

I've missed you so terribly lately. Eva & I always used to lean on you so much, but this time I've had to be a sort of a leaning post myself! At least I'm thankful we been feeling so well.

Loxburn, April 17, 1944.

Dear Evelyn:

Your letter came on Saturday and so several of us were glad to hear from you. It has been hard to keep up with our letter writing and I feel we have neglected some of you a lot.

We were all at S.S. and service yesterday forenoon but Gudrun and mamma. Gudrun has been having a long holiday, if you'd call it that, and she isn't ready to start school yet for another week or two. We have had the Dr. out a couple of times and to say she's very anaemic and run down. She has been looking well all winter and both she and I have been putting on quite a lot of weight. Whether it was the flu she had or not I don't know. She had a very sore throat to start with but no head cold whatever. It seems to be her heart that bothers her - she's so awfully weak, and she's had some pain in her chest and her pulse has been quite fast. However, the Dr. says he can't

find any leakage or anything wrong organically. It's likely her nerves a lot and then having the life and the shock all at once was just a little too much. She plans to go to Saskatoon or Truro Jan to have a good check-up as soon as she's a little stronger. She was dressed for a while yesterday and also to-day, but is lying down most of the time.

A week ago yesterday we had Aunt Lena's over for dinner. (Easter Sun.) Aunt Lena has been away, and didn't get home till after the funeral. Mildred has been working in Calgary all winter (Johnnie Joel) is Stationer there) They were married I believe the last Sat. in March so Aunt Lena went to the wedding in Calgary. She had quite a nice wedding, I believe. They have rented a couple of furnished rooms and he is able to come home for supper, spend the night, have breakfast and take his room lunch with him so they are very fortunate to have so much time to-gather. Akcel & Ruby have it about the same I understand except that he doesn't stay home for breakfast. Then after spending a few days with Mildred & John, Aunt Lena

went to visit Cecil and his wife. Then after a few more days, they borrowed a car (Cecil) and they took her to Aunt Lydia's where Cecil, his wife and baby and Aunt Lena stayed over the week-end. Then Aunt Lena took the train from there and home, arriving a couple of days after the funeral.

I guess I didn't write much about the funeral did I? We'll try and send you the clipping from the Hawarden Pioneer. It was really all very nice - except the roads. Our car is so low that we had lots of trouble. Ray Meyer had Mandie's Leon's tractor and it was real kept busy. We would never have got either to church or home again if he hadn't helped. There were so many beautiful flowers! And Ruth did look so nice and peaceful. With Mama's flowers there was one large Easter lily which they took out and put in her hand. The lid of the casket opened the whole length. And from the time County brought her at 11 o'clock 'till the funeral at 2.00 the lid was never closed. We all seemed so much easier as soon as we got her home. The children just couldn't look at her enough. We had the casket

in front of the dining room windows, all the flowers just covered the dining room table. Then we had the large photo's <sup>and grain</sup> the china cabinet and buffet. Uncle Lavinia & Aunt Helen pleased through those terrible roads & came too. They also brought with them Fattie Feltz.

The Raven's I heard got whether George will get opening leave or not, but we're just hoping. Guess it was pretty hard for him to realize that he had seen Ruth for the last time and that she wouldn't be here to meet him when he comes back. The Raven I heard from either Norman or P. soon since they heard. I wish George could be been stationed a little closer home.

Borden Paul is taking the same as George, in fact he just finished at St. Thomas last week. He asked to be posted to either Calgary or Saskatoon, preferably Calgary, and he got just what he asked for. Now he gets his furlough to start with so Marie went to meet him in W. Jaws over the week-end. She's taking a "forward" for them to night. I hear they intend to ship their furniture and make their home in Calgary. Of course she's always a glancer he may be sent overseas, but —

Nattie had her baby last Thursday, and I guess she got along quite well. I'm hoping to go and see her one of these days. She's ~~calling~~ the little girl Carol Ann. Nice, isn't it?

By this time I suppose you know that Mandies is in the hospital in Saskatoon. We haven't heard any thing to-day, but Melvin, Margaret & Mrs. Olson were here Sunday evening for a while and then he was about the same. We had lots of visitors on Sunday.

Peg, Betty came here from church and had dinner before leaving for Elton. Pete & Ed. & Ruth also came. Then after dinner Oscar came and stayed for supper, then the Olsons', and Merle, Marvin & Esther & James Jackson.

-We're so behind with the work, I hardly know where to start - the men are busy as bees too. Guess I have to make a summer coat for Helen, but don't know how to make it.

Guess I'd better run along now and get Gwendolyn to bed. Lots of love to you all, and write as often as you can - Judie. Jennie