



Fort Garry Hotel, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.—6.

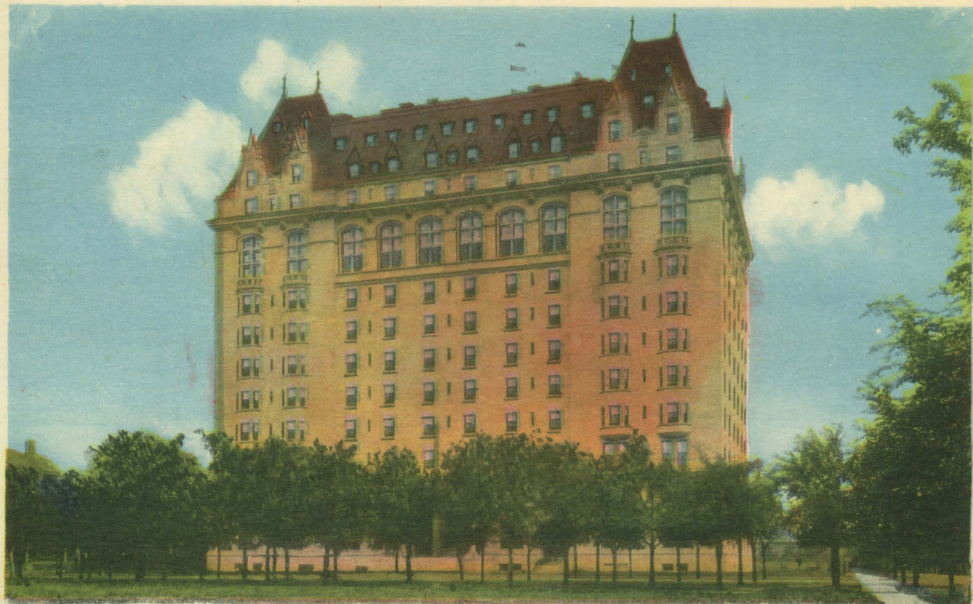
POST CARD



Dear folks,
Er Gladely by
We're having a wonderful
time here in Winnipeg!
Got back from the lake
yesterday noon. I was
on snow shoes for four
days! We are off to a
hockey game now.
Will start back Sunday
morning. Best wishes to
all. Sincerely, Helen

Mr. and Mrs. Thorwald
Petersen

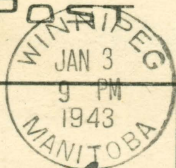
Dike,
Iowa
U.S.A.



Fort Garry Hotel, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.—6.

POST

CARD



Dear folks,
Am about to leave
Winnipeg for home.
Have had a lovely
trip. More when
I arrive U.S.A.
Love Helen

Mr & Mrs. Thorwald
Petersen

Allice,
Iowa
U.S.A.

1381 North Cleveland Ave.
Saint Paul, Minnesota
January 24, 1943

Dear folks.

How goes everything in Dike?

It's been terrifically cold in Minnesota this past week! The temperature went down to thirty-one degrees below zero one day. I've been wearing wool socks and shirts and sweaters every day, and I'm glad to have warm clothes to wear.

This past week was Farm and Home Week at the University so we were busy getting exhibits and talks ready. The registration of people was smaller this year. About a thousand were here while in a normal year about three thousand come. We think that the drop is due to gas rationing and the extremely cold weather.

Today I went over to school to tie up another loom. Now I have enough looms for the girls to work at this quarter. I'm going to

try to get one strung up for myself sometime soon.

While I was putting up some of my weaving for the exhibit last week one of the Darn and Worme visitors was asking me about who did it. I said that I had. "Say," she said, "You should take up weaving when you get through school!" Then I set her right - on the fact that I was a little older than she supposed. We had a laugh and then she apologized. I told her that I felt it was a compliment - not something for which she should apologize.

I've figured out my state and federal income taxes and am now busy saving some shekels. So you'll know, Dad, why I'm not paying off on my debt. It's not that I mean to be a slacker.

Friday evening Jascha Heifitz, the violinist, was the soloist with the Symphony. He played beautifully. His technique is really superb.

Evidently the article about my weaving was syndicated by the Associated Press and has gotten into papers all over the country from the flood of letters I've received. At present I

have "fan mail" from Maine, New Hampshire
Montana, West Virginia and North Dakota which
needs must be answered. They've sent me
pictures of themselves and their work in crafts
and requests about more information about
my weaving. More fun!!!

Thanks for the card about the weaving.
Vera sent it last week. I didn't know that
she was going to take care of sending it.

I think I'll take a little nap. Sunday
afternoon is good for relaxing. Tonight Fred
and I are going skating over at the
Hippodrome on the fair grounds. They have
a little "German Band" to play for skating.
Reminds me of Hans K. and his
musicians in Acker.

Greetings to Ann's and bestmen
and everyone else.

Love,
Helen

1381 North Cleveland Ave.
Saint Paul, Minn.
January 31, 1943

Dear folks,

Glad to hear from you once more!
Thought maybe mom wasn't buying postage
stamps anymore! The special was here
when I returned from breakfast this
morning. Mrs. Ofelt invited me to her
apartment. Her husband who was in the
Biochemistry department has a government
job in Peoria, Illinois. So she misses him
considerably and is glad to have someone
come in and have a visit with her.

Last night Miss Raymond, who is head of Art
Education on the main campus, and I gave
talks to the Danish Reading Circle which met
out at the Danish Young People's Home last
evening. Miss Raymond talked on the Philosophy
of Art Today and my topic was Art as Related
to Everyday Living. We had a good time and
everybody seemed extremely interested. It was
very late by the time I got back home here so
I got to bed about one o'clock. Consequently,
I spent a little more of my Sunday morning
sleeping than usual.

I'll be looking for the magazine from you soon. Glad to hear everything is all right in Dike. Greetings to Miss Voogd too.

So long for now. I must take a box of illustrative material back up to the office and put everything in order for tomorrow.

Love,

Helen

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL

DEPARTMENT OF HOME ECONOMICS

Related art Department

February 26, 1943

Dear folks,

Thank you so much for the letter. It was on the newell post just as I left home for dinner so I haven't had a chance to read all of it until just now.

The girls in the Weigley Home Management House invited me to dinner this evening. We had a lovely time and they are always such gracious hostesses. Then I came up to the office to do a little work as the evening is still young and I'm swamped with things to grade before the end of the quarter.

Last night I was over in Minneapolis at La Vonne Bidstrup's apartment. She and Arne are divorced and she is working on the Star Journal - the paper which carried my weaving story a couple of weeks ago. We had a very nice visit but it was so late before I got back home.

This morning one of the girls had meat her hospitality meal so I feel as if I've been "wined and dined" all day!

Tomorrow night Ored and I are going to a dinner dance which his fraternity is having.

Did I tell you about the Navy man on this campus ~~what~~ was a former student of mine in Burlington? We took him to the Smorgas-bord at the St. Paul Hotel Sunday afternoon. We had a grand visit and then went to a show in the evening.

Mr. Dawson brought over the Navajo Rug Room that he and Bill Seminick made for me. So now I can start in when I have the time. Don't bother about sending the wools until a little later. I have much to much to do right now to start on a rug. Some time later, however.

Thank you for the blank checks. Could be that I might need one someday if I'm not careful with my "money bag"!
Later -

I just looked to see how many sterling spoons I have and there are eight here and Alma has promised me two more. I don't think a dozen will be too many if still want to continue.

They are lovely ^{you} and I certainly do appreciate every one you have given me.

Enclosed is a snapshot of Fred and me. It was taken on my last roll of film and so it will be the only one for some time as film isn't available up here now. The house behind me is the one where I live

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL

DEPARTMENT OF HOME ECONOMICS

at the Archer's. The bottle in the back-ground is "purely coincidental"!

We didn't notice it until the pictures were developed.

Guess I better go to bed. Last night was late and tomorrow will be too.

Greetings to Miss Voogd and the Struntzes and best ever.

Love,

Helen

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL

DEPARTMENT OF HOME ECONOMICS

1381 North Cleveland Avenue
March 2, 1943

Dear folks,

Just dried the ink on the letter to the
(Internal) Collector of Revenue concerning
my 1942 Income Tax. After cashing my
check there is still some left over
for my account in the red! So I'm
sending twenty-two dollars and fifty cents
via a cashier's check. Ten of this is for the
ten which I borrowed when I was in sick and
the other twelve fifty is to apply on my
big sum which was \$362.50 and now will
be \$350.00 until further notice. Menge tak!!

School is going fine. Had a letter
from Vera Sunday. Will be on the radio
with Miss Brew Thursday March 4th over
the homemaker's half hour which I believe
comes on at 10:30 or 10:45 in the
morning. Nothing important - just a lesson
on sewing machines. Miss Brew is the other
person who lives here at Archer's. She is head
of the Textiles and Clothing Department at the
University.

I sent grandma Henningsen a birthday
card Saturday. I can be sure that you will
have a cup of coffee with her today.

Greetings to all.

Love,

Helene

Helen S. Petersen
1381 North Cleveland Ave.
Saint Paul, Minnesota



Mr. and Mrs. Thorwald Petersen
Dike,
Iowa

1381 North Cleveland
Saint Paul, Minn.
March 5, 1943

Dear folks,

another week is almost gone so
here goes a letter to you.

First of all, another bond came
through the mail so here it is to you,
leaving me \$312.50 in the red. Again,
"Mange take"!

I wonder if you have had time
to send the "drapery" bedspread
yet. It hasn't arrived but perhaps
you just haven't had time yet.

Last week the Art Department
of the University of Kansas wrote asking
if they might have an exhibit
of my weaving in March. So to-
morrow I'm going to pack up some
things and send off to them.

That was a good story about
Miss Voogd and the red underwear.
I told Fred about it and we had
a big laugh about it again as
he had almost bought me a
suit of red flannels for Christmas-
to wear when we go skating!!!

Tuesday evening we invited another couple out to dinner with us and then to symphony on the main campus. The concert was very good for a student production.

Tomorrow evening we are invited to supper at the home of one of the members in Fred's division here on the campus. The Burson's are Iowa people and Paul formerly was on the faculty at Iowa State College. So, you see, we have a lot in common!

Paul used to have some land north of Dike and knew of Ben Fletcher and his escapade. How scandalous does travel!

Sunday evening I'm going to the Young People's meeting in Minneapolis to give a talk. When I asked them what they'd like to have me discuss they answered, "Oh, something on Art"! Well, that's broad enough for a topic so I shouldn't have any difficulty finding material!

That must have been a nice party that you had for the ladies around town, and, no doubt! they enjoyed it very much.

A blizzard was to have come our way during the night but must have changed course because it's lovely sunshine outside even if the temperature is down around zero.

Have you had any reports on the golf clubs as yet? Perhaps I should write also about them. It's possible that we could start playing the latter part of this month or early next month if the weather is at all with us. Fred is a great enthusiast about it and says I should learn. And he also says that "Somebody has to open up the course on Sunday mornings!"

