

March 30, 1944

Dear Dr. Allen,

I have the day off - yes, the army gave me a "holiday" so I will catch up on my correspondence.

The reason for said "holiday" is that I just had an impacted wisdom tooth extracted.

I believe my father is better even if he does still have a terrific time of it. Mother actually thought he was "on the way out" a couple days ago, but when after two enemas he was unable even to expel water and was under such pain that his nerves were about to crack, she still could not write too encouraging. He is bloated and of course is very weak after five weeks of it.

I like the army fine. Fellows are swell, meals are good; in fact I don't believe I had complained - really complained - until they <sup>(before)</sup> jerked out a perfectly good wisdom tooth. I should never had a decay in any tooth and their argument that w. t. not grown through were easily infected, <sup>and should be removed</sup> seemed about as plausible as saying that everyone should have their appendix cut out so that there would be no danger of infection in time of battle. But the army knows what it's doing!

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