

4-9-c

Paston, Oregon

Nov. 29 '42

Dear Mrs Whitney,

330

We get home from Mass about 30 minutes ago, & since the apartment is so cold, I decided to sit outside & kill two birds with one stone, write to you, & take a sun bath at the same time. I never thought I'd ever seek sunshine & warmth in Paston but it looks as if I still have much to learn. I really believe Paston is colder than it ever was back home.

You may be happy to hear some good has come from the recent disturbance we had. Father Clement said during that crisis, Mr Head called him in and as a special favor to him, asked Father to step in to help settle difficulties. Evidently Mr Head was very much interested & deeply impressed by the Mary Knoll missions work as he obtained a special permission permit for Father Clement to remain in Camp every night. Up until now, they have remained over night only on Sundays. This means that a place will be fixed for the Father who decides to remain at this W.B.H center right here in Camp. Father Clement seemed thrilled to death as Paston will be the very first center

to permit a (church) denomination to lie  
among the people. You see why I feel  
Mr Head, as a Camp manager, can't be  
"tapped". He's as human, sincere & interested  
in his people in Poston as any man would be  
over his own family.

32 Undoubtedly you've heard the recollections  
of our trouble we had - it ended Tuesday  
night. I always understood Mr. Head was a  
teacher & student of psychology, & the way he  
conducted things really proved to me he must  
have applied everything he ever learned. All the  
write ups about Pro-sis' element, & waters returning  
to the Camouflage project wasn't the correct story, &  
I'm sorry such things were said as it made  
everything quite bad for us. Friday, I saw an  
article pertaining to the strike etc, which I  
thought was a true version of everything  
that happened here. I only wish other papers  
could have published one final article stating  
the truth. It told of the trouble starting from  
personal grudges, & the people striking because  
they objected ~~that~~ to outside authorities taking the  
suspects out, without a trial first in Poston (in  
our courts) to prove their innocence or guilt.  
Mr Head finally ended it all by declaring he  
himself guaranteed the last held boy would never  
be taken out of camp to be tried - & that there  
would be a Japanese judge - lawyers & jurors  
to try the case. This is what the people wanted,  
but they feared if such a court was set up,

Outsiders may start up talks of it being un-  
constitutional & the Red Cross would be absolutely  
helpless, if tried in an American court in Phoenix  
Ariz., Mr. Neads' guarantee is as good as gold -  
things ended as they did. I'm glad it didn't <sup>end</sup>  
end up by having an unconditional release as if  
it did, there's certainly never be any respect for  
law & order in Camp #1 - & if anything really serious  
ever happened - well, it would always be a  
cry for release too. Oh yes - the M.P.s left <sup>at</sup> noon  
Wednesday - & things are going on as if nothing  
has ever happened - except, I do believe we are  
wiser!

How you & I wrote to Father Levery didn't I?  
Last week, I received a very nice letter from him.  
He said he had improved much & as soon as things  
"cleared" up, he would come back to California.  
By cleared up, I don't know whether he referred to  
his illness or to his special mission east. This  
morning, Father said he was out of the hospital  
now, & at the present time is in Connecticut where  
he is slowly recuperating.

Did you have a nice Thanksgiving? Louise  
has told you, I suppose, of our having Turkey  
& all the trimmings. My - I had need to be  
thankful for, especially if Camp we had to be  
in, thank heavens, it's here in America.

How is Mr. Whitney - George & Braddo? Please give  
the boys our regards when you next write.  
I spent two glorious days in bed - I suppose  
it must have been intentional flu or some

thing - at any rate, it's somewhat of an epidemic here. The saddest part of the whole thing is, you aren't able to eat & that nearly broke my heart. I did manage to get up to go to the mess hall for Thanksgiving dinner & since I was absolutely starved for food - acted accordingly which didn't prove very wise on my part. However - I feel my stomach some sleep again & am making up for lost time.

333 Yesterday morning, the Shoji girl, her small son & husband left for Loveland, Colorado. My - but her husband certainly is one of the nicest young men ever & is so sensible.

He left the same time the other boys in our block left - that was about 6 weeks ago, but since he was offered a steady job on the farm where all the young men worked, he came back to Poston Thursday night. Kiyoako filed papers to leave camp some time ago but she hadn't expected her husband to come back so soon for her. But they managed to get a special "leave of absence" permit which allowed her to leave without official papers. Her husband told us it like starting at the bottom - but there may be an opportunity for a better "break" somewhere. He certainly has the right idea as he is planning for the future. The other boys, that is most of them, expect to be back sometime this weekend unless of course they can find work there too.

By the looks of things & the way they are allowing people to leave camp so easily, I guess there is much truth in all the talk

of relocating 50% of the camp by 29 334  
should say, within a year's time. However -  
this does not mean we'll be able to return  
to California or any place within the juris-  
diction of the 4<sup>th</sup> Area (Defense Command Control).  
According to plans, they expect to find jobs for  
the Japanese in the middle west - in coal mining  
towns - or "lumber" milling zones. Perhaps there is  
much opportunity for young men - but in our  
case - I don't know what we'd ever find to do.  
I don't know how things will work out as  
yet, but several weeks ago, Dorothy received a  
letter from a lady in Minnesota. She (the lady)  
is a dear friend of the family Dorothy worked  
for up until evacuation time, & she offered  
Dorothy a position in her home. The lady already  
has a second maid - a young girl whose parents  
are here in Poston too. Dorothy's job would be on  
the cooking end of it. This lady told Dorothy if  
she were interested she'd try to make arrangements  
for her getting to Minnesota. The Japanese girl  
wrote & told Dorothy she has been there 8 months  
now, & her employer has "gone out of her" way  
to be good to her. She said it wasn't too lonely  
either as "about 20 miles from where they are  
located, the Japanese Intelligence school is  
situated, & there are close to 250 young men  
attending school. (Japanese boys). Dorothy hesitated  
at first & sent a letter asking if she may consider  
it for a time - but after receiving a second letter  
& all the talk of relocating people, she decided