

Wed Afternoon

SEPT 30

Dear Sen:-

Well this is another day, or it has been another day as this is late afternoon. I have done some raking in the yard, net you this time, and emptied the pool and did Bobby have fun for we got the frogs out and the kill in him sure did come to the surface. I was in hopes that it would be a nice warm day like yesterday but it turned off cloudy and now we are getting some rain so that will mean cold tomorrow. I did some sewing and mending too today and now I am going to have some coffee and get warmed up for my feet are wet.

I sure wish I was ready to leave in the morning, but I suppose it will be some time next month before I can get away and you know what the news is now on gas, only 2 gal to the stamp for the mid-west. I don't know what states that will cover besides Iowa but I am not going to worry much because I have the 12 "C" stamps yet and plenty with Clarky to do me the rest of the time I am here and to fill up the tank when I leave. I expect the other tire to be done the first of next week as I left it last Saturday and it had to go to Des Moines to be cured and shaped so I will have to wait on that, but as soon as that is done my plans are being made to leave, believe it or not.

I patched the cement in the basement, I guess I told you that but I did not take out the dirt or rock which caved down because I thought it might hold back the rest better. Am I wrong? I have my fruit all packed that I am going to bring but haven't gotten the machine down from Nera's yet. She hasn't called me that she has the caster so I am waiting for her call. I have to make another night gown yet so that I will have two and would like to get another wash dress made if I can. If I sent a box down to you containing puddings, jello and things like that, you keep it all there for yourself because we can only get two to a customer and I get some every time I go to the store. I haven't found any puddings now for two weeks or better. When they do come in I am getting some every time for they save on eggs and sugar and of course we will be able to get milk, I hope, down there. With butter going to 16 points a lb it will sure make the red stamps fly. Of course that will be overcome I hope too when I get back to Ia.

By the way, how is Mrs. Carruth by now and did she stand the operation O.K? I hope that it is nothing serious. If it is tumor it can be removed but if it is cancer, well that is something else.

When I stepped at Alta Sangers the other day Billie Miller's mother came in and he is in Calif for a while, he called them long distance and it cost him \$25.00 but while he is there off of his ship he has to work in the canneries on his 48 hrs liberties so you have something else to be thankful for. He cannot come back home even if he is in the states and still has to work besides. His ship was torpedoed and he has been in several battles.

I will put seven stamped dish towels in the box when I sent it and you just lay them to one side as I am going to embroidery them this winter. I need some more for home since canning time as two that I was using every day gave up the struggle to be towels any longer.

over,

What do you think about me leaving around the 14th or 15th of next month? do you think that will be too soon or not? Unless the weather changes it will be pretty cool by then.

Well, this being Wednesday, I did not note any letter from you today. I hope I get two tomorrow.

Next week I will go get the muffler and have the spark plugs checked as it seems to sputter or miss when I first start the car. I may get along with these O.K and then some of them might peter out on the way down.

Guess I am running out of news too because I am just busy around here all the time and don't go any place only to church. I do know that I have been the bluest and loneliest person in the whole world today. I don't know why I should but I am.

I see that Naomi Mosher Talbot, our neighbor, is staying at home now and not working and from what I can tell when ~~xxxx~~ she is out the yard, I think that she is expecting the stork. Sure is a shortage of rubber, no kidding about that. If Cartwright didn't take that bale of rubber with him he should let someone put it out where it can do some good. Ha. Ha.

Did I tell you that I am thinking of letting Leemis use the garage this winter? Well what do you think about it? It would be someone around here night and morning and in that manner would be a means of others not feeling around and he would be keeping his eye on the garage and the place better that way for he would be having some interest over here. I am going to charge him rent. He said he sure would love to have it because his car would freeze to the ground in the second or middle stall over there at Bartens and the other two are rented. I will put the tools and things like that and your wheel barrow in the basement. So there won't be anything missing out of there.

Well, I guess this is all new and I am going to listen to the news and see what is happening in the world. The war news is going good yet and the boys will soon have Naples and maybe have Rome sooner than that. I got a laugh out of the news when they said the Pope was a prisoner of the Germans. He was told to get out of the so called Eternal city. This was a good joke on him.

The news war good, the boys are in Naples by now as they said it would be only a matter of hours and they are setting up lines just out of Rome a ways, so with the aid of the conquered nations the Germans are going to have plenty to give them a headache soon. May God direct the leaders and bless our boys in every move they make.

I will close now and get ready for the night. Oh how I hate it. I am so lonesome and believe me I am starting south as soon as I can. Lots of love to my little boy who I love so much even if he don't think so. You will know some day that all my life is yours and it is you only who can make me sad or happy, so God bless you now my darling and by by.

Love Mother & Bobby

When I mail the box I will let you know so you will be expecting it & know it is coming

Thursday Even.
Sept 30-43

Dear Little Boy:-

I must get my letter off to you before I go to bed. I have just finished in the kitchen, cleaning up and tying up the box which I will send out to you just as soon as possible. I will let you know by mail when I start it before I do say that I am sending it.

