

Saturday 13 Aug 94

Dear Virginia & Dale

(24 pages)

I hope some of the enclosed notes from the WPA Book will prompt YOU, Virginia, to write up your Moma Dadi Courtship as you told it to Lois & me. I wonder if the "Payson Stage" he drove went along what's called p364-5 The Apache Trail - which does go by Roosevelt Lake you mentioned. Write those stories down - also your wanderings (you said from age 1 -> until your family went to San Diego?) - And we just have to talk longer to hear where you two met etc!

Who can look back to our early beginnings without amazement at where we are now & how all our paths have crossed. There we sat - Bob Paquette (whose family dated to the French Marquis de Vaudrair (?) who was "Gov" of New Orleans before The LA Purchase & later head of Canada; Lois whose grandfather came across the Country on the old Oregon Trail to Brownsville Oregon, Virginia (Aren Dale (from Midwest? to Scrapp to N X A + M to NY - expert on Fog), Leaven who Parents came from Chicago to LA/Santa Monica just before he was born & now W's traveled the world from Siam -> Russia -> Libya -> wherever else - oh yes London - and me - (with my next idea) born in Brownsville in 1819

my mother born Kansas - came to CA 1901
age 18, all alone. My father born
San Luis Obispo his father born Ohio his gf.
born Connecticut - a Civil War Union General
ended up occupying Chattanooga.

Don't we just about cover the
United States!

I was especially proud of us sitting
there - with 3 couples with 43 great long
marriages - probably yours and the
Paquettes at Golden Anniversary stage
and over 46 years! Long may we
live - even those of us who can hardly
get out of the bath at Marie Callender's
(and that means me!)

Love - and see you again -
as usual!

I've decided to send
a copy to
Bob + Lois also!

Dodie

Mrs. Warren C. Thompson
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Monterey
California 93940

P.S. We were in Payson a few years ago - and then on to
visit the ZANE Grey cabin nearby - took lots
of pictures & bought books - and it
burned down next year in that big fire!

P.S.

If you can get from your library:

I bought
both
@
Zane
Camp

(1) Captivity of The OATMAN GIRLS - RB. Stratton
Univ. Neb. Press 1983

(2) A Little War of Our Own: The Pleasant
Valley Feud Revisited

(see next
page) → (This is the area of Ariz along Mongolia
Rim (p 455-7 notes enclosed here))

(3) Oliver La Forge: (Indian story great)
Langins BOY

(4) Dobie: Apache Gold Yagie Silver
I want to read but haven't read
anything Dobie has written is GOOD.

August 16 '94

P.S. Virginia — because of all the pages I copied for you from our Arizona 1941 book I've spent my evenings since seeing you reading the book I bought at Lane Grey's cabin near PAYSON + The Mogellan Run — The book is A Little War of Our Own: The Pleasant Valley Feud Revisited by Don Dederer 1988 (Northland Printing Co, Flagstaff). Dederer was an Editor of Arizona Highways. This book has great history of the cattle herds before surveying of boundaries, the Rustlers, the sheep " , the fences, the RR owning every other mile — The early wilderness of Ariz. Is that what your Dad liked, settling there? Last night I read the footnotes of the Thirteenth Territorial Legislature which met in Prescott 1885, known as "the bloody thirteenth" because the lawmakers settled differences with fists + guns.

Also the author says historically roads went thru Ariz East to West (Apaches, sheep, cattle drives, pioneers etc) but North ↔ South travel was difficult. Five Pima County legislators for the 1885 meeting in Prescott each claimed \$330 in travel expenses @ 15¢ a mile —

To reach Prescott they travelled by TRAIN from Tucson (Pima Co) to Los Angeles, then Three Needles to Ash Fork Ariz where they caught the stage to Prescott!

I LOVE these old Talas — your Dad probably told you lots of early stories!

Love — DODIE