

Mr. Nichols

I am now sure that my first was  
held in '42. It was almost the second  
year that I had some of the people stay  
at my house that I had met the previous  
year. I remember that when they were  
there I had just found I was pregnant  
for the 3rd time. That child was born  
in the spring of 44.

Later -

I found the confirmation of the 1942 date.  
It is the enclosed letter and postcard. (Faylin  
was almost 2. Merlin was the baby.)

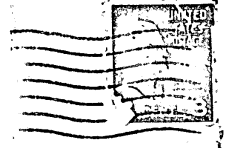
Mr. Cole might be interested in the 2 papers  
(Lesson + letter) showing Mr. Armstrong's concern  
for the young people. This was before we had  
understanding of Church government, acting, etc.  
His girls dated outside the Church, as we all  
did.

If the Ellises prove to be friendly, Mr. E.  
Could certainly help you more than I, by a  
long way. He was in the Church before we  
were, and was very close to Mr. Armstrong.  
Also, he was adult and surely knew a lot more

of what was going on. I am sure he  
was a confidant of Mr. Armstrong.

I probably can get ~~the~~ a fairly  
complete list of those first members here  
(Fair Butte School) from Mrs. Happer (Smith).  
But I haven't had a chance yet to talk to  
her. Any information I feel worth  
bothering you with, I'll forward through  
Shirley, ok?

Box 111, Eugene, Ore.



Mr. Marvin Fisher,  
R. 1,  
Junction City,  
Ore.

Eugene, Ore., Monday evening,  
November 28, 1938.

Dear Marvin:

Some of the girls in the Church, as you probably know,---including Bobby, Lorinda, and my own daughters,---face a serious problem. Their boy friends are not of their belief, and do not really understand just what they do believe, and why.

They are finding that this is a real serious barrier between them and their boy friends---one that is bound to become more and more serious. Some of you may not fully realize this now---partly because you do not realize fully just what the girls do believe, but, whether they have made it fully clear or not, the girls do realize it. It is easy enough to just say this makes no difference---they can go on keeping the Sabbath and believing as they do, and you can believe and live your way, and think that you can ignore these religious differences. And you might get along nicely a while, but sooner or later it would inevitably prove a positive BARRIER, which must be removed, or it will separate you.

I know this, because God Himself has so ordained it, and says so in the Bible, and also from personal experience. You see, Mrs. Armstrong came to see the Sabbath truth before I did. I just believed in God, and in the Bible, but didn't consider myself really religious, or have any real definite concrete belief---except I was sure she was wrong about the Sabbath and some other things. We tried to get along with her keeping the Sabbath and me having my ideas---and I almost ignored religion. But it didn't work out. And for the one and only time in our lives, we talked seriously of divorce. Before taking so serious a step, I decided it was only FAIR to her to look seriously into just what she did believe, and if she was wrong to try to show her where she was wrong. I did, and to my surprise, I found she was right. In my case, I accepted it, too---and the barrier was removed, and later it brought me into the ministry.

Now Marvin, you may think you already know just what Bobby believes, but you know only in a vague and most general way. Actually, you know and understand very little of what she believes. We never went into these things much at the Young People's meetings you attended---that is, the real central major belief. This not only is part of her life,---it IS her life, and that's why it is so important.

Beverly started the plan we have in mind, took it up with Harold, ---and while at first he thought he'd just try to study into it alone by himself, he realized he could not do this, for he doesn't know just what Beverly DOES believe, and decided it was only fair to her to at least LISTEN, and consider it. Lorinda talked to Claire about it, and he's coming too. And so, starting tomorrow---Tuesday night---they are both coming, and possibly Lloyd Goldson, too, tho I'm not sure,---for a series of Bible studies at our house, possibly two or three nights a week, whatever they decide tomorrow night. We will need possibly about 12 nights thru the winter to fully explain it. Now this is not to be an ARGUMENT. Neither am I going to make any effort whatever to urge or persuade any of you to accept what we believe---morely to EXPLAIN, as clearly and simply and briefly as I can, just what we believe, why we keep the Sabbath, etc. You see the idea is not to force you fellows to accept it. What you be-

2.

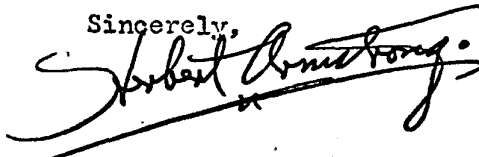
lieve and do is your own personal right and privilege---between you and your God, and I have no right to interfere, and you have as much right to your beliefs, no matter what it is, as I have to mine, even tho one is right and the other wrong. God's way is not to force what we believe onto others, but God has called me as His minister to explain, and to tell others His truth, leaving it entirely to them as to whether they see it or accept it or act upon it. Just wanted you to know that no effort will be made to persuade or urge in any way, and no pressure brought at all.

