

Seeman School  
El Monte, Cal  
Jan 8, 1944

Dear Nannie -

Thank you for yours of Monday after Christmas. The bird on the "gadget" - a pheonix - not a peacocks - did, as well as I can remember, distinctly have a head on itself. You had better examine it closely to see if it appears broken off and if so, and it is not too late, be looking around for the missing part. Butterfly Table sounds consistent with such a frivolity.

The photos of our Christmas play were quite good but we feel that we can get better so we are having the photographer out again next Thursday just for that purpose alone. I'll certainly send you prints.

The photo on the Xmas card was taken last year just before I was inducted. They tell me I look just the same now which may be undiluted flattery.

At this moment my muscle do ache at odd points. For one reason; we went to a horse auction again last Wednesday, four of us, and we all picked our favorites but for one reason or another we purchased none. The day was ending everyone was feeling cold and tired, and wanted to go home, except me. I refused to leave without a horse. Just then I spotted one - a <sup>small</sup> ~~small~~ mare, cavalry type, which looked as meek as the lady who was riding it, said it was. Mrs S. bought it for \$75 just as a plug for the boys. When we got it

home we found it was full of pep, with a stylish  
gait, and a proud tail and neck. It is too frisky  
for Mrs S. and much more so for the boys. Our  
utility man says she is a wonderful buy. But none  
on the premises are interested in riding her but  
me. As yet I'm the only one who has let her  
stretch out, (which is just a bit faster than the  
eye can see) So her name has been changed  
from Babe to Handforth's Hunch.

Another reason for sore muscles is that I gave  
a Grace Christie rhythm lesson to a couple of the  
ladies. and I had not done any of the exercises  
since Wilmington days. However Mrs S. now cannot  
even straighten her arms out.

New Years night I stayed in town and the next  
day, a bright clear warm one, Daisy Brown took  
Richard Bennett and myself on a long drive way  
up into the narrow mountain ravines of Little  
Tajunga Canyon. extremely wild and rugged  
country yet such a short distance from the  
suburban area. These sunny days are too  
grand to describe. Outside my window they are  
plowing today with the horse-bigger-than-an  
elephant.. several acres to be planted in alfalfa.  
The snow on the mountains behind make them  
appear much higher and of greater depth than  
they do in the haze of Summer.

I've not yet written up my family tree. First  
because I can't answer the questions and second  
I don't know if an affidavit has to be signed  
by a Notary Public. Guess I'll just have to do  
my

Edmund writes that he will be sending a \$2500 Bond every  
three months. He thinks he owes me some money, and if he doesn't  
he wants it kept for him anyway. Does it fill the box for full?