

Mission do Chissamba  
Nova Sintra, Bie  
Angola, West Africa

Dear Folks,

We have really begun the study of "Umbundu". It is an interesting and very different language. For instance most all of the descriptive adjectives aren't adjectives at all. They are verbs used in the past tense. The verb itself means to be cold, hot, or pretty. However it is much easier than Portuguese to learn.

Prices are interesting too. We had chicken for dinner today. It cost thirty two cents. all kinds of fruit except tangerines cost four cents apound. Tangerines cost five cents a pound.

Gasoline and kerosene cost about seventy two cents a gallon. and any manufactured product has to be imported and the prices are the sky.

Tommie and Kennie are growing and are they ever enjoying the freedom of the country, their puppy, the other youngsters, and the fruit.

We are expecting company this week-end- the Walns from Chiles: one of our missao\* stations about a hundred miles away. Also Alice Mc Morreira a Portuguese teacher who lived with us in Portugal.

Max is learning to ride a bicycle. In fact he has practically mastered the art just since we arrived here. He has taken a couple of five mile trips.

My biggest job is making a garden. I am supposed to tell the gardener what to do. I am not just sure how the trial and error method is going to work out. My knowledge of how to grow vegetables is in need of a lot of piecing out.

Olive, you asked what *ago* meant on the stamps. It means angolas and is equivalent to about 4 pts. in American money. If we don't overload our letters they cost about 25 pts from here to America.

Mum, we opened our box of snap shots that we haven't seen since we left America. The youngsters were thrilled with them and Kennie was particularly thrilled with the ones of you which he recognized instantly.

Frances and Ruby - isn't it thrilling to be parents! I love hearing about Ralph and how I'd love to see him getting his dinner or to give him a bath.

Ralph, are you obeying all the advice your uncle Max gave you in his poem? Something good - I guess fish is being tried for supper I'm hungry. I love to see you.