

February 10, 1950

Dear Miss Olive Ruby, Frances and Ralph,

Well, here we are the five of us at Lutamo part of Alondi. We are house guests of the Trickers, the people who visited us at Christmas. We are here to take Dr. Parbuck's course - "Teaching to read in six lessons". Today they are building the course in Ymoundu. It is certainly a fascinating process. May has taken Dr. Lavinia Nova Lisboa today for something or other. Susan is being the same model child. She sits at the table with us eats and drinks from a cup. Oh, she is sweet! One box of clothes has arrived. It arrived just in time for this trip. Does she ever look sweet in the adorable dresses and the darling blue sunbonnet. The little pink bonnet is too small. What a head! Everything else fits perfectly! I was especially pleased with the bathrobe and sunbonnet as she had none and of course the dresses. I can hardly wait for her to get big enough to wear the silk panties. I am so glad you made the rompers into dresses. and what a job you did. I hope May gets some color shote of her. I certainly want a little girl. Hennie is making good progress in his school work.

He can follow written directions for coloring and making things. Writes his figures from 1-50. and with help counts to 100. They are behaving very gentlemanly on this trip. You would not object to calling them your grandsons, I am sure. All the children are coming to Wendi. Saturday Kay is having a Valentine party for them. What rejoicing!

This is quite a stunt trying to concentrate with four kids, a dog and two other adults mulling about. Tommy is playing with a cute black kitty. He is finding out what kitties do and don't like.

Mon. Feb. 13

Back again. We had a really lovely meeting this P.M. Mr. Laubach and his Literacy team are here. I am teaching a pupil to read. What a thrill she is the mother of several children and in turn is going to teach them.

Much love to you all

Kenneth
To Mother

(Kenneth & Thomas have both written their names here for Grandma to see.)

March 7, 1958

Dear Susan, Olive, Thelma, Ruby, Ralph,
Corydalla is giving Susan a ride
in her carriage - a horse-drawn -
Bernie and Bernice are helping
Heddy supervise the digging of
a cellar to prevent the heavy
rain from washing away our
driveway and stopping the
road ~~road~~. In answer
to your question about Corydalla,
He is Max's and my responsibility
to provide school fees, supplies
and clothes. On return he works
in the house and looks after
everything when she needs a ride
in the carriage or goes out
of the house. He mother, brother and
sister needed and his father
apparently has not any interest in
him. He probably will later though
because C. is one of the smartest
youngsters in school and we
hope will go to London Institute
and become one of the best of the

Bernie is something that the
line really finished the third order
in the few. Bernice's service and
will be ready for the printer.
At the table the other day he told
me that the boy for his pen was
all full - the only boy (in his class)
that was ~~not~~ ^{not} finished with
his! He is better than half a hundred
taller than Bernice and Bernice
is no more! I was asking him
if loved him one and that one
the other day. His answer including
his grand parents was "yes, too much".
When he came to Uncle Sam
by said "yes, too much". I
love him - how else love
him is a small grant. Then
he added "I love everybody but
tell they are". I guess he was
afraid he had hurt our feelings for
being so vehement about Uncle
Sam. I love to surprise Ralph!
He signed the adorable note.
We have a picture of him
for a long time. When people
are smiling than I am to long
for his picture around all ready.

March 7, 1952

I am going to begin ~~the~~ tomorrow.
Next week the Catholic school
teaching here. Massena, Catholic,
and teachers from the whole area
come in for lessons in Bible, Portuguese,
agriculture, hygiene and village
sanitation, and arithmetic.
My task is to teach some of the
classes and arrange at last
and food for them. At last
I am ~~in~~ to Bailemandu to a boy
that began to build a house.
Camp for leadership training.
I don't know what all he is going
to do there. After that we arranged
meeting. In many the same kind
come here for the men had pre-
I claimer that the men had pre-
viously. My will probably
be doing work in the village
at that time. The twenty eight
of May is Pentecost Sunday. The people
come for miles and three
day journey in foot for a whole
week of meeting. During this

time two pasture will be or-
dained. June and July we are
all going camping at various
Central points. In August
school began again. Sometime
before then we hope to get a
couple of weeks holiday.
3:30 A.M. Saturday.
My in about next. I know for
the school. I know for
my God. I know for
you all and
keep you safe.

