

HWAPP # 165 5024

LOMA'S
HEALING

Portland, August 9th, 1927.

Dear Folks:

Your letter came this morning, and I'm sorry I neglected writing you about Loma. I had been wondering why we didn't hear from you about Mary.

One night while I was down there, Loma's throat became so painful she couldn't even lie in bed, and she walked the floor all night, weak as she was. I got home ~~Sunday~~ Saturday evening, I believe it was, and she got in some sleep that night, but Sunday night she was only able to see about an hour and a half. You see, what she had was much worse than tonsillitis, and far more serious -- quincy, or an abcess in the throat. The abcess was gathering, into a big lump. The doctor said it would come to a head about last Friday, when it would probably have to be lanced, and then the pain would immediately cease and recovery would be rapid. But he said that the stages she would have to go thru before it broke or was lanced were terrific, including about three days when she would be unable to eat or drink, and he said that in this stage patients just gasped for breath constantly, in the most intense possible pain. He was plainly worried about Loma, because she was really too weak to go thru it. Monday the pain increased. The doctor had given her some tablets to take every two hours. These seemed to deaden the pain, and their effect would last about two hours or so. She could not have stood the pain otherwise. But Monday the tablets didn't seem to deaden the pain. Loma was half out of her head, and if something wasn't done to relieve that intense pain I was afraid of a nervous collapse. I called the doctor, but he was out of town, and I had to call another he had arranged for. He appeared very grave about it, and said nothing except to take two of the pain-killing tablets instead of one, and if necessary take them more often, and get in touch with our regular doctor first thing Tuesday morning, and he would report to him what he had found. So Loma started taking two tablets, but the pain was so severe they had no effect.

The slightest noise set Loma wild, so I had the girls play in the back yard, and talk almost in whispers all day, and Bert staid out there with them, while I took care of Loma. Early in the after-

noon, shortly after the doctor had been here, a Mrs. Clark, a neighbor, and mother of little Ruthy, whom Beverly and Dorothy play with, came over, and I saw her talking in the back yard with Bert. ~~XXXXX~~ About an hour later, she came back, sweating and puffing in the hot sun. It appears she is very religious, and believes in divine healing. She had ~~xxx~~ walked all the way down past 82d St. someplace, to some friends of hers, to get them to pray for Loma, and told Bert they were coming to our place. Right away we began to imagine some freak fanatics coming into the house, and yelling and shouting until Loma would be a nervous collapse, and all the neighbors coming over to see what was going on. So we tried to stop them, and then this Mrs. Clarke started running around the neighborhood trying to get a phone to call them up and tell them not to come. But then we began to think this was not very courteous to Mrs. Clark, after she had gone to all that trouble for us, and of course, we knew her intentions were of the best, so Loma decided to have Bert run out and tell her to never mind, and let them come, provided they would promise to talk very low, explaining that Loma could not stand any loud talking or noise. Mrs. Clark said they were very quiet people, and never shouted or talked loud.

They didn't come until about 7: in the evening, but Loma was feeling much better during the late afternoon and early evening. They said they had prayed for her when Mrs. Clark was there that afternoon, and it seems Loma began to feel better about the same time. It was a man and his wife who came, together with this Mrs. Clarke. We talked for several minutes, in the bed room, when they came, and I asked them about their views on divine healing. You know I have lately begun to think that we must have gotten off the track in our religion farther than we realize, and that it should consist of, or concern, the mind and body, as well as the soul or spirit. It just seemed logical to me that it should, and I wondered if we had not just lost part of the essential gospel of Christianity, after all. I found that is simply what these people believe. They believe healing is just as much part of Christianity as anything else, and pointed out how Christ healed constantly, performing healing miracles, and then said "greater things than this shall ye do." They hold that He did this healing as an example, and all the way thru the test of ability to heal was faith. The way they explained it, it didn't seem fanatical at all, but merely common sense, and I realized at once, and so did Loma, that everything they said was borne out, and in fact

taken directly from the scriptures. They said they believed in the "laying on of hands," and "anointing with oil," and when I asked them why, they said frankly that they didn't consider that the oil or the hands had anything to do with the actual healing at all -- no hocus pocus, or spiritualism -- they did that simply because they regarded it as a Bible command, and were willing to be obedient and do it the way Christ said instead of the way which appealed to them. They told of many experiences where they, and friends, had been instantly healed in this manner. They don't believe in doctors or drugs at all. That, they say, is placing your faith in man and man's devices, and not in God and His ability to heal.

