

P.S. Appreciate your descriptions of winter
in our home state. Poinsettias now in
full bloom here, also cornos and
other flowers.

Missão de Chissamba
Nova Sintra, Bié
February 14, 1949

Dearest Mother and Olive,

Today is St. Valentine's day isn't it? Sorry we forgot about it, but didn't think until we received your letter with the three Valentines so neatly done on it. By the way, the last letter came through in five days, a record. It probably won't happen again for a long time.

Well, You sure asked a lot of questions in the last few letters and reminded us that we haven't answered a good many more. This time I'm not going to try to answer all of those about the boys, for we do not have all the measurements as yet. We took their heights the other day, but have lost the figures. Since the boys are supposed to be sleeping now, although they are not asleep at the moment, I think I'd better not disturb them. I'm making a carbon copy of this letter, and it will serve to remind me that in the next letter we'll send the figures. I can say that Kenneth now wears a number 12 D shoe and Tommy an 11D. You can see that they are keeping up the pace in growing so far as feet go. We have American shoes for each so far. Portuguese shoes are not available for feet like those of Tommy, although we have bought sandals and slippers and rubber boots of Portuguese manufacture for both boys. We have already had made out here by an African a nice looking and well-fitting pair of slippers for T., with K's still to come from the shoemaker. Then we expect to have the same man make a pair of slippers for Betty and for me. Prices are about the same as at home on such things. We don't know yet about the grades of leather.

Betty wrote that we expect to send you as a gift a Kodachrome film with pictures of the boys and us on it. We have already sent one to Dad Dorr and Mother Lu. I'll send you a word when the film leaves here. I expected to have it ready today, but still have space to take three or four more pictures. These will be in the form of 2" x 2" slides, in colors. I'll also send you a list of what the pictures are supposed to be. You can tell by the numbers on the slides what is supposed to be in each ^{of the} pictures. Perhaps not all of them will come out. Too, I've had the film in the camera for some few weeks and this may not help the pictures any. I don't know just what the effect of temperature and humidity here on film. I haven't seen one of my films since last July, and I must have taken better than two hundred pictures altogether in that length of time, all colored pictures. I'm hoping to hear very shortly from the man to whom I'm sending them. He is head of our Visual Aids office in New York. He also has the others which we took in Portugal, for mounting in glass slides so that they can be more easily kept for us. We expect to use them when we come home again. You will see when the film comes, provided there are any good shots, that the boys have both grown, also something of glimpses of how they fit into the surroundings. One picture will show, I trust, Kenney pointing to where we are on the map of Angola.

Well, we are to have visitors from America today, Dr. Reuling and Dr. McKeith, our new executive vice-president. They are coming from Chile, their next to the last stop before going on to the south. We don't know how long they will stay here because of lack of knowledge of which train they are planning to take from here, but look for them to stay at least twenty-four hours. Have you been receiving Dr. Reuling's letters? If not, you should receive some soon.