

San Diego, Calif. Feb. 4, 1918.

My Dear Son;

I have been at the plant all day and of course quite tired, but before I go to bed I want to write a few words to you concerning your return of the Questionare. I think that you are correct in just writing across the front of this stating that you have already enlisted, but to make matters right with them and also to leave every thing in a state that will cause your father and mother no worry, I want to ask that you inclose a certificate from your commanding officer showing officially that the statement made by you is correct and will put them in a position to file this and be able to show the government that they have done their duty. You must remember that they have the right to ask you for the proper evidence to prove what you say. They would not think for a minute that you were falsifying as to this, but you know that they have some of the worst characters in the world to deal with and many that would say anything to get clear of this service. So do not put this aside without complying with their request. Just write across the paper as you state and then get the officer's certificate to the effect that you have enlisted and are now situated as you are and inclose it returning both as soon as you can. If I am too late reaching you with this letter before you return the list and if you have done so without including the certificate of the officer do not neglect getting this at once and send it along also. Now be sure and do this and then we will not have anything to annoy us, and aside from this they might get contrary and cause you a deal of trouble.

I will answer your last good letter within a day or two. I just heard Russell say that he had written you to-day and Marie sent a bunch that had miscarried lately so that you will need a rest before you get mine.

All well and find our greatest trouble lies in getting sufficient to eat. I am so full now that I can hardly breathe.

This is all business but tell daughter that she must remember that this is to her as well as you as she is interested in having you do this thing correctly.

Lovingly your Father,

B. F. Swape

- over -

Mrs. Lawrence Alford.
#2537 Albatross

Dear Children: I am sorry indeed you have such a cold. Take good care & don't expose yourself or you might have a case of pneumonia. They had the Dr. for Uncle Albert yesterday. He came home sick on the noon shift Sun. & was not able to go back Mon. He thought it was a severe case of Grippe. It is very foggy here this morning. The last one (Marie) just left. I tell you it takes some humping & (patience) to get there all right. Loyd passed the Ex. from the Questionnaire & will be given some clerical position. I saw Crandall yesterday & he wants to go now but was rejected in his Ex. Now Charley keep posted & tell Russell just what to do in case they take him. he has not been called for Ex. yet. Will he love to state that he wants to be a musician? find out every thing & write & tell him. Now Charley I saw Mr. DeBure myself & he said they must have a written statement from your Com. officer that you had enlisted & where you were, now that is a very small matter for you to do, & then it will be perfectly satisfactory. Cut out a clipping from Sun's paper I thought you would be interested in it. The young lady in the picture is Esther, Miss Berg. you know I told you she ate Christmas dinner with us. Mr Swanson went home, but they both were at Uncle Albert's for New Years dinner. the little fellow is Buster a little neighbor boy. The Grocery at the Arrow has changed hands. New people. Oh yes was into see Dr.

Will just add a few lines along with fathers. I sure was glad to hear from you both Sat. It had seemed so long since I had heard from you. I am sorry indeed you have such a cold. Take good care & don't expose yourself or you might have a case of pneumonia. They had the Dr. for Uncle Albert yesterday. He came home sick on the noon shift Sun. & was not able to go back Mon. He thought it was a severe case of Grippe. It is very foggy here this morning. The last one (Marie) just left. I tell you it takes some humping & (patience) to get there all right. Loyd passed the Ex. from the Questionnaire & will be given some clerical position. I saw Crandall yesterday & he wants to go now but was rejected in his Ex. Now Charley keep posted & tell Russell just what to do in case they take him. he has not been called for Ex. yet. Will he love to state that he wants to be a musician? find out every thing & write & tell him. Now Charley I saw Mr. DeBure myself & he said they must have a written statement from your Com. officer that you had enlisted & where you were, now that is a very small matter for you to do, & then it will be perfectly satisfactory. Cut out a clipping from Sun's paper I thought you would be interested in it. The young lady in the picture is Esther, Miss Berg. you know I told you she ate Christmas dinner with us. Mr Swanson went home, but they both were at Uncle Albert's for New Years dinner. the little fellow is Buster a little neighbor boy. The Grocery at the Arrow has changed hands. New people. Oh yes was into see Dr.

San Diego, Calif. Feb. 19, 1918.

My Dear Daughter Gretchen;

According to request in Charles' telegram I am sending you herewith draft for \$15.00. This should have been started yesterday but I was really too tired to attend to it. However, if you are both well and hearty I do not believe that one day will matter much. Sorry that you had trouble with your allotment. It will come all right I am sure. Can not take time for a letter now, will do that later. I believe that your mother owes you one and she will give you all the news.

