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Ferris Industrial School of Delaware

BOX 230
Wilmington, Delaware

September 28, 1943

Dear Lee:

We were certainly delighted to get the letter this morning telling us you had successfully made your first solo. Daddy has already read it to several persons, one of whom was Mr. Worth. He says that all you have to do now is get your first 100 hours of solo and you will be alright. I suppose that seems a long ways off just now. Congratulations and the best of luck always.

Well Shirley has gone. Yesterday morning she, daddy, Bernice and I left here about 9 o'clock and reached Williamsport at 1:30, which I think is mighty good time. You follow the river all the way up, - we went on the left side crossing the bridge as we would have if we were going to Carlisle, and it was a very pretty ride. Shirley is very nicely situated. The school bought two large old homes adjoining the campus and have turned them into dorms for the girls. Everything in the house is newly papered - most attractively - and painted and the floors all done over. There is a very attractive living room and dining room downstairs and the girls' rooms are on the second floor. All the furniture is brand new. Each girl has a maple chest of drawers, desk and chair. There are three girls in most of the rooms. We met one of Shirley's roommates, a girl from Ashland, Pa. Her mother was there with her, also a brother who is a naval officer and a very nice chap. He told daddy he was on his way to the Pacific on a secret mission. The third girl had not arrived when we left. They all sleep on the third floor in one large room, but it is not crowded at all as you boys were at the Theta Chi house. One side of the room is taken up with single beds, and on the other side are maple double-deckers. Shirley and her room mate chose a double decker. All the bedclothes are furnished, and the beds looked very nice with green and white striped bedspreads and green blankets. There are two bath rooms on the floor, - one of them right next to Shirley's room. Her room also is in the front of the house. I hope she will be very happy there.

We saw air cadets everywhere in the class rooms as we went from one place to another registering, getting books, etc. I suppose they are going thru what you did at Newbraska.

Bernice liked the setup and felt a little blue when she had to leave Shirley. Of course they will miss each other terribly, but it will be harder on Bernice here at home, especially after May leaves. Her daddy told her coming down last night that she could take voice lessons from Mr. Wyatt this winter and she was so thrilled with that she could hardly sleep last night. She still goes to the Delaware Hospital one afternoon a week and is working some at Crosby & Hill's, so if she is kept busy I guess she will get along alright.

The box of applesauce cakes was finally gotten off on Saturday, and I hope you have it by this time. Let us know in what shape they arrived. I thought they would keep as well as anything. When you mentioned having 10 roommates I thought I had better make a "double dose" and I hope they went around the group once or twice. We are told that it is not necessary to send food to the girls at Williamsport, but I imagine they would like to get something from home occasionally.

I am glad you heard from Mac. We did think of turning in to Carlisle as we came down last night, but it would have meant two or three hours longer getting home so we did not do it. Graduation exercises were held on Sunday, and I saw in the newspaper last night that Mr. Green from Wilmington received the diploma for his son from law school, as he is now in the army.

We don't have any pictures for you this time. It seems we got the films mixed, - sending Judy the one you intended for us; but we got that straightened out Friday, and on Sunday loaded your camera and took it with us yesterday, intending to take some pictures when Shirley arrived at school. In the confusion of arriving, unpacking, etc., we forgot all about the camera until we saw it on the back seat after we had started home.

Now I must stop and get to work, for after being out of the office a day there is always much to do.

Lots of love and our best wishes always.

Mother

P.S. Write to Shirley when you can. Address her

Miss Shirley E. Minker
Williamsport-Dickinson Jr. College
635 Franklin St.
Williamsport, Pa.