

Loreburn, Sask., Nov. 21, 1939.

Dear Gudrun:

Yes, we're home again. Your letter came yesterday and I must answer it right away so you hear from us before you leave Amery.

We left Verport Tuesday morning and got home here at about 10:30 Wed. evening. Just before we got to Uncle Ludwig's we met Aunt Rena's car so we stopped and talked for a few minutes. They were on their way home from choir practice at Uncle Ludwig's. Helen & Helo & Raymond & Oscar. And there's a surprise. Helen & Helo told us they were married. The wedding was Nov. 9th. The same day as the golden wedding and also Aunt Rena's wedding anniversary. It was a quiet wedding - only Langager's & Ferrey's were there. Understand the shower was the Sat. after the wedding.

After we got home we found out that Ellen Hagen was in Moose Jaw Hospital - an operation for appendicitis. She is getting along fine.

And Gordon Joel has had double pneumonia. He got sick the night of the basket social at Bright School and had to stay at Hagen's. It developed into pneumonia so he had to stay there until he was well enough to go home. We have heard that he is at home now and getting along nicely.

Buelyn Carrington has gone and Frieda Monkman is teaching here. As usual, Walter doesn't say anything. Just think Dubby, that all the time I was away enjoying myself Helen was sick here at home! That's the main reason why they didn't write because they didn't want me to know and spoil my trip. You know we left on Thursday and Jonas wrote on Sat. And on Sunday Helen was sick so they had to take her to the Hawarden doctor. Then the following Thursday they called him down here to see her. She had a bad case of tonsillitis. There were big lumps on each side of her throat. Her whole tongue was so filled with sores it was almost like one big scab. And so were her lips - just blue & bleeding.

Poor little thing. she couldn't eat a thing her whole mouth was so sore and I guess they had an awful time to get her to take her medicine. The doctor gave her some capsules of concentrated food. Each capsule contains 1 top. cod liver oil, 1 oz. orange juice and the size of a jelly bean black and 3 yeast cakes. They are and cost 7 cents apiece. She was in bed from the sun. after we left until the sun. before we came home.

Then she started to be up a little each day. You can imagine my surpris when I walked in & saw her. She was awake & Jonas had the lamp burning so she saw me right away and you should have seen her smile. But her face was so pale and thin. and pinched looking that I almost cried. She's getting along quite well now we have her out for a few minutes every day and she has a wonderful appetite so I hope she'll soon get some flesh on her bones. some Jonas is forever pinching me - he says she's just feeling how fat I am. Honestly, I'm sure I've never been so

I stayed home with Helen & Ruth Friday & Sat. of the meetings as Mama could go. Then she stayed home on Sunday. But went in the evening. Burntvedt, Overlid, Josef Hordestad, Mr. & Mrs. Hofstad, & Rev. Pederson from Alberta were at the meetings. I don't believe there's ever been a larger crowd in Skeddeene than there was on Sun. Talk about a jamb. If you got in it was almost impossible to get out and vice versa.

I wonder if any of you have heard from Peirpont yet. If not I can give you some very read news. Do you know that the day you left (Mon) was Phyllis Sletten's wedding day? We didn't know a thing until we got to Uncle Joe's Tues. morning to say good-bye. Aunt Jocie was getting ready to wash clothes and I asked where the girls were. She said they had gone to Aberdeen the day before and hadn't got back yet. Then the boys went outside to see Uncle Joe & Royal about the radio; which they bought. As soon as they went out Aunt Jocie shut the

door after them and came and sat
down on a chair and said, "Phyllis
is in Aberdeen having a baby." Then
she broke down and started to cry.
She said after Rhoda & Uncle Joe
came home from Uncle John's (they
stayed 'till almost noon) Phyllis had
a hemorrhage, and she finally confessed.
Rhoda went over & got Bob Cameron
(the father) and he & Phyllis & Rhoda
went to Aberdeen where they were
married and then she went straight
to the hospital. Tues. morning when
we were at Uncle Joe's they still
hadn't heard anything and Rhoda
wasn't back yet. Poor Aunt Jocie
felt awful. She says she can't
understand Phyllis at all. For quite
a while Aunt Jocie felt a little
suspicious, and without asking
her right out she hinted at different
things but couldn't get a thing out
of Phyllis. No, there was nothing wrong
with her, she just was fat and took
after the rest of the family, she said.
So Aunt Jocie tried not to think about
it but all the same she couldn't
help but feel just a little worried & uneasy.

She said that Sun. night when we were at Aunt Olga's it bothered her so much that she just had to go home and talk to Phyllis and ask her straight out. But still she denied it. And I know none of the neighbors suspected a thing. Mon. after you left the boys took Aunt Minnie & I in to Aunt Olga's.

Aunt Olga fixed my dress & I washed all our dirty clothes. At the dinner table Ardyed, Aunt Minnie & Aunt Olga were talking about Phyllis - wondering what was the matter with her - she just acted as if she was mad at someone they said. "Well, Aunt Minnie then because I'm sure none of us have hurt her feelings intentionally anyway." So after we left Aunt ~~Olga's~~ we went to say good-bye to Aunt Olga, and ^{when} we told her she just couldn't believe it! She seemed to think that Phyllis didn't love Bob Cameron or she would have married him long before. She had gone with him for about 2 1/2 yrs. but had quit and was now going with another fellow. I sure hope she didn't marry him if she didn't care for him.