Dear Grammie,

I am casting on. I am learning to cast. I am six years old. I had a good birthday this afternoon. There were sixteen children here and four grown ups and Sara. I had a wonderful birthday. I had a sack, a pencil, and two pairs of socks, two angolares (money) and eight eggs. I had a cake with white frosting and brown frosting. I had three stocks on my cake to hold three candles but I had six candles though three big candles. Thank you for the birthday card. I liked it.

Love,

Kenneth

Dear Folks,

I guess now you know that Kenneth is six years old. He was very anxious to write these after he had signed his name. Never was a boy ever prouder of anything than is he of being six. It was a nice party. The sixteen children were all African and as cute as any group of youngsters you can find anywhere – and much better mannered than a group of missionary children of the same size and age. They played games – Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush etc. – listened to the phonograph and had a peanut hunt. Susan joined in the spirit of the affair with her voice and stomach anyway. She pulls herself up in her pen but hasn't made any attempt to walk around yet. She is so heavy I am surprised she even goes this far. I'll leave the rest of the space for Max.

And I'll fill in a bit more on news of the children. Susan has just taken three steps by herself around the corner of her pen.

22-20

Well, let me borrow Uncle Sam's typewriter a moment or two. We're in Nova Lisboa at the hotel. Had to come up to do some trading and I'm trying to prepare for dry season a bit. I've been trying to find a good bicycle, for in June I shall have to begin going out to villages by bike. Many of our villages are way off the beaten road. They are on a beaten track but worn by feet only and wide enough for the bicycle wheel but nothing more.

Uncle Sam says to tell Grammie that Tommie is just like his Daddy. Tommie was sitting in the dirt playing yesterday when Uncle Sam came by and said "Hello", and "Good morning, Tommy. Uncle Sam tells me now that Tommy designed to say "Good morning " but didn't look up, just went right on playing as if there were no one around. But Uncle Sam says also that Tommy resembles Grammie, judging from pictures of Grammie.

We're deep in catequists' school now. I'm trying my hand at teaching some Bible. However through an interpreter. My Umbundu as yet is not good enough to teach with. So speak in Portuguese and have the pastor interpreter. We wind up next Thursday, that is Maundy Thursday. Celebrate Easter April 9, six hours before you do. ~~ordinating~~
In May we're ordaining two pastors. I'll see if I can't tell you more about it in another letter.

Love and God be with you,

Mack

Okra is just growing up
as fast! Old soda bottles
forming on the bicycle the
other day. My hat it is cold
three days. We kept our fire
burning brightly nearly all day.
Even Tom told Tom it is
very hot in the sun. I could
not the shade a sweater. I could
not. Our oranges are ripening.
and the river valleys are full
vegetables so that we eat
well, except through the
fields are known the trucks
at home working in the fields
getting at hand for a week
back to the village a week before
last he, the doctor, and in
business. I am African who speak
English especially well, studied in
South Africa, and was just named
I could learn. I could in in
days! They usually played in the
hand with their fingers tied on
and often leaving the automobile

the road back to the school.

One day their own discussion of
spunk as to whether this
road ahead were possible
by car or not. They said we'd
try it. They passed it but not
till they had cut a good many
trees. Mr. Dubois in describing
it to some other people said: "I
could make it." Mr. Wells is
an artist at dodging stumps
and measuring in and out among
the trees. The people of the
neighboring village were
and about it and at least the
Wang did that he called out every
able bodied man and boy
and when the fields returned
they found a beautiful picture
road made for them.
I was named to calling for the
dinner. I was up and, I was
over my horse and family dinner
for a while. I have written to
Mr. Matthews. He was a long
time to do such a nice thing
for me. I was of love, and
a prayer for well being all
Betsy

Missão do Bunjei
May 17, 1950

Dearest Mother,

By the time you get this the program on which we are now putting the finishing touches will be over and the church here will be starting off on another leg of its journey to become a truly indigenous church, that is, truly African. On May 27, Saturday, the day before Pentecost, the church here will ordain two pastors. At the present time we have only one for all our wide area, about the size of the state of Massachusetts. He's more, as you can guess, like a district superintendant and gets to many villages only once a year, or perhaps once in two years. Having two others to help carry on the work of the church which is under our care will make the burden a bit lighter. But we need at least three more before our furlough, although we don't expect to find them. There is no one here eligible by training, and the church does not accept with any too great joy an outsider, an attitude which we are going to try to break in some way.

