

13:30
14.9.1948

Dear Sister-in-law, nephew + niece!

Received your dear and interesting letter.

You don't know how happy we were that you

expressed us with such a nice letter. I want

very sorry that you dear Papa/Father is not

here any more to see it. You see, children + friends

that my dear brother was married.

Dear Sister-in-law, you are looking to the other you

had a least attack which affected your eyes.

I hope you are not blind, that is what I

think. What a pity we don't know each other

personally, but I will always enjoy looking at

the nice pictures you sent us. Most of all, I

know my brother with me that way and all

of you.

Dear Sister-in-law, if you only know how often

I have searched for my dear brother. Then, 1924,

I had to know him declared dead on certificate

of our mother from father's side. That all

this time, until 1947 he lived with you was

alive and with you. Not he really closed

his eyes forever. I often think of the things he

left in and his testament to go and find a new

home for our family friends.

Dear Sister-in-law, I hope I have written to you

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Tell you something about us, how things went
with us. I was the worst off. Maybe you know
that whom God loves he punishes. That's
why I endured everything. You know that
everything went wrong with Germany, it was
terrible. When the war broke out my my
daughters and their children were evacuated.
I have only two girls, both married, one in
Bremen, one in Wilhelmshaven. The oldest
has 3 boys aged ten, nine + eight. The youngest
has two girls aged ten and five. That means
I am grandmother of 5 grandchildren ~~which~~^{who} are
alive. They both lost one boy, ~~at~~ 9 months + 3 years
old. My only joy is the children. I lost every-
thing through bombing on 22 Dec. 1943 in Bremen.
Then I, too, was evacuated and I came to my
daughters again. We were all together, except
the sons-in-law, who were in the war, one
at sea the other on land. We were away from
home for two years, until the Russians came.
Then a lot of things happened, I watched day
and night for two weeks to protect my
children, until one day we had to leave
and go home. I, of course, was homeless, so
my son-in-law took me to Wilhelmshaven,
looked for a job and found one in a fishery.
I worked there for 9 months, couldn't any longer.

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and looked for something else. I found work
in a hospital where I am still working,
since 18 months I am working there, in the
laundry. At least if I get sick I am looked
after.

When your letter arrived the doctor was with me
and I was happy too. But he told me that my
brother suffered a lot, is that right?

I live in a room, all by myself, not far from the
sea. On Sundays my children visit me and we
go for a swim to the sea and have fun.

You say you dispatched a parcel for me, tell me
how I am thank you. Dear sister-in-law, you ask
me to tell you what we need. It is so many things,
the winter isn't far and we cannot buy anything,
first, because there is nothings here to buy and,
secondly, if there is it's too expensive. Shoes are
too expensive, the water is running into ours. With
stockings it's the same. My ^{shoe} size is 42, wide feet. That's
why I was so sick last winter and took 5 months to
recover. Most of the time we run around without shoes
or with wooden ones. I cannot expect anything from
you, since you are alone without anyone to support
you. I know how hard it is, I am alone 8 years. I am
divorced, but I am not sorry, even if it is hard
sometimes. My ex-husband has also a cousin
in Australia, in Sydney. I'll send his address

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along. Maybe you can find him and he will
be able to tell you about me. I have one
wish, though. Would you have an old pair
of curtains. I cannot tell you, send me this
and that. If you like, send whatever you
want and can spare, and we will be very
grateful.

Now I will finish my letter and hope it
reaches you in the best of health.

I am with lots of greetings to all
of you.

Your sister - Mrs. - Mrs.