Tell Charles that his promises to write do not seem to hold good. We have watched and watched and none come.

I trust that this will reach you in good time. We are all well here.

With much love and good wishes, I am

Your loving father,

R. A. Swope

San Diego, Calif., March 4th.
Nineteen Eighteen.

My Dear Daughter Gretchen;

I have all the time been writing to you both jointly, but this time I want to address you separately, not that I have any thing to say to one that the other is not to share but this way each of you will get your letter and not have to wait until Sunday when you meet. Then on Sunday you can exchange and each get what was said to the other.

I have not been feeling very well for the past week, just another one of those hard colds that always give me such a shaking up. We had a rainy week here and one day was quite cold with a strong breeze from the bay. I was on the day shift and we dreaded to hem ourselves in with the curtains we have for protection, wanting to get the benefit of as much good fresh air as possible, for you know that we work there a good part of the time after night and are glad to have ourselves shut in as completely as possible so that when we have the day we want it as bright as possible. On that cold day I failed to protect myself properly and the cold was the result. Am feeling much better to-day and am quite sure that I shall be all o. k. soon.

Milly is almost well and just now went on an errand up stairs for the first time. We will fumigate the room to-morrow and then that will close the chapter. We are sincerely glad to know that she is now over it and can go to school with little fear of contagious troubles.

I must close this sick talk or you will pass this by without reading to the end. Judging from what I hear about that pink nose you have been having I am sure you have had all the trouble with sickness that you want and will not thank me for annoying you with our troubles. I will just add however, to make the report complete, that mother had a slight spell of sick headache yesterday. Feels much better to-day.

Daughter, in my last letter to Charles I forgot to tell him of a young man who has been working down at the plant and at our building and who has very recently enlisted in the service that, in case he should be sent to Ft. McDowell, I want you folks to meet. I found him to be a good, clean boy. I am sorry to say the only one of that character I have been able to find down there. His father is an "ex-minister" I believe and therefore he evidently comes of good family. His name is Arza Hall. Tall and slender and just about my size, light complected and has just recently arrived at his majority. He has enlisted in the aviation department and been sent to Frisco. and may be placed at the fort with Charles, but I am afraid not. Would you folks have time when you are over in the city (Frisco) to hunt any one located at the Presidio? I am inclined to think that you might find him there as he will be most likely to be located there being in the aviation department. Tell Charles if he can get in touch with him he will like him and may be able to give the poor boy some information that will be very much to his advantage. I know that he will greatly appreciate anything you may be able to assist him with. He is a High School boy.

I have given him your address and he will see you if possible.

I had intended to get this off to you yesterday but when I found that Charles' name was being published in the paper as one who had failed to return his Questionare and that only four more days would be allowed them in which to make the return before they would be reported to the authorities, I spent the day going down town to send him a telegram which I did. I am very sorry that he failed to do as I requested him and then we would not have to worry about this. It would have been so easy for him to do. My fear is that should this matter get into the hands of some smart Aleck of a government official to investigate he might be mean enough to remove Charles from the band and compel him to take a place that whuld take him from us. I hope that you will see that he does this without further delay, won't you?

Milly is still improving and in fact feels as well as ever but we are still keeping her in the same room except that she goes into the kitchen for her meals. They dismissed school on Feb. 21st. for the spring vacation and will not resume until on next Monday. A little early for the vacation but they did it on account of the measles epidemic. Milly will be ready by that time.

Mother is still grunting. She has been sleeping with Milly and just a bare possibility that she will have the measles, but I do not think so. Just cold and bilious I am sure. She will be better soon.

Daughter, I stepped into Marie's bedroom the other morning and looking across to the dresser saw your picture. There you were looking straight at me smiling as usual. I looked and looked but you would neither laugh nor speak. I turned and looked in the bed but no Gretchen as I used to see you with Marie. It seemed that you ought to be there and that I was only waking you both for breakfast as I have so often done in the past. I looked in the other room vainly hoping that you and Charles might be there, but all disappointment. I went about my work realizing the truth that you were both far away and no chance of seeing you soon, I fear. God grant that we may be mistaken in this and that you will be with us in a few short weeks at most.

Mother tells me to say that she and Milly have been watching the mail box for a week but nothing comes. Hurry it up please and keep them coming.

