truthful I did get the first two lines of the heading down last Thursday but that was the extent of my writing that day.

We had a telegram Friday from Vera telling us that Oakley is missing. When I went to the door to see who was there (Olive and her mother were both gone), and saw the boy with a telegram, my first thought was that I hoped nothing had happened to Bob. I didn't think about the possibility that the telegram might be for us.

He certainly are sorry about it, most especially because of Nan and Tommy. But Mr. Mitchell says that at least fifty per cent of the missing turn up - some times many, many months later so with that in mind perhaps we can still have a chance of getting Oakley back. We're not giving up hope until we've heard more.

now, I better go through your last letter and answer the queries first of all.

1. We keep the table over on the east wall where Jud's chest & drawers formerly stood. We now have that in the storeroom under the roof. Makes a very satisfactory arrangement. The table itself only takes up a width of only sixteen inches when closed.

2. The loom is a honey! No mind about sending samples of wool dresses as yet. Just hold 'em and keep the moths from them until I have use for more weaving material please.

3. about the blue striped sample you sent up - I'm still using the dress - very much so, so will you please save the scraps for me? About the black plush coat - it's O.K. with me if you wish to send it away.

4. Too bad you didn't get the Limballton excursion but then it's always nice to have something coming, isn't it?

5. About Lutheran Tidings. I do enjoy reading the news items especially and know a good many of the people mentioned but don't get a subscription for me. Just send up the old copies of years when you have time. No hurry. I haven't paid my church dues for some time, so will

you get some money from Vera and pay them up the date, please? I always paid five dollars a year.

6. About the suit for Tommy - no use looking for color, size, etc. until you know for certain what and if you want it as things are in stock one day and completely gone the next! I'll be glad to get anything I can whenever you say.

Hope you soon get some more remuneration from Uncle Mis.

Today, Tomorrow and Friday I'm helping at one of the ration boards here in town from five until eight in the evening. Bud is going to the Annual Ag. Bean Feed tonight so our dinner problem works out just fine today.

On Tuesday afternoons I sew over at Mrs. Kirk's house where a group is doing sewing for refugees and British Relief. The group is made up of university women whose husbands are on the faculty. You probably will remember the house, mother, as it's the big stone grey house on the right side as we go to the campus down near the street car loop. It's the place where the dean of Agriculture resides.

We had a couple of students in to dinner
a week ago and another student in this
past week. They are much fun. A week ago
Saturday evening we went to a dance with
another young couple, the fellow just
has come back from the Army and is on the
staff here in Agronomy and his girl friend
is a graduate of last spring and is going
to Ann Arbor on a scholarship for her
master's this year. We had fish and
chips afterwards. Do you know what they
are? We forgot to treat you to them when
you were here.

Best wishes to Ann's, Miss Voogd
and all!

Sincerely,
Helen and Fred

P.S. About that blue silk - could it
be in with some other material in a roll?
I don't seem to have it here. Don't
hunt too long for it though.
S.

1328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.
October 18, 1944

Dear Vera.

Long time, no write! We hang head in shame. You forgive? (I've been looning.)

We received your telegram telling about Oakley's being missing. We were very sorry to hear it but I still have hopes that he'll turn up some day.

Mr. Mitchell (Fred's chief) says that about fifty per cent of the missing (especially flyers) do turn up - sometimes after months and months. So, Oakley could be one on the fifty per cent side which returns. Meantime, the thoughts that pass through one's mind in speculation aren't always comforting ones, are they? I certainly feel sorry - most gall for Fran and Tommy. Oakley was everything to them. Thanks so much for letting us know about it.

P.S. I forgot. Olive would like to have some green velvet ribbon for a knitted dress for Fraser. She'd like two yards please of something about $\frac{1}{2}$ " or $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide in the same color if you can find it or in a dark green which will harmonize with this. We've looked all over here with no success. - And how much was the maroon ribbon?

Olive keeps asking if I've my margin of error is all wrong!!!
And how much was the maroon ribbon?

Your last letter was more fun to read! The cat story is good enough for publication!!! Wish I could have seen you and had trying to corral the ornery critter!!! The picture you sent of yourself in the suit is so good! The suit is super-duper, extra special and so good looking! I'm glad you got it. Hope you will soon come and show it to us in person. Will you?? We're still remembering about the Christmas celebration, you know.

The Youkubs sample & old though they be, are de-lovely! I remember seeing them in Dalton's at Mpls. and wished then I had a fancy little dining room or breakfast nook so I could curtain it with one of these patterns.

We saw "Going My Way" on Thanksgiving Monday and we were delighted with it. Weren't the fathers good in the golf ball scenes - 50¢ a piece - and then out on the course where the old man got the "good" shot and it was

the first time he'd ever had a caddy
in his hand!!! The boys singing were
good too, weren't they? Especially the
little fellow who moved his eyebrows
up and down "Swingin' on a Star"!
Wish there were more such movies.

Thanks also for the two cards you sent!
Wonder where Harvey is now.