Aunt Jolie said Uncle Joe was awfully mad about it, and judging from different things she said I believe they either frightened or forced the poor girl into marrying him. Poor Phyllis I feel so sorry for her. I gave Aunt Jolie \$1.00 for her to give to Phyllis to get something for the baby. We haven't heard anything since. Perhaps the baby didn't even live.

Now everyone has gone to bed & I'm sitting alone listening to them snore. It makes me sleepy so I think I'll say good-night. I'll leave a space for Mama. She said she'd try to write to-morrow. We washed to-day. Moved the beds in from the other house the day after we came back so we've been busy. Oh yes, the Sunshine Club gave Helen a dozen oranges.

Well now I must close. Goodnight and lots of love to all. xxx & Opal & Muriel and to Dobby from Ruth. Write soon again.

I forgot to mention

that the doctor was afraid Helen would have mumps trouble for awhile. If the poison from the it went through the tonsils & then out. That's what made her mouth so sore. But lucky.

The doctor says she sure was lucky.

Dear girls: I must write a little so you will get it before you leave good old Emery. and I will also wish you all a pleasant trip to your new charge and also hope you will like the new place.

I talked a little to Burn ~~to~~ and he said it was a beautiful place to live. we are fine at home now, we have had some flu after effects all but Pa & we are just fine. Norman went to Hanson's Sunday. They came to the church. George liked the place and he says they seem to think so much of Norman. Hope he will like it too. Anna was here & helped me 4 days 50¢ pr. day and she did fine although we could see the difference in the ironing etc. but you just go on and have your holiday and don't worrie about us we all miss you very much but we will follow you in our thoughts every day. lots of love from Ruth & Mamma.

Foreburn, Lach. Jan 22/40

Dear Gudrun & all the rest:

The radio is going full blast so I don't know if I'll be able to write or not but I'll try. Thanks for your letter. Jonas & I were out last night when it came - we visited at Aunt Rena's, Dick's, and Oloon's and were away almost two weeks. Had a good time at all places. We were also at Helen's 'tels' for dinner one day and at Rud. Akre's for supper another evening. Helen enjoyed it a lot and is looking so well - even better than before she was sick I think. I didn't see any either ~~day~~ the vacation - in fact I believe I have gained.

Now I can tell you some news. Mabel Langager & Burton Mooted were married on Sat. We haven't seen them since but I imagine there will likely be a shower one of these days. So far we haven't heard. Understand that they will go to Purice Rupert & live but don't know how soon.

We have also heard that Theresa is married. You heard, & imagine, that they went back up north just before Xmas. and now we heard just a few days ago that they were married. I pity the poor boys, I know she won't have them with her long. I don't believe Gordon is with them now. At least he was staying with Myrtle & Melvin for a while. I blame Skoarland, of course, but I really blame Theresa the most, because we know how dumb he is; but Theresa should have known better and if she didn't tell me plenty who tried to tell her. Well I won't write any more about it I just get mad!

We were at Joisvold's shortly after Xmas too. Halmer is much the same but Joisvold himself is up around again. Joias and Helen & I were at Demond's last night and heard all about their troubles. I really feel sorry for them too. Edith has made trouble with them and they aren't even on speaking terms they haven't visited each other since Thanksgiving. And now to top it all Lillian & Myron have "hunted up" Lillian seems to take it hard. He was crying while she was telling me about it.

There are three months
so you should try to write to him. I'm
sure he'd like to hear from you & the
kids. I'd like to see the children now.
Do they work themselves back in (money)?
We took a couple of maps yesterday
of Ruth & Helen. We want to try & find
the film room and send some to the States.
They've been asking for pictures.
Did you get any negatives from them yet?
We haven't, but we sent them all the
good ones we had. How did you like the
ones we sent you before?
Now I must get the table. We've
having article job. To write soon. Encl
too. How is Cady Anderson? We are
so anxious to hear.

Lots of love to you all.

James

P.S. We got a lovely gift of
James' brother (one of the kids in Seattle).
They were married ^(one of James') about 2 yrs. ago.
But just sent their wedding photo
now. They also sent one of their
little boy (Edwin) who is about a year
now. I'd do wish that it would be
possible for you folks to visit them. We go
to Alaska to job soon.

Rose & Ed
Mabel
Ruth & Helen
XXXXXX

Their address is
107 Columbia Street
Seattle, Wash.

We've been trying to do some sewing lately. It seems to go slowly but at least we're doing a little. We must get at some quilts too. Mama is also doing some knitting. She is feeling ever so much better now, and everyone keeps telling us how well she looks. She really looks better than she has for years (think those thyroid tablets she's been taking seem to have been just the thing. She hasn't any more now so I just wonder if it will make any difference.

Tues. morning. —

The boys say they may go to town this afternoon so I'd better finish this letter. We've had the nicest winter. I've remembered. The last couple of weeks have been colder but still it's been nice. It's hard to imagine you're so far away and that the climate and scenery is so different, but we're all glad you were able to go.

Suppose Pete wrote that Norman has gone to Outlook to attend this Agricultural Course. We haven't heard how he likes it yet, but I imagine there's a letter from him in town. We didn't go in on Saturday.