A lady just called and said she had a cumtomer for our property. I have not priced it to her yet but shall later. Tell Charles that the Le Mesa property will be sold by the Sheriff on the 11th. inst. at ten o'clock. I hope that I will not have to buy it in.

I must close. Now Daughter try and find time to write us often and both take the best of care of yourselves. Health is the great thing, you know, in this world. Remember us most kindly to those good people of yours. We would like so well to know them.

With lots of love for you both I am

Your loving father,

B. J. Swope

AT HOME, May 11, 1918.

My Dear Daughter Gretchen;

You will remember that some ten days ago I promised that I would write you a letter. I want you to scold me just as I deserve. While I am quite busy as you know (I have lost no time at the plant) yet I could have done without sleep and put many other things aside and kept my promise to you. You know how it is, we think well, I will wait until mail time and it may be that we will get another letter from one or the other of them and then it will be easier to write and we find an hundred of other ways that cause us to neglect even those we love so well. While I have not heard from Charles in reply to my last letter, yet I should have written him earlier this week. I want to send him a few lines as soon as I finish this to you. I would not do this but let one letter do for both, but I notice in your last to mother that he will not get to leave the island for quite a long time. That is too bad and I assure you that you have my sympathy. Maybe it will cause you to love eachother better, and yet I do not think that possible, is it? Try and have patience and while the time will seem without end he will be with you before long. I wish that it were so that you could have rooms on the island, don't you? Mother and Milly have gone down town I think to get mother and hat and Milly a pair of shoes. There never is an end to expenses. I do hope that you have received your money by this time. Please let us know just when you get it.

I find that the noon whistle has just blown and as I will have to have a little more sleep before going to work will close and finish this to-morrow - Sunday. It will be my day off and I shall do my writing if nothing else. Good bye, Daughter for to-day.

Just see what I have said above, finish this to-morrow, and this is Tues. and not finished yet. You see I did not think that last Sun. would be mother's day when I made that statement. There was an all-day service at Balboa park and as all of the folks wanted to go I could not refuse. I was the only one of us that went to a war speech in the morning at ten; then at two the celebrated Paulist singers of Chicago sang. This is an organization of 100 boys under the management of FATHER FINN (get that? Irish Catholic) None of them over eighteen. They sang splendidly and to a very large audience. All the catholics in the city and for miles 'round were there. We just stood on the outside of the ropes and listened a while. Then after that were the Mother's Day exercises. Very good. You see this took all of the time on Sun. and last night I listened to a new class of music that has recently come to our house. When I am on the "dog watch" I do not get to see the folks for the whole week unless I go down town, which is just as seldom as possible, so of course I was anxious to hear how the boys were getting on with this new music. I presume that the folks have told you that Russell and Potts had each a steel guitar. They have and I tell you they can do fine on them. Both have arranged to take a term of lessons of that Hawaiian that played at the World's Fair here. I guess you both heard him. They took them and went up to Mission Cliff Garden Sun. with Dwight and Crandall and all sat on those Cliff seats and sang and played. Said they had a crowd around them all day. Dwight was to have taken his Ukelala (is that correct?) but found he was too bashful and did not do it. I long for the time to come when you folks will be with us and help with the music. When will it be?

We are greatly worried at not having had a letter from Charlie for more than a week now. What is the matter with him. I wrote him as I told you and Marie and mother tells me they wrote. I hope he is not sick.

You and Charlie would be surprised to see the increased activities at North Island. You remember we thought they were quite active while you were here, but now they are flying in droves. They have a base down on the strand just across from the Powder Plant, tell Charlie, and dozens of the are going and coming all day long, and they also have a base down on Otay Mesa. I do hope they will turn out a hundred thousand of them and go over and win the war this year, don't you?

Well, daughter, as I am away from home all the time I have no real news of interest to give you so had better close and not keep you too long trying to read nothing. Oh yes, we have a card from George Swanson saying that he is safe in France. Also just received an announcement of the marriage of Judith Linstrum of Los Angeles. You remember her, do you not? Charles will.

We have not been able to see that new Nephew of yours since writing before, but mother just tells me that she inquired of your mother Sun. and finds that it getting ~~as~~ on finely. I fear he will be talking before you see him. Don't you hope not?

Mrs. Allen called us the other day and said ~~he~~ they had had two letters from Horace since landing in France. Poor woman. Her greatest worry seems to be the thought that he is so far away from her. With all my heart I pity her as well as hundreds of thousands of others whose sons are there. Just see how the fatality list is growing.

