

Mangum, Oklahoma
May 7, 1929

Dear Mother,:

I wrote a letter to you Sun. night and got it misplaced, have looked and looked for it, so I'll just write again and if I come across it I'll send it. We went to the Cecilian musical program last night. I didn't think it was very good tho. We could have gotten a better program over the radio. They were dressed as Spaniards and about half of them dressed in men's clothes. We gardened a little more this evening, looks like we just have so much to do we can't hardly find time to garden. Lewis has most of the garden "ploughed" and it sure looks pretty, the weeds are thick where he hasn't plowed.

2

The okra didn't come up good and about four rows of the sweet corn didn't come up. The seed were old tho. We planted two rows of okra this evening, two or three rows of butter beans and two or three rows of other beans of different kinds. Haven't planted peas yet. Mr. Sweet brought Lewis some seed a week or two ago. We haven't planted any of them. Haven't even looked to see what kind they are. Erma and I worked at the house again Sat. evening. Vera and I washed Sat. and ironed some. Erma made some pies for Sun, She was expecting company. We ate them all for dinner and supper so she made more Sunday morning - cocoanut and chocolate - made one mince meat pie for Lewis. He wanted one. Lewis has been feeling bad for about two weeks but keeps going. He thinks he has had a little fever all the time. He got a bottle of 666 (a cold medicine) and took nearly all of it, but decided it wasn't doing him any good. We went to town tonight and got him a bottle of

3

chill tonic (quinine). It has been real cool since the rain. I am sitting here with my coat on. We haven't had hardly any warm weather yet. I think there will be lots of fruit this year. I hope so at least. We are nearer out of canned goods now that we have been since the first year we came to Okla. We want to can a lot this year, fruit and vegetables, too. We have mustard and onions & lettuce to eat now. English peas are blooming. Arthur got his cap and gown today. The graduating class are aiming to wear caps and gowns all alike. He said they had their pictures made in them today to be shown in the movies. The graduating exercises will be next week. There is one more week of school besides this. Mangum had a big May Day celebration and dedicated the airport last Friday -

4

dismissed school for the occasion and some of the students put on a program. All of the honor students and the letter students paraded in their sweaters. They named the airport Ponder Field in honor of Will Ponder, who was an American Ace in the World War. While they were having their program fire broke out in the Wright Hardware building and

the wind was awful high that day. They couldn't get the fire under control, had two fire trucks from Hobart, one from Altus and one from Hollis. The outfit from Hobart dynamited a building to keep it from spreading anymore, then they got it under control — after burning the whole block except the P.O. They carried most everything out of the P.O. The fire is still smoldering. There were about fifteen air planes here during the celebration. I didn't go to see any of it. There were planes from several states. They were aiming to serve lunch to the visitors in the Elks Hall. It was one of the buildings that got burned. Erma said they carried the lunch out before the fire got there tho. Well, I guess this will do for this time. Hope this finds all well.

With lots of love, Viola

P.S. Excuse this paper (Christmas letter paper), it's all I could find down here and I didn't want to go to the house for more.