Now that I've mentioned furlough I may as well tell you what was decided at our annual meeting of the missionaries in Dondi in Abril (Portuguese spelling just slipped in there). Plans call for the Coles to go home in April next year and to return in April of 1952. In 1952 we shall come home for a year. It will seem good to be back and to see you all.

Now Sam Coles is an American Negro with a popular appeal to many of the Congregational churches. Whether he'll be in Maine anywhere near you speaking I couldn't say, but he has been in Maine visiting and knows quite a bit about some of the larger towns. He was born in Alabama and attended ~~Tallahassee~~ Taladega College for Negroes, but he's definitely American. We're very fond of ~~both~~ both Bertha and Sam, besides all of which they could be our parents in matter of age and we look to them for counsel. They have three children, all in America now, and two of them married. The one daughter has been married several years, long enough to have provided the family with two grandchildren. All live in New York.

Now a word about us all. The children have had some sickness since the first of April. Susan's complaints seem to be in connection with cutting teeth. She cut two or three front ones and then went to work and began cutting double ones. Kenneth is in decent health. Tonsils and adenoids on both boys seem to be no longer a threat. Apparently no operation will be necessary. Of course it's some time since we've written about the tonsils, etc., so you may wonder why I tell you again about them referring back to what is sort of stale news. I'm sure that you know there was no operation, but we want you to know the condition now. Maybe they'll never have to be operated on.

Tommy was sick, though, while we were at the meetings in Dondi. About half way through the conference he came down with broncho pneumonia combined with malaria. He was a sick boy for a while, and has not wholly recovered yet, but will be in another week or two we trust. He got treatment of penicillin and paludrine injections, along with some atabrine and quinine treatment. For a while the doctor was not quite sure just what the sickness was, but finally prescribed a satisfactory treatment. ~~Betty~~ Betty and I are both well, although we get tired enough some days to wish that no more people would come to the house along toward five o'clock and are ready to go to sleep at the end of the day. Betty had a bad cold the last of March but has recovered. I'm still taking medicine for amoebic dysentery. Hope that I won't be troubled too much by it in the villages this dry season.

Well, we are now in the dry season once more, our second in Africa. This year

I'll be doing a whole lot more traveling than I have done before, a lot of it by bicycle. Probably will cover some four or five hundred miles that way before the end of September. However, I expect to do considerable traveling with the pickup truck also and to use the truck to put our bicycles nearer the destination whenever such kind of traveling can be done. For instance, the third week in June I'm going out to inspect sites for the centers to be set up by the new pastors. We can go about twenty-five miles by car, but will travel an equal distance and perhaps somewhat more by bicycle from where we leave the car.

By the way, Kenny has learned to ride the bicycle he got for a birthday present. He has only had the bike since our return from Dondi. Didn't get it on his birthday because we had to find a smaller size for him than the one we had sent out from America. When I opened the one we had asked to be sent out, I found it too large and heavy for our six year old, so ordered an English bike sent up from the coast. Last Saturday he learned how to balance himself. This week he's learned how to get on and off by himself. Gets off at a run. Slides one leg back over the seat and hops off. Doesn't touch the brakes. It's harder for him to use the brake than to light running. Daddy puts on the brakes and falls to one ~~side~~ side. Daddy's short legs make it impossible for him to reach the ground without tipping the bike. But Kenneth just hops off, and that's that. Tommy will learn very soon, too, but we've shut down on Tommy's activity until he's gotten back some of his strength. He was in bed eleven days at Dondi and has been in bed three since coming home. Has now been up all this week, but we're being quite hard on him, making him take naps and so on.