Now daughter, I sincerely hope that both of you are well and happy, at least as happy as possible under the circumstances. Remember us most kindly to those dear people of yours. Ho yes, those last pictures were just fine. I tell you those "boys" were just great. You will have to be careful or they will have you enlisted in the service. Tell Junie we are all crazy to see her. Marie just came from work and is hardly able to walk. Home sick again all day yesterday. I think she worries about her new work. Guess she has told you of the change. She is chief stenographer now, and at the same time has to break in the new girl who takes her place in the Directory work. Too much for her. She spends all her extra time writing letters to the wireless war station at "Cambridge" Mass. Guess I had better not let her read this for fear of bodily harm. Ha, Ha. Says to tell Junie to pardon her for not replying to her good letters sooner, but she will do so soon.

I must close for this time. Please, daughter, write us just as often as you can find the time, and tell Charlie not to neglect us so long if only a line or two. This war will kill us all yet.

Always be good and remember your loving father,

R. A. Dwyer

P.S. I made many errors. Kindly read over them.

Father

At Home, May 27, 1918.

My Dear Children;

I have just re-read your last letter to me and am heartily ashamed to find that it was dated the 14th and mailed on the 16th, and in it you were saying that you had not heard from me for so long. This is not right and I am heartily ashamed of it. Please do not think that I have not thought almost constantly of you. I am quite sure that this awful war is shortening my days. I fear sometimes that it will never come to an end, but the good people of the U. S. are getting into it now in good shape and as the Huns are giving more and more time for us to get into it I feel more and more hopeful. I shall not waste much of this letter in apologizing for this delay, but feel that it would be wrong to not speak of some of the things that have come between. Do not worry for I am all right now, but have been sick for the past ten days. A new trouble for me. I can talk plainly to you dear children. It started with a queer nervous twitching low down in the groin and continued for a few days but not attended with a great deal of pain or inconvenience, but after it had passed away and I thought I was rid of it I commenced passing almost pure blood from either my kidneys or bladder. This still continues in some degree but glad to say very slight now. I never had anything like it and am completely at a loss to know what could have been the cause. I have had no cold or pain of any kind indicating trouble except the nervous twitching mentioned above. I have taken no medicine. You will remember that I am not much in favor of that. I have seen so much taken to no purpose except to hinder that I have almost resolved never to touch it. A little salts and etc. are good of course, but this can be avoided by proper living. Now do not worry about this for I am sure that I am alright now. Have not missed a minute's work on its account yet. Just felt a little blue and uncertain. I have always been fearful of Bright's disease, but hope to miss it. Poor Lloyd Logsdon had to go at last and I hope he has seen you before this as he was to go direct to your Island and took your address. Russell told us that he was coming out the evening before he had to leave but would have but a few minutes to remain as he had several places he wanted to go. So we thought but little of it and made no preparation for the coming. It was a little cool that evening and you know my old failing. I was cold and I had built a small fire in the grate and as I had been on the day shift was tired. I seated myself right in front of the fire, read a little time and then my head went down into my hands on my knees and sound asleep. Mother and Milly were washing up the dishes and Marie was up stairs and the boys had not come home as they were looking after some music or something before coming out. The first thing I knew was that the room was full of Logsdons. The whole family came and were in the room and waked me up before I knew of their presence. You can imagine my position. Well we all had a good time. He is to take a wireless course, the same as "Lawrence". (ask Marie). Well that hindered and then Linda was here one evening and another evening your mother and all the rest of them including Potts went down to attend one of the Wiley B. Allen concerts. I have been wanting your mother and Marie to hear a good performer on a steel guitar. They claimed they had ^{one} on that evening, but sorry to say that the boys came back disappointed. Not much good, but I hope a good one will come soon. I love them, don't you folks?

The boys are getting on real well with theirs but poor time for practice. They are still running their heads off for those groceries. Another thing that hindred was that we ran out of paper of every kind for letter writing. Waited for several days for Marie and your mother to get it but finally had to do it myself. Have a supply now and am sure that your letters will follow in good order.

I am intending to adopt your plan of not commencing a letter and laying it aside for a day or two, but will close at a single sitting even if it has to be a short one.

