

Sebastopol, Calif.

Tuesday night

SUMMER '42
~~22nd~~ AUGUST

Dear Kaz:

PROBLEMS
AS
HOME I have business to discuss with you so am writing the one and only letter to you - you can tell the Itos what is of interest to them, please. There just aren't enough hours in one day to crowd everything in and this business of going to bed after 12 every night just about has Joe and I both down. In fact, Monday morning we went to bed at 3 for a change. We washed trays and sorted rotten apples until 2:30 - some fun, huh? Well, things turned out like this for us during the last two weeks. The Indian crew quit on the 22nd and went to the hop fields. Our dryer was pretty filled up with stuff from around here and some gravensteins from up above. We just didn't know what to do - tried to sell some to other dryers, but they were all full so then we proceeded to get together a makeshift crew to run out what we had on hand. Lloyd and Bob were on their trip so we couldn't plan on having them for some days, but we went to see Lloyd's Dad and Mother and they agreed to help us out. Then we went to see another neighbor who used to spread apples years ago and he said he would help us out so by the 27th we got started with two peelers and Lloyd's Mother and sister and I as spreaders. Lloyd's Dad and the fellow who was supposed to spread did the peeling. Well, you can imagine what it was like - at that, we beat the Indian crew and the apples were so rotten we couldn't do anything even if we were crackerjacks. The boys got back here from their trip Thursday after midnight and they started here Friday morning. Now we have three peelers going and haven't caught up with the stuff yet because everybody shook their trees around here and the folks up above sent down 272 sacks Sunday so by the time we catch up with gravensteins we will have to start on Jonathans and Greenings that we have in already and all the time our Kings are hanging on the trees watercoring. Things are going along nicely, don't you think? And on top of all that, this crew is just hanging on to keep the stuff from rotting too much until we get a steady crew to go on through the late stuff. New developments have arisen, however, over the week end. Sammy was down Sunday afternoon, pretty well lit up, by the way, and he wants to bring what will remain of his crew down here to work for us by the day - he says he lost lots of money up there for Winkler drying by the ton and won't work for him any more. Anyway, Winkler told me some time ago that he couldn't give Sam over 25 tons of green stuff and wanted Sam to handle the dryer on his own hook and buy outside stuff. Sam says he has no money to do that with and so wants to give it up. Well, being he was soaked I told him I would see him tonight and in the meantime we would think it over. We thought it over very carefully and did some figuring one way and another and tonight I went up to see him and told him that if he was still decided to leave there after the grays that we would consider his proposition. Now he says that two of his crew can't decide whether or not to stay, but that he is pretty sure that the rest of them will come. Believe me, it is a nightmare one minute you think you have a crew only to find the next minute that they didn't mean what they said at all. I told both Sammy and the fellow with him Sunday that this war wouldn't last forever and that they had better watch their step because some day they might want work and people are going to remember what they did when they needed them badly. I can't understand what they think - Sam has been decent, I think, but the other crews we had lined up and half promised just didn't mean what they said at all. Now if Sam fails us I don't know what we are going to do. He talked as though he wanted to come here because maybe we could get together on a deal on your place for next season and that if he could hold a couple of the boys here they could handle the pruning there and here and most of the other work, also. It sounded good to me and I still think it sounds good because I feel that we could handle the two places beautifully, that is, if it will be possible to let him have yours on shares and then have him and the other help work here by the day when they are through there.

LABOR
PROBLEMS

At any rate he told me tonight that they will be through with the gravensteins up there next week and at that time we will know whether he means what he says or if he is like the rest of them. The last few times I talked with him with exception of tonight he was pretty full and that doesn't suit me too well, but if he tends to business and does that after work and on Sunday it will be O.K. So much for our troubles. Everything at the ranch seems to be going along nicely with exception of a hole in the dryer boiler shell. Sam told me quite a long time ago that the stuff was being dirtied with oil soot on account of a hole in the boiler and that he had told Winkler. Well, I kept waiting for Walt to say something about it, but he didn't until the other night when I was up there. Then he showed me the fruit and said that he wasn't able to make better grade on that account. I jumped all over him for not saying something about it so we could patch it and he said he didn't think it was making any difference on grades until that day when Merrill told him that he couldn't give him grade because they were too dirty with oil soot. The apples did show it immensely and I felt sorry for him, but still he should have said something about it long ago. He had Jack Tough patch it up and he told me that if it didn't work alright he would send Jack to get a patch out of our old shell as I suggested to him. Harry Silva patched his with a piece out of our old one and it is working fine. So far he hasn't come after the patch so I guess it is working better. Don't know how many grays they will end up with in the dryer, but he had 29 tons already last week when I talked with him and I imagine he will get well over 40 tons by the time he is done. I haven't been in to the bank for weeks to see Harry about the tags from the dried stuff and the green stuff for the ranch. I'm leaving up to Harry to see that it is taken care of and I know everyone is so darned busy now they haven't time to run around so it will have to go until I get in there myself one of these days. All the green was delivered to the Union and I can get the figures from there anytime I want them.

Here are the contents of a letter from Tauzer received yesterday:

The account filed by H. Ito was allowed and approved by the Court. The Court allowed us Attorney fees in the sum of \$100.00. I would thank you very much personally if you would send us a check in the sum of \$100.00 drawing same upon the account; you understand that this represents counsel fees for work performed prior to your appointment. Thanking you very kindly for your favor and trusting that all is going along well, I am

Sincerely yours,

(signed) C. J. Tauzer "

I am mailing the check tonight and I imagine the refund from the Co. will come through soon.

Tell Tsugie I got her card and if I find time I will write her before she leaves, but she had better not wait for me because if I have to go to that dryer very many more days I won't be in shape to write or do anything else. Today I just about died on my feet and right now I hardly know what I am doing - at that, it is 12:30 and I never get to bed before that, but it just about has me down. There are still prunes to pick up at her place and tonight I went to two different homes in town to try and get kids to do it but no luck. If I could get somebody to spread apples in my place then I could get out and with the kids get them picked up, but try as I would I couldn't find anyone to spread apples in my place so I have to stay there.

The boys certainly enjoyed their visit with you folks the other day and I was tickled to death that they were able to do it because it was just like visiting you personally when they got home and told about it. They thought everyone looked fine and told us how they saw everyone they ever knew and then a few extras. That reminds me that Lloyd said you were having a special souvenir issue of your little paper - I wonder if I can have one? Thanks for the ones you sent - we certainly got a kick out of reading them over.

Well, the paper is getting scarce and I am falling asleep over the machine so it is time to quit and go to bed. Say hello to everyone for us and I hope your trip will not be too much for any of you. Good luck!

As ever, Lea

FEB
FOR
COUNSEL

Lloyd
Booth