

NAME

NO.

Greene

Hi - Thank you for the card and "kitty"! It's a good
book mark!

Sorry for the delay - it's been ~~kinda~~ rough!
When you called was just about the time
Auntie Al was passing away. My cousin
called an hour later & tell me. Then I come
down with the flu - so from Boxing day
till New Years I was here alone with
the "winter grunts" some one coined that
and it seems to fit. Anyway everything will
soon be back to normal. All we need is a
chinook - which never comes. There hasn't
seem to be any place that's not had hit
this year. How are things there. By our
weather news, you are wishing you were
in Florida! right? Our winter started
late, we had one chinook after another
but since the middle of Dec it has
never let up. My night job at the Theatre
starts tomorrow. So far, I'm not teaching. The
job that I was promised doesn't seem to exist.
So I'm looking for something else. I'll be very
glad when the spring comes. I'm not built for

This winter nonsense. Well a week has passed since I wrote this much. Today I will mail it finished or not. It's been a bit busy. We got ~~not~~ Chinook and its "gorgus". Just wish it would hang around for awhile. The show is going fine. We had a matinee for two High schools yesterday and the regular show at night. So I'm sort of recuperating today. Leigh gave me a bean sprouter for my birthday so today they are ready. Going to try them in a salad for supper. Laddie gave me a yogurt maker for Christmas, so I'm getting healthier all the time. At this rate I might live forever. (!) I'll write again soon. Take care & thank you again
Love Joyce

From an original by Borge Rasmussen



Bob Brown

Oct 1st 1944.

Dear Warm:

It was really nice to hear from you again. I really owed you both a letter, I think. It has been rather a hectic summer all around. It was bad enough before the fire and worse afterwards. The hay crop was only 50 per cent of normal and spuds were much lighter but we did manage to dispose of the biggest part of them at double the price that we got last year. Our new digger is a great help. Also bought Bally a single bottom plow for turning over sod, as we intend to plow up the cow pasture and take a flyer at more spuds. The cows really don't pay us. It will run pretty well buying as much milk as we use but the cows have never grossed more than \$2000.00 a year and the twenty five acres that they use can easily give us a gross return of well over \$8000. in spuds

hay and field peas, or just spuds and
hay. We plan to put in the early type
of spud at Hill Rock and by being able
to put in 2nd earlies at Ladner at the
same time it seems we are bound
to succeed more or less. Anyway, it's well
worth the try. Both Bobby and I were
always quick allude to having a cows
tail massage our necks and as men's wages
are out of all reason, we feel justified.

I hope that you will have had better weather
before this and will have be able to finish
your fall work. I can well recall the feeling
of relief at Duffield when we managed
to finish our bit.

For sure you will have been glad
at Bob's help, also that he was glad to
be home again, because there is nothing
to compare with being back with
your own folks, no matter where you
may have been and whether you have

3/
new, no more added since we have

We hope to build next fall, possibly using a new type of hollow tile, made in the U.S. It does not require mortar, interlocks, is damp resistant and is far cheaper than lumber construction. You can get thinner types for inner walls and you can plaster over it. The only lumber available now is wet and green and four prices too high for one. In the meantime we are not suffering in the cabin, if only we had an interested housewife.

Bobby and Joyce are well. I recently won a medium size Frig. in a Kinsmen draw, which really was a lucky break for us, as we really needed it. I expect that we will try to put about \$75.00 to it - and thus have the biggest size, which we seem to need.

I will soon be home and will be back for my operation later in the fall, when it doesn't matter how long I am away. Besides I want to go on a deer

4/ hunt again with Bobby and our friends.
We enjoyed last years trip very much,
and will probably go to the same place again.
I'm very glad to hear that Leslie is
doing so much better and hope that
this will continue right along.

As to ever the price that the
papers say there will be. It's the
same out here. The fool papers say we will
have the biggest crop in history, so the prices
and the gang's going hell for more money.
When in reality, it's only fifty per cent of
normal.

You think food is high up here, you
- should go down to the U.S.!

