

HOLES

Oh, the raisins they put
In rice pudding are few,
And few are the oysters
they put in the stew.
But you'll have to admit
that in contrast to these,
They always put plenty of
holes in the cheese.

Your Letter From Home

SENT TO YOU WITH THE BEST WISHES OF

The Gates Dry Goods Co. Larry Geer Ballrooms
The Fort Dodge Creamery The Swancy Motor Car Co.
The Tobin Packing Co. The Fort Dodge Grocery
The Fort Dodge Serum Co. Iowa-Illinois Gas & Electric
The Elks Club of Fort Dodge Radio Station KVFD

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daily 12:45 p. m., Monday through Friday.

HUMANITY

The human race
delights me so.
It's silly, but I
Love it.
I hardly ever stop
to think
That I'm a member
of it.

☛ **DEAR JOE:** This is March, a fickle month in any man's country, so I'm told. It's been most inconstant so far. One day it's lovely as a bride—and the next, what a hussy! We've had rain, ice, sunshine, warm south winds, a heavy wet snow and two or three drab days that even a cat wouldn't drag in. It's March . . . We've had spring opening and we're getting ready for Easter. Maybe this Easter will find the world ready to rise again from the grave of war. We hope so. We want you home. We want you home from Italy and England and New Guinea and China and Texas and all those other foreign places. We'd like to have you back home to settled down and just be neighbors for the next hundred years.

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☛ **HOME TOWN TOPICS.** J. L. Parsons has resigned as city engineer . . . The Farmers Business Men's Party was held at the Armory Wednesday. **Walt Bekers** toastmastered. Governor **Hickenlooper** spoke . . . The Gowrie Girls B. B. team was entertained at a swell elegant banquet by the C. C. in Gowrie the same evening. They are coming to Fort Dodge to be entertained by the F. D. C. C., the 31st, along with the **Harcourt Boys** B. B. team . . . **Al Couch**, head of the A. F. of L. in Iowa says eleven men in Iowa run politics. Says **Hickenlooper** is governor in name only . . . **Alec Templeton** concert seats are a sell out and 160 of us are going to sit on the stage . . . A lot of us went to see the **Trapp** family, seven fine girls and their mother singing and yodeling and playing antique whistles. Swell entertainment. We liked the **Baron** too . . . That gas ration is getting smaller—two gallons per week. Official explanation, the black market is taking so much, those of us still using coupons are going to have to cut down . . . **Walter "Mike" Dalton**, of Manson, is up and around. He's been very ill . . . Gee, you should have been there. The Elks burned the mortgage on the little old homestead at the corner of 1st Avenue north and 11th street St. Patrick's night, dined about 600 and spent the rest of the evening dancing and sipping light refreshment . . . **A. H. Woodard** is democratic candidate for the House of Representatives in Des Moines. **Jim Stanek** is democratic candidate for the Senate from this district . . . **Bill Ohmsted**, getting ready to join you guys and gals, has sold his shoe business in Gates Department Store.

☛ **DOWN THE CENTER AISLE.** **Ethel Peltz**, of Rutland, and **Robert Hager**, S 2/c, of Clare, at Deercreek Church March 14th . . . **La Donna Mae Chase** and **Sgt. C. V. Smith**, of Pomeroy, at Otho, March 18th . . . **Donna Mae Carlson** and **Pfc. George Mercer**, at Sioux City, March 10th . . . **Juan Nedra Horton**, of Fort Worth, Texas, and **Sgt. Robert Heater**, at Fort Ord, California, March 9th . . . **Mavis Lyders** and **Capt. Robert J. Patterson** on the west coast sometime in the near future . . . **Georgia Reaser** and **Pvt. Eugene Coleman** in Fort Dodge March 8th.

