

THE LAWRENCE, KANSAS, JOURNAL-WORLD

May 22, 1940

Dear Julia:

I have received your good letter of Monday and shall send it on to Grace after Gertrude has read it. I had a good talk with Mac Sunday, or rather Sat. night, and find that the thing that is often used and which seems to me to be best under present circumstances is to have you appointed as her guardian. This does not require her to be adjudged of unsound mind, but simply implies that she is not able to look after herself nor her financial affairs. Under such circumstance all financial aid to Joe could be shut off, and perhaps recovery might be made, if he had anything for money she has been sending him.

C Of course she would not like it at first, but I think she would accept it when she came to the realization that it is for her best interests. In fact to preserve her life and what little she may have for her own support. Mac says this is frequently done and often at the hearings the party will talk as sanely as anyone.

O Mamma looked after Grandfather Cowdy when he was no longer able to care for himself, and Etoile tave such care to Mamma and to Dr. Gowdy, and knows that it was for their good. Making you her guardian now would be for the same purpose.

P This action would protect our keepsakes from going to Joe, and if he couldn't get them, he might not want to be bothered with the rest of the stuff. You talk the matter over with Charlie and discuss it with a lawyer. Perhaps some one else for a small fee would do the work as well or better than Avern, who has his own practice to look after. I am really anxious about your health. You must have a wonderful constitution to stand up under so much.

Y Gertie is getting along well, has an excellent nurse and hopes to have the cast removed next Monday. She exerts herself to walk about a bit twice a day, with a "walker" prepared by Dr. Francisco, for the purpose of keeping her muscles fit and ready to go when the broken leg has healed.

Dolph is improving rapidly and steadily. Pat acts like his normal self, but will have to exercise more care than he used to, in order to avoid undue strain.

The schools close the middle of next week and then vacation will be before the children and a rush will be made to get to Gul Lake as soon as possible. I have little idea when Gertie will be able to go. We have had an abundance of well spaced rains and vegetation shows the healthiest condition for several years.

The news from abroad is terribly discouraging, but personally I can see no real aid we would render the allies just now excepting in sending munitions, and thanks to the invompetent in the White House, we are in poor shape even to defend ourselves. We are like the allies at Munich, we are not yet ready to engage in battle. It is heart rending tothink of what is happening.