Mother has already told of the meeting at the organ and the splendid singing of S-H. Oh I do wish that you both could have heard her sing The Star Spangled Banner. She was helping with the Red Cross drive you know and if any one ever sang patriotically she did it. She put her whole soul and strength into it and it seemed you could have heard her a mile. The entire space was filled, packed, and the walks clear back to the Plaza-de-Pamama and all said they could hear it so plainly. At the close and after she had sung it through she had the crowd repeat the chorus with her and it seemed as a class of real small children singing or rather trying to sing with an old person with a strong voice. We secured places right in front and just a few feet in front. It was surely fine. She hurried and took the train for N. Y. She said she was going to France to sing for the boys. What a blessed gift the gift of song. It seems to me that if there is anything that brings us near the future world during life it is song that does it. It seems to be the direct connecting link between this and the life to come. It seems to me that it is God's way of coming right down into the lives of his people while we are yet mortals. If I had my way I should like to die surrounded with a choir of lovely voices in harmony, wouldn't you? Let us not talk about dying, however, for we must live years and years yet to enjoy the new things that this horrible war is to bring to us.

Well, Charles, we got our raise at the plant. It was a raise and yet not a raise. They increased our wages $16\frac{2}{3}$ per cent, but expect and have arranged for each one to take a day off each week. This, you see, results in just about the same amount as we had been receiving for the seven days. Gets us no mone money but gives us a day off every week. What I wanted was more money to help along with these increased expenses. I had my first day off Sat. They have but one man so far that can take our places. I hope to get Sat. for my regular day. In order to accommodate one of the other mah of the instrument room I have changed shifts. Do not like it very much as I had learned to know all the men on the old shift and now they will be all new ones. Bluebecker left and there was a general move up to fill places. Ramer took his place and Bonfield Ramer's. Bonfield's place was dividen into two parts, it seems, and Nixon was given one part and Hampton the other. Young Cromwell who has been group foreman over our building together with the generator, retort, scrubber, etc. was boosted into Hampton's place. That made it necessary for him to change shifts. His father relieves me and as they come back and forth in a machine together the old gentleman asked me to change shifts with him which I have done. It throws me on the graveyard again this week. I wish I had a job at the Savage Tire Co. Crandall was here yesterday and said he made \$4.50 per eight hour day easy. I also wish Russell was there so as to have a shorter day. Think I shall investigate.

I have your good card telling of your arrangements concerning the life insurance. I am glad, but in case anything goes wrong be sure and let us know.

I am so glad you are now able to play in the regular band. I would so much like to hear you. I remember very well just how difficult it is for a beginner to play and march. We used to march a little but not

much. I note that some of your boys join the forces and go to France. They do not have to unless they wish to, do they? Glad you found "Spots" and had a talk with at least some one from near home.

I will see what I can do with the motorcycle. I fear it will be a dead loss. So many of the boys gone and the young boys no good. I wrote to you, Gretchen, some days ago but have not had a reply. Kindly hurry it up please.

I note what you say, Charles, concerning the farm journals. If you should get some good ones and after you have digested them send them on to us.

Nothing new as to sale of the property here or at Le Mesa. Will keep you advised.

Outside of work, dear children, I am not satisfied unless reading or searching for news concerning the war. I am so anxious for it to come to an end. Let us pray for it every day.

Your mother is on the porch talking to "Bee" and Bessie Killeen. We have had but little news from the east lately. All well the last heard.

I must not wear you out this time but close, take a bath and try to get a little more sleep before going to work at midnight. Great time of day for one of my age to have to go to work, isn't it?

Be sure and answer all questions. Do not forget but write often to your

Loving and Affectionate Father,

R. J. Swope,

P. S. Guess I had better get busy and take a little of the medicine administered above and answer questions.

You asked about the ship plant. So far it turned out a "fizzle" Did a lot of work on piling and buildings and there it stands. Some talk of others taking it up and completing it. It has been purchased by some men from L. A. and strong talk of something being done. I hope it will not be all talk. Such things are killing on a city like this. Affects values, you know. Good bye with much love,

FATHER.

At Home, Aug. 3, 1918.

My Dear Children;

In as much as I find that you are getting all the passes you want and for that reason can read your letters together I will write you both in this one. We are so glad that you can get away from that prison often, but be sure and be wise and do not abuse your privilege. It might react and cause you trouble in the future.

Mother and I received your good letters yesterday and Marie one from Gretchen just a day or two ago. Tell Daughter I am looking for one every day in reply to mine.

So glad that you got the presents in as good shape as you say. Daughter said in her's to us ^{that} and you had your new suit but ^{you} said nothing and I told mother that I suspected that you were waiting until you had taken a snap shot and sent it along. Do not forget this and do as I told you. We want them together and soon.

