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September 12, 1938.

Mrs. Fanchon Reid,
307 South 1st Street,
Arkansas City, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Reid:

I was delighted to have your good letter of the 9th instant and I am happy too that you are pleased with the way we have endeavored to help Bruce find himself in a larger way.

I am sure that we, as parents, realize that there must be a formative period for boys and girls to grow up, and while sometimes we appear to be rather hard-boiled and seem to crack down rather firmly on the children, yet I assure you that I always have a reservation or realization for their shortcomings. None of us grows up in a month or a year or several years, and it is easy just to see how these temporary lapses will occur in any of our growing youngsters.

And, too, I think our philosophy of life is only partially satisfied when we realize how many times it became necessary for us to check up on ourselves and put our best foot forward at the right time. In other words, the only reason we did a lot of the things was simply because we just had to do them, not because we wanted to do them always. The fact that necessity is the mother of invention was the reason that we did accomplish some things, and having accomplished those things we desired not to slip back to the position we occupied previously. Then when we had arrived at this front position other people looked upon us and congratulated us in our small success, but we knew in our own heart that we did it simply because we had to do it.

So I assure you that I understand the lassitudes and inertia of youth. And after it is all said and done, many of us wonder what it is all about when we do attain a position of prominence which means only responsibility and more work.

I am always mindful of the experience of the Chinese philosopher when he went to New York. An American pulled and tugged him through the New York subways and other congested areas. While waiting for one sub, the door of a local sub opened, and the China-