

June 3, 1946

Dear Vera & John:-

Was very glad to get your letter last week. I wanted to write to you but couldn't get to it. Thanks a lot for the pictures. Were they taken where you live?

Hope you got your boxes last week. Let us know right away if you haven't. Will get the radio packed and sent this week.

The kids and I came in Thursday morning to Memorial services at the Gloria. They showed a picture entitled "Our America" in Technicolor that was really worth seeing. mountains, lakes, factories, parks etc. We went out to the cemetery after the services. They had a larger parade than usual.

I filled grandma's vase Wednesday evening. Spent over 5.00 for the flowers, and got some Dusty Miller from here to put in with them. Had to work too fast to get them set in the vase to look like I wanted it to.

Will go out as soon as I can to see how they look by this time. They always look better several days later.

You asked what John that letter was from that your dad forwarded to Illinois. It was your own John. Maybe you have it by now if you have written granddad and given him your address. Your dad opened the letter when we noticed it was post marked Astoria, Oregon, and that is where I got Creath's address. You know

you hadn't received a letter for two weeks before you left so we thought there might be something in it that you should know immediately and we would have to send you a wire before you left Mattoon. The letter had been dated April 19th and postmarked April 30th from Oregon so you see it got lost, delayed for something for about two weeks.

You asked how we liked the Ruth Lyons program. We liked it real well. She and Frazer Thomas neither one looked like I had expected.

Gethro is tall, dark and slender and appears to be middle aged and plays a small instrument - guitar, banjo or something and Homer is not very tall, red hair, and younger looking than Gethro and plays a very large instrument - base violin I think. They make a comical looking pair and they act that way too while they sing and play. The kids got several autographs for a booklet they gave them at the studio. Ruth Lyons, Homer and Gethro, Earl Neal, Roy Battles and the boys in the "Five Buckaneers" Orchestra out at Everybody's Farm.

Wednesday - 5th.

Hope to finish this today and get it mailed so you will get it this week.

Nelson went to St. Louis again last Saturday night and got home yesterday noon. He wasn't in any condition to go out there but he had received his Income Tax refund and he had written Beverly that he was coming out last week end so go he did. He wasn't feeling a bit good yesterday but he went down to the field and

worked several hours. Think he feels better this morning. He soaked his chest with camphorated oil and I rubbed it on his back and neck.

Beverly wanted him to stay until today to be with her when they take her to a hospital in Illinois Pana I think. They told her they had done all they could for her at St. Louis. Nelson said yesterday that her back is broken up close to the shoulder blades. He says she cries like a baby when he tells her he is coming home. She is still paralyzed.

Bill got your letter yesterday and he was tickled pink. Arthur McCain (Ruby's brother) from Urbana came out with us Saturday night and stayed until Sunday evening then came out with Bill and I Monday afternoon and he is still here. Bill was reading your letter aloud and they got a big kick out of it. Arthur comes to Bill's shoulders. They helped dad trim Babie's hoofs Sunday and the kids trimmed her mane and tail so she looks real nice. Bill rode her down to Blazers Monday night to 4H meeting. Dad had intended to come home on the bus but in the afternoon I thought about the 4H meeting and felt sure Mary Ann would want to come out so I made a special trip in there. She didn't want to come out as Tillie wanted her to be at work about 9 o'clock yesterday morning. She hasn't been here since Saturday afternoon.

I don't imagine you know that Mr. Groves is dead. He was buried last Friday morning in Grandview Cemetery across the road from Oakdale. Nelson was one of the pallbearers. Also Warren Methard,

Louis Kuey, Joe Hoffman, Harold Johns (Hod) and Richard Colbert. Mary Ann and I went to the funeral and I took Etoyle, Mrs. Smith (neph to Colberts) and Mrs. Brake out to the cemetery and back. Nelson rode in Johns' car. Mr. Kroves looked so nice and there were a lot of beautiful flowers. Bill, Nelson and I stopped at the house on Thursday (Decoration Day) to see him. Etoyle was quite grieved at the funeral.

Saw Ethel Kearns, Bonnie and their aunt and uncle, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Earhart. Ethel asked me for your address. She is getting married this month instead of last. She has a very pretty ring ^{at the cemetery too}.

I saw Mrs. Roberts (Mabel's mother) and she said Mabel wants you to write to her or she wants to write to you. I don't remember which. Her name is Truman now and still works at the Railway Express, but may quit this month.

Several have told me to tell you that they wished you luck and happiness - Mrs. Pete Brown, Mrs. Knox and Mrs. Harrigan (neph to Colberts).

Are you receiving the Citizen from John's parents? If not I will send some to you. Saw Mary and Barbara with Mrs. Long Monday morning near the Perpetual Loan but didn't get to talk to them as Mrs. Lillian ~~Robert~~ was talking to them or Barbara rather. She is a little doll and she had on the cutest pink sweater and bonnet.

The sun has been shining here for a few days for a change. No garden made tho only the potatoes we got at Helfrichs grocery. They are way up.

Trust Rose now or I never will get this sent out. Lots of love to both.

Mother

Bill L. was down again last week end but we didn't see him. He spent most of his time at Mussers I guess. Wasn't at Bob's very long either. Grandma came up and went home with Edna Tues. We didn't see them. She will be back in Urbana this week.

Mrs. V. Lebkisher,
R. R. 1, Mechanicsburg, O.



Mr. & Mrs. John Helfrick,
47 Linden Ave.,
N. Housing,
Vallejo, Calif.

100

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1946
JUN 9
CALIF.

WHITE ISLAND
STA.

July 3, 1946.
Pop's birthday

Dear Vera and John:-

Will try to write a few lines before time for the mailman. If you don't receive a letter from me this week maybe you will think I am dead or something. For awhile I thought I was myself. I went to Dr. Rhodes about three weeks ago and he said I had neurosis (a condition of the nerves like I had when we first moved out here about ten years ago.

He gave me some awful tasting medicine (liquid) for my nerves and some vitamin pills to build me up. Have felt much better the last week and haven't taken the medicine either.

We haven't had the car since a week ago last Monday. Dad drove it in to work then and left it at 201. He has been tearing it down (Nelson helped some) getting it ready for some new parts when they arrive. Bill and I walked down to Mutual Saturday to get the 2 o'clock bus in and while we were standing there Mrs. Dunham stopped and asked us if we were going to Urbana so we rode in with her. The bus was either late or we had missed it anyway. We should have seen or heard it though if it left Mechanicsburg at 2:00. I stayed in town until last night. Dad got Mr. Conroy to bring us out and he went back to town. Will come home tonight. He doesn't work tomorrow, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Every other week he gets Fri., Sat., and Sunday off so it makes it rather nice.

I want to bake a spice cake today if I can for his birthday. He is 47.

We got a card from Aunt Rose in Degraff saying that Eloa Watson (Uncle Jason's oldest girl who lives in Illinois) and her husband Forest arrived last Monday to be there until next Saturday. Today is Uncle Jason's birthday too and they are trying to have a basket dinner tomorrow. Would surely like to go but don't know how unless Helen (Tippett) and Floyd Lantz would be going. I don't think Dad would care to go.

The Legion has been having a celebration at the Fair grounds since Sunday and tomorrow morning they are to have a large parade. W.L.W. is to broadcast the Farm Hour from there tomorrow. Homer and Jethro and a lot more of W.L.W. talent are to be there and tomorrow night they will have a fireworks display. I had planned to be out there tomorrow with Bill and Mary Ann so I don't know how I can manage it and Degraff too.

While I was in town I did quite a lot of work. Started on the north bed room and did some cleaning and straightening up all over the house. After being over there a few days I am more dissatisfied than ever with this place. If I had someone to help me to do what should be done maybe I would feel different. Have to do a washing if I can find enough fuel to heat the water. Want to make a meat loaf for tomorrow also. Was lucky enough to get 4 lbs. of hamburger and some loin steak yesterday. The bread situation isn't so bad now but is rather hard to get fresh meat at times. Can't get pork at all. We have used a couple cans of our sausage lately and have only two cans left.

I am glad the radio is O.K. Guess it was not damaged or you would have said so.

I got some coin holders at the Loan and Bill wrapped your pennies and added a few of Mary Ann's to make 7.00. There is a 2.00 bill, 1.00 bill, the bond and .75 (quarter, dimes and one nickel). If I go in on the bus tomorrow will try to take the money with me. I may stay in town over night and take care of getting it sent out to you Friday. I should have asked you if you wanted me to take 5.00 of this money to pay Marsh's. We are in a tight spot right now since we had to pay our taxes (57.99) Saturday and make a payment (30.) on the Boyce St. place. Had to use your dad's government check, last milk check and half of his wages to do that. Don't have enough to pay all the other bills that should be paid. - M. Ward, grocery, telephone, etc. so it will be impossible right now for us to pay on your bill! I surely would if we were able to.

Havent seen your loan book so it is evidently at Helfrich's. They stopped here a little while on their way home from Columbus Sunday. I wasn't here and I wasn't here the Sunday they stopped and left your picture.

