

Green City, Ill.

May 21, 1917.

Dear Brother & Sister,

I have been intending to write to you ever since I knew I could get some through to you as you see my intentions are good anyway if I don't always carry them out.

I have been working as steady all winter & spring & after 8½ or 9½ hrs. a day at work I've been most too tired to think when night came.

I have been home all day to-day as it has rained all day & poured most of the day. But it surely was needed as it's been as cold all spring & things

are as backward about starting. But they are looking awful pretty now. The lawns are so green & the leaves are about half out. When it comes to weather we sure are having a variety of it. One day we nearly bake with all the doors & windows open & the next day we have everything closed up & sit by the fire.

Old & the children have been up to Peteranders for two or three days as B. & H. are all by our lanes. They intended to come back to-day but it rained too hard to get the children home.

Wasn't you surprised to hear that papa & Mrs. had gone west? I can hardly believe it yet. Mrs. says it's the prettiest country he ever saw & he thinks they are going to like it fine. I surely hope they do make good too. A letter from papa to-day said that he might send for mama some time soon. Wouldn't it be fine if they stay there instead of going back to Cuba. Then I hope all the rest of you can soon come to the States too for we do feel as uneasy about you all when things are as unsettled as you'd better let the whole thing go than to run too much risk with those horrid Rebels. Papa seemed quite determined to go back for a few days there

but I guess the boys talked
him out of the notion & here's
hoping he stays out. It surely
must be awfully lonesome
for the rest of you though.

Bertha, Minnie (my chum) & I
were over to Clarence's late
yesterday p.m. & he & I made
"bachelor pancakes" & we had
supper with him. I try to go
over as often as I can but
it's about two miles over there
& that's quite a lot after walking
about three miles & doing a
day's work. He seems quite
cheerful most of the time
& I think is quite nicely
fixed where he is only of
course he has no one to leave
with the children. Mamma has
been staying with him the most

of the time lately but has
gone to Galena river for a few
days. I surely do feel sorry
for him but it's pretty hard
to help. Did I tell you I got
a "letter" from him before he
left there. He has been awfully
nice though since he came.
Am sorry if my writing to you
the way I did made things
~~any the harder on you.~~ For
my part I was not sorry I had
written for I felt that I had
done the best I could anyway.
He is taking out the agencies
for several different things. I
hope he succeeds but it seems
to me times are pretty hard for
that just now as living is so
high & people are slow about
turning loose of very much cash.
I had a raise a few weeks

ago at work. They made me
head inspector for our department at
22¢ an hour & it didn't come in
bad a bit either just then. Was so
surprised when the ^{head} manager called me
over & told me I nearly fell over.

Don't know how much longer I'll
stay there but when my services here
are not needed any longer & I can
save up enough to get some dental
work done & some car fairs I'm
going for a month's vacation at
least & then perhaps I'll find some
thing else to do so I sure am
tired of factory.

We've started to take domestic science
lessons. We've had one & it sure is
lots of fun. Marshal Field have started
a "Welfare Club" for the employees &
this is part of it & it's all free to us
girls. They are starting a class in
Red Cross too that I'd love to take up
but can hardly manage it now.

We went to Waukegan shopping Sat.
p.m. & I bought me a new dark blue
silk poplin skirt & a real green
coat. I sure would be afraid to
wear it on the street but they keep
all the old cars tied to the end
of a rope here so I thought I'd risk
it ha! ha!

Are you doing any crochet Lula?
I've done a piece or two this winter

I had two or three yokes
given to me. I made a real
pretty bird design about 10 in.
wide for a table runner & am
trying to get a little edge done
now for some underwear but I
have such a few minutes at a
time that it doesn't get done
very fast.

Will B. is in bed & getting up
time always come such a short
time after we go to bed or guess
I'd better quit & have a rest &
give you one.

Wish I could run in & have a
great long talk with you.

Tell W. not to think by any means
that we've forgotten him. I sent him
a great long letter since this spring
but guess he did not get it & I
only knew a few days ago that
he did not get it. I will write
him another one in a few days &
try my luck again.

Write whenever you can we are always
so glad to hear from you.
Love to all from Fannie