

1801 Marshall Road, Lansdowne, Feb. 25, 1943

W.C. Simons,  
Lawrence, Kansas,

My Dear Mr. Simons:

Mrs. Brown and I were shocked to learn of the death of Mr. Koelb, the Lawrence pastor. I was lunching with Wiley Smith, our Pub. Society manager of Mdse. sales yesterday, and he said he saw the notice of his death in a Kansas City paper.

We had heard of his having a severe illness, and that he was back at work again, and that the war activities had brought quite an added number into your services. We certainly do sympathize with Mrs. Koelb in her loss, and with the church also, both for the breaking of your own personal ties, and for the break in the church's program at such a critical time.

I suppose Mr. Thomas will be a great help in meeting the situation.

No doubt pastors are as scarce out there as they are here. I have preached almost every Sunday since last June- have just completed a service of four months with a church who now have a new pastor, and today have a call to serve another church as interim pastor for at least four months.

Mrs. Brown and I are enjoying good health, and I get a greater satisfaction in preaching than usual because I do not have so many other things to do as I once had.

I am just now giving a series of six addresses on Latin America, and I have your booklet "Impressions of South America", with some real, practical suggestions. Two exhaustive books are "Latin America" by Inman, and "Inside Latin AMERICA" by John Gunther.

I suppose you recall Helen, the oldest daughter of E.L. Brown, who lived south of town. She is now Mrs. Meek and they live in Arlington, Va. with his headquarters in Washington, D.C. where he is in the U.S. Secret Service. he seems to be a capable man, doing a good piece of work which he cannot discuss very much. He has visited us three times in connection with trips here and the last time he brought Helen with him. We heard through them that Mary Sisson and her husband are in Washington but we do not have her address.

This war certainly is a bloody mess. When will we be through with it, so that we can think some brotherly, friendly thoughts with worldwide impartially?

I hope you find just the right pastor to take up the work with you, and in the meantime please give our very best love and good wishes to any inquiring friends,

As ever,

Owen C. Brown.



THE LAWRENCE, KANSAS, JOURNAL-WORLD

February 27, 1943

Mrs. L. A. McNalley  
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Janet:

C I had overlooked the matter of the abstract and immediately upon receipt of your letter I went to the bank forgetting that it closes at noon because of its being Saturday. I shall try to remember to get the abstract Monday.

O I am interested in hearing about your everyday affairs and the progress of the children of whom I am very fond. It might be fine at the close of the school year if Michael could spend a month or more with us here. I think a change in condition and surroundings might improve his appetite and get him out of the feather-weight and into the middle-weight class.

P I had counted on trying to make the trip out there Sunday to visit you and to attend the Sunset Home meeting on Tuesday. While I have gas enough to enable us to make the trip, it will be impossible for us to do so with Etoile at our house and Julia at the hospital. Julia came in Thursday evening about 10:30 o'clock terribly tired and feeling at rather a low ebb. For reasons that were good she decided to stop at least for the night with Mary Yule. She slept from 12 until 4 when she awakened with a serious shortage of breath.

Y They notified me about 6 o'clock and I called Dr. Liddy who came out quickly and who diagnosed her condition as that of an asthmatic heart. She seemed much better yesterday, was relaxed and quiet, but had another disturbance early last evening so that the doctor gave her another shot and decided that she should go to the hospital. We have secured a room for her and it will be ready at 7 o'clock tonight and she will be taken out in an ambulance.

I believe that Liddy is right and that she has some heart disturbance and it seems astounding to me that her doctors in Chicago never advised her of that fact. I believe that what she needs is an absolute rest together with tender care and a sustaining and adequate diet.



Charlie Hoinville is one of the busiest men in the United States. He and 4 other men control the fuel situation for all of the railroads in the United States and Charlie is the chairman of the committee and is so familiar with the situation that his word is highly valued by his associates. He will have to return to Chicago probably leaving tonight, but we shall look after Julia, and I know that the people at the hospital will give her every care.

Just as a little Easter present to enable you to doll up a bit, I am enclosing a check for \$50.00.

Lots of love to you and yours,

Your father

Enc.



THE LAWRENCE, KANSAS, JOURNAL-WORLD

February 19, 1943

Mrs. C. H. Hoinville  
7539 Colfax Avenue  
Windsor Park Station  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Julia:

Six days have elapsed since I left you, and I hope you have shown marked improvement. I still think that you need the helpful companionship of someone who can look after things a little more deftly than Katie.

I hope you will be able to make your trip to Houston and the south and will find it invigorating.

Etoile has apparently been happy and contented altho naturally she is leading rather of a quiet life and is not getting away from the house very much. The coming of Dorothea and her two children doubtless will be good for her altho I think she worries a bit lest the little folks will hurt themselves in some way.

We had an X-Ray made of Certie some two or three weeks ago, and I have sent it on to Dr. Comfort of Mayo's so that he may compare it with the earlier photographs. She had a little upset with her stomach for a few days, but is now better.

