

Colette R. Gerstbauer
1201 Lincolnway West
Mishawaka, Indiana

April 10, 1940

Darling,

Very brief tonight after that pesky storm of last night which you probably have not yet found time to decipher. Just got home a short while ago from training school session. It was very interesting tonight. By the way I probably owe you an apology - The letter I wrote last night was so big that it surely required 6¢ postage and I know that I only put 3¢ on which probably means you got a postage due stamp on it. I'm sorry but I'll just owe you 3¢ till I see you, which will be Friday after 8 P.M. not? I'll be waiting even if it should happen to be a late arrival for you.

That's pretty good about the error in your accounting assignment. No wonder you couldn't get it. And think of all the work and worry you put in just to find it was all a mistake.

I don't have any further news about James because everybody was in bed already when I got home which was after 10. So I haven't even had

a chance to ask without waking up
the "family".

Remind me over the weekend to
show you some further material on
weddings etc. over the weekend.
Carson-Pirie-Scott sent me a
"Brides magazine" which has some
information and charts etc. on professionals
recessional, honeymoons, etc. You
might be interested.

Two more days and I won't have
to write all this, I can tell you.
So goodnight, darling, and have a
real nice trip home. Tell Joe
I said hello and to have a nice
weekend.

Lovingly, Colette

Colette R. Gerstbauer
1201 Lincolnway West
Mishawaka, Indiana

Sunday night

Darling,

Alone again — just like that.

Pretty tired out too. Got the dishes washed up and then sat around and talked to Uncle Les and Richard Cyst who had come to see James.

So now at ten o'clock, I'm really ready and willing to go to bed.

It was such a perfectly wonderful weekend that I didn't have a chance to feel tired but now that it's over and you've gone the fun is gone and I don't mind going to bed and sleeping the time away.

I do hope you were not too tired and sleepy on your trip back; and also I hope that you had a nice trip. The only bad thing is that you won't get a minute to

woke up for the sleep I made you
lose over the weekend, where I can
catch up tomorrow, tonight and all
week for that matter.

I just can't get our
plans off my mind. Can't wait
to go to the Rae Shoppe tomorrow
night either.

Didn't I say I didn't have
anything to talk about tonight if
I wrote? I could just go on and
on I think. There was one thing
that I had say I had to write about tho'
always do and always will — It is
that I love you, and even if I never
have anything else to say, I can always
say, and mean that. So goodnite
dearest; till tomorrow night.

Always,

Colette

Colette R. Gerstbauer
1201 Lincolnway West
Mishawaka, Indiana

Monday night,

Dearest Hank,

Just got back from settling our wedding
garb situation and having our first fittings.
Angela's was a perfect fit. Not a single
thing to have done to it. Wednesday evening
between 5 and 6 we are going to delve into
the hat and accessory situation. (By the way
Pae Fisher told me to see "Andy" on
south Chapin street for my bouquets flower
retro-ups, etc. Said he is very, very moderate
and very good. So I'll pay him a visit
soon about the floral (I'm this per is acting up)
and of the wedding.

Still further news on pre-wedding
angles: Today Mrs. Stulencki, the big boss
of the office asked me when I was planning
on quitting. I told him at around a week
before the date - that I definitely had to have
that one week to finish plans, & maybe I
would take 2 weeks before in order to
get in shape and all and because my ^{mother} insisted
on my quitting 2 or 3 weeks before to get
in some rest and building up. I told him
I needed the money so naturally wanted to

work as long as possible but didn't want
to rust or spoil things thru lack of time
or ruin myself either. He wanted to know
as far ahead as possible to get replacement
proceedings in full swing so they aren't left
without. Then too (he didn't tell me this but I know)
another girl in the office is quitting about the
same time because of her pregnancy. They
would kinda like to have us both leave
the same time if we must so that it
will be easier to get two new people at
the same time rather than one person one
week and another 2 or 3 weeks later. So
I told him it would be one week before
the wedding, the 15th, he then said: "Well
do it this way - we'll say you'll leave the
15th then during the week of the 5th to
the 15th if you need any time off,
we'll give it to you." Isn't that swell?
And I'll get paid as usual too - no docks.
It will then be called compensated overtime
of which they owe me a lot.

