

Covallis, Oregon
April 2, 1928

Dear Mother:

We are having a very stormy night with wind and rain and a few big snowflakes. The barometer is lower than it is expected to get, so likely the storm is going to last some time yet. We have had an unusual amount of rain recently for so late in the spring. There was a rainfall of about eight inches in March.

It's wonderful to hear such good news of your recovery but I've felt you would be better for quite a while. I don't believe I realized just how sick you had been till I got this news you are so much better.

I appreciated the letters I got from you and hope you will find time to write more often a little, though I get pretty regular news of course from my sisters.

I believe Will is an extra good doctor and will hasten your recovery and I know Ellen makes the finest nurse in the world.

I am embracing a copy program of the cantata in which I sang Sunday and will sing again in another town tonight. I wish you could hear it. The music is more appealing than the Messiah. It just takes right hold of a person.

You know I have studied voice starting last spring under Prof. Petrie and my progress has been just wonderful.

It doesn't hurt me to sing any more and the volume of my voice has doubled and its quality is much richer. I was quite discouraged the first time as I had so much to unlearn before I could do anything at. It seemed as if I went backward for months. I think my throat trouble had got me in the way of singing to protect the throat and then in order to get soft tones. But I didn't realize that and have ~~only~~ ^{just} found out I ^{only} need to sing easily and in a relaxed throat position to get much more power and better tone quality. That sounds like boasting but I love to do that at a range of three thousand miles. I had some fine compliments on my solo work. Of course I've had a great deal of help & encouragement from Sylvia.

You'll find a few errors in punctuation that the proofreader overlooked in the program perhaps.

I also sang solos in two anthems in our own church in Corvallis on Sunday morning. It's quite a struggle to keep the little church going.

With my best love to you and ~~the~~ others

Willie

From W. H. Relden
Corvallis, Oregon

CORVALLIS
APR 3
11:30 AM
1928
ORE.



Mrs. Wm. H. Relden
Care of Mrs. Wm. H. Taylor
50 Woodbine Ave.
Youngstown, Ohio