27 Cheltenham Rd

Cheltenham

14-8-45

Dear Rall

Very sorry to have kept you waiting so long in answer to your letter but the fact is I’ve had a very poor 3 months of it, not fit for writing, the bit of a knock seems to have woke me up to the poor mess I’ve made of my life and the family. Mum and Fay are having a miserable time of it through me, that’s what hurts most, its all hard for everybody, I must fight against it. Well how are you getting on The great news we are receiving about the end of the war, is wonderful. I suppose it won’t be long before you and John will be home. Garth is out of the army, but is undecided what to do, seems to be in a desperate hurry to get married without first securing a living, went out to the block for a week but came home, said he couldn’t stick it out, had a look at the property out at Gawler, 10 acres , a stone house, a windmill for £1150. I’m afraid that wouldn’t be enough to get much of a living, then next day thinks he will give the Meadows a go if I will let him have half the Block. It seems a problem what to do. Stan is just as big a problem, has a girl, seems a fair sort, but he has no prospects of wanting to do anything, won’t work indoors , so he says. I believe he has a liking to go on the land, but I doubt if two can live on the Meadows Block which is again my fault. I never managed it right.

Owen is with us every night, at Wayville all day, his discharge is going through in a few days. I think he is taking on a cooks job at Barmera Hotel and getting married shortly, good luck to him, he is certainly a trier. I think he will get a pension too. Garth tried but never got it. We had a letter from John, he is O.K.

Well Rall news is scarce, we are having fine weather but could do with more rain. Win and Alan were down here on Sunday afternoon, he is growing a nice sturdy little chap. Basil was down on Monday, left little Ken with us, he is a live wire. So far nothing has happened out there to increase the family. Well Rall I must close this scribble with love from all at home

Dad