We are surely proud of the picture. I don't think it could be better of either one. So many have remarked about it and think it is very good. Would certainly like to see one colored.

I saw Aunt Nora Monday afternoon. She said they had a letter from granddad and he asked when the Fair was to be. Said he would come out then if it wasn't

the same time as theirs. I finally got a letter mailed to him Monday evening as Mary Ann and I went to the show.

Dick Haynes and Maurine O'Hara were on at the Gloria in "Do You Love Me". It was in technicolor and was real good in case you haven't seen it.

Yes, we knew Colberts have to move. She asked dad about renting 201. Joyce came there last evening to get Mary Ann. I don't know what they planned to do. M.A. had said that she was going out to the Fair grounds with Eileen Robinson (works at Isaly's too) Isaly's are getting ready to move over on Scots St. between Wilson's Drug Store and the American Hotel. Used to be a barber shop and pool room there. Dick Longnecker is manager now and Tilly is o.-u.-t. She could have stayed on and worked there I guess but she didn't want to do that. She had been so unreasonably smart or unbearable lately. Mrs. Ellis isn't at the Velvet anymore.

Some Greek man (not Mr. Cosmos) an old like woman and two young girls are in there now. I go in there at least once a week to get a pineapple soda. There are delicious.

We had a card from Uncle Bill last week saying Billie Dawn would be here next Sunday then Dollie told M.A. that they had a letter from him since we got his card saying she isn't coming. I haven't talked to Dollie to ask her if he said why she isn't.

Saw Mabel's mother yesterday and she said she had heard from her and she said she had a letter from you. Maybe you have heard from her by now. Mrs. Roberts said she isn't working now and has postponed coming home and wants her to come out there for Thanksgiving.

You and John behave yourselves and we enjoy a note or more along with Vera's letter whenever convenient. Love to both.

Mother

Mrs. V. Lebkisher,
R.R. 1, Mechanicsburg, O.

URBANA
JUL 8
10 PM
1946
OHIO



Mr. & Mrs. John Helfrich,
47 Linden Ave.,
N. Housing,
Vallejo,
Calif.

VIA AIR MAIL

100

July 31, 1946

Dear Vera & John :- Will
write some sort of a letter
this afternoon if I don't
get anything else done.
I wanted to write last
week but couldn't get
to it somehow.

Was more than glad
to get your nice long
letter week before last.

I went to Ethel Kearn's
shower on Thursday or
Friday of that week. She
received a lot of nice
things. I gave her a
milk glass candy jar.
It can be used for several
things I suppose. Got it
at Todds.

Nelson, Bill and I came
in with dad this morn-
ing. Had to do some tall
hurrying to get some gro-
ceries, go to the Loan, and
take some clothes to the
Model Cleaners before 12:00.
as I didn't get up town
until 20 minutes till. I

had to change clothes and spent almost an hour straightening up here.

I expect granddad to be coming about Saturday. Haven't heard from him yet but thought we might if he does intend to come for the Fair. If he does come I think I will plan to spend most of the time here at 201 while he is here.

The Fair starts this coming Sunday evening. They will have the horse show Monday and Tuesday nights this year.

Have had the car about two weeks I guess but had to leave it at Barnharts yesterday to have some work done on the brakes. Got most of the parts at the Urbang Auto parts and Howard Supply.

This is dad's week to get Friday and Saturday off. I guess he still gets the same pay and they were to have a raise the first of this month but

how much ⁻²⁻ I don't know.
I guess matters of that
kind do not concern
me as it has been four
years since I have even
seen his pay check and
I don't know how much
he draws and he doesn't
tell me. He hands me a
certain amount each
pay. He doesn't keep much
more than enough to pay
for his lunch at Jack's
I guess.

Hope you get a raise
too, John. A person can
always use one anytime.

I didn't get to bake the
spice cake for dad's
birthday and haven't
yet.

I saw Helen last week
and she said they have
n't got your loan book.
I don't see it around
here either so maybe
it is among your things
out there. Ned Rhodie's
wife gave me a slip for
you to sign and send
back in case you don't
find the book. She said

I wouldn't have to have
the book.

Do you want me to use
your two dollar bill and
one dollar bill? I paid
Marsh's five out of our
milk check then will
take your 5. in the loan
to replace it when you
send the slip back.

Let me know exactly
how much Nelson owes
you and John. We ex-
pect to get the oats cut
this week and I want
to know how much
he owes you both so
I can take it out of
his share.

Beverly called him a
little after 2 o'clock Sun-
day afternoon. They had
written that she would
be home for her dad's
birthday and would
call at that time. Bill
and I said a few words
too. She is staying home
and will have a nurse.
Maybe Nelson told you.
She is still paralyzed
but can move her should-
er a little. He wants to go
out to see her as soon as

he gets his money from the oats.

Isaly's are moving into their new store today. Bill is helping. And will stay in town tonight. He and Mary Ann just went back up there. It is after 8 o'clock.

Dad is up at Conroy's wiring a lamp and Nelson is at Groves. Dad put a floor plug in for Conroy's last week. Nelson and I went out to the farm between 4 and 5 o'clock and came back about 6 o'clock. We went around to the cemetery to see how the flowers look in grandma's vase. They look real nice and didn't need any water.

When I drove up to get dad at 7:00 we went around to Isaly's to see Bill and who do you suppose was parked on the opposite side of the street. John's dad. He came over and talked a

Miss V. Lebkisher
R.R. 1, Mechanicsburg



Mr. & Mrs. John Helfrich,
47 Linden Ave.,
N. Housing,
Vallejo,
Calif.

AIR MAIL

100

Aug 19, 1946

Hailo - hailo - you all,

Glad to hear you are rising so early in the morning. Put two marks down for Vee.

You shouldn't run to the mailbox for letters from me. Wasting all that energy but since you're wasting it on me that's okay but none of this spending your time on anyone else.

Yes Betty is back in California by now. She should be discharged too. She starts to Woodbury College in September.

Sun tan - boy I'm sunburned & tanned worse than a tomato. I have been going pretty regular the last two weeks. I'm darker than I ever was. You should see Betty she looks like a roon.

The fair to my opinion wasn't as good as past years. I guess that was because you weren't here, I'm to help me flirt with all the good looking men. Dusty and I went away every nite of the fair. On Monday we went to the wrestling matches and other nights to the fair. It's either every nite or else every other nite. You know I think

2

this love affair is really mighty,
mighty serious. Could he you know,
could he.

We don't have to move until
December. As of now we haven't
found a place. The landlady wants
to move back here from Chicago.
Sure hate to move. Sure do. Sure do.

Now listen here Vera, you just
go right ahead and have your kids
now - septuplets and I'll help
you take care of them. (Drown
them one by one in the bathtub)
Oh you meanie you.

Oh gods? those pictures. I guess
California hasn't done you any good.
You're just as silly as ever. Well
won't you ever change?

If anyone else has a baby it
will be me - er - or you. I'd
never make a kid suffer so by
naming it Vera Louise. She would
be in agony the rest of her life if
you did.

I haven't seen Smitty lately but
I will tell him your sweet little mes-
sage when I do.

Norma Lee and Joe still go together.
First they fight and get mad and

3.

then they make up. I don't know what to tell them do you?

It will be good if you do get home in December. Then we can talk and laugh as usual - no?

Well Mrs. Helfrich how do you like this married business of almost four months. I see you are not divorced yet so it must be okay no?

Dick Longuecker is not manager of Esaly's new place. Some other guy is. Denice is assistant manager and they have all men working for them now. She is the only girl. I guess Longuecker is going back to Panama - so I heard. The new place is pretty nice. Denice and he have been divorced for some time. I guess he didn't want to be tied to her when he got out of the navy.

I saw John Adams about a month ago in Barney's. I introduced him to Dusty. He sat and talked about fifteen minutes. But I was the one who did the talking. I couldn't get him to say hardly anything. I think he is changed. He is a lot thinner in the face and of course better looking. He is acquired a bit of a tan. He didn't tell me about being a medical missionary. Maybe he thinks I'm stupid.

4.

because of the way I sat with Dusty. Dusty had his arm around me when we were in Burneys talking to him and when I saw him outside he had a hold of my hand. Remember when I ~~wrote~~ went with John I would hardly let him touch me. Maybe that's what he means by my being changed do you think so? What did John have to say when he wrote to you?

Now if that were plain Pershy bars you were offering me I would take three, but since it was almond I'll take one please. Thank you. Not bad. Can or rather may I have another one?

I haven't been skating for ages. I don't like to skate in the summer. I guess Dusty and I will start again after school starts when they start having parties again. I guess the winter time is the best time to skate here.