Dolph's boys who have had measles and flu are both better and will be in school next week.

Lots of love from your brother,

C  
O  
P  
Y



February 16, 1943

A. C. Owen Maloney, Jr.,  
AAFTD,  
International House,  
Room 858,  
University of Chicago,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Owen:

I was very sorry indeed, not to get in touch with you while I was in Chicago. I left here Thursday night, got there Friday forenoon, the train being two hours late, and left on the 11:50 Saturday night for home. We tried repeatedly, both Friday and Saturday, to get you and when Mr. Hoinville asked why they had not been able to contact you, they said we must remember you were being drilled sixteen hours a day. I should have liked very much indeed to have seen you.

I know you are coming along all right and I have a lot of confidence in you. You have the brain and the physique to make your mark anywhere. As I told you, I think they are piling it on to you boys for the purpose of weeding out those who "can't take it." In the longrun, I feel sure that the experience will prove both interesting and profitable.

Remember, your old grandad loves you and will be glad to do anything for you that he can.

Lovingly yours,

WCS:JM



Col. R. T. Baldwin,  
U.S. Military Attaché  
375 Collins St.,  
Melbourne, Australia

EXAMINED BY

WAR DEPARTMENT  
DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION G-2  
WASHINGTON

7



Mr. W. C. Simons,  
The Lawrence Kansas-Journal-World  
Lawrence,  
Kansas  
USA

Pouch



AMERICAN LEGATION  
OFFICE OF MILITARY ATTACHÉ

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

375 Collins Street  
February 15, 1943

My very dear Friend:

I am not sure just how we stand on correspondence, but I think our letters have been crossing. I notice before me yours of November 6 and January 5. The letters are so brimful of news, they always do me a world of good.

By now the basketball season is on, and I hope that Fog Allen has another successful time. We sort of expect it as a matter of course. The football season seems to have passed in the usual manner, though I thought by accident that we might over-win Nebraska.

I am very grateful to you for the clippings, and I have read them with interest. Certain magazines are coming to Australia, but I believe there is a ban on ordinary newspapers. I do appreciate items of interest whenever they are received.

Within the past week I have received your Christmas greetings from Rotary, with your name and my many friends. I got a real kick out of this, and this morning I received a very beautiful knife bearing the Rotary seal for which I am also very grateful. I attend Rotary whenever I can, and am taking a three-day motor trip with Angus Mitchell shortly. Mitchell might have been President of International Rotary had the war not come when it did. His family constitute about the best friends I have in Australia among the native population.

I was glad to hear you say such good things about my son John. John is really doing very well with the shipping company, though, if he were drafted, I would not object to his going even if he must be a private. However, he is much more use to the Government building ships. My oldest son is in California and is doing a fine job of engineering. We have written to my son, Captain Lawrence Chandler, who is a prisoner in the Philippine Islands of the Japanese Government. I have hopes we may hear within the next three months.

I am always glad to hear that <sup>Colonel</sup> Gage, who occupies my house, is such a good tenant. In fact, I have been afraid that the R.O.T.C. would fold up, and he would have to go on



some other duty. I hope this will not be the case.

I wonder if you have heard about Colonel Carroll Riggs, who was my assistant at the University for two years. His wife has been notified <sup>officially</sup> that he is missing in action, and ~~his~~ plane lost. I received a cable from Mrs. Riggs (Chichi) and investigated it thoroughly although the place of his loss was nearly 2,000 miles away. I am quite convinced that the plane and all on board were lost in the sea, though nothing whatever has been found. This occurred on the morning of December 18th. I saw Carroll's many friends, visited his room where his Christmas parcels lay unopened and where there were pictures of his wife and children and many other home things. He had done excellent work here and commanded a very fine regiment. On four different occasions we had met and had very pleasant visits, the last being only a short time before he was reported missing. His "missing" is a very great shock to me. So far as I know, he is still carried as "missing" and for that reason I hesitate to say anything <sup>publicly</sup> about my having investigated the case until the War Department announces his definite loss, which should be soon. The loss of Carroll Riggs is just another incident of war, which takes place everywhere where men are training to defeat the wily enemy.

We seem to be doing quite well on all fronts, but the enemy has advanced so far that I do not expect a final victory for some time. I think we have to beat him down and that applies to Nazis as well as Japs. If we do not do that, we will be in a terrible fix in less than 20 years.

I am glad to hear the good things about America's doing her part in the war. Each self-sacrifice tends to strengthen the character of our people.

We entertained six convalescent officers of our forces last night with a dinner and show. They were mighty fine men all having given distinguished service on fronts in this quarter of the world. A fine group of Australian girls helped us make the evening successful. After dinner we saw the movie starring Claudette Colbert, "Remember the Day."

