

Dingle Idaho
Jan. 9, 1934,

Dear Mother & Dad,

I always enjoy getting letters, but it is hard for me to get around to answering them.

Thanks Mother, for your picture, it was the nicest present you could have sent. Norma and the children went to Salt Lake for Christmas and haven't gotten back, so they will have to open their presents when they come. It was surely too bad that you folks did not get to eat the turkey I sent you for Christmas. I never received your letter asking for one to be sent to feed the Dr. until after I had sent the one for your Christmas, I never thought for a single minute but what the one would be sufficient.

The turkey business is not so hot. The margin between the price of feed and the price of turkey has been less this year than last year. The bird I sent you would have only brought me $11\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb.

The weather has been so warm all fall, that the disease I have in the Turkeys has continued to take an average of about a bird a day, until three days ago when cold weather set in and froze things up. The

large high priced tom I had in the lot died with it, also the best one of my yearling toms. It has been impossible to get my turkeys fat under the conditions. They seem to eat just enough to live and grow old. There will be about 200 that I will have to feed for at least another month; so that cuts me out of a trip this year. Under the conditions I really could not afford it anyway. It has taken several hundred bushels of grain more than I figured to bring my birds to market. For the time I have feed them they should weigh between 3 and 4 pounds more to the bird, on an average, than what they do. The only cheerful thing in the business is the price is getting better. At Christmas time I only killed what I had to to meet bills. I had the market figured about the way it has actually gone. On the 11th I will start the big slaughter. On the 19th I expect to market about 900. I will probably kill and pick them, having about four fellows follow and pick out the pins.

This winter so far has surely been a freak, for two weeks or more, prior to this cold snap, it seldom fell below freezing. For a night after night it would not freeze a room over water standing on the ground. If it had have kept up much longer my turkeys would have all been

laying ~~dead~~ eggs or lying dead.

I would have liked very much to have paid you folks a visit, also to have shown of my two kiddies. The boy is surely making rappid progress. at 9 mo. he moved chairs around and climbed upon them to get what he wanted. He can stand alone and walk by holding ^{to} thing. He can also navigate the stairs by himself. He also shows a decided tendency for mechanical things; and is a nuisance in general. He can say a few words, but would rather holler. at first it looked as though he was going to black hair, then later it favored the red; but now it looks as though will be blond like Denise.

When it comes to Denise I would match her with any of them. She is getting to be a bigger tease than ever. Before she went salt lake it got so I could never go out side without finding at least half of my clothes had been hidden away in one or more places.

It surely was nice of Douglas and Milton to surprise you on your birthday - mother! I wish I could have been there too. I hope that both of you can come to Bear Lake next summer.

It is past 1:00 a.m. so must say good night.

From your loving son - Rodney

Iron Rodney



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