We've now got quite a menagerie on the place, lots of hens with several roosters, two little goats, the black kitten, now growing long and with little fat on its bones as yet, although with one mouse already to its credit. Uncle Sam bought some ducks the other day and is giving Tommy one. We have three dogs around now, but two ours only. The other is one that Uncle Sam got when a missionary family from one of the other stations went home on furlough recently. One of ours, by name Puck, will have puppies soon. I suppose Tommy and Kenny and Susan, too, will have fun with them. Susan has not begun to walk outside her play pen yet but gets around in her playpen and could travel on hands and knees pretty far if permitted.

Oh we must tell you about the grace that Tommy said yesterday. "Tahnk you Go d for the night birds and the day birds. Bless God for making food. Thank you for the night and for the pleasant morning light." He included quite a bit more before the last sentence, but I cannot tell exactly what it was. The gist of the blessing I've written for you. Tommy, who isn't given to repetition, repeated himself a number of times during the process of saying this particular grace. When he finished he looked at me and said, "wasn't that a good grace, Daddy?" I replied that it was, but it wasn't always necessary to go on quite so long. He came right back at me with, "Oh I was saying a long one for three days." I must say that both K and T are doing better saying graces, sometimes now with good clear thought

We want to get this letter off tomorrow morning ~~whith~~ one of our people here who is going to the rail line. It's a good opportunity to send mail. Otherwise you would get this letter about four weeks from now.

Happy bir**h**day, Mother, though this is a late greeting, and we'll try to get off something soon.

Love and God be with you all. Greetings from everybody, children and grandchildren, ~~brother~~, sister and ~~nephews~~ and neices.

me, too, Betty

Mac Kie

PS Clothes for Susan arrived in time for us to make good use of them at the annual meeting, April.

Dear Miss Olive & Ruby, Aug. 24, 1850
 Here it is almost the end of July
 all ready. Susan is making already
 the place she began the second week
 of the month 13 1/2 mds. She tells a
 new streak but no one understands
 her. She is running and carrying
 as any year still. One slight game
 is to put something in her mouth
 that she knows she cannot get
 and then come to me to take it out.
 She has had twelve teeth for some
 time and ate the paper food
 that we do. She holds her spoon
 and provides her food with it.
 With guidance she feeds herself.
 Without guidance she drops her
 spoon and dig in with her
 hands. She will not throw her
 clothes as that we get them
 made. Tommy is growing too.
 He is fine now. Both Mother is
 lending us her portable organ.
 Tommy especially is very inter-
 ested in learning to play. Mary
 taught him to place the scale
 as fast.
 Mary taught me how gracefully
 to type last two weeks. She
 has been helping me get ready
 for school. There is so much
 to do to help make things be-

[illegible]

Dear Mummy, Olive & all,

Here we are in Lobito and is it enough to make anyone homesick - the good old ocean! After being in the woods more or less for two years the city is quite an adventure. I am amazed that Mummy & Fennie just take it as a matter of course. They enjoyed the train ride down and everything is wonderful to them but they aren't afraid of anything. They are being awfully good and helpful. Susan is her own sweet self. Tommy is fine now. yes I got the box of clothes with the new skirt. They are swell. I was sure I had written thanking you from them. I am waiting to see who needs what most on the skirt. Maybe a dress for Mummy or a new suit for one of the boys.

We enjoy hearing about the progress on the school building especially Fennie. He is very keen on school right now. He will go to school at Plandi at the beginning of the new year.

We had some excitement at Galangue last week. A couple of American engineers were there they spent three days with us. It was good to hear the good old American language spoken.

Lobito is supposed to be hot so I came prepared for hot weather. But it is cold! Just like Port of Spain Harbor - the first of May. The news does not sound very good these days, do they? I guess this is a good opportunity for the United Nations to prove their worth. Let's pray that they are successful.

We went to Benguela yesterday past the big sugar plantation then the refinery. You could smell cooked sugar almost as soon as you could see the factory.

July
1950

I tried to buy some shoes for Susan but all they had were low ones. I guess I'll have some made by our shoemaker in Bunger.