I still continue to streak about Australia, and have covered nearly 34,000 miles so far, and, in fact, I have been away two thirds of the time since the first of August. I am of course learning a great deal about Australia and her people.

You spoke of Gertrude's good health for which I am



very happy. You also mentioned that you might visit Australia soon after the war if the end came within a reasonable time. I hope that Mrs. Baldwin and I will be here to greet you. There is a possibility I may have her come out later. Just now, it does not seem to be an appropriate time. I do miss her and my family immensely. I am in excellent health, and we have plenty of good food--beef, lamb and cereal products. Right now some of the finest fruits are in season, such as peaches, plums, nectarines, grapes, blackberries, raspberries, apples, and tropical fruits are to be had. As a matter of fact, we do not have to ration ourselves in diet as much as you do in the States. Rationing on gas is closer, but as my trips are official this does not worry me though I exercise due caution in the use of my car which bears the distinctive label "DC 13". Now what would you call that if you saw it in Lawrence? We do a little kidding, and I assure everyone that it doesn't mean "Drunk Colonel No. 13". It might mean "Distinguished Citizen No. 13". However, it is "Diplomatic Corps No. 13". The licensed cars bearing "DC" will be increasing, as the Russians are arriving to establish their Legation.

I was extremely glad that Mr. Flynn withdrew his name from the Senate. The criticism of his assignment as Ambassador was terrific here in the local press. The Johnson's have been perfect to me, and they want to stay. I hope the President sees fit to let them stay. They are loved by everybody.

I recently spent two weeks watching the Commonwealth Parliament in session. After this experience, I am afraid I will say many complimentary things of our own legislative assemblies. I have met practically every leader in Australia, both political and military. It is a big country, but the population for the most part is hemmed into limited areas.

If you really have the fever for Australia, I will send you some special literature to read.

I am always interested in your local news. I was very sorry to hear about Alfred Lawrence, and I hope he has come through his difficulties safely. Take care of yourself and your good wife, your children and grand-children. You can be very proud with what you have accomplished in life, and I am very proud to have you as a friend. There are many things I would like to tell, which I dare not even mention. Sometime we will "fry the fat" and discuss the matter through.

Hoping to hear from you again shortly,

Very sincerely yours, *Karl F. Baldwin*



January 21, 1943

Aviation Cadet O. W. Maloney  
AAFTD  
International House, University of Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Owen:

I had the pleasure of reading your letter of the 18th and I am glad you are getting along fine, but I can see you don't have very much time left to twiddle your thumbs.

I mailed a letter to you yesterday from your grandmother and I hope I am not giving away any secrets when I say that I think your parents are hoping to see you soon in Chicago.

I presume it is feast or famine in this matter of getting letters in that they come in bunches or do not come at all.

You are very much on our minds, we love you a lot and we have a lot of confidence both in your ability and in your intentions. It is hard on you, but I think you look more like your grandad than any other one of his grandsons, although John Simons may resemble me more later on as he looks a bit as I did when I was a slender youngster although he is taller for his age. I grew very rapidly in my 13th and 14th years.

As you get the paper, you know a great deal of what is going on. We have lost a number of our young men and one of our old time employees who has been with us about two weeks, came up with his papers today to be notarized, so he will doubtless be leaving us soon. I never fuss a bit about the trouble that it makes us because I think it is a great deal more upsetting to the boys who have to go than it is to us. On the other hand I think that you really get something out of it that is worthwhile. I have no doubt that already your weeks at Chicago have been of more value in developing both body and mind than perhaps a year at the university.

I want you to call upon me at any time that I can be of service to you or grant you a favor. We had your mamma and sisters over for dinner one day this week and enjoyed having them.



- TWO -

I just attended the funeral of I. C. Stevenson who had been prominent in the community for many years and tomorrow Mr. Koelb's funeral will be held. I presume you noticed in the paper that he passed away on Tuesday.

I don't think you need to worry any about what you will do in the future as your father's business will doubtless be calling for you and if not, many other opportunities will be open to you.

Lots of love from your old grandad,



February 27, 1943

Mrs. L. A. McNalley  
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Janet:

I had overlooked the matter of the abstract and immediately upon receipt of your letter I went to the bank forgetting that it closes at noon because of its being Saturday. I shall try to remember to get the abstract Monday.

I am interested in hearing about your everyday affairs and the progress of the children of whom I am very fond. It might be fine at the close of the school year if Michael could spend a month or more with us here. I think a change in condition and surroundings might improve his appetite and get him out of the feather-weight and into the middle-weight class.

I had counted on trying to make the trip out there Sunday to visit you and to attend the Sunset Home meeting on Tuesday. While I have gas enough to enable us to make the trip, it will be impossible for us to do so with Etoile at our house and Julia at the hospital. Julia came in Thursday evening about 10:30 o'clock terribly tired and feeling at rather a low ebb. For reasons that were good she decided to stop at least for the night with Mary Jule. She slept from 12 until 4 when she awakened with a serious shortage of breath.

