

Sala, Sweden Aug. 7, 1951.

Dearest Edith, -

After a lovely day out in the woods, we have just gotten home. "We" are Egron, Johnny, Margareta and myself. We are the only ones at home right now. Mother is at Salsjöbaden and Lally is away for tent-meetings outside Västerås.

Johnny is working at the Post Office in the mornings and after that he distributes mail in a district outside of this little town. Margareta is outdoors the whole day long. Every other day she is out swimming. Busses are taking the children out to a lake and they have bigger boys and girls to take care of them. They even serve sandwiches and milk to the kids. They always have a grand time. Today we went out together to "meta kräftor". We are only allowed to do that four days a year, and today being the first day it's a real occasion.

I have been taking house work rather easy these last few days. Having a family of only four makes me feel out of order. But it is nice to slow down a little bit. I'll have a big laundry to take care of at the end of this week and next week both Egron and I will be going away for meetings again. The Summer is so short and we have been rather busy the whole time.

Lally had a wonderful trip to Zürich and on her way back she visited with Miss Strecker and her sister for a day. I'm so happy that Lally could have this trip this Summer. She looks very well now and the Doctor is also satisfied with her. He even told her that she could start the training in the Nurses School this fall but the head of that School would not let her enter until next year. Because of that she is going to "Betelseminariet" this Autumn. I sort of hope that she'll give up nursing and take some other training instead, but she has her heart set on that thing. We have to wait and see what this year in Stockholm will do. She loves to study and I hope she'll feel lead to choose some other kind of work.

As you know Mother is in Saltsjöbaden since two weeks. I went with her and on our way we stayed over in Stockholm to attend the funeral of Mrs. Sahlquist. I am sure that Mother has written you about that. We are so thankful that Mrs. S. has gone to rest. It was pathetic to see her last Winter. Miss Backman was really very good to her and Mrs. Sahlquist just loved her too. Now Märta wanted Mother to go along with her to Tyringe, but as Mother had accepted the invitation to Saltsjöbaden she didn't feel she could change that. I've not heard from her this week. She was thinking of staying a shorter time at Saltsjöbaden and take some weeks with Märta. I suppose we'll soon hear what she has decided. Personally I would like her to stay where she is now. It's lovely and restful out there. She could take Tyringe later on, but as she already has an invitation to Gertrud in Finspång, för Oct., she might not be able to decide what to do. She is wonderfully well and loves being out with people, so she is having a grand time. That day we spent in Stockholm she did everything what we did. You know we left from here in the morning. Märta had ordered room for us in an Hotel and after a light breakfast Mother rested, perhaps ten minutes, and after that it was time to dress for the funeral. From there we went to Skansen and had a wonderful dinner at "Högloftet". When that was over we went out and walked around Skansen and finally we sat down to listen to the Band that was playing. The weather was warm and lovely. A perfect evening to be on Skansen.

Aug. 9 th.

Well, I didn't finish my letter that night. I was called to go to bed. Egron thinks I sleep too little! Yesterday I had a letter from Mother. She says that she felt rather tired the first week at Skogsö. No wonder, I think, after being out like she was in Stockholm. Now they are having wonderfully warm weather there and it's lovely. BUT --- the Lindbergs came out there last week. And you know that Mother is not very keen having them as company. I can't understand why, but it's always that way. Now Mother wants to return home on the 23 rd of this month, but I have to write her today and tell her that I plan to get her home on my way back from Värmland on the 27 th of Aug. I'll be going on the 21 st and then I can easily travel by Stockholm on my way home and take Mother along then. Old people like to be at home, I think. They don't like changes too much. But I'm sure Mother has a very nice time out at Skogsö.

At last I'm coming to what I should have said long ago. What a surprise to get that parcel from you! And such a happy and welcome surprise! The wonderful things came just in time when we were going over Lally's wardrobe. That striped dress is perfect on Lally and she looks så nice in it. She had it along to Zürich and got very much use out of it. The pink blouse is so sweet to her suit. Also the blouse was along on her trip. The jacket will be so nice for her this Autumn. She is getting a skirt to ~~match~~ match it. Well, Edith, I can't tell you how thankful we are for your parcel. The white blouse Mother liked so much, so she got that. The pyjamas were also most welcome, and what do you think of the stockings! Thank you very, very much for all of it! And please forgive me for not writing you much earlier!

