

November 17, 1942

Mr. J. B. Eakin
Box 306
Santa Rosa, New Mexico

Dear Jess:

Your good letter of July 13th should have been answered long ago.

Mrs. Simons spent about three months at Gull Lake and I was with her all but about three weeks. I think I told you that about a year ago she entered Mayo's Hospital and upon the advice of the physicians there went on a weight reducing diet by means of which she reduced her weight about 75 pounds in nine months. It is something that one can do when they know what they should do, what they should eat, and how much of which and what they should not eat at all. She is in better health and gets around much better although she still limps a bit from the break in her leg sustained in April, two years ago.

We are expecting Julia and her husband and also Etoile to be here for Thanksgiving. Charlie will probably go back the same day, but we hope to have Julia remain for some little time as she has not been real well and we think the change may do her some little good. Her only grandchild lives here and has a darling little six year old child.

The construction of a large ordnance plant which began last May has materially changed the Lawrence of the present. Every house in town that is in any way fit for occupancy is occupied. Hundreds are living in trailers and some in what were garages and filling stations. While our merchants are working under the price ceiling and have difficulty in securing sufficient merchandise, yet business on the whole has been unusually good and I think profitable.

With us we have felt certain definite losses in the matter of advertising such as automobile, tire, gasoline, etc., and it so happens we also had two buildings rented, one to Goodrich and one to Goodyear. Goodyear was forced to close and we voluntarily made a reduction in rent to the Goodrich people to keep them here.