

Transcribed by Kara Kralik 06/11/2020

May 31

[*Written in pencil to the right of date:*] recd June 8/44

Dear Ones -

Another day another dollar. Got up, ate, walked around a while and spent the morning at the beach. I'll send out laundry today. The PK is well stocked with Nosherei; I also have to pick up a pair of clip-on sunglasses - I broke mine on the boat. I can get them here. I will now continue my yesterdays [*sic*] letter. I got 2 more letters from home in the P.M. mail delivery. Also a note from Neil Clark - apparently he is on the move again. I have written Uncle Don. I will write V-Mail to De Wolfe, Wiggin, & the Enter Bulletin. I really have a job to catch up.

That's tough about Peter Silverstine; also Billy [Brown]. A lot of ASTP, Air Corps etc are being shoved into infantry.

Thank you for your reports on Grandpa Bernstein.

I am glad he has pulled through so well. The summer will be a golden opportunity for him to gain his strength and his vigor. Just being at familiar [Mimkoe] should do the trick. I wrote him a short V-Mail note, as I did the Thurmans.

I will write [Don Raybin] tonight.

The school committee pay problem is interesting.

Your letter was very sound, Mother. You are probably right in sensing Portland's lack of imagination. Are you going to run for the School Board?

Now for your letters, Daddy!

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I will read the review of Hans Kohn's book, at leisure, Daddy. As I wrote to Mother yesterday - space & weight are so crucial in my baggage that I just can't ask for anything. Add to this the problems of shipping - it's just not wise. I have plenty of provocative reading in those Fortune articles for the while. You will probably receive many long letters from me on my pet subjects

when news is scarce and I have the time. Your thought that world reconstruction will be a field open to me, is a very pertinent idea; I have not ignored it in my thinking. Incidentally, getting back to Kohn - I audited his summer school course and read two of his volumes - he is not too profound - maybe this new book is his masterpiece. He is primarily an intellectual publicist, to my mind; a level or two above Walter Lippmann and men of his position.

As for my crushes & infatuations - and your device of a picture of my "type" - my instability proves that there is no "type." I do like brunettes - preferably slim - but beyond that it depends on how hard up I am and on my reaction to personality. I get over these crushes very quickly but the correspondence (Indiana, Ohio, California) lingers on. Ah me!  
Your "9 out of 10 prefer coffee" story is very

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good - I had heard it out about Wheaties and Corn Flakes. Your letters certainly run the gauntlet of subjects, Daddy, and it is swell. In reference to the length of the war in the Pacific - everyone here is pessimistic on the surface but inwardly is thinking wishfully of a quick return. They say "Golden Gate in '48" but hope for "End of War in '44, or, man alive, in 45." I want to be "Back in the sticks by 46!"  
May 10 was the date of your letter on the stolen goods case and the [Sinas] will case. Very interesting, you certainly run into a variety of problems. And the way you present them makes them doubly enjoyable. Thanks for the reports on Uncle Louis and Grandpa. Don't worry about your repeating what Mother writes. I enjoy the news from both viewpoints. Also I note that Mother failed to mention Jack Scudry & all that you wrote about a heritage of good books. I wonder why!?! Don't worry I already have realized what my heritage is - and books play but a small role - it is mostly what you and

Mother are - that's my real heritage.  
Thanks for your picture of the [Mailler] -  
Paul with a cigar!! The news about Ebby &  
Lou Weiner certainly is good. More power to them!

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What does Davey [Sachnoff's] new appointment mean? Is he at Leavenworth? I got a real laugh over your report on the army dependency forms. You know the line "Shoot the breeze, waste time, make 7 copies, and stay away from headquarters." And the famous gags like "arrange these letters in alphabetical order and then burn them" and "you can destroy these files but make sure you have certified copies for the Adjutant General." Well, that's the Army.

And that brings me up to date. Incidentally I am in grade 10 months today. It is getting late now. I still have about 10 letters to write: Judy, Ohio (2), Indiana, School chums - I am writing V-Mail - short snappy notes to a lot of people. After all, there is really no real news except just being here. It is easy to write when answering letters but difficult otherwise.

Until tomorrow -

Love -

Sumner