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WASHINGTON, D.C.
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Miss Annie Moore
1118 Villanova Dr.
DAVIS, California 95616

Dear Annie

When I went to work Monday I took your application to the hospital volunteer office. Though I planned to give the people there a good talking-to, really convince them not to waste all your talents by giving you some dumb job like running a mimeograph, it wasn't necessary. ~~They were~~ The woman I talked to was really excited about you, said they need people desperately who know how to do music and art & just talk to lonely, sick kids and when's the soonest ~~as~~ you could be there? I told her when you are coming and she said all you have to do is come in to the office and they'll put you to work. Though I gather that you may have to take a training course in the hospital, depending on where you are sent. All the people Children's Hospital cares for are children, many of them Black or Puerto Rican, if that's important. Mostly the kids are put in different wards by age, though there may be some divided up by what's wrong with them. Some of the wards are just ~~one~~ big rooms full of beds, other wards are a series of rooms, each with two ~~or~~ three beds, connected by a hallway. There are about seven or eight wards in the five-story brick building of Children's. ~~It's located, by the way~~ A ward for newborns and pre-mature babies. A ward for adolescents. (13-18 year olds) A ward for 6 ~~year~~-8 year olds, and so on.

I just called a friend at the hospital, had her read me the admissions sheet so

I could tell you what the kids were hospitalized for during the past 24 hours.

3 kids were admitted with broken legs.

4 with burns

2 with asthma

1 with heart trouble

1 with cancer

1 with Diabetes

1 with seizures.

1 ate his mother's iron pills and had to be hospitalized for that. There were a lot more on the list, the hospital is always full of kids, but the rest were mostly diseases I don't know anything about, some diseases etc.

All the wards have toys, visiting hours last all day long, ending at 8 p.m., and of course there are lots of T.V.s. Of course toys don't do bedridden kids much good, so they mostly watch T.V. They're really bored.

Well, we're looking forward to your coming, Annie. Don't worry about how you're going to get to the hospital. We'll think of something.

I'm going to get my wisdom teeth pulled next week - eep! I'm really scared, and I'll sure be glad when it's done. Wasn't it horrible when it happened to you?

Well, my book is going very well now, it's about time, too. Becky's typing it up at work, I'm having a good time writing it and goofing off when I'm not writing. I have to start a new chapter today, which is pretty exciting for me. I don't know what I'm going to say in it - just know that the first chapter I finished yesterday was the best I've written and it'll be hard

for this one to be better. Anyway, Beckys
happy too, we're having a good time here
in Washington, are looking forward to
vacation-time: I may go to New York later
in June to try to sell my book, then if I
did that I'd meet Boo-Boo & you guys in
Albany.

Love, Art