After talking about these things awhile, they knelt down beside her bed, placed their hands on her, and the man did the praying. And really, it was a remarkable prayer. He seemed to know everything the Bible said on healing, and simply quoted from the Bible, in his prayer; how Christ had promised that whatsoever we should ask in His name, it should be done. He mentioned the passage about two or three being gathered together in His name, and others pertaining to healing and the answering of prayers. He said a lot about faith, and explained that there could be nothing but faith, since Christ had promised, and had the power, and always kept His promises. We didn't have the light on in the room, and I couldn't see it, but he had a small bottle of sweet oil with him, and he placed some of this on Loma's forehead. His faith that the prayer would be successful -- seemed unbounded. In fact, he simply took it for granted, and I don't believe such faith as that COULD be disappointed. He seemed absolutely sure. Not the slightest suggestion of a doubt. And when they were thru, they assumed that she was already healed, and ended by thanking God that He had done it, and answered their prayer. Then they got up, smiled, and told Loma to just go to sleep and forget all about that throat, and in the morning she'd be all right again.

After they had gone, we didn't do any experimenting, or looking into her throat, or questioning to see whether it was cured. Somehow, we couldn't help just taking it for granted that it was all over. Loma wanted to talk a little while, and then she wanted to get up and take a little walk as far as the side-walk out in front, and back, so I helped her. I didn't ask her a word about her throat or the pain, but she gave absolutely no indication of pain at all and seemed cheerful. Then she went to sleep, and that night she SLEPT -- in fact, she didn't wake up until Tuesday noon. And then she was HUNGRY. She was still weak, and unable to be on her feet much, but she said that big ball of a gathering abscess on the inside of her throat had simply disappeared, and her throat didn't hurt a bit.

She hadn't taken one of those pain-killing tablets since two or three hours before those people came. Gradually she regained her strength, walking a little more each day. I didn't see the doctor until Wednesday, and he simply gave me the dickens for not seeing him the first thing Tuesday morning. He seemed much worried over her condition. I told him about how painful it had been Monday afternoon, and that Monday evening it just seemed to suddenly disappear, and that she had no abcess -- no lump -- no soreness of any kind in her throat at all -- and since I had to be in Vancouver Tuesday, I hadn't bothered to see him. He was dumbfounded, but tried not to show it. He couldn't understand where that big gathering abcess had gone. He said "Well, she's awful, awful lucky -- that is, MAYBE she's lucky. It may come back, and be worse than ever. If it has really subsided and disappeared, she's AWFUL lucky," and then he told me what she would have had to have gone thru in the next few days, and said she might not have been able to have pulled thru it. I didn't explain to him how she was cured. It would have done no good. He would have scoffed, and tried to have explained it on purely medical and scientific grounds.

I have always scoffed at such performances before, but this time I saw it done, and I know it was done. Walt was up a few days afterward, and we told him about it, and he scoffed and ridiculed the idea, and said it was impossible. But I thought he was more impressed than he wanted to admit or let us know, and Blondie said he came home and told her about it, and when she started to scoff at it, and ridicule the idea, she said Walt turned on her and told her she'd better be careful about scoffing at anything of that kind. She said Walt believed it, alright, and she does, too, now.

Blondie's camp-fire girls went to the coast this week, and when Blondie couldn't go with them, she asked Bert to go in her place, and Bert agreed to go provided Loma would go along, so Loma and the girls and Bert left yesterday for the beach, to be gone all week, and I'm a batchelor at home once more. Loma seems well as ever again now, except naturally still underweight. She'll pick that all up in a week, tho.

