

she came into the picture. In about fifteen minutes I found out many things. She was some sort of agent. But before we found this out, we saw the house go to the two ladies who had come with the short blonde in the taxi get the house we were looking at just then. She rented it that quickly. Then she started to tell us what other houses she had. By this time the conversation was a mixture of Brazilian Portuguese, English and French. Phew! How the little lady can talk.

From that time on until last Saturday morning we were right out straight looking at houses. The little blonde lady, who is part French, part Portuguese, and was born in Brazil, but has lived in Lisbon for seven years, took us over a good big part of the city of Lisbon looking at houses which were free. We were amazed to find that within ten minutes walk of where we lived on S. João da Mata there were five vacant houses in quite excellent condition. The one we are in now we learned about that Tuesday, but did not get to see it until the following day. The morning of Wednesday we were out again with the little lady, saw this house and one other, but did not make up our minds to rent. Then we went out by ourselves and saw three. The next morning, Thursday, the little lady with the blonde hair, and her six languages, for we had found out by then that she speaks six different languages, informed us that she could show us another house that afternoon. We went to the house and found it just what we needed except for price, 2500\$00 (100\$00) per month, including a big new Norge refrigerator. That price was too high. Then we tried to find out more about this house where we now are living. Yes, we could see it again, and perhaps the price would be less than the first one quoted, which was also 2500\$00. Finally on Friday morning we got together and met in the house with the owner, the French-Brazilian lady in the blonde hair, and Betty and I, and talked over terms. We got the house for 2000\$00. We discovered afterward that it had been renting for that amount, but now the contract is made.

Now we are here, with Mrs. Pontier and Alice already installed along with the Welches, bag and baggage, and Elisama to come. I haven't been able to describe all to you. But let me say that we have seen some lovely apartments in this city, some of them quite expensive, but on the whole not too expensive compared with American prices. We had opportunity to see the interior of several different styles of Portuguese houses. We met many different kinds of people. We found out our failings in matter of language knowledge at many turns. We discovered that people are not much different here from what they are in America, and we also found out that we could understand Spanish. One of the women we talked with ~~was~~ is Spanish, although she must have used many Portuguese words.

The house is about ten minute's walk from our classes, just a little further away than before. We have a whole house all to ourselves, downstairs and upstairs, and a place outside for the children to play. And are they enjoying themselves. Our maid is still with us. We have paid a contract on the house at 119 S. João da Mata until the 17 of April, but we think we can stand the loss of about 800\$00 without having to suffer too much. Our location is very nice, in a quiet place, surrounded by houses of officials of this government and people of moderate means. The Welches occupy the lower floor, the other three people the upper part of the house. Bathroom is on the upper floor, but there are two rooms with toilets on the lower floor. Kitchen, boy's room, our room, combined dining and living room comprise the rest of our floor, along with closet and hall and hallway. Upstairs in three separate units are toilet, wash bowl and bathtub. Also two big rooms and beds with a large space for storing trunks, etc. We'll send you a picture soon.

Rua

Write to us at the new address, / Maestro Antônio Taborda, 6. Rua Maestro Antônio Taborda, 6. The last is correct. First has an extra accent mark which should not be there.

Lots of love to you both at home and God be with you this Easter.

Machai