Last nite (Wed.) Dusty and I went to Springfield to the state. We saw "Right In Paradise" (technique) with Furhan Bey + Merle Heron. Not bad. Sunday and we saw "Easy To Wed" with Van Johnson and Esther Williams

Have you seen any good shows lately.
 Dusty and I, George and Abbie (Bob)
 and three girls all going to the state
 fair over Saturday and Sunday. We're
 going to stay all night. Some fun.
 Gossip! Gossip! I know you'd ap-
 prove. Mother said I could go
 am. Boing

That sister of yours is quite pop-
 ular around town with the boys
 always having dates. I don't see
 why people waste their time on
 dates do you.

Last Sunday after Dusty and I came
 from Springfield we stopped at
 the Cabanas Club and listened to
 the music. Big necking job, big
 moon. Look a romanoff. Boing
 They have a big orchestra there
 and is it ever good. You should
 hear them play + sing "I Don't
 Know Enough About You" Sure
 was pretty like. Sure was.

Betty bought me a cedar chest
 when she was home nice eh. She
 bought Joyce a bedroom suite!
 Joyce doesn't know it cause
 she gets it for her birthday the
 19th of September.

Its been rather chilly this week.

6.
I went swimming just about all last week. So you can imagine the tan I have.

Dusty and I get along okay. It was a year the 19th that I had my first date with him. Time sure flies and I've loved every minute of that year when I was with him.

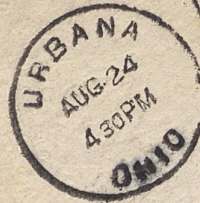
How's Johnny after eating all that trash. What's the matter don't you feed him weed. No wonder he stuffs him self. He was probably starved.

I guess this just about finishes this. Nothing more to say for now so be good and write soon.

Love,
Staylor

P.S. Don't name It junior ha.

Miss E. Calvert
230 E. Ward St.
Urbana, Ohio



Air Mail
Mrs. J. W. Helfrich
47 Linden Avenue
North Housing
Vallejo, California

100

Tuesday
Sept. 10, 1946

Dear Vera & John:-

You have good reason to believe that we are dead and I wonder sometimes if we are and don't know it. When it comes to writing, anyway. It seems like they all leave it to me to do the writing. and I have been wanting to for weeks so here goes. Probably won't make it by the time the mail man is due but ^{will} have it ready to mail tomorrow if I don't.

Dad went in to work on the 9:40 bus yesterday morning so I could have the car. I wanted to be in town before the bank closed at 3 o'clock but I didn't quite make it. I paid the electric bill for 201 (1.69). got groceries, coal, feed, took eggs to Dolly, watered the flowers in grandmas vase and was back here by 4:30.

Bobby Northrup had come home from school with Bill. They did the milking and we went in to town about 8 o'clock. Dad was waiting at the P.O. for us. We all went to the Isloria to see Van Johnson, Esther Williams

and Lucille Ball in Easy To Wed
It surely is good. Have you
seen it?

We went to Degraff late Sun-
day afternoon. Uncle Jason had
asked me to come up to get
some of the canned fruit he
has there. Aunt Lucy had so
much canned it was a sight.
Cartons and cupboards full
all over the house and in
the basement. Mary Ann, Bill
and I went to get some ice
cream then we went up to
Aunt Rose Terrell's apartment
just to see her a few minutes.
She has bought a fine new
home and was to move in
Monday. She wanted us to
see it so we went. We had
been away from Uncle Jason's
for about an hour so he and
dad had walked over past
Aunt Rose's new home and up
town thinking they might
find us I guess. We must have
been on our way back to the car.
Lynn (my cousin) and his wife
and baby boy will live up-
stairs in Aunt Rose's home. She
said he wants to make an out-
door fireplace in their back
yard and make a tennis court.

A week ago Sunday we went
out to Jean (Houser) Rites to see
her mother and dad (Edjell and
Zetta) and her brother Melvin

and his wife and boy. We were invited to a pot luck dinner but we didn't get there until late afternoon. We didn't get to see Edjel and Zetta then as Melvin had brought them to Urbana to stay at Stanley Karris that night. They were having a dinner at Karris on Monday (Labor Day) so we went over there late that afternoon. Melvin was just starting away to take his dad and mother out to Jean's to stay all night. Zetta asked if we wanted to take her and Edjel out there and we could have a longer visit together and Melvin wouldn't have to drive out. (He and his wife were staying at Karris all night and then leaving for California (home) next morning around 6:30.) When we got to Jean's she talked to Goldie over the phone and Goldie said she and Aunt Amanda, Aunt Rose and Uncle Jason would be there soon. We waited for them and Ethel Tippet and Zetta's brother and his wife came right after Goldie.

Aunt Nora asked us to come out two weeks ago last Sunday to get some cucumbers so

we fixed a picnic supper and stopped close to Mad River bridge to eat then went on to Aunt Nora's. She and Uncle Otto were up at the little place they are remodeling for Dean and Mabel. They had been picking green beans. They took us through the house. It surely will be a nice place when it is finished. It is the first house on the right side of the road past Uncle Otto's. We helped them to pick a bushel basket of beans for us and they gave us some sweet corn and the cucumbers. I canned 10 qts. of beans, and will try to get something done with the cucumbers today.

I bought a bushel of peaches (2.19) 3 weeks ago and made 9 pints of butter. We ate a lot of them and I made a pie a week ago Sunday. Bought a bushel of apples too. ^{2.39} They have eaten most of them. Especially M.A. since she is home again. Made a pie last Sunday and ate it when we got home from Degraff. Had meat loaf too.

Aunt Nora and Uncle Otto were to go to Michigan a week ago last Saturday for a ten day vacation so maybe they are home by now.

I enjoyed the fair very much. Went to the horse show on Tuesday night. They had it Monday and Tuesday nights this year. Uncle Jason came to Urbana on Thursday morning and we were out at the Fairgrounds that afternoon and came home about 6 o'clock. Nelson and Bill did the milking and we ate supper then went in to 201 to meet dad. I took his supper in to him and we all went out to the Fair. It was the only time dad was there. Uncle Jason, kids and I went to the show while dad looked around.

Dolly, Barbara, Beverly, Billie Dawn, Dolly's niece and I went out Friday afternoon and stayed until 7:00 then met dad at the P.O. I bought something very cute for your future kitchen. It is a plaque with fruit (a peach I guess) and has two hooks on it for pot holders. It was the only one she had or I would have had one for myself. She had a booth in Merchant's Hall and she has a gift shop in the Mitchell Bldg. in Springfield. Maybe

I will visit it sometime when I am down there and have some extra money

Guess you didn't know Billie Dawn was here about a month. She stayed at Dollys. She is surely pretty. Bill had said she could stay here and go to school but her mother wrote and told her to come home.

Wednesday - Sept. 9th - At ²⁰¹

But I'll finish this before I go back out to the farm this afternoon.

Mary Ann is with me. She has had a terrible sore throat since Saturday and hasn't gone to school this week. She feels some better but not good enough to be in school. Bill came home yesterday afternoon with the sore throat and he is out home. He was asleep when we came in about 11:30 so I let him alone. M.A. had a high fever Sunday and Monday and Bill has too. Several from school have the same thing including one of Bill's teachers.

But you was more than glad to see Irene and family. Grandad is here now. He came

Friday evening. We didn't know he was here until he came out to the farm Saturday evening. He told Bill he would probably go back next Saturday. He is looking fine. He said he had a cold while Irene was away. He has been staying here at 201 except Saturday night. If he hasn't other plans I'll ask him to come out for a chicken supper tonight. He just came and he said John's dad came over last night and took him up to Mary's with them. He saw Aunt Dill too. Her brother France from Oklahoma is there.

Will send your coats to you as soon as I can. Will try to come in again tomorrow and get a heavy box and wrapping paper.

It has been real warm here for about a week but cool at nights.

There is still 5.00 due on the coat and I wondered if you want me to spend that 2 dollar bill and one dollar bill you had in with those

pennies. I asked you before but you didn't let me know. There are two dollars of the penny money (I had it changed to paper money) so that makes even 5.00 if you want me to use them. I made the second 5.00 payment out of milk check money as I didn't want to spend those bills of yours until you let me know.

Our oats crop was a failure. Didn't get a fellow to combine it until so late. He cut about 4 acres of it and got a rock up in the machine and bent the rollers so he couldn't use it and couldn't get some parts needed to fix it so the rest of our oats didn't get cut. They were not very good and so full of weeds. Dad has been turning the cows in the field. He and Nelson were so disappointed.

We loaned him money to go out to see Beverly. She kept calling and wanting him to come out and he would tell her he would be out as soon as the oats was cut. He intended to stay

-5-

just a few days but he is still out there and between fires. He wants to come home and Beverly and her family want him to stay there. The nurse she had left a couple weeks ago and they haven't been able to get any one else so they wanted him to stay there to help take care of her. Got a letter from him yesterday and he says she is very low and they don't think she will live much longer. It surely is a shame.

Nelson had thought he might get to come back home with granddad but he says he never heard from Nelson. and Nelson says he wrote to him but didn't get an answer. Nelson called Sunday night and I told him granddad is here.

