

Mar. 20, 1941

Dutch officiated basketball and football games but contributed very little to the support of the family. Different prominent citizens of Salina came to me saying that Dutch was not taking care of his children, let alone his wife, who was forced to work in the school cafeteria so that the children might have the elemental necessities of life.

Both children are talented and the boy, 15 years of age, was playing in the band. A trip was to be made to Kansas City, so this kind-hearted citizen of Salina purchased shoes so the boy could make the trip well equipped, as were the other children. I only mention this to show you that apparently everybody believed in the wife. But most everyone was entirely out of patience with Ernst. He apparently continued to see the other individual and ignored his family.

When I found this out I called him in and tore him to pieces mentally. I told him the only reason I was helping him was to help his family, and if he was going to pull that kind of stuff he certainly could not expect any cooperation from me. Of course, he denied it generally, but he was very non-committal.

I have been in the Uhrlaub home at Salina and have met them when they came here to Lawrence to visit his relatives. So naturally I offered to help Mrs. Uhrlaub in any way that I could.

Way back in January, 1941, to be exact, I received a letter from Mrs. Vernadine Uhrlaub at 1029 East 17th Ave., Denver, Colorado. I told her that I had some very good friends in Denver like Alston McCarthy, Bill Griem, and other individuals who I am sure that I could turn to for a bit of friendly cooperation for a person in time of need. I further told her that if there was any way that we could help her I would be more than glad to do it.

Her letter to me of January 15, 1941 reads as follows:

"I'm sorry to have taken so long to answer your letter.

"The flu epidemic is very much in evidence here. Both Dene and I have had it.

"I returned to work only to be laid off. If you think you can help me in any way at all to find work, I would greatly appreciate it.

"Dutch is working and has been sending some money each week but I can't depend on that alone.

"It is so kind of you to want to help.

Sincerely,

Vernadine Uhrlaub"