

Poston Project, Arizona
June 12, 1942

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Dear Mrs Whitney,

Your letter was certainly a welcomed one as we had all started to wonder if anything had happened to any of your family. I know expecting to hear from you often is expecting to much, nevertheless, I surely look forward to your letters.

I thank you so much for being so concerned about Dad, Mrs Whitney. He is getting along nicely now, and it won't be long before he'll be himself again. The blankets which you sent us have been a great help, and with nights getting warmer, I really believe we'll have enough until the cold spell comes along. I can't tell you how very grateful I am, you have so much to worry about, and are so busy, yet you still find time to worry and do so much for us. We certainly appreciate it.

By now you undoubtedly have received my letter about Father Lavery. I know with something such as I will get by attending mass and church, it is going to help me a great deal. The whole problem is quite a mix up to me is, as I must truthfully admit I knew nothing about the Bible & etc. Are there any customs or regulations I must follow in the Catholic Church, aside from keeping my head covered? I certainly don't want to go and have ignorance written all over my face. Do you think it would be all right if I wore plain colored slacks and pastel shirts - no boots however. This

may sound somewhat silly to you, but it worries me a great deal as the clothes I have here certainly aren't suitable for wear at Poston. If & when the Catholic group are established here, I wonder if they would take any one who is so completely ignorant of the Catholic ideals and let them work along side the sisters? I surely think I would like to do that.

⁵ The mess hall is run completely by Japanese - & Japanese-American. The steward is a young Japanese-American boy from Riverside, but as to his responsibilities, I don't know just how much authority he has. However, I understand he is very much Pro-America & feels we should be grateful for what food we do get, poor or otherwise. In a way, I almost believe he has charge of foods served tho', as he generally walks around to see how people are reacting. The food is much better now, altho' at times we do have some horrible combinations, but we'll have to expect that now & then. There are several very nice young girls and boys who have become friends of ours that work in the mess hall, & they generally see that food is getting his particular type of food, so all in all, things are working out, slowly but surely. Fresh vegetables are rare indeed, and the appearance of them on the table draw many an Oh! and ah! A great many in our block are farm people, & I think it amuses them a great deal.

The days are getting much warmer now, and frequently we have very heavy dust storms. I can see why in hot climates the Indians and Mexicans have siestas.

This weather even makes the most ambitious very lazy and drowsy, and afternoon naps are very common for most members of the various families.

Louise has her work card, but as yet no work. The mats haven't arrived, and she surely can not teach on the floors we do have. The head director in the Recreational Division wanted her to teach children between the ages of 3-7, but she wasn't very much interested in that as she thought they were too young, and hard to manage. Then too, cats are her speciality, not children she says.

About the Chair Mrs. Whitney, we brought 3 with us, and Dad made us 3 benches so we are fixed up comfortably in that way. Thank you for asking this.

How is everything in Iceland? Are the days getting warmer? Has George gone into service yet? We pray that everything is all right with Braddo, and the rest of the family.

Dad and the girls send their regards to all.

Lovingly,

Sumeko

Virginia has decided to keep her boots so I will not send them back.