we had another perfectly terrible Monday.
Last Monday I thought it was terrible that I had
talked to and reinterviewed 127 people in my dept. only.
Well today I tallied 146!! So don't plenty tired
tonight. I should have worked tonight to get things in
shape for tomorrow but I had to keep this appointment with
so I'll have to work tomorrow night a plenty. Weds. the meeting
again too, damn. I'm going to sign off in favor of some rest now.
Lovingly
Cotelette

INDIANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

AFFILIATED WITH

UNITED STATES EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

Second Floor Hastings Building

South Bend, Indiana

April 16, 1940

Dearest Frank,

Here it is 8:30 P.M. and I'm still slaving away. Just decided to write you for a little change, and then I think I'll clear this stuff up enough to know where I'm at in the morning and then scram. I just had to get things caught up so went out to eat from 5 to 5:30 and have been plugging away since.

Got your letter this A.M. and was I surprised to hear about your bad luck with the license authorities. Why, it doesn't seem possible that they can get by with that. After all, look how many people buy new cars around the first of the year and in the spring and have just bought new license plates. Surely they should only make you pay the difference, not buy whole new sets of plates. I thought the state of Indiana was dirty, but I think Michigan must be worse. I'm glad to hear you get good mileage; that helps.

About the fifty-cents---forget about it. It's all in the family.

I'm so happy to think you are coming home again this week-end; I just can't wait. It seems like you have been gone the whole two weeks already. My time between now and then is so filled up already with appointments, training school, etc. that the time will go fast; thank goodness. I'm going to go ahead and buy our ticket for the dance. I can always make Angela refund my money if something should come up that you don't make it. I saw Adelaide on the streetcar last night and she was tickled to death when I said you might come, and asked us to come to her party at eight.

I'll bet Billie's pictures were darling. I wish she'd let you bring them home with you Friday so I could see them, and then you could take them back Sunday. I'd just love to see them. I don't suppose you would dare ask her though.

Jim's report from the hospital I believe was due today, but since I haven't been home yet I don't know what they decided. I think I'll stop and say a "Hail Mary" before I ask Mom when I do get home.

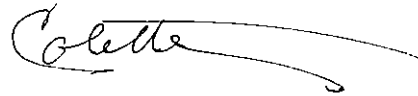
I'd like you to see Roy Wenzliok's article on page 15 of May'd "Better Homes & Gardens". I'd send it to you but I might as well wait until you get here; or if you happen to get near one of these magazines up there, look it up. It's headed SHALL WE BUILD? REMODEL? RENT? SHALL WE BUY? BUY A SITE NOW? Remind me to show it to you when you get here.

There is a picture of our Junior on the cover. A perfectly darling baby boy with my blond hair and your brown eyes. Frankly though I think the baby does look very much like Mikie.

Last night Tilla, Ang, and I spent with fittings etc. on our wedding gowns. Tomorrow evening between four and five we're going to visit the milliner's regarding our wedding hats, and my cap and veil. I have to be back at the office at five for training school. It's going to be from 5 to 6 tomorrow instead of from 7 to 9. Back to our hats, etc., I can't use Aunt Marcella's veil. Beside my gown it's so yellow and grayed that it's just impossible to use it. I'll just have to buy one.

Well, darling, I don't know of any news just now. Lovely spring weather today; and a beautiful night tonight. Hope it holds out for the week-end. Now I must start clearing out of here. It will take me a half hour to clear up things, get the lights out and the "jernt" looked up; and another half hour to get home which will make it just ten o'clock. So goodnight.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Colette", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Colette R. Gerstbauer
1201 Lincolnway West
Mishawaka, Indiana

April 17, 1940

Dearest Frank,

It won't be long now, and
am I ever glad that you are coming
home again this weekend. I'm up
against a brick wall again on the
invitation list. Mom and I have gotten
together twice now on it and haven't
got the thing settled yet. A few of
the ones we forgot are: Isabel & Joe
Thalmer, Bill & Mrs. Thalmer, and Adelaide
Rosman's folks. They are all your second
cousins aren't they? Then I'm having a little
trouble deciding on which ones of our
big complete invitation list will be invited
to the reception. So I'm going to type up
a new list with all of its additions and
subtractions and then you'll have to delve
into it again with me this weekend. OK?