☛ **SCOREBOARD.** Three gals from Gowrie made the Girls All State. **Joan Blomgren**, 1st string guard, **Maxine Pohl**, third team forward and **Phyllis Paton**, honorable mention as guard . . . Little **Harcourt**, one of the mightiest of the "B" teams, knocked off **Roosevelt** at Creston, 28 to 52, licked **Manning** in an overtime game, 32 to 30, and then as they were on their way to the State Tournament at Iowa City, or so it seemed, they lost to **Harlan** in an overtime stanza, 30 to 31. **Leo Boxx**, **Vernon Gustafson**, and **Arnold Schill** were the iron men for **Harcourt** . . . In the state finals at Iowa City, it will be **Harlan**, **Franklin** of Cedar Rapids, **Waverly** and **Hull**, with **Waverly** favored by a wide margin . . . Basketball is over. It's early for track. But the rail birds say that **Dodger Ray Prohaska** looks like a guy who'd run the mile in very fast time.

☛ **OVERSEAS.** Lt. R. M. Bloomquist, of Gowrie, writing from Italy, says that stationed near him is **Don Hauser**. Lt. Bloomquist is with a bomber squadron . . . Somewhere in the Russell Islands is **Cpl. Earl M. Umsted**, of Dayton. He's been in the South West Pacific 15 months and used to be in New Caledonia . . . **Cpl. Frank J. Zenor** is now in Italy. "What beats me," says Frank, "is that we had to battle our way through Africa into Italy before we got to sample Tobin's pork chops." Frank's been overseas a long time. "We've got a nice start on our third year overseas. Wonder how much longer we'll have to stay?" The other day he saw "**Tuck**" **Cain**, **Major Minkle** and **Capt. Bill Thatcher**. You'll get those addresses, Frank . . . In the hospital in Italy for the last two months, **Pfc. Paul Gerard** hasn't seen any one from home lately. He used to see **Jimmy Wilson** and **Lt. F. Zenor**. Once he almost saw **Mary Dolliver**. He writes, "It would be great to see someone from home." . . . **Pfc. Paul Davidson** is doing medical work in China. "The patients come in pretty fast. I speak a little Chinese so I get along pretty well with the patients. The only place we have to go is to a little village and there isn't much there." . . . **Sgt. Louis Charon** is at **Penrhyn**, somewhere in the Pacific. His medical officer is an ex-Fort Dodger, **Capt. Larson**, who was at **Mercy Hospital** in the 20's, an old friend of **Capt. Van Patten** . . . Under a warm sun and cruising along on a calm sea, **Gene Johnson** is en-

joying the islands of the Mediterranean. At the famed Isle of Capri he ate, in American money, \$4.50 worth of eggs and french fries. Just an ordinary meal . . . **Pfc. Charles S. Archibald**, in a headquarters outfit in New Guinea, was visited recently by **Gary Cooper**, **Una Merkel** and **John Wayne**. They've seen so many sarongs they are waiting for **Dorothy Lamour** to model one but "that is only a New Guinea dream." . . . In England now is **Sgt. Harold S. Strong**. He's a radio man and gunner on a B-26 . . . Overseas is **Capt. Jack Douglas**, pilot of a Fort. He left Tampa, Florida, ten days ago . . . Overseas is **S/Sgt. Les Simmons** with a B-24. You'll be seeing pictures of him and the crew he's with in *Life Magazine* . . . **Carl Tice**, stationed on Island "X" in the Pacific, is attempting to copy California's idea of an "Iowa Day," and institute the same on his island on March 26th. Sounds like a jolly reunion . . . From somewhere in the Pacific, comes a note from **Bob Hulett**. He says **John Wayne** and **Lanny Ress** were out to entertain them a while back. Also, he's trying to get in touch with **G. Steckwell** and **Ted Essig** . . . **Pfc. Lorell McFarland** says he could use some trinkets to trade with the natives on New Guinea . . . **Fred Vannoni** writes that he is also on New Guinea and has been there since the Yanks started in on that island . . . **Pvt. Verl Pugh**, of Lehigh, is in Australia with the engineers.