Grandma Lebkisher was in Pennsylvania a week or so. Got back a week ago last Saturday. She went out with Emerson McConnell's. She stayed at Bob's until Monday. Henry came up to get her. They were out to the

farm between 12:00 and 1:00.
and I had taken Snowball
over to Mchby. to Dr. Lange.
(Dad and Bill went to Mutual
Sun. evening to get coughdrops
for M.A. and when they came
back Boy and Snowball ran
to the car. She slipped under
the wheels. The doctor says
her pelvis bone is broken and
one leg has the skin off of
one side.) M.A. said grand-
ma and Henry didnt get
out of the car. She was
laying on the davenport and
tried to call to them but
couldnt make them hear.

But you didnt know. Dad
and I had our 25th anni-
versary on the 6th. He had
Mary A. to get a plant and
he gave me a dime. Ha!!

Will have to close this
now and get going out to
the farm. Hope you are
both feeling fine and be
good. Believe me, I wont
be this long writing to
you again. M.A. had a
letter written on yellow
tablet paper but it is still
out home. Dont know if it
is finished or not. Lots of
love to both of you. Mother

Mrs. V. Lebkischer,
R.R. 1, Mechanicsburg, O.

URBA
SEP 18
6 PM
1946
OHIO



Mr. & Mrs. John Helfrich,
47 Linden Ave.,
N. Housing,
Vallejo, Calif.

100

Nov. 7, 1946.

Dear Vera & John:-

It seems as tho' I'm getting no better fast when it comes to writing. Since I had quite a strenuous day yesterday, and feel like taking it a little easy today I will try to get a letter written to put in the envelope I've had addressed for over a week.

Nelson and I got into town yesterday morning (Wed. - stores close at noon) just in time for me to run into Morris 5 & 10 to get a glass top for the percolator (Pop broke the one that was on it) and some paper drinking cups for a weiner roast Mary Ann was having in the woods last evening then I went on down to the grocery.

We went out to 201 and he shaved and we ate a little then started on our way to Degraff. Ethel Tippet called me Tuesday morning and said Uncle Jason and his daughter Ruth (a cousin I hadn't seen for years) and her daughter Ruby and son Harold and his wife were there and she was taking them back to Degraff that afternoon. She said Ruth wanted to see me if possible and she was going home (Watson, Ark.) Thursday or Friday. I told her I would be up Wednesday if the car was fit to drive. Dad and Nelson were pulling the thing out the lane with the tractor to get it started while I was talking to her. Nelson took it to Barnharts. It runs better

now but we have one especially bad tire. We bought one new tire and tube at Barnhart's last week.

Kinda got away from Degraff there. We were at Uncle Jason's for over an hour then on our way home we passed Aunt Rosie's new home. Nelson said she was the one person he wanted to see so I said, "Well, let's stop for a little while" even tho' I was terribly anxious to get home as M. A. was depending on me to bake two pumpkin pies for her party. I made the dough before we left here or she wouldn't have had any pies. We were at Aunt Rosie's only about a half hour as we will be seeing her again Sunday if plans carry.

They have coaxed Ruth to stay over Sunday so all the relatives can get together at Uncle Jason's for a basket dinner so I want to go if possible.

Dad is off work tomorrow, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday (Armistice Day).

Ruth's son and his wife are staying with Uncle Jason this winter. Her daughter, a bookkeeper, (married and husband in the Phillipines until March) is staying too if she can find work. She came with the intentions of working for Lyman Terrell (Aunt Rosie's boy who has about a dozen locker storage plants but when she learned he wanted to put her in his Dayton office she didn't want to go there. I didn't get to see Ruth's children yesterday as they had just left on the bus for Bellefontaine. Ruth says she is 54 and hadn't seen Uncle Jason for 21 years.

We got here at 4:30 so I had to really hurry. We passed M.A. and some of the kids in Charles Fraley's car going to Urbana to get some cider. It wasn't long until she was back home, and she made the potato salad. I had cooked the potatoes before I left. Dad took the picnic table and benches over on the sled with the tractor yesterday morning. Marjorie Fraley brought a can of beef and I fixed it like I did some of ours for sandwiches. She brought coffee too and their percolator, and I made coffee in it and some in ours. Had the pies out of the oven a little after 7:00. They ate one. Guess there was only seven of them and they had enough food for 25 I think and no baked beans either.

Hope you are both still liking your new apartment much better than the other one. It is much nicer to be on the ground floor.

Needless to say you all had a grand time when Mom and Dad Helfrich were out there. I was so surprised when I learned they were back home as I thought they would be staying several weeks.

If we are ever able to make the trip I want to visit the Kincaides.

Suppose you know that Mabel has a baby boy. Her brother-in-law told Nelson. Have you heard from her lately?

Dean and Mabel are living in their

house now. The people who lived there had a sale, and moved away. Dean and Mabel got a nice small size heating stove and a cute bed at the sale. They have five rooms I think. It is much roomier than I ever imagined it to be. I haven't been there since they moved in but I know it would be real nice as they had a new pyrofat gas stove new linoleum, pretty wallpaper that hadn't been put on the walls yet and all the woodwork painted. It won't be long until the store will be leaving a bundle there, and I hope they have better luck this time.

Nelson received a letter last Saturday from Beverly's mother saying Beverly had died on the 15th of October and her father had dropped dead a day or so before. She was in the hospital herself when they died and didn't get to see them. Wouldn't that be awful? She had a serious abdominal operation the first week in October and was just sitting up last week. They buried Beverly the next day after she died. I forget the reason she gave for burying her so soon.

Nov. 13th - Wed.

It will be a week tomorrow since I started this letter so will add the last chapter now and mail it while I am here in town. I am debating with myself

whether to go to Springfield (they don't close on Wednesday afternoons) or go out home and try to wash a few blankets. It is such a nice sunny day even if we did have our first real killing frost. The temperature was 24° about 8 o'clock but it has warmed up a lot.

Received your nice letter yesterday and Bill got the pictures. He was surely tickled.

I intended to write those recipes down and send them in this letter also the addresses you wanted. I decided to come in with dad rather sudden like and didn't have time to look them up but I swear I'll send them to you in another letter tomorrow or next day. Have a nice letter from Virginia and Bill and I will send it too so you can read it and then send it back.

Snowball has been walking for several weeks on three legs and seems as good as ever except for the back left leg. If I had taken her to someone who knew something instead of Dr. Lange and Dr. Clayton (they work together) she would probably be walking on all four. They wanted to destroy her and Dr. Clayton said she wouldn't live a month anyway. She surely was in a terrible condition but

we took real good care of her. Bill, Mary Ann and I. We took some pictures of her thinking maybe we would have to have her destroyed. Will send you some. She certainly made us all happy when she got up one Saturday morning and walked out into the kitchen. We could hardly believe our eyes. She had pulled the hair out in a big patch until nothing but the flesh showed where Dr. Clayton had put some red, sticky medicine on her. The hair is growing back now and doesn't look nearly as bad.

Guess I had better close now and get going someplace. Hope you are both feeling fine. Lots of love.

Mother

Will try to write down the sizes you asked for.

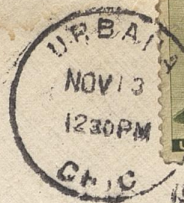
Dad - Shirts - 15
Socks - 11 1/2
Sweater - 42

Bill - Shirts - 14 or 14 1/2
Socks - 10 1/2

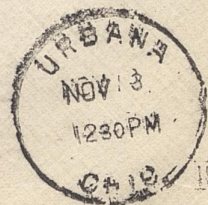
Me - Slip - 36 or 38
Hose - 9 1/2
Gloves - 6 1/2

I have no idea what size sweater granddad takes. I could ask the men at the mill the size of the jacket they got for him when he left.

Mrs. V. Lebkishev,
R.R. 1, Mechanicsburg, O.



Mr. & Mrs. John Helfrich,
1 Citrus Ave.,
N. Housing,
Vallejo, Calif.