Enclosing some pictures that might interest you. In the beginning of July Egron and I went down to Mjölby and Jordfälla and some of the pictures are from that trip.

- Number 1. One of the fat cows at Jordfälla. Egron is very proud that his camera even could get the flies in the picture.
- " 2. FasterHanna. She and Hildur came out to Jordfälla that day. She is as lovely as she always was.
- " 3. Rune with his best horse.
- " 4. The four sisters plus a visitor from Sala.
- " 5. Tarmor and Mormor in the Rinell home of Sala.
- " 6. Picking flowers. The girl to the right is a friend of Margaretas.
- " 7. Lally and Johnny singing.

Now I have to bake some bread and I have also the bedding out in the garden to day. I have to start work now. Hope you are well and that you have been able to get away from the heat for some days. I know you must be very busy with all your responsibilities.

Very much love from all of us and again thank you so much for everything,

Egron, Lally, Johnny, Margareta and

*Guda*

We stayed up theretill ten o'clock at night and on our way home Märta asked me if we would like to go with her to some friends for Coffee. I answered that I thought Mother had had a full day and that we ought to go back to the Hotel, but when they asked Mother she said: "Yes, thank you" and we went all the way to the other end of the city and stayed ther till 12 o'clock at night!!! Then Mother had been on her go 18 hours without any rest and she even spoke at the funeral, in the Church. Next morning I told her to rest, but 7.30 she was up and dressed and that day we went on to Saltsjöbaden.

Hellen is a big problem. I certainly hope that Oscar will be able to come home soon. That is the only medicine Hellen wants. Yesterdays papers said that there are now only 6 Swedish Missionaries left in China. Oscar must be one of them. Hellen has been out traveling since she got home. First she went to Örebro to the funeral of Carleric Thoong. After that she visited us for some days before she went to the Conference. Then she spent one week in Stockholm before going home to Göteborg to pack for Gotland. On Gotland she spent two weeks with friends, going arround that county by car. From there she went to Jämtland, where she still is, but will be going down to Småland next week. If she is out like that and ~~have~~ has a happy time, she is well and happy, but if life gets dull and uninteresting she is down absolutly. We had thought that Hellen and Oscar should take care of Mother, when we go to Japan, but Hellen says that she can't do that. Mother stayed with her one week and Hellen was very tired after that. It's very hard when you live on nerves like that. Ofcourse she worries about Oscar. If he only could get out SOON!

As for us Egron is planning on going to Japan this fall. It will not be ~~xxxx~~ before Oct. and it may be Nov. He wants to go. Ofcourse I would love to go with him, but I canhot go this year. Where should Farmor go to if I leave? Miss Ackman would like her to move down to her home. She loves Mother, but I'm not so sure that it would work so well. Märta likes to boss people. And you cannot boss Mother. Gertrud Andersson told Egron that she would love to have Farmor live with her, except for two months a year, that time Spring and Autumn when she has so much in her shop. They are very kind to offer a thing like that. But I feel we cannot let her move to strangers. If Oscar comes home they should take her, I think, but when Hellen is sick like this that is impossible. As long as I'm here Mother has her home with us.

Johnny has an other year in High School and we like him to get that year in the same School as he has been going in. Margareta also has a good time here in School and with her music etc. Then we also have Lally to think about. When I think over all these problems I'm not at all sure that it will be any easier for me to leave for Japan next year!!! But if Egron is going to stay there he needs me too. Then comes the question what to do with Johnny. He will not stay in Sweden if we leave this country. He wants to go with us, which can hardly be done, (What should he be doing in Japan??) or go to America. He simply can't feel at home in Sweden. It's hard on children born in The East . Anyway, the only thing I can da right now is to stay here for an other School year and hope that the roads will open up by that time and that we will know what to do. But it is very hard on Egron to have to go alone to Japan. He depends on me for so many things and if he is going to open up a new work and move out to the country he would need me still more.