

149. SO HE WAS BORN ON THE SEVENTH HOUR OF THE SEVENTH DAY OF THE WEEK AND THE 25th OF THE MONTH. I said to Mom and them, "Well, I don't see how we can get a seven out of that!" But she said, "Well, 2 and 5 is 7--the 25th! So there are a lot of God's numbers in there about his birth, so naturally we were very pleased and excited. (--And we've just recently discovered he was born in the 7th Division of Aquarius!)

150. SO THE LORD'S BEEN GOOD TO US AND HE'S A GOOD BABY, THANK THE LORD! And VERY good, and Mama's having a little time getting her milk coming, but I told her, well, maybe he may have to be a bottle-baby after all. Of course she's only had a day or two and it takes two or three days sometimes, but maybe nursing would keep her away from her work too much or interrupted too much. So it might have to be, we'll see.

151. HOW'S HE DOING KID? (HE REALLY SUCKS!) She says he really



tries hard in spite of the fact he doesn't get much, he really sucks. You know some babies are kind of lazy and they don't suck very much, but he really goes after it, but he can't get anything yet and he gets so mad! Anyway, he's been a pretty good boy.

152. SO THAT NIGHT WE LEFT and came home, the night of the birth, Saturday, and Rachel said "I'm going down first thing in the morning to see her", and I said, "Okay, I'll be down in the afternoon."--And I said, "Now listen, she's talking about coming home tomorrow, Sunday, but don't you dare let her out of that bed if you have to hold her down!" Well, of course you know what happened!

153. NEXT DAY, SUNDAY, I get a phone call from Rachel about 12 or 1 o'clock and she says, "Well, she's just insisting on coming home, I can't hold her down. She says the doctors said she could come home, so she wants to come home!" Then Rachel gives me a nice sales talk and she says, "Well, it is kind of difficult here, it's awful noisy, and the trash truck comes by at 4 o'clock in the morning, and so I think she'd rest better at home, I think she'd be better at home. We've got her all packed and the doctor said she can go and the bill's paid and she's ready to go out the door!"

154. THE BILL WAS ONLY 7,000 PESETAS TOO (ABOUT \$100)--ANOTHER SEVEN! It's about twice that much up at the Bellevue Clinic. So girls, don't worry about this little Maternidad down there--it was really pretty, wasn't it

Maria? (Maria: Oh yes, I loved it, I was so glad! I wanted to go there in the first place. I really didn't want to go to Bellevue, but David said, "Oh yes, you should have the best and I want you to go there", and we tried our best at the end, but it turned out the Lord wanted us to see how the poor people have their babies I guess.) Amen.

155. THERE WAS NO ROOM IN THE INN, SO WE HAD TO GO DOWN TO THE STABLE! Hallelujah! Bellevue wouldn't take us in, the rich hospital, so she landed down at the little old poor folk's clinic after all and had her baby there! They had the cutest little room, it was so sweet, bright and pretty and clean, and the sun streaming in the window and their own private bath--well not exactly private--it was an adjoining bath with another girl in the next room.

156. --AND THE ROOM WAS WARM! They had aired out the other places after their operations and whatnot, but the room itself was quite warm and sunny and just lovely, and the bed was comfortable--one of those beds you can screw up or screw down you know. Oh, look at the milk go down, or the colostrum! Well, he seems to be happy, it satisfies him for a little while anyway.

157. AND THERE WAS ALSO THIS NICE COMFORTABLE IN-A-CHAIR-BED that our girls could sleep on like a little short couch love-seat that two people could sit on in the day, and then one sleep on at night, and there were a couple more chairs. So there're quite comfortable accommodations down at the little

Maternidad, very comfortable.

158. BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE EVERYTHING WITH YOU, because it's like the hotels in this part of the world--they don't even furnish soap or anything! They did have some soap in there, but you've got to have all your baby blankets, sheets, linens, towels and everything for the baby. They did furnish the sheets on the baby's bed though, but they were kind of aggravated because Rachel didn't have a baby blanket and all that stuff along, receiving blankets and everything which the hospitals in the U.S. usually furnish.--And a baby towel, she didn't have a baby towel.

159. (MARIA: THEY GIVE THE MOTHER HER MEALS, but for the others you need to take a few little snacks along.) Oh yeah, right away, Maria hadn't had any breakfast or anything to eat all night, so they brought in lunch right away and it really looked good--some of this real good thick Canarian soup, you know, with little bits of meat and fish and everything in it, and she just drank down the whole bowl! She went to town on eating right away and seemed to feel real strong and good! I'm trying to tell you girls all this to encourage you about everything that happened so you'll know what to expect.

160. SO THE VERY NEXT DAY AFTER THE BIRTH, SUNDAY, RACHEL CALLS ME ON THE PHONE THAT MARIA'S INSISTING ON COMING HOME, "She's insisting and we're ready to go out the door!" So I said, "All right, pack her in a taxi and bring her home!" So we had about 20 minutes to rush around