

Bray,
Wm 8

Archivo
Nacional de
la Memoria

Dear Mummy,

Sorry for ~~not writing~~ ^{not writing} for a while - I just seemed to be tied up in ~~nothing~~ ^{on another} but I kept putting it off. Well I am getting on very well. My leg at long last seems to be almost alright again. It is about a month since it went out & in the meantime I have been exercising it a lot. Last Weds I ran about 9 miles with it so you can see it's near perfect. I wear a bandage when I am running but otherwise I don't wear anything - I think wearing the bandage was doing more harm than good as it was keeping the muscles from developing that is why I think it was knocking out.

We have a good lot of study to do this year as some of us are a degree exam at the end of the year so we are kept busy. I am doing some teaching in the Tech. here in Bray, 20 kids around 14 or 15 are in my class & I take them for 1 hour once a week & I am getting to enjoy it very much. They are a fairly tough bunch but at the same time very sincere. Fr. Cotty of Clonchlane got the class for me as he is there full-time almost teaching Religion. He is getting on very well in Bray. He mixes around a lot with the young people & I think they like him fairly well.

I paid a visit to Phemie & Fred. They were both in good form - She was complaining of being sick but I think she was in better form than before the summer. She is great for old stories about her time in Ferny in the 1910's & if she gets going she can be very entertaining. Dick's ^(Rice's) Son is settled down now Bray, at Greystones & he was married this year so they had a great time at the thing. He I think pays an odd call down to them. They still are trying to sell the house but they haven't got a good offer for it yet & I think they don't really intend getting out of it until next Spring if they get

out of it at all. They are very interested in Germany but don't seem to want to visit there for some reason probably money - & a visit down would do them a lot of good as they are both so closely connected with Germany & they speak about little else when I go up there.

We will be leaving Bray definitely at Christmas & moving to our new house in Maynooth. It will be a blessing not to have to travel but we'll miss the sea & the general air of excitement around Bray. To-morrow (Saturday) I am expecting Dick Phillips (the New Zealander) up in Dublin. He is coming up for some diving or swimming competition so I'm looking forward to meeting him. I met Michael Kane a few weeks ago out at the airport - he was looking very well but he had gone in for some of his degree exams & so he had to repeat them again. He is doing a degree while working at the same time & I think he found it hard to get down to the study in the evening. However he will probably get it when he repeats it. I met Br. Hogan at Croke Park also a few Sundays ago - he got some very big scars in his head where he had the operation & had aged a lot since I last saw him & 20 years ago. He is much heavier but his mind seems to be O.K. & he remembered me & Gary with no trouble. I also saw Bro. O'Connor who taught us also in C.B.S. at the Rugby Match in Lansdowne Road but I wasn't speaking to him. That match was a complete wash out - I was very disappointed with it even though Ireland won. Fr. O'Neill is getting on well as our Boss man. He doesn't keep a close eye on us as Fr. Jerry so we come & go almost as we please. In the past month or I have been at the local pictures five - just around the corner about once a week - Fr. Jerry would have been much more strict on us. Mick Mansfield & his wife paid us a visit a week or 2 ago. He was all business - He wanted to get a newsletter he got from Francis printed so that he could send it around to all he knew so that he might get

was glad they went down as I think people of that age & (4 group have very few contacts & there is nothing they like better than a day in the country & away from the smoke & darkness that they are usually accustomed to.

The weather here has been very wild - I hope the potatoes were alright - I heard some of the lads saying that they were supposed to be very bad around N. Cork. I suppose the lads will be tackling the Beet soon. Tell them to hurry up & get it done so that I can spend my holidays between the bed, the fire & the table (what a horrible way of passing holidays that would be). Ned is well into the routine now & I imagine I hope he has settled into the system - I imagine he will - I would say he is now under very few illusions about himself - if you have to work hard to get exams & you succeed as he has done one will be inclined to continue in that frame of mind. If a person takes his ease & gets exams one usually finds when he goes to a university or a place where there is much more freedom he just goes down the hill.

I'm afraid I have to hurry now - I am going to a meeting here in Bray dealing with the problem of itinerants & the post goes out soon - Best wishes to Dad & all the lads. Thank Kathleen for her letter I'll reply to it as soon as I can -

Hope Jack's keeping Well

God Bless & Love from
Pat

Some money for Francis. He wanted 200 Newsletters printed - (3
100 for himself & 100 for his daughter Helen. She isn't altogether
enamoured by the idea but she has agreed to it anyway. To give
Mich his due - he has great courage - if he gets an idea
he'll go to any end to get it worked out. He said he
made a great politician. The 2 Greeks we have here are
still learning English & can still speak only a very little but
they are getting on very well. It is very tough on them, one of them
hasn't even written home as he is afraid the Government might
find out where he is & thereby he might not be allowed go back
home when he would like to.

I haven't paid Sister Joseph a visit - This week end
probably or maybe the following week-end. It is so difficult
to get down to visiting, however I'll have to pay her at least
a call before the Christmas. - It is not so very far away
now - we will definitely be getting home also for Christmas
this year so the supervisors are more intelligent than we some-
times think they are. I haven't been speaking to Michael Dorgan
since I came back but I've seen him once or twice - I suppose
Aunt Mary is still the same - good one day & not so good the
next. Is Liam's Back OK yet - I must give him a ring some-
day at the Institute - I'm sure there is a phone nearby that
he can use. It is really a great invention, a few weeks
ago I rang Josie & Dan (you haven't forgot them) in Cork & the
minute I had dialled the number I was straight through to
them. They are a nice old couple, quaint but very generous.
They seemed to have been thrilled with the day in Germany. I