

Miss. P. H. H. H.
Santa Monica, Calif.,
March 28 " 1919

Dear Aunt Lou;-

Your letter, which just reached me was a great rebuke to me for although I have thought of you every day since the sad news of uncle Ben's death I realized that I had written- not written to you. For the first few days I put it off and was justified for I felt that I did not know what to say. I knew how awful it was for you and how you suffered and how sad you all would be and I myself was both sorry and sad and in this state of mind and feeling far away I just did not write. Of course, I sent messages of love when I wrote to mama, which I am sure she gave you.

I received the pink dress from Mayme and thank her for it. I have made some alterations in it and will enjoy wearing it. I always admired it greatly. You did not say how much she wanted for the other dress. If you think I can wear it or make it fit by a little work I will be glad to take it. I am not much of a sewer as you know. I have very little for this summer and very little planned for I do not know where I will be, whether here or at home. Frank is a casual now and may get ordered home any day, on the other hand he may be sent elsewhere. Seven of the officers who were sent to Savenynwith him from the same hospital have gone already to Germany. So long as he is alive and well I do not care as that is the main thing. I would enjoy a summer here very much-- at least part of one. I think if he stays so long that I will remain here till about July or August, when it gets so hot here. I would like to get in some bathing but it is not warm enough for surf bathing here, nor has it been since November and we were sick then. The sun shines most every day but not long nor hot enough for the sand to get hot. About the dress; I think it was I who misunderstood mama for I read her letter just as I was starting to school and mislaid it so I never got to read it again. She probably said Mayme had a dress and I took it for granted that it was a dress of Lucinda's. You know I just wish that Mayme would design and make children's clothes for it is a good business. If she could make few good things entirely by hand and offer to take orders for a certain number from the big stores, only one in a city, she could do it. A girl here is making a lot of money that way. I wanted her to give Mayme some work and show her the dresses of my girls but she said she did nothing on the machine at all. Her things are exclusive and that is why she gets the prices. It is worth trying. Of course, it would have to be a real business. She hires all the work done under her direction. Mayme will do well in any business and it would be a good thing for her as she has been tied so close at home-- it would help her to lead a more complete life if she got out in some kind of business. I would not think office work the best for her.

Give my special love to Will. I hate to think of him giving up his own hopes as he will have to do now but I know he has such a fine spirit of devotion that he will go ahead. I do hope he will keep well.

I am glad Louise is transferred to a nearer school. She could have lengthened her life by doing it before. I wish they were all out here but do not see how it could be managed.

We had a lovely drive up a canyon day before yesterday. This is great country for automobiling but it costs a lot of money. Last night I went to the Community Theatre in Hollywood and enjoyed a most artistic performance of four one act plays. Jennie Willaims