

Missão Evangélica do Bailundo  
July 7, 1956

Dear Sister Olive,

Some surprise, huh! A letter from your brother. Mother can tell you the news of my being somewhat under the weather. Will include other news here.

Time is moving along and we are in the throes of packing our goods for the move to Dondi. One big box of books has gone already. We have some things packed already and next week will pack a good deal more. This is a good time to clean house and throw away some items which have collected but which we don't really need. We keep the kindling box full these days with papers we can dispense with.

I've just written Mother about the possibility of getting off clothing and Christmas presents to Boston in time to catch the shipment which Dr. Walter E. Strangway of Toronto is sending to Angola. The shipment must leave New York the latter part of August. I think that anything being sent to Boston cannot be sent later than the end of this month. It would be better to send earlier if possible. This doesn't give you much time to do anything up unless you have something already to put into a box. Outside of Dr. Strangway there is no one else coming until next year so far as we know. Then Harriett Summerville will be returning here. Don't feel any urgency to send books or pictures by the Strangway shipment. These can come any time by sea mail. Mark such things as LIVROS (books), SEM VALOR COMERCIAL (without commercial value), or IMPRESSOS, SEM VALOR COMERCIAL. Impressos means printed matter. We have not had to pay many duties lately on such things, but usually do pay on clothing, or Christmas gifts.

Well, this is still the dry season, and cold season. The rains are not too far off of course, two months away probably, but we can depend on suffering some more from dust and dry season winds and perhaps some shortage of water. This year will not be anywhere near as bad as last year, tho. Lots of rain fell and our well suddenly rose to more than the halfway mark. There must be nearly three meters, about 9½ feet, of water and the level drops very little. We had to replace leathers on the pump piston the other day and pulling out some 30 feet of pipe took a bit of doing even tho I had arranged for just such a thing. The pump just would not pump. It raises water and then sends it along to tanks in the house, but couldn't raise enough to send. We get plenty now in short order and are very happy with the system. To leave it is going to make us a bit sad. However, we are happy to be going to Dondi, too. There we will just open a tap.

Must close now. Mummy is sewing. K. and I. are playing football. Susie and Patty are climbing the wall. We seem to be all right now, and if we can get some rest in August, will be fit for the school year.

Love, a big hug, and kisses, from your loving brother,

*Rachel*

P.S. Yes, temperatures range now from about 50° at night to 75° or 80° during the day.