

We got Olive's letter mailed the 30th. on the 6th. The same train brought Mum's letter mailed the twenty fifth. There must be only one mail plane from America here.

missão de Chuanamba
nova lintra, Saie
Angola, W. Africa
November 12, 1948

Dear Mum & Olive, Francis, Ruby, & Ralph Merton

Are you shivering in some brisk November air? We shiver in the morning and evening and occasionally it is cool enough for a sweater all day. But today is hot. Even so many a July or August day feel hotter in Maine. The thermometer in the dining room says 72°. So you see it is very comfortable inside our house. The boys are just fine. Tommie needs lots of guidance and patience and directing. When he's good he's a good god and when he's bad he's horrid.

Last week-end we had company. Dr. Cushman, formerly of Farmington came with Peggy and Duane Walen and Alice Morrison from Oileaso to get acquainted with the new missionaries. Dr. Cushman was thrilled to see some Maine people and have a chance to talk & brag about Maine especially Farmington. It was grand to see Alice again. The boys remembered her and talked a lot in Portuguese to you.

Monday night was Dorothy Shuffler's birthday so we had a party at the ladies' house and played rick and store. Store is played with flash cards and is real noisy and loads of fun.

During the week about five hours a day goes into language study. This language is much simpler than Portuguese but it sure taxes the memory. In between lessons I watch the garden grow, explore the surrounding country side and try to keep the household running smoothly. The houseboy has never worked in a house before but he is learning fast.

An African wedding ^{provision} just passed by. In front was the bride carried in a hammock slung on