Today, Thursday and today I'm working
from 5 to 8 p.m. at the local Ration Board.
I think it will be fun to see all the
people.

Tuesday afternoons I sew for the
refugees and British Relief over at
Mrs. Kirk's house. She is wife of the
Dean of Agriculture here. We work in
their basement which is large and
very convenient.

Rest of the time I'm putting in on
stitching and weaving and house-
keeping. Fred is about to start on
his thesis writing and I've volunteered
to do the typing. The first hundred
sheets (like the first hundred
years) will be the hardest!!!

You see, I'm especially good at
producing typing errors!!!

I have a little patch of ironing to
do this a.m. so I'll get out my
nice board with the new cover and
hop to it.

Would you like to have "Harper's
Pazaar" again next year? Will you
be sure and answer sometime soon
or I can get the order in before it's
too late. I know it won't be much of a
surprise present but I'd like you
to have it if you'd like.

Greetings to the Hilgenbergs. How's
Rosie liking college?

Much love,

Helen

Dear Vera,

Pardon my correcting your sister but lately
well over 50% have been turning up oke. So
we'll just count on it and hope it's very soon
with Oakley.

I'm busier than a cat on a hot stove
or a one armed paper hanger with the hives.
There's so much to getting students all started
etc. esp. masters students with theses to
do. However I'm hoping that in another
week or 10 days the air will be clear that
I can do more of my own thesis.
Bye for now
Fred.

Space reserved for Frederick!

328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.

Nov. 3, 1944

Dear folks,

Long time no hear! How are you? Everything O.K.?

Today we are having our first touch of cold weather. The thermometer registers 6° above zero. It's very clear and frosty out and the trees are covered with ice in places.

Yesterday I took two flower prints down to the gallery for the fall art exhibition. One print I was very uncertain about but entered it anyhow.

Fred went to Sable last Monday for one of the lectures to the air men. There was such a dense fog that he had to stay over night and come back Wednesday afternoon by train. He liked the plane trip over very much.

Tonight we are going to the Beseborough to witness the Men's Informal Dance for university students. Guess I'll wash my hair special for the occasion.

Everyone here is interested in the American election. Personally, I feel as though my view is more clear this year than it was when I was in Minnesota four years ago. Everyone here wishes and hopes that Roosevelt will win. Dewey, to me, doesn't seem to have a great deal to offer, especially on the question of international policies.

Have you seen Tittle lately or heard anything about her?

I was busy studying fruit cake recipes this morning ~~evening~~. Fred's favorite cake is a fruit cake so I'm going to try my luck (and raisins!) on one some day. I'm going to use the light raisins you gave me this spring for it.

Have you heard from Nan recently? Has she had any further information concerning Oabley?

Thaser and Olive soon have a birthday. I'm trying to make Thaser a pair of bedroom slippers out of felt with wool embroidery.

How are Ann's and bestemor? Does Bernice like her new school? What is she teaching?

Best wishes to you all!

Sincerely,

Helen

Hi Folks,

Don't let Helen give you the impression we're doing a lot of gadding — we're not. She has been loarning & flower printing and short coursing, and she's busy finding out what's the matter with the children's clothing situation &c &c.

With my boss away — I have twice as much work to do at school as I had last year. So I'm not idle either. Certainly don't get much done on thesis as a result. However do get some done. We're looking for Vera at X-mas. Bye now
Fred

1328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.
November 16, 1944

Dear folks,

Thanks so much for the letter and card which we received.

We have seen nothing of Elmer and by now he surely will both have come and gone again. I wonder if he hasn't gotten your letter in time before leaving. Have you heard anything further from him?

This lining business is getting to be quite a topic for correspondence, isn't it? The lining I'm looking for is the dark blue silk (real/silk) crepe which is for my blue suit. There should be quite a little bundle of it and it may be with the blue wool suit scraps. How big a roll they make I can't remember. But don't look more than once more for it, please.

You must have had a very nice stay in Cedar Falls, Mother, at the convention. What did you hear of the Christensen boys? Is Nels still in the far East?

Today is Fraser and Olive's birthday. Fred and I are giving them a set of records called "Peter and the Wolf". The set is both for children and grownups.

How nice that you had the visitors from Boone for a few days. We've not heard from Nan for a long time but she probably is busy or taken up with other things.

We have had the loveliest scenery here the past four days. The trees, bushes and tall grass are covered with very heavy hoar frost. Yesterday afternoon the fog lifted and the sun shone on everything making it look like a veritable fairyland! Today it's the same, but there is a suggestion of wind which pushes some of the "fur" off at times. I've never seen Saskatchewan so very beautiful!

Fred is still very busy. Mr. Mitchell's being away yet puts all the administrative responsibility on Fred. He says it's interesting and good experience for him. The department is busy putting out copies of the new soils bulletin which is really a book, it's such a volume. So many hundred copies go to the provincial government, so many to the experimental stations in Canada and so many thousand to Ottawa.