Your idea of Bob getting a few calls is
quite good, I think. I would like a small
bunch up in the Barrios, about a 100 herfords
would be a nice start and, in the right
area do a little prospecting on the side.
Will probably end up doing only the

5/ latter, when Bobby can run the show
at home. I really would like to get
married again some day but really it's
pretty hard to get someone who would stand
for the habits of Bobby and Joyce.

I heard from Ernest three weeks ago. He
isn't feeling very well and was wishing he
was back on the coast again. I think his
business is better, though. Also they have
moved back to Barbours. Barry, I haven't
his new address with me. However, the
fellow who rent his old home would certainly
forward his mail, if you want to write at
one.

I will not be here long this time. You
can write me at home and I will let you
know when I go into hospital again. All
good wishes, etc.

... yours
Bali.

letter, which I really moved like to get
around upon some day but I have not
yet had to get someone who would send
for the article of I really and for
I found from some other source of the
work. I am very much interested in
the book on the secret of the
the book is better, though I also stop here
some book in the library. I found
his own edition with me. I found, the
father who sent his old book moved
forward his mail, if you want to see it
come.

I will not be here long this time
can meet me at home and I will let you
know when I go with Hopkins again. All
good wishes, etc.

Yours
Book.

Bob Brebner

October 22nd. 1946.

Dear Grace and Norm:

Just a few lines to say that we have young Bob here, looking very well and hasn't he grown? I was obliged to keep him waiting rather a long time at the C.P.R. depot, as our wonderful ferry was out of commission this morning and I didn't know it, neither did I realize that it was off for the day until many of us had waited nearly an hour, thinking that it was merely a temporary breakdown. This ferry is the subject of a lot of controversy just now, as we are all agitating for either a new larger one or a bridge and be done with it. Unfortunately for us all in this very easy going Province, the work is being done by the bridge committee and the rest are just letting George do it. I suppose you know all about that down there, no doubt?

I must apologize for not replying to your letters of last spring when you both wrote so very nicely about Corinne, which I very much appreciated, but nothing has occurred as yet and maybe never will. She is certainly a very nice person indeed but I have since thought, especially after such grief as we have had with the various cooks that we have had this summer, that if she was rather less of a talented musician and more of a cook, that it might have a better chance of success. She is quite willing to go ahead it appears, on the understanding that she help finance a housekeepers wages, and Joyce, for one, is all for her, but Bobby is not so keen and as Bobby is the most important issue to be considered, I am inclined to go more slowly. Some day we shall meet again and can either get started again or break it off altogether. I can truthfully say that I have not met a nicer person in many years, and while I do fully appreciate such talent as hers, nevertheless I also appreciate talents in other directions. She is attractive and presentable to the nth degree, and immensely popular wherever she goes, and had to be good to get to where she did in the air force. We still write back and forth, she is better at it than I am. I am also a little shy about going further until I know more about myself and will not be much the wiser until I have had the next session in the hospital, which may quite alter things. There is some talk again about an operation and if so, this time it will be a major job.

I wonder if I might impose on your good nature to the following extent? (if Hope were alive she would object to it on the grounds that we never seemed to write enough to you folks unless we wanted something!) I have been asked by the Pensions dept. to provide proof that I have had trouble for

years past with this ulcer and arthritic condition, and have had many good letters for my file from most of the doctors, druggists and friends that I have dealt with, from nearly everyone, except Alan, who simply does not reply to a request of that sort and who said some years ago, with considerable heat, that he wished I would forget my pension. He is intensely proud, justifiably so, and all that but after all, I did go to France at fifteen and it has been my health and financial situation that has suffered accordingly., so that I, together with many of my friends and other people, consider me amply justified in going after better treatment! I assure you that there will be no hard feelings if you don't care to, on the other hand, if you do, it would carry some weight with the powers that be. If you really wouldn't mind doing it, let me know, and I will give you an outline on what is needed the most.

