

Wheaton College  
Wheaton, Illinois  
May 10, 1948

My Darling,

As I write this letter, Doris dear, I feel humble and grateful: I am humble because of the Lord's love and watchfulness over us; and I am grateful for His taking our hearts and fusing them so closely together. He truly is a wonderful God, isn't He?

Your welcome letter was received today. Really, I certainly was surprised to find another letter so soon. Strangely enough, though it arrived this morning, I was looking for another this afternoon. I guess I'm just like a little kid, always looking for more sweets. Because I received your letter, I must write immediately, as I promised. But in reality, it is more than that: I write because in so doing I feel like I am talking with you. How I do wish that the Atlantic was far narrower. It's kind of hard holding hands across such a vast sea, isn't it?

Thanks for your interest concerning Mom. Yes, she did visit a doctor. Her blood pressure was up to 260 one day. But she is now feeling much better. I certainly hate to see her suffer. She is such a swell person. We'll have to remember her before the Throne of Grace.

Doris, why couldn't you attend an American school? I believe you under rate your ability. You are as intelligent as anyone around here. If you have any difficulty with the language, don't you think that I would love to help you? The mere fact that you

may be forgetting the language is a good reason for you to come to the States to review it. If you will have trouble with English, Doris, think of the trouble I will have with German. And concerning language, you will have to study nothing here except English. You already know Swedish. Consequently you will need to study no other foreign language. Perhaps, Doris, we are being brought together because of our great need for each other. If we do not respond, maybe we are not doing the Lord's will. I don't know; but pray about it. I am inclined <sup>to think</sup> that the Lord would not have us wait much longer if it is His will that we are to be brought together. If you are really honest with yourself, I believe you will come to the same conclusion. Of course, I do believe that we must see and talk with each other, I in Sweden, or you in the States, (however the Lord will have it). You need encouragement, love, and assistance with English; I need encouragement, love, and assistance with both a language (German) and music (vocal). Then we could work together in establishing the church organization that I spoke of in a previous letter. Doris, in view of all these facts, doesn't it seem highly unlikely that the Lord would keep us apart if He would have us together?

I am glad that you have already mailed your pictures. And I have taken steps toward getting you a picture of your male. Next Saturday I am to have some photos taken. Today I mailed an assortment of all the more recent photographs I could find at home. Personally, none will do. Two were taken when I was just a kid six years ago. One is an enlargement of a picture you already have in uniform. Two others were taken about a year ago. I have changed some since coming home, after having rested up a bit. Hope you will eventually be satisfied (how could you help but be satisfied

with such a handsome guy as I!!!!).

Doris dear, I realize that you work awfully hard. Please don't do too much outside work, church or otherwise. You need you times of relaxation and your times of rest. Take good care of your health so that you later can serve the Lord to the fullest of your ability. I certainly would not want anything to happen to my little girl, If you loose too much weight, there will be nothing for me to hold in my arms (WOW!).

Concerning my going to Sweden, if there is any way for me to get there this summer, you can be sure that I will go. But again, we must trust. And who knows, perhaps it is the Lord's will that you come to the States, and don't forget it! But if I do get to visit you, you can be sure that I will use the <sup>in Sweden</sup> parks to the fullest of my ability. Understand?

Very shortly I must get to my studies. First I'll have to take a rest. I have been a little under the weather today. Perhaps a cold coming on. I woke up this morning with a stiff neck. Tonight I feel that I am running a temperature. If Mom were here she would put me to bed and if I turned to the dispensary, they would do the same. So I'll just keep quiet and keep on going (ha, ha!). A fellow hates to be beat by sickness. It takes Ma Ma to put us in our place. You know, they say that a man is only a little boy grown up. And I do believe it. I left Chicago this morning. If mother had been completely well, I believe I would have stayed in bed. But I didn't want to burden her with my troubles. Oh well, great life!

Yesterday was Mother's Day. Elaine and I bought mother an orchid (Almost broke me, costing five bucks (dollars)). She received gifts from the rest of the family too. I stayed home from Sunday school and helped get the dinner ready. When Dad and Elaine

return home with Mother, we made her sit in a big easy chair. Then we packed pillows all around her and made her read the paper. Every once in a while she <sup>would</sup> sneak into the kitchen to see that we were not burning the dinner. I wish you could have seen Dad and me with aprons wrapped around us, stirring in the pots. What fun!

Next Sunday the Wheaton College tract team will be at our church in Chicago. My room mate is manager of the tract team. His name is Raymond Rockwell. Gil Godds, the world's champion miller is the coach of the team. Gil often makes headlines in all the American papers. They call him the "flying parson." Whenever he wins a race (which is all the time), they have him speak over a microphone and often the radio. Every time he speaks he will give his testimony of faith in Christ. We're real proud of Gil. He loves the Lord and is being used greatly by Him.

Doris dear, my greatest hope is that we may soon meet and that I may again squeeze you close to me. And in the meantime, remember, HEAD UP and KNEES DOWN!



With all my love,

*Bernie*

P. S. Doris, there is something more. You mentioned your parents not knowing about us. Don't you think it would be well that you write and tell them our feelings? They are wonderful people and I am sure they will understand. You might say that I hope to go to Sweden. But concerning our getting more serious, it seems a little too early to say more. If they approve of the situation so far, I am sure they will approve of whatever we should decide to do. Let me know what they think.