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Newark, Ohio.
December 15th 1942.

JAN 16 REC'D

Dear William:

I have been trying to get a letter off to you for sometime, but have just been so busy that I think that the next day will not be so bad but it seems to get worse. Walter Kinney left for the army a couple of weeks ago, but he left the store before that in order to finish up their house. A week ago Saturday Virgil left to go to Owens Corning, he felt that he should be more actively engaged in war work, so that leaves us two short and that means that I have to help with everything from sweeping out, taking care of merchandise and waiting on the trade.

Our stock of merchandise is getting less and less and the prospects for more seem very slim at this time. I had thought that with a more favorable outlook in the war that things might loosen a little and we could be able to get some of the necessary items but the prospect is slim.

Your letter of Nov. 20th arrived on the 12th and we are surprised to learn that the glasses have not yet come through. I have written to Mr. Gordon of the Foreign Activity Correlation department asking that he again look into this matter for me. We sent the glasses to him on August 21st and asked him to have them forwarded to you via air mail pouch, that you needed them very much. I never have heard from him and hope he will give us some information in reply to my last letter. I do not know if they are insured when they go by pouch and I wish that you would let me know or better still you had better enter claim for the value. If we do not get anything satisfactory from Washington, I shall have Dr. Hatch order another pair for you. It is just a shame that you have to be without them so long a time.

We enjoyed the pictures very much and it would be interesting if you send some of them often as we do not have much of an idea what that country is like.

Before I forget it I must tell you that the Mound Mortgage debenture have paid their last dividend and have closed up the business. Bill Wobecke had me sign a bond, as I could not locate the debenture and gave me checks for the amount of \$122.15 which I deposited to your savings account, I am also enclosing duplicates for other amounts which I deposited at various times. I think that Carl send you the duplicates, but I am not sure so I shall send these along.

It is certainly too bad that Mac is leaving your office, I am sure you will miss him as well as possibly losing half of the food supply. Talking of food, we shall have rationing on most of our food before long. The coffee ration is now on and we are doing much better. For a time it was just impossible to get coffee unless you haunted the grocery store all of the time and Sarah did not have time to do that. Meat and many other items are supposed to go on after January first.

I am very sorry to tell you the news that Charles H. Spencer was killed in an auto accident on Wed. Dec. 9th, he was on his way to attend a meeting of the Conservation Board at New Phila.

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Dec.16th.

Well, I shall try to get out a few more lines this morning before we open up. I had a letter from Janie a week or so ago, after they went back from the Thanksgiving holiday, and Norman has gone to the west coast and expects to be back in Washington by Dec. 23rd. They both expect to go to Seattle after the first of the year, but there is no knowing how certain that will be. Their present address is 815 S. Filmore St., Apt. 142A, Arlington, Va. I shall get after her on the writing for she is certainly very slow with it. She is working for the Briggs Clarifer Company in Washington and this, of course, takes quite a bit of the time.

Mrs. Francis called Sarah one evening and told her that Bud had had dinner with you. How is he making out with the Army, trust that he is doing as well as he did with Pan American. Give him our best when you meet up with him again. Noticed in last night's paper that Don Currie had to bail out of a plane and landed in San Francisco bay, landed alright and was not hurt. Did I tell you that "ennth Jones was home on a furlough sometime back. He was on the Wasp when it went down and had quite an experience. It is quite hard to keep track of all of the boys, in fact I do not try to for they are moved so often. One of the draft board members me that over 3000 had gone from our county already, that is almost twice as many as went in the last war.

Well I wonder what news you have had from Philinda. Hope that she is on the way and will arrive safely. Better wire us when the great event is to take place. I sure wish you both all the happiness good luck and prosperity that any one in the world has ever had. I trust that you will both be as fond of one another as you were before you parted in Lisbon and I am sure that you will be. May God bless you both and bring you both home gain.

The bus business has been very good, in fact too good to care for it properly since gas rationing went into effect the first of the month. I have an A & B card which will be sufficient to take us to the farm for the necessary trips. Our tires are in very good condition and should last for a couple of years with the Victory speed.

You spoke of the heat, well we are having some real weather, having been down to five above zero this past week. I do not like winter so much anymore and will be glad to see spring roll around again.

It was fine that you were invited to the Government House and I trust that it will not be your last invitation. Hope you will be asked when Philinda arrives. Tarquah Bay must be somewhat of a relief even though it is only a short distance away. John Taylor always asks about you when he writes and wishes to be remembered to you. He likes you very much. We are getting busy now as the store is open and I shall have to close soon. I must tell you that we prepared a box for you a month ago, but the P.O. would not accept it as it was too large and heavy. I wrote to the Department of State on Nov. 13th and did not receive a reply until just a few days ago. I shall have to tear it up and make it in two packages and shall send it through the Department. I shall try to get it off to you within the next few days. This will reach you too late for Christmas but we wish you a most Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and a most happy life with Philinda.

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Love, Daddy.