He is certainly an early "getter-upper"! ~~One~~ week days he is in his office between seven and seven-thirty every morning. At present he is working on chemical analysis of soils and is doing carbonate and nitrogen determinations. This spring and summer he will be working out in different countries on different types of crops and soils in which these are grown.

Well, more some other day! Hope everything is all right at home and that the spring flowers will soon be in full blossom.

Love,
Helen

1381 North Cleveland
Saint Paul, Minn.
March 11, 1943

Dear folks,

Hello again! And many thanks
for the big box - it came through in very
good style - everything all right.

Had a letter from Vera a couple of
days ago telling me about her hospital trip.
Thanks for writing the card anyway. I
was glad to find out. Nothing serious
this time, I take it. She just was too
run down. Hope she soon recovers.

Final examinations begin tomorrow
for me. I have been at the office every
night this week grading work and papers.
Tonight is the last performance of that
kind for awhile, I hope. It's getting to
be a little too tiring to put in such
long days of all work.

The weather is warming up a little
at last. The snow is beginning to
disappear from some of the open
places. We hope spring isn't too far
off in Minnesota.

Tomorrow night the Soils division is having a faculty party. Dad has asked me to go with him! I think it will be fun. We are to have supper and then an evening of games or bridge - I'm not sure which.

Sunday afternoon we are invited to the home of a friend of Dad's. This friend and his wife are Canadian too. They have invited another Canadian couple who are here on the campus too. So I think I'll be the alien in that party. Nice people - these Canadians though!

Jean, the girl I just visited when I was in Winnipeg, is coming here to school spring quarter. I think it will be fun to see her again.

Must get at some of my work.
Greetings to all.

Sincerely,
Helin

1381 North Cleveland
Saint Paul, Minn.
March 18, 1943

Dear Mother,

Happy birthday to you!

There's something coming for you but it won't be ready until Saturday or it will be late in getting to Iowa. In the meantime - my very best wishes to you.

Thank you for sending the pictures and letters. I'm returning Nan's letters and Oakley's snapshots. To date I haven't heard from him since just after the holidays.

Don't bother too much about the golf clubs. I'm sure we'd have seen them by this time if they were at home. The only place

I didn't look very well was under the front stairway.

How did the chicken soup dinner come out? Sounded like a good menu to me. I could do with a little right now if it were close.

This has been the week of final examinations. I have about all the grading done and then I must average them for the quarter grade. Then I will say "Armen" for a few days and get in a little rest and some spring sewing before the quarter begins!

It has been terrifically cold here the past few days. The wind has been unbelievably strong. Fred insists that Alberta never was like this! So you know it's been something out of the ordinary.

Dad, I checked out twenty-five dollars last Saturday. I hadn't gotten my check yet and I needed some shopping so went ahead. I'll see that you get it back again soon, and in the meantime - mange tak!

Guess what - after buying the drapery material for a new bed spread, I came home to my room the other day to find that Mrs. Ascher has gotten another spread! I hadn't said anything about it lately because I thought I'd make up the draperies during spring vacation for my bed spread! It never rains but it pours! Guess I'll just save them now and make some other use of them later. So my bargain wasn't a bargain after all!

This morning I took some student
work over to the photo lab. to have
some pictures made. I do hope
the pictures are good.

Greetings to Miss Vogt and
anyone that comes in for coffee on
the twentieth!

Best wishes!

Lou.
Helen

1351 North Cleveland
Saint Paul, Minn.
March 22, 1943

Dear folks,

Vacation is here! I finished my school work this morning - so I went home and had a wonderful nap this afternoon. Tomorrow I'm going to do some sewing. First off I'm going to make a couple of blouses for my blue suit - then a housecoat and my blue gingham dress. Here's hoping the week doesn't ~~go~~ too fast or all of my plans won't be accomplished.

I'm sending the birthday present. It's to prove that I don't look quite like Eleanor yet! And it happens to be a little more up to date than some of the other "funnies" around the house of me!

We are having a Weaving Institute over on the main campus starting April twelfth. So we have been getting two of our looms ready to be sent over there. There will be twenty looms altogether. Some fun!

Jean Carey, the girl whom I visited in Winnipeg, is coming to the University for the

spring quarter. She arrives Thursday morning on the train. It will be such fun to see her again.

Then Vera is coming next weekend too. She will arrive Friday evening on the Rocket. We are going to symphony.

Sunday we are going to the Ice Dollies. Those she should enjoy a great deal.

Tonight Fred and I are going to graduation exercises which begin at eight thirty. At present we are out in his building where he is running some titrations on soils samples to determine some mineral content.

The weather here is very nice these days. The snow is beginning to melt. Here's hoping it will soon be gone for the rest of the spring.

Greetings to Miss Voogd and Ann, Beanie and Festina.

Love,
Allen

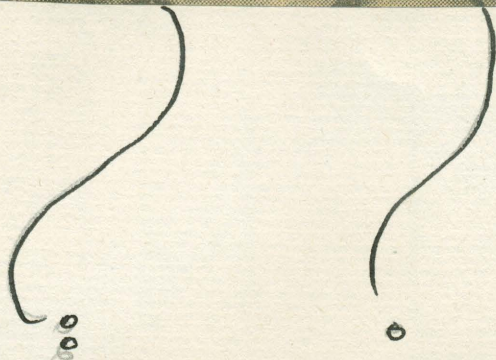
Helen Petersen
1381 North Cleveland
Saint Paul, Minn.



BONDS AND STAMPS

Mr. and Mrs. Thorwald Petersen
Dike,
Iowa

Their Engagement Rumored



1381 North Cleveland
Saint Paul, Minn
March 31, 1943

Dear folks,

Surprise! Or perhaps it
isn't any more of a surprise to you
than it was when we told Vera.
She said, "I knew it all the time.
I could read between the lines
in your letters."

We haven't set any date for the wedding as yet because there are many things to consider.

Fred is subject to both the Canadian and American draft and isn't sure when or where he will leave. So all depends on what news we hear from the authorities.

I do hope you will like him. One of the many reasons why I do is that he has the same philosophy about money and things that dad has. Here's an example: "Helen, we aren't going to have anything that we can't afford - no matter if every other family in our block has it." He believes in paying for things when we get them - not via the installment idea.

For the present it looks uncertain

as to whether or not he will be able to continue his study toward his Ph. D. if he has to go into some kind of service. I do hope he won't have to wait too long before he can complete his degree because he has looked forward to that attainment for a long time.

His father lives in Edmonton, Alberta. His mother died of cancer when Fred was in high school. He has two brothers; one older and one younger. His family is partly Scotch and some Yankee because he has relatives in Boston.

We looked at rings yesterday and I could have had any one I wanted. The inexpensive ones are not particularly good looking and the good looking ones are too costly. I can't feature myself going around with a big wad of

money wrapped around one of my fingers. And so I said that there were many more important things than diamond rings in our lives and that I'd be just as happy without it. And I really mean just that. Supposing one of us should need something very badly some time. I'd always feel as if I'd spent money wrongly on a ring. So I'm wearing Fred's fraternity pin which serves the purpose just as well.

We are going to write to Tony Jensen's and see about our wedding rings. I hope they still have the kind I like so much. I saw it when I was there. All metals are frozen so it's possible that they might not have it and they can't make any up special any more - so I don't know

how well fare out but I'll try.

I've been looking at silver today. That's frozen too so there isn't much left. I shopped around until I found one place where they had my pattern. They have a set of six each of knives, forks, salad forks, soup spoons, butter spreaders and twelve teaspoons. They have only the one set and won't break it in any way - all or none. It's the last they'll have for the duration so I'm tempted to buy it. I think I can swing it and the rest of my college debt by June fifteenth. I do want that pattern very much, so I'll sleep on it and decide in the morning. I don't like to jump at conclusions.

We had a grand weekend with Vera. Friday night we went to the symphony. Saturday night Vera, the Goldsteins, Fred and I had dinner and then we saw the show "Yankee Doodle Rodeo". Sunday afternoon we three went out to Mt Shelling where a friend of Vera's is nursing. Then in the evening we went to the Ice Follies. I think Vera liked them very much. We enjoyed them too.

Last night Fred and I went to Minneapolis and had dinner with Nadine who is in the cities for a conference. When we had finished we saw the show "The Commandos Strike at Dawn", a picture with a good deal of Norwegian atmosphere in it. Very good.

Thank you for sending Oabley's letter. I'm returning it now and must write him soon. I have

just received one from him with
about the same news. Greetings
to you when you see her.

If our checks are here in the
morning I'll cash mine and
send some money in this letter.

Love,

Helen

Thurs a.m.

P.S. Hello again!

Here's a cashier's check for
\$100.00 which brings me down
to \$237.50. Mange tak!

H.S.O.

1381 North Cleveland
Saint Paul, Minn.
April 11, 1943

Dear folks,

Thank you very much for your nice letter and good wishes for us. We do appreciate it very much.

And thank you, too, for the invitation home for Easter. I'm going to see Miss Harriet about my Saturday classes. You see, even though we have Good Friday off we still have Saturday morning to contend with. As far as Fred knows now he will be able to come. So as soon as I know about my part I'll write you so that we can make our plans accordingly. If we come it will most likely be on the Rocket Thursday evening at nine o'clock.

We don't yet know what our plans are to be. Fred is still corresponding with the Canadian authorities. Hope it won't be too long. Thank you for wanting us to come home to be married at Redpville. I should like it very much and I'm sure Fred will also. But as yet we haven't talked about where because we don't know when. If he has to go to Canada it might mean that I'll go up there because most likely he won't be able to come back to the States when

are now in appropie order. I must keep in practice because Dad is a very neat and precise person when it comes to taking care of things and keeping them in order. He has me beat all to smash on that score but I'm mighty proud of him for it. Not many men come that way, and I'm certainly going to try to do my bit.

He left at five o'clock this morning for Glenview where he will be most of this week working on soil plots.

We were over at Soine's last evening for dinner and bridge. There were four couples there and we had a grand time.

Yesterday the "Minnecon" came out. It is the Home Economics annual publication and the girls gave me the most wonderful corsage because I'd been their advisor this year. The corsage had pink roses, blue fine iris, daisies and pink sweet peas. Fancy that. Looked as if I was wearing a green house last night - but it was lovely and I was thrilled. Just three - two corsages in one week!!!

Don't worry about the golf clubs - will just forget it at present. Don't hunt any more.

Greetings to Miss Vord and Annis and all.

Love,

Helen

he is there for war purposes. Well, anyhow, it will all straighten out somehow, I know. No use making any plans until we have something definite to work on. Thanks so much, and we shall see. I would like to have you two and Vera present when we are married so will hope it can be at home.

I had the loveliest letter from Fred's family in Edmonton. They were so nice about welcoming me into the family. Hope I shall always live up to their expectations.

