

Dear Family,

Here is the long letter I had promised. If you send me a blank cassette Tape I could communicate with you much easier. One of the campers in my cabin does that.

I haven't gotten my pictures back yet so I will send them with the next letter. Some of the pictures of the lake should really be great.

So far I haven't met anyone from Texas whose parents are coming up by car, but I'll keep asking.

I have one of the best teachers of piano in the nation. Mr. Rappaport is a short, intelligent, Hebrew track star. He is constantly comparing techniques of playing with something about the anatomy. I'll tell you more about him when I get back. My percussion instructor, Mr. Combs,

has written many nationally known and used snare drum solos. I'm progressing rapidly and have moved up three chairs in Orchestra. He says I catch on quickly. I've almost mastered the mallet percussion he thinks. My snare needs much improvement, though.

We had to audition for piano teachers! Something I didn't know about! Mr. Rappaport didn't accept everybody. The concert pianist, Jose, in my cabin, recommended him to me. I went to his door and talked to some of the people who came out. They all said that he told them to play lighter and cleaner. I walked in and played that slow and soft Chopin E flat Nocturn. He said "Finally somebody who knows something light on the ears."

Concerto tryouts were early this year everyone says. Auditions were this last Tuesday. I would have had to rush the Bach and would have screwed it up, so I'm taking slowly and working small spots to perfection. The Rachmonineff I can read out and work on during the year. Sorry Rusty. But I did have a beautiful celesta solo with the World Youth. I heard the broadcast on the radio. It's hard to believe that these are just kids.

Or are they?

Thanks for sending me the metronome and books and pictures. My pictures aren't developed yet but I'll send them when I can.

I've been getting around 4 hours of practice daily. It's so easy

up here. The other night I got carried away and practiced 6 hours.

If you have anything happening around there, be sure to write me. I can tell you much more when I get home. Rusty, get my schedule from school the first day and send it airmail.

Love,  
Bob