Mangum, Oklahoma, Jan 7,1934

Dear Mother - We rec'd your letter a week ago Thursday. We were washing and fixing to go to Mr. Sweet's for dinner. Got a letter from you and one from Erma. We read them hurriedly and I forgot about you waiting for Josh's clothes until one night last week I woke during the night and was thinking I must write to Mamma then just happened to think you wrote for me to send Josh's clothes. We had a nice time Xmas ~ missed Erma and Henry. Vera came home on Thurs. before Xmas. I had not done any baking so Vera made a fruit cake and coconut cake and I made some pumpkin pies. Vera baked the fruit cake in my largest cooker pan and it was full besides she made a little one for Henry and a chocolate cake for him. We didn't send his pkg. Until after Xmas for we thought he might come home. We got a card and letter from him Xmas saying he would like to come home but thought he had better stay there and get up some of his back work. He said the landlady invited him down for Xmas dinner so he had a good dinner. We sent him the pkg. In plenty of time for New Years. Sent the two cakes, cookies, several kinds of home made candy, nuts, apples, oranges. Nola and Vera sent him their graduation photos. (Vera hadn't given him one and Nola just had hers made.) Arthur sent him a pair of pants, some handkerchiefs and scarf. Erma sent a handkerchief. We put it in the pkg. too. Arthur gave me three shirts to send when we took Vera back to Weatherford. I haven't sent them yet. Arthur got a round trip ticket from Gotebo. Came in Sat. evening. We got a card from George on Fri. saying they

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couldn't come so Grandpa came over to see if we wouldn't go to Mandie's and Jasper's. We went Sun, evening and staid all night. Grandpa went with us and he went to Myrles. We stopped at Olive's a while Sun. eve. She was putting a big ham to cook, had to cut off part of it before it would go in the cooker. Annis was nuts for a fruit cake — all were up. George was working at the filling station near the church house. We had a nice Xmas dinner at Mandie's, started home early so we could atop at Olive's again. Jasper's folks went to Mr. Ellison's — said they would eat Xmas supper with them then go back home that night. Olive's folks were eating dinner when we got there so we ate some more. Mary and Paul and children were there. Margaret and Dayton are still in Okla. City, Dayton got a job. Manda and Jasper gave us a family group photo of the family for a Xmas present. Olive wanted to know if Josh was still aiming to come back to make a crop with George. I told her I thought he was. She said she would write to him. We got Mrs. Sullivan to attend to the chickens and cows while we were away. We all went and the car was full. Arthur gave Nola and Vera a suede jacket for Xmas. Vera's — white, Nola's — blue, gave Lona a cap and scarf. Buddy a pair of pants, Joe a little red tool box with tools, Rosa a doll

Lewis a pair of socks, me a pair of stockings and bloomers. Erma sent Grandma and Grandpa, you, Henry, Arthur, Lillie and Lewis each a handkerchief, Lewis (Dad) a pair of gloves, me a pair of bloomers, Vera and Nola a handkerchief and garter set — Vera's blue, Nola's pink, Lona some beads, Buddy an ever-sharp pencil with a big box of leads, Joe a pair of gloves and a sack of marbles, Rosa a doll and a pair of red gloves. She sent Rose and Lona each a doll quilt too. And she sent us a beautiful fir Xmas tree so we had a tree, put the presents all on and had Grandpa and Grandma over that night. Had lots of candy, apples, oranges and nuts, popcorn. All seemed to have a good time and all were well pleased with their presents. I got the three little ones some toys, Nola and Vera some stockings, Lewis gave Buddy money to get some parts for his bicycle. He said that was what he wanted Lewis got another sack of quilt cotton. You know I had one lining, so I started to tack it when we got the card that Lillie's folks were not coming. I laid it away till after Xmas. Finished tacking it yesterday. Lewis got enough gray for two more linings, five yards of light outing and five gray striped. So guess I'll make more quilts when I get time. Lewis says, "I don't know when you will get them made with your Momma gone."

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Vera didn't have to go back till New Years. Arthur went Sunday eve. Before New Years. He had to teach school New Years. We had four doz. jars canned for Vera to take back with her. Vera baked an angel food cake for New Years and I baked a chocolate cake and made some pumpkin pies, opened some chicken and other things. Our hens started laying just before Xmas, have plenty of eggs to cook with. We canned the two big citrons, made preserves of them. Lewis and the children hauled all of the pie melons in a few days after we came back from Decatur. I found Arthur's medals and they sent the fountain pen home in about a week. Guess that was all they got. We haven't been to see Amy's folks and they haven't been over. Mr. Meadows told Lewis they were at his place last Sun. And Dean seemed to be alright. Frank Wilson's children have had measles. There is measles and diphtheria in town, yet. Mrs. Kochle is sick has been pretty sick but is better. Mrs. Sullivan had to stay with her most of Xmas week. Lou Eva was home for Xmas. We went to see the bridge last Sun. They have quite a bit done on it now.

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Mr. Sullivan built up the terraces on the land west of the road last week. Lewis ordered him a little garden tractor so he can cultivate all of this land this year. We canned more beef during Xmas week - fifteen quarts of beef and seven quarts of stock. The citron is the first we ever canned this year. Haven't found sweet potatoes for less than 75 cents so we haven't canned any more. We still have a sack of peanuts. I had plenty of butter saved up for Xmas so they could eat all of the cream. Arthur said he gained seven pounds while he was at home. He weighed at town - 207 lbs. He doesn't look fat tho. Henry weighs 159 I believe the last we heard from him. Vera looks a little better than she did when she was home Thanksgiving. Vera and Nola cleaned out their room and whitewashed it. We still haven't got the doors in the closets and the partition, Mr. Sweet got a long letter from

Uncle Frank Xmas. He said he would like to send him a box of fruit for Xmas, but he could get it here for less than it would cost to ship so he sent him \$5.00 instead

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Said lots of people had gone broke the last few years on the fruit farms. The man Alfred worked for lost 8000.00 — his shipment of fruit. It cost him that much more than he got for the fruit so the man let his orchard go and Alfred lost his job. Said there were thousands of acres of orchards abandoned and he let a small tract go alter he had paid \$1700.00 on it. Auntie and Uncle Joe have moved back home, said Melvin, Charlie's boy wanted then to live with them, but didn't want them to take any of their furniture or household goods with them and she just couldn't stand the idea of giving up everything so they were going to stay at home. Melvin is paying their place out. Said they couldn't make any thing on chickens, as the feed costs more than they get for the eggs. The oil mill gave Jasper \$20.00 for a Xmas present. One man that does business with the mill gave him a leather jacket and he got three pocket knives, several other things. Said it was the best Xmas he had in a long time. Erma said they had a nice Xmas. We sent them lot of things. Oren is to furnish his own delivery car and get \$50.00 per mo. Beginning Jan 1st. Hope they won't have to be out much for repairs. Hope all are well. Love, Viola

Viola = Viola Gorham Sweet, daughter of FP & Sarah Ann Gorham

Olive = Myrta Olive Christina Gorham Everett, daughter of FP & S. A. G.

Viola's children and other names?

Olive 's children mentioned: Annis = Annis Juneatta Everett

Mary and Paul —Mary Olive Everett and Marvin Paul Dollar; their children at this time: Opal Nell, Everett Lee, & Willie June

Margaret and Dayton = Margaret Lillian Everett and Dayton Denver Turner

George = George Bert Everett