

APD 980-

4 April 44

Dear Mama—

I'm back from my tour of special duty now. I enjoyed my stay in the finance office - met one fellow from Nashville and one who spent much of his life in and near Knoxville - both nice fellows. The Nashville man asked me to have Jewel get acquainted with his sister who lives not so far from Scarritt.

I'm settled now - after moving twice on returning to the area. Maybe I can catch up on my letter writing.

Glad you liked the poem - since then I've written one myself - about the Engineers. It may appear in the Engi-News. I'll send it to you

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later anyway if the censor
will pass it - I think he will.

OK - be modest if you like -
but you're not kidding me.
You don't have to "live up" to
any tribute - I don't know how
you could be any better. But
I suppose it is natural to feel
as though you could have -
take it from me, so far as I
or any of your "flock" are con-
cerned, you needn't feel that
way. Today a fellow-worker
in the office received a nice
picture of his parents in the
mail - the gleam I saw in
his eyes expressed the sort of
feeling a man doesn't feel
every day. And I think I know
just how he felt - might have
been something like this - "how
futile my efforts must be to

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express real gratitude to a couple so fine - with a few words on a scrap of paper."

Hope you hear from Johnny - he sure isn't any good to write to me. No news is good news, I must assume.

Take care of yourself - I have a strong hunch I'll see you within the year.

I'm writing Alice tonight, too.

Love to all,
Bill