

Pre war story—Abie had a superstition about the first customer on Monday. "Look" he said to Bennie, "A fine suit, the best. Nice cut to you, \$15." "No," said Bennie. "Look Bennie with cuffs, even, to you my friend, special, \$12." "No" said Bennie, starting out. "Look, to start the week

# Your Letter From Home

SENT TO YOU WITH THE BEST WISHES OF

The Gates Dry Goods Co.  
The Fort Dodge Creamery  
The Tobin Packing Co.  
The Fort Dodge Serum Co.  
The Elks Club of Fort Dodge

Larry Geer Ballrooms  
The Swaney Motor Car Co.  
The Fort Dodge Grocery  
Iowa-Illinois Gas & Electric  
Radio Station KVFD

Sponsors of "Your Letter From Home" heard over KVFD  
daily 12:45 p. m., Monday through Friday.

right, the first sale, because it's early, Bennie, \$8. "No" said Bennie. "My God" walled Abie, "That you should do this to me, Bennie. All right, I start something, I should finish it. To you Bennie, I'm giving it for nothing." "Not without two pairs of pants," said Bennie.

No. 23

WRITTEN EVERY FRIDAY

March 31, 1944

★ **DEAR JOE:** Wanta know something? This chapter of Y. L. F. H. will start out tomorrow morning to go to 2,941 G. I. addresses. About 2,900 will get to you sometime. The rest will come back. Then we start looking for you, trying to find out from someone where you have gone. Eventually, like the Mounties, we get our man . . . We've had March weather and more March weather. Almost looks like it was going to spill over into April . . . The teachers are with us this week from all over northwest Iowa and youngsters are home from school. Remember that welcome Thursday, Friday holiday. They still love it . . . Got a surprise for you coming soon, maybe next week. There's a kind of a clue to it in this letter.

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★ **OVERSEAS.** If you know where Lt. Milo Hayes is located, drop in on him just casual like for Sunday dinner. He's at a station hospital somewhere in the European theatre serving mouth-watering meals in three mess halls. Sunday, March 12th, they had oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes, peas, stewed tomatoes, cranberry sauce, etc., etc. . . Sgt. Blane D. Phillips is with a field hospital in the Southwest Pacific . . . He's in England, Pvt. S. A. Samuelson. Says he hasn't noticed any news of Fort Dodge in the English papers. Must be a conspiracy. They can't do that to us . . . It struck me as funny—Sgt. Geo. W. Lindsted, closes his letter from Italy, "I could write you a whole book of our adventures but the censor leaves me speechless." O. K. Geo., we are taking care of that request. Look for it soon . . . In England is Sgt. Fergus W. Kenyon . . . Bob "Sugar" Sweet, somewhere in Australia, went dancing in Brisbane a while back. Heard an American band that put Harry James to shame. Bob's looking for other Dodgers in the 41st . . . Now plumbing in Pearl Harbor, R. H. MacDowell met Irwin Greenleaf the other day and also had a visit from his son Lee. Lee is in the navy, Irwin in the merchant marine. Thanks R. H. for the pic . . . Gone two years and moving around, Capt. M. S. Mickelson, of the marines, writes from somewhere out there, "Can't give you much news, but promise a fast flash as soon as the boys string Tojo." . . . Pfc. Lyle Hackett of Harcourt with the engineers is overseas . . . Don Elsen, S 1/c, who is with the armed guard, has completed four voyages back and forth across the Atlantic . . . Pfc. Dwight Sweet, who is driving a two and a half ton truck for the medics somewhere in the southwest Pacific, sends us two interesting midget papers. "The Tropical Times" a one page sheet considerably smaller than YLFH carries the slogan "All the News that fits the print." Dwight says modestly, "The only battles I can boast are the battles of Brisbane and Melbourne." He's been overseas two years. Thanks, Dwight . . . Sgt. John Brady, Jr., is now in Brisbane, Australia . . . Sgt. Paul Savage is with a bomber squadron in Italy . . . Lt. Clyde C. Dickerson was wounded in Italy and is now in a hospital in Sicily . . . Olivia De Haviland visited the hospital in the southwest Pacific where Bill Skophammer is stationed. Bill says she sure is beautiful. And he's got her picture, autographed . . . Gerald Gene Timmons, RM 3/c, of Lehigh, is in the Aleutians . . . Pfc. Lawrence Bock is in the southwest Pacific. He wants to see some good looking girls. Don't blame you, Lawrence. We're going to do something about that! Watch for information in YLFH! . . . Running a P. X. in a veritable quagmire in New Guinea is Pvt. A. A. Gales . . . Sgt. Glenn Moen, in the hospital in Italy, sees Sgt. Fritz Schrandt almost daily. He is in his hospital unit. You'll get every issue from here on in, Glenn, and we'll say that "hello" . . . S/Sgt. Donn Cottrell, now in England writes that it makes him homesick every time he sees a can of Tobin Brunch in a store window. He's with the 8th Air Force.