Last Saturday afternoon we were invited to tea at the President's house over on the river. The whole faculty and staff were there. What a big group! Mrs. Thomson asked me to help in the dining room with the tea service from four until five o'clock. There were two rooms where tea was being served so you can imagine the size of the gathering.

I've been busy working on Christmas gifts and cards the past few days in order not to let Santa Claus get ahead of me. Next after next I'm to go to Kindersley for a lecture on flower arrangement! The Horticultural Society there is having an annual meeting. I can almost smell the chrysanthemums right now! Kindersley is a town you passed through on your way to Uncle Mis' mother. It's on the Goose Lake Line!!!

Last night for supper we had Swedish meat Balls made from a recipe in my favorite cook book. They are made just about like we always make them except that when they are fried or browned on both sides, one pours a half cup thin cream over them, covers the pan

and lets them cook for five minutes longer! It's really super! and think what the gravy is like !!!
As you know, the top milk can make good ~~of~~ cream. It's all we use.

Last week I covered the cheese box for a hassock over by our living room register. The hassock makes a good seat and also an extra storage space for use too. Isn't it a pretty color?

Best wishes to you both and greetings to all!

Sincerely,
Helen

Dear Mom & Pop Petersen

Well Helen makes very enthusiastic about the scenery these recent days but I'm by no means as keen. Here I had plans to see Sask. by air and to date I've had only one trip. The others have been cancelled due to fog preventing flying etc.

However its probably just as well
(1) its not very cold when there's fog
(2) I get more work done when I stay home, and goodness knows I've enough to do. It's disgraceful the way I neglect your daughter — and shes so good about it all. Well bye for now
Fred.

1328 Elliott Street

Saskatoon, Sask.

December 6, 1944

Dear folks.

When I'd just about given up hope of ever getting an answer to my last letter, here comes a package and a letter from you! 'Mange tak.' I just assumed you were busy and that all was well, which is about what must have been by your letter.

Thanks so much for all the things you sent in the box. I still hadn't used the last chocolate you sent me. The big raisins are wonderful. I think I'll put them in the dark fruit cake for Fred. Last Saturday I candied some orange peel. In a day or so when we've been to town I'm going to candy some grapefruit and lemon peel and then go to work on the fruit cakes.

Thanks for the anklets. I'm going to save them and give them to her for Christmas.

Your letters are seldom opened. I imagine mine was opened because of the sample of green material enclosed. We were interested in the clipping you sent too. Is Otto Christensen not well? You mention the hour as a limit to a visit.

We are busy as usual. Fred, particularly so. Mr. Mitchell is still in the hospital and the

medical doctors say it will be at least another three months. Sunday Fred and Harold Moss worked all day in the office cleaning and rearranging the soils profiles so that they would be more usable in connection with the new Soils Survey Bulletin No. 12. I went over at noon, brought sandwiches and apples for lunch. Harold made tea and we had a nice time.

Yesterday was the last meeting until after Christmas of the sewing group I belong to which sends garments to British and European relief.

Last week Tuesday I went to Kindusley for the talk on flower arrangement to the Horticultural Society. The people were lovely - met me at the station, invited me to the President's house for tea that evening before I turned in at the hotel. The next noon I was invited to the secretary's home for dinner. Mr. Shank is in charge of the Mounted Police Station of that section. (Too bad I didn't get a picture of him in his red coat for you!) When we were visiting we found out that he and Fred's brother, Newcombe, were good friends at the University of Alberta. His wife was formerly a secretary at the Dominion Experimental Farm at Beaver

Lodge which is up in the Peace River country. In the afternoon I was invited to another home for tea. These people were big wheat farmers, evidently with plenty of shekels by the looks of their surroundings. They have gone back to Illinois every winter for the past thirty years. They have usually gone to California or Texas too. Mr. King was so delighted to see someone from near home. We talked about the various trips he'd taken and the routes over which he'd travelled. He and his wife were very nice people.

I came back to Saskatoon Thursday noon. Fred met me at the station and we had dinner at the King George Hotel before coming back out home.

The weather here is very mild and has been so since fall set in.

Next week I'm probably off to Regina to speak at a similar banquet for the Horticultural Society there. I've not been to Regina since a year ago last September so I'm looking forward to an interesting trip.

We have been invited to Edmonton again for Christmas but this time Fred is going to try to work very steadily on his thesis, if possible, with the hope that there

will not be so many interruptions during vacation as otherwise.

Guess I'll stop now. There are so many things I'd like to get done for Christmas. I'm pretty well along with everything except the cards, however.

Do write again when you find a little time, if possible. We'd enjoy a line from you, too. Dad once in awhile. Two letters from Sils aren't much in two months time. But I suppose you're busy.

Sincerely,
Helen

Hi Folks,

Just a word—I must get back to school as it's 1:10 already. However I did want to thank you for the thing you sent. Mmmmm
Oh boy what a cake & what cookies! Fruit cake and cookies outrank any other goodies for me. Now we are into the final stretch before X-mas so the pressure is really ~~on~~ on. Helen is busy too getting odds & ends ready for X-mas presents.
Bye for now
Fred.