

Dear Mother + All,

5/8/54

I wanted to get this letter written in time for you to receive it for Mother's day but am slow as usual. We have been thinking of you, though, and all of us are beginning to look forward to next year. Of course, our furlough hasn't been granted by the Board yet but no doubt will be soon. John wants to know if he can ride a camel when he comes to America but Paul is most interested in living near an ice-cream shop. I don't know what kind of a wild idea they have of America. We have 5 chickens now (a little red hen, smaller white rooster and 3 baby black chickens). The children play with them a lot.

My, we certainly enjoyed seeing the movies which Helen sent of all you folks. We thought that your flowers were especially beautiful. We have some lovely red roses blooming in our yard – I wish that I could pick you a bouquet of them for Mother's Day.

We are all well and the children are growing. Carol is quite small (14 ½ lbs) but is very good – Laughs + plays all day long. She has 2 teeth now. Now that it is warmer I can put dresses on her so that she looks quite girlish. She doesn't have enough hair to tell what color it's going to be.

I'm real busy now that I'm teaching in the school again + studying language. Jake is busy too but home more than he was last year. He starts next week on two weeks of tent meetings at Arakawa a small preaching point about 60 miles a way [sic]. His interpreter is going to America in June to attend Asbury Seminary so Jake has started preaching + holding Bible Classes in Japanese. The Lord is helping him to make progress in it.

-Page Break-

The work is a little discouraging right now as there's lots of Anti-American sentiment. We need another revival!

I'm so glad that you got to talk to the Parsons by phone. Maybe you'll get to see them sometime. Glad that you got acquainted with Pearl's sister too. I have company for dinner tomorrow

-Page Break-

so my maid is making "Osushi" It is a favorite dish of the Japanese containing rice, chicken, peas, carrots, bamboo, dried bean [sic] curd etc. mixed with vinegar and eaten cold with ginger. Jake preaches in a Korean Church so suppose that he'll have Korean food.

We'll be thinking of you tomorrow and

Praising the Lord for such a wonderful

Mother.        Lots of Love, Jake, Paul, John,

Florence, Mark

+ Carol [and a character in Japanese]