Tilla, Amy, and I settled the head dress
situation tonight. I'm going to get shot tomorrow
I'm afraid, because I arranged to have Amy
and Tilla meet me at the office at 4
and get our shopping at the milliners arranged
and be back for the meeting at 5 but

then I forgot to watch the time and
it was 5:25 before I thought about it.
So rather than get in $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. late, which
it would be by the time I got back, I
just didn't go back.

I believe tomorrow is the day
Jimmy finds out how sick he is. I think
they said Thursday. Not sure however, Gosh
I wish they'd straighten him out. Some
of his school mates are coming to town this
weekend and might stop in to see him.
He's hoping.

Nothing there really isn't much
news so let's wait till I see you
Friday. I'll try to get home from bulletins
by eight; if not, you'll just have to
wait on me.

Sincerely
Colette

P.S. I...love...you.

Colette R. Gerstbauer
1201 Lincolnway West
Mishawaka, Indiana

April 22, 1940
Exactly two months

Darling,

Ten forty-five and Low Breese is playing "Between 18th & 19th on Chestnut Street," while I sit down to write. Had another one of those terrific Mondays at the office. 140 people at my desk alone. As a rule, on Mondays I get nothing at all done but that volume of reception work but today I got out 1204 of those 3x5's that I tried to get typed Saturday but couldn't get in the mood. Then tonight from 5 till 6 I did some shopping around for ideas; and after supper knocked out a lot of odd jobs around the house that I've been trying to do for a long time. And even now, at almost 11 o'clock I'm still bubbling with "amblish" I must be getting in the habit of keeping those late hours from Friday & Saturday nights.

You know, darling, there is something that I've never expressed before and I don't know if I can say what I mean now but I'm going to try. It's something that happens every time but I've never really realized it before today.

It's this thing of feeling so good, so ambitious,
and so happy on the day after a big
weekend like ours usually are, when I
really should and ordinarily do feel just
deadly worn out, tired, and not worth
a darn. Honey, what do you do to me
that makes me a new woman out
of me? and it doesn't wear off for days.
You seem to make life worth living. For
some reason or other the happiness of
those short weekends with you seem to
make me realize that until I've ^{lived} through
these last two months I can't hope to
enjoy the happiness of living forever with
you. Two months from this night I
won't be writing to tell you how much
I love you and how happy you make me,
I'll be telling you in person. Oh for
that far-away June 22nd. And right now
how I wish you were here. "Moon Lives"
just came on the air and there is only
one place for me to be during that
beautiful, dreamy program - it is with
my head on your shoulder and your
arms around me. Darling, it's
going to be so wonderful being with
you. Last night when James' friends
left (at 9 o'clock) they all wished us back

Colette R. Gerstbauer
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and success and happiness together. Father Grotenrath wished us all the happiness and every blessing we would need for both you and I. Honestly, Honey, it made me so happy, I wish you could have been there, with me to thank them.

Several of the girls at the office got together today and decided that they were going to get the men to agree to handle all the business for a few hours on June 22 while all the girls came to our wedding.

I got a letter from Mildred today but rather than tell you all she had to say I'm going to enclose it. It is in answer to my letter asking her to sing for our wedding. Send it back, please 'cause I haven't even answered it yet. Isn't it sweet of her to offer me her precious hanky + rosary? Aunt Marcella was Mildred's Godmother so naturally she would prize the tiny silver rosary very much.

