

and setting up the stove for Betty and her teacher. When I finish this, I must go down to the Centro office, which is just down the street and have Mr. Holden sign his name to my check so that I can get the cash more easily at the bank. From there I must go to find another heater for the school, buy some stamps for Kenneth to put in his ~~stamp-book-which~~ stamp book which his Uncle Hal Steed has just bought to start Kenny and Kenny's Daddy in on a hobby, also some stamps for use on letters, and get back here in time for class at four o'clock.

By the way, we have just received a letter from Mae Ranger, one first mailed back the last of October. It was returned first of all for insufficient postage. When it reached Lisbon, it went to the Pensão Laranjo, where we lived before we came to this apartment. One of our friends picked it up for us yesterday. Also we got a book of pictures of Maine, the latest of Professor Bradshaw's books, called The Maine Scene. The last picture is a waterfront view of Boothbay Harbor, and is Betty thrilled. There are pictures from every county; one of them is of the big field the Strong side of Farmington, another of Minot Springs, another of Poland Spring House and so on. We are going to enjoy looking at the book. I'm glad it came late. We were going to pack it for Africa, but it was printed too late for us to receive it in Auburndale. We're not sorry.

We do hope that you can enjoy sometimes the magazines which we are having sent to you now. We should like to see one or two now and then, but please don't send any until we ask you to. And this brings up the latest with respect to the check which we wanted to have go to you. Dr. Reuling and the assistant treasurer, Earle E. Smith, did not understand what it was I wanted, or else Earle forgot what I said, which may be perfectly possible because he is under great pressure these days. So before you will receive anything I must write back explaining what I want. Then you will get something. I shall do this this week.

I still have not sent pictures, for I have not gotten the collection together as yet. And we still have no good one of Betty. We have tried several and the results are terrible. But we'll try again with the hopes of better copy.

Trust that Olive will get her shoes sooner than we get our packages here. We are still trying to put our hands on two packages which arrived about ~~that~~ three months ago. And one more which we were supposed to hear news of the last of October we have just heard from. The packages from America are delayed in the customs house for examination and charges. Sometimes, if a package contains too many different things it may have to go to five or six different departments. About the only way we can get anything through is to have someone bring such things. We can hurry up the examinations then and get our hands on what we need.

Ah, but I must sign off. We are well. The boys are eating well. Not going to bed always as we would like to have them, but then, that's the way with boys, não é? (Isn't it?) And we think now that we shall be able to spend a year here all right. It seems sometimes along way from Africa, but we do need to know the language and many of the customs and much of the history of this land and its people.

God bless you, and here's our love.

*Rockie*