

December 8, 1941
Monday

Dear Uncle George:

During the time since I last wrote you, I have been amurrying about in search of a new housekeeper for No. 4. They decided they would rather have a "white" housekeeper, and as the present nurse, Mrs. Schaeffer felt the colored woman was not as economical and clean as she might be, I made arrangements with a Mrs. Lella Murphy to take over the housekeeping and cooking yesterday. I believe she will work out nicely there. Was able to get her for \$14.00, which is \$1.00 a week cheaper than the last one, making \$4.00 less a month in that respect.

And I persuaded them to give up Mrs. Schlagel, who has been coming there twice a month since Habel passed away. Of course when Aunt Kate was about, she needed this help twice a month, but coming in as an extra woman to clean the house thoroughly every two weeks with a steady housekeeper there, I just couldn't see the necessity for it. She received \$3.00 twice a month, or \$6.00 a month, so with this elimination and the reduction of \$4.00 on the housekeeper, it means a reduction of \$10.00 on expenses of housekeeping.

I will itemize expenses at No. 4 for November on a separate sheet, a copy of which Uncle Dave would like to have. I must say that Uncle Dave keeps a record of every item purchased, and as they do not live extravagantly, do not see just where any major reductions can be made in view of the size of the home, conditions, etc. I must say that they get nothing other than absolute necessities, outside of food.

I must pause here to say that the war situation in which we have become involved is certainly growing grave, and the outcome is sure to be far reaching. Tonight we have had brief rumors on the radio of possible air raiders over San Francisco, but we hope there is no truth to such reports, although it is a possible thing. We did hear that radio stations on the Coast had been silenced, and now reports are coming in that the planes over San Francisco were operating in a test - let us hope so!

Our plant is pushing production to the limit on telemotors. We have shipped 20 to date, on an order of 200. The men are working 10 hours a day and including Saturday; this applies to both night and day shifts.