

MRS. RICHARD A. BOYKIN

MOBILE, ALABAMA

M = Intosh, Ala.
March 21, 1946

Dear Dad,

I'm awful sorry I haven't been corresponding regularly, but I've been awful sick. I've received your letters and I really appreciate them and the advice which will be very useful. I've thought of a few ideas too and will write them later in the letter.

I've been awful sick with flu, malaria, chicken pox, and dysentery all at the

same time. It knocked me for a loop. I'm well now, but still have to take medicine regularly.

Now here's what I've been doing. I've been working on my house the ~~to~~ last seven days. Tomorrow will be the last day of tearing down and hauling. Next week I start putting it up. It'll be swell having a house. We are raising chickens & ducks, now for it. They'll be just the right size when we

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finally move in. We'll have some fried chicken this summer! I'm going to plant corn and a garden when the time comes.

Before moving the house I was working at Tom Hopkins' mill ~~to~~ scaling logs. Before that with Uncle Rob or Mr. Bart Harris in the woods running hires, estimating timber, and keeping an eye on

the "sawers". I've met a lot of people and learned a lot about trading with them. It really is an interesting life. I learn some thing new about it every day.

Your letter about Kudzu was really good. Uncle Charlie would really plant it with all the sandie soil he has on his place. This is a little planted on the old Douglas place - about two acres. The hogs have kept it down but it'll

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do good once they're fenced out. The Tung Oil trees are blooming now and are beautiful. Dad there's real money there. I've been watching them and reading about them and have some ideas I hope you approve I want to plant an orchard of them. I'll show you where when you come home. There are over a thousand small saplings

out in the field I plan
~~to~~ to transplant. Another
 thought which would help
 forest growth a lot. There
 are a lot of ^{fine} trees around
 here that have some kind
 of blight disease - big knots
 on their trunks and branches.

I've noticed they are trans-
 mitting it to young pine. Why
 not cut all these trees for
 paper-wood. ~~these~~ by control-
 ling the disease and getting
 your value out of the trees?

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It would do good and I believe there would be a change in the woods the next five years. This disease is ruining many a young tree and it can be corrected so easy and at a profit. There are a few more things but I will write them later.

Dad there's some thing I want to square with you. The tire matter Jr. charged was my fault. One of

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the tires on the jeep was ready to be recaped. There was no spare to use while it was being recaped so I told matt to try and find one and charge it to you. Now matt and myself are going ~~to~~ to pay for recaping the tire - we had agreed to do that months ago. The reason I needed it I was using it to get to Tom Hopkins every day. The other should be recaped soon and if you don't want to Keith

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the one you bought I will sell it and get your money back. I did what I thought best. Let me know what you want to do about this.

Dad you said you would loan me the \$2,000⁰⁰ I needed to fix my house right. I do need that ~~on~~ loan now awful bad as my bank account is getting low. I would appreciate getting it soon as possible. I have to use a

lot of labor and paying them
has sapped me pretty low.

Oh yes! The magazines
and books came and Bephie
and myself have enjoyed
them immensely. The books
are just what I need and
I'm going to keep them up
to date.

We heard from Bob and
he's getting out in April.
He has had a hard time
and certainly deserves a
rest doing exactly what

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he pleases.

Give mother our love
and we will write her
soon. I know she is en-
joying every minute in
Washington

I would like to get the
store started pretty soon

Dad, if you find out
Albert Ernest is going to
get another hole contract
please let me know ahead
of time so I can see -

fair for business

This is a even dozen
pages so I expect I had
better stop. Bebbie sends
her love - and so do I!

lots of love
your son,

Dick