★ **GOOD FELLOWS GET TOGETHER.** In the deadiest part of Texas, Dalhart Army Air Field, Cpl. Earl Wendt and Delmar Dayton. Hi Yo Silver! . . . At Banana River, Fla., Lt. C. D. "Andy" Anderson, of Harcourt, and Lt. Don McKirchy. They got "ups" in the 6 weeks check. They are good at hitting targets from the air . . . In dear old England, Cpl. John Whittington and his cousin, Bob Henry . . . In dear old Texas, Lt. Willard Hedges walked in to see Pfc. Floyd Zeka. Bill had flown a shiny new Fort down for a look see from Rapids City, South Dakota. Floyd is at dear old Pyote . . . Floyd and Dale Sperry got together the other day. Dale is at dear old Pecos. Had a swell time . . . In dear old England, Bob Ivory and Lt. Col. Glenn Laffer. Col. Laffer noticed that another copy of YLFH was coming to his station and discovered Bob . . . On Vella Lavella, a chunk of rock sticking up out of the ocean, Cpl. Warren Kelly and Jack Bobsack. Warren ran into Chuck Isaacson down at the river washing his (censored.) What military secret he was washing will always remain a mystery to me. But that's what the censor did. Rubbed out that one word. He's looking forward to seeing Dr. Vieg and Joe Stapleton who are some-

where nearby . . . In Long Beach, Calif., Howard Crosby, S 2/c, and Gene Dolder, F 2/c . . . At Farragut, Cornell Wing and Bruce Kenyon. Thanks Cornell for the paper and pic . . . Robert Hulett, somewhere in the southwest Pacific has for a shipmate a fellow Fort Dodger, Swanson RM 2/c. They are planning to look up Glen Stockwell and Ted Essig the next time ashore. (We'll take care of that request.)

★ **MOVING AROUND.** To Tyndall Field, Fla., Pfc. Samuel M. Rhodes, in the air force gunnery school . . . To Orlando, Fla., Pfc. Luther Chinberg, from Ft. Bliss, Texas . . . To Treasure Island, San Francisco, Theo. Lindberg, FC 3/c, of Lehigh, from San Diego, . . . To Greensboro, N. C., A/S Vernon Fiderlick, from Duquesne University . . . Pfc. John Peterson, of Harcourt, is now at the air base at Topeka . . . A/C Bruce Lefler is now at Maxwell Field, Alabama . . . To Minter Field, Bakersfield, Calif., A. C. T. Don Martin . . . To Foster Field, A/C Robert Enfield, Texas . . . To Keesler Field, Miss., Pvt. Eugene D. Person, from Amarillo, Texas . . . To Muroc, Calif., Cpl. Pete Hillesland, from Fresno, Calif., To Roswell, New Mexico, Pfc. Mearl Armstrong.