☛ **OVER HERE.** **Pvt. R. R. Kurtz**, who is now at Camp Davis, California, writes that in his signal corps school, which is located on the campus of the University of California College of Agriculture, there are Iowa boys all over the campus and quite a few from Fort Dodge and nearby towns. He is learning radio maintenance . . . **Pvt. Vincent Strand** is now stationed at the University of Wisconsin in Madison . . . The Japs weren't so tough but the mosquitoes really flattened out **Melvin Carlson**, **PhM 2/c**, now back from the South West Pacific and recuperating at U. S. Naval Hospital, San Diego, Calif. Companions of his were **Mark and Marvin Shroder** of Boone . . . **S/Sgt. Milton Cottrell** and **Sgt. Carroll Evans** have been lucky enough to be attached to the same squadron for the past 25 months. They are now in Orlando, Florida, at the Army Air Forces Tactical Center . . . Gone from Fort Dodge almost three years, **A/C Bob Tucker** writes to **Larry Geer** that he is now at Carlsbad, New Mexico, in bombardier school. His Brother **Bud** is a Lt. and instructing in blind flying in Ga. . . **S/Sgt. Ward G. Roberts**, formerly with Swancys, is at Childress Air Field, Childress, Texas. During our snow storms, **Ward** says, Texas has been enjoying several good red dust storms . . . **Kenneth Strain** has finished his boot training out in Farragut, Idaho and is now going to school in California. While in Idaho, he was stationed with two Fort Dodgers—**Jim Porter** and **Shorty Tullis** . . . **Donald Mavlin**, who is based at Bakersfield, Calif., says he there are a lot of Dodgers, both G. I. and civilian, stationed near him. He'd like to have their names so he could arrange a get-together . . . **Merlin J. Williams**, S 2/c, of Dayton, is now in Radar Operations School at San Diego . . . **Donald C. Burkgren**, **PhM 3/c**, of Dayton, is now at Farragut assisting in a dental unit—and "really running a lot of them through." Thanks, **Don**, for the pic and paper . . . **Mrs. Guy Knudson**, Service Men's secretary, Badger Church of Christ, has written 1,457 personal letters to Badger boys in the service in the past two years and has received 583 from the "boys." If that isn't a world's record, I'll write the next 1,400.

☛ **MOVING AROUND.** To Camp Peary, Va., **Arthur S. Holmer**, S 2/c . . . **Santa Anna** bound is **A/S D. W. Cook**. He's been with the C. T. D. at Superior, Wisconsin . . . To Smyrna Air Field, Tenn., **Pvt. Bill E. Algood**, from Chanute Field, Ill. . . To Florence, S. C., **Pfc. Wm. M. Roberts, Jr.** Bill—send us **Verne Schaffer's** address and he'll become a subscriber . . . To Ft. Pierce, Fla., **Emsien Frank J. Barry** . . . To England, **Pfc. Newell S. Porter**. He's with the engineers . . . **Cpl. Don Allan** is in Harman General Hospital at Longview, Texas. An old football knee is giving him trouble . . . To Truax Field at Madison, Wisconsin, **Pvt. Gould S. Campbell** . . . **Johnny Estlund**, F 1/c, has recently been transferred from New London, Conn., to another training school—this time in Providence, Rhode Island . . . **Pvt. Eugene Good** has just been transferred from North Carolina to Orlando, Florida . . . From Amarillo, Texas to Montana State University at Missoula, A/S **John W. Ryberg, Jr.**, of Harcourt . . . To Lockheed Vega Service School, Burbank, Calif., **Pvt. Glenn H. Bastian** . . . To the University of Minnesota, **Marvin Stanek**, S 2/c . . . To Camp Laguna at Yuma, Ariz., **Pvt. Darrell S. Schill**. "I just came off maneuvers and the camp seems pretty nice although it's only a tent city."

☛ **VISITING THE HOME FOLKS.** From Camp Pendleton, Va., **Sgt. Geo. C. Morgan** . . . From Ft. George Meade, Md., **Pvt. Bill Newsum** . . . From the Merchant Marine, **Donald L. Stephens**, S 1/c, of Dayton . . . From Great Lakes, **Robert Johnson**, S 2/c, of Dayton; also **Raymond B. Meehan**, S 2/c . . . From Ft. Knox, Ky., **Cpl. Don Zakeer** . . . From Pyote, Texas, on her way to Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga., **S/Sgt. Mary Welch** . . . From Camp Carson, Colo., **Cpl. Willis Kirkner** . . . From Indiantown Gap, Pa., **Sgt. Maurice Engman**, of Dayton . . . **Lt. Bob Allen**. Bob is a gunnery officer in avia-

tion and has been in Florida, but is being transferred to an aviation base in Texas . . . And A. L. Brooks is also home on leave. "Bud" is now an ensign in the Navy.

