

February 4, 1943  
Thursday Evening  
9:00 P. M. or so

Dear Emmett:

Guess I'll warm up the old typewriter and get a few words to you tonight. First the weather: It is much better now--about thirty above most of the past week. Have had some more or less gentle zephyrs of about 40 miles per hr., more or less. I had to get out and clean off more of the roof one evening as the snow was melting and running down the walls. Ceiling rather. I had raked off what I thought was enough to keep from flooding. But I did not get the valley clean enough and it piled up when it froze. Hope we do not have another such snow soon, I really don't remember when, if ever, we had so much snow at one time. Has been thawing a little lately which is good for the town as there would be some flooded stores, etc. if a real chinook melted it all at once. It is a couple feet high still in the middle of Central Ave. down town.

Now a little about me--I have taken OOD work, if you know what that is and started on first aid last night. Preparing for Air Raid warden work, if and when we have another blackout. OOD classes were boresome except couple. Most of the instructors started out strong but in a few minutes seemed to run down and their voices would get so tired sounding--sort of like a phonograph that's about run down and needs winding. We learned about gases and incendiary bombs at this school. The first aid is more interesting. We seem to have a good instructor who knows his stuff and has a good voice. We have to learn lots of stuff and also must get down on the floor and really do the work. It is a mixed class and the ladies must wear slacks. Of course, the ladies have teams and work together. I had to get some bandages, triangular, and compresses, and roller bandages, etc. Made the roller ones out of an old sheet. I hope I make good marks for they are not easy in the first aid classes. Got to practice at home putting on bandages. Don't know if I'll work on mother, Jack or MaryAnn.

General news: We are all pretty well right now. Have not had any colds during the cold snap--any of us. Mother is not too well--has been having a few pains in the side again. May have been gas or from getting cold. She is going to consult the Dr. as driving gets better. Awful slush and sloppy and still lots of snow on the streets. MaryAnn has lots of fun at McMeels with the young fry. They are going to stay a few weeks longer. Jack is doing better in school. Got most all better grades than last report. He is to be in the minstrel show. Mother chaperoned a soldier dance at the Psychic(?) center last night. Said it was nice. She met Bob, who was at McM's Xmas. Boy, they sure do baby the soldiers--wish they had been as solicitous about our happiness in 1917.

Now your letter. Gnats for you. Heh! Jack will be about broke this month when he pays all his bills and gets square with the world again. I think he said he would have \$3.00 left. I wanted you to send your book and I planned to leave it at the B&L so I could draw out for you for the last few months. You only have one more travelers cheque left. Can't you tell them they are giving you tests ahead of your studies and make it easier? Anyhow, stick in there and pitch. The better you do the better you may do for yourself when UncSam calls you. Didn't you ever like to make mud pies? Foundry all the same only less muddy. Glad you are learning more about swimming. It's a good thing to know. Guess it was Doe's lucky night. Why not tell Jim Maloney how to spell your name next time you write? Has Mrs. H said anything about the ration card? Maybe mother could send the receipt when she sends the card. We read of the death of the student. Only thing you can do about the army is keep right at your studies until you get official orders to report somewhere. Rumors may be true but why listen and worry about them. The Army will tell you when they want you and where to report, etc. The better marks you have and

the more you know ,the better chance you ave of being returned to school for further study. Don't worry about it,Emmett,cause it won't help anyhow. We are saying a prayer for you and that will help most.( Skip,skip, the next few paragraphs,,for otherto answer.) The Meade boy did not call mother when she left our number and asked him to call her. Bashful,I guess. Sorry you missed the good times. I can't imagine any choir not being at least as good as Holy Family's. Spherical trig means nothing to me. Glad someone hepps you get your stuff. They should "can" those profs who don't do their job.

Well,guess I've run down now myself. Didn't think this would run on and on so much. So I'll just cut it off and off right here.

Love from us all,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dad". The signature is written in dark ink and is centered on the page.