

Detroit, 26 Mich.  
July 17, 1944

Dear Friends,

Well here I am out where they call the middle west. And things are not so bad considering these times.

I left Shoshone Idaho on June the 1st and we had some trip across the continent. We couldn't get any Pullman reservations so we got a coach ticket. As bad as it was we had to stand between the cars for 8 hours and when you got tired you sat on your luggage.

It was hot at nite and worse in the day time. There was 15 cars on the train and 75% were sailors and soldiers. It was a pity that most of those who were with out seats were service men returning from their Memorial Day trip.

I was sure glad when we reached Chicago and I thought if things were o.k. there I'd stay and look for a job. Well the town sure was ~~dis~~ disappointing place.

It is a pretty good size town and the place is pretty clerky. Most of the streets look

like lower 1st ave. in Seattle. I stayed  
in the ~~Y.M.C.A.~~ hotel for a week and  
then headed for Detroit. I stayed here in  
Detroit for a week and then started out  
to look over the state of Ohio. I took  
a couple of weeks to look over the  
town of Cleveland, Toledo, Columbus and  
Cincinnati

Well anyhow here I am and the results  
are that the rate of pay in this town is  
pretty good. One dollar an hour is minimum  
and time and  $\frac{1}{2}$  over 40 hours.

I have been working for 2 weeks now  
and am averaging \$1.50 an hour as a garage  
mechanic. I don't know too much about cars  
but the boss is one nice guy and was  
willing to give me a chance. Incidentally  
he use to race big cars and midgets  
before the war and we have some thing  
in common to talk about. Tho he sold  
his midget just before the war, he showed  
me some pictures of his midget and  
they don't look much different from the

ones out on the coast.

I also tried to get on the city railway system. Well I couldn't make the grade for the bus driver because of my physical defect a rupture. I passed the written exam for general auto mechanic for the city but got rejected on the physical again.

I get rejected all the time. I got rejected again from the arm for the 4th time 3 months ago. Well I have 3 brothers in the service so maybe that's enough.

One was in England probably in France by now. One was in Rome and where he is I don't know. Another got drafted 3 months ago and is in for 17 week training in Camp Shelby, Miss.

How's Verne getting along? I hope he's O.K. and still on the go. It seem like all the kids I know are in the army, navy or air corps, except me and Bert. But I guess we can make the best of it here.

I read in the paper quite some time ago about Jimmy Parsons. He died in a

plane crash in England. That really did  
surprise me.

well I think this is enough for this  
time so I'll say Adios.

My regards to your Mother, Bert and  
hope everyone is in ship shape.

The Same  
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