

1

Ferris School for Boys

Box 230

Wilmington 99, Delaware

Monday, October 2, 1944

Dearest Lee:

It was so good to get a letter [of 9/29] from you this morning, even though it must be a terrible disappointment to you and your crew to be just hanging around. I am so sorry about Rohl. I suppose there is no possibility about his getting back with you again. However, perhaps Dodge will work out just as well.

Of course daddy wishes now that he had not heeded us but gone to Savannah to see you. If there is any possibility of your being allowed to come home if only for a few hours please do so.

You remember Wilson, cousin of Dr. Edgar Miller, who worked at the duPont airport, don't you? He was flying a mail pick-up plane for All-American Aviation and crashed at State College on Friday. The mechanic with him escaped with only minor injuries. Daddy has the service at 10 this morning.

It seems so long since I wrote that I can hardly remember what I have told you. We took Shirley back to Williamsport last Friday, September 22nd. She and Timmy have a nice room together and we stayed long enough to help them move around the furniture more to their liking, etc. Eight or 10 girls went back early to help Miss Dewey in getting things in shape and in welcoming new students on Monday. I guess she really worked them, for Shirley said she was just about dead by the time the pajama party was over on Monday night. Her schedule was not quite complete when when she wrote me,- that is her hospital schedule. The chemistry teacher has asked Shirley to be her lab assistant this year, which means about 6 hrs.' work a week, at 50 cents per. Shirley was surprised and thrilled by this and if her hospital schedule permits will do the work. Of course living in a big dorm is new to her this year but I think she will like it. All the rooms were freshly painted and papered. The dining room, in a newer building across the campus, is really lovely, with all the most modern equipment in the kitchen. She is planning to come to Wilmington once a month to take a voice lesson with Mr. Wyatt.

Bernice, I think, hasn't quite decided whether she likes Tower Hill better than A.I. or not. In some ways she feels out of things, which is only natural. I told her that it would not be fair to the girls who have been going to Tower Hill all the time to give offices, honors, etc. to a person coming in only for her senior year. I know one thing, she is studying harder than ever before, which won't hurt at all. She is taking French, English, Chemistry, Am. History. They are

ahead of her in both French and English so she has to work doubly hard. You know they have all their activities after school, and all girls are supposed to go out for hockey just now unless there

2

is a certificate from the doctor. This means they they do not finish until 5 or after and she does not get home until after the 6 o'clock trip. As soon as she eats her dinner she has to buckle down to study. She is taking only one music lesson a week.

The United War Fund drive was officially launched yesterday and today the workers are to start out, so I shall be busy with my area for the rest of the month. My territory, the South Suburban, stretches from Lancaster Pike south to and including Newport and over as far as but not including New Castle. So many new developments have sprung up in this area, and it is hard to find leaders, for the people come from all parts of the country and have not developed a community spirit.

I deposited the \$50 allotment check and hope to get in this week to deposit the \$100. money order.

The mornings are cool here now and the days very delightful. I suppose it is warmer in Georgia. I have just talked to Mrs. Boykin. Mr. Boykin has been home with a bad cold and sinus for a week. She has a cousin living in Savannah and said she would write telling her you [were] there. Perhaps you will not be there when the letter arrives and perhaps you won't be able to go off post but it won't hurt to try.

Ramon Harding returned to this country on the Gripsholm last week, having been a wounded prisoner of war. I think he was allowed to come home for a few hours on Friday and then was to go to a hospital center.

Did I tell you that Margaret is at Halloran Hospital, Staten Island, where there are 6,000 patients? She wrote grandmother that she rather expected to be sent across sometime this month. Before she went she told us that she would like to go overseas, but now it seems she has met a very nice lieut.- patient at the hospital- and she is not so anxious about leaving.

The announcement of Pete Figgatt and Constance Morford was announced about two weeks ago.

I am now in the process of receiving apples. The government is buying up many of the apples blown from the Del. orchards during the hurricane and we are distributing to Del. agencies, schools, etc., about 8 carloads- 300 bus. per.

Marcia Terry, HUBER, church organist, has gone west to be with her husband and May is substituting. It makes it very hard for May for she is working every day and three nights a week at the Library and has very little time for practice.

Yesterday May was in an organ recital given at St. John's church in honor of Mr. Terry, organist and choir director for the past 15 years I believe.

Howell Wilkins and I believe Julianna Lattomus graduated from Dickinson yesterday. Howell went to Drew the first of the week but came back of course for commencement. At first daddy thought he might drive up yesterday, taking Howell and his family, but he wanted to be at Grace for World-Wide Communion in the morning and had a speaking engagement at McCabe in the evening. Most all of the theologs have churches or do some work over the weekends, so that everybody clears out Howell said. So daddy is going to give him a job here every weekend from Friday afternoon to Sunday evening.

By the way, the college [Dickinson] has rented the Phi Delt house for a woman's

3

Ferris School for Boys

Box 230

Wilmington 99, Delaware

dorm, and those housed there will take their meals at the College Commons. They expect 160 woman students, both day and resident. Conway Hall is closed and all male students housed in East. No fraternity house is now operated for chapter use and the men students take their meals at the Commons. All of this you will find in the Dickinson Alumnus which I am sending under separate cover, but in case it does not reach you I thought I would pass on this news.

Aunt Margaret was just in and chatted for a few minutes.

This about brings us up to date as far as important news is concerned. We'll try to write now hoping that some of the letters will reach you. Shirley was so anxious to write you at Gulfport but I advised her against it, thinking the letters would come back. I'll give her your new address.

Had you heard that the Browns won the pennant? A.I. played its first game on Saturday and was beaten 27-0 by Boothwyn. Charles Wilson, one of the boys from here, is on the team.

Now try not to get yourself worked up too much about the delay. I can appreciate how you feel and something of the strain of just waiting. I take it you are not allowed to fly while there. These few days will give you a chance to size up your new co-pilot and I do hope he fits into the picture o.k.

Lots and lots of love to you, dear.

Mother