☉ **HOME TOWN BOYS MAKE GOOD.** To Lt. Jordan Hogan. He graduated from O. C. S. March 15th at New Orleans. He's in transportation . . . Now they've got wings—Winiford Beer, Richard Willits, and William Reimers, all of Fort Dodge; and John Schill of Harcourt, and Merle Richey of Dayton. They've also got commissions . . . Wings for Richard Gadbury and a commission, too. He got them at Kirtland Field this month . . . Jack McMahon got his wings and commission at Luke Field, Arizona, the 14th of March. He looks wonderful and will fly a P-51 . . . To Capt. Cecil Levy. He may now be somewhere in the Pacific as he has an APO San Francisco, Calif. address . . . He's an ensign now Robert C. Larson, and he's flying at Beaufort, S. C. . . . He's a Capt. now, William Terrill and located at Ft. Lewis, Washington . . . Lt. Art Johnson has completed his 25 missions. His folks got word on his 23rd birthday. He was on the bombing of Rome and the Ploesti Air Fields. He was shot down in a neutral country, wears the air medal, the D. F. C. and lots of oak leaf clusters. . . . He got his wings at Victorville, Calif. March 18th. He's now Lt. and Bombardier Duane E. Ulstad . . . He's now Cpl. Galen B. Parsons and is stationed at Camp Howze, Texas.

☉ **GOOD FELLOWS GET TOGETHER.** Tom Dowd, Cpl., is now stationed at Love Field, Dallas, Texas. He met Johnny Owens there a few days ago. He says John is now a civilian pilot on the field. He tried to locate Lt. George Antolik, but was told that he was on a foreign trip . . . Lt. A. R. Riekey is at the army air base at Salt Lake City, Utah. He met Lt. Ray Stone, former Fort Dodge and Iowa State wrestler. Lt. Stone and Pfc. Kenny Gawtry are there at the same base. Kenny has just finished gunnery school. At the local gathering one evening recently, they met Carl Feelhaver's sister-in-law. Lt. Riekey had been stationed in Arizona, Texas and New Mexico before being moved to Salt Lake City . . . Pvt. Leonard E. McCarville is stationed on one of the Hawaiian Islands and is driving a truck. Not long ago Leonard met Verne Richards and Bill Day in Honolulu and also Carl Johnson from Rockwell City. He says Carl is at the same camp and Verne Richards is not very far away . . . Aviation cadet Oscar A. Lunstrom, formerly of Lanyon, happened to meet aviation student George Lundgren, of Gowrie, at a classification center in San Antonio last Thursday. The boys were glad to get together as they had gone to school together for four and a half years . . . Cpl. John Seib, now in Italy, has seen three fellows from home—Buck Vargason, Otto Mueller, and Wendell Reed. Reed is still in Sicily. John says he'd just as soon give "sunny" Italy back to the natives. He's fine and looking forward to the day when he can trade his uniform for a suit . . . Cpl. K. L. Newbrough, now stationed in Sioux City, was at Salt Lake City with Ron McKenzie. He also saw Lt. Carl Scharf while he was there . . . Thos. Fitzgerald, S 1/c, is in New Caledonia. He's seen a lot of fellows from near Fort Dodge. A fellow from Thor slapped him on the back when they were in chow line the other day.

☉ **MISSING IN ACTION.** Lt. Frank Sims, Fortress pilot, is reported missing on a raid over Austria. His ship failed to come back on February 24th. Frank has the air medal and oak leaf clusters. We've got our fingers crossed. If Harmon could do it twice, Frankie can do it once.