The idea is merely that it is ONLY FAIR to Bobby, in your case, to Beverly in Harold's, and to Lindy in Claire's, to at least come and hear and consider, and understand WHAT they believe, and WHY, so you will not misunderstand---so you can look into it FOR YOURSELVES, to see whether you agree. If Bobby is wrong, you surely ought to want to know it, and to find out where and why she is wrong, and if possible explain it to her and save her from it---because it IS her life, and it would be terrible if she were wrong in it.

You see, the girls have heard this, and accepted it, and they believe it with all their hearts and souls. That's why it's bound to prove a positive barrier. There's no getting around that fact, and we can't lick problems of this kind, Marvin, by ignoring them, or trying to dodge them---only by facing them and meeting them. And surely it's only fair to her to look into it enough to hear what she believes.

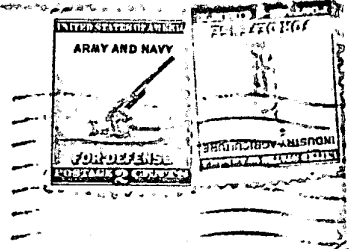
Bobby mentioned that she has seen or written you about this or something, only at that time she did not understand that Harold and Claire and possibly Lloyd were also coming, which, of course, is an altogether different thing and I think much more satisfactory to all. And so I told her I'd explain to you about their coming, and invite you to come too. Just you fellows, and the girls, and that's all. Otherwise I think we'll call it a "closed house." The girls thought it would be better that way. If you can, come a little early---by 7:30, and I'll stop, wherever we are each time, at 9, leaving the rest for next time. Now I hope I've explained everything clearly. Hope you understand the idea is not for me to try to talk you into anything---just that the girls feel they cannot explain it as I would---they understand and know what they believe, but cannot explain it fully and clearly to others as I could, and so they've planned it this way so it can be explained to you fellows just what they believe. I know how very badly Beverly wanted Harold to come and hear this, and I'm sure Bobby feels the same way, and it probably means more to her, as to the other girls, than you may realize---so I hope you won't disappoint her, Marvin, ~~and~~ and will be looking for you tomorrow night. The others have definitely promised to come.

Sincerely,



7422 W. 2nd  
Eugene, Ore.

EUGENE  
SEP 27  
4 PM  
1942  
OREG.



Morris Lakes  
Rt. 1. Junction City, Ore.

Sun. 9/11.

Dearest Mervin,

Well, it is nearly time to go to the afternoon meeting. I hope I mail this in time to get it picked up today. Cause I want you to get it Monday. They pick up mail once Sunday, y'know.

I nearly barked out and came home yesterday. I got to feeling so homesick at the thought of being away from you & Phyllis all week. I got over it, tho. Of course I'll miss you all week, but the meetings are so interesting that I'll not be homesick. Mornings is a prayer meeting, afternoon a bible study and evening preaching and evangelistic service.

There is the nicest minister here. He is middle aged and has the kindest most peaceful face. His talks are so good, too. More a talk than a sermon.

Honey, if you could be here and enjoy these meetings and get as much out of them as I, we would have something deep between us that we would never forget, all our lives. But why am I talking this way to you?

I pressed a dollar on Wilma. I'll try

and buy something to help out too she  
didn't want to take any money.

Merlin is so sweet. Mrs Owens and  
Hanna just claim and tell everybody.  
He hasn't cried since we've been here. yet!  
I'm proud, are you?

If you get this Monday, write a card  
Luis & Chur both. I can't go all week without  
hearing from you.

I'll have to stop or not get this mailed  
in time.

Remember the extra bucket, bed & stuff  
I want you to do to help your mom.

Be sure to tell me how she is when  
you write and who took Phyllis.

Lots of love, (and I do mean you)  
Bobby & Merlin





THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Arthur Christensen  
1422 7/2 and St.  
Eugene, Ore  
Hilma Christensen

Dearest Bobby, Monday evening  
 I miss you so for yourself & for  
 and would be glad either if you  
 would stop off at your father's  
 home, Sunday and Monday like  
 we always do. She sure wants  
 to go home with me for a  
 while & has letters of home  
 and she'll be glad to  
 see you for the truck  
 you had but for around  
 to see they would be  
 to let them  
 I missed you in  
 China, but too late  
 would be home &  
 taking graduate school  
 my end and also around  
 school or something else. The second  
 name from the square  
 around seems to be feeling  
 fine. I will probably give in  
 fact to get my degree this  
 spring. My father & I have  
 had a very good time  
 during the week and I  
 think we all have had a  
 good time.

Yours  
 mother