

Idyllwild , Calif. Sunday 4th October 1942.

Dear Mary and Ellen ;

It has been a long time since we have heard anything from or about you .. We would like to know how you are , where you are and what you are doing and so on. Are you teaching , Mary ? Have you done anything about buying a house elsewhere ? I hope not- I want to help you when you do and now is not a good time to buy for many reasons.

I hope you have both been well and had some chance to get rested up during the summer. We are all getting along fairly well , just getting over an epidemic of colds which seemed to strike everyone. Ted and Coral each had to stay home from school a couple of days but are back again. Coral is going down to Hemet in the school bus with Ted daily to the Hemet High School .. It is twenty-three miles - the bus leaves here about 7.15 A.M. and brings them back about 5.00 P.M. They are both doing well in school.

This summer season was the busiest for me I have ever had up here making rustic furniture. Altho the season is over and practically everyone gone , I still have enough orders ahead to keep me busy for a couple of months.. After that there is plenty of other work to do here but it seems as tho I should go down and work on war work of some kind. We have not yet figured out what would be the best move to make or what to do.. It makes me so mad to think that one MUST join a Union and pay about fifty dollars blood money to join, not counting the dues, just to be allowed to help defend ourselves that I about explode at the thot !!!!!!! However there must be some sort of job which I could fill without joining a union or doing manual labor. There is plenty to do up here in the mountains but not on war work and I feel that I should help, that is if all we read about the shortage of labor is true .

Tuesday 6th.

Mr.Heacox , his daughter and her husband from Bay City Michigan , and Mr.Heacox's half brother (?) Mr.Sydenstricker were here for a brief call yesterday.. Gertrude and her husband are going to visit with Mr.Heacox a couple of weeks more before they return home.. He lives alone in Claremont in a large house in Pilgrim Place. Gertrude's husband - Mr.Stover - heads a wholesale hardware supply business in Bay City, Mich.and seems to be a fine man. We had much in common.

We have had practically no news of Evelina or Will for months. Can you give us some information about each of them ? I do hop they have improved in health during the summer. Where did Mowie finally go to college ? And what is Mimi's address and what is she doing ? I wish it were possible for any or all of you to visit us in California. I wish Evelina could spend a winter in California- it would most surely be good for her general health .

Lots of love from all of us to you, as ever ,

Selden .

*Handwritten signature*