☉ **HEROIC DEAD.** Plt. Sgt. Paul Jones was killed in action with a Marine unit in the South Pacific . . . Shirley Brown, coastguardsman first class, is reported killed in action in the North Pacific . . . Lt. D. J. Murphy is reported killed in action December 20th on a flight over Germany. At first, on December 29th, he was reported missing and word got through that two of his crew mates had been taken prisoner. But Denny didn't make it. He was a bombardier on a Fort.

☉ **KEEP YOUR CHINS UP,** fellas. Henry Ford says the war will be over in two months.

☉ **FROM THE FIVE CORNERS OF THE WORLD.** Homer E. Freyer, USN, South Pacific, "I have been out here in the South Pacific for some time. It seems strange how close one can be to friends and know nothing about it. I have had some very exciting duty since I was detached from the Recruiting Station in Fort Dodge. I have had the pleasure of taking part in most every invasion to date. I was also attached to the British Home Fleet for a while, going from that duty to London, and then to Washington, D. C. via Army Transport Command (Air) as a special Officer Courier."

Sgt. Ted R. Rule, San Pedro, Calif., "It was really old home week at Lincoln Park in Los Angeles last Saturday. As long as I have been away from the "Old Home Town" I still remember all the old faces and names. Some of the ones who were present have been away from Fort Dodge for ten to twenty years and others just visiting on home. But believe me they all look pretty good to me. Included were Ival Frakes, who left Fort Dodge in 1924. At present, he is a Sgt. in the army up north of Oakland. Last time I saw him was when we were in grade school together at Wahkonsa. That, I assure you, Ed, was quite some time back. Others were—J. W. (Mickey) Ryan and wife, Raymond Springer, one of the boys who used to really like to dance when the Laramar was the Armory, Verlin Shipman, one of the outstanding athletes of Fort Dodge high about in the early 20's, Al Horner, Martin McBrayer, Wahkonsa Packing star salesman, Walt Olmstead, Les Treloar and family, Dr. Kime, and Dr. Studelaker. A great many others were present that I knew but missing this year were the young fellows who have been present in previous years."

Harold L. Wiley, S 1/c (RM), San Francisco, "Yesterday as I was walking down Market Street I ran into Burton Olson from Vincent. It was sure good to meet somebody from home. We had supper together and talked over old times. He just came in from New York." Lamont Okey, PhM 3/c, North Africa, "I am in a unit of 24 PhM's.

We have been together for about three months. We have not yet reached our destination. We are expecting further transfer. In our unit are three others from Iowa. G. C. Lindquist is from Fort Dodge and we have a great time "milking" the news of Webster County from one another's letters. Believe me, Y. L. F. H. really gets a thorough reading."

Sgt. Sam Strukar, Staten Island, New York, "As you know, I am stationed at one of the largest army hospitals in the world. My wife also works at the hospital. She is a medical stenographer. I am, as you know, a cook. I have been a cook during all my army life. I have 3 cooks working for me. At the present time, we are feeding over 1,200 people in our Mess Hall. We have 3 other mess halls here on the post. I don't know for sure but I think we are feeding well over 4,000 people. Tune in some Saturday afternoon and listen to our radio program, "This is Halloran," at 3:00 to 3:30 over WOR, New York. I am sending you a picture of Ralph Hanson and myself. Ralph and I get together every time he comes back to the states."

Cpl. William R. Jones, Portsmouth, N. H., "You might pass the word on to the boys who would like to get a "nice soft job doing guard duty somewhere" (I said it myself once) that there is no such thing. States side posts are short handed, that is, Marine Corps posts. So every man must do about twice as much as we did in peace time."

Cp. Wayne O. Smith, Fort Jackson, South Carolina, "We're stationed here in Fort Jackson doing practically nothing. The 87th has a year of very tough training behind it, and the 18 and 19 year old kinds that started out with us a year ago are now rather a rugged bunch. Even the commanding general says the outfit is ready for overseas duty. So we're taking those shuffling steps trying to keep them from sneaking that gang plank under our feet."

