

THE CRANE – KRIEG – FLORY CO.

HARDWARE – PAINTS

NEWARK, OHIO

June 24th 1940.

Dear William:

It has been a long time since we have had any word from you, in fact the last was through and from Betty Lou. Betty said that you were very busy getting the people out but I presume that the rush is now over, I suppose that the package that we sent to you will be a loss as Janie had to sign an affidavit that if the country to which the package was consigned went to war they would not be responsible for the loss.

Things have moved so fast in Europe that it has been almost impossible to keep up with events. At this writing, 7.30 A.M. the French expect to hear the demands of Italy within a few hours. Hitler has sure raised "hell" with Europe and the world and there is no telling where he will stop.

It is a shame that you cannot get through to U.S. on your radio as you could keep fairly well posted with the late news. Of course it is useless to give you any of the current news as it is old when you receive it by letter. Well, we have had our trip to Havana and arrived back home on Tuesday, June 18th. The trip on the boat from New York was delightful but Havana was one hot place and as we had not had much real hot weather at home before we left we had one hot time. Havana is a very interesting place and of course, is a very different country from our own. We had engaged a room at the Sevilla Biltmore hotel but it was a very poor room and was \$8.00 per day so after two nights we went back to the boat. The dock was not so far from the center of Havana as we had been led to believe and the taxi fare was only .20¢ for two. Our boat the "Kungsholm" was too large to dock so we went out on tenders and they kept five running so there was no time lost getting out to the boat. The boat was a Swedish-American liner and was very nice, food was fine and entertainment all of the time. It was chartered by Rotary so we had it all to our own crowd. We took in the Fair at New York on Sunday and on Monday A.M. went to Washington. We were met by Curt, Mary and the children and taken to the hotel. They were very nice to us and showed us every attention. We had lunch with them and dinner with champagne and all of the trimmings. That evening we took the American and brought Betty Lou back home with us. I think that she had been packed for a week and was so glad to come with us. I think that she will soon lose the ideas she found on the other side and she thinks Ohio is the grandest place in the world. She is very fond of the farm and enjoyed it very much yesterday and last Thursday evening when we were there.

Janie had been a big time with her parties at the farm after graduation. Dick Reinbold brought six or eight boys back from West Point and they all enjoyed themselves very much. I am sure that Janie and Betty will have a very good time together in spite of the difference in their ages. Betty started in to take typing in summer school. I tried to get Janie to do it but she would not be persuaded.

Grandpa went to Columbus to stay a while with Harold and Mary and Leonard will be down for him this week. Mary is still on crutches.

Your insurance will soon be due and I will pay it, I do not know just what the amount is. Betty has twenty two dollars out of the \$30.00 you gave her, so consider that much of it paid. Betty had a nice trip on the *Washington*. Capt. Manning gave her a room in first cabin by herself and she got along fine. She sure enjoyed being with you and considers you very serious.

I will have to close this now. I hope that we will get some word from you soon and hope and pray that you are alright and well. Tell us all you can when you write to us.

Love and best wishes from all of us.

Yours,

Daddy

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