

(Transcription begins)

BWRS

Aug. 28, 1942
Friday morning.

Dear Douglas:

I shall have this letter ready so that it can be sent out tonight if we find one waiting from you at home with your new address. Dad will take it when he walks up to the corner after supper for his daily chat with the Ying Brothers. I guess the conversation is about the same every night but both sides seem to enjoy it.

Your letter to Marilyn received last night was much enjoyed by us all and your short visit to Chicago sounded most interesting—I am so glad that you had even that much of a visit there. We guess that Paul is the one to train at Chicago and that your other two roommates will be with you in New York. Now that you are there does it seem a little more like home to you?

I think I have already written you that Harold Brown has accepted a position in a Western college as head of the musical department—he is in town for a few days and George Jones is trying to get together a few people for supper in his honor at the Tollgate. I'll write you more about it if he succeeds. Hollier has been back in the city for a short visit, looks pale and thin so they say.

This morning at five o'clock the Buffums, Metcalfs, Hendricksons left for Waukeela for a week. Both Dad and I would have enjoyed going with them but Dad can't leave his business while there is any business and he can get silver which is the situation just now and I am saving any time that I may have to visit New York or be at home when you get back.

I understand that you will not be allowed to go more than fifty miles away from New York. If that is so, Marilyn and I are definitely planning to be there for a weekend sometime not too far distant. She hopes that she can get a Saturday morning off and if so, we could leave on the late Friday afternoon train and return Sunday night. Then sometime later Dad will run down. But it will hinge on your plans.

I am enclosing a part of Uncle Harry's last letter received several months ago but which I felt might prove useful to you at sometime. It is possible that he will be in Maine until after Labor Day but you know his daughter Marion is his assistant and will probably be there while he is away. I know that they could put you and Tommie up, as Virginia and Arva are married and away but of course it depends on how Aunt Amy feels, there was

a time when she wasn't too well. But sometime do try to get over for a week end. Uncle Harry would love to have you and he is lots of fun.

We are looking forward to receiving the proofs from South Bend and will let you know what we decide to order.

If you have not already found it out from Tommie, the Gronnenberg's address is 80 Massasoit Avenue, Edgewood.

We tried our best to tune in on the broadcast as the broadcasting company told us that it came in at 96 and was not a very powerful station we knew that the Outlet at 90 would drown it out which proved to be the case. However we tried all over the dial both short and long wave but with no results. I'm pleased that you took advantage of the opportunity to enjoy music and expect you may have more. Do go to see some good things if you can while in New York.

Saturday Florence Skoog is to be married. I doubt if we go although of course we sent a gift.

We have finished the last bottle of root beer and will probably not make any more until after the duration. With you away it does not disappear quite so quickly and gets rather strong. But as far as the sugar is concerned, we get all I can use and I doubt if I even have to ask for extra for doing up peaches or grapes.

While I think of it—Blanche has not yet answered my letter asking about the cameo, and I have only seen Clara for a second once since you left.

Both Chip and Bing are getting the hardships of war times. All canned food is out and they are rapidly learning to eat a dried preparation mixed with water or milk.

Bill Schmid has appeared in both his khaki and blue uniforms and looks very well as Chief petty officer. We have had an intensive drive in Providence for the Coast Guard the past week and today at noon more than a hundred will be sworn in on the steps of the City Hall with a Master of Ceremony and a band, topped off by the Andrew Sisters, of whom a critic wrote, "after seeing them in their first picture I would advise them to stick to radio—if looks count for anything!" One morning when I came to work, all over down town were painted trails of white footprints coming out of banks and stores and all leading to the recruiting station which is just around the corner from our shop on Exchange Street and every now and then was printed "I'm on my way to join the Coast Guard."

Helen Hard has just received a Victory letter from Junior (One of the kind photographed and then redeveloped) in which he mentions cancelling his plans for being married on the fifteenth of September because he does not expect to return to port for some time and saying that he was able to "Keep tabs on Dad's ship" so Mrs. Hard rather suspects that they are getting plenty of action.

Do you have any choice of service after your training is finished? It seems as if the chance for further training and advancement would be greater on a larger boat.

I have been pleasantly surprised to receive the postcards addressed to the shop—I did not expect any mail that way and it just started the day off right, then the letter to Marilyn received last night was another surprise as we were not looking for any until after you reached New York. It was such a gorgeous moonlight night here that we spoke several times about your being able to see the country as you rode along in the night but then we wondered whether you would have to keep the curtains down.

Keep up the good work of no demerits—it will be worth a lot on your record in time of promotion.

I expect Alice Jones any minute now to help in the Shop so think I better get down to business. If I neglect to tell you about individuals or events in which you are interested just jog my memory and I will try to do better.

Young Harvey is back from his bicycle trip—I believe he went as far as Portland, Maine and was quite surprised as (*sic*) the steepness of the hills even between here and Boston. Temporarily Dick is much tied up with Betty Haddleton, taking her to dinner down town, buying birthday presents etc.

Loads of love from us all
Mother (Transcription ends)