Say Charles, Mr. Vreeland called us up last Sunday and said that he had spoken to you about your Empire State, and asked if he could get it for a few days. We said yes and he said that he would be out in a few minutes. So they all drove up in just a few minutes in a fine new Cadillac Eight. Mrs. Vreeland, her mother and the boy. Some spuzzy car I tell you. He told me all about it as he always does you know. Said he had had good luck last fall as well as ever since and made a barrel of money and thought he might as well have some good out of it. Said he knew the party who first bought this car just a short time ago and had only driven it 6800 miles, just enough to smoothe it up good and had never abused it in any way. Really it looked just like new, and what do you think that lucky fellow got it for? Almost half price, \$1750.00. It seems that some can have lots of luck. I do not begrudge him his good luck but hope that they may live long and enjoy it fully. I do hope that we may all live economically and that I may have the pleasure of owning a nice car some day when Milly is on the safe side.

Now I must tell you what we have persuaded Marie to do. It broke her up completely to consent to the change but she has come to see the good sense of it and I am sure that you dear children will see it our way too. Since you had the privilege of coming to us just such a short time ago and in as much as we feel that considering the way you are now located that a visit to you would not be very satisfactory to any of you. Gretchen would be working and she could not spend any time with you and when not with one or the other of you there would be no one with whom she was acquainted to really enjoy the time with. Poor child, she wanted so much to be with and see you both if only for a few hours, but when you consider the matter from all points we thought it the better part of good judgement for her to wait until you were differently situated. I know that this will be a great disappointment to you, but try and see every thing as it really is and be patient in this as well as in many other things you have come in contact with recently. I know you will. She will spend part of the time at Kingsberg and part at home or the beach. We want the poor child to have a good rest and so do you. You know that she is now since midnight of the 31st as fully in the employ and service of Uncle Sam as you are. She is now one of a great army of 15000000 upon whom the government can call for that class of services and remove them to any part of the country it may think best. However we do not think it possible that

she will ^{be} taken away from here. I hope not I am sure. You can never tell what war will bring about.

Gretchen, your mother and Catherine were over last Monday afternoon and we all had a good time. I was home. It would have been just fine but that little man of hers got the Tummy ache late in the afternoon and just raised cane. Too bad. Did not bother us at all but Catherine worried and would not stay any longer. I tell you that little fellow is pulling up in fine shape. The very picture of his daddy. He'll make a fine boy.

Mother called ~~for me~~ at The Citizens Saving Bank to make a little deposit for me and met your sister Bess in there. Said she is looking fine these times. Had neither of the children with her.

Another airplane accident here yesterday morning about ten. A plane fell with two in it and landed in the bay quite close to the Coronado Tent City float. Potts was just here this morning and delivered a few groceries and said that he was still over at the time and of course was the first out in a canoe to the rescue. One fellow was still alive and had crawled up on the frame but was so badly hurt that when they asked him if he was the only one he said yes. So they made no effort to look further, but they soon found out that there was another and that he was pinned under the machine. Had they known this at once they could have saved him. Poor fellow was drown. Such is airplane life.

The war news still looks good. I do wish that we had 3000000 men there now and they could wind the thing up quick. I believe they will get them soon now.

Say, children, you should see our melons. We had the first one yesterday. The muskmelon on the left of the walk you know. It was fine. Watermelons will begin to ripen soon. Milly and Dorothy counted them this morning and said there were twenty-seven on the vines. They have ^{alv} completely filled the space from the house to peach tree and from wall to walk.

No word from Crow yet.

Concrete Ship Plant going up rapidly. Hope it may be a big one.

What do you think, children? Faith and Harry drove up last eve and invited Marie to her wedding on next Thursday. However, she had known all about it for a long time. You see Marion and Marie have been Chummy for some time and she had given it away to her. Marie, Alice, Florence, Marien and Harry Boyson and the only ones invited. Boyson and Marion will do the "standing up" stunt. Joy and happiness go with them. This is the proper way for young people to live according to my way of thinking.

Well dears, as I want to write a short letter to Maggie and Uncle Jim, I must close. I forgot to say that I feel real well this week.

This is Saturday and my day off. I go to-night at twelve for one of the long ones and then I will have the day shift next week.

Both watch the war news and let us hope that some decisive turn for the close up will come soon. This is the "every-minute" wish of your Loving,

Father,

