

THE LAWRENCE, KANSAS, JOURNAL-WORLD

October 7, 1943

Dear Julia and Grayce:

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I was informed yesterday that the granite had been received by the local monument works and that it could be used as a marker for our sister. It is a little difficult for me to know just what to put on this marker and I suggest the following for your consideration:

"In Loving Remembrance"

Etoile Bessie Simons

Born April 27, 1869

Died March 2, 1943

I should be very glad to have you advise me in regard to this. The work perhaps will not be done immediately, but the order should be placed at once and the stone will then be in place by spring, perhaps earlier. It has now been slightly more than seven months since our sister left us, and I am sure that all of us think of her every day.

The weather here has been ideal. We have not yet had a killing frost, although there are touches of color here and there in the trees. Recent rains have made the pastures as green as springtime. Gertrude has been busy getting the "place" (meaning outdoors) tidied up for winter. Her flower gardens have been cultivated, bulbs attended to, and as soon as the vegetable garden is thru bearing, she wishes to have it plowed. We still have beans, tomatoes, and turnips in our garden and the flower gardens are full of color.

Gertie is planning now to spend a week with Janet. She has not been out there for nearly two years. If Mable is willing, she will accompany Gertrude. Grayce may not know that we were very happy to have Mable return to us last Monday after an absence of some five months when she worked in the cafeteria at the S.O.W. I think that the greater comfort of our home appealed to her. She is an excellent girl, and we hope will be satisfied to remain with us for a long time.

I had a nice letter this morning from Owen Maloney who is in school at Albion College, Albion, Michigan. He said he continues