

Tuesday nite
8:00 p.m.

Dear Family -

Here we are all tucked in bed - a bit earlier than you (1:00 a.m.) I'd say, but very cosy - outside the wind is blowing very hard - our first bit of winter up here - we've had unusually warm weather until today - ^{now} the wind straight from the north, but bright as day moonlight -

The coffee came this evening just as we used the very last ^{their} ~~them~~ ^{Thanks!!!} morning! Yours that for perfect ^{termining?} ~~termining?~~ The took a walk in the deers path with Mary Mrs M. & back home for a hot cup of tea - Anthony dropped one of his mittens somewhere along the way - his new red mittens! He is all snug in snowsuit & hat & seems to enjoy the big outdoors.

A couple of days ago he stood up all alone - just for a second - but there he was, & so proud of it - he repeated the performance ^{since} so I think he will improve.

He crawls very fast all over the floor + gets this + that. - is after food like a puppy - is very quick now - lots of noises but still no real words. Had his first hamburger - but wasn't too enthusiastic - he had bacon before this - Fritz is trying to write you also but I see, slowly.

We have just heard today from Mr. Day that we can't get the oil stove we ordered until sometime in 1947!! What to do! Fritz can get for her studied a large coal stove. Now Inig tells us coal is expensive. For the house, we can really get along fine on the kitchen stove, which throws out a great deal of heat, + the little electric heater. Probably one more heater (electric) would be sufficient, since we are so compact now with storm sash + weather stripping. Would you have another one around there or should we try in Boston?? They are very expensive to operate, but I feel, the safest thing, now with Anthony crawling. The kitchen stove can be protected by putting his play pen open out in front so he can't get near.

There is another store here, Arnold's, who has oil stoves, but we haven't done

business with him as he is more expensive than the others (unfairly so I think) However he does have the goods, at higher prices. So we could get Fritz on oil stove there I guess. Will inquire about coal stoves from people who have them first.

The carpenters are at last gone - & all paid up - Storm windows are everywhere. New room insulated & finished off. Now we must paint it. I bought a sewing machine from a friend thru Mary, & will use the room to sew in now, kitchen left room. It is a wonderful addition to our little house & will certainly pay in usefulness!

We increased the ^{fire & storm} insurance policy on the studio from \$1500 to \$2500 now.

The mats & bed coverings came - Mary thanks - Fritz has something to use the coverings. He is now painting the bed back for Lily Pons, in case we don't go to N.Y. - anyway it will be done & out of the way. When he finishes it, the truck will take it to her.

Anthony is going ahead so fast - we say so often how surprised you all will be! I got him here some corduroy overalls to crawl on floor in, as they are warm & don't look so dirty - He plays with sea shells much more than any toy. He is learning to drink from cup now & has broken 2 plastic ones, so guess Muriel can get him a silver cup for his birthday, as

she wanted to go away

We have new neighbors - a nice young couple just bought the house at the end of Miller Hill Rd. where Colonna's lived. He is a local boy about our age that we have known some time - the girl is an artist. They are just married & busy now fixing the house, painting everything - it will be so nice to have neighbors back there again!

I'll let Pauline is itching about guests in the house - I can just hear her! Her arches hurt less because she wears those wedgies - now Pauline it's so! Also the reason you both feel like Molly is because you stay up so late at night! The sleep from 9 to 6 + feel wonderful!

We are enclosing bill from Higgins Lumber which is the sum total of everything - studied insulation, boarding ~~in~~ all in, + new room back of house - insulating that - ceiling to cover it in, etc, etc. - The labor came to \$364 which we have paid with the \$200 you sent Pauline, + what else we had on hand. I think paying Higgins in part would be most acceptable since it is a big bill & we have done business long time with them - All in all this seems like a large sum, but we have not only added a room, but also changed our home from summer to year-round use, which change was relative needed. I'll let Fritz finish - Love to now -