

Willow Springs, Mo.

June 13. 1920.

Dear old Sis o' mine,

June 1 it was a memorable day for me for I had a letter shower, one from you, one from Ethel and one from Hilda all written on the same Sunday, May 16. and in addition we also received the Circuit letter containing letters from each of the girls. so we had a genuine deluge of "Cheris" whatever that may mean. but I guess it at Good Cheer, - and to "Cap the Climax" it was raining and I could just enjoy & read & re-read them with a clear conscience. I sure had a good day. Thank you very much for your share in giving it to me -

I rec'd the two "Punches" and the card
from Baslow you always remember
me. Ethel's lines have surely fallen in
pleasant places. she seems to have
got just outside of the eddy of
the whirlpool which seems to be almost
engulfing the rest of the world, just
in the edge of the quiet waters, where
a home is provided with the position
where she is only slightly affected
by the Maelstrom that troubles the
whole of us more or less. even to
my dear old sis. who always seemed
so comfortably fixed that nothing
was to be feared while health was
hers and Huberts. if you were here
I'd build you a shack in a week
that you could call Home Sweet Home
but I know you would say "excuse
me? - you are no pioneer and
have been used to a cozy crib.
Hope H. will have luck and find
some nice place for you. I told

you in one of my recent letters that
Jo' was paying 50 dollars per month
rent, now she tells me she has to pay
\$80 That's tough, but Detroit is about
the worst place in the U.S. for
extortion, it is the Center of the
Automobile industry & Manufacturing
and the men make big money and
the profiteers sit around and invent
new schemes to grab it from them
Harold said in his last letter that
he thought it would end in a scrap
over here, meaning Revolution, but I
wont entertain any such notions
He imbibed quite a lot of radical
ideas while he was in the army
"over there", but old as I am I'll
shoulder arms against any party
who undertakes to down law &
order. - The world will become sane
again by & by. looks like it had
Hysterics now. Oh! I dont want

to waste my precious space writing about it. you know and have faith in humanity yet I believe.

The Summer is progressing all May was rain and none in June & very hot. 94° in the shadiest coolest place I can find today. and about same all month. crops need rain. we are enjoying all kind of new "garden truck" and fried chicken. so we expect some of the girls & families soon, they always come when fried chicken is ripe.

Mama has 140 about ready for the frying pan. we have a few peaches the early ones will soon be ripe & later ones to October. That they were all killed but find enough for home use.

I'm not doing much these hot days Milk 4 cows early & then late. before and after heat, up at 4.30 but take a Siesta at noon. Mama and I both feeling fine. have only 15 acres in crops to tend. which seems like a

big garden but it is enough to³
cultivate these hot days. - This
is Locust year and the forest is
just one chorus of trills. The
millions of them make a big noise.
They are the 17 year locusts i.e.
make their appearance every 17 yrs
these will deposit their eggs in holes
they bore in the small branches of
trees and then die. then the eggs will
hatch and the larvae will bury in
the ground and stay there for 17
years and then come out full grown
like these. There are several swarms
that come out in different years
it is 13 years since we had our
last here. The second year we were
on the farm. so we will have another
swarm in 4 years. They don't hurt crops
damage young apple trees a little by
boring the twigs full of holes in which
to lay their eggs. but we have endless

miles of forest for them to use so they do little damage to orchards. They have a "W." on each wing which of course stands for "War." That's what the natives affirm. They are really not a locust but a Cicado. our grasshopper is the true locust. about 2 inches long. when they come in swarms they clean all the crops up. but I've never seen them in such numbers.

The family are all well & prosperous here. Hope same in England.

The boys say they're getting along O.K. they ought to these days of high wages. they make on an average abt \$8½ per day each. just think 35 shillings per day its ridiculous for such work as sawing timber. They ought to save money. —

Good by love. God bless my dear old sis and find her a home.

Fondest love Hills Habert. Bro Sam.