

July 31, 1943

Mr. A. D. Weaver
Rutgers Lodge
Route 3
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear A.D.:

Next Monday will be the happy anniversary of an important event which happened in the life of your father and mother quite a number of years ago. You see, I knew your father and I am sure he was delighted when he looked over his square shouldered, well formed baby son.

And your life since that time has been one that could well have had his commendation. It is mighty fine to have lived in one community as long as you have been in Lawrence and to have been identified with so many forward looking movements. You have had your influence in the educational, Christian, social and business side of this community and we all hope for you many more anniversaries of this important event.

Analyzing the situation here, I think that on the whole Lawrence has acted wisely. We have taken care of our new residents without having entangled ourselves with increased indebtedness. It was fortunate that we built our community building when we did for it would have been exceedingly difficult for us to have otherwise handled the many things that have been housed there.

I think there is every indication of a slowing down in connection with the war plant. Building for a continuous supply in case our coasts were seriously attacked, it is quite likely that our big war plant and others like it will never be called upon for any large output. Of course, we are losers in any extravagance that may have been entered into by our government, because we are the ones who in finality will pay the bills, but in this case the government stands to be about the only loser. I understand that the building of the Happy Homes was guaranteed by the government, and I feel that there will be some loss there, but meanwhile Lawrence has enjoyed the acquaintance of the new people, the University has done a splendid work in training thousands of young men for naval and military service, and the churches have all done their part in trying to throw proper influences upon the community.