I sewed today and got another nightgown made and maybe I will get a dress made tomorrow as I want to go to town and see if the ration board will give me some gas to come down on. Anyway I guess I am all set if they want to be bull headed about it and not give it to me. I suppose that you have heard all C and B. stamps as well as A is only good for 2 gallons each. Just like Danner said, they are tightening up on the gas but I'll bet around election time that they will jar loose with a lot of things so that the Democrats will hold office on their good deeds. Just like it was by baiting the farmers for their votes and the W.P.A, etc.

Your letter of Monday came today and I see it is raining there too, it has been just a light rain all day today. I wish we would get a gully washer so that I could see how the repairs work before I leave. Yet I want a bright dry day soon so that I can paint that drain, Frank couldn't do it the day he was here because he had just put in the fresh cement and it wouldn't stick very well.

I have been checking the stamps and I have 12 "C"'s and the eight "A"'s Multiply 20 by 2 and that is 40 gal and I have 30 some odd with Clarky yet and the tank nearly full, Guess I can make it if worst comes to worst. Eh? I suppose the tire will be ready Sat or Monday.

Glad you went to McComb and saw Mrs. Carruth again. I'll bet she is glad when you come, to think that you would bother to go see her. A characteristic which very few other young men would have, to be so kind and thoughtful as you are to go see someone that you just found as a new acquaintance. I hope you give her my regards when you go for I appreciate her very much too. You sure made good time on the road getting home.

Well I am going to set my date for leaving for the 15th but it will depend on how the water works and electric light folks respond in taking care of things. I think I will just have the phone taken out as it will cost right at \$5.00 to leave it on vacation, and after the tire is done I will not have any more use for the phone. I am sorry that your pen has gone haywire, you need it so badly. Yes I know there is no news to write from that dump down there but maybe we can make some news when I get back.

I try to get a letter out every day but when it happens like last Sunday when Mrs. Brown had me over for dinner I can't write and go to church in the evening and I don't know that that choir would do if the sopranos didn't have me to lean on. I'll bet when I leave that they will not tackle any new songs. Bernice Twedell and Mrs. Ora German is in the sopranos and you know they don't do anything only ball the others up and Mrs. Smith tries but she cannot stand up against them, Mrs. King's voice is so weak it is hardly heard at all and so is Effie Cross. If she could sing as hard as she is ugly she should make a big noise. Mrs. Millhouse voice is not strong either so they look to me when they get on a new song to lead the way. Elsie can sing but she will be out of the running soon.

Cover /

So I will try to get a letter out every day or if not a letter a post card. When I take the letter up town and mail it when I go to church that makes it a day later for you. I try to get it ready for Chiswan each day but when I don't I take it to town if I am going on an errand or to church.

Bobby is fine, we had pancakes and scrambled eggs for supper, no bread in the house and I wasn't going to go after just a loaf of bread so we stirred up some pancakes. I didn't have any tomatoes for them so they did not taste so good to me.

Speaking of Bud Welshen's and their not hearing from him, I am afraid that if he is not wounded or something worse that he is still in a worse position than that, a prisoner of the Japs. Of course I heard on the radio the other day that a mother had not heard from her son for a year and then a post card came on their 74th birthday that he was well and safe, just what that meant I wouldn't know but I think that he could have gotten her word sooner and he should be ashamed of himself if such was the case.

I also heard the announcement on the radio from Des Moines today that Joe Alversen of Batavia is dead, the last Civil war veteran in that part of the country. I don't know when the funeral is but would like to go. He is a historic figure in our family and how he always loved Mother from the time she was a little girl. He lived to be 99 years old. Too bad he could not have gone another year, but then his mind did not continue to function as long as his body and he didn't know what it was all about for several years.

I have a blue crepe dress that I want to hem tomorrow, one that I can wear around the house or to the store and places like that. I haven't hemmed your blue pants yet and must get busy on that too. I hope the sun shines so that I can see how to work on the dark materials. I want to make Bobby a blanket to wear with the C. G. insignia on it if I can find some blue serge around here. Won't that be cute?

The leaves are sure falling fast and the trees have turned yellow it seems just overnight. It has been real cool here and we have had several frosts. It has not been bad yesterday and today even though we have had rain. I am glad for that. I want to save the coal I have to do my last washing. I sure have two busy weeks ahead of me doing the last minute details. I would have been well on the way if Frank could have been here sooner but he was up at Jessies in Milwaukee and I didn't want to paint the drain without it being cemented first and didn't want to cement it until he had the eye troughs checked and cleaned because he would have to go on the ladder and rest it on the drain so there I was, I couldn't jump either way. I did all the rest that I could and I have the yard fairly cleaned and trimmed except the bank and I think I will just let the frost take that. It is a tangled mess.

Glad you had good cornbread for supper. Eat a piece for me. Well I will say good night and get off to bed so that I can get started on my work in the morning, wide awake. Lots of love to the most precious boy in the whole world.

Love Mother & Bobby