THREE OF OUR APACHE INDIAN FRIENDS ON THE LAWN AT SODA SPRINGS
Soda Springs Ranch
Rimrock, Arizona.

Dear Friends:

The usual run of ranch work has kept us all pretty busy during the summer. We’ve been wanting to write a letter to all who’ve been guests at the ranch, and to those who have written for accommodations here, but it’s a big job to try to write several hundred letters and make any of them interesting, so we decided to write one and have it printed.

We all went over to the Rodeo at Prescott in July, which has occurred every
year for 44 years, and is one of the biggest rodeos anywhere. Here's a picture of Dave doin' quite good. Cannonball looks pretty small in the picture somehow—though he's right smart of a horse. He gets bigger the farther you ride him, as Dave discovered just a few jumps further on.

 Quite a few guests came and went during the summer season, and while the summer was cooler than the average we didn't have any rain and the swimming pool proved a popular place.

 We have some new improvements to tell you about, the most useful seems to be the two-wire copper telephone line connecting the ranch with the main Am. Tel. & Tel. lines. Our "central" is at Je-
Rome and we can now talk any where on earth that has a phone.
Our telegrams also come and go over the phone to Western Union at Jerome.

We wanted to put in a picture of the main house, and as we couldn’t get it all at one shot with our kodak we took two and pasted them together which looks like we’d started in to whitewash half of it. But it’s the house, anyway, and we hope it’ll make our old guests homesick, and the new ones see they’ll have a warm dry place to sleep in.

Last Spring all our guests saw Fox filming “Mystery Ranch” over in the redrocks. Well, here’s a view taken while they were making Zane Grey’s famous “Riders of the Purple Sage,” around the same locality. The amazing natural scenery makes a great background as you can see by examining the picture below. This summer they made another of Zane Grey’s—“Robber’s Roost.” A good many local cowboys and Indians get a chance to work in these pictures, and often prove to be very good actors.
And here's a corner of the living room. We took several pictures on the new-style Verichrome film exposing them anywhere from 45 seconds up to three minutes. They all turned out just the same. Our two biggest Apache baskets show. A squaw worked two years to weave the one at the right of the fireplace.

It's hard to pick out one guest picture from the many interesting ones we've got. The horses are all acting sensible except little Indian who tried to hide his face from the camera. You'll notice, too, part of the saddling corral and the little casement windows along the side of the house which generally do not show in other pictures. We point with pride to the horses we supply our guests.

The new highway is finally completed. It enables us to meet our guests at Flagstaff on the main line of the A. T. & S. F. railway, and bring them right down to the ranch. The distance is 75 miles. This new road is one of the most modern and scenic in Arizona, and is a delight to travel over. We still meet folks at Prescott who arrive on the “Chief” at 7 a.m., or who come via Phoenix. Prescott is 63 miles away. Of course we'll have to explain to newcomers that sometimes there is several feet of snow at Flagstaff, or even at Prescott, when we are having sunny warm weather down at the ranch. But they'll savvy, once they see the lay of the land.

We will soon have a new school house to take the place of the old one which burned down last spring. It is being constructed of stone, with hardwood floors and is much better looking than the old one. The school board plans a good many old-time cowboy dances during the winter season, so when the ranchers with their families gather and the guests from Eaton Bros. Ranch, Beaver Creek Ranch and Sody Springs there ought to be some lively times to Irvin Walker's

“Lady round gent,
And th' gent don't go!
Four hands round,
And a do-see-do!”

No letter of the ranch can mention the kind of Liv Burrill. So heres to you tussling down a calf to bring it to round-up with the cowboys on the mountain at the Mule calves, as they had to vacate the field. That's Dave in the background. The big gate is the one which.

In looking back over what I’ve mentioned Flagstaff and the town—30 miles distant. Verde 14.

Oh yes, we forgot to mention Verde below town, and also flag and over the Fossil Creek higher up. Velvet Dam or Globe without water delivered now at the Rimrock. Comes out by truck every day. It has constructed a concrete.

Below is the old house, department of the ranch.

There's nothing stylish about fireplace and plain ranching with plenty of fresh fruit and the kind of food they're used to the way they like it.

Most of you who receive how enjoyable the winter plates a trip out west we
No letter of the ranch doings would be complete without something of Liv Burrill. So here’s a snap-shot of him in the home corral rassling down a calf to brand. Burrill rode all through the spring round-up with the cowboys, and then along in August he went up on the mountain at the M-Diamond ranch and helped round up the calves, as they had to vaccinate, for the feed was good up there. That’s Dave in the background about to rope another calf and the big gate is the one which opens toward the swimming pool.

In looking back over what we wrote we may have left the impression that this ranch is about 60 miles from anywhere, having only mentioned Flagstaff and Prescott. Well, there’s Jerome—quite a town—30 miles distant. Cottonwood is 23, Clarkdale 26 and Camp Verde 14.

Oh yes, we forgot to mention the new concrete bridge across the Verde below town, and also one across Clear Creek. We can drive over the Fossil Creek highway to the Tonto Natural Bridge, Roosevelt Dam or Globe without fording the streams, whereas we formerly plowed through water to the floor boards. We have daily mail delivery now at the Rimrock post office here on the ranch. The mail comes out by truck every morning from Clarkdale and the county has constructed a concrete bridge across Dry Beaver.

Below is the old house, built in 1884, which now houses the eating department of the ranch.

There’s nothing stylish about our dining room, with its rough fireplace and plain ranch chairs, but you get well-balanced meals, with plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables. We try to give our guests the kind of food they’re used to, and what they like prepared the way they like it.

Most of you who receive this letter have been out here and know how enjoyable the winter is. But if you have a friend who contemplates a trip out west we’ll appreciate it if you will let him know