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Tuesday evening

June 26, 1945

Dear Mother,

How are you all at home today? I am still sitting and waiting around over here.

The English are all excited these days over the general election scheduled for July fifth. They are surprisingly bitter and slash and cut with great vigor. The chief interest centers on the election of a new parliament, first in ten years (in time of emergency parliament may be extended over a five year normal term by the prime minister).

There are three leading parties contesting the election. The National Party alias Conservative

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or Tory is fighting for the old way of life with Churchill as their leader. The Socialists or Laborites are fighting for nationalization with Atlee, Laski, Bevin and Morrison and the trade unions as the spearhead. The liberals are fighting for reform, a new deal based on the plans of Sir William Beveridge.

Liberals and Socialists combined under the late great Liberal David Lloyd George in 1939 to defeat the Chamberlin [sic] Munich Conservatives and Independent Liberal Winston Churchill formed a coalition War Cabinet. Liberals and Socialists walked out of the government on V-E Day because of differences

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on reconstruction and postwar planning and thus caused the present election. It seems as if the election is still a toss up between Socialists and Conservitives [sic] with the Liberals a potent and deciding force. In America Liberals would win but here they will not touch money or big interests such as the Conservitives [sic] or attack and organize as the Socialists.

(An Englishman may vote in his home district and also, if a college graduate, for a college candidate, or, if owner of a business valued at over \$200.00, for a candidate from the district in which the business is located, not to exceed two votes).

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(An English candidate does not have to be a resident of the district he contests).

(English Dominions New Zealand and Australia have Socialist governments;
Canada has a Liberal government.)

I have been enjoying the birthday package from you. Thanks a lot. Could you
please take care of Julia on her birthday for me?

Love,

Lee