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Monday, April 30, 1945

Dearest Lee:

This is the last day of April and so cool we have to have the heat turned on. Our iris are all ready to "pop" once the sun comes out good and strong. I am anxious to see those we planted along the road. We are making attempts to beautify that stretch between our garden and down to the stream - putting out some trees, willows, shrubbery, evergreens, etc. Of course it will take some time to get in shape but we are beginning now.

Your cablegram arrived on Friday and certainly did us a world of good. I am hoping that by the time this reaches you a peace settlement will be reached with Germany. Saturday afternoon and night the air was full of peace rumors, which were later denied by the President, but is is the general feeling here that the good news can be expected any day - almost any hour.

The house seemed rather empty when we woke up this morning - daddy, Bernice and I. Shirley and her "gang" left about 5:30 yesterday afternoon. There were 5 besides Shirley - all of them fine girls; and I am so glad we could have them. We had planned to have Walter drive them back as far as Harrisburg, but Friday night 4 boys from Washington cottage left, taking the brand new station wagon, and that upset our plans. The wagon is now back, having been found in Downingtown, Pa. Howell and daddy went up after it. Daddy is almost frantic because of lack of proper personnel, and some of these boys present problems which baffle all of us.

Dick Rhoades was in church yesterday morning - the first time he has been home for many months. He looked fine. He must report to some place in California by May 6th, so it looks as if he is headed for the Pacific.

It looks as if the Blue Rocks have gotten off to a fine start. Daddy was out for a while Saturday night, but it is too cool to enjoy night baseball.

With things looking the way they do in Europe we certainly hope it will be possible for you to get home for Shirley's commencement, May 27, or at least for Bernice's in June.

With all our love. Mother