They notified me about 6 o'clock and I called Dr. Liddy who came out quickly and who diagnosed her condition as that of an asthmatic heart. She seemed much better yesterday, was relaxed and quiet, but had another disturbance early last evening so that the doctor gave her another shot and decided that she should go to the hospital. We have secured a room for her and it will be ready at 7 o'clock tonight and she will be taken out in an ambulance.

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Page Two

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Just as a little Easter present to enable you to doll up a bit, I am enclosing a check for \$50.00.

Lots of love to you and yours,

Your father

Enc.



February 19, 1943

Mrs. Don A. Freeman  
Route 3  
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grayce:

Not much news to tell you, but thought I would send you a carbon of a letter I have just written Julia.

We are having a few very pleasant days-- warm enough for spring and we shall soon be planting our Victory Gardens.

I hope that Don is much better.

Lovingly,

Your brother,

ENC.



February 19, 1943

Mrs. C. H. Hoinville  
7539 Colfax Avenue  
Windsor Park Station  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Julia:

Six days have elapsed since I left you, and I hope you have shown marked improvement. I still think that you need the helpful companionship of someone who can look after things a little more deftly than Katie.

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Dolph's boys who have had measles and flu are both better and will be in school next week.

Lots of love from your brother,



Feb-15--43

Dear Sir

I see your ad in journal would  
you have 9 acres of land to  
rent if the location is  
favorable I would like to  
rent it I would pay you  
the rent any time cash

Yours truly  
Guy Allen  
625 La Grange  
Lawrence



February 16, 1943

Mr. Guy Helms,  
625 Lake Street,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

The nine acres I have for rent was in alfalfa for six or seven years and the last two years have been in corn.

I live at the extreme South end of Vermont Street, about a quarter mile South of the highway.

We shall be pleased to have you call and see the ground for yourself.

Before planting the alfalfa, we drilled about three tons of lime to the acre.

Respectfully yours,

WCS:JM



February 16, 1943

Mrs. Reed,  
1319 Vermont Street,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Reed:

Our vacant land is in the edge of town and has an assessed value of from \$200 to \$300 an acre so it would not be desirable to trade for your property.

Respectfully yours,

WCS:JM



A-31- I read of the  
9 acres for rent near  
the city limits. I am  
not interested in  
renting it but am  
wondering if you would  
want to sell it, or,  
possibly trade on a 5  
room partly modern  
house 6 blocks west  
of Mass. St. It has a  
good rental income  
possibilities, Taxes are  
only \$19.90 per year &  
has ~~clean~~ clean title, and all  
tax receipts. If at all  
interested, call me at  
2534, or see me, at  
1319 Ut. St. Price is  
reasonable. Mrs. Reed.





THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

*Journal - World.*  
*A - 31*  
*City.*



February 16, 1943

Mr. Amos Reed,  
Box 228,  
Eudora, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Reed:

The ground we have for rent does not have either water or connection with electric lines. We do not wish to rent it for the trailer park.

Respectfully yours,

WCS:JM



Audora Kans

Feb. 17 - 43

Dear Sir,

In Fri Paper I read your  
odd. 9 acres of ground to  
rent. I have been looking for  
a patch of ground where I  
could move my trailer on.  
is there water on this. and is  
it close to Electric lines. I work  
at Audora Plant. and could  
care for a acreage of this  
size. and my wife wants a  
good garden space & few frays  
I will enclose self addressed  
Envelope for particulars. ans by  
return mail. Yours truly  
Amos Reed.



February 16, 1943

Mr. Albert A. Rose,  
Route 3,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Rose:

I live on the extreme South end of Vermont Street, about forty rods South of the highway.

The land I have for rent was in alfalfa for about seven years and produced a fine crop. For the last two years it has been in corn and we had a good yield.

We shall be glad to have you call and see the ground.

It was thoroly limed before planted to alfalfa.

Respectfully yours,

WCS:JM



Lawrence, Kansas  
Feb. 11 1942

Dear Sir

Just want to inquire about the  
nine acres of ground advertised in paper.  
where from town is it located, is there  
a house, would it be suitable, for  
sweet potatoes, tomatoes and water-  
melons, and is for rent for more than 1 year

Am a good hand at truck  
raising and that I might be interested  
could pay cash rent.

Please write me

Albert A. Rose

Lawrence,

R.R. # 3.

Kans.



February 16, 1943

Mr. S. E. Owens,  
Route 3,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

My dear Mr. Owens:

I have not yet rented the nine acres advertised in the paper.

I live on the extreme South end of Vermont Street, about forty rods South of the highway.

The ground was in alfalfa for seven years and produced a good crop each year, and for the past two years has been in corn. The ground is in good condition. The ground does not have a house or buildings of any kind, but is fenced.

Respectfully yours,

WCS:JM



Laurence Kansas.

Feb 10. 1943.

