

Seeman School
El Monte
March 27, 1944

Dear Nanny -

It was good to get a letter from you. I've been in the doldrums and not writing to anyone. My promptness in replying this time is due partly, I'll have to confess, to your listing of war bonds received from me. The list does not include the two \$25⁰⁰ bonds enclosed in that long ago last letter of mine on Feb. 17th. The letter was registered and the bonds were dated Sept 1943 and Oct 1943. I suspect it is just an oversight on your part not to have mentioned them - or could I have put them in another registered letter which I sent out on the same day? Please reduce my worry and let me know at once. Fortunately I still have the registration receipt. As yet I know nothing about the one \$25⁰⁰ bond dated ~~Feb. 1944~~ Feb. 1944. Edmund must have sent it, but he has not mentioned it to me. He finished his 18 weeks basic the first week in Feb. when most of his outfit was sent overseas. He was transferred to Clerical for eight weeks training, and has been more busy than ever and I have heard little from him since that time. This phase is now coming to an end and he may go to an overseas replacement center or be held again for a period at Fort Knox in Special Services as a teacher of illiterate negroes!

My resignation from the Seeman School was announced for March 25th, but here I am

and will be staying on a little while longer. I am supposed to be going to New York, tho I'm not certain exactly what for. Being completely vague about all this during the past few weeks was another discouragement to writing letters. However I may be with you in time to see the full bursting of Spring as last year.

Yes we certainly were drenched by the rains. Our big back lawn was a lake, the streets on either side like mountain rivers, our furnace basement flooded and the furnace out. We were kept busy wading about digging new ditches, repairing old ones, baling out the basement. I acquired a head cold which settled in my ears and my hearing was 75% impaired for three weeks and still isn't normal. The doctor prescribed sulfathiazole (used for every ailment these days) and continuous use of nose drops.

We had a case of scarlet fever early in Jan. with quarantine. The boy returned to the school March 10th. On March 16th we had another case and a third on March 17th and still one more March 24th. The staff are taking small doses of sulfadiazine as a preventative tho I haven't bothered this time. Our one lady teacher resorted to serum injection. Several years ago there was a very bad epidemic in the school.

The help problems here is as difficult as ever. No one yet to take my place or Richard Bennetts. Our #1 housemother leaves tomorrow

for Nebraska on account of illness of her mother. The veteran aged housemother has been away for two weeks because of high blood pressure and is now just dragging about. They fall off the steps and break their legs, the females gossip about either other, the males just get mad at each other and leave in fits of temperment and so on, and as unsatisfactory as they are there's no one to replace them. I'm beginning to believe that the unstable artist is the most reliable of the species! But even I have had enough.

The photo of Lady on Horseback was not for the rider, Mrs. Seeman, which I did not think would interest you especially, but for Babe the sorrel mare which is my horse as I am the only one who rides here, as she has too much vim and vigor for anyone else. A week ago Sunday afternoon Mrs S and I drove down to the beach cottage at Laguna (excuse - to draw a blind to keep a curtain from fading) We went on the San Juan Capistrano Mission and were there between 5 and 6 o'clock. The next day we read in the newspapers that the swallows' annual return occurred at 6.30 P.M. just a half hour after we had been there! It truly was the announcement of Spring as it has been as warm as Summer ever since.

With your news of so much of the family being in Mexico I begin to wonder why I am not there myself, or going to the Northwest or any where but at this not unpleasant but too long

prolonged stop-gaps. tho I don't know how it would affect my conscience with everyone else being so war-busy. If only everyone would insist upon being lazy there couldn't be any wars!

Our moronic "art" was sent off so recently to New York that I've not yet had any reports as to its reception by the esthetic elite. Now I am not attempting to keep up our high standard and most of our boys slump back into primary school quality.

Our dozens of camellia bushes are blooming profusely, the roses, of which there are many fine varieties are flowering again. We have three acres of alfalfa, planted only a month ago, and the fruit trees blossoming period almost over. The mountains have had more snow than for many a year but it is rapidly disappearing from all but the peaks, and some of the boys after years of intensive study are leaving to spell MOTHER!

Here's hoping you're having a high old time on your two weeks vacation!

Love

Tom

Please reply about the two bonds!