Thursday, The Henderson girls are having a birthday party, seven more children are invited. They are all English children but one - she is Czechoslovakian - a beautiful child with long golden braids. Everyone is coming dressed to represent a nursery rhyme. Tom is going to be Jack Horner and Kenneth - little boy blue. Susan will be Baby Bunting, I guess. Oh by the way, she is beginning to walk! She took ten steps all alone today. In fact she did it several times. She is so heavy, it will be a great help. She is cute!
We had an easy trip down on the train, but we sure did miss Daddy. However

June 18th

Home again! Tommy is fat - Susan is walking in grand style. May had an interesting trip will write to you about it.

Love
from
all of us.

August 16, 1958

Dear Folks all of you

One's all well but how we ^{are} busy!
School ^{is} beginning and Max is closing up his drug
season traveling. We also have a school for
deaconesses going and a guest. He is an American
an engineer (mining) and geologist. He doesn't get
any attention but he makes himself at home
and when he can't working entertain the boys
like a real uncle. Susan walks all over the place
and tries to talk too. On the right mood she will
imitate anything you say to her either in
Arbunulu, Portuguese, or English. Languages
won't be hard for her when she goes to school.
Tommy can ride Kenny's bike now. Kenny
is 46 inches ^{tall} and Tommy is 42 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches. I'll
measure Susan and send a piece of her hair
next time for sure. Tommy says Tell Charmie
I am 4 years old. He made the four.

we have gotten all four packages
of cards & pictures. They are lovely, lovely!
The last of the month we shall take Kenny
to Shondi & school. Now we shall miss him.
The lollypops are in the box. The kids will be
wild about them on Tommy's birthday.

Much love
& God bless you.

Next Monday I hope I have time to write a
long letter. I want to go with Max to Novato

September 6, 1957

Dear Mum, Olive, Ruby, Francis, Ralph,

So much has happened in the last week - it seems like months instead of days. Henry is happy as can be with Aunt Amelia Wilcox in Alondi. We took him up a week ago today. Bertha Cole, the other missionary's wife on our station, went with us. We planned to come back the next day, but before noon Bertha was complaining of a foot being cold and her leg paining. In less than twenty-four hours Dr. Sid Gilchrist had sent a telegram to Dr. Shungway in Chisamba, and had called in the Portuguese doctor for a consultation. ^{may had returned to Salanga to get Sami} A clot had formed in an artery and was traveling toward the heart. The doctors were worried. There is an operation to remove the clot. Dr. Shungway had never seen it performed but had ~~seen~~ heard it discussed once. He said there are a couple of doctors in Canada who perform the operation. Since her life was at stake, Dr. Shungway made ready to take the clot out. It was only a matter of minutes from the time they went into the operating room until Alice came out and said he had succeeded. She is doing all right to date but they don't have any hope of saving her foot. They are waiting to make sure how much of her leg they can save before amputating. Bertha hadn't wanted to go with us. She was afraid she would crowd us. Dr. Shungway was on his way to another mission station. Ten minutes

Delay in the telegram and it would have meant a delay of twenty four hours in the operation which might have meant her life. We all thanked God.

Tommy's party was a great success. The lollypops made a great hit with all the little guests. They had the pink lemonade, cinnamon bread, & birthday cake for refreshments. Tommy & Kenny soon learned to make the go-go-s go. The rubber animals were certainly great fun for all three kids. Kenny was proud to have a brand new box of crayons to carry to school. At first Susan was great excited about her comb. Now she hugs her dollies at night and carries them around by day. They are cute. I thank you very much for the tankie & the elastic. It did not cost me any duty. We found a dentist at Bondi when we arrived there - a missionary from Rhodesia. He filled three teeth for max. Max only needed cleaning. The children's were O.K. Susan can say "dolly", "Changlola", "mummy", "Daddy" - "No". Bye now.

Love + God bless you
& keep you. Betty

Dear Folks, all of you

September 25, 1960
Misión de Cuzco

It's me again. We are all fine. Kanny is tickled pink with school and life at Donda. Everyone writes how fine a boy he is and of course that makes us happy. There are four in the first grade but he and Mary Collins had lessons last year at home so they are ahead of the other two. They race each other but seem to keep neck and neck. That's good for them. Max came in from a village trip at 5 o'clock this morning. He had gotten stuck in a mud hole and it took fifteen men to pull him out. He brought me a bouquet of yellow orchids. How lovely they are.

