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November 17, 1942.

Mrs. L. P. Hamilton,  
860 Center Street,  
Palo Alto, California.

Dear Mary:

I have just finished letters to Jane, Bobby and Eleanor, and I am now writing one to you and the family. I don't start until I have time to write a short note to each of you, and only today I have found this time out of the past thirty days. Our schedule this fall has been very strenuous. I do not believe that we could have had more difficulties confront us.

We have had 1800 men in our physical conditioning courses that were forced to take compulsory physical education on account of the war situation. We have never serviced over 450 before, and we are doing it with no added faculty personnel. In fact, we are one short, so we have had to take 18 underclassmen, athletes, football and basketball players, and physical education majors, and develop them into a leaders' corps. I will not go into detail, only just to say that the congestion in the gymnasium takes on the appearance of a can of mustard sardines.

My basketball practice comes at night. I teach a class at 9:30 every morning, am busy throughout the day and then come back at 7 and am busy until about 10 o'clock coaching basketball. This is rather a strenuous program, when I combine it with two or three academic classes and the administrative load which during war times is especially heavy. But I am feeling very well and am tickled to death that my health is as good as it has been. In fact, when I have an opportunity I slip out about 4 o'clock and play 9 holes of golf, get through at 5:30, come in and eat dinner with Mother at 6, and go to work again at 7. I do not go home for lunch. I found that I was getting not too fat, but too heavy, so I reduced the diet. I have my breakfast at home and then do not go home until the evening meal. This works out beautifully, and I feel no ill effects. In fact, I feel much better and have been able to cut off five to eight pounds. I think all of us eat too much and take too little exercise.

I have a couple of physical conditioning classes, which makes my load rather strenuous. I believe we are going to have a pretty good basketball team. We have eleven men on the football team who will play basketball, and their last game is against Missouri on Thanksgiving Day. On December 1 we play the freshmen, and were to have played the Fort Leavenworth Reception Center, but their schedule has been cancelled, as has the Iowa City Pre-Flight School schedule. The freshman game will take the place of the Reception Center game. I am enclosing a schedule for the season so that you will be able to keep track of our games from time to time.