

Feb. 16, 1943

Dear Ma,

Your postcard  
telling about Skipper  
arrived to-day. It's hard  
to tell how one feels  
about it, but I suppose  
it would perhaps be a  
blessing to him if he  
did die. Of course I  
don't know how Gandhi's  
death affected him.  
What a remarkable  
coincidence (or is it

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entirely a coincidence?)

That he should get pneumonia so soon after Gardine. Very likely you know by now how it is developing, but I shouldn't be surprised if he pulled through.

I assume Pa has gone to Gardine unless Skipper is not yet at the acute stage.

Your books also arrived to-day, as did

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Pass, and I'm most  
grateful. The first  
look more than pleasant  
The Toney I know and  
love, as I do all his  
books.

It's been very cold  
lately, not only down  
to the low twenties,  
but very windy, and  
my birthday has been  
no exception, though  
I understand it's frigid  
again up north.

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Fortunately I had an  
easy day to-day, not  
that anything was  
planned, but it's nice  
to be able to relax  
a bit on one's birthday -  
nap, walk, movie in  
the evening, etc. I've  
only recently discovered  
that reeking the  
pantry, refrigerator, etc.  
is not particularly  
frowned upon - milk  
eggs (if one wants to

cool them), ice cream<sup>5</sup>  
(if there's some opened),  
etc.

Last Friday I  
bicycled to St. Augustine  
which is about 25  
miles away, and after  
riding around a bit  
checked the bicycle  
in the station and  
caught a train to  
Taz. After going  
to an amusing movie,  
"Star Spangled Rhythm,"

on the pretty side, spent  
the night at the main  
station. There is a  
10:30 P.M. <sup>train</sup> to Green Cove,  
if one doesn't mind  
starting back that  
early. That I've  
caught, but one "often"  
doesn't get out of the  
movies until later  
than that. Actually  
I've not been in  
town much lately.

Love to All  
Toots