

Salinas, Calif
720 No Main
May 4, 1945

Dearest Arthur,

Walden is working "swing" shift and Freddie is in bed, but not asleep so I've the evening to myself. I always get so much done on this shift. Freddie has had a little trouble in going to sleep lately for he cannot suck his thumb. I am applying a bitter liquid to stop him from it and it is working fine. He very seldom even tries to put it in his mouth. I should have done it long ago but neglected to do so. He has worn an adhesive plaster on the finger before but it rather hindered his playing and eating. He has been worse about it recently due mainly to the fact that he is cutting jaw teeth.

We are having good garden weather. Our garden is lovely. Walden works in it a lot and really has a grand one. We are having radishes, turnips, greens, spinach, a few beets, carrots. They help our grocery bill. Oh yes, we had our first Irish potatoes yesterday. They were nice. The peas are full of pods, large ones and blooms. Our chickens are nearly 9 weeks old and nearly ready for the Grisco. They are doing so well and eating a great deal. Of the 25 we did not lose a one. We bought a chicken house already cut out ready to be constructed. It has a one inch mesh floor throughout with a wire sun porch and partially wired on sides. It is certainly nice for small back yards such as ours. They never get on the ground and there is no fear of their being molested by animals or of their getting in the garden, etc. The man next door seems terribly afraid they should be on the ground so they can scratch. However, when they do not get so much exercise in running over a large yard, they can be fried when much larger than otherwise. I gave them grass and green spinach twice a day. They seem to enjoy it. The other day Bro Stone, who has a station next door, and with whom I went to Texas last year, thought he would have some fun. He went down the street where he buys eggs and on the way back he left an egg in the chicken house. I suspicioned him for he is mischievous. So the next morning I called him up and asked him if his chickens were laying yet. I told him mine were. He laughed and had a lot of fun

We saw Paul and Edith Tucker about two weeks ago. Then the following Tue she left for Tennessee, for her father had passed away. She had only been home three weeks. He got worse after she left though. He has been in ill health for several years.

I hear Freddie fussing so I'll close and see about him. He is getting so large. Runs around a lot and is always into something. He is an awful tease. Throws everything he can get away with into the bathtub. The other day when we were in the garden he was busy going to all the tomato plants and spitting on them. He does not try to talk much yet but says a few things. He said "hot" twice the other day when I told him the dish water was hot. Goodbye for now. Lots of love and God bless you. We are all well.

Nola

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救済

Mr. Arthur V. Capps-Civilian Internee
Formerly at Wake Island
Held by Japan
Shanghai, China
Care of International Red Cross, Geneva; Switzerland
VIA Chicago, Illinois

SD

W.W. Gardner
720 North Main
Salinas, Calif^o rnia, U.S.A.