★ **OVER HERE.** He's at Pinecastle Air Base, S/Sgt. DeWayne Burke, with the 430th Bombing Squadron . . . He's in Woodrow Wilson hospital at Stanton, Va., for treatment, Pfc. Lowell Johnston . . . In Panama, R. D. Samuelson CM 1/c and M. J. Bedwar, Jr. Thanks Sammy for the "Sea Breeze." . . . Pvt. Elmer Askeland, of Badger, is at Camp Croft, South Carolina . . . Cpl. E. C. Flickinger is in the hospital at Chickasha, Okla. Bum knee . . . Pfc. Robert Palmer is at the Sioux Falls Air Base . . . John F. Estlund, F 1/c, is at Portsmouth, R. I. . . Lt. Chas. Barnhill, injured in a plane crash at Presque Isle, Me., is in a hospital in Boston. His injuries are more serious than originally reported . . . Pvt. Tom Dorsey is at Camp Livingston, La., in the 341st Infantry . . . Pfc. Floyd Sandell is with the 353rd Inf., 89th Division, Camp Roberts, Calif. . . . Cliff Jensen is at Camp Beale, Calif. . . 1/Lt. Don Schoberlein, after spending two years in Alaska, is now taking flight training in California—now at Santa Ana.

★ **PRISONERS MAIL.** Pfc. Allison Hill, writing from a prison camp in Germany, says he's getting mail, books and cigarettes from home. His letter was written in December and received here in March.

★ **HOME TOWN BOYS MAKE GOOD.** Dick Wretman, gunner on a Fort in England, is a S/Sgt. now and has been awarded the air medal. He sees Dick Schnurr now and then . . . He's now second class A. E. M., Dean F. Linn, somewhere in the Pacific.

★ **INVITATIONS.** Kay Dwyer, hostess, says the latch string is out and all Fort Dodgers are especially invited to visit the USO Club at 307 Conti Street, Mobile, Alabama. Thanks, Kay . . . H. E. "Hub" Nelson, R. E., U. S. Navy, is living at 1644 B, Liholiho St., Honolulu, and he invites me to ask any Dodgers to drop in. But, "Hub," don't say I didn't warn you.

★ **BROTHERS.** He's in India now, Sgt. O. F. Hager, while his brother Bob is at Norfolk, Va., a member of a PBM crew. Bob says half the members of the crew read YLFH and they are from all over the U. S. A. Thanks for the "Dope Sheet," Bob.

★ **ABOUT ADDRESSES,** etc. We have to be careful not to violate censorship rules, that's why the foreign addresses in these letters are incomplete. If you want addresses we try to dig them up and send them to you in a personal letter. The censors regard YLFH as a newspaper and not as a letter even though it travels first class. Censors are funny people.

★ **WEDDING BELLS.** Ardelle Wicklander, of Gowrie, and Cpl. Ernest C. Johnson, of Worcester, Mass., at Gowrie, March 23rd. . . Winifred Adamson, of Glasgow, Scotland, and Pvt. E. Goodman, in Glasgow, on February 20th . . . Margarete Pitz, of Amana, and Lt. Milo Holenda, at Laredo, Texas, March 11th . . . Vivian Mae Reed, of Bell, Calif., to Claude Wood, at Tulare, Calif., March 4th. Claude is a flight instructor for the army . . . Louise Taylor and Pvt. Wm. Robert Newsum, sometime in the future . . . Doris Thompson and John Vosika, Jr., of Moorland, in Des Moines, March 11th.

★ **VISITING THE HOME FOLKS.** Robert Muhl, A/S, from Farragut . . . From San Marcos, Texas, 2nd Lt. Nels G. Glesne . . . From Long Beach, Calif., T/Sgt. John Mahoney . . . From Kirtland Field, Albuquerque, New Mex., 2nd Lt. Richard Gadbury . . . He's on his way to Dalhart, Texas . . . Betty Klinger, SPAR from Cleveland. She's going to radio school . . . Pfc. Fred Dalvey, from Ft. Monmouth, N. J. He makes with a teletype in the communications section . . . A/C John Wold from Northwestern. He's on his way to Ottumwa . . . Lt. and Mrs. Henry Moorman from Camp Davis, N. C. They are both fliers. She was formerly Miss Dorothea Johnson and is a WASP. . . Herbert Bohannon, from Farragut.