Chaplain Donald G. Lee, Italy, "My parish has grown both in numbers and in area. I am now what is called a "desk chaplain." That is a supervisory chaplain. There are (censored) chaplains in the command who are under my supervision. My area takes in the occupied portion of Italy and the islands of Sicily, Sardinia and Corsica. I try to get around to call on my chaplains once a month so it means that I am on the road or should I say "in the air" a good part of the time. During the month of February I was in the office only ten of the twenty-nine days. I am not so keen about flying but I do enjoy the work and getting around like I do I see a lot of country and that helps to remove the monotony that might be connected with this kind of work. The first of March I was given some encouragement in the work by being promoted to the rank of Major. Yesterday morning before returning from a trip to the other side of Italy I went to the Red Cross club with the air force chaplain and there met Miss Dolliver. I did not know that she had been transferred from "our town." I did meet her at the Red Cross Headquarters here in January. She is very busy getting a splendid club going in the place she is in now. It is one of the best set-ups I have seen for a Red Cross Club. I am sharing my copies of the letter with Lt. Col. Matthew Thompson, who is attached to our headquarters. He used to live in Fort Dodge, he tells me, and he finds many familiar names in the letter. In all the time that I have been overseas I have met only one Webster County soldier and he was a Gowrie boy."

W. O. Kruse, CSF, New Guinea, "I am Chief Ship Fitter and was made Welding Supervisor of the 84th battalion so it is the same work that I did in Fort Dodge for Stoner Electric Welding Works. I have two friends here with me from home, Arnold Osberg and Clifford Abrams."

Sgt. Guy Slagenweit, Italy, "At the present time, I am in Italy. I left my old company back in Algeria and transferred here. This seems to be more to my liking, and I'm in a much more interesting position. Had the opportunity to see Dick Scott, who used to work at the A & P, in Algiers a few weeks back and we had a good time reminiscing. Gaylord Whiting and Don Hauser are over here also, but I haven't been able to locate them as yet."

Pfc. Libero Birecci, Oahu Island, Hawaii, "Before I entered the army, I was working for the Fort Dodge Serum Co. Thanks to Dr. Baughman for doing his part in getting these letters out. Since I left the States I have been at the Aleutians, from there to the Hawaiian Islands, then on the invasion of the Marshalls, now back in the Hawaiian Islands. We have quite a few boys from Fort Dodge in this outfit and we have some good talks together about the good old home town. The boys here with me are Pfc. Bill Tuel, Lt. Barbee, and Pfc. Paul Ross of the infantry. I have also seen Pvt. Eldon Faine twice."

It's from your letters, Joe, that we gather our G. I. news. If your letter isn't mentioned in this column, look around. You'll find we've used it in our news. We had other swell letters from Pfc. Joe Sorvetti, Fresno, California . . . Pvt. Robert D. Bollard, Laredo, Texas . . . Arnold Askelsen, Camp Roberts, Calif. . . C. J. Campbell, SC 2/c, Great Lakes, Ill. . . Bob Elston, Memphis, Tenn. . . A/C Oscar A. Lunstrom, Bonham, Texas . . . Pvt. R. R. Kurtz, Davis, Calif. . . Cpl. T. J. Dowd, Love Field, Dallas, Texas . . . AVN/5 John J. Dowd, Des Moines, Iowa . . . Gene C. Johnson, Italy . . . Servia Vandi, Norfolk, Va. . . Capt. O. A. Handy, Camp Howze, Texas . . . Pvt. L. E. McCarville, APO San Francisco . . . Pvt. J. McNeilly, San Diego, Calif., and Robert Ault, S 2/c, Farragut, Idaho. Thanks so much, all of you. Your pictures are coming in. What handsome guys you are. Yeh! I said guys. No gal's picture has been received to date. What's the matter, gals? Come on, let's give! And we're getting together, thanks to you who are sending them in, a wonderful collection of service and camp papers. They'll be something you'll get a great kick out of when you come home. They are swell. Keep 'em coming. And here we are again, leaving you in this same corner. Good luck. God bless you.

Your Home Town Correspondent,

Ed Breen.