

April 23, 1945.

Dear Kazuo:

I should have written long ago to find out how you were, but I have not been so well myself and just couldn't seem to sit down to write. I have spent quite a bit of the past three weeks lying on the couch and in the doctor's office. Since last Thursday I have been going to Santa Rosa to have x-rays taken. Had my gall bladder x-rayed three times, but it didn't show up well in any of them so they decided it isn't working. Today I went for stomach pictures and tomorrow I go for the last one of those. After all that they might come to some decision as to why I feel so rotten. I haven't had much but fruit juices for weeks and when I do eat a meal now I don't feel too good. I had an attack of yellow jaundice about ten days ago and that indicated gall bladder trouble so the reason for the x-rays. So much for my troubles. Now, how are you getting along? I haven't had word from Susie since she wrote about your Grandad receiving the money. At that time she told me you were still under the tent and about out of danger, but still very sick. If everything went along the right way you should be up and around by now, but I imagine very weak. You will have to be very cautious for a long time, especially about colds. When you get a cold and run a temperature, don't take any chances - have your chest checked by a doctor.

I am not sure if I understood it right or not, but from Susie's letter I gathered that you had taken release from the camp and could not go back now. In that case, if you are not able to work, what are you going to do about finding a place to stay? The whole thing has me puzzled, although I am sure you will work out something.

Had a nice letter from Ted in Italy and a picture of himself. He looks so much stouter than when he left here and I think, a little older than necessary. I notice that about all the boys - they aged very fast. Guess I would too, if I saw what they are going through.

I went up to the ranch last week hoping to get a good picture of the trees in bloom, but I was just a little too late. The time before I was too early, then I came down with that darned sickness and didn't leave the house for days so I lost out. I took a couple of snaps of the orchard anyway and when I have the pack finished and developed I will send one if it turns out O.K. Sam was down Friday morning and said they were starting the calyx spray, then Nick came down Saturday looking for Joe to fix the outfit. I was at the doctor's and Joe couldn't leave our outfit right at the minute so he told him he would run up during the noon hour, but at noon they called up and said they found the trouble...the screen was clogged with sulphur and muck and they couldn't get anything through it. I get a kick out of them around the equipment, they just don't know beans. Even Sam who has been around it so many years doesn't know what to touch. They have the place looking fine - had it cultivated one way when I was there last week. It was too early for me to tell just how they were going to set, but I imagine there will be a heavy set there due to your pollenizers. Here we have nothing excepting where there is a pollenizer and I notice the same is true in other orchards around here. We had such heavy frost and north wind for a whole week just when they were setting and it ruined them. Where they were farther ahead on account of the mixed pollen they were not harmed and those apples are the size of large peas right now. The late stuff looks heavy, but it missed the cold spell, too. Joe is finishing the calyx spray tomorrow and then has all the harrowing to do. The ground is terribly dry now. Tonight we are having a terrible spell of North wind and it is awfully hot. We have had hot weather for two days, for that matter, but it is really uncomfortable tonight in the house and that wind is just shaking the whole building. We think it might blow up a rain which wouldn't be so bad right now..it would put the ground in

shape for decent cultivation.

Today when I got through at the lab I went to Geary's and gave him the dope on the money I sent so he could get a court order for me to draw it out of the account. When I sent it I didn't want to take the time to run over there and wait for a court order, etc. so I told him I would send it along and then when I had time I would have him fix up the papers necessary for me to draw the amount. I will not have to appear or anything, they will send me the papers to sign and then when that is filed I will receive the order to draw the check. It is all kind of a nuisance, but the law is law and even if it is inconvenient at times, it is for the best in the long run. I hope you were able to take care of the expenses, if not, don't hesitate to let me know and we'll fix it up for some more. I am only sorry that you had to go on your own for this, but guess it couldn't be helped - those things are not foreseen and have to be taken in their stride.

Well, my eyes and head ache and I suppose I have been at this a little too long. Oh yes, I almost forgot to mention it. Both Mrs. Covey and Mrs. Norton stopped me the other day and wanted to know how all you people were and what the plans were. Well, Mrs. Norton didn't inquire as to that so much, but Mrs. Covey wanted to know if you were coming back ~~right~~ right away. She was very nice about it...said she felt ashamed that she had never answered somebody's letter (I didn't get just who), but that she had been very busy and as time went by she just let it slide. When I told her you were in the hospital she wanted your address, but I didn't have any and didn't even ~~of~~ have your grandmother's Denver address so she said she would try to send a card to your old address at the camp and that perhaps someone would get it to you. Mrs. Norton felt very bad about your illness and said she would write you. She has always been so sweet about all this - she and I get together and have regular pow-wows about it. We at least get all of the bad stuff off of our chests, but we always wind up with the same old story - that we have to be so careful who we talk with. Isn't this a crazy world? And yet that is the truth - we don't dare cross some of thesegnat brains for fear they will do something rash.

After looking at this last paragraph I know I must quit and get to bed. I have to be in Santa Rosa before nine tomorrow morning and by the time I get the kids off to school, take ~~of~~ care of a lot of milk, etc. I will have to get up early in order to make it in time.

When you feel strong enough please let me hear how you are getting along and do take care of yourself.

Best wishes from Joe and myself,

As ever

Les Perry