

61-2-B

Revere, Arizona

January 21, 1943

Dear "Big Sis",

Surprised to hear from me? Always a reason behind it all. Before I go on I must inquire how your health has been — excellent & hope. I haven't even thanked you for the wonderful Christmas gifts, have I. Believe me, your package certainly inspired the Christmas spirit into what we thought would be a solemn, sort of empty-like Christmas. We always did draw straws to open our yearly Christmas gifts when we were back home and that is just what we did with your package — it was so gay! Thank you ever and ever so much. I got home from work Christmas morning and as soon as I got home we opened your package, then I went to sleep happy and contented.

At present I am working in the T.B. ward. The way they put it, it seems almost compulsory that we work there a month. Because so many have quit their work as nurses aide or orderlies the doctors have looked into the matter. Now they are going to take T.B. skin test and X-Ray of all nurses aide & orderlies who are to work in the T.B. ward. They plan to teach us isolation technique. We hardly know the real isolation technique and all of us have been

working in that ward. I and the rest are anxiously waiting for all their plans to be put into action. I certainly miss the general ward where we had variety and action. The T.B. ward is only routine & so monotonous. Mother has been trying to make me quit, but I feel I'm needed there because of the shortage of workers.

I've been writing to different universities with nursing school, but no results as yet.

Goodness, I'm so anxious to get out and continue my education that it isn't even funny now. Can you give me any suggestion to where I can go to and where I should write to? I was depending upon the Students Relocation Council, but it seems we too have to do the writing.

This camp life is certainly terrible on the morale of the people because we are so close together and rumors and things which are of no other person's business just leak out. Consequently a murder has been committed in this camp - sad to say. One of the victims who was attacked is in critical condition. I was there when this emergency case came in and helped out the best I could. Really I never saw so much of a bloody mess as I did that night. The

faces of these two people were unrecognizable because they were so battered and swollen in different places and covered with blood. I got home around 2:30 A.M. and the folks were quite worried about me. I wanted to remain to see the stitching of the wounds the doctors were doing but I thought of my folks, so regretfully I missed it. Both Sis and I are anxious to get out. She wants to obtain a job and I want to go to school. She wants to go where I enroll so we could be near each other when we relocate ourselves and believe me, I do too when I'm going to a strange country.

Well now to get down to business. I had something definite in mind when I started to write you but it seems I'm not getting there. Because I'm planning to go to some mid west or Eastern state I thought I had better have a decent wardrobe. Therefore, as I'm minus a dressy coat, at my age, ^{that, that,} I thought I had better obtain one. Since you seem to know my taste regarding my clothing I wondered if you could look around for a dressy coat for me at some clearance sale, if possible. I'm ^{enclosing} putting up a

clipping I cut out of the Montgomery Ward catalog just to give you an idea of what I want like. The color I desire is either just natural or natural and beige combination. The princess style on one side of the page in the smaller sample can be worn with or without a fur and I liked it very much, only it is of the dark color which I do not want. I also like the herringbone tweed with the back turned but is too expensive. I plan to pay from \$25.⁰⁰ to \$30.⁵⁰ for my coat. Any suggestions? I shall leave it up to you. Since I have the herringbone sport coat I would like a dressy coat. While you're looking - can you at the same time see if there's any reasonable priced wool suit, beige or natural, of course. I really want my coat first of all, so don't mind the suit, it's just secondary. Plain material is better for a dressy coat, isn't it? But I'll leave it up to your observant eyes since you seem to know what looks best on me. I'll surely appreciate your looking around when you find time to.

I had better close now as I am going to work early in the morning. I hope my request will not leave you worrying and gasping.

Regards to your dad. Always,
Martha