

June 12, 44

8477 Val Verde Drive
Canoga Park Calif.

Dear Annie

In reply to yours of Friday the 9th:

If its oceans yours interested in - the Truth must some time be told: that the Pacific is not fit to bathe in north of Santa Barbara. You will just have to use your imagination if you expect to enjoy salt water at San Francisco, & Carmel, or even Avila. That is, you can get used to its cold these months of discipline.

If you came this way first and if I were still here, I might get Mrs Seeman to take you for a night to her cottage at South Laguna. It's not on the beach, but ^{but in walking distance} at least she would have the gas to drive you around. I don't know, I am sorry, about hotels. I've stayed only in cabin camps at Laguna. A hotel directory would help you. There is one a hotel right near the center almost on the beach which should be all right.

Santa Barbara is probably your best bet. The beach is very agreeable and water warm. The town is pleasant - the expensive places like Miramar, Biltmore etc must be listed. My friend's house (George Porter, 103 East Mission Rd.) is very comfortable and practically empty now.

He isn't interested in tourists but might make an exception. He isn't well and at present can't sew meals (except for your convenience) and the house is in town but in case you don't make reservations, it seems to me it would be a very pleasant introduction to the city. It is like going into a very attractive private home. If you could get gas tickets - you might be able to hire

a car. In any case a taxi to and from the beach probably wouldnt break your pocket book. And you will want to dine around in various places. It isn't country - but life in Carmel is hardly country any more either.

I suppose the "desert" that Stan is going to is near Yakima Wash. I was in a taxi with a man the other day who had just come from there (temperature 110°) via Moses Dupont in Wilmington. I forgot to ask his name!

Therefore if you plan on Victoria you should do California first.

This region is really lovely. Yesterday we went to another dog show at Thousand Oaks out on the Ventura Highway. - a handsome grove of great old oaks and the wonderful hills, and a little brook! We motored on to Hidden Valley and Freeman Lake. The lake looked a bit marshy even among its rocky peaks, but people were swimming, speed boating etc. It was a great surprise to me, as water is rare.

Our art exhibition is fixed for some time after Sept 1st so it's probable I would go on to N.Y. from Puget Sound if I do get North.

I went off half cocked with the Foreign Policy booklet, before without waiting for detailed instructions. Now all five done so far is waste. Haste makes labor lost.

Thanks so much for sending the prints to Canada.

Hope you made some kind of list.
Yours
Stan