Glad you liked the picture - and sorry you had to wait so long. I wasn't feeling very well for a couple of days or I had worked too hard on the looms at school, so I let some things slide - among which was the mailing of the picture. Sorry!

Too bad about Oliver Stevenson's death. But it must come to all of us.

It certainly must be fun to have the kittens. What are you going to do with them when they get older? Farm them out? I hope they're still around when we come home. And the tulleis - that must be a fancy one.

How are the tulips coming? Any in bloom yet - or will they wait for us?

About the bedspread material - don't you think this material is a little too coarse to be just right for your room? Tell you what I'll do - I'll look for a spread down town some day and send you one that will be all right. I'd rather see you put that money into one which is really nice for the room rather than dumping my "bargain" stuff just because I happen to have it. Someday I'll find a use for it somewhere and I'd like you to have something that's just right. How did the spread on Oakey's bed wash? O.K. I hope.

Someday will you fix the drapery that is coming loose at the north window? I should have fixed it when I was at home but I didn't have time. Did Vera get the second white rug finished for that room? I can't remember. It seems we had at least one rug down on the floor when I was at home in February and it looked very nice with the light bedspread and draperies.

It's very gloomy here today and rain has been falling a greater share of the time. I spent the morning packing away some of my winter dresses and my winter coat. My closet and chest of drawers

Related at Dept.
April 19, 1943

Dear Mom and Dad,

This letter writing certainly doesn't get done as regularly as I ^{intend}.

Sorry to have kept ^{you} in hot water about our coming home but Dad didn't get in until Thursday night. And then Friday I had a "heavy" talk over at the Continuation Center on the main campus. They are having an Institute of Meaning over there these days. Saturday and Sunday I spent my spare time recuperating!

So here goes!

Thanks for calling; it was so nice to hear your voice.

We will come on the Rocket Thursday evening to Cedar Falls and stay until Sunday night.

I've not used my stamps in Ration Book Two so you can count on them. I also have sugar stamp no. 12 which we can use. Sorry I don't have my coffee coupon - I donated my pound to a Red Cross Unit here in the

park. They were running low on their quota. But, I believe the new coffee stamp is in effect on Sunday & Monday - 25th & 26th so if you need it you can count on my stamp for that so you won't have to go short.

I looked for bed spreads Saturday and got one which I thought was nice for the money and had the store send it to you. I didn't mean to have them enclose the bill but they said that it must accompany the order so there was nothing else to do.

It's plain white so can be used in either room. And about the cost - we'll not worry about that! What is over and about five dollars is your Mother's Day present from me - so sleep well and use the spread every day!!!

Vera is coming home too, I hope.

I wondered if we might not have a few couples in on Saturday night - unless you have other plans & there is another party in the offing. We can do more definite thinking on it when we get home - but I thought if it wasn't too much work

we might have the following:

{ Agnes and Martha
Agnes and Exhardt
Alma and Harry
Laura + Eric

Bernice + Ann (Heinie works, I suppose)

Then in order to make up the tables we'd have the first four couples, Bernice, Vera, Dad and Fred playing. Then Ann and you and I could be overseers! Of course there are Jeanette + Holger - would Jeanette feel like coming? I can't remember when the baby is expected. Maybe there will be other possibilities - Oh yes, - if Nan comes that makes a another - maybe, will have to ~~cut~~ out one of the above couples. Well, we can see. Anyway what do you think?

If you think it's not such a good idea because of being the day before Easter - that's o.k. too & I don't know whether or not that would make any special difference to this crowd.

I wrote to Dr. Hall about a dental appointment. He can take me on Saturday at two o'clock by cancelling a couple of other appointments.

Fred still doesn't know what his plans for the future are so we can't make any

plans for us. As far as I know I'm going
to teach here this summer - both sessions
will take me up to about August the
twenty-sixth or so. From then on I don't
know.

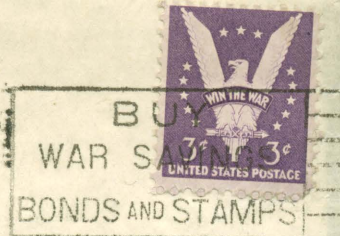
Greetings to all.

See you Thursday evening.

Sincerely,

Helene

Helen S. Petersen
1381 North Cleveland
Saint Paul, Minn.



Mr. and Mrs. Thorwald Petersen
Hike,
Iowa

1381 North Cleveland
Saint Paul, Minn.
April 27, 1943

Dear folks,

Thank you so much for such a nice Easter vacation. We both appreciated everything you did for us while we were there.

The train was crowded so I sat on Fred's suit case until after four o'clock. From then on we had a seat and the riding was more comfortable. We arrived in Saint Paul on schedule and were out here at Archer's by seven thirty.

I took a little nap and then a good cold shower to wake me up and I was off to my nine o'clock class.

Fred left again yesterday afternoon with Alfred Caldwell for some more field work. They will probably come back tomorrow or Thursday sometime.

One of the national officers of the
Y. W. C. A. is here. Yesterday the Advisory
Boards from the Main Campus and
our campus met with Miss Probeck.
I had a hard time keeping my eyes
open. Tonight she is meeting with
our girls over here. Hope the session
won't be too long - I'm still a little
sleepy from night before last.

Thanks for the cookies too. I'm
saving them until Ned gets back.

And again - thanks so much
for everything.

Sincerely,

Helen

1381 North Cleveland
Saint Paul, Minn.
May 1, 1943

Dear folks.

Thanks a million for the letters
and all your good wishes. I'm
so glad that you like Fred.

I've just come home from the
building where I've been doing some
cleaning in the crafts laboratory.
I didn't realize that the afternoon
is so nearly gone. Now it is 4:40
and Fred is coming at five o'clock.
We're going to eat early and then
go out for a little practice on the
golf course. I took my first
lesson Wednesday from the
"pro" at the club and liked it
very much. — all I need is
lots of practice!!!

The linen is very nice — I
would like for you to get me some
of it. If there are ^{not even six} more than
four or five yards I think the
whole piece will be very nice.
I'll pay you for it when I cash
my check Monday. The material

is certainly pretty. And thanks
for the sheets and pillow cases to
come. I haven't had time to start
looking for such things. Thought
I'd have more time after Dred
goes.

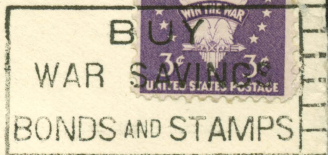
Will meet some friends in
Minneapolis tomorrow and I'll have
time to run up and see about
pillow-ticking. That from Blackie's
sounds all right though. But
I'll look here. I've not asked
Dred about the pillow size yet -
forgot it last night when I saw
him.

Thanks for the nation book -
I'll see about it Monday too. Will
return it soon.

I do think the linen is
very nice. Many thanks for
looking it up and sending it.

Dred's story came this week.
It's a nice one - mine is still being
made at Jansen's.

Love and many thanks for
the nice time we had last week.
Last night at supper Dred said, "This
meal isn't as good as the one we had
a week ago by a long way". Sincerely
Aelin



Mrs. Thorwald Petersen
Hike, Iowa.

Bentley
Soils
Univ. Farm
St Paul, Minn.

1. Gravy ladle \$ 7.25
2. Tablespoons (2) @ \$ 6.00
3. Butter knife \$ 5.00
4. Sugar spoon \$ 3.25
5. Serving fork, small \$ 7.00
6. Olive or pickle fork \$ 2.50
7. { meat knife, with guard \$ 12.00
 { meat fork, with guard 12.00
 { meat steel, with guard 12.00

→ These would go together
 as a set for serving.

Soils Division
Univ. Farm
St Paul Minn
Thursday

Dear Mrs Petersen,

Just a note to say
Helen delivered your box
of cookies today. Like
all your cooking they
are grand. Thanks
very much.

I'm trying to make
this look like a more
presentable letter than

things you are doing
for Helen (us). To
me it indicates your
approval — and
that's very important.

Best regards to
Mr. Petersen & yourself.

Sincerely
Fred.

P.S.
We're sharing the
cookies! :)

the scrawl I dashed
off at the office last time.
This wonderful pen which
Helen gave me for my
birthday helps a lot!

Helen told me of all
the things you had
written of in your first
two letters after we returned
here & today she read
me your letter. I'd
like to say how much
I appreciate all the

Friday

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Petersen,

Helen has had another letter from you today telling about your gift. She's very very elated - just walking on air.

I think it's wonderful of you to be so generous. There is a Santa Claus after all!

Sincerely
Fred

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL

DIVISION OF HOME ECONOMICS

Helen Petersen



*Mr. and Mrs. Thorwald Petersen
Dike,
Iowa*

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL

DEPARTMENT OF HOME ECONOMICS

May 8, 1943

Dear folks,

Thank you so very much for the very extra special letter you sent Thursday. I always wondered what the day would feel like when I finally had finished taking care of my financial obligations on my college expenses. I'd always thought that the first money I earned that was really all my own I would go to town and buy a real "hum-dinger" of a suit - hat, gloves and bag to match - all out of the box - just like that. But somehow yesterday I didn't have such a desire at all but rather ^{to get} something that both Fred and I would enjoy and could use.

Anyhow thank you so very much for your kindness to us and the wedding present which is "our first". At present I don't know what we will spend it for. Fred being Scotch and I a fairly good manager (I hope!) for a Dane, we shouldn't have much difficulty putting it to a really good use.

I still haven't been able to go to town. There hasn't been a long enough stretch of time in any one day - but I'm still hoping.

Ruth Segreth has been out of school the past week and I have been teaching a class of hers. Her mother passed away Thursday night and the funeral is this afternoon. The art department is all going with Miss Harriet and Miss Vitta to the service.

I'm glad there was so much linen traveling. I think it's very, very nice. How long did you make the linen towels you have in the kitchen? I seem to remember that you got four out of three yards. Is that correct? They always seemed a good size to me.

As soon as I can I'll look down town and see what there is in linen to compare with the white piece which you sent yesterday and then let you know.

Tomorrow is Mother's Day and I feel as if I should be sending you something but will just pretend that Easter Sunday was also Mother's Day this year.

I'm enclosing a list of the silver pieces which you asked about - but, please, don't you and dad get us anything more because

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL

DEPARTMENT OF HOME ECONOMICS

You have already done more than your share. However, in case anyone is interested I've listed the pieces which I'd like to have because they seem the most useful to me. The names are like those on my list and the prices will now be a little higher in account of the increase in the last few weeks in silver costs.

We still don't know when Dad leaves. He yet has to hear from the Canadian authorities at Edmonton. Life certainly can be complicated by a war. But the war news sounds a good deal of encouragement as I listened to the newscast this morning while dressing.

I had another golf lesson yesterday afternoon. Dad now has all the clubs for me and we are going to see about a bag when we go to town sometime.

Thanks for the cookies. Fred likes them very, very much. Good thing you mentioned them or I might not have opened the big package for several days and then the cookies wouldn't have been quite so fresh.

Has Nan gone out to California yet?

