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Feb. 17

Hi sweetipie!

It sounds as though you'll be having a pretty heavy schedule. But life in the "dorm" also sounds like great fun. and a good experience.

I think we'll be in the Santa Rosa area on Monday, March 12 so we'll look you up in the afternoon - late or early. I'll let you know more when I find out. We're to have a picnic with the Sonoma minister and wife who are sweet young things and from there we'll journey up your way for a visit with Billie Brown and Miss Annie Moore.

Well this is the first time I've had time to write in days and I'm doing this between ironing and vacuuming. I have a groups of ladies coming on Monday (just friends - but the clean kind, not like my old buddies in Davis) and then the following week I have a whole bunch of people for 2 days. Dinner party and Open House. The trouble with people here is that they're different from Davis people. They're a little more the linen napkin kind than the paper variety. But I guess they're all going to find out what informal entertaining is like.

A week ago today I went on a field trip to San Francisco with Linda Dew's 6th grade class, since her mother couldn't go. So there we were 66 kids, mostly black with 3 black male teacher (cute) one Chinese lady teacher two black mommies, and me. And coming home, guess which big kid couldn't find the bus and almost got left in the rain — yes, big mommy - me. We had had our visit to the cable car barns and taken a trip with all 66 hanging precariously out of one poor little defenseless cable car. Then eaten lunch at the Marine Museum then traveled on to the Exposition enlist at the Palace of Fine Arts which is immense! Upon leaving we were told to go out the back door instead of the front. The bus had moved. I couldn't find the back door, lost sight of everyone and found myself running and dashing frantically amid empty pillars and no people as I looked for that loaded bus with the rain pouring down. Mitzie Dew and Dad just crack up every time they tell people about it. But anyway I made friends with a black mama who is director of an all-white nursery school in Kensington. Also received the greatest compliment of my life when she told me she just assumed I was married to a black man.

Last weekend, at least Sunday, was busy and good as we visited a sick friend and then went to a supper in memory of a Davis friend who had died. The supper which was pot-luck, was in Menlo Park. They had no church and the children, Jeff and Janeva Jacobs had just invited people over. We all ate and talked and looked at the mother's art work and sculpture. She did weaving also. In fact wove a wall hanging the week she died.

Yesterday we went to a church memorial service for a Hayward friend who had retired in Paradise. It was very lively and full of singing and organ music. Afterwards we had a supper in a Pre-fab Trailer. The Menlo-Park supper was made up mostly of ~~peace~~ movement and women's center types and yesterdays gathering was strictly straights. I seem to get along with either group though I feel now the straights were a lot more joyful about it all.

Saw ~~the~~ the Whitens on our way home. Tom looked better than usual. If you get far-enough away and he's sitting down he's almost good-looking.

Did I tell you Father Barrett resigned and left Davis without ever telling anyone why? The kids at Newman were all shook up because they really liked him. (Father Barrett was fired!)

John and Marcie and Clair-Ellen spent last weekend with us. Marcie looked just great and was very bubbly and happy as she was on her way to an education conference in Pacific Grove and a visit with her aunt and uncle.

My real-estate man came ~~yes~~ two days ago. He is an ex-episcopal priest. He's okay but I think I like my Japanese real-estate man better.

Tonight we're going to a seminar on Brazil and that a man who was a prisoner there and other pertinent facts.

Dad has had 8-9 interviews several days each week for the last few weeks with ministers of this district. It's kind of like free counseling for the men, as they tell him quite a bit. Some are getting divorced this year which is sad for their kids and them.

The sun is out today. When, I don't know whether I can stand all this radiance after 2 weeks of solid rain.

Sunday we go to Point Richmond where dad preaches. Then we're to have dinner with the aldermans. Then we're going to "Godspell" with the Point Richmond group. I think it will be enjoyable.

I gave a talk Tuesday about my tutoring. Some of the women who heard us (it was a panel) are interested in doing likewise. I told them about your experience in Del Paso Hts., also.

Next week I'm to speak to an informal group of seminary wives on the role of the ministers' wife etc. Actually we're just going to sit around and rap while they answer my questions and I answer theirs. I think it will be fun.

I ordered the dress for you. It should be here in 2 weeks. I hope it fits!!! You'll look beautiful in pink. I bought some pink things for Becky for her birthday. Don't forget. It's Feb. 24th.

Love ya,

Big Mama