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Jan. 7, 1941

I got your letter in which you said I owed you a letter. Apparently you either did not get a typewritten letter from me that I mailed in Laconia, or else you forgot & thought you'd already answered it. Anyway - we've been waiting not too patiently to hear from you. Check up on that letter will you?

I got a letter from Sister and have all ready answered it.

I got a good letter from Bud & for the first time since I've heard from him - he wrote a swell letter and told me all about the training he's getting there.

He offered me some needed encouragement in leaving school and trying to get a job after I take the business course. He told in quite detail of his hazing, formation flying, Washouts 1's + 2's. I really appreciated it & I must write to him again soon.

I quite agree with the Mr. that I have
turned around & beat hell out of that boy.
He recently come in & or was he there
while I was? I wonder if you couldn't have "laid
it on" while people weren't looking. A 14 yr. old
boy should know better & if he is just plain
mean - he should be properly punished. I
don't hold with "apologizing" - it doesn't take long
enough and it doesn't sit in very well.

I hope he did not hurt you very badly -
weren't you more angry than hurt?

I got a letter from Mom & she told me
all about Daddy's busy day - the day I left.

I left at about 1:15 & went with a
Marcell Meat Salesman from Lacona to
Chariton. I wanted to catch a 2:52 train
from Chariton to Ottumwa, but because he had
to stop about 4 times to take meat orders, we
did not get to Chariton until 3:20. It was O.K. tho'
because the train took Chicago passengers
only, I decided to wait & take a 4:25
bus to Ottumwa - it was more than
an hr & a half late and did not
come until after 6:00 clock.

While waiting on the bus a big fat
girl started talking to me & she along

...in an incessant string of questions
peaked more of a nuisance than company.
I got to ~~Adungwa~~ called Luille Miller + she called
One of the and got me. I stayed there
girls here got Saturday night + went back
to the bus with to ~~Adungwa~~ when they took
two big suitcases her Sunday afternoon.
oh yes she had a ~~hat~~ locked right on
a radio a big hat box, a cosmetic kit +
the edge of her head -
a couple of big sacks. The bus driver
opened the door and saw her. he rolled
his eyes inward and said - well, little
lady where's your cook stove?

She said - Don't worry But it's sitting
right outside waiting for you to go and
carry it in. - She went back and found
a seat - straightened her hat - settled the
radio + put the big hat box up on the
rack. The driver later on came back
with some suitcases and - the bus
was pretty full + the racks were needed
for suitcases - he yelled - What hat box
is this? - I he didn't say anything and
so he began looking around + when
he saw her sitting there so noticeably
looking the other way he broke out
into a slow grin and said - Oh - the
little lady with the ^{cook stove} ~~hat box~~ - Sorry

but you'd have to see him & so saying
he plunked it down on his lap. It was so
big she could scarcely see over it.
She rode that way for quite a while
glancing out around the box to see
what was going on. The bus gradually
thinned out at stops along the road
and when the bus stopped again
she decided well this is late afternoon
now I guess I'll get rid of this &
it just happened at this stop several
more people were waiting to get on
she didn't know it tho - She was
standing with the hat box held up
above her head just ready to plap
it in the rack when the bus driver
started down the aisle with suit
cases in his hands. She saw him
coming but he saw her too & said -
I told you not to do that -
She said - I was just stretching
There can't be anything the matter
with that. She was quite a brown
pat back down & held the box -
When she left the driver said -
I hate to see you walking luggage

to see you leave. Next time don't forget the straw pipes.

She was clever + kept the entire bus in stitches. I doubt if it sound so amusing to you but she sure helped pass the time a little more quickly and gave a few tired people a chance to laugh a little.

I haven't been so very busy, though I do have that same term paper waiting on me when I'm flush with time, and that had better be soon for it is due in about two weeks.

Two girls broke their pledge to the Empyean Society. And one was asked to break pledge because she had been drinking and too they've done some running around.

Tonight we exchanged criticism. Little typewritten criticisms - unsigned put into envelopes. Nobody knows what the other persons were.

I knew mine would be pretty bad as I am not held very high in the esteem of my

yellow plaques and certainly not
of my activities! They were just
what I expected and then some.

If I thought you'd be interested
I'll send them to you. Write about it.

I have to write to Dad & the folks
and I have some more casual ones
to do too.

So now - goodbye -

Love
Sweetie