

May 16, 1939.

Dear Ken:

Time flies so fast and as I write this letter I wonder where you will be. The ever faithful U. S. mailman will bring this note to you. It's middle of May and we are still having rather cool weather but I presume around Decoration Day it will be scorching hot as per usual and keep cool to August & September then hot again. I read in today's paper where Mayor Rossi said New York Fair was the best & his home town one 2nd best & all the New Yorkers are still flabbergasted about it. I guess it may be the best but Fenwick Island has its Heronading scenery - anyhow both are worth while to see if one can get the time and the money to spare. For us we haven't yet obtain

it. I hope we will get to see the S.F. one - The
pea season was rotten as to price & didn't get the chance
to make much money as last year. Pea growers as well
as shippers didn't get a chance to make any. Top price
was 24 & couldn't get rid of it at that price. As the
climate was cool this year all the peas came out
about the same time - all the way up to Sacramento
Many places out in middle west & East came out
so that shippers from California & could not compete
with them.

I am glad that is long gone. I received one
from her day before she left, ^{the hospital} and the boy wasn't it
good to see her familiar handwriting again.
I was trying to picture it as black as I could not
knowing the real nature till the other day Kueh
send me a letter telling me it was captured for about
3 days before she even had it operated. Gosh it gave me
cold sweat just reading it - Surely there is no other
word for it! We ought to thank ^{the} lucky stars that
we weren't called home. It maybe the dog gone stubborn
of the Amot family but that is not all of it. Although
we may not see it but Lady Luck is still with us.

I am glad you have some money of your own so
that you could ease the strain of the family purse.
Although I do not know what arrangements you did
make with the family, it makes me feel very good
to know that you are going on your own hook. I wish
I could send you some help enough to help the bank
a little but such is not the case now. Anyhow whenever
you should need a little I hope we can be of use to you.

I hope the summer months will be better & there being more products to sell. It will bring up our income. Whenever you feel you need some, I hope you will be able to ask me. I can't do much but I can help little. Good thing it was in springtime & not in dry season as it would have been hard for Neil - but his credit is good, that always helps. You may laugh at this cause I do not know the real situation at home, but such is the worry of a sister.

East Bay region maybe different, as it is an industrial center as well as residential but Santa Barbara is purely residential with underlying towns citrus & beans - walnut producing - all three which has been able to raise prices for about 3 yrs now. With the added relief roll it has made this town very slow in business.

The income of working class the
lower half has not been steady. Our
crop was quite a failure - Workers
who were depending on this found
work for short time & those who
worked in packing shed had work
for about 10 days or less - when they
usually have about 6 wks. all this
counting. Being a stranger in the great
city of New York you would not know
the actual condition but how are they?

With the surplus crop, cold weather
& such it really does not worry us very
much & need of labor pay roll on Saturday
it makes us rather carefree - I guess
we are just as lucky as some others who
work hard here to worry about next
pay roll etc. By the end of this year
we will have largest part of our debts
paid & it will be little bit easier
going them. (How we intend to pay some
we haven't even bothered about).

Please don't get the wrong side - He are pretty well off in comparison to many others - Les had a chance to get a 1 1/2 ton Ford truck - 1937 model for about \$3,500 so I think he is going to get it - Our friend is going to help us finance it & we are going to buy it in his name just so that any people who wants to get nasty can't attack it - especially our former land owner - He claims we still have over 1,000 dollars left but George says twiddle dee with them when he only gave us \$100 credit for all the vegetables he cribbed away.

Gosh why should I write of such heavy matters to you who are many thousands miles away I suppose to be having a rather good time about it. We are much better off than last year at this time so please do not worry - and when you come knocking at our door next time you will find it so - of course I'm not a lucky type woman.

I hope you have found a job to your liking & fairing along very fine. and hope your health is up to par - I would like to see your snapshots sometime. Tell about mine - I'd look like better woman all right - Please take better care next time.

Goodnight loves your sister
"L"

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