

[Transcription begins]

#58 October 11-1944

Dear Douglas - The day before Columbus Day and at four in the afternoon. Daryl is running around without a sweater and bare legs and I am sitting with my back to the sun, hoping to finish a short letter at least. Marilyn has been downtown all morning & has rushed in for a brief minute before taking off for the yacht club where, as a solicitor for the coming Community War Fund Drive, she will hear a number of Pep talks (quite the young busy matron!). Tonight Dad & I will be in the same spot, only this time for a Republican Rally, with Dad's knees quivering for fear some heckler may demand he express his views! Did you receive your ballot? I requested one for you.

Tomorrow we spend the day at East Greenwich with the Westcotts, it being a holiday and Dad looks forward to a chance to use his pastels. Chip will accompany us for a good run but Daryl because of nap complications will stay at home with her mother.

Sunday I finished at Coles with the [indecipherable] mailing & making fast for the winter. Bob Stang, as I have written you, is on his way & has not written for two weeks. [Indecipherable] he may be coming your way. Clara has told us definitely that Donald is stationed at Pearl Harbour & always refers to his location at [sic] "South Pacific--is this correct or glamorizing? Norman Bridge has not been able to fly since receiving his wings--due to ear trouble. Seems to me, I remember that he always had more or less bother with his ears. -- -- -- -- -- It was impossible to continue this letter as both Bert Pine's children came over and three children were to [sic] many to cope with & write letters so now it is Thursday night and we have just returned from Westcotts'. They have a lovely old home in East Greenwich & we were lucky to see Ted who is home after two years with the See Bees [sic] in Australia, New Caledonia, New Britain, etc. He looks fine, had some interesting pictures & souvenirs & was enjoying his leave. We had a hike thru the woods with Clip & their cocker spaniel chasing squirrels.

Tuesday Aunt Saidee & Grandma came over for the afternoon & supper, reminding us that just a year ago on the 30th of this month they were here and then you telephoned saying "This is the Admiral--what's cooking?" We listened for the telephone to ring all evening but nothing doing!

Your two Christmas packages have gone & Dad is sending a fruit cake to Norman-- should you receive a fruit cake, be informed that it will keep indefinitely if kept wrapped up or in its box.

Last night we attended the Rally, a gratifying number of both men & women, and Dad was introduced & made his maiden speech which consisted mainly of informing the audience that it was not the Shipyard but his knees which they heard knocking!

Your sketch of Potter Avenue is correct but do you remember that we had two living rooms, the first one had the piano in it & we seldom used it? It was at the front of the house & had no door into the front hall but was entered thru the 2nd living room.

We are so pleased that you are able to save so much money for it will be a great help when you return whatever your plans may be. We are not touching a penny of it but appreciate knowing that we could should the need ever arise! Dad is doing well & while taxation is heavy, we still have nothing to complain about, that the coming election can't change! (we hope!)

#130 dated Sept. 28 & two air mails Sept. 29th are at hand & so welcome--glad to know you were on shore even if only supervising a beer beach party!

The matter about "Warrant Storekeeper" is already forgotten & "Warrant Paymaster" filed in its place. You can well be proud of the work you are doing with your "division." Sometime can you explain just what a "division" is & what you do with it and on what basis they are credited--if this is not censorable.

Monday night I had dinner at Helen Goodchild's with Mesdames Hard, Jones, Gants, Darby, Hopps, Douglas. The husbands were attending the first meeting of the CYMBC at Sadie Jordan's (who, by the way, wants to be remembered to you as do the Westcotts, also) Mrs. Goodchild served rabbit which I had not had since sampling it at the [indecipherable] years ago and it really is good!

Saturday night we were at the Henriksons' to play Michigan with the Metcalfes & the Browns.

I have not seen Clara Miller for some time for I do not go down to work & Dad does not take a group anymore because he leaves much earlier. Occasionally I used to hear thru Richard Whipple but of course he is now in Washington.

Had an appreciative letter from Charlotte Hewitson saying she had heard from you--that was thoughtful of you.

A letter from Blanche says Norman is trying to get leave to help his father reclaim some of the lumber knocked over in the hurricane.

We are sending a picture of Daryl which you may keep--it is an excellent likeness altho her eyes are much larger & very dark. We have one of just her head which we like even better but thought the pose we are sending you shows her size & shape better.

Dad is reminding me that it is after eleven & another day is on its way.

Ever so much love & keep happy!

Mother [Transcription ended]