100

-4-

Ann goes out and stays out longer when she does than I do. I think she imagines herself quite a slick chick. At least that is the impression she gives out. Bill is getting taller and taller all the time it seems to me he grows up every day. Had ven & too good. I don't think Vera needs to say anything about it in your letters though. Guess he is no worse off than I. I've felt pretty good since I got out of that restaurant. No good that restaurant stuff. Can't take it anymore I guess. Mother seems about the same as when you were here. Of course

-1- 5:00 Tuesday

Dear Kids,

Well everyone is getting on me to write you so here goes nothing. I told them you never bother to write to me but they say that is no excuse. I'm so damn tired right now that writing is all I can manage. Been husking corn all day. My back just kills me. Leaning over is what does it. I've made a dent in the field anyhow. I'm going to sell a load at the end of this week if the weather stays so I can keep on husking. I have about half enough

you know her. Had to laugh
when you told Mary that
you thought Chauly was too
old for her. I'd gather by
that that you would no doubt
think I'd make Dolores a nice
father. Ah well she is the
nicest girl I've ever met. You
can gather what I mean by
nice. She is swell and also
pwease up and down she loves
me so I guess no one will be
hurt if I go with her. Not much
excitement around. One thing
new is "Fireman" Groves.
Soren is working at the fire
department for a guy who
is sick. To be truthful I
haven't been around enough
to learn any scandal. Mary

now. Another ² couple days should
do it. Think I'll have Soren
or Pagey to help me a day
or so. Page and I are finally
going to get our carpenter
shop going. We intend to
make noveleties and small
furniture also repair. Hope it
goes o.k. Page's wife is expecting
a baby in February. He hasn't
been working steady anywhere
since we quit at the Blue
Terminal Restaurant. Have been
on my very good behavior for
some time. Ken pecked I guess.
Maybe you have heard the
little woman is none other
than Dolores Bell. Seems she
is very much in love with
me and I am also very
fond of her. Seems too that

though as he⁸⁻ uses my hair
oil quit often and has
a terrific time getting each
little hair in place before
he goes off to school. This
project takes from 10 to
15 minutes but he has it
all slicked down when he
is done. Even puts a press
job on his pants every so
often. Well sis I'm running
out of chatter so will sign
off. Write me when you
can.

Love
Nelson

P.S. Tell your old "Sea Pappy"
hello for me.

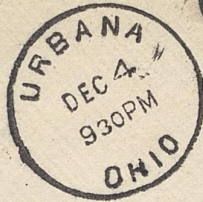
⁸⁻
the situation is the same
here as always and will no
doubt remain that way.
I stay in town some nites
mostly week end nights when
I see Dolores. Am thinking
about doing some painting over
there. Bath and kitchen any-
how. Will no doubt stay over
there if and when we get
the shops going. It will
be over at Pages in his gar-
age. About the only thing
left out here to do is to
get the corn in. May get a
picker to come in and do
it. Would rather do it by
hand though and save that
expense. We could have had
a lot more done if we had

lot of flying around. If he is late she calls and talks to his sister and while going so she works her way around asking why he isn't here or has he left yet. Drives me nuts. Lolores and her are the same age but you sure couldn't tell it by there actions.

Lolores seems years older than Mary. Guess Mary is only 15 though I thought all the time she was 16. Oh well so long as Lolores doesn't go through the routine she does when I have a date with her. Bill I don't think sees much of that girl he used to be wild about. He is quite the dude

just done it. ⁻⁶⁻ Bill don't seem to care a whole lot whether school keeps or not. He did not come home tonite on the bus so don't know where he is. Guess I'll go ahead and milk pretty soon if Mary will stick her lily white ponde in some old nasty water. Afriad to meet that skin of hers that someone loves to touch. You should see her when she has a date. She is ready and in front of the mirror for at least a half an hour before the guy gets here. Every car that comes from that way causes her to do a

Mr. Lebkuchen
201 Boyer St.
Urbana, O.



Mrs. John Helfrich
Citrus, N. Housing
Vallejo, California

AIR MAIL

VIA AIR MAIL

10

Dec. 3, 1946

Dear Vera and John:-

Will write a few lines while I am here at 201 and mail these addresses to you. Also the receipts. It is 6:25 so it isn't long until dad is off work.

I have been in town since 3 o'clock paying bills and got a few groceries. I went to Mechanicsburg before I came over here. Paid the telephone bill and payment on the farm.

Got your letter to Mary Ann out of the box before I went to Mechanicsburg. I didn't open it so I am anxious to get home to read it.

Mary Ann, Bill and I went to Springfield yesterday afternoon. Didn't have much time only to pay Montgomery Ward and Wrenth and got M.A. a pair of jeans. They are like overalls with a zipper on the left side. Got 3 yds. of part linen toweling at M. Ward's with Mexican designs on it.

It has been so cold for several days and here I am with no Christmas shopping done. I surely can't stand to be out in the cold like I used to. I want to get your gifts and Uncle Roy's this week if possible before the weather gets bad.

Nelson husked corn yesterday and today. About froze himself yesterday. It snowed a little Sunday afternoon and evening. That is the first we have had.

I haven't found that pink and blue flannel yet. I don't think I would want to give it up tho or sell it. Might want to make something for my grandchildren some day. Who knows? Maybe by that time there will be plenty of flannel on the market. They don't seem to have much if any now.

Haven't seen Tapour yellow scarf either. Do you know where it was when you left? Will take a good look for it. Granddad asked me when he was here in September if I had seen a pair of real heavy winter underwear, and to send them to him if I found them. I have looked everywhere except in some of those cartons and sacks in the dining room closet, and haven't found them yet.

We surely enjoyed your nice long letter we got a few days ago.

Had better write down those addresses here and get going -

Mrs. Della Lebkicker
Box 182, R. R. 1.
Osborn, Ohio

Mrs. Russell Kadel
126 S. Eureka Ave., Columbus, O.

Mrs. H. A. Toland (In case you want to send her a card)
1623 Clifton Ave., Columbus, O.

W. L. Pence. (They don't know you are married) ^{as I have}
115 Claremont Ave., Buffalo, N. Y. ^{it written}

Hope you are both feeling fine and that we will hear from you again soon. Lots of love.
Mother

Send Virginia's letter back, please. I haven't answered it yet either.

Mrs. V. Lebkishev,
R.R. 1, Mechanicsburg, O.

AIR MAIL VIA AIR MAIL



Mr. & Mrs. John Helfrich,
1 Citrus Ave.,
N. Housing,
Vallejo, Calif.

AIR MAIL



100

Labkisher
36018 N. Victory (1972)
Portland 17, Oregon

Forest S. Helfrich
3005 Talbott Ave
Urbana, Ohio

Jan. 8, 1947.

Dear Vera & John:-

While I am here at 201 and nothing to do I will take the opportunity to start a letter to you.

Was surely glad to get your letter Monday and to know you are able to be home and getting along alright.

Needless to say, we were all stunned when we learned of your bad luck and we are more than sorry. Believe me.

Forest brought the letter to dad around 2 o'clock Tuesday, Dec. 31st. Mary Ann and I came in that evening to go with Nelson and Delores when they were married that evening and we didn't see dad until after the ceremony was over and we went to the P. O. to get him and William. We took Nelson Page and his wife home and were there a few minutes then on over here for a few minutes then on out home. Delores stayed with Mrs. Page and Nelson P. went out with us as Nelson wanted the car.

Dad told William and I about you when we got out there. He had told Nelson and Mary Ann here.

I was completely surprised although I had wondered or suspected something about a few things you had said in your letter but what surprised me most

was that you were so far along. Don't you have any idea what might have caused the miscarriage? Dad and I wondered if you had put too much of your strength into getting our Christmas gifts wrapped & packed. It seems like it doesn't take much to cause something like that sometimes especially if you are not too strong or well. Did I ever tell you how near I came to losing M. A. at three months? (You never wanted me to talk to you about such subjects it seemed). I had been so sick and couldn't eat or even drink water and keep it down from the very first. Was so weak and not able to do much work but I had just begun to feel a little stronger when I made a meat loaf and beat up a cake (on a Saturday night) to take to a birthday dinner for Edith Houser next day. They lived up on the corner of Boyce and E. Lane you remember. As soon as we got there I knew something had happened so we came right back home and they called Dr. Rhodes. He told them to elevate the foot of the bed and get me on it right away. He came and gave me medicine to stop the flow of blood which was awful. He was not sure then if the baby could be saved but I had to stay in bed a week, and I got along alright from then on and gradually gained strength as I could eat more. He gave me a few shots of some kind of serum taken from the ovaries of sheep to supply some-

thing lacking in my system.
Whatever you do, take good care
of yourself for it will mean a
lot to you sometime in the future
as well as for the present.

Jan. 15th -

It has been a week
since I started this letter so had
better finish it and get it mailed.
I told dad a few nights ago that
you would certainly think we
are a couple of skunks or something.

We all liked your presents very
much, and thanks a lot. Dad's
things fit O.K. but Bill's sweater
is a size or two too small. I had
thought I would send it to you
right after Christmas and maybe
you could have changed it for a
larger size. Do you suppose it
would be too late now? Let me
know what you think about it.

I am glad you liked our presents
to you. Hope you will be home next
Christmas time, and we can all be
together again.

Sounds like you did receive a good
many nice gifts. It was nice too
of your friends to fit up your a-
partment for you.

Mary Ann and I went up to see
Helent a week ago last Saturday
night. I had been anxious to know
exactly what you had said in the
letter, John. Dad got so excited I
guess when he tried to read it he
only read about half way through
and then couldn't remember half
what he did read. She told us a
lot about their trip and visit with
you.

I thought you might have mentioned

whether the baby was a boy or girl.

Etoyle showed Mary Ann her ring in the Gloria one ^{or was it?} Sunday night since Christmas. She was with her mother and M.A. was with Charles.

M.A. had a nice letter written to you shortly after Christmas and somehow it got torn and she just hasn't rewritten it yet. Eams coming up now too. He gave her a lovely leather jacket, and a box of candy. She gave him a scarf and gloves set.