Dear Sir

I saw your ad in the  
paper. I am interested in  
it. It is close in  
and I have plenty of  
equipment to handle several  
acres. you can call or see  
me if you haven't rented  
it. my telephone no. is

I have farmed all of my life.  
7 2 3 K 2.  
Mr S. E. Owens.

Laurence

Route. no. 3. Kansas.



February 16, 1943

Mr. Orville Getty,  
1225 Haskell Street,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

My dear Mr. Getty:

I have not yet rented the nine acres  
advertised in the paper.

I live on the extreme South end of  
Vermont Street, about forty rods South of  
the highway.

The ground was in alfalfa for seven  
years and produced a good crop each year,  
and for the past two years has been in corn.  
The ground is in good condition. The ground  
does not have a house or buildings of any  
kind, but is fenced.

Respectfully yours,

WCS:JM



Lawrence, Kansas  
Feb. 10, 1943

Box A-31  
Journal World  
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Sir:

Please let me know where  
and more particulars about the  
nine acres of land you have listed  
for rent in the paper.

Sincerely  
Civille J. Getty  
1225 Haskell St.



February 9, 1943

Mr. Charles H. Hoinville,  
908 Railway Exchange,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Charlie:

I was very happy to receive your letter today telling of the apparent improvement in Julia's health. I have worried a lot about her and have been doing my best to try to work out plans that might benefit her. I also thank you for the Stock Certificate.

I try to have all of my affairs of that sort in shape, but realize that no matter how careful we are, we are quite likely to leave some things unattended to when it comes our time to move on. I am not saying this in a morbid way because I am in fine health and have the prospect of living entirely too long unless we have a change in our federal administration. I don't know whether I could live for another twenty-five or thirty years with such a pain in the neck ever present.

Find herewith check for \$25.00.

With love,

Your brother,

WCS:JM  
Enc.



January 6, 1943

Col. Karl F. Baldwin  
American Legation  
Canberra, Australia  
Thru Postmaster  
San Francisco, California

Dear Col Baldwin:

Your letter came Monday and at our Rotary meeting we enjoyed a very vigorous display of Jiu Jitsu by a couple of Lieutenants Ley and Wilson. They certainly slammed each other around, but working on athletic pads there were no casualties.

Last night Gertrude and I attended the basketball game and saw K. U. give the Sailors Clippers from Olathe a trimming by a score of 60 to 32. The game was interesting, but I felt divided in my loyalty. I am always glad to have K. U. win and yet the sailors occupy a very exalted place in our respect and regard. It was a hot game.

I looked over and called Mrs. Simons' attention to a very pretty little boy. It was Lyle Armel's son and Mrs. Armel was sitting beside him, but out of my range of vision. The boy is a handsome little fellow.

I know you have been happy visiting the Rotary clubs in Australia and other countries and I am sure that wherever you have visited, you have enriched the regard of Rotarians for the splendid organization to which they belong. In other words, I think you are a first-class gent wherever you are put or wherever the "fell chance of circumstance" may place you. I think you will recognize my attempt to quote from Henley's "Invictus".

Speaking of Lawrence, the parking meters almost give the impression of a picket fence along the sidewalk. We are getting used to them and I do not see how we could possibly have gotten along without them under present crowded conditions.

I think the R.O.T.C. is getting along nicely. Col. Dusenbury has shown ability and good will and has done mighty well when one considers the class of work perfected under his predecessor. Col. Gage and 5 or 6 other officers were at our Rotary meeting not counting the Lieutenants who put on the show.

I took your letter home to Mrs. Simons, and she says that she owes Mrs. Baldwin a letter. Of course, you know Mrs. Baldwin better than I do, but I have been impressed with the stalwartness of her character that has enabled her to carry on without complaint under the stress of war and all that it has meant to both of you. I have held John, your son, in high esteem ever since I first met him. I seemed to sense that there was a good deal to the boy and I am glad to know that he is doing so well in his work. His eyes may prohibit him from being a soldier but his mind and spirit are good and will make of him a mighty fine citizen. I think it was fine that Karl,



John, and Mrs. Baldwin were together and for the moment I don't recall whether Kay is there now or has come back East. In regard to your son who is a prisoner of the Japanese, it is possible that his knowledge of the country may enable him to secure a little better treatment than might otherwise have been received.

In football at K. U. we are like an old man of 90 or 100 who lives in the glory of the past. Some day we will doubtless get hold of an enthusiastic youngster who has made good in football and who will build us a team that may win and hold a championship.

How much geography we are learning thru the war. I have three atlases at home and also a globe and National Geographic maps, and I follow our troops and our navy and marines wherever they are, at least insofar as I am able to know where they are.

In case the war ends comparatively soon as it may end, it is possible that Mrs. Simons and I might visit Australia and some of the Islands of the Pacific.