Say, dad, will it be all right for me to send any money and bonds that I get to you to keep for me until I need them?

I'd rather not start a bank account here now if I'm only going to be here for a very short time. If I stay on next year then I think it will be a good idea to open a bank account. But if it's all right with you I'd like to send you the money to care for till fall.

Greetings to Ann's and all.

Sincerely,

Helen.

P.S. Fred is getting a Ph.D. in Soils, not animal husbandry as Tittle suggests. Nice of ~~her~~ to think about it though.

H.S.O?

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL

DEPARTMENT OF HOME ECONOMICS

May 16, 1943

Dear folks.

Guess this is another letter which is written instead of received on Sunday morning. Anyway, here goes!

I just noticed this little note about the pillow tubing which must have been in one of your letters some time. About the hemstitching and crocheting — if you don't mind my saying it I'd just as soon have the pillow cases plain and if you have some extra time I'd like to have the quilts finished most of all. I still haven't figured out a design for the borders of the appliqued one, have I? It would be nice to get the yellow and orange one fixed too. Do we have anything for the back of that one? I've forgotten. If not I could look for something.

I looked for pillow tubing and this is what I found at Dayton's. So I'll measure my pillow and then buy enough. I think you should keep Adèle's pillows as long as you were the one who own them. I'll be very satisfied with something like this. Thanks heaps.

Say, I wonder if you can find some black and some dark brown leather which is in a round roll somewhere in my

belongings. The roll must be at least eighteen or twenty inches long and perhaps five or six or more inches in diameter. The leather is some that I had left over from summer camp at Des Moines and I would like to use it next week to demonstrate leather tooling to my classes. It must either be in a box or perhaps in that wooden box dad made for my pictures and drawings when I was in school. It's very difficult to buy leather now because of the scarcity of it.

I notice in the St. Peter's church bulletin that the plans are being made for the annual church convention. Are you by any chance thinking of coming up for it? I'll be in home management and just how busy I don't know yet but we could see something of each other. There is only a single bed in my room otherwise I'd like you to stay with me. But it really would be more convenient for you to be nearer St. Peter's because it is a full hour's ride and then a little walk besides from here. Consequently, I don't get to church very often. But it would be fun to have you come if you can and care to do so.

I'm sending back dad's ration book. I've not had time to look for shoes and now that May is almost over with I'll

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL

DEPARTMENT OF HOME ECONOMICS

Just wait until my June stamp is good and see what I can find in the way of shoes. Thanks so much anyhow.

Fred still doesn't know where or when he will be leaving.

This week he is going on a Soils Survey trip up into northern Minnesota in the vicinity of Duluth. A group of Forestry students is having a quarters experience in the forest and two of the soils people are giving some work in their field. He will come back next Saturday sometime.

Mrs. Bidstrup sent me a card sometime ago from California where she is visiting with Millie. Millie's husband is stationed out there in the armed forces.

Mr. Paddock from Iowa State was up here for a Bee keeper's Short Course this last weekend. I noticed his name in the paper so went over to see if I could locate him. We had a very nice visit and I enjoyed hearing about people and things from Ames.

It's a very dreary day here. It rained steadily last night for some time. The leaves on the trees are hardly out as yet because the weather here has been so very cold for the last three weeks.

One of Fred's aunts in Boston sent me a nice luncheon set and some towels the other day. Fred seems to be her special nephew and he also thanks a great deal, Aunt Mary.

What do you hear from Oakley? As usual, it's my turn to write to him.

Greetings to all.

Love,
Helen

Monday evening

Hello Again!

I was down town today and bought the pillow tubing so will send it to you from school tomorrow.

Here is \$10.00 for you, Dad. I wrote a check down town because I didn't have enough money the other day. Marge take!

Oakley sent me a very nice picture of himself in his "outfit" - good picture of him too.

Had a letter from Vera - and the snapshots we took at home the weekend we were all there. Some pictures! Have you seen them?

Sincerely,

Helen

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL

DEPARTMENT OF HOME ECONOMICS

1381 north Cleveland
May 24, 1943

Dear folks.

Thanks for all the cards, letters, linen samples, leather, toweling and good wishes!

I've just answered Blackie's and ordered six yards of the hand toweling. I think that will be plenty to start out with. If the toweling is like the white towel you sent me - the one which is finished and has a little flower design woven into it - I think that is very good toweling and I'd like what there is left of it if you can still get it. Then I think we'll be well supplied with hand towels. As for the plain white, I don't think we need that. There are still supplies of linens up here in the stores should I decide to get something more. Thanks anyway.

As for the dish towels - there are some flour or sugar sacks at Dayton's which are bleached. I think they sell for either nineteen or twenty-two cents each and I think if I get a dozen of them that will be enough to start on if I have the blue checked ones from Kilsen for glassware.

You see there really isn't a great deal of sense in getting too much right now - except necessities. I can always get something in Saskatchewan if I need it. It will involve less moving and less duty to pay. So I don't think I'll even look at Turkish towels for a while anyway.

I'm glad you got the sheets. Thanks so much!

Dred has heard from Edmonton and is leaving early next week for Saskatoon, Saskatchewan where he will be on the faculty at the University of Saskatchewan.

I've not begun to think about plans up until yesterday because I didn't know and he didn't know what the work would be. His work will take him all over the province from June first until late in September. He will not be stationed in anyone place for any length of time. After October he will have regular classes and will be on the campus most of the time.

As yet he doesn't know when he'll get back in the fall to the campus because the opening of school may be later this year on account of shortage of labor in agriculture. So depending on when he comes back in from survey work will we make our plans.

In the meantime I start in at summer session the day after spring quarter closes. I'm starting this week to go over the plans with the Home Management directors so I'll know a bit about the routine of the work. Summer session is out about the last week in August and then I'll pack my things and come home for a while until in September.

Fred doesn't know whether or not he can be permitted to leave Canada once he goes up there so we don't know whether the wedding can be here or will be at some of his relatives in Edmonton. His brother and sister-in-law have said that ~~we may be~~ they will be glad to have it at their place in case complications about the border situation arise. But I'll let you know later when I myself find out. Only thing there is to do is wait and see. Everything is very complicated it seems but I trust that things will work out all right in due time. In the meantime I'm not going to worry about it.

Change in paper!

Thanks for the news and greetings from Raymond; also the clipping. Do you have his address? I'd like to have it sometime.

Yesterday morning I talked to the Occupational Therapy Section of the Minnesota Hospital Association on Substitute materials in Crafts. The Minn. Hosp. Assn. is having its annual convention here. The group I spoke to was very interesting. They were supervisors of occupational therapy in the state hospitals for tuberculosis, feeble minded, children's hospitals, city hospitals, and various tuberculosis sanitoriums from the state. There were ~~two~~ O.T.'s there from the hospitals out at Jock Snelling and four O.T.'s from the Rochester hospitals. They were good and I loved talking to such an enthusiastic group.

Fred came back from Oloquet last night, so we had supper together and then sat on the Archer's porch steps in the rain trying to plan our future! Some problems!!!

I've been trying to sort out some of my things for moving. Some things to pack up for Saskatoon, some for the Berry House (that's the name of the W. management house I'm to live in) and some things to go to Siles and then to

Saskatoon. Well, I'm jacking anything
I think I couldn't possibly use and a
lot of things from teaching that I possibly
won't have need of ^{since} I'm leaving. I had
a real session here yesterday afternoon.

Greetings to all.

And thanks for seeing about the
liver.

Sincerely,

Helmer

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL
DIVISION OF HOME ECONOMICS
Helen S. Petersen



*Mr. and Mrs. Thorwald Petersen
Dike
Iowa*

1381 North Cleveland
Saint Paul, Minn.
June 2, 1943

Dear folks.

Thank you so very much for the birthday letter, card, handkerchief and bill.

Things have been moving very fast the last few days.

Red left for Saskatoon Sunday evening at eight-thirty. He would arrive Monday evening around eleven o'clock I should judge.

We were invited some place every evening last week, - one evening at Dr. Post's home (he is head of the Soils Division), one evening at Dr. Caldwell's (also of the Soils Division), one evening at Dr. Inman's (Vice Director of the Experiment Station here - a job which is next to the dean of the college and Experiment Station work for the state) and one evening over at the Harrises, a young couple from the main campus. Walter Harris is doing some chemical research on rubber for the federal government. His wife is on the faculty in the college of Nursing. Last Wednesday afternoon the Soils Division had a party for Red and I was invited to that also.

Last night the Pitheas had their last meeting of the year and they presented me with four coffee spoons like my silver pattern. Weren't that sweet of them?

Next Sunday afternoon Mary Frances, Ruth
Segolson and Carlotta Brown are having
a tea in my honor. It's to be from three
until six o'clock and the guests are invited
in groups for the different hours. I think
it's very nice of them to do such a lovely
thing. The faculty, graduates, students and
some of our outside friends in Home Economics
are invited. Guess I'll have to shine my
shoes extra well that day! More about that
later.

Thanks for all the dish towels, pillow ticking &
sheets, ticking and all. We can get it all arranged
when I get home. There's no particular hurry
yet and there'll always be something that I can
get, I know.

About the back for the yellow and orange
quilt — unbleached will be all right as if you
could find a piece of bleached muslin that
would work I'd prefer it. Just whichever you
can find and think will work the best.

Thanks so much for offering to make the
jam. I think that's wonderful. How soon will
you need the sugar? I'll send it as soon as I
can find time. I'll need my regular quantity
of sugar for the home management house beginning
June fifteenth, but my canning sugar stores
won't be needed there! Mangle talk! As for the
cans — well, don't buy any for me unless
you need them specially for the jam. Otherwise

I'll be happy to have it in any kind of a jar that's able to hold jam. You see, we'll probably be living in apartments for some time and there's very little storage space for good fruit jars. And as long as we're not permanently settled I don't think it advisable to stock up on things which we can possibly get by without. Whenever the time comes there will just surely be a way out for canning. Thanks so much anyhow.

My one concern at present is the question of an iron. If you have time and feel like it, I'd appreciate if you enquire perhaps at the hardware store if they might possibly have one left - or if you know of someone who has a second hand one they'd not mind selling. There are absolutely none to be had up here any more. And Ned should wear ironed shirts next winter if we can possibly find an iron! Now as for me - I can wear a seersucker dress if need be!!!

I have an appointment at the home management house again this afternoon so I must get ready to go over

there soon.

I'm trying to get my belongings packed in the right boxes for the right places. I'm going to send a few boxes with my winter coat & material for my new one home to you for the time being.

Will you just put the boxes in the closet upstairs where they come, please?

Greetings to all.

Love,

Helmi

P.S. Just received your letter. Thanks so much. Will write Uncle Nis just as quickly as I can.

About Fred going to see Nis - you see Fred won't be in Alberta at all, he's in Saskatchewan which is the province east of Alberta and will be traveling most all the time. Otherwise if he had a minute he'd be glad to go see Uncle Nis for you.

Good luck with the papering!