Tommy is fine now but he does miss Kanny. He abhors being washed or bathed like any boy. The other night I said "Come let's get ready for bed before we have our story. I'd rather have my story first" he answered "But you'll enjoy your story so much more when you are clean" I said "That's what I was wondering about, was his answer. He was thinking of having to take a bath.

Susan is so cute. She talks like Kanny did, a blue streak - accompanied by gestures and such expressions on her face. Her little face open, full of life. She is saying something but Mary a word can you understand. Tommy has learned to shoot with a bow and arrow. He feels quite proud.

It's beginning to look like rain. Anyday now we may expect to hear the roll of thunder and see the heavens open up with a genuine cloud burst. Well be glad because our well has gone and done it. It is dry, at least the pipe doesn't reach to the water. How much water there is actually down there we don't know. There is plenty of water in the rivers but it is a long way to carry it. Bertha Cole is getting better now, but they had to cut off her leg above the knee. She's an awfully good sport but it will certainly be hard on her at least until she can have an artificial leg made and her leg is healed enough to wear it.

The jacaranda trees are all in bloom right by my window here. They are so beautiful, tall and graceful ending in a cloud of purple. The grapefruit and orange trees are beginning to fill the air with their perfume. The best part of the year is beginning. But time of day is fleeting and I have work to do. I must go to the girls boarding school, to the hospital to see the house work to check - company coming from Cuzco. They are looking for a place to put a new mission. So adios to all - Hugs + Kisses
Max, Dad, bless + keep you

Missão do Dondi
Bela Vista
Angola, Portuguese West Africa
October 19, 1950

Dear Folks,

Yes here we are again at Dondi. Calangue missionaries are spending all together too much time at the big metropolis. The ones are still here. However Bertha is getting along fine after her operation and will soon be going home. This time Max is the patient. He had a pain in his side and the native nurse took a blood count and found a difference in white blood corpuscles. He said that he had better go to the doctor in Dondi. The Doctor here thought that it might be the mumps that had passed by his face and settled below. Just to complicate matters he had a good case of malaria too. Now he is sitting up for the first time. He looks sort of pale face but I expect the rest he is getting will do him a lot of good. He has had twenty four shots of penicillin, a full dose of atabrine, quinine, and aralen. One thing you may be sure of if you get sick in Africa - you will get plenty of medicine. When we got to Dondi we found that Kenny was sick with a bad cold and malaria. This and April are the worst times of the year for malaria. In April the ponds and streams are beginning to dry up and the mosquito hunts for a new home. Now the heat just before the cooling rains come cause all the eggs in the permanent streams to hatch. Kenny is fine now.

Susan is as husky as ever. Max tells her that her joy in living keeps every body's disposition on an even keel and brightens up the day. Tommy has stopped sucking his thumb and just like that. He went on an over night trip with his father to Kaala and Nova Lisboa. His father came across a second hand bicycle in good condition and decided that he could sell the two tricycles for enough to pay for it. Tommy just couldn't believe that it was his very own bicycle to keep. All that day his father kept assuring him that if he stopped sucking his thumb it was his. The shock of his new possession was so great that he was able to surplant his thumbsucking with the joy of his new possession. He rides it like an old hand now.

We had a good honest thunder shower last night. Only when you have been five months without rain can you appreciate the beauty and the feeling of security that a good heavy clap of thunder brings with it. The world is beautiful this morning. The frangi pani is blooming. A few remnants of the poinsettias remain and new greenness is everywhere. Tommy is having a good time visiting school and playing with all the children here in Dondi.

Well, Mother I'll see if I can manage enough strength to operate this machine. They have let me sit up a while today and walk from one room to another. This afternoon I shall be permitted to do the same thing I trust. Margaret Childs gave the final penicillin shot last night. I've been pretty well dosed up, and the first thing this morning felt weak, perhaps because of the lack of support which the medicine was giving.

Since the first of September things have been rushing along at the mission because we had planned a program which was full to begin with and because then the burden of carrying the program out fell on two instead of four sets of shoulders. It may have been that and having Betty sick for a while with an attack of malaria, that put me on my back. However, we are still thinking in terms of maintaining a program that will consist of keeping all branches of the work going with African staff, those who can take over responsibility, with the hope that improvements can be made as time goes on and all the work more easily done.