☛ **UP AND DOWN CENTRAL AVENUE.** Martin Ertl is dead. For years he was the owner and operator of the biggest meat market in town . . . The all girl choir sang for the men at Camp Dodge last Sunday . . . Shirley Porter, 14 year old 8th grader, from Vincent, won the county spelling championship Saturday. Second was Norva Ann Hanson, of Callender. Marie Byrne, of Moorland, was third and Bob Luthro, of Badger, fourth. Carrie Rosen was top girl in Fort Dodge . . . Mrs. W. S. Byerhoff is dead. She died in Oakland, Calif. . . Someone burgled and set fire to the O. K. Tire Shop next to Brooks Laundry on 1st Avenue north Sunday morning. \$300 was taken from the safe. The building was gutted by fire. No clues. . . Bob Knudson, Navy recruiting officer and former county attorney is now exalted ruler of the Elks . . . Kiwanis Club has opened a chapter in Gowrie. President is Elmer Martindale. Other officers are Dr. H. L. Johnson and J. E. T. Johnson . . . Fire completely destroyed the Oscar P. Swanson farm home near Harcourt last Friday. Loss estimated at \$6,000 . . . The Moose held their state convention here over the week-end. Initiated 300 new members.

☛ **SCOREBOARD.** Prospects are good for Dodger baseball. Geo. Knack, top moundman for the Dodgers last year, is back and should be better than ever. Valuable addition is Junior Janssen, who pitched last year for Pomeroy . . . The Waverly Go Hawks, State Tournament favorites, won the state title easily. In the final game, they beat Franklin High of Cedar Rapids, 30 to 21, after defeating Harlan the previous evening, 33 to 25. Franklin High beat Hull in the semi finals, 36 to 28.

☛ **DEATH IN THE COUNTRY.** Cliff Allard and his wife lost their lives in a fire that destroyed their farm home Sunday morning. He was 33, she was 30. They lived 4½ miles west and north of Fort Dodge. No one knows how the fire started.

☛ **MISSING IN ACTION** is Lt. Don Kehm, bombardier on a Fort. His plane was lost on a raid over Berlin March 6th.

☛ **FROM THE FIVE CORNERS OF THE WORLD.** Pfc. Harris J. Johnson, Italy, "All you see here is Eyeties, rocks and mountains. In Africa it was Arabs and sand. What I want to see is tall corn and civilized people then I'll know I'm in Iowa."

Don W. Clark, BM 2/c, South Pacific. "After seeing so many coconut trees—millions of them—I have doubts if I shall enjoy one of my favorite pastries—coconut cream pie—again. We can pick plenty of limes but can't get the proper partner for it,—an olive for a Martini—same idea. When one makes a deal with a native for his trinkets you get the short end of the bargain. The natives may not own an automobile but it is a wonder after seeing some of the deals made with them. The islands at first appearance cause one some excitement—once ashore and back—you wonder—seventeen months later you are definite that all the allure is gone and your desire to see more is nil. The only island I desire to see is Duck Island and I am quite sure the other Ft. Dodgers will share my opinion from this area. I have seen but two from the home town—Roy Vieg, PhM 1/c, and LaVerne Mozena, SK 2/c. Mozena and I cross paths frequently but have seen Roy but once. According to Mrs. Clark and your letters there are many out here. I have been close to them at times I am sure. This is a large area and by luck one may contact them. Everyone is looking for someone from their home town constantly. I receive letters from Gates Dry Goods employees and enjoy them. Mrs. Clark being an employee, I know most all of them that write. I believe the firms and citizens of Fort Dodge are outstanding in bringing news from home and local happenings that the men in service want to hear about. I haven't seen anyone receive similar mail."

