

March 11th, 1948

Dear Son: We are in another cold wave. Too bad as the fruit trees are in bloom, bulbs are blooming and our 'Colonial Firey' is in full bloom and a blaze of glory. I could cry because they are all stiff as boards and fast being covered with sleet. Perhaps our warm weather was bringing Spring along to fast. Yesterday when the weather man predicted this cold spell we could not believe it as it had been warm enough to be in the yard without a wrap.

Last night Grace and Johnnie ate supper with us and we went to Princess Park afterward to the square dancing. Grace was the only one of us to participate - Dad and I don't know how and Johnnie was feeling so bad with an infected ear. It is interesting to watch though and we enjoyed it.

Just received a letter from Bobby - you know New Orleans ~~have~~ been having some regular cloud bursts. Last Wednesday they had a four inch rain and Friday a ten inch rain; five inches fell between five and eight in the evening and Bobby wrote of the trouble they had getting home. He went for Margaret about 4:30 and it was after eleven when they got home. The streets were so flooded that water ran as high as the car lights in places. According to the papers three inches fell again Monday night.

We received an interesting letter from Cecile Monday in which she gave birthday party details and her pleasant visit to Paris. Her letters are always looked forward to with much anticipation.

since she gives interesting details. Don't think we are not always watching for your letters to and don't underestimate our joy at receiving them. Cecile wrote that you are quite busy with your present design so we know that is why we have not received a letter this week.

With building costs ever reaching a new high there still is much building activity in Shreveport. Three Junior High Schools are now in course of construction. They are in the Greenboro section, Cedar Grove section and Broadmoor - A Negro high school is to be erected soon - Mr. Vauks is Architect for it.

Southern Literary Club is getting into a state over a proposed project of one or two of the members. If you remember several years ago we brought a colored singing group "Wings Over Jordan" to Shreveport and cleared about four hundred dollars. At the time one member was establishing a library on Stoner Hill for the negroes and S L C was being used in the project and this money was supposed to be used for that purpose. Well that member dropped out of the club and in a short time the library was closed because none of us were sufficiently interested to go out there and run the thing. The money has been in our treasury since and always the must that it was to be used for negro work kept us from using it. Well this year one of our members (wholeheartedly) and two others (halfheartedly) are trying to establish a home for neglected negro girls that might need

care for a few days while the Juvenile Court attended their case - Can you feature anything as silly as to think ^{of} a group of twenty five women trying such a thing with \$375.00 - There is a matter of renting a house, hiring a matron, cook and caretaker, buying groceries and paying utilities - Even if we were rich folks it is a Police Jury project and should be financed by tax money. It is strange how reluctant everyone is to voice their real thoughts but when we are not in meeting how freely we all talk against it. There is a lot of vainglory seekers in the Club who think we must 'bust a gut' if necessary to put S & L C in the lime light. They are so often the ones who vote 'yes' on everything and some one else does the work - For my part I would be so glad if we discarded Federation and got back to being a literary club and do some constructive study.

Dad just came in from work and as cold as ice ^{at Margaret Place} Cecile Schaffer has started getting off the trolley and walking home from there - Dad walked with her today - She has to fight getting fat all the time and she thinks walking helps - Dad don't have any to spare though.

La Rue called this morning and asked me over to eat waffels for lunch. She came for me had Grace, Kitty Jane and Roll's wife Betty. She had some fresh pork sausage to which was so good - She had been to the country yesterday and helped with butchering and sausage making - She has ~~already~~ always bragged

about her ability to make the worlds best sausage - well I will have to say she really does make it especially good.

I'd I ever tell you that Earl Long was elected Governor by the largest majority ever known - He won by something over 200,000 votes more than Sam Jones received -

Last Fall Mr. Henry Wallace was in New Orleans and spoke to the students at Tulane About a month later we received a letter from Tulane explaining that they were not supporting Wallace in any way and that he had been brought to N.O. by some organization and his talk at Tulane was only incidental. By the way Bobby said he was entertained in the home of John and Leora - Mr. Wallace and John being old friends. Well in last nights paper there was an announcement to the effect that a leading Professor at Tulane is heading the Wallace party in Louisiana - Am wondering if the school will send out another letter??? In the nations wide poll as to popular presidential candidates Mr. Wallace ranks second. Mr. Eisenhower is first - Truman fifth - Truman is becoming more unpopular daily.

Back to Shreveport and building yesterday permit for the Veterans hospital to be erected at Ft. Hamburg was let - amount \$10,040,000.00. This brings building permits for 1948 to \$15,751,864.75. which is \$3,140,000.00 more than total permits for the year 1947. Why aren't we getting in the upper class now?

All for today -
much Love
Mother