

Tue Evening

Feb 16 '43

Dearest Baby mine

Here I am at nine o'clock as usual I had to wash out hose & such this evening. The house was warm & Jack was gone so I have sent them off to town for the evening I guess they will go to a show but they really went to get groceries first.

When I got home the that Baby was sick & had sent for the base hrs. so she came in uniform & in the big gray truck with the red Cross on it & it was parked in front. But she is only teething which I told them was the case. She is asleep now for a while at least. She just frets a little now & they but they were scared because she had a temp of 102. But he said she was O.K., just her teeth are nearly through front.

We have had some cold weather, 5 below again this morning. The rug & table was delivered today & the kids are in love with them but I am not going to put the rugs down before next week when I will be home then.

I want to do some cleaning & arranging then & by that time I hope another job looms up for me somewhere. I didn't take my lesson today as Mrs Stoltz's children were home & she was having a visit with them for a day or two. I guess everything is working out all right for me but I feel upset over not having the job that any longer

2 However I am not surprised at the
turn of events. It is only natural that
she take her sister in. There is going to be
a shake up at the store too but I'm glad
I'm not in on it altho I know a lot.
Bobby minds Betty just fine when she
lets him out & he is so nice she said,
all day long. He wants to go to bed now.
I want to hear the news first.

Jack paid me \$25.00 this evening so he is
set for a month. Mrs Mier notified me
that coal is now \$5.75 a ton. I wonder
what I will do next winter. I will be worse
than I am now. I sure hope I have a steady job
by then. I see that women in their 40's
don't have much show. I feel so useless
& good for nothing. A burden to you.

I am so proud of those little pictures
which you sent me. I want a nice
good large one in your uniform for
framing. Jack looks so cute in his &
I know you will look so much nicer.
You I wish this cold weather would let up.
It is wearing me down. I feel like closing
the house & taking the car & starting out
for La. Your description of the Country &
weather tantalizes me almost to the point
of coming down when I get my insurance
money but I will have to stay here & suffer
the cold and loneliness. The kids are
sure swell to me tho. I can't complain
on them yet. Jack got a letter from his
mother & 2 of his brothers today.

3. They are as lonely & homesick for their parents and home as you are down there. They don't have the Lord's comfort either. So it is hard for them. My good dresses haven't come yet & I am really stranded for a church dress but I hope they come next week.

How is your leave coming & have you heard from Mavell yet with the letter from Larabee? I've got to get a hair cut tomorrow. I look like a long haired dog. I can't get away from work early enough for the barber shop of an evening & don't have enough time at noon when she is there at the store for she only lets me have an hour. Frank would give me more time.

I didn't get any letter from you today, maybe I will get two tomorrow. I hope so. I nearly go batty of an evening when I don't hear from you. You have no idea how I miss them. I wish you could see the table & rugs they are beautiful. Betty had a fit over the table & chairs too. I like it because they are paid for. No bills staring us in the face over them.

I sure will have a big washing next week & a lot of cleaning & arranging to do. I am going to stow a lot of things & so is Betty because she won't need them here such as pans, & kitchen knives & potatoes mashers & all such things as that. They sure don't travel light, & he has his mat & pillow like yours & don't need it. It is excess baggage to him now.

4. I wish now that I had got the typewriter out but I felt that I wanted to use a pencil for a change. Jack has had a business college course too. He worked for the Edison Commonwealth Co of Chicago. before he went into service last Oct. same month that you did. They went to town on the bus & may have to walk home because you never know when a bus is going to break down but that is their lookout not mine. I say "No" to Jennifer going out unless I am in it.

Vernon left D. M. Sunday with a Co of men in charge for somewhere. Mr. Brennum was at Camp Dodge Sun & he phoned me that he met Vernon & Vernon gave him some help & courtesy that he appreciated so much that he had to phone me & tell me & also that he left D. M. that day - Sunday. It will either be Kentucky or Texas. so far as he knew.

I nearly go crazy when I think of both you boys gone & I'm here alone for maybe four more years. Oh if God would only fill me with more faith & courage to carry on, give me steady work and more desire to live & go on for him & for you. It is easy to speak encouragement to others but a different thing to live it yourself. It really puts one thro the fire test of faith and physical strength and I am so weak.

5. I have to order more coal in a day or two. It really is getting me down. How I wish this winter weather would break, I don't know anything but go to work & come home & get ready to go again the next morning. I don't see any neighbors or get to talk to any of them. How I wish you were here or I there. It nearly kills me to be away from you; and I know or at least, hope you are the same. Now Vernon was just crazy to go & I don't blame him much; he had no encouragement at home and no appreciation for what he did do when there. While I loved & worshiped you and all that you did for me.

I am so glad for you that you have friends so kind to you and that you got a beautiful gospel church. That is the greatest help of all to you.

My allotment has not come yet. I wonder if it ever will. Beth's hasn't come yet either since Jack has been in. So I suppose there is a lot of us in the same boat the country over. Bobby sure is wanting me to come to bed. He is crying for me to get undressed & roll in.

I would like to get a pad for the dining room rug but since I have lost my job I am afraid to get it. It will cost 10.50 but will be worth in in saving wear on the rug.