I guess I have almost forgotten to tell you what we got for Christmas

Dad - Pajamas - 2 pairs (and he won't wear them) from me

Carton of cigarettes - Hatton & Enright

Nelson - Pajamas - from us

Lovely white wool scarf and brown leather gloves from Delores.

Tie clasp - from Bill

Mary A. - Comb, brush, mirror set - Crystal like the set you sent.

Bracelets and a black dog with red ribbon around its neck - Marjory Fraley

Bath powder mit and cologne set - Delores.

Me - A little pearl cross pin - Bill

Your pearls

Clothes brush - Exchange at Imas party.

What do you think of Nelson being married again? I tried my best to talk him into waiting at least until he had more to get married on. He had been talking about it all Imas week then on Sunday after he said her mother was staying home from work (works in Sprig) next day to go with them to get their license. After they got it Monday they came out here and said they had seen the preacher and were getting married at 7:30 the next evening (31st) I didn't like the idea of them going in at 201 at all and never said outright that they could but they went right in and started fixing up

anyway. I told him tho finally that I didn't want him to figure on staying there forever. Guess he went several places in Urbana and Springfield yesterday looking for work.

I told him before they were married that he was crazy to think of such a thing when he had no work. I don't think it will be as easy to find something as he thought. He had better though, or else.

Delores is cute and very neat but my gosh I don't see why she didn't go ahead and finish her Junior year at High anyway. Haven't had a chance to get very well acquainted yet and she seems somewhat like a stranger. She asked me last Wednesday evening to show her how to make a pie. The dough first. Mrs. Page had given her a recipe but she wanted me to show her how. She had a can of cherries but it wasn't quite enough to fill the pie plate so I suggested she slice an apple in with the cherries. She said it turned out alright and they ate half of it that night. Nelson said "And she ate the other half before I was up next morning." Guess he might have been kidding her.

It has quit raining and the sun is shining now. It was raining and freezing when dad left for work.

Funny weather.

Dad was to go round to 201 to see how Nelson and Delores are feeling. They were both sick with colds when he was there last night. They went out to Ted Botkin's for a chicken supper Monday evening. Joyce and her husband were to be there too I guess. I took them out and then went on up town to get dad.

Mrs. J. Lebkicher,
R.R. 1, Mechanicsburg O.



Mr. & Mrs. John Helfrich,
1 Citrus Ave.,
N. Housing,
Vallejo, Calif.

100

URBANA
JAN 6
1230PM
OHIO



1947

Tuesday Afternoon
201 Boyce St.
Urbana, Ohio

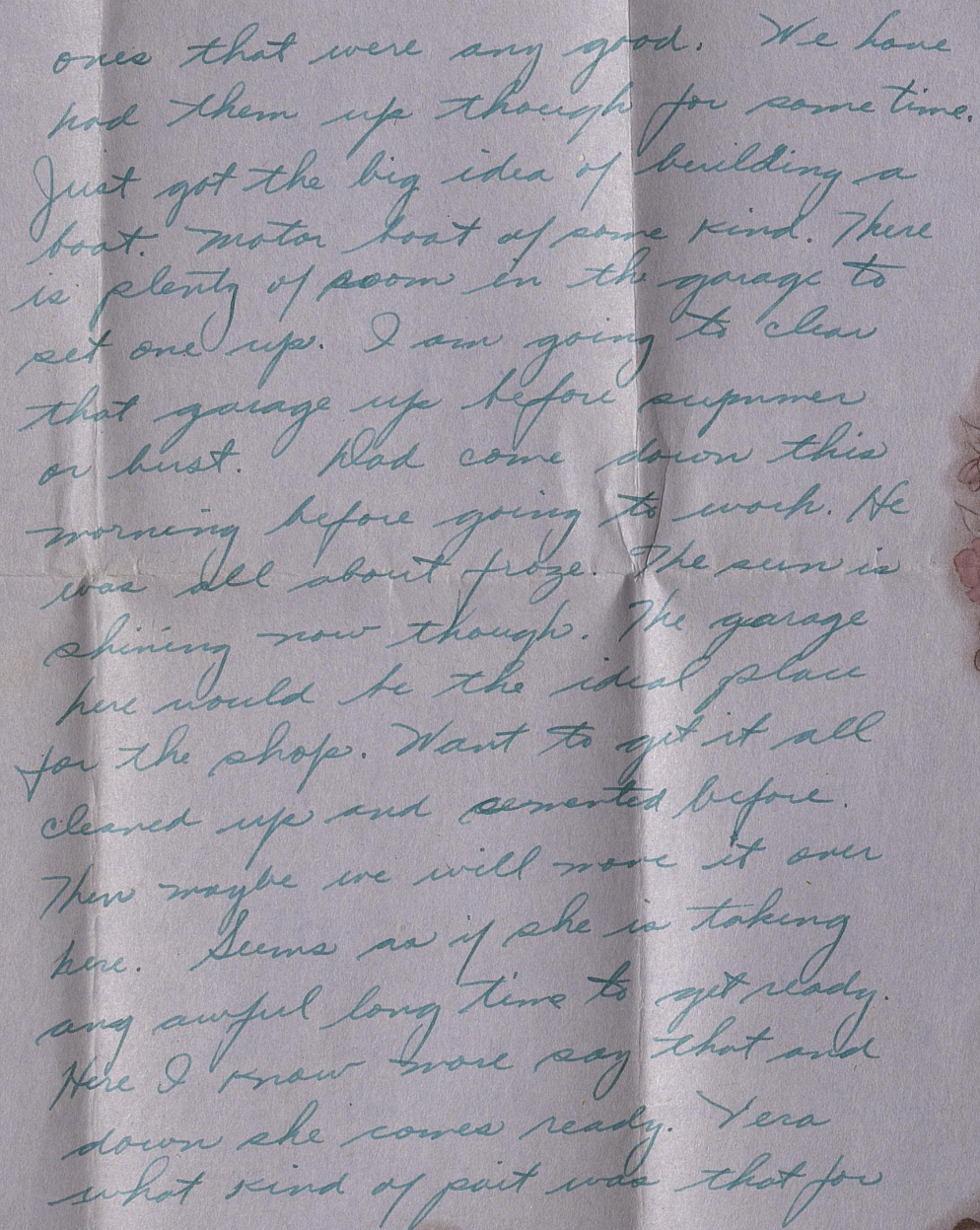
Dear Sis + John,

Today is our anniversary. 2 1/2
three weeks to date we were married.
Strange but true we are still happy
and very much in love. No baby yet
either! I suppose the gossips are
wondering what is wrong. Damn talk
burns the up. Sharon Cahill I guess
has the busy bodies thinking all the
girls in high school are about to
have one. Just between you all and
the gate post there is no baby in
sight as yet. We both are so anxious
for one. Mrs. Page is due in another
month and all the talk mostly is
to be. Hope this talk doesn't bother
you sis. Had completely forgotten
about your mishap. We are getting
ready to fly over to Page now.

It is Melons birthday so they want us to have supper with them. Melon and I have part of the shops in working condition. Have the lathe set up. We started to make a little gadget to put your spools of thread on.

It was so cold in the shop last night we about froze. A cold blizzard like affair has slipped in on us here. Colder than well cold anyhow. I have started to build a bathroom and some other things for Melon's mother. Things and the plumber have been holding me up. Guess I'll go ahead though. Been quit some time since I've done any work like that but it has all been coming back to me since I started. The other day was just like spring. Saturday it was so I cleared up around the garage and chicken house. Finally tore that old fence down that was around the chicken house.

We started to wash and stretch the curtains. You can imagine the outcome. We will have to get some new ones. Had a circus stretching two pair though. They kept drying out too quick. The ones for the kitchen are the only



ones that were any good. We have had them up though for some time. Just got the big idea of building a boat. motor boat of some kind. There is plenty of room in the garage to set one up. I am going to clear that garage up before summer or bust. Dad come down this morning before going to work. He was all about froze. The sun is shining now though. The garage here would be the ideal place for the shop. Want to get it all cleared up and cemented before. Then maybe we will move it over here. Seems as if she is taking any awful long time to get ready. Here I know more say that and down she comes ready. Vera what kind of pit was that for

the kitchen. There is some here but not
any that was meant for the kitchen. May-
be Granddad took it back with him or
it is down in the cellar. Could be out
in the garage. It is in such a mess you
couldn't find it if it was there. I better
sign off here so she will have room to
say something.

Hi Kidds,

How's every little thing?

Okay I hope. Every thing is swell
here. Kind of cold. We are going
over to Page's as Nelson told you.

There isn't much to say except we
hope everything is going your
way.

Will sign off for now.

