

April 19th 1941.

Dear William:

This is a very poor time to start a letter to you, being Saturday afternoon, but we seem to have a lull and I will make an attempt at a few lines. We were very busy this morning and could hardly take care of the people. We sold two power mowers and I sold two hand mowers, We seem to have dropped winter and gone straight into summer weather. For the past week the temperature has run above 85 every day, I looked just a short time ago and it was standing at 88 and you know that that is too much for this time of the year.

The peaches, cherries and plums are in full bloom and the apples are in the pink. I looked over the orchard last night and I find we will not have many Delicious or Grimes, but the Jonathan seem to be quite full. If they are no better price than last year, it will not pay to do much with them. We need rain very badly. The water table is low from the lack of rain last fall and if we do not get rain soon it will really be serious.

Penick has the delayed dormant spray on and said he would put on the scabo spray today or Monday. We had a shower on Friday which started the scab spores. He has a new tractor and get get around with the sprayer much better. He did a very poor job on mine last year and I had a lot of scab, hope he does better this time. Well, I will have to stop this for awhile and wait on a few customers.

Well, I will take another try at it. Sarah was in Washington this week attending the Congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution and she had a wonderful time. She went down on Sunday night and came back Friday morning. Betty Lou went down before the Easter Vacation and is coming back Monday morning. The Cherry Blossoms were in bloom and were a beautiful sight, it was the first time that she had seen them.

Your letter of March 15th came on April 7th, the best time of any for a long while. We are very glad that you are getting sufficient to eat and hope it will continue. Presume by this time that you are having plenty of warm weather, wish you had some of ours as it is too warm here for the time of year. We shall probably have one or two good frosts before real warm weather sets in.

On Thursday evening I went to Columbus with Merrill Montgomery to attend the Scottish Rite meeting, it was the first one that I have been to for many years and I enjoyed it very much. Merrill said that John was getting along very well, he is at Fort Riley, Kansas and is in the cavalry, that should suit John as he likes horses. He was married on February 15th to Eva Fitch of Granville, I do not know the girl, but her father was a preacher and she worked in the office of the registrar at Denison. Sarah will have to tell you about her when she writes to you. I also see in the paper last night that your friend Anna May Schaller is to be married soon to someone from out of town. Also read in the paper that Merrill M. was elected to the Board of Trustees of Denison University.

We had heard that Pa, Mary and Leonard might come down this week end, but got word later that they would not come, Betty says that Leonard has a regular job now. It is a good thing for possibly Mary will not have to stick so close to her work as she has. Had a letter from Pa several weeks ago and he is doing very well, but says that Mary's ankle still bothers her.

I think that I told you in the last letter than Lillian had slipped and broken her hip. We had a card from her not so long ago and she is getting along very well. It is just a shame as it will be hard on Aunt Vonie, regardless of the fact that they have a good woman to help out.

Had a letter from John Taylor today and he wishes to be remembered to you. John sure takes it easy, stays in Florida all winter and then comes up to Arkansas and Hot Springs for awhile and then on to Ohio then to Wisconsin, a tough life I would say.

Bill Grieser called me today and wanted your address, said he had received your letter and wished to write to you. Of course you got the word in my letter that I deposited your check back to your account.

The situation on your side of the water looks very serious and does not seem to be getting any better. Defense work on this side seems to be progressing quite well. Some of the larger strikes have been settled and they expect to get the soft coal strike out of the way in a few days. We are sure going to know what taxes are on this side before very long as money is being spent right and left.

We have been wondering what they would do with all of the Consular officials and Americans if we were to go to war with Italy or some of the other countries. There certainly would not be places for all of them in other countries.

We have never yet had word from your friend who came over from Milan, would be very glad to see him and get the news.

Well, my dear boy, I think I had better close as we are getting busy on the floor and I must go to work. I am enclosing your Masonic card, it will do you no good there but you may as well have it.

I have no further results from the appendicitis and hope I have had the first and last attack. Dr. Davis said if I had another one he would operate and not put it off.

In speaking of John Montgomery, I should have told you that he came in the store the day that he enlisted and told me he had intended to get married but was going to postpone it until after he got out of the army, but he changed his mind and did it before, Merrill said he wife was out to see him over last week end.

Write often and give us all things of interest that you can, so many inquire about you and wish to be remembered. With love and best wishes, I am,

Yours, *Daddy*.

P. S. We had a nice letter from Janie on Easter. We sent her a lot of her spring clothes and cookies and candy for Easter. She says she is getting along alright.

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Rec'd May 12

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