The least that I intend to go after is the reinstatement on the fifty per cent basis, with back pay, amounting to \$12.50. per month, retroactive to May, 1932. I lost that mainly due to an act passed by E.B. Bennett, who cut the civil service at the same time, but who were reinstated soon after, and they forgot me at a time when I really could have used it very nicely. I have spent over a thousand dollars in drugs alone since 1932, which I am not supposed to have to do, and quite a bit more on doctors etc. The difference between what they eventually gave me and what the head examiner recommended amounts to over, fourteen thousand five hundred, spread over sixteen years. Their recommendation for a 100 per cent pension is still on file with the dept. I flatter myself that there are not many people in my condition who would have let it go unchallenged since 1932!

No more for now. It is very nice having young Bob with us. Bobby is just about to take him down to the Peat Company people to see how things stand at present. It's just as well to do it at once and be on the list. If he is too late there, no doubt he could get on as a driver with one of the local trucking companies, who may need men at present. In any event, we will do our best to see that he gets a chance at all the prospects.

All good wishes, etc. Hope that you are all very well. We have had colds here. I have been in bed for some days, but feel not too bad tonight. Write when you have time.

Sincerely,

Bob.

Bob Brewster

January 23 rd. 1947.

Dear Norm:

Many thanks for your welcome letter of the 6th. its always nice to hear from you. You are a most faithful and sincere correspondent! Ive never known a better one! I fall very short of such standards, but actually do like to write to someone like yourself, believe it or not!

Lately I have had more than usual trouble from this arthritic business, its going right up the back of my neck, feels just as if my head was in a vice, with constant headaches. I shall be glad if, and when, they can do something about it in hospital. I had expected to be in there by now, but will no doubt make it by next Monday. I phoned the admitting doctor, a brother of the Dr. John Scott, who looked after Hope in the University Hospital in Edmonton, who says that they are very crowded but will make room for me. I anticipate at least one operation for sure.

I hope that this idea of mine to have you look up my pension affairs there, will not prove to be of too much annoyance. Immediately after I had mailed it to you, I was inclined to wish that I had not caused you the trouble.

The other day, I again met the chap who was in hospital near me last winter, and whom they had put out, saying that he had no case. He sued through the civil courts and won his case last spring, about \$7000.00. from which they deducted his hospital bill, failed to grant a pension at all and only paid him the balance just recently. However, I was glad to hear that he had got it. He had been run down by an officer driving an army truck at Vernon, B.C. about four years ago, and his back hasnt been much good since then. My case is quite different, having already had a pension, and also a strong recommendation for full pension on top of that. I really would not have minded not getting the full pension, had they not cut me down when I really felt quite ill, and at the time when they had only just altered the pension ruling that from then on fifty percenters would be on the permanent list. This last item was nothing short of a dirty deal. When I was last in the Edmonton hospital in November, 43. the doctor who looked after me took great pains to assure me that there was absolutely nothing serious about my case, yet when I was boarded out by the head pensions examiner, I was told that when there was no tissue left in that area, they would remove at least half my stomach, or whatever proved to be necessary. All, of which struck me as being rather contradictory, dont you think? The head man here recommends surgery now, and I dont look forward to it at all. In almost every case where a man has had these things for about twenty years, they

did not survive. To use their own expression, "the operation was a complete success, but the patient unfortunately died!" I do not suggest that my case is as serious as that but I don't look forward to it. In any event, I shall not go into it, without considerable discussion with them, and when all other prospects are eliminated. The adverse effect of these adhesions must be recognized before I will submit to it, and any other possibility.

I am not worrying about myself, in the least, please believe that. Only insofar as it affects my usefulness to my family, because they do need me for a while, at least. I like it here and I like the work and only wish that I could do more than I do. I like very much working with Bobby, even when he gets impatient with me!

Even if you are no longer in the cabinet, a letter to the Federal Minister wouldn't hurt a bit a little later on, when the program is launched. I wish also that old Charlie Stewart hadn't died, as he would have helped a bit.

I shall ask the corresponding secretary of my battalion association to write and also the secretary of our local Legion. I really have a strong case, properly handled it should be a success. This chap, Campbell, that I mentioned, suggests that I hand the case over to his lawyers. I shall probably talk it over with them, in case I need them. Will also talk it over with the head pensions man here, Dr Keillor, and if he is stuffy about it, and doesn't offer any encouragement, I will know what to do and will go ahead with all I can muster. Will let you know, later.