Had a letter from Oahley too.

Sincerely,

Helmi

P.P.S. Glad you got the cotton for the yellow quilt.

Bentley Soils

University of Saskatchewan

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan



*Mr. & Mrs. Thorwald Petersen
Dike, Iowa.*

University of Saskatchewan

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

DEPARTMENT OF SOILS

Mon June 4/43.

Dear Mr & Mrs Petersen,

I was delighted to get your nice long letter Saturday. Unfortunately it came late Saturday morn and so I was unable to do anything about your plant Mrs P. — I left for her the next day. I'm no plant pathologist nor horticulturist so I'm no help at all!

You mention Ralph Crim. I knew him only by sight. He is in the agronomy division at the Univ. Farm & spends most of his time out travelling thru the state — he is an extension man.

I wish you'd send me the exact names of your people in Alberta. I have at present no expectation of being down there anytime for years but one can never tell what may happen. If I had their names I could look them up if I should unexpectedly be down that way.

over please

I'm sorry I haven't a photograph. However Helen & I are planning on having one taken in the fall! You're right at the top of the list for that!

I just arrived here Monday & so am just getting settled. The city (45,000) is a very clean neat place & the Univ. is beautiful. The actual Univ. Bldgs are the nicest of any I have seen — they are of grey stone and are built to last 100's of years. The people here are all very nice & friendly.

But I am very terribly homesick for Minnesota & Helen. I haven't started to count the ~~weeks~~^{days} but already I'm calculating "By the 1st of next week it will be about 14 weeks to go — within a couple of weeks of that anyway." I had a nice long letter from her today. That helps a lot.

Helen kept & keeps me posted on all the things you are doing for her. It is really grand of you and we really appreciate it!

I've about talked myself out so will sign off.

Sincerely,
Fred

1304 North Cleveland
Saint Paul, Minn.
June 15, 1943

Dear folks,

Guess I've really let a long time lapse since I last wrote to you. Now I've finally moved into the Josephine P. Berry House and have most everything settled. The girls move in either tonight or tomorrow morning some time. Those in my group are all dieticians so we should have some very well planned meals this six weeks.

My room is the southwest one on the second floor. The house is right next to an open section of country. Last night I heard frogs for the first time since I was at summer camp.

Guess I haven't told you about the wonderful shower Miss Harriet and Miss Vetta had for me last Thursday evening. They invited the faculty and graduate assistants. There were forty-five in all. This was really an unprecedented affair because never has the faculty had a shower for one of their members who is leaving to be married. So you can see why I was so overwhelmed.

First we had a dessert and then all the packages were brought in to be opened.

Miss McNeal gave me a recipe file which has been made up by the former head of the foods section here.

These are other things which were given me:

3 pyrex mixing bowls - all fit into each other

2 pyrex round casseroles with covers which may be used as pie dishes if desired.

1 salad fork to match my sterling

1 cheese server to match my sterling

10 guest towels

1 very good steel cutting knife for the kitchen

a nice cook book

A set of four cups and saucers, dinner plates, bread and butter plates, and soup bowls sugar bowl and cream pitcher - all in Russell Wright grey - just exactly the pattern I'd planned to buy for myself! Some of the girls knew that I intended to get this kind so they made a start for me. Since the shower I've acquired a tea pot to match and a lovely platter for meat - these as wedding presents.

Then there was another set of oven ware that I'd looked at and liked very well. And guess what - I got some pieces of that to go with the grey. There are four big dinner plates, two bread and butter plates, a lovely baking dish and four little individual casseroles given by various individuals.

then there is a lovely yellow and grey dish to match the set too. Miss Harriet and Miss Vetta gave me a lovely square glass flower container. Really I've never seen a shower where everything - yes, every-thing was so perfectly done and there isn't one thing that isn't just exactly what I'd have picked myself - and that's really something for an old particular person like me!! If everything else could be as well chosen in gifts I'd certainly be fortunate.

Now I'd like to get four more of cups, saucers, bread and butter, dinner plates and soup bowls. Then I'd really have sufficient in the Russel Wright set.

I got two tablespoons to match my sterling so I'd at least have those two serving pieces.

Fred still doesn't know whether or not he can come to Iowa for the wedding. As soon as he hears from the immigration authorities I'll let you know.

He likes his new work quite well and expects to go out in the province this week for survey work.

Qabley wrote a letter which I received yesterday. He still seems to be getting along very well. I hope his energy and good luck continue.

How is the paperhanging progressing? It certainly is nice that Jake can do it. It's such a job to do - especially those ceilings!

Write when you have time.

Sincerely,

Helene

P.S. - note change in address:

1304 Cleveland Avenue North

Saturday afternoon

Dear folks,

Here's for a nice wedding anniversary to you!

If Fred only had been here I should have liked our wedding day also to be the longest one in the year - but that's not to do with Sabbathsewn as far removed from Iowa.

He's out in the field this week so I don't expect to hear from him for some time because some places are out of the way as concerned with transportation facilities.

We are all settled in our house now. The baby is fine - he's about eighteen months old. We were given a pair of shoes for him but they happened to be both shoes for the right foot. So I went to Payton's to have them changed this morning.

I'll try very hard to get the conning sugar off to you Monday or Tuesday! I've been very busy helping the girls get

started with their various duties that I haven't had much chance for rest. Last night I was up till after midnight and got up again this morning at five thirty to see how the baby was. He wasn't feeling very well yesterday. But he's o.k. now so all is well.

We are having our first guests this evening for dinner. They are Dean and Mrs. Schmitz. Dr. Schmitz is the newly appointed dean of the college of Forestry, Agriculture and Home Economics. Very nice person.

Have you heard from Vera since she returned to D. M. I haven't. Heard from Oabley yesterday.

Am sending you a package for Father's Day - sorry it's going to be late but I've been extra busy.

I've lost about thirty five dollars in cash somewhere. First time it's ever happened to me. Must have lost it in the rush of moving or something. I still keep looking thinking it will turn up.

Best wishes to you both

Sincerely,

Walter

Josephine T. Berry House
1304 N. Cleveland
Saint Paul, Minn.
June 21, 1943

Dear folks,

Today is the big day for you!

It certainly is a warm day here for Minnesota.

I've just not had time to go to the store to get the sugar and wrap it and send to you so I'm enclosing the ration book instead and just as soon as you have gotten the sugar for the two canning coupons, maybe you will return it to me. Thank you so much for making jam for us. It's very good of you to do so.

I've got the routine of the house pretty well learned by now and we are getting along very nicely.

Tonight we have a meeting with the other two houses concerning the budget for the summer session.

Best wishes to you both.

Love,

Helen

1943

Mum

Fred - May 8

Helen

April 11, 1943

June 30, 1943

1304 North Cleveland
Saint Paul 8, Minn.
June 25, 1943

Dear folks,

Thank you for the two letters which were both received yesterday morning. The ration book is also safely back here at the house.

We are now well settled in the home management house and every one of us likes it immensely. Last night we entertained three guests of one of the girls here. Tomorrow night we are entertaining two couples who are on the faculty here.

This afternoon I plan to go to Minneapolis to the church convention to see who's there and find out about meetings. So far I've been rather occupied here at the house so I haven't had the opportunity to go sooner.

Paul is up in the northeastern part of Saskatchewan this week working on soils survey of a forest area. If the soil is fertile there is a probability that it will be opened for settlement after the war. But if it's not

good enough for farming it will probably be left in its original state. The men are making profile maps - as they call maps which show types of soils in any area - of this territory. Fred says there is only one road through an area of three hundred sixty square miles! I can believe that if some of the places we went through in the southern part when we were in Canada are any indication. He says that Pike is a good sized place compared to villages in Saskatchewan.

How is the conning coming? are there many berries?

We have a garden along with our other projects. Yesterday one of the girls and I set out cabbage and tomato plants. It's raining today so everything should be growing well by the time the sun comes out again. We have one patch to weed before I'm satisfied with the general look of the garden. Then I think we'll be able to keep it under

control for the remainder of the summer.

Oh, say, will you please send me my blue green shorts and the blue, red and white plaid seersucker halter? They are up in the top drawer of the dresser in our room. I'd like the outfit for when I work in the garden and also to get a bit of a sun tan this summer. I think it will do me good and maybe I can gain a little weight in the deal.

I bought some material for my wedding dress the other day. I thought I'd only look that day but stores are so very low in every type of material that I decided I'd get it then as it was something I liked. It's a white silk organdie with embroidered dots over it. The slip material is a heavy white slipper satin and the veiling is

is regular bridal visiting. after I get
a few of the immediate necessities
taken care of I'm going to start in on
that.

Greetings to all.

Sincerely,

Helen

1304 North Cleveland
Saint Paul, Minn.
June 30, 1943

Dear folks,

Guess I better get some of my correspondence taken care of this morning.

First of all - to answer questions in letters received.

I finished some shopping for the department yesterday and I priced the bedspreads. They are ten dollars. Shall I still get one for Mrs. Badger?

From your last letter it looks as if Vera is looking for something for Aunt Bessie.

I'm glad you enjoyed the chicken bones. And I think it would be very nice to have the sheet and pillow cases with the knit lace. I do think they are very pretty - but please don't rob yourself in giving me all these things.

Thank you for sending the sun suit. It arrived yesterday.

And it certainly is nice of Vera to give you all those things for the house. It's such fun to have new things and take care of them when they are nice. I think it will be much fun using all the lovely

things I've been given.

There is a lovely set of Danish porcelain - not the blue and white pattern but another one - that I like very much for good china. Can't think of anything I'd rather have but I'm not yet sure whether or not I'll have enough money to buy it now. So I guess I'll wait until later on in the summer and see how my finances turn out. I'd rather have a few nice things than many things. It will be less to move with and the import duty will be the same on money spent whether it quality or quantity.

Fred's family are giving us money too so that we can get something after the war, if we wish, that isn't now on the market.

We still don't know where or when but soon now we should have matters under hand so that we can start making plans. We have thought that possibly the seventeenth of September would be our wedding day. Dr. Mitchell has given Fred the promise

of some days off in September when
ever Fred finds it most convenient.
We think that's very considerate seeing
as how Fred is so new on the job.

We're getting along very nicely here
at the house. We're doing the bulk of
entertaining this coming week so that
after the Fourth the girls can settle
down to do their studying for final week.

I didn't have the opportunity to
see much of the convention - too busy -
and its too far to get over to the church.
Took me an hour and a half one way.

I was over for about two hours on
Friday afternoon - had to be back here for
dinner. Saw A.C. and Co. and also Mrs.
Hermansen. Sunday morning I was
there for an hour but came back after
dinner for two and a half hours and
saw Mr. Hermansen. Had hoped to visit
a little with them but couldn't find them
before I left Sunday afternoon.

I saw Amelia Stabolen. Her mother was
not well so the family wasn't there all
the time. Saw Helge Milsen. Grand person!
Same as always. Is he coming to Oxenhill?