Boosh, that "Moon River" program gets me. It's 10 of 12 and I suppose

I really should get to bed; even though I do feel as though I could comb my hair, shed my slippers + housecoat for a dress + shoes, and go back to work right now. I really don't feel the least bit ~~not~~ sleepy. I guess I must be living on love as they say. I'm certainly not living on rest + sleep. But I really must say so long now darling.

With all my love

Colette

April 24, 1940

Dearest Frank,

On the job with oceans of work to do but don't feel like doing it.

The enclosed newspaper article gives me an idea on how to have a beautiful home and garden very cheaply. Just sort of borrow the trimmings. Not? Do we ever have the laugh on little Vince + Herbie.

I was just interrupted with one of those disgusting yet pitiful cases. One of those cases that leave you feeling like a dirtbag because you try so hard not to cry along with them. Today was the usual heavy day but there just seemed to be so many pitiful cases along with the others. Makes it very nerve racking. Tonight is another one of those d----- old training meetings. There are at least seven administrative people here that will be present too. Otherwise I feel just like ditching the meeting for things I'd much rather do tonight. I should get home and do my washing tonight. Last night was choir practice and tomorrow night I'm going to

a shower on jeans Vogler Clark. So I'm really getting nowhere fast. There will be 21 for dinner tonight at our usual Wednesday night steak dinner at Palma.

I could go for a steak right now.

About the invitation list I had the Klein girls down but not Bob Hart. I also thought of three good friends of mine who are out of town, but for some reason or other I just didn't give much thought to my out-of-town friends. (For shame, Colette.) One is Phyllis Weaver, a South Bend girl but working in Chi. Another is Charlotte Epler Fox of Columbus, Ohio. And also Mary Louise Lytle Hart of Willimantic, Conn. Both were from South Bend, married and moved to Ohio & Connecticut. They were both married the early part of last year.

How true when you say "fun & thrilling to do all this planning & organizing - but a good thing it won't happen again".

But, Darling, how silly of you to think yourself nervous for asking me to marry you now. I'm afraid you would have hurt me a whole lot more if you hadn't asked me. People have lived happily ever after on less money than we have. And it isn't all money that counts either. We'll

appreciate each other and what we do have much more when we work together for it. As long as I was satisfied enough to say "yes" then you should worry what I've gotten myself in for. And if it took nerve for you to ask me then I'm sure glad you've got nerve. So don't worry too much about not giving me all the things I deserve because I'm taking you for better or worse and no "ifs". Besides you deserve a lot too and how do you know what you are getting? You might find yourself in the same boat with Cy DeCook. Who knows?

So Joe broke down too on the auto business. Good for him. Glad you're going to Buffalo. It'll do you good. Have a nice time and tell me all about it when you get back.

By now you are probably wondering what in Heaven's name is wrong with me. First I charge stationery in the middle of the letter. Excuse: didn't realize that was the last sheet of the other paper that I had at the office. Secondly, I leave a 2-inch margin on the right and 1/2-inch on the left. Excuse: once the other sheet is put on top of this the rest

of this page won't show. In the long run the whole thing is that I started this letter at the office and ever since then I've had to just add a few lines between business and now I've finally gotten home, from work + meeting, and can finish it in peace.

Tickled to death to hear about your good grades in accounting, darling. You'll get by, I'm certain of that. Probably on the top step of the ladder too. Just so long as you don't make it so high that I'd get a stiff neck looking up to you for your ambition and success. Even the stiff neck wouldn't be so bad though as long as I'd have you you to take care of it for me.

About next weekend. Yes, we have Dorothy's party and dance and Clara's birthday party on the docket. Also the license. I'll call the city clerk and make sure we can get it on Saturday afternoon. And in case they shouldn't be open on Saturday afternoon I'll make arrange to be. Ah hem. That same Saturday is the first of this year's quarterly I.A.S. conferences. This one at Fort Wayne. Of course I'm not going. Silly for me to waste the cash for as short a time as I'll be interested. So I'll have to fill the bill (along with about 4 others) of all the 32 employees. Hope it's a dull Saturday. Come around and I'll put you to work.

