

My dear parents,

Eng. 2/5 ~~to 6/5~~ (9)

25th April 1940

I ~~conf~~ regretfully confess I didn't write last week. You didn't write 10 days either, but of course I should have, though. Now I got your letter, dated April 1st (34), and post-card dated April 8th. Many thanks.

First of all, I'm extremely glad ~~to~~ with the news about mother's rheumatic gout. It seems you have come to the right physician at last. This ~~sort of~~ x-raying of your jaws should have been done years ago. It is pleasing indeed the source of evil has been found and extinguished. I can imagine these jaw-operations were nothing but pains to you so far, and it ~~is~~ certainly will take it's time to show ~~of~~ their full ~~of~~ effect, but I'm very optimistic ^{about} ~~as~~ to the result in the end. It will make life ~~def~~ look different to you when you'll have got rid of the matter, won't it?

Batteries: I saw Topler about it. He couldn't send for about a month's time, as ~~there~~ it is prohibited to send anything now without permission, samples as well. He came in for the permission, but failed to let you know he couldn't send in the meantime. I didn't think of it, I'm sorry to say. He got the permission and has sent ~~three~~ since. He is honesty itself. I paid him Fr. 50.- in February. I ~~was~~ already was in his debt with

Fr. 30.-, when he let me know. I asked him: "What would you have done ~~if~~ had I succeeded to get to England before the outbreak of the war, as I meant to?" He said: "~~if~~ I had waited another fortnight and then stopped sending." "And what about the 30 Fr. you'd have lost? There are money restrictions in Palestine & England?" "Well, never mind, life doesn't depend on 30 Fr." said he. He didn't want an ~~advance~~ payment in advance, though I told him he must let me know in time next time, ~~as~~ ~~long~~ when the money is ~~used~~ spent, as I might not be able to pay such a large debt. I gave him 20 Fr. in advance. Wouldn't he go bankrupt in Austria? He sends regularly once a week, you can just look it up in the calendar, whether a sample got lost.

The parcel with the English books came the other day, thank~~ed~~ you very much. I am ever so glad with it. They deal with such different milieux from what I am used that they will enable me to gather quite a ^{large} new stock of words, besides of the pleasure to read good books. I only had rather nasty stuff up ^{to} till now.

The £4 - are not lost. They came to Zürich safely, ~~but~~ but couldn't be delivered as there was a topsy-turvy of addresses - fault of the mail. The money went to some central office to Bern and was either sent back - in which case I pray you to keep it, I'd be quite content with this solution - or I'll get it one of these days. Many thanks anyhow.

There is a "Kleiderkammer" ^{of the Jewish community} for refugees, and I made up my mind to go there. I got lots of worn things, some of them very good indeed, and a new spring coat. Cheap ready-made thing, of course, but looks very well. I'm already wearing a green dress I have altered myself - the most worn-out one, it's good to wear at home and for byking. Yesterday I started ^{with} an evening-course for dressmaking and -altering, Gewerbeschule Zürich. It is an old wish of mine to be able to alter dresses and make a simple dress myself, but I never had the time to realize it. It costs five fr., which the community will pay. It will enable me to alter the dresses etc. ~~under~~ ^{I got} We started with

drawing the "cutting" "cut" for a skirt, will proceed to draw one for a blouse, and one of a dress as well. I'm glad to get individually fitted cuts, you can't spoil so much ^{then} even if there is nobody to help you. If I'm not too silly at ~~the~~ work ~~of~~ this course should enable me to dress a little better with a minimum of expense.

No, father dear, I don't study much. I should, may be, but it is so difficult for me to learn merely from books and I forget so quickly what I have not seen, that I don't think it worth ~~the~~ ~~the~~ the time and the ~~work~~ effort. I can't keep ~~on~~ going to the clinic, it would ^{have} ~~mean~~ meant enrolling ^{for} another term. For some time I'll visit three camps for Jewish refugees, probably once a week, (as a physician). I wonder whether I'll learn something this way. (I don't get paid for it, of course. I do it for the Jewish Community).

Just now I'm learning a little about ~~the~~ cooking. Frau Weibberg is a splendid cook, she invited me sometimes for

dinner. I'm looking on a little now, to learn these ^{dishes} things I never tried to make myself for want of money and time, and pick up many a useful hint for cooking in general by the way. Frau Weisbergs cooking is likely to be about Hunt Roads level. (3)

I must apologise I forgot to write ~~to~~ to Richters. I did now, but am afraid it will take some time to get an answer, so don't expect it too soon. I'm sorry indeed I forgot.

What about Miml?

Last Sunday afternoon I made a splendid trip with my bike; I went up the Utliberg, and then cycled all over the long ridge stretching along the lake. The last little summit of this ridge is the Albishorn, which ~~yield~~ offers a splendid view of the whole Zürichsee, the Zuger- & the little Türlensee on the other side, and the Urner, Glarner, Unterwaldner Alps; Rigi & Pilatus in the foreground. The day was perfect, as was the whole week; the most wonderful spring-days I can remember for many years.

The meadows are all green, the sun shining through the ~~little~~ ~~grass~~ short grass and leaves, and richly dotted with primroses. The birch-trees wear light-green veils, the larches, too are large green fluffs in the rosy naked beech-wood, through which ~~you~~ one sees the lake, far below, with its soft hilly embankments all covered with little cottages, gardens and green meadows and the woods behind. On my way back I saw Zürich ~~and~~ the millions of lights stretching from it ~~all~~ ~~along~~ on both sides of the lakes as far as you can see — an enchanting sight. — Cherries and peaches are in blossom now, soon the apples will follow, if it stays as warm as now. Then the whole Zürichsee is one great white blossom.

Dear parents, just as I'm writing ~~come~~ your letter & post-card ^(are coming), dated April 11th & 12th (36, 37). Many thanks for ~~the~~ your congratulations. We'll see each other all right, don't you worry, even without any miracles. I'm quite sure about that. I hope you'll have a pleasant surprise then, as you were so shocked about

the snap-shot. I'm sorry I sent it. I don't look like that, but I sent it as I thought that I "gut aussche" ~~was~~ as we say in German, meaning the state of nutrition and nothing else. I'll see to get another snap-shot, but don't wait for it, as I don't know yet whom to ask and if so, I don't know whether it'll look better or more like ^{me}. You know how terrible nearly all of my fotos are. I look very different every day and ofener, and always have, perhaps that is the reason. I don't think I've changed much these last years. I often wonder whether you have.

Did you look so bad, Urodek, as you write everybody says you look better now? How does the doctor know the jaw was not the Strecherd? What injections do you get? Don't you feel better?

Just now I get 10 Fr. from Hunt Rosa - probably a birth-day present. I'll write to her at once. She didn't answer my last post-card, quite likely it was lost.

How is Viktor's health? Does he keep diet? I presume from what I saw he has an ulcer duodeni (12 fingerdarm) This ought to be kept in check by diet, as a rule at least (I mean it ought to be sufficient, so long as the stomach can be emptied sufficiently). - How is the payment he gets? I do hope he doesn't mind ~~he~~ doing the work.

Love
Hannah