We have a lot of confidence in your commanding officer as we have confidence in you. My hope for an early or a comparatively early ending of the war is because of my knowledge of the character situation. A bully goes strong while he is winning and whines like a whipped pup when things go against him. When the "son of Heaven" feels the real hand of the United States in the Island of the Morning, he will feel that he has been transported to Hell rather than to Heaven. The might of the Germans has already been exploded. Cowardly curs they are in their treatment of everyone who are not a part of their ruling clique.

I am hoping for good news from Northern Africa. Russia has been doing valiant work and by constantly increasing attrition, the forces of Germany are growing weaker and weaker.

Now may God speed the day when righteousness, justice, and good will may again be the rule of life the world over.

Cordially yours,

(Signed) W. C. Simons.



February 1, 1943

Mrs. D. L. Burton  
Lone Star, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Burton:

I happened to notice the other day reference to the fact that you were suffering from a broken leg.

I am mighty sorry that this accident happened and I sincerely hope that your recovery will be rapid and complete.

I suspect for many good reasons I have felt a very warm friendship thru the years for both you and your husband, and if at any time I can render you a favor, please call on me.

Cordially yours,

W. C. Simons.

WCS:DF



Censor

*Baldwin U/A  
Anna Ferguson  
Cox  
Patterson Sm  
beva  
off  
in use*

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION

ARMY POSTAL  
DEC  
11  
1942  
P.M.  
A.P.O. 924



*Mr. W.C. Simons.*

*Lawrence  
Kansas,  
U.S.A.*

U.S. CENSOR  
No. 2  
ARMY EXAMINER

*3255*



Form 3813

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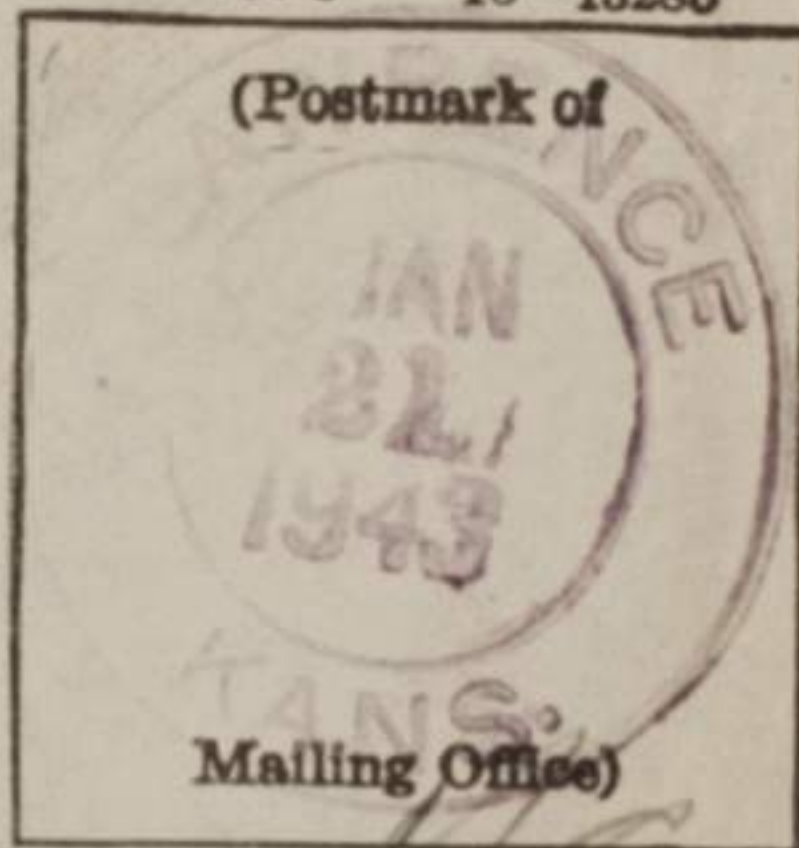
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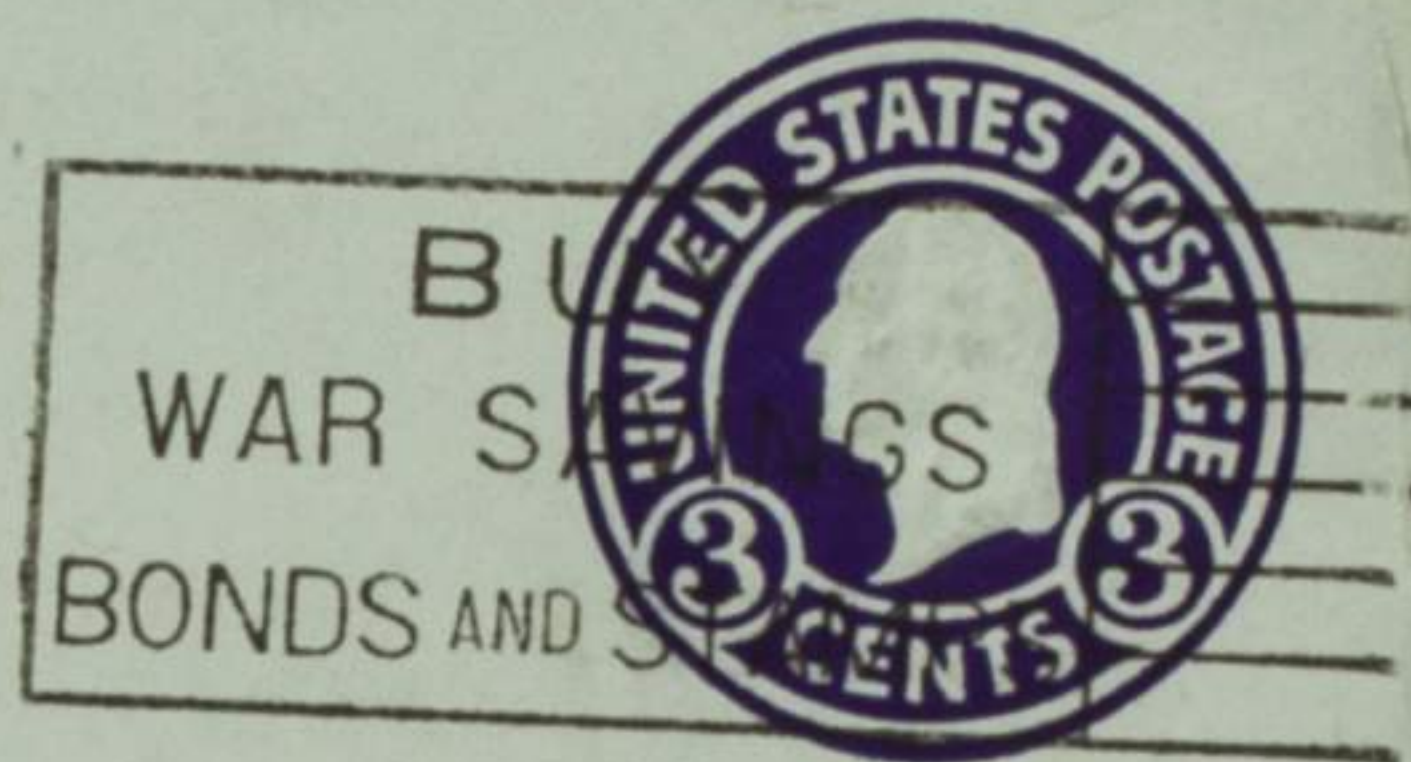
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RAILWAY SYSTEM,  
908 Railway Exchange,  
CHICAGO, ILL.



