

St. Martin's College,
Lacey, Wash.
Feb. 7, 1909

Dear Brother Henry,

Rec'd your welcome and appreciated card yesterday and will now answer your letter of several weeks ago. I indeed was glad to hear how things are running and especially in regard to what dad has said about me.

You can't imagine how anxious I am to get out and take in a dance again.....This seems to be a sort of a reform school where kids like myself are sent to, but I must say it is a good school to learn.

So Dad left you have a horse to go clear to Uniontown to see a show, or did you have to go with some one else.....

Yes kid; do take Mabel to a dance once; I don't see why she shouldn't in + have a good time, I told her she should, but am indeed glad to hear that she is so true to me.

So you people had considerably cold weather this winter. Down here it wasn't cold at all; the coldest being 10 above zero, but had a lot of snow. At present we are pretty nice weather as we played quite a few practice games of base-ball already.

So Barney told you, if he were you, he wouldn't stay at home another day + Peter wants you to stay; well you are of age now + you can do just as you please; I wish I were of age. But by the way you wrote, I guess I don't have to be of age, because if he (*dad*) does write me such a letter, which I hope he will, I will answer him that I haven't changed any and wouldn't promise him any thing, and then he don't have to sent me any money as I will manage to get enough some where to take me to Kalama Wash., where my best chum "Vernon Burton", lives and I can leave my trunk there and go to work at something. Ha! Ha! How consoling indeed. I almost went wild when I read all that good news from you "Yip. E". What did those parties mean that told you, that if it ever became serious with us it would be all off wit us? Did they mean, we would have to leave home? "Happy Thoughts" Have got a bunch of plans laid out for my future already. Well; I tell you I think our "girls" are just "O.K." and nobody can make us quit them by threatenings or any thing else. If I would ever quit any girl whatever I would do so because I wanted to and not because some one else wanted me to. I certainly will tell him (*dad*) just how I feel, if he writes that way to me, also that I will earn some money to cure myself as I am not a bit better than when I left home so far. Will tell him I can't stand farm work if he wants me to come home. See.

What did you mean at the end of your letter, where you said "I may get to see you sometime + then will tell you everything." You surely don't figure on coming out in this country do you?

The other day two kids were called home from here as their father was seriously ill and yesterday we heard that both of the fathers were dead. No doubt dad and every body is well at home.

Did dad say anything about my last report? It is the second best in College, so I am well pleased with it. What did he say about my asking him for money in my last letter, to get a pair of shoes and some other junk? I've spent more money for postals and stamps this winter than I ever did in all my life before. I sent out as high as seventeen postals and five

letters in two days. Am corresponding with nine girls that I don't know; two of which I am writing letters to.....

You ought to see us bald-headed fools since we got our hair clipped; you would surely think we were a band of convicts; had our picture taken that way and will send you one if they turn out good.

Last Sunday another kid and I sneaked out of bounds in the forenoon and swiped a chicken in broad-day light and then we brought it up close to the school and ditched it until after dinner and then four of us guys that chum a quite a bit together, took salt + pepper also bread + butter and went down in the woods and had a "Mulligan" and while we were cooking it, two men came by one of them being the owner of the chicken and he asked us if we thought it would be good and we said; we thought it would be better than any we ever had before. They went up to college + reported us + of course when we got up there, all the Fathers + kids knew about it so the kids teased us for a while but finally got tired + quit: several of the Fathers joshed us about it too. The next morning we all four got Rule 7, seventy-five times for going out of bounds without permission. I got caught down at Lacey twice, so far at night, but have been down at least twenty times. Will also have to sneak down to night to mail this. Ha! Ha!

There is a kid going to school here that's a cousin to the people that Barney is working for at Spokane. Did I ever tell you that John Brandmier is going to school here? I recognized him as soon as I saw him but he didn't remember me at all; he don't remember you either. He is a pretty bright kid also quite large.

Must close as I don't know anything more besides its supper time and right after supper I will have to mail this. See. With best wishes to you + all, I remain,

Your true brother,

A.P.L