Glad the gloves were suitable. I like a light coloured glove for winter wear in town, so thought they would be suitable considering your position. I couldn't get peccary, or would have sent them instead.

Am glad to hear that you now have electricity, it's a great item of help. Boy, would we hate to go back to coal oil. Banish all thought! If and when we are able to build our new home, it will contain all that we can find and afford in the way of improvements, for work and comfort. Will probably be heated by an oil furnace, also an oil range, will also have a wood and coal burning fireplace, large windows and a nice basement, with all laundry arrangements and an electric pump with sensitive feelings about water seepage from the outside, also to carry out water from the washer. Our Maytag is still going strong, never any real trouble at all. They are about the best made. I still think.

Bob T. is well. I'm only sorry that he has not been able to connect up with a steady job at the wages that I suggested. He is at present working on a baling outfit, for the time being.

Joyce is somewhat better but is having a little skin trouble, that interferes with her sleep quite a bit. I am going to make an appointment tonight for her to see Dr Williams in

Vancouver, the best man in town, about it, and hope that she can get to see him very soon.

Bobby is very well and busy. Is getting to be quite a mechanic, finally got their old jalopy to run and is next going to install an overdrive transmission in it.

Today Bobby and I were boxing up seed potatoes. The next job is to cut the seed, at least the stuff that goes in first. We got better stuff this year, all Foundation A, grown by a registered grower, and are hoping for results in excess of last years. We had about 70 tons last year, some of which are still on hand. If it is an earlier spring this year, we shall do better.

Just heard that you are having more cold weather. It did not go below 4 above here and only one night of that, averaging 15 above for about a week or so and now back to rain and warm weather again.

Wish very much that you folks were out here too, I feel sure that you would like it. Do you ever think about it at all. It surely would be great, if you were. A 100 acre farm will keep you plenty busy and make all you need to live very comfortably.

The last time I had a letter from Ernest, he suggested that I spend the winter with him in Florida, and catch a rich widow. I don't know about that, but I certainly would like to spend the winter there very much.

Very glad indeed to hear that Leslie is doing better now and hope that it will continue. You will both be feeling much better about it, I am sure. Why don't you have hospitalization like we have here. Believe me, it comes in handy. I feel that eventually, all the associations will become rather too heavy, but while they last, it is good business to be in with them.

Will drop you a line from hospital later on. All good wishes to all of you. Write when you have time.

Sincerely yours

Bob.

P.S. Haven't heard from Corinne lately. Must have given me up as a bad job. He was about to leave for New York, to meet her Mother, who was coming over from London to be with her.

Bob Brebner

Duffield, Alta.
Nov 7th 1937.

Dear Sam:-

I've been very wrong in not answering your welcome letter of June the 9th. Thanks indeed for your kind thoughts in regard to our Mother.

I suppose you are still very busy, however, take a tip from me, put your own folks first, outside work last, come what may.

It was indeed too bad you couldn't get up with Ernst. Do try to make it next year. How were crops down there this year? Our wheat and oats away below average but barley a little above. 27. 52. - 85 to 42. I'm hoping to dispose of the barley as seed as it is very clean.

Do you know if it is still possible to get one of those Aero grain cleaners? From your description, it sounded mighty good. I'd like to get the agency, if at all possible.

We had really an open fall so far but with all the showers in between 75 per cent of local grain was threshed damp. We didn't get much flouting done, with so much moisture, it froze up early.

Hopie and the kids are pretty well. I had Bobby in town yesterday to get his glasses, for schoolroom use only, and I hope it improves his condition.

I finally got the old Buick to run and can now get to town in an average of an hour, and arrive there all

in one piece. It still uses too much gas, though.

We got a little breaking done and hope for more next year. Come up and see our hills. Every round comparable to the best of roller coasters.

No more now. Will be glad of any advice you can give me in regard to the cleaner. Drop us a line when you have time. All good wishes.

Sincerely yours
Bob.