W. C. Simons

Journal World

Lawrence Kansas.



THE LAWRENCE, KANSAS, JOURNAL-WORLD

January 25, 1943

Mrs. C. H. Hoinville  
7539 Colfax Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Julia:

**C** Charlie tells me that you are considering having a thorough check up to try to find out just what is the matter with you. He asked me about Mayo's. I took Gertie there some eighteen years ago when she had her attack of Bell's Palsy and they handled it very satisfactorily. We were there again a year ago last August and last June and September and we were well pleased with the result.

**O** Pat after suffering severely with an ailment that could not be properly diagnosed went there nearly two years ago and was greatly pleased with the result.

**P** Under ordinary circumstances I would come up at once to see if I could be of any service. It so happens that Pat and Blanche are going to Chicago Thursday of this week to spend the weekend with Owen. Pat came in Saturday night from Tulsa and I had a visit with him this morning in which he said that he and Blanche would see you while they are in Chicago and he would give you the lowdown on Mayo's as he had found it.

**Y** I do not know about your Chicago hospitals, but they should be highly creditable institutions, and if you could secure expert diagnosis there, you would have the advantage of being where Charlie could be with you which is no small thing when one is sick.

While Gertie was up and around, I stayed with her all the time she was in Rochester.

I am anxious to have you get proper attention believing that you have a fine constitution and natural background that should occasion a long and enjoyable life.

Gertie and I took dinner yesterday with Mary Jule and family. She had a nice dinner and we spent several hours in their home. Vera was invited to a party given by Dr. Phog Allen's daughter-in-law for her little daughter and the little girls of Vera's age all



- Two -

came dressed up as young ladies. Mary Jule used a couple of hair switches that she had had years ago and coiled them up on Vera's head. Vera had on lipstick and rouge, a long skirt and wore a pair of her mamma's shoes by putting her own little bedroom slippers inside of them. She did look very sweet and cute. I did not see the other little ones, but we used our car to take Charles and Vera to the party.

Please write me or have Etoile write me further about you.

God bless you and keep you.

Lovingly,

Your brother



Chicago Jan. 23rd 1943

Dear Collie:

I have your letter of the 13th and Avern is tied up just now in the army, but told me that he would get at it this week end. and he has had the stock certificate made up and it should be ready for mailing very shortly.