Love,
Dolores + Nelson

Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Lebkuchen
201 Bayce St.
Urbana, Ohio



Mr. & Mrs. John Selfrick
1 Citrus, N. Lansing
Vallejo, California

100

Forest S. Helfrich
3005 Talbott Ave
Urbana, Ohio

Urbana O
~~Jan~~
Feb. 6-1947

Dear Children:-

Well Ernie died about 10¹⁵ am this morning at Grant Hospital. Ely has been going over every other day to see him and today was the day she was supposed to go over. but they called her about 10³⁰ and said he had just passed away. he certainly did suffer plenty I think it effected his mind.

because he got hold of
one of the nurses arms
and twisted it and
she has not been to work
yet. You asked me what
you had sent in the
money well here it is.

Aug 15-46 - 2000 money order
Oct 15-46 - 4000 check
Nov 6-46 - 4000 "
Dec 8-46 - 4000 "
Jan 7-47 - 4000 "
Feb 6-47 - 4000 "
\$22 000

Sold coat for \$5.00 sent
you \$25.00 by wire so you
see what you have sent
so far. Yours
(Top)

That's all for tonight - just
wanted to tell you about
Ernie and then about the
checks.

More next time

Mom.

Oh yes - we are using
your tea-kettle over at the
store - do you mind?
Maybe you can grab another
one!

Ernie was 39 yrs old last
Sunday.

URBANA
FEB 7
11 AM
1947
OHIO



VIA AIR MAIL

Mr. & Mrs. John Helfrich
1 Citrus Ave
North Housing
Vallejo 100 California.

Forest S. Helfrich
3005 Talbott Ave
Urbana, Ohio

Monday --24th--

Dear John & Vera--

Received your letter today. Should have gotten it Saturday, But because of the holiday there was no mail delivery. Gee, you speak of motor-boating! You surely wouldn't be doing that here. It has been terribly cold again. Today a cold wind and some snow. (Dad just came in---11:15-- and says it's snowing hard.) Well anyway, if it's snowing, that means it's a little warmer. Had to get some more coal Saturday and a lot of it is gone by now. I think summer is cheaper!

Didn't wash today as I planned to go to the show---haven't been to one since we were out there (and Vera and I talked). The "Al Jolsen Story" is on. Well just when I was getting dinner ready, Mary and Roy and Barbara came. Roy came in on an errand and they came in with him for the ride. Mary said not to set the table for them as they were going right back. Well I insisted that they stay for the meal as I had plenty for all of us. Chicken noodles (home made) for one thing. By the time I went over and helped Dad and had our dinner it was too late for the show---and tonight it was too cold. I'll try it another day.

Tuesday Evening--- You see Dad brought home some sandwiches last night and I stopped to eat them before they got cold--and then didn't finish writing. Thought I would get time today but it's been a busy one. Washed and then I didn't get home from the Store until after 2P:M today. ~~We had a~~ We had a very busy noon hour, and it kept us both on the jump/ I making all kinds of mistakes in this typing but maybe it's because I'm tired. And beginning to-day I'm fired----as his laundress of aprons and towels! Is getting them from the Atlas-----Dad says that with no more time than I have, it will make it easier for me. If I collected for today's washing (according to laundry prices) I would collect \$1.70.

I think Mary said something to you about a coat. I believe you were under the impression that she had one. No---The ones here are---yours, the one Vera wore, Dad's, mine and one extra one size 40. Right now Dad is wearing mine while his is cleaned.

Had a funny little incident Saturday evening-- A young fellow came in and asked me if we had "elastic". No, I said, we haven't had any calls for that yet. He looked around a bit, and then pointed to the shelf and said, "That is what I want". It was "Ez-lax."

Mrs. Watson Russell and her daughter-in law and her two children were in the Store for lunch to-day and I collected not only for their lunch but for eight boxes of jello, a jar of salad dressing and some animal crackers. Dad hasn't as yet been able to get ahold of a carton or two of toilet paper, and Brennon has been out also so we have been using face tissues!

The extra copies I am sending you---am wondering if you might figure your Navy time by the one. The other one is fun to ask some one to read it out loud.

Got our tax statement last week and all of it is higher. Even the back lots that we have never had to pay more than 21¢ a half are now 27¢. Maybe putting in more dirt makes them more valuable. Your lot is 30¢.

The Farm Bureau are doing a lot of building, in spite of the cold weather and pretty soon, I am afraid, my view of the railroad will be cut off. Can only see over to Dad's by standing at the north of the back porch. Can't see over to Martha and John's at all.

Well I'm out of gab for tonight so I guess I'll call it quits and go and wrap the papers for you. (Will have to straighten them out first, as Roy has looked at them and he is a hard reader! They both grab for the papers when they come in as they don't take a paper.

Johnny Malone is worrying----isn't John ever coming home on a leave? I told him I would ask you once again.

Now I am through! Night and love from
Mom.

John

I'm waiting for you to come home
as I want to see for my self what married life
is doing for you. I am also looking forward to
making the grounds again. That is if your wife
will let you. Drop me a letter and pop off
some news.

Take it easy
John W
Irish

Well Wed morn 9¹⁰ am just ready to
matt this and then open up. Are you
going to re enlist again or are you
coming home business is pretty good
so far well will close (Pop)

SAY IT SIMPLY.

In promulgating your esoteric cogitations, or articulating your superficial sentimentalities and amicable or psychological observations, beware of platitudinous ~~pener-~~ ponderosity.

Let your conversational communications possess a clarified conciseness, a compact comprehensibleness, coalescent consistency and a concatenated cogency.

Eschew all conglomerations of flatulent garrulity, jejune babblement and asinine affections.

Sedulously avoid all polysyllabic profundity, pompous prolixity, peittaceous vacuity, ventriloquial verbasity and vaniloquent vapidty.

Shun double-entendres, purient jocosity and pestiferous profanity, obscurant or apparent, and, above all, don't use big words.

Helfrich's
305 Talbot Ave.
Urbana, Ohio.



Mr. & Mrs. John Helfrich
1 Citrus Ave.
North Housing
Vallejo, California.

100

Feb. 27, 1947

Dear Vera & John:-

As I will have to hurry to get this written in time for the mail man and there isn't any decent ink or pens here will use a pencil. You don't mind. Do you?

First, I want to thank you very very much for the lovely box of candy. How did you know I had been wishing for something like that? Have the bottom layer left so maybe I'll still have a piece or two left when you get home. Do you have any idea when you might be coming? It can't be too soon to suit us.

Also want to thank you for the very sweet valentine. I wanted to send you and John one but didn't get to town soon enough that week to get one. That was the week dad didn't want me to drive the car in the condition it was. It was Friday or Saturday before he had it fit for me to drive. It still needs a new clutch so maybe we can get to that some day soon if it don't go clear out sooner.

Was surely glad to get your letters Tuesday or maybe it was Monday. You should see the excitement around here when we get a letter from you. We enjoyed the pictures. Dad said "That's a dandy looking cat alright."

Nelson finished his work for Mrs. Page late Sunday night or early Monday morning and went to work for

A. Bills Monday morning. Doing car-painter work at 1.00 per hour. They are remodeling or piping a building on the corner of Water and Main that used to be a filling station to use in connection with some branch of their work. Urbana Mfg. Co. that is. Dad said he was pretty happy about going to work. He got 1.00 an hour for the work he did for Mrs. Page too so maybe he will get on the right track yet and then buy right along. He borrowed 50. from the bank last month. Gave me 20. for rent. It is due again so maybe he will have it when I see him next time. Dad said he got some money from Mrs. Page. If you write to him dont say anything about me telling you he borrowed money.

Nelson Pages had their baby yesterday morning at 3.45. Weighed 8lbs. 10 ounces. It was in last night's paper.

Nelson and Delores stayed with her nearly every night last week as Nelson P. was having to work nights. Dad said this morning that Nelson wants the car tonight so he and Delores can go down to the hospital to see Mrs. Page, and he didnt know just when he would be home.

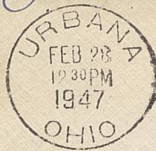
Mary Ann and Bill went to the Basketball Tournament last evening with Charles. Got home a little after 12.00. It was snowing so hard when they left between 5.30 and 6.00. It surely was pretty last night. The lights shining on it made it sparkle. There are several deep drifts here out toward the barn, brooder houses and front yard. I havent been in town since last Saturday night. Havent felt a bit good for over a week and I dont feel like going to town to run around in this winter weather.

No, we dont have the stove up in the upstairs bedroom. I said I wasnt going

2-
to have that mess to contend with
this winter. Dad and Bill sleep in
the west room upstairs and Mary A.
and I sleep on the davenport. The bed
room downstairs is too cold for even
a cat to sleep in. I suppose if we
would leave the doors open and let
the heat in there it wouldn't be so
bad. Dad moved his bed over against
the chimney up there so it warms
it just about right I guess. He can
put his knees on the other side up
against the chimney whichever
happens to need warming.

