

What do you want for Christmas? #52 Monday night, August 28, 1944

Dear Douglas. Whenever the 28<sup>th</sup> rolls around, I know the time is on  
month means your coming home for Gary's birthday (monthly & annual  
falls on the 28<sup>th</sup> and she was just six months old when you were  
last home and now she is 17 mos. She gets into the upboards every  
chance she can & today we caught her right in the act so Marjorie stood  
& looked at her very severely without saying a word. Gary looked like a  
startled fawn for a minute & then started to laugh a most infectious  
laugh so that Marjorie couldn't help but join in & then Gary laughed  
harder than ever! She knows where I keep the brown sugar & if I  
forget to shut that door she is there like a flash looking up in my  
face & saying "p'ease!" in a most beginning way. She is generally  
out doors when Dad drives in & runs to meet him calling "Baba"

We have had your most recent letter #122 dated Aug 16 &  
received by us Aug 22. Very good time. I'm so glad that your mail is  
beginning to come thru again & that the maple sugar finally  
arrived. I'll try it again, next time with a larger amount.

You're right about our having seen fine friends. We can  
look back on many a good time together & what good times there  
are ahead for when you come home there will be all the old  
things to try again - smoking, frankfort roasts, group singing,  
square dancing, good theater, evenings of just talking or reading  
by the fire place.

Even if you're not seeing real girls, you are still getting  
quite an eyeful via your 5 arga calendar. I happened to see a  
copy when I visited Barbara Langdalis last Wednesday - so I can  
now visualize the hat the Octopus beauty is wearing (as if that  
mattered!)

I had a lovely time going down to the wedding. Uncle  
Hartley Harney, Aunt Marion & I went down on the noon bus &  
uncle Harney said that we women didn't stop wagging our tongues  
the whole way! Aunt Hazel had a buffet supper for us, Dick Whipple  
was there to be an usher & his girl, Betty Haddleton, came on from  
New York. The wedding was at 7 o'clock in one of the lovely  
churches across on the green (Lutheran) and the Baptist  
minister (formerly from N. Attleboro) performed the ceremony.  
Aunt's little girl Charlotte and Beverly's Linda were the two little  
flower girls (were training to be one of yours!)  
Arbacia's five year old David said when he heard his cousins  
were to perform as flower girls said "I guess I would be a tree, then!"  
Hazel, Marion & Douglas & I will have a few days in



the vaccine. It was lots of fun being down at the Langdalen for Aunt Hazel is so jolly & bright. Besides her teaching & book writing she does a daily column for the New Haven Register & the telephone is constantly ringing or people coming in with news items. Aunt Marion & Uncle Hartley left the next day for New York & we powered them with left over confetti as they tipped on the train! It is their first vacation for quite a long time & they really looked very buck & giddy & happy! Grandma & I came home by train the next day after that. It is still quite a sight to see the long trains of military freight rushing along.

So glad you have a real swim once in awhile. Don't bother to return snap shots - just throw them away as we always order duplicate sets.

(Have just re-read your letter & evidently I am mistaken about your receiving the maple cigars. Let me know if you ever do get it, until I hear I'll not try to send that for I may have all melted!)

Marilyn is out in the kitchen typing envelopes & cards for the church of the Transfiguration every members cards.

The last few days we have had the kind of weather you like, crisp & cool in the morning with a very blue sky full of puffy white clouds, then the day warms & balmy but snappy enough to sleep well at night.

Next week we expect to spend at least 20 that the men who are papering our downstairs rooms may be unimpeded.

This week Thursday, Dad & I have been invited for the day on Douglas Youngs cruise "Sea Home". Because of the gas restriction we will not go too far, but Dad seems to think we will have a lobster dinner at the Lobster Pot in Bristol.

I have not heard from the Buffums since I went to New Haven & as they do not answer the phone & the bank tells me Mrs Buffum is not in each day I have called, I think possibly they have gone to Waukegan for a few days.

I'll be writing again soon, I have bought a V-mail pad will try to get in an extra once in a while but do not think for one minute that I intend to let them take the place of my weekly talks with you. They will simply be extras.

All our love & prayers  
mother