

Monday Evening 9/18/50

Dearest Moms:

Really, I haven't forgotten you. You will just have to excuse me for this time, but if you knew what a week it was last week, you'd know why I just simply didn't get around to writing. I will tell you about it briefly only, as so much has happened; will fill you in on all the details when I see you.

To go back - a week from this immediate past weekend, I washed and marketed in the morning and made the girls beds and just barely made a 4 PM train to Fred's. I spent the night, but it was good this time as Peg hit on the idea of my sleeping in the day bed in their room and she slept in the living room as she has to get up so early with the babies. I heard them some, of course, but was able to doze until later in the morning and it was much better. We went to bed early Saturday night after a nice supper. Sunday was a cloudy day and rained some. We just sat around. Skip came over. He had just that week gotten back from 2 months in Montana and it was his first visit there. He had dinner with use. Then Cap and Bobby drove over for a visit and I drove back to Brooklyn with them and took the subway from there. It was nice to see him again. Maybe you will be seeing him and Fred, or maybe they were up last week, as I haven't talked with Fred recently.

Last week would have been a hard week just with the new job. I am going to like it very much but this is the busiest season and I never know what I'm doing, I have so much work to do and it is all so new and unfamiliar it takes me much longer than it would if I knew more about it. I go in at 9 and stay til 6:30. Everything there is very nice and I feel it will work out all right, but it is quite a strain doing new work with a bunch of new people and I have been dead every night. Then, on top of that, what a time we had here all last week.

Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Mauldin, Mrs. Quimby & Anne all drove down Monday - in two cars as Anne's went with her to Europe. Aunt Bess and I got supper for them all here. Anne stayed up at the Fields and Mrs. Quimby here, with the other 2 at the Holley Hotel. It was exciting just anticipating the girls' getting back and, in addition, we knew Monday night that they were in an awful hurricane at sea, so neither Mrs. Q. nor I got to sleep very soon and we rocked all night.

Tuesday morning - everyone for breakfast. Then calling up the French Line all day to find out what time they docked - first 8 AM, then 1 PM, they finally docked at 5:30. I left work at 6 and took a cab up to the pier. People were just coming off the boat, by ones & twos. Of course I didn't really know whether I'd missed them or not, but I didn't think I had so I stood around from 6 til 7:30 when I saw Hat and her mother coming. (Mrs. M & Mrs. Q. were the only ones who got passes to meet them in Customs). We sat around and waited til 8:15 when Mrs. Murray appeared. Helen was still waiting for luggages to come out of the hold. She had been saddled with extra parcels from Shelagh's mother for a sister in this country. So we left her there. Aunt Bess had stayed here and gotten dinner ready for us all. Helen took a cab down all by herself and didn't get here until 9:45. Was she ever tired! Of course, we all were by that time, too. Hat looked simply terrible, skinny as a rail. She got a bug in England and Helen said Hat didn't eat a thing for 2 weeks! She looked it. Helen lost weight, too; also Mary lost as much as Hat did. Haven't seen her yet; missed her



at the boat. Of course, Tuesday, Wed & Thursday nights, with the mothers still here, we never got to bed - would get talking about the trip, etc.

Then, on top of it all, Anne was taken sick on Tuesday, in bed all day, had a miscarriage Tuesday night, was taken to the hospital at midnight. Much to do about whether or not she could sail Thursday. The car had to go anyway, for Mark, so Mrs. M & Helen had to put that aboard on Wednesday; make special arrangements for Anne if she could go, etc. She finally did go, right from the hospital to the boat in an ambulance Thursday noon. Risky business all around; we thought, but hope she gets along all right. Guess she had done too much to get ready to go. We ate all our suppers here as everyone was too tired to go out. Mrs. Murray was exhausted. Aunt Bess did all the cooking and marketing. Mrs. Murray, Aunt Bess & Mrs. Q. all left for home early Friday morning, Mrs. Murray driving her car. That night we 3 were alone for the first time - ate out as it seemed easier, but it was 8:30 when we got back, exhausted. Had to do some washing and get to bed early, so no chance to write then.

Saturday stayed in bed til 10:15. Got going slowly, marketed, Helen & I went uptown very briefly; I had to buy a new girale so I could wash the only one I owned which was filthy. Then I took a 4 PM train to Oyster Bay to visit the Thornes. Had a nice time; spent the night. Sunday was a simply gorgeous day. We were all out doors all day. Edna & I did school work out in the sun in the morning; we had dinner outdoors, took naps on the grass in the sun, took a walk. I got lots of nice red color on my face, which looks fine today. I got home shortly after 9 last night - got to the office at 9 today, home at 6:45, and here I am.

So - am I forgiven, dear, please? Last week was just one of those full of hectic days we all run into once in a while. We are back to normal now, going to bed early for a change.

I got a nice letter from Arthur congratulating me on my new job. It was nice of him to write. I was so surprised. Will show it to you.

I also got an invitation to wedding & reception of Philip Gridley. I will plan to come home next for that weekend, as it is only 2 weeks off. Needless to say, I am not going to send a present, so please put my card in with yours & I'll give you something towards it.

There are lots of details on all the above, and my job, I will tell you about. Got nice presents from Europe, etc. But Helen says it is time to go to bed. She gets us in early as she has to get up so early. I miss not being with Mr. Baldwin but I have met his assistant and don't think I like him, so maybe it's just as well.

Hope to hear from you again soon, dear, I won't let so long a time elapse again very soon before my next letter.

All love,

Julia

The gals really were in the hurricane storm Monday night. Helen & Mary lost their supper & none of them could sleep. They had to hang on to keep from rolling out their bunks. Water came in their closed portholes. Chairs & life preservers were ripped right off the decks!

maybe you read about it.



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