You can say what you want to, but I am becoming more and more convinced that religion was intended to minister not alone to man's soul, but also to the mind and the body. Those are the three parts of any one person. Why should religion concern itself with one, and not the other two. Today the so-called holiness-group of churches, sticking very close to the old original gospel, perhaps closer than the other churches, believe to the utmost in the spiritual part of Christianity, but they leave out the mind and the body. The modernists today use the mind exclusively, and leave out the spiritual part, and also

the body. And using mind alone, we know how they have gotten off the track until they have now rejected the truth of the Bible, the divinity of Christ, the Second Coming, and even salvation. We know they can't be right, and therefore a religion which uses mind alone and shuts out spirit and body must be wrong. The Christian Scientists have what they call a religion, which includes both the mind and the body, but which leaves out all things spiritual; in the sense that a Christian understands the spiritual. They perform healing, and no doubt are often successful -- but they place all their faith in man, and man's mind, and man's power, and depend upon themselves and their own minds, instead of upon God. Therefore they are wrong, and are simply anti-Christ. There are a few freak sects which seem to understand divine healing, and who, thru absolute dependence upon God, and thru unwavering faith, perform miracles of healing -- but who leave mind and, perhaps some of the things of the spirit out of it.

The religion of the early church, in apostolic times, early enough to have found a church untarnished by man's creeds and traditions, -- the church just as Jesus left it -- included all three -- and ministered to man's soul, mind, and body. Perhaps salvation and the spiritual may be the more important of the three. Mother and Mary will say so, and they may be right. But I do think, more and more, that the body and the mind should be included. By that, I mean simply this: that the mind should be used to study, think, search, and gain understanding -- and that religion should minister to the body in a health sense, and that instead of depending on doctors and drugs, we should place our faith in a higher power. However, I personally am just beginning to get new light upon this, and I don't understand it all thoroughly enough as yet to say that I am thru with doctors and drugs and medicines entirely. I think we should use common sense, too, and unless, and until, we have gained sufficient knowledge and understanding of God's message upon divine healing (we'll find it all in the Bible, only we just never saw it there before) to be able to practise it and depend upon it, it is common sense to depend to some extent upon the doctor. But I can tell you that I'm going to depend less and less upon doctors. You know, folks, there isn't a single church on earth today that preaches, practises, and believes just as the very early apostolic churches, of the same generation that Christ died, ~~are~~, so far as I know. They had the pure religion, direct from Christ. We've gotten ours from a long line of human handing down, during which it has been changed, distorted, perverted. There's too much tradition in ours, today. Most all churches have parts of the original truth -- but none of them have it all, complete, and untarnished by tradition. Why can't we look to the Bible alone as our guide and authority, and where we find these traditions of our churches at variance with the simple, obvious meaning of the Bible, take the Bible instead of ~~TAVER~~

HWA on
healing,
doctors, +
drugs.

No CoG,
7TH DAY

trying to twist the Bible meaning to fit our church
~~xxxx~~ tradition?

I, for one, ~~xxxx~~ intend doing that. One place where
our church traditions have led us all on the wrong path
is on this Sabbath question. I'm writing a paper on
that now, which I am sure will make it very plain to
anyone who will read it. None of these booklets or
tracts I have found have covered and presented the
whole case in a really convincing manner. That's why
I'm writing one, and I hope to be able to present the
true facts of the case in such a clear manner that
there will be no shadow of doubt left in anyone's mind
who reads it. When I'm thru, I want you folks to all
read it, if you will. I don't ask you to agree. You
shouldn't start keeping Saturday unless, and until,
you feel absolutely sure and certain that it is right
and Sunday wrong. All I ask is that you read, and
consider, without prejudice -- and that in reading
the facts I have gathered together, you try to decide
the way you think God would have you decide, rather
than the way you WANT to decide. And someday you'll
all realize why I'm going into these things -- and that
it is not just to be arguing. Perhaps I've been that
way too much, but that's not my purpose now.

Have found n
facts on this
since I was th
which simply
no further
for doubt

Well, I hope Mary is all well again now, and especially
that her tonsillitis does not develop into quincy. Let
me know how she is. The main thing is to be careful,
the first four or five days after she has apparently
recovered from tonsillitis. She mustn't try to exert
herself too much or too soon, but take it easy.

Don't know when I will be down, but likely any time.
I have the booklet on the press -- that is, the
artist is drawing the illustrations, and it will
be on the press later this week. If we can finance it,
Walt and I will be ready to start to California next
Sunday. I don't see how in the world, now, I can
finance it. But if I can find a way, I am sure this
trip will put me on my feet. From now on I make \$20
or more on every order I get for booklets.

Love to all,