Pfc. Peter Rodenborn, England, "Met Herb Bennet, a fellow graduate, a couple of weeks ago. He's located only a few miles from here so we get to see each other in town quite often."

Paul R. Shappell, CM 2/c, Pacific, "I have in my travels out here in the Pacific visited several of the coral atolls which you no doubt have read about. They are all very much alike except some of them formerly had palm trees on them. So far I have collected only one souvenir, a set of Jap chopsticks made of teak wood. They were in a small hand carved box also of teak wood."

Cpl. Keith G. Nordeen, San Bernardino, Calif., "Major John Schrader is also here at the base. He's the Base Surgeon. Being in the Medical Branch of the service, in the Dental Dept., I get to see him quite often. He is in charge of the Medics in a way. I have seen so many false teeth since I've been here, that I almost dream of them. I am with a Sub-Central Dental Lab so see plenty of work that has to be done. There are sure a lot of G. I.'s that need false teeth."

Lt. Robert K. Rhinesmith, England, "At the present time I am located in "The Midlands" of England in a very comfortable camp and engaged in a training program that will enable all of us concerned to make it a round trip. The biggest and most noticeable difference in our two great countries is the English version of plumbing and heating, much below our good old American standards."

Capt. Neville B. Slagter, New Guinea, "The natives down here are something! They look just like they are portrayed in the movies. They make wonderful business men with very little training. Selling bananas, coconuts, and pineapple, they hold up one finger or two fingers as their price for each article. "One Shilling?" we ask. "Hell no! One pound," is their gentle reply. To combat the mosquito bites we take "Atabrine"—it keeps the malaria down but we all are turning a very bright yellow as an after effect."

Pfc. Lorell E. McFarland, New Guinea, "Robert Lentch, Wilford Hanna and I were talking about home the other night and men-

tioned how good it would be to listen to requests made for fellas' birthdays and other things." (We'll take care of that request.)

Carl B. Nelson, CM 2/c, Southwest Pacific, "We have just gotten back from a 30 day rest in New Zealand. We didn't rest much as we wanted to see the country, which is very beautiful. They have some very interesting sight seeing trips through the mountains, the different colored waterfalls and gysers. We were in the city of Auckland, which is rather large. It has a quarter of a million population now."

Pfc. Wendell Reed, Sicily, "My company operates a large ration depot and I have seen a lot of Iowa made and processed foods. We have had Tobin meats several times. It brings one nearer home to see products from the home town. It is really concrete evidence that the folks back home are right in there pitching. Of course, there are several products sent over that the folks should not be too proud of; ie, dried eggs. True, they are a product of necessity for the duration, but why brag about the future of them? Ten million men can't be wrong. Tom Kelley, another home town, and myself have visited here in Sicily on several occasions relatives of a lot of the Italians living in Fort Dodge. They include, among others, relatives of the Mortillaros, Marinos, Purporas, Segrettos and DiNotos."

Pfc. Lloyd Vanderhoff, Italy, "Received the surprise of my life this evening when I got your two letters. I think it is about the most wonderful thing you folks at home could do for us fellows. Gosh! I had begun to think you fellows had forgotten we existed anymore. I haven't seen a person I knew at all since I've been in the army and as you know it gets dang lonesome, just trying to figure out what's really happening at home. Thanks a million for the letter from home. I'm fine, have a nice tent with a wooden floor, a table and chair, wooden beds, a stove; and just think—I only have to share it with seven fellows!"

Lt. G. Hendricks, Italy, "I have met Don Hauser in Tunis, then we moved to Italy and I saw him again. Also met Gaylord Whiting in Tunisia. Met my brother Don and Capt. Jim Huebsch in Tunis, too. Don came in on a courier airplane just the other day and I met him at the field for a ten minute talk. Certainly nice to meet some one from the old home town for a chit-chat. I supervise the message center of an air force, and with all the records and station list of location units, I have a good chance of locating people, if I know their APO or unit. Capt. Huebsch, Lt. Hauser, and Cpl. Whiting are all in the same air force and are in Italy. Have visited Belfast, Northern Ireland, Liverpool, Oran, Bone Phillipville, Constantine, Tunis, Matuer, Enfidaville, Hammamet, Depiennce and many other points of interest. Also took in the sites of the old Roman ruins in the city of Carthage. Have made flying business-trips to Sicily and Sardinia. All in all, I have never seen anything that would compare to the beauty of Iowa—especially Webster County."