A fine idea about a get together with Frank & Evadine, Don & Eva. The Barn's address is 1152 E. Victoria, Suband Evadine, Eva. I'll have to change my name to Evelyn for the occasion. No? 2

Thank you, dearest, for the latest ticker readings on the hours, minutes and seconds. Frankly I hadn't checked on them since Sunday night. This Saturday afternoon we have our next (and last I believe) fitting on our outfits. I'm taking Mom along this time to see the works. Believe it or not she hasn't even seen the gowns yet. However, she seems very pleased with the "sound" of them. From what we have told her about them.

Now I really should give myself a kind thought about the morrow and convince myself that I am quite tired and should get to bed. So good nite.

With lots of love

Colette

Bendix Sued for \$25,000 on Art Goods

A judgment of \$25,000 is sought against Vincent Bendix, president of the Bendix Aviation corporation, and Herbert L. Sharlock, the corporation's public relations director, in a suit filed in circuit court today by James V. Garland, Garland road, as executor of the estate of the late Mrs. Annie Lysel Erskine.

Mr. Garland, brother of Mrs. Erskine, who died Aug. 31, 1938, charges in the suit that Mr. Bendix and Mr. Sharlock have ignored demands for the return of certain valuable household furnishings allegedly lent them by Mrs. Erskine in 1934. The suit alleges that "in consideration for the safekeeping" of the furnishings, Mrs. Erskine gave Mr. Bendix and Mr. Sharlock a part of the property.

The estate executor charges in his complaint that the defendants agreed to return the property on demand but now refuses to do so. Mr. Garland asserts that he served formal demand for the property last Feb. 5.

Valuable statuary, a costly clock and a Carrara marble fountain are included in the property listed in the suit as being withheld by the defendants.

April 26, 1940

Darling,

Don't you think I should do something about the fact that you are up there alone this whole weekend? Wish I could hop a plane and fly up there at 5 bells tonight. But I don't dare. As for Hortense being there. That's bad. You watch your step, and don't do anything I wouldn't do. But then you are right; I'm not the least bit worried. I still wish I could be up there with you though. However, Paddy (the next best thing) is to try and get a little letter to you instead. You were right. Due to the shower lasting till midnight ^{last night} and my thinking you would be in Buffalo I didn't try to have a ~~the~~ letter there on Saturday for you.

Sorry to hear about Joe's troubles between Buffalo and Kendallville. Personally I don't know what that would be like because your folks are always so swell about me "hogging" all your time and my folks have never complained about you "hogging" all my time - not even expected anything but. But to think that there should be any kind of friction whatsoever between the two people in this world who mean the most to him, would be a most heartbreaking situation to be in. So I can sympathize with Joe. As you say

it seems un-called-for that his mother couldn't furnish at least some kind of a reason for ~~not telling~~ wanting him to come home so badly, and after all he's got live his life from now on with Ruth so he can't start any feuds there.

Sorry too, to hear about Mrs. O'Doherty's tonsilectomy. I hope she comes along all right. Tell her I said hello.

As for Mrs. O.D. taking on a couple in order to help out with her financial situation. It sounds to me like a fine idea. However, I'm glad you didn't "take the hint". If it would be a great financial saving thereby helping us to our ultimate end of our own home, etc., then, yes, I would like to think it over & consider it. Otherwise I definitely wouldn't like the idea. Mrs. O'Doherty is lovely; I like her very much, and I do think she would be easy to live with. It's a lovely home with a lot of conveniences, etc. that we will ^{there} have to wait a long time for, but I don't think it wise to try to move in with someone else in someone else's home, at least not right after the wedding. I think it would put a bride & groom off to a bad start in that neither party would have the opportunity to prove his worth as a new husband or wife. And I do think the first year is very important to get adjusted. Therefore frankly I think that unless

it would be to our great financial advantage,
 it might not be such a good idea. Personally
 I would rather live in one or two rooms
 not nearly as modern and elaborate and convenient
 and be alone with you than to have all
 that and have to share it with another family.
 And we would be still better off if I would
 fill up my time by working for awhile.

