

January 20, 1943

Dear Betty,

Just finished writing a letter, a long intended letter, to Betty Gibbons (Thatcher) and decided I'd better write to you tonight, too, before the days slipped by. Certainly was happy to hear from you again. — began to wonder if you were too busy to drop a line since you've been promoted. I did check up to see if I owed you a letter, but it happened to be your turn.

Miss Flint sent a very interesting letter to Honey and greetings to me at Christmas time. I really should write to her and some of the grand teachers we had at G. J. C., but somehow, can't seem to make myself do it.

Has Janinette and Harriette Utley told you of their engagements? We received an announcement of the great event a few weeks ago. Janette's fellow is in Alaska and Harriette's in Puerto Rico.

Cut out a clipping from this morning's "Times" about the execution of Lorena Hammors murderer. Certainly makes me sick to think of Lorena meeting such a terrible death. Never would have imagined that she would live such a short life when she possessed so much vitality and personality. Whatever happened to Tom First?

You asked me about our climate — Boy, it's freezing! Today, it ~~from~~ actually hailed! The skies were all cloudy which is a sure sign that it is snowing. Hate to think of how cold it'll be tomorrow when the north wind sweeps down on us bringing the biting snow air. Yesterday and the day before, the

temperature took a new low of 10° and 18°. But, I hear and read that it's mighty cold in Glendale and all parts of the U.S. This year is going to be plenty hard in more ways than one.

Every afternoon I have the pleasure (?) of teaching a class of about 15 kindergartners. Yes, they're teaching me a lot of things. We're supposed to try to emphasize the home, but it's rather an idealistic thing to talk about here in Manzanar where we have to live in a little 24' x 4' ~~all~~ with ^{separately} attempt ~~at~~ of a living room, kitchenette, bedroom, and what have you. ~~How~~ I think I shall attempt to make a model doll house so the poor kiddies will at least get a picture of what a home is supposed to look like. Any suggestions?

To date, I can play "Because," "Danny Boy," "Ave Maria," "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes," "Sleepy Lagoon," "Song of the Islands," "Song of Songs," "Missouri Waltz," "At Dawning," plus a few others on my own sax. Tomorrow night, I make a personal public appearance with my sax for the P.I.A. party. Hope they all survive the torture their in for.

When I graduated J.C., I never expected to have to open another text book and take any more tests, but seems as though things have changed. I am now taking psych. 1A, and shorthand and attending wood carving classes taught by Dr. Carter, Kimi Nagatani, and Mr. Bouché, U.C.L.A. respectively. It's fun when you know you don't have to.

Signing off now. Have to get those 10 hours of slumber on my straw-filled mattress.

Always,
Mimi

8/20/43

29-6-4
Mangana, Calif.



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