

Poston Arizona

July 8, 1942

Dear Mrs Whitney,

By this time, I had expected to have had a long letter off to you, but it seems that each to-day becomes another yesterday, and on down to a stage where I really am ashamed of myself for not writing sooner.

The days and nights at Poston are extremely hot - yesterday another 110° in our apartment. At 9:30 P.M., the thermometer read 106° - and at 2:45 A.M. it was still so warm, I made a special trip to read the thermometer - it was 96° . You can imagine just how

much we miss that house in
Upland.

¹¹² Poor dad - he certainly tries
his best to keep cool, but I
don't think he's very successful.
You should see some of the
positions he gets into - his feet
in a bucket of water, towels
draped around his head &
neck, and at the same time
lying under the bed. After
all the experimenting, he's led
to believe his present set up
is the coolest!

Over the Fourth of July holiday
they had a water festival, and
the formal opening of the Canal.
It sounds as if it were a grand
affair, but I think almost
every one present was terribly
disappointed. Well - perhaps

next time they'd do better.

The lecture I told you I attended was one given by ¹¹³ Dr. Beattie on Education. Dr. Beattie is from Washington D.C. - Dept of Interior and is under Indian Service. He was certainly a frank - but spoken speaker, but when all summed ^{up}, I believe he is very, very sincere, and concerned about educating children, and older boys & girls here. At the same time, he thinks only in the terms of comfort for them too - that is, schools will be erected by the government if they want ordinary buildings such as we live in, but he felt adobe buildings would be much cooler. It's all up to the

residents of Boston now, when
and what kind of schools
we'll have. We'll have to make bids.

114¹¹ Last night, I attended another
lecture - Mr. Head and Dr. Schner
both spoke. As I told you
once before, Mr. Head is the
head man here. According to
the information he gave out
last night, we're going to be
here - possibly for another 5
years - maybe longer, and I'm
almost led to believe it's so!
His message naturally was one
of making Boston as liveable
as is possible. He stressed the
fact too that it was all up
to us - whether we wanted to
live under rules & regulations
of the Army - (which he said
would be very severe) or else
as we have been living.

Another thing he said, and what I know to be so very true is our friends back home in Calif. are with us 100%. He said, the politician may be against us, but after all they didn't count, so we here at Boston should accomplish things to make our friends proud of us too. It makes a lot of sense doesn't it Mrs. Whitney?

As for Dr. Osburn, I shan't say much about him - I may be wrong - but frankly speaking, I took a very distinct dislike for him - He's too polished!

There are a surprising number of other races in this camp Mrs. Whitney - Chinese, Portuguese, Swedish & etc. In fact, on

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Sundays when we go to
Mass, there is a young Japanese
girl (married to a Mexican
man -) (they have about 3 kids -
& they all jabber as typical
little Mexican children do) -
well - to go on, the Japanese girl,
the children, her husband, and
evidently it must be his mother
& brothers & sisters who come
too - all in all, there are about
4 (all Mexicans) with them -
quite a sight to see too.

In our block, we have two
Japanese - Swedish girls. They
look "Japanesey" to a certain
extent - only they have brown
hair. One of the girls husband
is here too, but the other
girl's husband comes in to
visit about every ten days.

At first, the elder folks looked
upon them some what curiously,
now they treat them as
they would their own.

A great many of the men who
were taken to New Mexico have
returned to their families in
the past week - among them
Kobe Shoji's father. He is
looking better than he ever did
in Upland. We've all been
wondering whether Mr. Nagasaki
would soon join his family.
It's quite a slow procedure
to go through isn't it?

I'm hoping very much Mr.
Whitney. I haven't given up the
impression that in black &
I'm the only one - far be it
from that. There are many
who could put my "brains"

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to shame, but since the
nursery school is supposed
to be a credit to block 4, I
certainly try my utmost
to make it the best nursery
school in Camp - and the
supervisor was telling us
to-day, our school was being
run on the most professional
like basis. Since the head
supervisor is opening up
another pre-school group,
we have another girl from
block 5 working with us, and
Virginia is acting as our
director.

I wonder if I could ask
you to get us some school
supplies. Mrs. Whitney - please.
We should like very much
to have 3 filler note books
the large size (I believe 9 x 11)
either 2 or 3 holes - depending
on the paper you can get for it.

Probably if I made a Compact
L. F., it would be much
simpler

3 filler note books - 9 x 11
(preferably fabric covered
ones)

9 packages closely ruled large
size packages filler paper

3 packages graph paper -
(sample enclosed) - (for
same note book

4 boxes reinforcements

1 filler note book 5 x 7

or about that size - (fabric
covered one

An ABC - (a - for apple & etc
book - (very simple)

Nursery Rhyme book

I'm quite certain, most of
these can be purchased at
the dime store - if not at

(20)

Newton's in Ontario. We're not
in any particular hurry, so
please do not go out of your
way for them.

I was surprised to learn the
Mellers were in California.
I wrote to Mrs Meller about a
month before we left Upland,
but since coming here, I have
not written to her. If you
should see her, please give
them our regards.

Are you still attending Gay
Ladies lectures, or do you spend
your time in practical work
now? It's nice to keep busy
Mrs. Whitney, but one can over
do it, too.

How is Mr. Whitney now?
And the rest of the family?
Is Princess good?

I think I've written enough.
Every time I write, its only
"we" & us - I hope you don't
mind Mrs Whitney. ¹²¹

Mad sends his regards to
Mr. Whitney, Braddo & George.

With love,
Fernando

August 8