

A.S. Am sending the plans of the
studio under separate cover.

Friday

Dearest Family -

We've been watching for your letter, & finally it arrived this morning, soaking wet. We are having a lovely soft spring rain. But so constant, the boys have not yet been able to work at all. But up until today, the weather has been fine, tho' a little foggy. I got most of the garden planted yesterday, so it will benefit from the rain. Got everything in but the tomatoes & corn & melons - still too early for that.

Elmo arrived Sunday with several men to help him & is spending the week putting his apartments in order. Everything is in quite a mess, all the plumbing rotted & rusted away, from the salt water, which of course will happen in these old houses - Aren't we glad we don't have one now! Anyway he's had to dig up yards & streets & is really having a time! His mother will not be up until Sunday. Last night he came up with a friend, John, & we all went out together -

first time we've been out since we got here, & we really did enjoy it - Had a few beers & a few dances & loads of fun. The town is still quiet enough to be a nice small town feeling, & not the resort feeling that comes later.

The studio progresses well, Fritz feels very satisfied in the way Tony builds, that he is so thorough & does every single thing so exact & right. They are going to set up the framing, build it all on the ground, & then lift it into place - roof, rafters & all - Then they can fill in from there. They seem to be going about things in a very sensible way & have figured out how to use all the second hand lumber that we got. In fact we need very little new lumber.

The stone & chimney place will be built in later, as they are not needed this summer, & only get in the way for Hans' school, as he needs every bit of space.

I spoke the other day, saw last year, when we looked at that

great big house down by Elms's, & you had in mind the big studio would be useful for you, you were sure far-sighted. Wouldn't be like to have it now! But the house has been leased & is not for sale.

Peter Hunt has an additional panel, like the ³hard-blocked ones you bought from him last year - Fritz says a set of 4 would be perfect for the little room you had in mind at the office. We will send it if you wish. Peter looks well - so does Ma, just the same. He has made 2 nice apartments in the house where we stayed last year.

Thank you very much for the checks, both for Higgins Lumber, & for Tony - I note the 1 check dated ahead & shall hold until May 28th as you suggest.

The hardware store is:

P. H. Dyer Hardware Co., Provincetown.
I would appreciate your writing them in regards to credit, as we constantly need things from them. Occasionally they don't have it & we must send to Boston or N.Y. for various things.

Thanks for looking further into a hot water heater, i.e., Marshall Field etc. ^{We wrote to} Sears, Montgomery Ward, have none. However, we do not need the boiler, or storage tank. That we have already. We got last year at Day's. Just the heater.

By the way we finally got a small ice chest. A good size, in good condition. Our neighbour had 2 & gave us one. We gave up on the electrical ice box tho' we found one for \$75.00 - too much, & doubtful as to repairs, etc. This will be fine, as is now. We need no ice in cool weather anyway.

The meat shortage becomes worse & worse & I am thinking we should raise livestock instead of garden - it's very bad, & even tho' the butcher is a very good friend, it's only a couple of chops once in 2 weeks!! I'm afraid our prospective child will be very starchy, what with spaghetti, french pancakes.

I have taken up baking in a big way & make bread now, in addition to very good pies, biscuits, etc. It's a job to feed these horses, so every short cut helps to save, &