

## Chas letter from Bull Harbour Dec 1924

Editor's notes added in [ ]

Happy New Year everybody \_ C.

B Hbr Decr 27/24

Dear Folks

As the mail man has not been able to get out since he brought our mail in a week ago, I have not been able to get your letter away so am writing another, the other one being out of date now.

Had a most enjoyable Xmas as we all went up to Tee's that is Mr & Mrs Harris & Kiddie, Fred & self. Fred came off at 6 PM & I was to go on at 6 & come off at 11. Harris was to go on at 11 & come off at 6 AM. We had dinner at 5:20 Fred leaving the office at 5:15 unattended for the first time since last Xmas. We had a very fine dinner consisting of soup, Turkey, Spuds (2 kinds), Yorkshire pud, canned corn, scads of gravy (listen to Sa [his sister Maude] saying, Oh Boy! etc.), apple sauce, then Xmas pudding & mince pie & then fruit cake (very nice but not as nice as yours, Mum) then Champaign, cigars & cigs & coffee also whiskey for anybody that wanted it. I had to go over to the office at 6:30 & see how things were going & came back again in ½ hr just in time to get in on the Hard stuff as Walter Ozard calls it. I had about 15 Xmas messages to get rid of to the South, but as every body was so oiled up I couldn't get rid of them so let them go till 8:30. When I came back to the office agn I was so full that I could hardly start up the engine but managed it after 4 tries. I left the office about every half hour & went over to the house where we danced to the Radio & then would have to leave again in abt 15 or 20 mins. We kept this up till 2 AM. I came off at 11 & Harris took over so I was free then till 6 AM when I came on till 8 AM, then off till 6 when I didn't have to go on again till 11 the next night which is tonite.

Those parcels which you sent me are the clear thing & I want to thank you all very very much for them. The wine was much enjoyed & HD (Tee) got woozey on two glasses the other day & had to be led home by yrs truly, as he is a small man abt Mick's build I carried him the last half. So you see it is very potent. The candy, etc., is just the thing & I have a wad of it by me on watch at the office it will last a long time & is very nice. The Radio mag is also much appreciated & we will all get a lot of pleasure out of it you may be sure. Many thanks again.

Got your msg at 12:30 when I went up to relieve HD for lunch. It was very nice to think that you remembered me up here & hope you got mine OK which I sent at 2:30 AM Xmas day.

Am enclosing your Xmas cheque which trust will be enough for you all. It includes freight chgs & price of Ass's [his sister Lorna aged 4+] photos which I trust will be in this mail. Yes by all means send a picture to Uncle G [?] and anybody else whom you think would appreciate one. I am dying to see what it is like as am sure Ass has grown like every thing since I last saw her. You can divide the cheque up as you see fit & get the things which you each want most. One thing I would do & that is get a good frame for Ass's picture.

We are now resting up for New Years day as we are to go to Harris's that day. I am lucky enough to be on at 11 PM that night so have all day & the evening off which is very fine indeed. Suppose you will be having a fandango up at the Hall [at Gordon Head] New Years or will you go to town on that day & blow your cheque. If possible that is what I would do. All of you, Ass included, go in to dinner somewhere & take in a show & have a good time. You will have to do my share as we are a long walk from the "madding crowd" up here.

Yes I sent Mrs MacNab a box of chocs & wrote them an Xmas letter last mail & I am sure they would much appreciate the mags as I do, I can tell you.

Hope the Mick lands his LH job OK. Give him my 73s also any other enquiring friends, am writing Doc White & Mrs this mail to thank them for mags & wish them a Happy New Yr.

Must close now & write to Skipper. Write me all about the Xmas you had & give me all the news going.

Lovingly Chas

**Chas letter from Bull Harbour 1925**

[stamped] BULL HARBOUR

Feb 26 1925

Dear Folks

It is blowing like heck here now so guess not much chance of getting our mail either in or out. However am writing this on the off chance of getting it off.

Am writing Moose [his cousin Mary Estlin] this mail but guess you will have her address anyway. Suppose the people at the house will be out there quite a lot now she is there. Oh, I've got them weighed up alright.

The bay is full of Halibut boats tonight, there must be close to 25 of them all as big again as Uncle George's boat or the "Arc" (Frank Jones's boat). We have Halibut and Salmon showered on us all the time & very nice it is too.

Sitting here I have 3 big boats tell me they are going to take shelter in Safety Cove - a good hole-in-the-wall about 50 miles north of us, so it must be blowing hard out in Queen Charlotte Sound.

We shall be having our construction foreman & some painters up here this boat to do some interior & exterior painting. So it will brighten things up a bit to see some new faces for a change.

Why don't you get Uncle Ferd to take one of you up here for a week or so. We have one spare room & a very fine couch up here. The S/S Camosun leaves Vancr Thursdays & gets up here about 2am Saturday. She comes up the inside passage so it would not be rough, & they treat you fine on the Union boats. When you are leaving better wire me from there & will tell you what we need, it will be a good chance to get some things up. Sorry there will only be room for two as our place is not as big as it could but the rooms are of a fair size & quite comfy.

Must drop the anchor for now. Love to all. Write Soon.

Affectly, Chas