

March 7-1948

Dear Cecile: It does not seem possible that certain sections are experiencing snow and rain - Here in Shreveport Spring is here in all of its beauty - the sun is out so bright that by noon coats will be discarded. Camellias are to be seen in exquisite and colorful beauty in nearly every yard as are jonquils, narcissus, quince, forsythia and red bud trees. Surely the awaking of nature is Gods most revealing manifestation. Last Sunday Tottie invited us to go riding with them but we had to decline because Dad felt so badly and needed to rest. I am hoping the invitation will be extended today as it is surely the most beautiful time of the year to get into the country!

Speaking of weather, New Orleans has surely had a bad spell - On Wednesday of last week four inches of rain fell there in twenty four hours - On Friday in a twenty four hour period they had ten inches of rain and five inches fell between five and eight in the evening just at the time people were trying to get home from

work. The pumps were working as fast as they could go but even so the streets became so flooded that all traffic was at a stand still. I am anxious to hear from Margaret and Bobby to learn how they managed. Margaret works several blocks down on Tulane from Carondelet St. so you see how far she has to go -

I am enclosing some clippings that you may get a kick from - surely a big commotion caused and no wonder -

My packages have increased in size since the allowed weight has been increased. I have decided to get back to smaller boxes as the larger ones cost too much to send and are too hard to get to the Post Office. Last week the box for you weighed 18 lbs. and Hers about 10 lbs and cost \$4.06 to send. That postage cost irritates me but guess there is no way to overcome it.

Mrs. Wheeler is so good to come by for me on Sundays and choir rehearsal nights - she is due now - Thought I might get your letter written before she got here -

This last week I have been quite busy sewing - made a wash silk dress and had good luck with it. Grace Preston has helped me so much in sewing but this time I wanted to be independent and surely am pleased with results. Now

I want to get some cotton dresses made and be all ready for warm weather.

The stores are full of the most beautiful materials and every one seems to be in the sewing mood. It is very difficult to get up to the pattern counters and the piece goods counters look like bargain day sales with the crowds that are there.

Later - 2:10 in the afternoon to be exact -

We are going for a ride - the Stentels just called and asked us to go with them out on the Harts Island road to Mr. Pugh's Camilla display - He has some very rare varieties - speaking of Camellias. Mr. Crauc came home from Monroe yesterday with two lovely plants - He finds prices so much more reasonable in Monroe than any other place.

A Girl Scout was just here taking orders for cookies - I will send the box on to you if it is in a tight tin box as it was last year -

There is a big home building show now in progress at the Municipal Auditorium. We went last night - All of the latest kitchen equipment - refrigerator equipment - stoves both gas and electric - cleaners - washers - venetian blinds - outside slat of wood coverings

as well as building materials - It is quite interesting and makes one want a new house and all of the latest gadgets in it - I came home with a pocket full of "lucky numbers" -

Dad is busy making out his Income Tax report. I wonder how much taxes will go up if the Marshall plan is approved. His plan calls for several billions dollars. We are fast getting out of the habit of referring to a million dollars as being a large amount - it is now billions.

Am wondering if Cecile and Hens have received their birthday package - How did Cecile's party turn out? Lots of fun I can imagine -

Will close and write a few lines to Hens -

Please love my little girls for me and give them a big Granny kiss -

Love
Mother -

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Dear Son:- Here we are enjoying a most delightful spring day - We had a heavy frost last night but the sun is so bright that the temperature has been rising all day.

The Krentels are coming to take us for a ride in a few minutes. It will be nice to get a country drive and see how things are coming to life -

Our Camellias are opening one at a time, at that rate they should last a while - Mr. Isaac brought two lovely Camellia plants from Monroe - They have so many varieties now and all of their plants do well -

I am sort of worried for fear Marie Therese has made the Moores and Miss Beaussard hurt with me. It seems that Marie thought we were to go to their house the night they came here - I did not know that when I asked Miss Beaussard when they were coming over and she answered Wednesday. It seems she and Marie had been some where with Miss Polk and she was to be included in the invitation - Marie told Miss Beaussard that in America one did not accept

invitation repeatedly and not ever invite them to their home. I surely hope they are not hurt with me as I invited them here because I wanted them and had no thought of them entertaining us.

Later - We are back from our outing which ended up at the Krentels for sandwiches and coffee -

I am so mad at myself. This morning before going to church I put a meat loaf in the oven to cook. It sort of oozed over the side of the pan onto the oven and now I have to clean the oven real good. Just gave my stove a thorough cleaning last Thursday. With age my cooking worsens - never was so good.

The picture I am enclosing is all I could find in the papers since receiving your request for data on the project. Will send more clippings from time to time -

Dad is writing you so will let him fill in for my lack of news. Thought I had so many things to write but can't seem to think of them now -

All for this time -

Love

Mother