

% Base Operations
K.A.A.F.
Kearney, Nebraska
March 11, 1946

Hiya, Folks,

Golly day - March 11! - sure has been a long time since I sat down to do this, hasn't it? - Oh, well, - that's all right 'cause lots has been happening since last I wrote!

Marian & I meant to lay aside last nite (Sunday) for writing, but by a queer quirk of fate - we suddenly found ourselves the proud possessors of an apartment and moved in, in the afternoon. By last night we were so tired we couldn't move. Soite we have just pushed aside our dishes from supper and decided our letters came first - even at the risk of the dishes remaining dirty!

So go back to the beginning, - tho I don't really know where that might be - I'll try to bring you up to date step by ~~step~~ step! - First off - the ring! - A jeweler in town ordered some from Lincoln - and we took a long chance to wait and see what would be. - Pins & needles were our chains until the rings arrived at one P.M. - tho we did have our eyes on a ring that "would do"! Golly - we were really lucky - among the rings was one exactly like we had wanted in the set that Fred was to get us! And it just ~~fit~~ fit! - At last things seemed to be breaking in our favor - and being as how we were being married at 4, it

was about time, - don't you think? -

Next came the wedding. - Just as I was to leave the chaplain's office to walk to the altar - the phone rang - and I later learned it was the signal office with your telegram for Marian + Me - Pretty good timing! - Eddie Norden was my best man and Lilian Gordon, the other nurse was Marian's Maid of Honor. The G.L. gave Marian away. - Well, the ceremony was about like any old wedding you've ever seen except the bridegroom was comparatively calm (or so it seemed to him! - Must have come from best manning so often!) and helped hold up the best man! - ~~But~~ ^{Pictures} ~~pictures~~ were made after the wedding - ~~and~~ ^{right} in the chapel (we just got the props back today) and then we ducked the rice party at the door! - Everyone who had attended had "lain in wait" for us! -

Marian + I made a wild dash for Emerald and led the procession to the officer's club where we cut our cake and drank cocktails for about an hour. - Everyone was so awfully nice to us - and we wished so that it had been possible for some of you folks to have been there. It was at the reception that your telegram was formally delivered to us - and right then I became acutely conscious for the millionth time that "my folks" weren't lacking in a darn thing - and that they had been right there all the time!

Well, - Being as Marian + I had still to pack - we left, packed, and by about 7 P.M. we were ready to start out on our way!

(Incidentally - just thought of it for Mamma's & Sister's sake - Mamma & Lilham both wore their informal 'off duty' uniform with corsages of gardenias. - Mrs. Farley (Mamma's Mother) wore a regular street dress & had a corsage of roses & sweet peas. Church flowers were white Calla ~~lilies~~ Lillies & daffodils. - Just had organ music - the usual. - We stopped by the signal office - sent you your telegram and really started for good. - Drove as far as North Platte, Neb (100 mi) where we spent the night - and on Sunday - we were off again (after 1 P.M.) to Denver. - Spent Sunday with Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday - ~~and~~ and checked out on Thursday. -

In Denver we had about as good a time as could be imagined. - The Cosmopolitan Hotel is on the par with the best hotels anywhere - a real city in itself. We never stirred out of our room till at least noon - and we did anything that came to mind. - Sometimes breakfast in the room - sometimes interrupting noon meal schedules in restaurants by asking for the 'breakfast menu'. At night we took in movies, hot spots, and all sorts of eating places. - Italian, French, Chinese, - even Mexican food. - Once we even had an old fashion American steak! - Also had our pictures made while there by Denver's best photographer - but we don't like the props - and in view of everything considered, is ~~the~~ exorbitant (?) prices we thought we might have another made here.

On Wednesday - it was such a pretty day - we broke down and took a ride in the mountains - going up to Lookout Mt. & seeing Buffalo Bill's town & museum. Honestly,

you just can't imagine the scenery we saw! - Well, - that sort of gave us the wanderlust - So Thursday afternoon we checked out of Denver and took off for "Estes Park" - the eastern gateway to the ~~Great~~ Rocky Mt. National Park. - Got there about 4:30 - and some more lovely sights. - The town was almost like a Swiss town you read about - and if we had had some old clothes with us - we would have probably broken our necks trying out the ski-slides! - The roads were all closed officially - but local inhabitants told us of a couple of drives we could take - in spite of the snow - so Fri. morning we did! - Honestly - I'm not the man to describe what we saw - it's unbelievable. - Once - just after I had loaded my camera with Color film - we had to stop the car and let about 4 deer cross the road right in front of us. - They seemed perfectly calm & even seemed to pose for their pictures! - That afternoon we drove on to ~~Cheyenne~~ Cheyenne, Wyo and spent the night. - Sat. we drove all the way back to Kearney - making about 1,000 miles total trip.

Upon arriving to Kearney - we were still apartment-less and a wee bit disappointed thinking of more hoteling. - Then came the total surprise. - Eddie & Wilham had found us an apartment! - One of the dentists I knew in Savannah, who was here, - was suddenly transferred out - so as he knew our circumstances, he contacted Eddie - so we are officially sub-letting - because he was afraid if he moved out as normal, we might not get the apt. so he made those kind of arrangements with Eddie! See what kind of friends we have!

Gonna stop now - will write more about our apartment etc next time - but I have to quit now. I've really got the "writer's cramps", no foolin'.

But this will serve to give you a hazy idea of what has happened to us since March 2nd. - I honestly believe I'm the very luckiest of all people - and Marain & I are both positive that we have something very special that lots of people are lacking in besides love. Our love grows so fast and in such proportions we are hard pressed to keep up with it! - Honestly - I don't believe we can, quite.

Am enclosing a snap-shot of her - one of the best that look just like her, I think - so you can see what your new daughter looks like. - As you can see - I'm truly fortunate! -

Glad to find you letter awaiting me today, Daddy. Let us hear from you again real soon - and as we are gradually settling down - maybe our correspondence will become normal again. -

Love,
Frank & Marain

P.S. Just in case you should ever try to get at us sometime after we have left the field - our address is 2009 - 6th Ave. and the phone is 20912.

J.