So you see darling, my opinion at present.

I think our only advantage in starting
 out by living with anybody else would
 be the financial advantage, and I think
 that we can overcome even that angle
 through other means and efforts. The greatest
 ones of which would be by my working
 at least for awhile and by my being a
 good economical housekeeper + manager. Let's
 talk about this thing some more next time
 you are here?

Now to answer a few of your other
 questions: Yes the office was very busy
 all week with no let up toward the
 end. ~~But~~ ^{But} so far I have succeeded in
 just letting the work stack up and not
 worrying about it as before.

Plans are still moving along nicely.
 You can still count of on me being ready
 by June 22nd.

James has been up & around and improving quite nicely this week. Still taking it easy.

The weather has been just beautiful lately. My fur coat finally did go into storage - yesterday.

Mrs. Sammett died at midnight Wednesday. It sort of makes Grandpa feel badly too, because he was her same age.

more later, darling.

Lovingly

Colette.

Saturday, April 27, 1940

12:45 P.M.

Darling,

How about a little letter before I leave the office for lunch and then to meet Mom & Tilla? Yes? O.K. here goes.

I got your lovely letter this am, and golly I'm afraid I'll have to buy myself a new hat from the big head I've got now. I hope you'll always think as much of me as you do in that letter even though I'm sure you've got too big and too good an opinion of me.

Did you have a nice weekend? and how was "Winteret"? and the apartment hunting? if you managed any of that. I've got a peaceful weekend planned so far.

Hope it holds out. This afternoon of course will be filled up with shopping - fittings, etc. It's such a beautiful day to shop. I'm wearing a my blue suit with the fox fur and am plenty warm in it, so you can see how warm it is here. Tonight is confession and then tomorrow I'm really going to stay home and work and rest up for another very big week. Next week is scheduled for a huge one.

Speaking of wearing my suit reminds me that you asked what I was wearing to Dorothy's dance. I'm wearing a white pique with large bright blue polka dots in it with a white tuxedo front jacket. So your tan suit will be perfectly OK, or anything else you want to wear for that matter. Except of course your bathing suit. I'll draw the line there.

The time is creeping up on me now so I'd better get along. Move over the weekend.

Lovingly yours
Colette

Colette R. Gerstbauer
1201 Lincolnway West
Mishawaka, Indiana

April 25, 1940
11:15 P.M.

Dearest,

I sat down at 7:30 to write this letter but between the radio, Hermit's Cove, the swell orchestras including Don Pablo, and my second best bean, Jimmy, I didn't get a word written till now. I get Don Pablo around 9 o'clock (daylight time) over the Kalamazoo station on Jim's radio. I've never tried to find it on our radio but I must do so before Jim takes his away. At ten o'clock when Mom went to bed she put the milk bottles out and looked at the thermometer on the back porch post and it said 60° at 10 P.M. Not bad, is it? Today has been so beautiful. I'll bet you played golf today didn't you? If not, why not? It was the perfect day for it. I got an awful year to play myself today but I put in a few good licks of work around here and then slept like a log from 3 till 6. Spent this evening doing my week's ironing.

Tomorrow starts another big week & made extra heavy by the opening of the new Smoler Dress factory in Fort Bend, and our big employment

Campaign called "National Employment week" -
May 1st to May 8. Also called "National
40 Plus week". We're making a special effort
to place as many as possible of the men
over 40. Every business man, every factory,
and every church even is connected with it,
headed by the State Employment Services.

My evenings are all free though fortunately;
I'm not going to make choir practise this
week because I did go last week. So
there is nothing till Friday.

Darling, don't forget your Mass
on Thursday, Ascension Thursday. I'm
going to be a real Catholic this week
although not 100% so. I started it
with Confession Saturday, communion
Sunday, Thursday - Mass & Communion, Friday the
same. Then next Sunday I'm supposed to go
to Church 3 times. Sodality at 7; First
Communion / High Mass at 8:30 and in the
afternoon is the May procession and all that
rigoramas.

