

AMERICAN CONSULATE
Milan, Italy
February 5, 1941

Dear Ninnie and Aunt Vonie:

The other day when I was writing to Daddy, I decided to make an extra copy and send it to you. I hope that you got my Christmas card all right; the mail is so irregular these days that one never knows whether anything will arrive or not. At the present time, I haven't had a letter from home for almost a month.

There isn't a great deal to add to what I said to the folks in Newark. I am glad to say that in the week since my letter was written, the cold which I spoke of there is much better; in fact, I can say that I am practically cured. I think that vitamin D extract was just the thing. When I was in Stuttgart, I had a cold that lasted for four months, and it only passed on when I began taking a preparation of vitamins A and D. I wish I could find some of the same here, as, judging from results, it is just what my system needs.

Outside of work, there hasn't been a great deal to do here during the last few months. However, I have taken a season ticket to the opera at La Scala, and so I generally have at least one night a week there. The program has had to be rearranged somewhat because of the prevailing conditions. Instead of having the performances begin at 8:50 or later, they now have one series that starts at 6:00, another on Saturday and Sunday afternoon, and a third at 8:00. My ticket is to the last, since I am unable to get away from the office by six, and so far we have had the luck not to be disturbed by any air raid alarms. The season has been just as brilliant as ever, and I have heard several well-known singers, such as Gigli. In addition to standard operas, they are also presenting two ballets: am going to see the Fire Bird ballet of Rimsky Korsakov tonight, and I have heard that it is very good.

When there is nothing special to do, I just stay home and read. My American magazines arrive by pouch, and I have so many that I have fallen way behind, and now have about six copies of Fortune to read. As you probably know, that is a pretty good sized magazine. My radio works fairly well, although from my location, I have a hard time hearing American stations. However, I can cover Europe pretty well, and that affords good variety. There is, of course, an unfortunate amount of talking for propoganda purposes, but one can usually hear music if one tries hard enough. And that is all there in to my life at present.

I do hope you are both well, and that you have been having a good winter, the weather here is terrible * rain, snow, and especially fog - all the time. Just as in Ohio, we rarely see the sun. Much love to you both.

William

PJM

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American Com. late
Milan, Italy



Mrs. Charles F. Rhoads

1834 S.W. 2nd St.

Miami, Florida

S.U.A.



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PER VIA AEREA

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PAR AVION

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