

January 6, 1943

Col. Karl F. Baldwin
American Legation
Canberra, Australia
Thru Postmaster
San Francisco, California

Dear Col Baldwin:

Your letter came Monday and at our Rotary meeting we enjoyed a very vigorous display of Jiu Jitsu by a couple of Lieutenants Ley and Wilson. They certainly slammed each other around, but working on athletic pads there were no casualties.

Last night Gertrude and I attended the basketball game and saw K. U. give the Sailors Clippers from Olathe a trimming by a score of 60 to 32. The game was interesting, but I felt divided in my loyalty. I am always glad to have K. U. win and yet the sailors occupy a very exalted place in our respect and regard. It was a hot game.

I looked over and called Mrs. Simons' attention to a very pretty little boy. It was Lyle Armel's son and Mrs. Armel was sitting beside him, but out of my range of vision. The boy is a handsome little fellow.

I know you have been happy visiting the Rotary clubs in Australia and other countries and I am sure that wherever you have visited, you have enriched the regard of Rotarians for the splendid organization to which they belong. In other words, I think you are a first-class gent wherever you are put or wherever the "fell chance of circumstance" may place you. I think you will recognize my attempt to quote from Henley's "Invictus".

Speaking of Lawrence, the parking meters almost give the impression of a picket fence along the sidewalk. We are getting used to them and I do not see how we could possibly have gotten along without them under present crowded conditions.

I think the R.O.T.C. is getting along nicely. Col. Dusenbury has shown ability and good will and has done mighty well when one considers the class of work perfected under his predecessor. Col. Gage and 5 or 6 other officers were at our Rotary meeting not counting the Lieutenants who put on the show.

I took your letter home to Mrs. Simons, and she says that she owes Mrs. Baldwin a letter. Of course, you know Mrs. Baldwin better than I do, but I have been impressed with the stalwartness of her character that has enabled her to carry on without complaint under the stress of war and all that it has meant to both of you. I have held John, your son, in high esteem ever since I first met him. I seemed to sense that there was a good deal to the boy and I am glad to know that he is doing so well in his work. His eyes may prohibit him from being a soldier but his mind and spirit are good and will make of him a mighty fine citizen. I think it was fine that Karl,