

Rotama.

16<sup>th</sup> April.

Dear Albert,

Don't receive too great a shock when you open your mail this time; but really the whole of the young family have got a conscience & even Rex is putting in a note.

Well, Albert things are much the same over here as when you left, the only difference is in the rationing so we can't really growl. It seems years & years since you went, but I really believe it will not be long before you are on your way home again for that real (stun up) we promised on your arrival home, believe me we will have sore heads for days afterwards.

The stags have just about stopped roasting again for another year & I only got one, but it wasn't bad a ten pointer with big timber & a 36 inch spread. One of the

Rendals from Manawake shot a  
21 pointer up there last week so you  
can see that there are one or two  
good heads around.

We still catch a pig or two around  
they are still quite thick down home.  
I have just got another dog. You  
could hardly tell the difference between  
him & old bully. Poor old Snub is  
getting quite old & stiff now so I  
think he will have to be pensioned  
off soon.

I nearly forgot to tell you that  
Archie Lehana was knocked over  
by a stag the other day, he was  
very lucky that he was not seriously  
hurt, The only injury he received was  
a gash in the head where one of the  
stag's antlers hit him.

Bill Samuels has been back in  
N.Z for quite awhile now but we  
have not seen much of him. I don't  
think Bill will settle down to work

again as he seems quite a different chap since he came home again.

Jack Clarke has just built a house in Patorua & shifted in as he cannot work since he came home.

Harry Woollett & I are about the only old hands here now & the chaps that come only stay a short time & move off again. They all seem a fairly shifty lot & don't like work at all. They are nothing like the old crowd.

Well Wabs you have done quite a lot of travelling around; but I'll bet old 13 will still look good to you when you finish your last trip across the briny.

Will you tell Bert I will be writing to him within the next few days, as news has run out I will have to close now

Your sincere  
Brother-in-law  
Cecil.

to Sunncliffe & Co.

P.B. Rotorua

Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup>

Our dearest old Wats,

This is Sunday  
evening, there is knitting to be done  
ironing, spin the basket, washing day  
tomorrow. I have just got rid of  
weekend visitors, but I am going  
to write to you or bust. Cecil is  
stricken with a conscience too and  
he is going to put a note in too.  
I have had a letter from you  
Albert and two airgraphs all stirring  
me up for not writing. You are  
right Wats, my correspondence is  
stinking, but I have written since  
xmas sending you photos of the  
kids and I don't think you can  
have received it. I wrote just before  
we had word you had moved  
from Algiers. I addressed it to B.N.A.F.  
but as you have had parcels from  
Sunnies it should have

by now. In fact I got an air graph  
from you yesterday and I was  
hoping it was to say you had  
received the snaps, but no. it was  
another stir-rup. Never mind Wabs  
here is a letter, and I will make  
sure I write more often in future.

The snaps I sent are beautiful ones  
of the kiddies taken round about xmas  
so they look much as the kiddies  
are now. Films are frightfully scarce  
now otherwise I would send more  
to you, Albert as I know how exciting  
it must be receiving them.

You said in your airgraph "no  
increases?" No! P!! Wabs, not any  
more ever, I hope although, just  
about every body else is. I told you  
in my letter that Theobalds, Rob Fenton's  
J. Loane, (a son) Rogers (a son) & Mrs. Cliff were expecting  
now Mrs. Dipper is added to the list so,  
as Liddy said, ~~if~~ To escape this lot  
I will pass the test.

Well, Wabs, Keith Junnie. says

The two mills are nearly cut out. They are too, although I wouldn't be surprised to see them here for a while yet, as the timber shortage in the N. Island is critical.

We went to town the other day and Cecil went to old Matt Henderson's funeral. It was a huge funeral as one would expect. Well Albert I am scratching for news, as anything I put here is so stale by the time it reaches you. I only hope you get those damned photos.

Rex is sitting here laboriously writing to Uncle Albert too. I have just thought wats, I suppose by the time you get this column will have related to you the Claude episode as it is news just now. Don't crack your old sides, because I nearly did. The joke sure was on Ivan, but he soon turned it on old Claude; so, he is just a common B after all.

You asked me in your air —

graph how your little man was.  
Well, he is the hardest citizen I've  
seen for a long time his as tough  
they make them. Shirley is still  
a little cat but then aren't all women  
cats? Rex is a big boy now and  
they all have still got their white  
hair.

I see now, Rex has finished his  
letter and Cecil has started his,  
just as laboriously too.

Well, Albert: I will close now as  
I will be writing again soon so  
anything I have left out I will put  
in my next letter.

x x Love from x x  
x x E. Nelson Bee & Kids x x  
x x x x x x  
x x

Sunday April 16.

Dear uncle Albert,

I hope you are getting <sup>very good</sup> on in Italy. I am in Standard two this year. Albert is always taking things of the table at home. Shirley has new pjsmes.

Mother made them of course. Dad has got a <sup>new</sup> dog at home.

How do you like the DT at Mammas. Do you no they have cut down your <sup>big</sup> white-pine in that. I have closed my letter

FROM

REX.