

CANADIAN



25.4.43



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25/4/43.

Dear Jean

Have just received aigraph number 3 glad to see you are keeping up your letter writing, its so nice to get a letter or aigraph from you they are all the more valuable after travelling all these miles.

Since writing last have seen some more of Canada. I managed to get a 48 hour pass (quite a feat here as getting time off is like trying ~~to~~ to draw the back teeth out of a shark.) However the methods employed would not interest you yet, will give you the gem when you come and disorganize the W.A.F. later on.

2. As St John is about the largest city  
near here I decided to go there, had heard  
it was a fairly decent place for servicemen.  
It certainly caters for them, at the station  
there is an information bureau, they booked  
my room at the Salvation Army Hotel and  
said if I had not set programme they would  
arrange it for me. I happened to meet  
another R.A.F. chap so we decided to tag  
along together. As it was fairly late we  
decided to organize things for tomorrow, so  
the next quest was food, we had supper in  
a good class restaurant, a wizard meal, fried  
chicken, mushrooms etc. strawberry sundae  
with fresh strawberries and so forth and we  
felt at peace with the world. The next  
day we were invited out for the afternoon,  
tea, ect, the hostess was very nice, had a  
mawellons house, was built about 500ft higher  
than St John and had a mawellons view  
all round, the harbor is pretty large  
and there were all kinds of interesting

<sup>3</sup> places to be seen. She had two very nice daughters with whom we had a great time, they were rather disappointed when they knew we had a date for the evening as they would have taken us out to a dance, still have a standing invitation to visit them again. It was nearly eight o'clock before we could get away but we just made the other date, this was more like a party, the lady & gentleman had invited an equal number of girls so everything was balanced. It was the usual stuff, games, cards, dancing to the radiogram, we had a great time in fact we left at 2 AM. It's surprising how more friendly people are at St John than here, they take a very good view of the R.A.F. there, can't do enough for you.

St John has quite an interesting history

4  
it was founded in one day. 14,000  
people in 20 ships arrived from Boston and  
district after the Tants had declared their  
independence, preferring to remain under the  
British flag, it is said that by this  
banada was saved for England. The  
descendants of the 14,000 are numerous among  
the leading citizens and are very proud of  
their city. Will show you all the places  
founded on the first day and the place  
where they landed. We would have gone  
out for the day on Sunday but unfortunately  
there is only one train on Sunday at  
11:10 AM. What a waste of a day!

So after rechecking compts you have  
grown ~~bit~~ keen to try bigger things  
but surely church organs are a bit tough.  
think we shall have to take you over  
Germany and <sup>let you</sup> sing through a mike, the  
Hans wouldnt stand two doses of that,  
they'd say "bing on the black butlers"

5 Well, after those few sweet words of praise  
how things with you, still continuing your  
harmless little games I suppose, played  
any tennis yet? expect its getting quite the  
weather for grass courts. Spring has arrived  
by express here, the temperature has shot  
up, the sky is clear and everything is  
beginning to burst into leaf, even I'm bursting  
— the buttons on my tunic, all this food I'm  
getting I'm having a job to conceal my  
third double chin under my collar.

Theres still no news of a move, think  
we're here for the duration, should like to  
spend Christmas at home but unless we start  
soon I've had it, still could be in worse  
places.

What do you think of Russia breaking  
off relations with Poland? seems fishy to me.  
looks a though they intend to hold on to  
the part of Poland they overran before the  
Huns attacked them.

<sup>6</sup> We still seem to be pushing ahead in Tunisia, hope we kick them out soon and start on the real job.

Well, that's about all for the moment, will write again soon, let me know if the mail is arriving O.K.

Cheerio, all the best, write again soon.

Yours  
Jack