

Mangum, Oklahoma
May 11, 1924

Dear Mother, I will write you a letter tonight before I go to bed...should have written sooner. This is "Mother's Day". They celebrated here, but don't know whether you folks thought of "Mother's Day" or not. Mrs. Covington went to *Dean, about nine miles from here. One of her nephews came and took her and Lorena and she said they just had the finest time. Had awful good singing. We went to Mrs. Albertson's this afternoon and took their pictures and then took a group of the crowd... about fifteen, I think.

Florence, Lewis and I walked over to the place Lewis is talking of trying to get for a chicken ranch. It is pretty rough, but would be out of town and we could have lots of chicken range and wouldn't have to keep them up. We have 112 little chickens and four hens setting and aim to set the incubator tomorrow on about 150 eggs. Our little chickens are just doing fine. Guess I told you about Lewis ordering some chickens — 30. They sent 33 and one was dead when they got here and we still have 32. We are getting about fifteen eggs a day now. Have one hen with chickens, four setting and one in the coop to break her from setting. I decided the incubator does better work than the hens and is cheaper, too. Our garden is looking real pretty considering the cool weather. We've had real cool weather most of this spring and have had a fire several days last week all day and had a fire part of the day today. I will be glad when it turns warm. Lona May had measles last week or was sick all the week before had fever nearly a week before she broke out good she sure was

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speckled Sat. a week ago. I think she broke out thicker than the other children did when they had them. Bro. Hasn't taken them yet and it has been over nine days since she first had fever. Gilbert hasn't taken them either and they were here just before Lona May broke out. Baby sure was fretful and we had a time keeping her in the house. She was able to be up most of the time — was pretty sick two or three days. I was afraid for her to get out. It was so cool. I was afraid she might have pneumonia ~ so many people did have it after the measles — several died with measles and pneumonia. I made Erma two dresses, Lona two and Vera one last week. I got Vera's dress last summer and didn't make. Made one of Erma's out of some old goods and one was percale. Well, momma, I'm afraid I'll have to disappoint you about the birth certificates. Lewis says they wouldn't be any good unless they were fixed up right and it would take a long time and a lot of money to get it done legally. If you can denounce the land and get fixed that way I would advise you to have it done. Of course if we had the money we would try to have it done. (I mean get the birth certificates) but you can have it denounced with out any birth certificates and have that done right away. Of course, you would have to wait a while before you could dispose of the property, but there is no telling when we would ever get enough money to have it fixed the other way. Well, Momma, I haven't sent your little pkg. Yet. Will try to get it off in a few days. I keep thinking I will get more to put in it but guess I'll just send it on and maybe I can get some more things later. Hope all are will and doing well. How much is josh making at his job? Is Aggie and her man still

there? Guess your gardens are looking pretty after the rain. It is cloudy tonight. A rain would help our garden, but we need warm weather worse than anything else. Well, wish I could see all of you. Guess Mandie and Jasper will be up here before long. Hoping to hear from you soon. I will sign off. Love, Viola

Viola = Viola Gorham Sweet

*Dean was a town between Mangum and Reed