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Wednesday, February 23

Dear Lee:

We left here yesterday morning at 9 o'clock, - Bernice, daddy and I, taking Raymond Eckcard from here to Staten Island, where he got the boat for the Maritime School on Hoffman's Island. By that time it had started to rain. We crossed over to N.Y. city by ferry and arrived at 75th & Riverside Drive where Bernice was to have a voice lesson about 1:30. Mr. Wyatt was waiting for us. Dr. Stanley was very pleased with the volume and quality of her voice, but advised that she do no singing at all for the time being except under the direct supervision of Mr. Wyatt. Her voice is still forming and she has not yet learned the technique of using it properly. Dr. Stanley thinks she may turn out to be a contralto instead of a soprano, which will be something of a disappointment to Mr. Wyatt, for he hopes that with the volume she has she will develop into a soprano. We'll just have to wait and see I guess. The cord of her tongue is much too short for her to do everything she should, so we must have it cut. So I guess we will ask for her to be excused from music in school the rest of this year.

We took Mr. Wyatt to the train and then daddy said he had some work to do at the Hotel if Bernice and I wanted to go to Music Hall. But yesterday seemed to be a holiday for everyone in N.Y. and there was such a long line of people waiting to get in that we didn't even try. We then thought we would go shopping, only to find the stores were closed. So there not being much we could do unless we stayed around until night we headed toward home, in the pouring rain. We got back about 7 p.m., whereupon Bernice snatched a bite and went to Claymont to see A.I. beaten in basketball. So ended Washington's birthday for us.

Daddy had to leave shortly after 8 this morning for Camp Dix. He is on some kind of a committee for training inductees and along with some others went over to see how it is done. It is now 3 o'clock and he has not returned, although he expected to be back by 1.

I hear John Curlett is home on a furlough, but I have not seen him. From all reports Graham Taggart seems to be improving. Many married men are being taken from our communities,- men with children, and from all reports there will be no let-up. Some people seem to think that the reason why the army is dropping its college-training program is because the draft boards have not been able to fill their quotas; and the draft boards blame it on the confusion of orders coming out of Washington. So it goes.

Thursday morning

I waited until Bernice had received your letter to see if there was any news in it or questions you wanted answered. I have on my desk the letter written to

grandmother Jones which came this morning.

This is almost a spring morning, and I hope the weather in the west is improving so you will not have too much flying, etc. crowded into your last days there. Love from all of us.

Mother