

June 4th 1945

Dear Ones,

Another Monday - nothing new; we played poker last night. Things are rolling along as usual; the weather turned just a little muggy. Now back to the stack of letters from home. I see in the papers and magazines that the 7th War Loan Drive is under way - let's hope that it will be the last wartime bond issue we will require. It is surprising the number of people who still do not know the dual purpose of the bonds: to help in financing the war, but more important, to take excess money out of circulation and reduce the inflationary danger. The Army is beginning to work on the plan for Officer discharges and one of the questions on the blanks asks whether the officer desires to be released before the end of the emergency; in all conscience I can only answer "no" to that. And since I am young, etc, and my point total will be low, even if I were to answer "yes" I wouldn't stand a Chinaman's chance. I know that you agree with me; the whole thing is very much hypothetical anyway.

I am glad to know that the faucets still overflow at Menikoe - Donald Dorsey may grow up and stop calling me "Sub" Ruthie may no longer insist on going along for every car ride, and Brian and Tressey may no longer romp with the Pierces, but as long as things still go wrong in the cottages, I feel assured that everything is normal and unchanging with time. I wonder if after the war, something in the line of Uncle Louis' dream for Menikoe could not be accomplished; the family and my generation of Children will no longer need a summer vacation ground. The cottages will be so old that constant repairs will be essential as they are now; the income from renting the cottages is hardly enough to merit keeping them. I would be all for tearing down the cottages and building a large, rambling sort of lodge that could be a home for Uncle Lou and for Grandpa and that would have enough extra wings and rooms to be ready for family affairs. Has Uncle Lou talked about anything in that vein recently? (That will give me something to write to Juj about - by the way, I haven't heard from him for a month or so; I ought to drop him a line anyway.)

It sounds as though I will have trouble recognizing the inside of Union Station (not that ugly outside, though, by a long shot!) I am sorry that Bobby Abrams is taking the rejection so hard - but I can understand his reaction perfectly. Do you remember that month of waiting which I endured? Imagine how I would have felt if the letter had not been one of admittance? A while back I asked whether Uncle Joe knew anybody and from your comment in reviewing your Boston Trip I can see that the answer is no. I guess the Harold household with the new arrival and the Epsteins with the scheduled event were beehives of activity and smiles. With everybody around and so much family activity Grandma and Grandpa must be in their glory at home; they came home at a happy time. It is good to know that they are well and rested and happy. By the time you receive this the wedding will be over and a long report will probably be on the way to me; I still can't imagine Judy as a married woman, with the maturity that you associate with that role - but what the hell; as long as Hank can, that is what counts. Our reactions don't matter fortunately.

I was encouraged by Truman's request for broad powers for the reorganization of the executive branch and its administration - Congress quite clearly is now carrying the ball, we shall see what they do with it. Wagner, Murray, and Dingell are again taking the lead in the presentation of broad social legislation. I don't think that it is unfair to say that Congressional action on their broad proposals and on the Truman request will be the clear indications of the Congressional temper and what we can look for in terms of accomplished legislation. Aunt Anne had sent me the same article which Mrs Fraser sent to you and you in turn forwarded to me. The point raised by Isabel Currier is very good - there can not be too many reminders at every level of social and political dealings of the fallacy of a holier-than-thou attitude; there are few of us who can afford to throw stones, for we live in glass houses ourselves.

Irv's fiancée seems to write a nice note. I guess I told you that I heard from the Osgoods by letter and that I received a package from them. It must make you feel good to receive letters and calls from people like the members of the Altrusa Club after you have spoken to them; a little recognition is a very satisfying thing. I'll have to call Rudy Lewsen and see if he has seen the clipping about his promotion. It is really funny what the paper can do in garbling the details of a military job! You can deposit that \$5 which the Thurman grandparents gave to you; did you make your usual comment about the size of the gift, Daddy??!! Believe it or not, I am just about through the stack of letters with the exception of some of the bulkier clippings and a letter from you, Daddy. In a day or two I'll be complaining again about not having anything to write about!

OK for now - all my love,

Regards to Doris

Sumner