6. As soon as I get a job I will get it but the furniture store said that when they have this roll sold that they cannot get any more. I can use the old 9x12 one in the living room & extend the rest out with other materials such as strips of the old rug for the other 3 feet, no, the other six feet or buy a small 9x6 piece. The rugs are a dream. They are the swellest ones we ever had in this house. believe me.

I am happy over them in a way but my joy would be complete if you were here with me to enjoy them too. I am selfish. I don't want other people to share them, no one but you.

Oh how I hope a job opens up for me. I don't believe I can stand it here at the house without you if it don't. The taxes are paid until next Spring. I paid your 2 lots & the home in full for the year & the insurance is paid until the first of May & your Ordinary of Feb 20th. I just have to have a job to cover insurance & household expenses.

Well I must fix the furnace for nite & the kids will be home before long. It is not so cold to nite. The temp got up to 30 degrees today. It is just one blizzard after another now.

7 I ran out of lead so picked up
this blue pencil. This letter sure looks
seedy dont it Darling Boy? Well I love
you just as hard as if it was fancy.
You are my only one.

I haven't been able to get but one
roll of film but I'm going to try to
marrow again at noon. If I can get
enough to make it worth while I will send
the camera to you. I don't have any desire to
use it anymore for myself. Unless it would
be to send you snaps of home + Bobby.

Well I must close now as it is near
eleven and I am so sleepy + tired. I hope I
hear from you tomorrow. Push that love
so that you can come home as soon as
possible. I can't stand not seeing you
much longer. Jack wants to get one to go
home when his brothers get one as they both
have new babies + neither one has seen the
others so they are anxious to see who has
the best one. Oh but I'm glad you don't have
a darned wife + kid to worry about. I wouldn't
have you in Jack's shoes for a million
while Betty is good + patient, but it is a worry
a terrible worry even at the best. Both were
just frantic to bite about the baby until they
knew what was wrong, wouldn't even eat.
Jack just goes to pieces, Betty is steadier
than he in a crisis. They trust the Baby
to me so + the Baby finds such

8 comfort with me & cries to come to
me but I am not strong for fooling
with her, you know me and kids.

Well I must say Good nite and God
Bless you my dear, & do write me. I
love you and miss you so much. Cling
to God dear one and pray for me that
God will lead me to a job & a better one too.
I feel that he will. Lots of Love from
your lonely Mother & Bobby.

God Bless you and Good nite
Mother

This old month is nearly
gone (Sunday)
Jan.
Feb 15/43

Dear One of My Heart:-

Just a line tonite. I got your 2 sweet letters today & your pictures and they show that you are fine. I got home late & nearly frozen to death. We are having more snow & sub-zero weather. In a way I'm glad this is my last week. The house is so dirty & needs my attention so much, thing I wouldn't let Betty do. She had the snow shoveled off all around when I came home & the mail in & kept the fire going, that was something but the coat pile is sure melting down this cold weather.

Jack won't be home tonite he has to stay at the base all nite won't be home until tomorrow & will then fix the fire & empty ashes. I am looking for another place every day. Every othe nite Jack is away at the Base.

I'm disgusted with Charlie White if you ask me. Bobby is whining to go to bed. He was a good boy all day Betty said. He likes him so much but he will bark & wake the Baby. Baby will get used to it after a while. I sure hate to get out in the morning.

I am all red & chapped tonite. I am sending you a list of some more boys who go next & it will surprise you who some of them are. Bennie Sloup for one.

I want to type you a long letter tomorrow mite if possible. I hope we dont have such a rush at closing time tomorrow & that this weather ceases. It is just wearing me to the bone physically & financially, coal, coal, coal. We havent had such continuous sub zero weather in a long time.

It is after 10 now & I must get some rest. I am just fighting to keep going. Alta called & wanted to tell you she will write soon, she has been on the bum for two weeks. She didnt go to church last nite & I didnt either. Baby took sick with locked lower Bowels & both kids worked with her until she was nearly in spasms & Betty was crying & Jack had to leave the room so I took baby & laid my hand on her little head & plead the Blood of the Crucified Christ that her little bowels would move &

3 they did, & she came to me & wouldn't
go to her Mother & Daddy after that. I
saw Betty watching me pray & she
loves me for it. Jack sat & listened
to Bro Melhon's preach, I said nothing
just let it soak in. I insisted on Betty
going to Mass Sun morn & I am going
to the fair & let God work thro me. I
think his first step was with the baby.
& that was what kept me from Church.
Will praise God for it all. Jack don't go
to his Church, but I in saying nothing
one way or the other about that. God will lead.

Well we must work for him & he will
bless our labors. If I was to be at the
store much longer the butcher would be
done with swearing I know that but I
have dropped the seed. His nephew 39 yrs old
dropped dead & will be brot here for burial.
It set him thinking. Well my blessed Angel
I am going to close, it is 11 Bells now.
I am looking for your letter tomorrow.

I'm so happy for you in the Church
& hope you get your letter from Larabe
soon. Love to my darling. & Good
Nite & God Bless you my Love.
Mother & Boths.