Wanted to talk to Rev. Rasmussen's wife
from Salum but didn't have time. Can't
hold down a job and go to convention
too I found out!

Greetings to Aunt Bessie when you see
her. Wish I could be at her wedding.
I'd like to be in on the \$10.00 gift, please.
I've still not answered her nice birthday
card. She never forgets me. I was so busy
seeing Dad before he left and then going
to receptions and parties afterwards for awhile
that I haven't caught up in my
correspondence.

Much love,

Helen

Des Moines, Iowa
July 6, 1943

Dear Folk.

I got the glass bowl - enclosed
a lovely little card "absolutely
correct" according to Joseph -
signed Thorwall, Mary, Helen & Vera.
had it gift wrapped - I know you
can't see it then until she opens
it but I thought you would be
glad to have it all wrapped -
then packed & sent express insured.
The saleslady told me if you were
not home when it was delivered
they would not leave it because it

is insured so if you don't have it by Thursday - go down to the station and ask. They would send it out yet today (Tuesday) if they could otherwise it would go tomorrow (Wed) morning. I've decided not to come home it such a hard trip on those overcrowded buses. Then I'll save my money so I can go up to see Helen in a few weeks once a week end. - because when she comes home after summer school I'll be down here starting to teach & won't see her till the wedding so I've decided to go see her the

week end the classes change at
the six weeks - theres a couple days
there when she will have six or eight
empty beds!

I hope you like the present
if you pay ten on it Helen & I can
do the other five. I got to thinking
after we talked - that this was
no doubt the best buy - How do
we know what that silole is?
if its just a thin coating in there
was times that might peel off -
we would probably never see it
again or know - if it did. This
is good stuff we know that!
Love from Vera

1304 North Cleveland
Saint Paul, Minn.
August 15, 1943

Dear Dad,

Happy birthday to you !!! And may
you have many more !

I'm sending just a little package
to you and hoping that you will
enjoy the Minnesota Molbo stories.
They are very common up in this
state.

Just two more weeks and I hope
to be at home in like for a little while.
The girls leave the house the morning
of August twenty-eighth. I hope to leave
a day or two afterwards depending on
when I can get the house closed up.
There are always last minute things that
can't be done here beforehand. And then
I want to leave everything at school
orderly so that the next person can
start right in without having a cleanup
session as I've had sometimes when
I've moved into a new place to teach.
So I'll let you know later just what
day I'll come.

Fred is coming the evening of
September fourteenth as far as I know

now. Have you heard from Uncle Carl?
I wrote to him asking him to come if
he could to the wedding. I hope he can.

Today I was invited to dinner at the
home of Dr. Dordall. She is a professor in
Plant Pathology on our campus and is an
authority on mushrooms, other plants -
especially iris and diseases that affect
plants. She is an unusually interesting
person. We looked at some beautiful
books at her house. Her mother used
to quilt and do rug hooking. I've never
ever seen anything so finely done.

Miss Dordall has a cottage up on the
north shore of Lake Superior where she
raises all kinds of flowers in her
rock garden - she was telling me about
European varieties of plants which she
has up there. She certainly is most
interesting to visit with. She is the one
who gave me the symphony ticket I
had last winter.

I found a barrel to pack my dishes
in. There isn't any lid for it but maybe
I can find someone to make me one.

I fixed up a box today for my books.
Hope it holds until it reaches
Saskatoon.

Greetings to everyone! See you
both soon.

Sincerely,

Helene

P.S. I almost forgot to tell you a couple of important things.

I bought a sewing machine this week - it's one of these little featherweight models of "Singer" design which fold into a case about the size of a typewriter case. I feel very lucky to be able to get even a second hand one.

The girls here at the house had a shower and dinner for me Thursday evening. It was all very lovely. Now I've had a "China" shower and a "kitchen" shower. People certainly are good to me.

I did some sewing for a lady who cashiers at the cafeteria. I did it just for fun because she has been so nice to me. She said she wanted to pay me but I didn't want to take anything so she asked me what I'd like to have - said - "Now, Miss Petersen, you might as well say what you'd like because I'm getting you something any how!" So I had seen some very nice glasses down town - and told her about them - well, they're mine!

One day last week two of my former

students stopped in during the afternoon with a lovely glass bowl for me — and then they had a funny little flower container which was very poor in design — the kind we "preach" against in classes! They had so much fun picking out the worst that was to be found!

I've just about finished my dress. Must make the slip and then send both to Vera so that she can make hers like them.

Love,

Helen

P.S. Here's a sample dress and slip.

W.

University of Saskatchewan

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

September 23, 1943

DEPARTMENT OF SOILS

Dear folks,

We arrived !! Saskatoon is a very nice place - better than Regina, I think. We're busy getting things squared around here. Our trunks and boxes from Saint Paul are due to arrive this morning. Then I'll know how and if things came through from there without breaking.

We borrowed a blanket and a couple of sheets from a place where Ted stayed this summer. The lady is very nice. We are eating our meals there until we get things organized here.

We have two very nice rooms and a bath on the second story of a residence which is very close to Ted's building and far enough out from town so we can see far across the plains to the east and south.

Ted is unpacking my pictures which were sent from Minneapolis - must go see how they came through. - They came through without a scratch! Lucky me. Hope the rest is as good.

In filling out some forms for registration as a Canadian resident, I find some questions which I can't answer. Will you help me out, please?

1. When dad came to this country from Denmark (about the month & year.)
2. Name & place of the court where he was naturalized here in the U.S. also day, month and year of naturalization.

And the same information for mother as for dad.

Yesterday I went with Ted down to see the Customs about our belongings. The man was very nice and we had no difficulty getting the first group of bags and boxes through. Hope we will be as fortunate with the rest. The trunks and boxes were not even opened. Ted was asked several questions concerning his connections with the University. We think perhaps the customs man considered that fact (and the possibility of University folks as being more or less honest!) in his treatment of our wares! Anyway we felt very gratified over the whole procedure.

More later when we've done a bit more work. Dr. Mitchell loaned us his car for the day so we're going to bring home some groceries!

Sincerely,

Fred and Helen

1328 Elliot Street
Saskatoon, Sask.
September 26, 1943

Dear folks,

Here we are - practically settled - and we've just had our first meal at home - Sunday breakfast. Up until now we have been eating out at the place Ted boarded this summer. It was his idea that we do it until we were a bit more organized here at home.

We haven't heard a word from you since we arrived - just wondered if you had sent the barrel, chest and boxes which Ted had packed. They wouldn't have arrived yet, of course, but they might be on their way.

Did you or you send the list of presents and the names of the people who gave them to us? I've not seen anything of it. Don't know whether or not I told you before we left but I had the wrong street engraved on our announcements. I read Emerson Street and should have read Elliot Street - my mistake. We've notified the post office here of the mistake and hope that everything will come through all right in spite of the error. Pretty dumb on my part!!! But I do hope to get those cards soon so that I can write the thank you

notes before too many days pass.

The people with whom we live are very nice. There is a woman about my age - she is married, has a ten months' old girl and her husband is now overseas. He was on the faculty here. Mrs. Bibbee's mother lives with her here.

Mrs. Bibbee is employed by the university here to take care of the housing for the students. That is quite a task as the residence halls have been taken over by the army and the air force men here on the campus.

We are invited to Dr. Mitchell's home for dinner this noon. Dr. Mitchell is the head of the Soils Department here. This evening we are invited to the Boltons. Mr. Bolton did graduate work at Minnesota two years ago in Plant Pathology. There is where Fred first met him.

About sending the wedding gifts up here - I'll tell you what I'd like sent when I get the list. Some of the things I've almost forgotten already. I do know we'd like the evening set (just to gloat over for awhile) and the glasses of Annetta's if they can be packed safely. Did I tell you I unpacked the barrel of dishes from Saint Paul and

found not a single casualty? Isn't that something? I was so glad about it! I've saved every bit of the corrugated paper so that when and if we move again I'll have it.

Jack is busy working on his thesis. He says to send you both his greetings. We both talk about the wedding often and think it was all very wonderful and so nice of you to do it for us.

The Goldsteins were much intrigued when we talked about it the evening we were there for dinner. So I was asked to repeat it the next afternoon when they had the Home Economics Faculty in for a tea party for us. And Miss Vitta has asked to have a full written account of it whenever I have time to do as much - said she'd like to keep it.

The weather here is very much as it is at home this time of year. The trees are lovely in color - yellow - orange - red. Mostly yellow around our house as there are many elms here.

We're short on silver these days until we get the "supply" from Mike. But we manage very nicely with what we have. Still have to

scout a coffee pot for ourselves. I got some nice enamel pots - one a good sized one - another, a double boiler - a good metal skillet and lid and then some tin baking pans. Think we'll make out very nicely on there for the time being. This morning we had a huge Canadian quart of milk on our door step. And it only costs few cents here. Vegetables and groceries seem about the same in price here as at home. Many things we doesn't see on the shelves though.

Think I'll take a nap before we're off to the Mitchell's for the day.

Many, many thanks for everything.
Greetings to Miss Jojo and
to Curtis and Bertina.

Sincerely,
Fred and Helen

1328 Elliot Street
Saskatoon, Sask.
September 30, 1943

Dear folks,

Your letter of September the twenty-third, etc. arrived yesterday! We were very glad to hear from everybody.

I've just been to town to have my haircut. While down in town I went to the P.R. Station and sent Caddy a telegram which I hope he receives before he sets out for Pike. He must be very excited about now.

Yesterday I went with Dad out into the country. He was hunting samples and soils of various kinds for classwork this winter. We were gone from about nine until five-thirty. One of the men from the Soils department went along - He is a White Russian - one who fled Russia when the present regime came to power. He is no lover of Stalin! That one can easily hear. He was most interesting to visit with very aristocratic in some ways. He's a man of about fifty-five or sixty and very talkative. We had a good day! Travelled over a hundred

miles all told. Many of the farmers are threshing and combining here. A few fields have still not been cut. There seems to be about as much oats raised right around here as there is wheat. I was surprised at that.

We're still looking for the things from Dike. No doubt, they will arrive in a few days. Now to answer some of the questions you ask in your letter. (Time out - I must put the sweet potatoes on for dinner!)

Oh, yes, about the jam and fruit-room - He would like it very much. That, I know. We've fixed shelves here so there would be space enough to store something. I thought we could see how expensive it is to send the freight from Dike and then decide what to do. Perhaps we could send the barrel back empty and you might send some things up in that. I have more faith in shipping things that are breakable in a barrel than in boxes. Too much jar in boxes that are freighted around. So I'll let you know as soon as we find out what the charges are. Along with the fruits I thought you might pack some of the wedding presents which I got - that will help fill the barrel.

Say — do you know anything about where Nan put those lists of presents and the names with all the business about the wedding presents? I'm getting very uneasy about ever getting them because it's been so long now and I'm not even started on the answering yet — here it's two weeks ago today!

