

Aug 17, 1983

Dear Sarah:

It has been a month since I received your second letter. The time really flies. Tracy has been ill and injured his (other) leg moving something heavy at the University. He is better now. Our Apricot tree came into fruit and I have been busy canning apricots.

Our daughter and her family has been living with us when we first came home until they could get into their home. They no sooner got into their home than their baby got meningitis and so came up to stay near the hospital. The baby is all right and we are so grateful to the Lord that it was the type of meningitis that does not leave any damage to the spine or brain once you get over it, and the baby is fine now.

We think of you all so much and miss you all. We are having rain here--unusual amounts. I wish I could ship some of it down to you. If you can believe it, we have more water this year than we know what to do with. In the Spring before we got home, heavy snow melt caused much flooding in the valleys. We got much national and international attention because the Saints all cooperated, got out and made sand bag ditches down the streets of Salt Lake City and kept major damage from occurring in that city. Some mud slides in Farmington, however, destroyed several homes, and they are recommending this area not be rebuilt because of mud hazard in the future.

Sarah, do not bear the burden of that unpaid material the ladies owe you for. I will stand any loss that incurs. This is how I interpret your letter. As well as Rosalind. Asthneith, Elizabeth and Martha all owe. When (and if) they pay you, send me crocheted cotton dresses for the amount you get back. I do not know what you have sent surface. Let me know what you sent, how much the postage was, and how much of the material you have used yourself. If any is left, do NOT let one piece out of your hands before the money is in your hand. I will ~~deal~~ deal with the ladies on an individual basis. If they want batting or material, they will have to send me crocheted goods first. When I receive it, I will send the equivalent in batting and materials, but not before. It is sad that they are selling their quilts without reimbursing the cost of the material, but don't worry about that. That is their problem. Let me know the total value of the goods you have sent to me, plus the value of the goods you still have on hand. (All those pieces will sell, as baby prints are not available in Zimbabwe). Plus shipping. Then you will own what you have on hand. ~~Anything you have sent commercial~~ you owe me for, and I will send you the prints you want as soon as I hear from you as to how much to spend.

The above sounds tough on the ladies, but if they are going to be in business of any kind they have to learn the basic business sense. You first have to pay for materials before you can sell what you make. I don't know any business that lets you operate in any other way. I'm sure you know this as you have been in business for a long time. Remember--IF they pay you back, send me the equivalent in goods, but if they don't pay you don't worry about it. It will be my loss. I can afford it more than you can. In the future if they want me to send anything, they must write me personally.

There is a way that you can get the materials you need



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the baby prints you want. Do you want me to send matching backs for the quilts or do you want to use your local materials?

but you also did the time delay and the possible loss in the mails. The mails from Zimbabwe to here have been quite reliable for the things we sent home. I will always write and tell you what I am sending, the date, and the mailing cost and the box number so that you can check to make sure that you have received each item. That way we can check what arrives and what does not arrive. If you sent some other materials by boat when you first sent the two dresses, then they should be arriving soon. It takes from two to three months to receive it by boat. Please write soon and tell me what you have sent, how much you have bought from me for yourself from the 119 materials, how much you have left, and if I owe you and how much. For what I owe you I will send the

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