

2.35 a.m. 24th Sept

Dear Father;

You have me becoming as frequent a letter writer as you yourself, for I am prone to letter writing, and any excuse or reason is all I need to ~~write~~ set me a-type again. ---and I have always time to read a letter.

You do not discourage me, by suggesting that the Bush House will not be done this year, and that I shouldn't bother about you, because I know that you always talked ~~XXXXXX~~ as if the worst was about to happen. In a way that's a wise attitude to take for the whatever really does happen, it is bound to be better than what you had expected, and you have cause for merriment.!!

However I have a very good reason, (secondary to your accommodation of course, but important,) namely that I have no intention of continuing to rent this house of John Wabees after the middle of October, much less until the end of the year. I said as much in the letter in which I sent him the last payment of the rent money. The sooner there's no rent to pay the better.

You will note that Mrs Irwin (Newman) although she had a car etc., still chose to go out west via the railway. Similarly you will be able to travel independent over any distances by rail. I have no intention of following your suggestion that ~~you~~ "don't bother about me", for I am quite ready to drive any reasonable distance (such as a 2 or 3 hour trip) to meet you at some terminal, where you may arrive from some greater distance. Just advise me of the time and place which Evelyn will help you learn, in this instance. There's no reason at all why you shouldn't get here in plenty of time for the Oct 2nd deadline.

The railway train is also best for you too because of the operation effects, for toilet facilities are always available while you are being carried to your destination.

The Bush House will hardly ever merit the name, Hermitage, for there too many windows, too much view of the passing scene, and most of the interior finishing will have to be done after the house is occupied. So you certainly will have far more company than merely ~~BICT~~ the cat. I expect to keep my book keeping and general housekeeping headquarters at the shack as long as my business is located in Gillard's building, for the shack is part of the rental agreement, there. However progressively as soon as my finances are reimbursed after the Bush House is pretty well finished, I shall start at the assembling of material for the "Bush Shop". When that building is completed enough, then I shall leave the renting of the space I now use in Gillard's place, and move into the Bush House too. So you see there will be no let up of activity about the "Bush Lot", to leave you with any excuse for calling the new House, a Hermitage.

Rev Redvers Brown called round on me while I was working on the roof on Thursday, to invite me to the "fireside" following the Sunday evening service next, at which new members will be welcomed. That means me of course, though there may be others to be welcomed also. In conversation when I mentioned that you were in Ottawa, and wondering when or how you were to get back down here, Mr Brown asked, "Why? can't he come by train----?". So you see, people naturally think of the train when it comes to travelling distances that far. I have always travelled by motor vehicle, but most of my travelling has been coupled with touring and sight seeing, for which the car is best.

Now I must turn in for the day, and a little later carry out with a door sill replacement job on a car, which I have almost half done in the first 4 1/2 hour stint at it last night (at 9 pm to 1.30 am). Also another fellow wants the back of his old car cut off to let him make it into a sort of pick up truck. Says he wants to go picking apples to put in it "tomorrow morning" if you please, apparently leaving no time at all for the change over on his car. However I doubt if he will be sober enough to do any real work even if he does have the car made.

So it is that work comes in rushes, and disappears almost as completely. So Ed the carpenter will have to work by his lonesome at the window casings, though now he has a roof overhead.

I may phone Evelyn long distance to get first hand news of what she plans to do, since you haven't reported any suggestions that she and Eric may have made. Do not be bashful but ask Evelyn what she plans to do. A week ahead is not too long to plan on scheduling a trip this far, by any means of conveyance.

The rented house is ready for your return, with a brisk straightening about at the moment of arrival, and a trip to the grocery to replace the perishable foods which I've used up weeks ~~ago~~ ago.

Cheerio for now, from YCDS;--