

A letter written by George Romney announcing the birth of his son, Willard Mitt Romney, March 13, 1947.

AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

NEW CENTER BUILDING ~ DETROIT 2, MICHIGAN

GEORGE W. MASON, *President*
GEORGE ROMNEY, *General Manager*

March 13, 1947

Dear Folks:

Well, by now most of you have had the really big news, but for those who haven't, Willard Mitt Romney arrived at Ten AM March 12. He weighed in at six pounds, even. Lenore had been in the hospital since Sunday afternoon.

As probably some of you know, this has been a difficult pregnancy and the Doctor finally decided that she should come in for observation in advance. After X-rays and thorough study, it was decided that the baby should be taken and a major operation performed, the same operation that her sister Elsie went through about two years ago. Because Elsie nearly lost her life, it caused a good deal of concern on our part, including the Doctor's. However, I couldn't have greater joy in reporting that Lenore has not suffered from any unfavorable developments. She had a rugged time and is tired and weak and suffering a good deal of pain, but is recovering and there have been no bad reactions. When I saw her this morning, she looked much better and was feeling much better.

Lynn, Jane and Scott are arguing over whether we will call the new brother "Bill" or "Mitt". Both names have been favorites of Lenore. I really don't know how the debate is going to come out. Scott says "Bill", Jane says "Mitt", Lynn is a little partial to "Bill" and I think Lenore is a little partial to "Mitt". In any event, it will be one or the other and the full name will be the one given above.

We are both happy and thankful for this child. A couple of years ago, the Doctor told Lenore that her condition would not permit her to have another child and that she would have to undergo a major operation. However, she had a lot of faith, as did the youngsters, and, as a result, we have a quartette instead of a trio. Following the operation yesterday, in the course of describing the operation and what he discovered, the Doctor said, "I don't see how she became pregnant, or how she carried the child." We consider it a blessing for which we must thank the Creator of all.

The baby looks very much like a combination of the other three when they were the same age. He has even, strong features; if anything, a little larger nose than the others, and dark hair,

not as much as Lynn had, but about the same amount that Scott had and about as dark as Lynn's and Scott's was. Jane, as you know, was a blond at birth.

He is complete and sound, for which we are also thankful.

There may be other important news to give you right now, but this over-shadows everything else to the point where I find no inspiration to give you any additional news. I'll be writing you again soon to let you know how they are coming along and, at that time, will fill you in on other developments.

Love to all,

Dear Maurice: