

November 29, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. Don A. Freeman
Route 3
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grayce and Don:

I usually take your letters home, and therefore in writing a reply, I may often omit mention of things that I should have spoken of.

In regard to the letters of papa and mamma, I wanted to ask you whether you simply found the letters and left them or whether you took them with you. Apparently you took them with you and I am glad that you did.

The passing of our two sisters so closely together naturally is inclined to make us a little morbid in our thoughts, but I try not to be so. While I have no desire to live to be one hundred or anything of that sort, I should like to remain sound in body and mind for such time as I am still here. Gertie and I have decided that it would be rather foolish of us to continue to buy pictures, furniture, etc., that we can do without because the time cannot be too far distant when it would have to be handled by someone else.

I have always felt as you do that we were blessed with unusually good parents and that while our little mother was wonderful in every way, nevertheless, we missed a great deal in not having our father also. He was outstanding both in body and mind, was a natural leader, a good musician, a fine salesman, an honest man, and a kindly and loving husband and father. Every time I hear Foster's "Jeannie with the Light Brown Hair", I think of the music papa sent to mamma wherein he had changed it to "Jennie with the Dark Brown Hair".

I am glad that Don is getting better, and I want him to pick up, so that the next time I come up, he can put on the gloves with me. I would hate to have to box with a disabled man.

I think it is fine that you should find the article written by Etoile concerning your childhood and also the letter from Julia that had not been mailed. I, too, think of them constantly. Louis was a wonderful man in many, many ways.