

Sept 4-43
Sat. morn.

Hi Sweet:-

How's every little thing? Things are going along fairly good around this establishment so far but am I ever the tired person. I haven't got rested up from the drive home, because it was company for two weeks and then canning. Auntie went home Wed morn the 1st and she just got along fine. I got a letter from her yesterday and one from Roxy.

Roxy, Kae and Bob are making it all right but they all hate army life, they like the town of Sioux Falls very much and have become acquainted now so that they do not feel so lonesome. Roxy had a nice visit down here caring for Gertie and all that but she said it did not seem right and how much she missed you and I being here when she was.

Mike and Gertie have sold their home down here on east main and bought a place on North Elm right across the street from Rukers Hatchery. Greenup has sold his home down on Mable st and will not say what he is going to do but most people have the opinion that he is going out to Calif. He has a son out there, a son in law in Texas, Arlenes husband and then of course Claude Shelton who is Mrs. Greenups brother and Sis Barten's husband is out in Calif. So the world is going, one change after another.

Well I got my permit to get a third grade tire yesterday and I will have to try to find one that is anything like fit to use and I think Glovers might help me out on it but I have put in a bid for one from the U.S. Royal or Mrs. Smith, It may be that the Lord does not want me to come back down there but I will trust him and leave it to him to undertake. I don't know what that other front tire is going to do but I certainly do not go over 20 and 25 miles an hour because I am holding my breath every time I go out with the car. I don't believe that the tread is much the worse on either of them in front than when I left Kentwood. I feel convinced that the reason the tire blew out on the way home was because of the car being so heavily loaded and believe me it will not be when I come back because I think I will send some things down by express and even not bring a lot of things that we could use if we had them. Then too, I am going to drive slowly and not at night. I am not going to bring Roxy because I know she could not get a place to stay and she would mean just that much extra weight. She is doctoring of anemia now anyway and the best place for her is at home.

When Floy and I went to the train with Cora Lee I heard some dogs in the baggage car and the trainman was talking to them and petting them so I went over to see if dogs could be shipped that way on a fast train like #6 and he said sure. So if the car business does not look so good I might do that very thing. But with a light load and cool weather like it should be and slow careful driving I think I can make it all right. You might get down to Greensburg and see what kind of a third grade tire that Holland might have around here. I think he would be honest with you, as honest as most any tire and business man would be. In the meantime I will be looking around here for one.

to

Mrs. Welshen is going to have me over some day for all day and Mrs. Stoltz is going to call me and let me know what day to come up to her home. She is busy this week getting Patty ready to go to Northwestern and after that then she will be free to live as she wants, so she said.

Tonight at the tent meeting the Raines family is going to give the first 1/2 hour entertainment and I will not be there. I guess Floy and I got completely sickened out on them. They are doing far more harm than good if Welshen only would wake up to the fact.

Yesterday morning I sent your tooth paste and tooth brushes and you should have them Monday because I don't suppose you can get a package out of the P.O. on Sunday can you? Well there is several packages of pudding too, use them if you want them, and 2 cups of milk is a pint. You don't have a measuring up there but that is what you would use out of your milk bottle. I will have to get up town and get an item or two because the stores will be closed Monday being Labor day. If you think of anything you will want from the Self Serv drug store you want to let me know because they do not fill mail orders any more since help is so scarce, but I'll bet if I went in there to get a job right now that they wouldn't hire me. It think that is a very very poor excuse. How does John like Prep?

I want to have Nelands out for dinner tomorrow but I don't have the kind of table cloth that I want. The ones we have are most all too small for the table and they look so skimpy on it and that will just ruin the effect of the Hiwaian flower dishes to have a cloth that looks like a string.

The basement has dried out a lot since I opened the windows and the coal shoot and done a few things around. Your tools are so rusted that it is pitiful. I am going to get a pound of cup grease from Clarky and grease them good before I leave again. The leaves are beginning to fall now and it looks very much like old man winter is not so far off. It has been cloudy all morning and I really am enjoying it. I got two rolls of films developed and they were the ones we took down on the Gulf and up at McComb the last Sunday we were up there together. They are just fair. I will take some more tells up today and leave them. I did not want to leave too many rolls at once because they might get them all mixed up like they have done with some folks.

