

Single, Idaho.
Oct. 4, 1944.

Dear Mother Team,

We have been thinking of you so much and I have wanted to write ever and ever so long ago. Whenever we see any one of the others we always ask how you and the others all are and try in that way to keep "tab" a little. I was greatly surprised to learn from Manie today of Ida's illness. We certainly do hope that she will soon be well, also that she will be careful for some time at least.

How have you been since returning to Long Beach? We hope your eyes are getting better as time goes on. We did so enjoy having you here this summer and are looking forward to next summer.

Mother thoroughly enjoyed visiting with you, too, and I do think it was ever so nice that she could visit with you and Ida. Mother has asked me to send you her greetings and best wishes. Mother seems to be a bit the same. The M.D. says she is much too thin. I had hoped she would pick up, but food has not been too appealing during the hot weather I suppose. I am hoping she will eat more from now on and assimilate food better.

Fall is here with all its lovely coloring. The landscape is truly beautiful with its rich shades of bright yellow, orange, red and green. The heavy frosts have taken most flowers and the daily afternoon winds are setting the leaves to dancing more and more. Ida still has some fine sweet peas tho' not nearly so many or stems so long as all during August and September. Then I would bring

in enough for 2 and 3 big baskets as well as a charming table bouquet. The sweet peas have been truly beautiful and so fragrant and large. The pansies have been doing well for young plants. The blossoms are large, sturdy and attractive as well as producing quite a few regularly. When the poppies are mowed, I'll finish planting their bed. We did have a lot of calliopsis which planted itself all around the edge of the pansy bed.

Rodney is still combining. He should finish out on the Flats this week and then do the oats here next week. The grain was nipped by the frost as well as affected by the long dry spell. It will be a relief when it is all safely harvested.

Our turkey hens should have gone to market last week, but the dressing plants could not get help to run, so were still waiting & wishing. The hens are laying and traveling all over the country, so much so that the toms are not doing as well as they really should. Labor is truly a problem.

The children are enjoying school. High school is a pleasant change for Denise. The only drawback is they have no gymnasium and no place to hold school entertainments. They have had to use the tennis court and that gets too cold as the season advances. The old gym has been condemned and is to be torn down. School in Dingle is much better this year since the county superintendent is principal. They have supervised play, more subjects, new books and half an hour longer school. Joan is as busy and active as ever & wishes she could go to school. She still goes to sleep with a book & wakes up to look at one the very first thing. The Baby is getting stronger daily. She stands in her carriage and high chair & keeps the reins taught practically all the time.

The makes sounds and imitations as the chicks talk. The laughs and smile & let the people almost 14 pounds now at 6 months. How all the boys & Mary's. I'd splashed they can do with you. Say 'Hello' for me as all. Love of love from all of us. Thomas

Ans Oct 10 - 44c



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