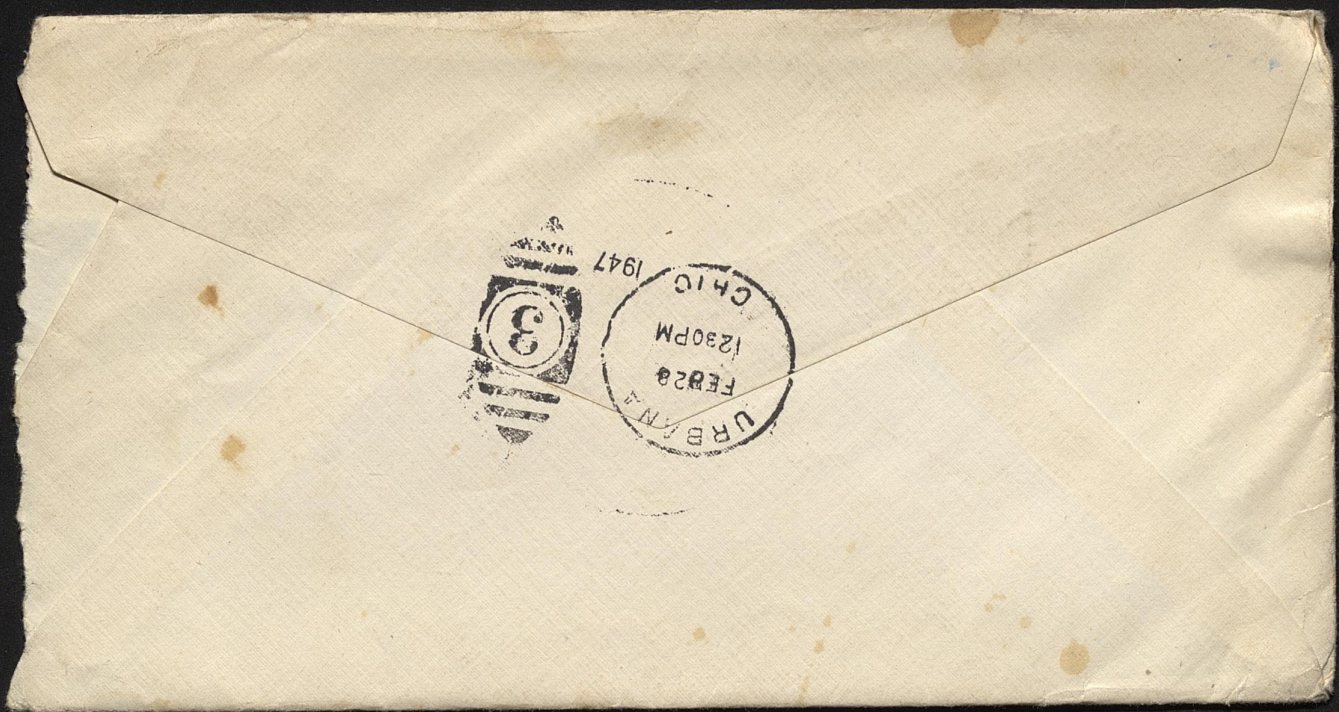
Well, I had better close now and
get this out to the bot. right quick.
Maybe he has gone though. Dad has
fiked the flag so you can raise it
now. Hope you are feeling fine. Be
good, and write again soon.
Lots of love to both
Mother

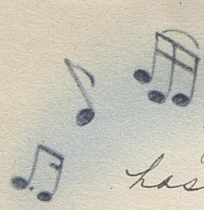
Mrs. V. Lebkisher,
R. R. 1, Mechanicsburg, O.



Mr. & Mrs. John Helfrich,
1 Citrus Ave.,
N. Housing,
Vallejo, Calif.

100



 Dear John & Vera - Here it is already;
your birthday and wedding anniversary -
hasn't a year rolled around fast? Everything
comes just at the time when it catches us with
our "pants down" (broke), so the only thing I can do
is to let you know I'm thinking about you &
wondering if there will ever be a day when we will
have some extra money. Maybe; who knows? "
Ray's patent is ok'd now & he may go ahead with
the manufacture and sale of it.

Mother's Day Sunday and I don't know what on
earth to get Mom. Martha Snyder was married 2
wks ago on Saturday and Mother took her election
money to buy her a shower & wedding gift so what
she had planned to use that money on, fell by the

wayside.

Dad seems to look much better just the few days since he's been out of the "Pronto" business. Twenty lbs. is too much for him to lose; he began to look tubercular.

We have our dogs yet - surely do hope to sell them sometime and put chickens in their place.

The weather has been so cold here with frosts in some areas. I haven't begun my house-cleaning because it has been too cold to hang anything out, or to have the windows open.

Planted some garden Monday. If the farmers don't have good weather soon to plant - people are going to be mighty hungry this winter.

The original fan belt on the car went bad last Saturday along with a leak in the gas line, which Ray repaired later on. That was fairly good, for the fan belt was six yrs. old last March.

Don't know whether Mom told you or not - Elizabeth has a new job starting the 15th in the County Surveyor's office. Dorothy Jean is valedictorian of her class - isn't that wonderful?

I didn't know about Harold Pittibrain's death until several days after his burial - boy! news really gets around fast out here in the sticks.

My dishes are yet to
be washed & dinner to
get so I'd better get
busy because 3:00 P.M.
rolls around before I'm
ready for it.

I'm hoping you have
a happy celebration on
your 1st wedding anniversary
& also that you, John, have
many, many, more happy
birthdays. Maybe next year
I can have your birthday dinner
for you. Lots of love
to you & many more anniversaries.
Mary, Kay & Barbara.



N. B. Long
Rosewood, O.



Mr. + Mrs. John W. Helfrich
1 Citrus Ave.
Vallejo, California

100

Galesville, Ill.

R # 3

July 22, 1947

Dear John & Vera

Guess you'll faint to hear from us, but George has been on me for months to write and I never got started, & he cracks practically all the time, the rest of the time we're on the go, so —

How is the baby? Guess you're pretty busy with him & her? It must be pretty big by now. We write to people so often we're never up to date on anything. But writing a letter is really a burden for me, especially to someone I've never met, altho' George talks about you a lot so much it seems like I should know you.

Well, — my brain is so blank I can't think of anything to write excepting that we're hoping to hear from you soon.

Love

George & Vanda

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO

George Jones
Galena, Ill.
Box 3

ROSEL
1111
24
1047
A.M.
1875



John Helgwick Rm 7c
47 Linden St.
North Kausing
~~Mare Island,~~
Calif.

Valley

100

Congratulations
to
YOU BOTH



"THE SUNSHINE LINE"
X288 Made in U.S.A.



"The Lord hath done great things for us;
whereof we are glad." Ps. 126:3

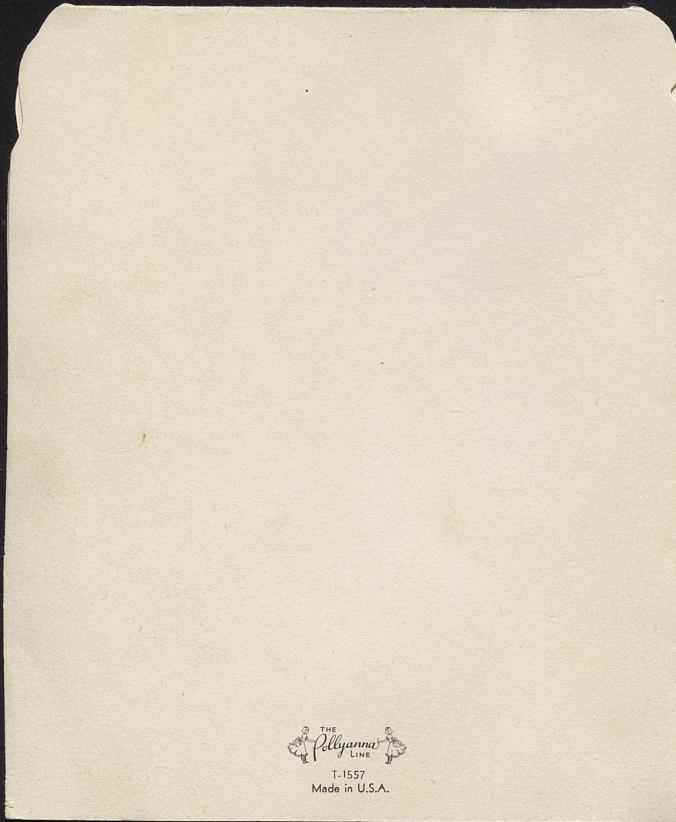
Nothing is lacking
of all you love best
Since Baby has come
to your little home nest.
Here's sharing your joy,
and your happiness too,
And praying God's blessings
on Baby, and YOU.

Ruth & Watson Russell



Mr. & Mrs. John Helfrich
701 Pindar St.
Urbana
Ohio

hw



THE
Pollyanna
LINE
T-1557
Made in U.S.A.





Never were Congratulations
More heartfelt and sincere
Than these which bring
best wishes
To You and Baby Dear!

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Mayne



Mr. and Mrs. John Helfrich
Pindar St.,
Urbana
Ohio.

100