Irma Loomis Gailey has been having attacks of gall stones and she is expecting the stark about the 16th of this month so she is sure having a double dose of it. She was in the hospital for a day or so. Mrs. Newman at church, Charlie's mother has been and may still be in the hospital. I did not hear what was wrong with her. You had better pay your P.O. box rent for the balance of the year, it is paid up until Sept. 30th. It is nice for you to have your own box so that you can get your mail whenever it comes in and not be bixed up with the others. Did you go out to John's yet for supper and if so how is the Mrs. and little Chris.

Do you suppose the reason that your check has been cut down like it has that it is that with holding tax, bonds or insurance or what do you think is causing this cut from last months.

Glad you got the Merrell magazine, the paper may not be so good but you will enjoy reading the news in it.

It is 10 to 12 so I will get busy and clean up the house and then get to town for the items I will need for temerrow's dinner.

Write me soon and don't do so much running around that you don't have time to write or I will get on the war path. I think I will start sewing next week while Frank is in Milwaukee and then when he comes back he can help me with the repairs around home here. I want it to rain hard so that I can tell if the reef will leak any more. That just kills me.

So now, precious one, I will close and you are just now getting ready to leave work and you were with me so strong in thought this morning until I had to fight back and good old bawling spell. Be a good little boy and do be careful with whom you hitch hike, you know the deal can be worked either way, bad riders or bad drivers. I will leave you in God's hands and to your good judgement.

By by and God bless you and keep you well and safe for Bobby and me.

Love from
mother

+
your little Sweetheart

I sure am glad that you have the radio and that it is so much company for you. How is the vibra harp, take good care of it.

So Hawthorne gave up the apartment. I'll say he will have a bad time getting another place if it is still like it was down there when I left, no extra places in town. Are those people still in the yard with the trailer?

Bobby sure is ready to start back just as soon as I am and sooner. I never saw a little dog that likes to ride any better than he does. He is enjoying all the different places to sleep.

This town is sure full of strangers down here in the east end. People who sell their home and leave for some other greener pasture is going to be sorry when this affair is over because they will be out of work, no home and in a strange place and then they will wish that they had stayed at Morrells or in Ottumwa. I hear Morrells calling for men ever the radio to work in the plant, and it is pitiful to see the old men that are trying to hold down jobs in the different places. The big offensive is on and they are going to ship the Ottumwa Air Base men out at almost any time now, Pat, Merle Gailey, Glen Tozer and all these that have been right here in town will be leaving the last of this month or the first of next so they have been told. They are all being outfitted with sea bags, mattresses and everything of that nature, also hammocks.

I see Helen Carmen coming home from town just loaded down with bundles. she and her husband lives with Sid and Irene. I suppose the next thing for her will be a kid and him off to service. Well the poor little feels.

Well I will have to get busy if I want to have Neland's over tomorrow, the rugs need cleaning and things all need dusting. I waxed the kitchen and bathroom floors this morning and cleaned up out there, but the house is not as clean as Mrs. Neland keeps hers. I found the oven of the stove in a mess, things baked over and burned on it. It ust makes me sick to see how some things have gone around here. I am going to have Frank help me in the basement. I could just kick old man Brown's butt clean up on his shoulders for letting that ditch fill up and throwing grass in it. That alone stopped it up and backed the water into the basement.

I will mail this letter when I go to town today and maybe you will get it by Monday. Look for your package too and let me know if you get it O.K. I didn't get any letter from you yesterday. Who all did you write to the night you were on watch? Everyone but me eh? Your letter was passed around at church Sunday to the different ones to be read.

Floy sent me some read point to use because she forgot to bring her book with her when she came up here but these are not good in town here at the markets and I am needing butter like the dickens for tomorrow if Neland's come but I think Carruths will take them and you can get butter, cheese, or something that calls for red stamps from them. If not just tear them up because they are no good to me here in this town. They only take just by the weeks if you hold back a week in order to try to get stamps enough to get two or three items you are just out of luck and butter has been raised in points on Creamery butter you know.