

April 23, 1943.

Dear Violet -

If Miss Smith hadn't told me in her last letter of your condition and your pending operation, I would never have known. To be very truthful, your typewritten letters to me - (general appearance) did cause me some disturbance. It just seemed to show how you felt. You remember, just before your removal of your appendectomy, how very nervous and irritable you were at times; and then you didn't have a sick Papa on your hands then. Well - this time, it's really quite the limit! It's a good thing you have the Murray's back of you. Then also I was so glad to hear of Hazel and Claude coming to Long Beach because of Claude's work. Well believe me, this is one time your

family members should rally around you. Whatever you must undergo, I hope this time, it will give you permanent relief!

Today is supposed to be a great day for Gila. The 1st Lady of the Land is scheduled to pay us a visit. Most likely since this camp is the only camp with white walls and red roofing paper, while the others, tho' they have double walls are covered with the usual black tar paper. Information revealed thru' Caucasian sources hints of quite a pompous retinue of officials are accompanying her, but I wouldn't know. Our WRA head, Dillon Meyer is expected here also, most likely coming in with this party which had just completed their good-will trip from Mexico. I understand that Mrs. R. is interested in our schools, so though the poor school teachers were expecting a 3 day week end for Easter, they had to

stay another day for these distinguished guests.

Martha had just been issued her nurse's aide uniform two days ago when this bulletin was circulated. She left the house in her starched dirndl-style jumper of blue and white chambray with white sport blouse (Mongwan made fragments)

The party finally entered the project 10:00 A.M. It seems they visited the hospital around 11:00 so I can just imagine the bustle and bustle it must have caused there. There were rumors that Eleanor requested luncheon in a regular mess hall to, share the same meal with the evacuees, but upon re-turning to the office after lunch, I heard she had luncheon with some Caucasian party. I shall have to check on this yet. All of us wished she had eaten with us. We had rice, salted herring and a pinch of boiled swiss chard. She may have been able to do something about our menu.

I understand thru' our chief steward that she ate at the Caucasian mess hall, but that she stopped in at one of our mess halls to see what we had for lunch. She also stopped at the hospital mess. Martha had just deposited her dishes at the sink when Eleanor came in and circled the mess table, talking to workers as she did. That evening she was to have gone to our smaller camp, and was to have visited one of their model mess halls, but they too were having fish "cause that's what we had last night.

Nevertheless, everyone admires that lady. Her gracious attitude has won the hearts of everyone. Truly she deserves to be called the "First Lady."

Heard from York yesterday. A blustering sort of post card for I haven't written since New Years. Really, my correspondence has been something pitiful. There is so much to catch up with and so little time and sometimes so very little energy.

Heard from Hiza Ishii. Snapshot of the family was enclosed. The girls have grown so! Frank has been in Chicago for a month.

I do wish you at least a restful Easter Sunday.

Rev. Allan Hunter's church has sent

our Sunday School Easter candy for the kiddies, enough for 400. I only wish we could get out where we wouldn't have to be at the receiving end of the line.

Hope your strawberries are doing well. Oh — and lest I forget, John asked if you happened to have that book you read while in the hospital after your appendectomy. You remember — "Japan's New Horizon" by Willard Price. If you returned it to us, it must be nesting somewhere in one of our boxes which is now in your garage somewhere. If so, please don't bother, but John wanted to re-read that book for he felt there were some economic prophecies given in it.

I asked Mrs. Pawson to look around for some sewing machine parts for me. I'm minus a (needle clamp) and tho' I have the machine, I cannot sew. I'm so low on hot weather dresses, it isn't even funny. If you aren't well enough to get out, I'd appreciate your calling

her on the phone. I have no idea whether you are home, or in the hospital now. and I'm taking a liberty to ask this of you. I'll drop her a card when I can to remind her.

Please remember us all to Dad. Our prayers are with you.

As ever,

Amy

P.S.

You got the money order and refund check from Famous didn't you?

A huge white cross stands atop the butte just in front of our water tank (in center of our camp). It reminds us of the Easter morning service we're to experience there Sunday. Under the blazing sun, it gleams as an eternal symbol to us who look to Christ for strength.

Am.