There were other letters, a whole mailsack full of them from everywhere, from Pfc. Chas. F. Koestner, somewhere in Alaska or the Aleutians . . . Pvt. John Brand, APO San Francisco . . . Capt. F. H. Ferguson, Camp Livingston, La. . . Cliff Nielson, CM 1/c, Sicily . . . Blair Livasy, New Guinea . . . Forrest L. Palmer AM 3/c, Banana River, Fla. (Thanks for the "Banana Peelings," Forrest.) . . . Pfc. Kenneth Hagberg, Somewhere in the Pacific . . . 1st Lt. Howard B. Gamper, somewhere in Italy . . . Cpl. Arleigh Kullberg, Panama . . . S/Sgt. Al H. Kahler, England. (I really go for that Disney letterhead, Al.) . . . Pvt. Verl Pugh, APO San Francisco . . . E. A. Alexander, Cox., FPO San Francisco . . . Pfc. Harry H. Hughes, Southwest Pacific. (We took care of one request. We'll get the other, too.) . . . Sgt. L. E. Johnson, Camp Sibert, Alabama. (I don't know, Lawrence, we just get Alabama and Alaska mixed up sometimes.) . . . Capt. T. V. L. Harvey, Camp Roberts, Calif. (He's on.) . . . Pvt. Alan V. Breen, 340 F A. Bn., 89th Light Div., Camp Roberts, Calif. . . Sgt. E. L. Anglin, Gowen Field, Idaho . . . Lt. Col. Ellis Eno, Italy . . . T/Sgt. Herb Zwenke, Sicily . . . Pfc. Carsten H. Autzen, Fresno, Calif. . . Milo Roberts, M 3/c, Port Angeles, Wash. . . A/S Don Cook, Santa Ana, Calif. . . Cpl. J. C. Holmes, Long Island, New York . . . Cpl. Russell Barnhouse, Somewhere in the Pacific . . . Sgt. Joe O'Hern, Italy . . . S/Sgt. E. B. Collson, USMC, Rochester, New York . . . Pfc. Robert A. Palmer, Sioux Falls, South Dakota . . . Lt. (j. g.) R. W. Peterson, Mercer Field, Trenton, N. J. . . . Allan Holbrook, 5th Army front. (we'll get addresses for you if you'll tell us which ones.) . . . Pvt. Paul Ivory, Italy . . . Lt. Ed. Moreland, Baton Rouge, La. . . (Thanks for those kind wishes, fellow. You were right about the birthday.) . . . Pfc. Donald Willis, FPO San Francisco. (With your new address you ought to get YLFH every week.) . . . Cecil L. Wills, PhM 3/c, Spokane, Washington. . . Sgt. Ernest B. Halback, Ft. Benning, Ga. . . (We've been sending 'em! Probably just had the wrong address. Nev and Jual are both on now.)

This week you guys and gals, than whom there is none whomer, wrote us 119 letters and sent us 23 service and camp papers. Also a lot of swell pictures. Many of them we haven't yet acknowledged but we will. Those letters of yours keep this letter going. They give us the feeling that we are on the right track. And that this is worth doing. You know, anything you do at home today seems awfully puny as measured against your activities. While I'm writing this line some fellow somewhere is fighting to bring a wounded Fort home. While I'm thinking of a word, some neighbor lad is sweating it out in a fox hole in Cassino. We're proud of you, you grand and gracious guys and gals who have gone out to save the world. So long, good luck and may you all come safely back to us.

Your home town correspondent,  
ED BREEN.