About the lace tablecloths — I would like to change them for I know I won't have any use for them for years and then they'll probably be out of style. But what to exchange them for — that is the next question! I've no idea what the ones from Davidson's cost — also the pheasants — what I really would like would be two more sets of sterling individual salt and pepper shakers like those that Roy and Allan sent (the ones in the box with the "nice" wrappings — you remember). These salts & peppers wouldn't need to be the same in design — just so that they're plain and of sterling.

Here's another idea — if the tablecloth and the pheasants would amount to as much — a nice simple silver plated water pitcher — like yours or similar — no fancy work — that would

be nice to have sometime. Or a covered vegetable dish like yours - would be nice too but that would perhaps run into a good deal more money. I don't know because I've never priced things like that. The reason I suggest them is that I haven't any serving dishes for my good china and thought that I'd fill them in with pieces of silver from time to time when there was an opportunity. So maybe you'll see what there is and show much it will come to and then do as you think best. You know pretty well what I like. If there should happen to be any serving pieces left in the Royal Danish - or if they could order a piece or so - I think that would be my very first choice and then the above ideas would be second.

No hurry about the quilt! As I now see it, I think it would be pretty hard on such a nice quilt to have to fold it and unfold it each morning and night - we can easily get along with the other quilts and blankets for now. So just save it for me, please, until we get a larger place to live. Thanks a lot anyhow.

By the time this letter reaches you, Cobby will probably be arriving in town. My very best greetings to him. We both wish him much success.

Sunday afternoon we drove with Dr. Mitchell and family out past the air training center north of here. There are two large establishments. Planes were taking off and landing as fast as they could without nipping each other in the tail! The town is thick with the blue grey air men here.

We are going to a soccer game Saturday afternoon. Something like Football Fred says.

Do you know we live in a "suite" and that the freight is brought up to the "suite" by the "Cartage Company" and I went to the "Hairdressers" to have my hair cut? More names that are different!! Much fun! I like it.

Greetings to all.

Sincerely,

Helena and Fred.

1328 Ellioth Street
Saskatoon, Sask.
October 24, 1943

Dear folks,

We are over in the soils laboratory today. Fred is busy working and I'm doing some more writing.

Thanks so much for your letter with the pictures enclosed. They came Friday - having been "duly censored" by the authorities - I mean opened and inspected. We certainly keep the government officials busy with our mail.

I've written to Davidson's and told them that I liked the pitcher at \$14.00 the best. It looks like a very nice one. Then if that is gone my second choice would be the meat platter at \$7.00. So now it's just whichever I'm fortunate enough to receive. I'll see that you get the balance in payment whatever it may be.

Thank you so very much for all your kindness. I think you did a good job. Marge too! It was a good choice.

The weather here the past few days has been quite snowy. Night before last the ground was very white. By today, however, most of it has disappeared except in a few little patches. The temperature here is about what it would be at home in another month.

Last night I baked some cookies - first I'd done. The oven works very nicely. Mine an electric stove - seemed very slow to operate at first since I was used to gas - but now I'm getting onto it. There is no gas in Saskatoon - hence no gas stoves!

Thursday evening we were at Harold Moss' home. He is on the Soils faculty too. He and his wife are very nice people. They had some wonderful records which we listened to. Some were English recordings which were very lovely.

I'm taking a course in Chemistry!! Started Saturday morning - It's a course in textile chemistry which covers dyes and dyeing, plastics and synthetic materials - The professor is a very interesting lecturer. I'd met him the evening before at a faculty dinner; we started talking and he said I'd be very welcome if I wished to come. After class he spent an hour and a half going over some previous lectures on dye materials. I thought that very nice of him. So every Tues., Thurs. and Saturday from eight thirty to nine thirty I'm over at the Chemistry building.

Tuesday evening we are having the Claytons over for dinner. Jack is an Englishman who has lived here quite some time. His wife, Nellie, is a very good singer. They have a daughter, three, and she and Nellie's mother are coming too. So we'll have quite a party.

Must write to Vera now.

Greetings to Ann's, Miss Booth and all.

Oh, yes, I may not have told you - but I have received the mittens, etc.

Thanks again!

Sincerely,
Helene and Fred.

1328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.
October 29, 1943

Dear folks,

We have just received your letter of October the twenty-ninth. Thanks so much.

Fred has class until twelve-thirty today so I'm waiting for his arrival and in the meantime I'll have a letter started to you.

We took the evening off last night and went to a show. We saw "Mutiny on the Bounty" and "San Francisco". Both are old pictures but I'd not seen the former and I'd thought it so very good that we should see it. And it was excellent.

This afternoon I'm going with Olive to a Council meeting to hear a lecture on Canadian Rehabilitation, which should be very interesting.

We continue to receive wedding gifts from all over - two from friends of mine in California, this week. Some lovely rose colored towel sets and a book of "Household Mysteries" which is superb.

The weather here is lovely - just like Minnesota these days.

Sat. p.m.

Guess I better get going on this epistle or you'll never get it!

We had one of the graduate students for lunch today noon. He is mastering in soils and worked with Fred this summer out on survey. A very nice fellow too. We had Spanish rice, baked potatoes, Canadian Bacon, carrot strips and for dessert prunes, whip & oatmeal cookies and coffee.

Now to answer the questions in your letter:

1. It will be O.K. to forward Amanda's parcel and card.
2. The underwear bill for Black's:—

When I was at home I gave you money for the bra, which amounted to \$3.57 and said that I wasn't sure about whether or not the pants would come — they didn't know at the store when the order would arrive — so the \$2.30 is for that. I told you this the day I gave you the money and what it was for but so much was going on that I know it would be easy for it to slip your mind. Thanks for taking care of it.

3. Didn't get any clip-rings from any papers; — Dannewick, Courier or Grundy papers. Yes, we'd like to have them if you can find an extra copy without too much trouble.
4. Girdle — if it's mine it must be a very old one — and one I've discarded so I don't lay any claim to such property!!! Ha!! Ha!
5. Parsley — sounds good — I'd like some if it's possible to send it — very much.
6. About the things to be sent in the parcel — these are what I'd like:

- a. The carving set
- b. The eight glasses
- c. The little silver tray Agnes + Akel gave me.

That's about all I need and anyhow I can't house any more where we now are. Some other time — the other things. Thanks anyhow. I would like the glasses and carving set most because we need them.

The other night we had the Clayton's to dinner and Fred carried with the kitchen knife and fork — went O.K. and the meat tasted as good as if cut with something more fancy — but we could use it as long as we have it.

Fred and I went down town just after noon today. Food is fairly expensive - I've just about given up buying any fruit - white grapes are 2 pounds for thirty-seven cents, pears are seventy-three cents a dozen and oranges aren't to be bought!! Eggs are fifty cents a dozen for very ordinary sized ones on the market - we've been getting ours from the poultry farm here at the University - they're better there for the same amount of money and larger. However, we manage very nicely - the big quarts of milk are only 10¢ here and that astounded me. I thought surely they would be 11¢ or 12¢ at least.

Fred is over at the lab. this afternoon working. I certainly married an industrious fellow. Not a lazy bone in him - I'm so very, very happy. He's up and over at the office before anyone else in the department appears - I know because I go with him on Tues., Thurs. and Sat. when I go for my Chemistry class. We are always the first ones in after the janitor!! Did I tell you I'm taking course in Textile Chemistry? It's much fun - deals with dyes and dyeing, plastics, lacquers, paints, etc. I've already learned lots!!!

I started designing our Christmas cards Thursday. Think I have an idea if it will work up the way I want it to.

The weather here is lovely today - we walked both ways - to town and back and it's a good two mile jaunt across the river - but a very lovely walk - the river is so nice here. The temperature is around 40° or 45° - a bit lower than before this fall.

What do you hear from Abby and Nan?

Here glad that people enjoyed the wedding and also the thank you notes. It certainly was a good feeling to get caught up on those. I've written over a hundred such like letters by now. It certainly is good to have so many friends at so many places.

Glad you kept the sheet glass for me. Thanks!

Glad to hear about Violet and the children. I know they will like it in Cedar Falls.

People are coming from the football game now. They look a bit cold. The stadium is only a couple of blocks from here.

Guess I'll mail this off so that it can get in the 18⁰⁶ mail pick up. Isn't that a number for time? Fred says the postal system runs on a 24 hour basis instead of 2-12 hours as we do. So then to figure what 18⁰⁶ means you'd subtract 12 hrs. from it and it means 6:06 p.m.!! Isn't that something??? Why it's done that way we don't know. Anyhow, I still like Canada!!!

Greetings to Miss Voogd - to Ann's and all!

Sincerely,

Helene and Fred

P.S. Here's some business I can't use on this side so I'm sending it "South of the Border" to you!



Excuse it, please!
It's the color in my
Christmas cards!

1328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.

December 13, 1943

Dear folks,

Today we're beginning our zero weather
for the season! It's reported that it was
8° below zero this morning. The sun rose
somewhere after nine o'clock by my watch
and it's been a very bright day since.

About those pictures — we certainly
do have a time with them! Here's what —

As long as he doesn't have folders
for the small size of picture as you
stated (I take this to mean he has no more
like the sample picture you sent us.) then
we'll have to do something else. But in case
we haven't understood your letter and he
has the folders (and the pictures) as the
one you sent us then we'll go ahead and
use them as they are — as I said in
my last letter.

Now — if he hasn't the folders
for the pictures like the one you sent us then
we'd like this done:

Have the picture reduced in size
like we originally asked for ^{→ about 4" x 6"} and not have
any folders for them. They were to be
\$4.50 a dozen that way — or you should

get a refund in that case.

We'd like very much to have these in time for Christmas so don't wait for any folders - even if he thinks he may get them in later on -

Can't you call him on the phone? So then you won't have to make a special trip on that account?

I'll enclose the list of names to whom we'd like you to send the pictures

No band as yet! Will let you know immediately when it arrives.
None another day.

Love,

Helin and Ted

P.S. Hello some more -

I haven't got one of the addresses of Ted's Bostonian aunts - so will forward addresses tomorrow.

H.

P.P.S. Thanks for the Quendy papers - I censored them and sent the clippings on to Oakley.
How's Nan?

H.

1328 Elliott St.
Saskatoon, Sask.
~~September~~
October 3, 1943

Dear folks,

Hello! and how are you? Thanks so much for the card which you wrote from Black's store. I'm very happy about the water pitcher. It will be so nice to have it to use later on.

Fred came home early this afternoon so that he and Loren, the student who lives here at the house, can put on the storm windows. Olive's husband is in the army overseas so she needs the help that can be given by a man's strength when it comes to such matters as moving, and window hanging. Fred is glad to help and is very "well-trained" in such matters.

I've been doing some chip carving this afternoon. Now in about twenty minutes I'm off to the music hour over at the university. It's every Thursday from four twenty to five twenty. The dinner is all ready - just to light the fire under the kettles - Fred is delegated for that in between windows!!!

