3248 Burton Ave., Lynwood, Calif. 19th February 1933.

Dear Evelina -

Youwill be surprised to see that I have taken my pen in hand to write you a "Happy Birthday"! I hope you will all have a happy birthday party together and that none of you have any colds or other sicknesses. If you feel the same way about birthdays as we do you probably are celebrating your "twenty-fourth" birthday again for the benefit of your children! As Coral says, that is a very convenient age to stay permanently for many reasons as well as because there are usually just twenty-four candles of the birthday cake size in a box.

It seems like ages since I have written to you. I have wanted to before but business has been so terribly bad that I have hated to write to anyone. And the worst feature about it is that it is not only not any better, but worse. It is certainly fortunate that we can get fresh vegetables so cheap- carrots, beets, turnips, spinach etc, for one cent a bunch. Last Sunday we had invited in some friends who were so nice about driving Coral all around last simmer while I was away - about the only people we have invited for dinner - and our main dish was a baked heart which cost a total sum of twenty-four cents (six cents a pound). It certainly was good too. Do you ever have stuffed baked heart? I had never realized before how good and also how cheap it is compared to a roast of beef for instance.

You don't know how thankful I am that I made the trip East last summer while Mother was still with us..... I don't see how I could stand it now at all if I had not been there last summer. Mary has certainly been wo derful in every way hasn't she....

We are all well and healthy. Maybe the extremes of the depression have helped our health - we have to eat more fruits and vegetables as they are the cheapest as well as the healthiest. I hope you are all well too. I have been home more than usual too because it has been more profitable to stay at home than to use gasoline in quest of business. Some of the time.

How have the prospects of the opening of the Chicago Fair affected Chicago so far ? Or hasn't it made any difference yet ? Of course it is not supposed to open until June but there must be quite a bit more work and money expended now ahead of time for it than if there were not going to be any fair. I hope it turns out to be a success. The little that we saw of it while I was there has been of considerable interest to me, especially Bird's ship. That reminds me that "Old Ironsides" is in port here now and we hope to get down to the harbor to see her this week if possible. I wish you and family were here to go see it with us.



dong er erner John.

Happy Birthday: Best regards to Henry too of course, I always include him in my thots when writing to you and expect him to read letters I write addressed only to you.

So long for now. We are glad for sentons any time it is convenient for you but dont put yourself out to send on letters.

What is the latest news about Will Taylor? We have felt so badly about his being sick. I do wish he could manage to come out here and atay with us long enough to completely change everything. This far from home his most pressingand immediate worries would be far enough removed so that it would be impossible to think about them as acutely, which is always part of the reasons for any sickness lingering. Ellen and Will were 50 nice to me last year when I was there - they just put themselves out to do things for me, the same as you did when I was in Chicago.

Last month I had a very interesting letter from Ben Paulson which I answered right away. How did his toy business turn out at Christmas time anyway? I have often wondered. The two nights which I spent at their home in Wauwautosa were such a pleasure, they were so fræendly and cordial and we had such a nice visit.