I saw Jimmy Seymour last night in
Berardo's. Mom & I were ordering our invitations,
and he was behind us all the time, and I didn't
know it, till we were practically ready to leave.

Also ^{saw} Jim Cruise for a few minutes in Sobers yesterday.
Otherwise I have no news from down round here.

So, Darling, I'll write later in the week. Don't work
nor study too hard this week. Cause you've got a big weekend
ahead of you.

Love Colette

Mishawaka, Indiana
April 30, 1940

Darling,

Brought this gadget home with me tonight to do a mess of typing that has been set aside for years and never gotten at. Finished my reception list (Pardon, I meant invitation list), typed on a bunch of recipes--a job that I have been trying for years to find time to do, and now at 9:30 I'm more that ready for a grand finale of a letter to you.

Believe it or not, I went to bed at 7:20 last night and got up at 7:30 this morning; now I'm afraid I'm getting used to it already because I'm tired and sleepy as all get out at only 9:30. It may however, be due to some arrangements that were in the making at the office to-day, for some changes which, if they go thru as now planned, wont make me the winner. I was very much upset when I heard indirectly what they are planning on doing with me for the next seven weeks of my work there, probably starting this weekend. I just cant wait to hear directly. I'm going to fume and fume, still I haven't got much of a leg to stand on and I know it, that is what makes me so angry about it all. It's a long story and until I find out for sure about it all, there's no use trying to tell you about it, or worrying about it for that matter, but it did drag me down in the dumps. But then Friday night will come soon, and so will June for that matter, but not soon enough.

So you weren't crazy about "Winterset" but you liked Cornelia Otis Skinner. I don't know anything about "Winterset" at all so I couldn't judge anything on it, but I do think I would like C. O. Skinner muchly. She was in South Bend a year or so ago, but I didn't see her. Tomorrow night Rudyard Kipling's "The Light That Failed" is coming to the Colfax. I would like to see it. I think I'll call Jean Baczkiewicz and ask her to go with me tomorrow night. We tried to get together two weeks ago and haven't managed it yet. If she cant go tomorrow night, I think I'll have to get down on my knees and beg you to take me on Saturday afternoon.

James went back to school this evening. Doctor still has him on these powerful pills--in fact James has managed to take them without the "chasers" now, so they'll work faster. But the doc says he can go back for this last month if he takes it easy. He is still troubled with the pains and trouble somewhat; but with the exception of being very pale and somewhat weak yet, he really feels quite up to the work again.

How did you come out on your exam in math last night?
Good, bad, or indifferent? Cant wait to hear.

Today was the queerest one. Typical day of April showers for the last day of April. It was just beautiful, and nice and warm this morning; then toward noon it got dark and we had a nice big storm. That let up and then about every ten to thirty minutes during the day it would storm and then shine again. But it has really made the flowers

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pop up. It's been a typical Spring day. As you say-- I don't mind the weather and the rain at all now, just so we have a nice weekend.

Helen Ryan just got back Monday night from a two week's vacation in her home town, Framingham, Mass. 40 miles out of Boston. She was telling us all about it today. They are still cleaning up the debris from the hurricane they had in the east two years ago. It must really be a sight to see those forests of trees split open. Coming home she came over the same route that the big accident took place last week, just out of Albany. They were still cleaning up the debris there too. Going to Boston she went over the same route just three days before the accident.

About this weekend; anything you decide with Don and Eva and the Garns is perfectly OK with me; for either this weekend or that of the 18th. I'm right with you on it. As for Dorothy's party, I don't have any idea who all will be there, with the exception of those you named, and I think excluding Johnny and Ang. There has been some more trouble there. But then I suppose you have heard about that already. John said last Friday that he was going to write you this week. Then too this weekend we have a little business to attend to, not?

Tomorrow, or more likely next day, is pay day. Perfect strangers--pay days. I haven't seen one in so long.

So now I'd better get to bed and rush that tomorrow along.

Lovingly,

Me