What's the story about the cream and pitcher set which you ask or tell about on the card? And what was the occasion for Alfred's and Vera's coming to Sike? Yes, we would like to have been there too.

Our good granite kettles have gone the way of all good granite ware and took to chipping! So I sent an S.O.S. to Vera for her aluminum ware after all! Talk about changeable people! I guess I'm one! I didn't like to trouble her but one is rather limited in food dishes when it means using only a frying pan and some pyrex ware!! It's really not half as hard as it would seem, though.

Hello - here come the window hangers - so I move _____!

I'm still attending the Chemistry class and like it very much.

This morning when we started to school at seven thirty there was wonderful hoar frost on all the trees and bushes. The place stayed that way until almost noon. Now, it's quite warm out.

Hope this reaches you for Sunday this time. Will you tell me if it does so I can judge the mail?

Best wishes to all!

Sincerely,

Alvin and Fred



The Avenue Hotel

S. G. PUTERBAUGH, PROPRIETOR

NIPAWIN, SASK.

1328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.
November 6, 1943

Dear folks,

Thanks so much for the letter!

Just got home from class and had taken the dry clothes out of the basement and had hung up the remainder of the washing when your special delivery arrived.

If there's room for the pitcher to be securely packed O.K. — if not, don't bother. Be sure to wrap lots of newspapers or corrugated papers around it.

Thanks for Oakley's and Nan's letters. We will try to write to them sometime soon.

We went out to dinner at the King George Hotel last evening. It was such fun.

It has been snowing here the past twenty-four hours — lovely out.

Red is busy with his analysis — working on the colloids at present — I'm learning a lot about soils!!

Write some other day. Perhaps this will go out with the noon mail.

Sincerely,
 Helen and Red

1328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.
November 18, 1943

Dear folks,

Here we are in the lab. this evening! Fred is taking some readings and I'm writing down the figures for him. In between I'll write a letter to you.

We've had unusually good "mail luck" this week. A letter and package from Ella Gibbs' junker, a letter from Agnes Andersen and three other packages containing wedding gifts! We certainly keep on and on with those!

Last Tuesday evening we went to the Cressborough Hotel for dinner. Both the place and the food were very, very good!

Tomorrow afternoon I'm off to the dentist to have my teeth cleaned and checked. Hope there aren't any cavities.

I've been busy chip carving some plates the last week or so. It's such fun to do and there's plenty of time to do it in now. I can really get caught up with some of my ideas!

Sunday afternoon we are invited to Miss ~~Owner's~~ ^{Ormer's} place. She is one of the Extension Home Economists here in the province. They call it Household Science here instead of Home Economics!

Next Tuesday afternoon I'm having the girls who are in my chem. class over for coffee. They seemed so happy to be asked. In the evening

we are having Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell and Mr. and Mrs. Moss over for the evening. They have said they'd like to see my weaving. So I'll go back into the attic and get out the bales ("Scuse please!) with the straw and grass mats! — Time out, please — we're off for home now — more tomorrow.

Saturday morning.

Hello some more!

I knew if I held out another day or so there'd be a letter — and sure enough — there it was this morning — all censored and everything by the postal authorities! But they hadn't stricken out anything so I guess we are still considered honest inhabitants!

The other afternoon when I was walking home from the music hour I was going along talking with Walter May — a friend of Dad's. I said goodbye just as I started crossing the street. As usual I didn't hear any cars so I didn't look — when all of a sudden here I was inbetween two Canadian Army men on bicycles! One swerved to the left and the other to the right — a half dozen college students waiting for the street car whistled in a particularly knowing fashion! I felt like all eyes were definitely on me!!!

Thank you for the letter from Vera et al — and also from Cousin John's wife. I didn't know they had moved. Nice that they have a convenient place to live.

Thank you also for the clipping about Harold Holst's concert and the one telling about James Melton. Don't think I've ever heard him in person - he's been on the radio frequently.

Yesterday I encountered an honest dentist - I spell it with a capital D. because the man deserves that honor!!! I went to have my teeth cleaned and checked. After looking over my store of silver and enamel ware he said, "Mrs. Bentley I can't do anything for you - your teeth are all right." - My, my - He and Dr. Hill are now both high in my estimation - I thought once it was only Dr. Hill!!!

It's getting a bit more winter-like out here on the prairie now. Dad says pretty soon he'll have to wear his ear muffs and that means it's really cool - he's no sissy when it comes to the weather!!!

Say, have you by any chance sent the barrel as yet? It's getting so very much later than I thought it would be that now it might be possible that canned goods, fruit jars, or "sealers" as fruit jars are called here, might freeze en route.

I'm getting quite "chummy" with the customs officials in the various departments. Yesterday I went down to clear some equipment Fred had gotten from the U. of M. in St. Paul. The agent told

me that Mr. Bentley would ordinarily have to clear his own goods. Who was I - did I work for him?
"No," I said. "I'm his wife." — "Oh," — says he, "then you do work for him!" With some special finagling on his part — because Dad was at the University — I got the parcel cleared. More fun!

Have you received the pictures from Olson's as yet? We still haven't heard from the Foreign Exchange Control Board about our \$44.00 bank account! My goodness — the government can be slow!!!! Of course, I guess it's partly because there's a war on.

Well, I must write to Vera now and then answer some wedding gifts.

Sorry this one won't reach you on Sunday. I'll try to be a bit more regular from now on.

Love, Helen — Dad

P.S. I called the customs here early last month — I'd C. & H. to have canned goods & jams, etc. sent in as far as the Canadian authorities are concerned — as long as it's a gift it won't be taxed for duty.

About the cream & sugar — please, forget it. Thanks anyhow — for being so concerned about it.
Helen

P.P.S.

I'm delighted with the contents of my special letter Mrs. P. I'll keep it with a collection I'm making. Thanks, Fred.

1328 Elliott Street
Saskatoon, Sask.
November 25, 1943

Dear folks,

When I came home from class there was mail — many thanks for the Thanksgiving "Hello"! It's such a good one, and today is Thanksgiving so it came just in time. Many thanks! Also for Agnes Holst's note.

Good luck with the Ladies Aid — we'd like to be able to come in the back door about coffee time — for a hand out!

Well, to get to the business part of this epistle —

1. About the canned goods — as a gift you are right in that I would have to pay duty — as the enclosed typewritten sheet explains — but here's what really is so:

I'm entitled to bring in my personal goods which are called settler's effects duty free — so if you send these things pretty quick like — as long as they are my goods and label the tag as Personal goods forwarded to addressee there should not be all this apprehension about getting it here. I thought you would have sent it soon so there would be no question regarding it at the customs here. I'd checked long ago with them regarding the possibility of having

various articles taken in which were my
goods. So will you please send it without
any more ado and label it as I've
indicated and then it will come through
allright in and the proper fashion.

Mrs sent my aluminium bottles from
Des Moines, the red coat and the tableware
which was ordered long before the wedding.

So please don't fuss any longer
about it if you're going to send it - but
please send it all soon if you can.

(2) About the photograph - thanks so very
much for sending the picture - we're really terribly
disappointed in this one as Mr. Oleson had said
that the little ones would be reduced in size -
so we thought they'd be quite nice because the
background showed up. I have his letter quoting
the price of the little ones to be \$4.50 pr. doz. reduced
size (without folders) and that's why we are
so disappointed - The picture now shows
us as being crowded into its space - not enough
room over our heads - we're holding the
top of the frame in our craniums so to speak!

We were planning to give these to all our
best friends for Christmas presents - hence our
concern.

We've talked it over and Dad said - "well, if
he has them all finished, I guess we better just

take them but if he hasn't them all finished I'd like very much to have the picture reduced as he first said".

If he'd only left a good quarter of an inch more at the top and taken it off the bottom so we don't look so terribly crowded inside the frame — oh, dear — I guess this is one time when distance doesn't improve one's possibilities of getting things done satisfactorily.

Well, anyway — will you please call him first thing after you've read this letter and see about the whole thing? If he's done them all as Fred says — just leave it as it is — if not — then we'd like so very much better to have the reduced pictures — at least partially reduced with maybe just a little taken off the sides + bottom + top.

Well — enough on that topic!!!

You mention Myron and Ronnie's being home for Thanksgiving — has his wife passed away? Do write and tell us, please. I certainly would like to see him.

Today I'm going to start my winter coat — you should see the inner — inner lining I'm putting into the thing! Some stuff for this climate.

We had a letter from Joyce Fred's step mother, yesterday. Fred's dad is working up north of Edmonton on the Alaskan Highway so she took a school teaching job up in his vicinity - they go so short of teachers everywhere here. So when Fred and I arrive in Edmonton (we're staying at his brother's place) we and the two little nephews and a niece and Fred's dad will all drive up to Joyce's school for the Christmas Concert on the twenty-third. Then she and all of us will come back down to Edmonton for the holidays! The place is up in the woods about 60-80 miles north of Edmonton. Won't it be fun to see the country? I can hardly wait to get started. Fred is eager to go also. He hasn't been home for two and a half years.

I got the Stanneville today again from Gary. So I can continue with Olagen's mykeder for Cedar Falls!

Best wishes to all -

I wonder if Rayna will be out this weekend. She was planning to visit Titterton today.

Sincerely,
Helen and Fred

Thurs. p. m.

Dear folks,

Thanks a million for your letter received this morning! We'll be looking for the barrel. Guess as how our bank account petered out we'll have to ask you to wait a bit but we won't forget the \$4.12. Thank you very much for the jilly and the canned goods. It's a fine Christmas present — please don't send any thing more. We're more than indebted to you now.

Mother will you please send 3 pictures to Fred at the following address
Care of N. N. Bentley

11150 — 83rd Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta.

We'd like two of the little size pictures and one of the big ones of Fred and me alone sent to this address in Edmonton.

Then will you please send me three of the little ones? Will you do this not later than next week, please, as we are

leaving for Edmonton a week from
Wednesday. So we won't have much
time. I'll write soon about where the
other pictures are to go and the addresses.

Right now I'm off to the lab.

I washed dishes for Ted there this
morning — after Christmas we
really start putting in the long days.
These days he's over at the lab at
6:00 a.m. and doesn't often get
home before eleven p.m. or after.
I can be of some help to him so I'll
be glad to assist.

Wish you another day.

Sincerely,

Helin and Ted

Christmas 1943—

Edmonton

Hello folks!

And a Merry Christmas to you
from Edmonton.

We arrived here last night
after one o'clock, the train being over four
hours late. But after a nice long rest
we are having a good day.

Fred and I were at home right
away here at Newcombe's. Newcombe is
Fred's older brother, is married and
has three very nice children.

I'm sending you some snapshots—
those of the group of me last Christmas I'd
like returned when you've seen them
but please keep the pictures which we
took the day of the wedding. They are
for you.

We plan to leave here for Saskatoon
January first or second. Until then
we have head quarters here!

Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Helin and Fred

P.S. - The pictures arrived
both here and in Sask.
Thanks a million!
Whose the doilies from?