Oct. 20 Max is stronger today. He shaved himself and dressed and is pounding away on the typewriter with some Missão business that has to be typed to before the mail leaves today. We had a hail storm yesterday afternoon with hail stones as big as moth balls. The kids were wild with excitement. Love Betty call us.

Dear Edith, all of you,

Write this letter before
going to school. We are
leaving now. Next is O.K. to school
at 8 on one ship
with

It is a beautiful day! This morning
I went to school as usual. There
to the girls boarding school. The
girls are very backward in their
action. I have a lot of work to
do with the help of the head-
master's women who have to
teach them how to be clean and
keep their rooms clean. They are
even the floors of their rooms
for better - they cannot do
carrying their food to their rooms
to eat it instead of in the dining
room. Beds are unmade every-
where. I must admit that the
state of affairs of this room is
not very improving & poor.
Now well. But I keep telling
them that when they have
them that take good care of
themselves & take good care of
what they do have, we will
(immigrants) try to send the

money to put the floors in
the rooms and replace the
the floor walls and windows
them. They are improving
but there is still a lot of work
for improvement. The girls
kept I came to the office
and worked on books until home
to get a trouble on his side and had
to be comforted. He wasn't hurt any
but his feelings were hurt. Then I
took a big dinner out of his bag
and wrapped up his fingers where
he had burned them yesterday.
By that time it was time to feed
Dorothy. Dorothy's orphan baby
that she was taking care of today
became sick. It was time to change
only now. Then it was time to walk
Susan's dinner and play with her
a bit before she goes to bed. She
came because my company had
gone to the kitchen after lunch. After
the boys boarding to a few people's
lunch I attended to a few people's
rooms. I forgot where now.

Then I took a rest period and
read a story in the Emerson
Magazine. After I talked with
the head teacher of the school
about a couple of pupils who
were needed to be punished for
the going home without
permission. The boys have
to cut a certain amount of wood
for the school and the girls
to work all the woodpile in
the school house. They about
is here talking with Mary about
the boys who refuse to do their
work. I told them that is mean,
to pay for their board. This I
do soon as I finish this. I
have to go talk to the girls
whose mother, Mary has, and
decide ways and means
of helping the girls. I forgot
I could look between 11:30 and
12 o'clock. I would laugh to watch
the kids in the front three grades,
they have I learned much about

money yet! They'll pass me
ten dollars note and ask for
change. Then they'll pass me
1 dollar for a note book than
lighter contacts and ask for a
bit of ink - then perhaps
and a notebook & index pass
me paper! We have had a
fine clearing our house today.
Yesterday they cleared the chimney
and built up the fireplace
again & close up the fireplace
flame & make me the fireproof
door had no better! They say
last night. Morning at home
not like the morning, some people
but they are good. The next end from
came down for the week end from
Doris. They brought and cleaning
to happy as can be and cleaning
a lot. His address is

Kerned C. Smith

1/10
 Horned C. with
 mucosae of double
 Bell's Triata
 Congo, Portoguese West Africa
 1st of June
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Dec. 2, 1950

Dearest Tolbo

The Welch family are all well. The boys didn't get the mumps. I don't know why. The house boys are taking them having them. We are almost turning ourselves wrong side out. There are new rules and regulations regarding the school. We have to close school and register the children all over again, obtaining innumerable documents and so forth and so forth. It begins again January 3rd. All this right at Christmas.

Max is fine now, but busy all his waking hours. Oh yes the Chief of police is here making the census.

Hendersons are expecting a baby next week. They are in Dondie. Three other mothers are expecting too. The Steeds are one of them. Only the Welch's are out of the running this time. We'd love another but goodness there just 'aint time. Nineteen boys are lined up in front of my office door waiting to see Mary and me right now.

The Christmas box arrived in perfect condition last night. Max + I packed of course. My the pictures are nice. Max said Ralph looks like my baby pictures.

The boy is ready to go.

Loads of love and Merry Christmas to you all.
Love from all of us
Betty

Kennie is home for vacation
He has learned a lot.