Julia is not at all well. She is getting weak, and catches onto things, doors etc. when she is walking. No dizzy spells, just seems unable to take hold. Doctors have examined her and find everything normal, and cannot explain her condition.

We are thinking of Mayo's and should like to have you write and tell us who is who there, the approximate cost etc. I suggested Billings, or the other hospitals in Chicago, but she does not have faith in them, and believes, account what they did for Gertie they can locate her trouble.

Let us know by return mail, and send it to the house, as I leave tomorrow afternoon for St. Louis to attend an OPC meeting and will be gone for four days. The only objection I see to Mayo's is that I could not go there with her, so she would be on her own and if it were here, I could see her twice or more daily.

Drop her a note with all information, please.

Bro. Chas.



My dear W.C.,

I was very much pleased to receive your letter of October 13th. I am sure the censor was somewhat responsible for the delay in its arrival. Letters from the home front are always very welcome.

It was fine Lyle Armel could get home for a day or two. I would like to do so myself.

Rotary have been very kind to me in Australia. I have visited 6 clubs altogether in widely dispersed areas. I have just received the "Rotarian" and have been informed that the Lawrence Club are sending it to me. I greatly appreciate this.

I would like to congratulate Dolph on the success of the scrap campaign. Philena wrote me that Kansas was the "tops" on the greatest number of pounds. I thought the idea of giving the kiddies a ride in a Jeep for 50 lbs of scrap a very clever one.

I note that you and other correspondences mention the changed conditions in Lawrence. It must be changed with George Foster and Dr. Anderson having passed away. I would miss them both greatly. No one has mentioned how the R.O.T.C. is getting on. I hope they will continue this organization, and I am happy to have such a fine tenant as Colonel Gage. If he should leave I have asked Philena to go to Lawrence and decide what to do with the home. Philena is very well according to the latest report and enjoying the two boys who are there with her. John has a very responsible position in the shipping yard in charge of steel. Since his eyes are too poor for him to become an officer I am not too anxious for him to be drafted as a private though he is anxious to go. Karl, the oldest boy, has a very fine job engineering, in charge of all the heating and ventilating for a project for the Navy which will house around 40,000. We have no further word of my son, in the Philippine Islands, though I do know he was alive at least a day before the surrender. The Japanese are not going to give us any information on our prisoners I am afraid.

K.U. football scores seem to be about the same as usual though I haven't heard many scores, though I did hear we won from Kansas State.

I have been out of Melbourne 90 days since the 6th August,



on all sorts of trips, so you can see I do not stay home very long at a time. My most recent trip was to Tasmania where they were publicly celebrating the discovery of that island by the Dutchman, Abel Tasman, in 1642. On the same voyage he discovered New Zealand and the Fiji Islands. I represented the United States and therefore the American flag flew beside that of Australia and Holland. I had a short talk or two to give and I was the guest of the State for the 15 days on the island. I covered 1,700 miles by automobile. I saw some of the most beautiful Switzerland-like scenery, though it has never been my good fortune to visit Switzerland. I even went fishing in the Great Lake and we caught four Rainbow Trout, good fighters, the largest weighed  $4\frac{1}{2}$  lbs.

Early in the fall I spent some weeks doing special work for the "big boy". In this I was able to utilize the fundamental knowledge which I acquired 20 odd years ago and for which I received a fine letter of commendation from our big General.

I cannot write about the campaign, of course, but if reports in the press are true, we have the Japanese so far defeated badly in the air and on the water where ever we meet them. Certainly around 40% of all Japanese warships have been sunk this past year, and as I see it, when we have destroyed their fighting navy we can really go places.

My headquarters here are very quiet since we are along way from the front. Things are moving and I expect good events in the coming year.

I thank you for your kind esteem and I assure you it is mutual. We greatly admire you and Gertrude. Please give here my best wishes.

Very sincerely,

Karl F. Balderni



AFTER 5 DAYS, RETURN TO

J. B. Eakin.

Box 306.

SANTA ROSA, NEW MEXICO



*Wakarusa*

*Mr. W. C. Semons,  
Lawrence.*

*Journal World.*

*Kansas.*



Box 306 Santa Rosa New Mexico  
January 16<sup>th</sup> 1943

Mr. W. L. Simone  
Lawrence

Journal World Kansas

Dear Collie: Received your letter some time ago and was glad to hear from you. Hope Mrs. Simone keeps improving in health. Was sorry to hear Julia was not in good health but hope she is in a much <sup>improved</sup> condition of health than when you wrote. Mrs. Eakin and I are in our usual health and our family is all well. Our eldest daughter was married in August her husband is a petty officer in the navy he was at Treasure Island when she heard from him. He was stationed at San Diego but was transferred to Treasure Island she met him at Albuquerque where she was working in a hospital and then when he entered the navy she moved to San Diego and after his transfer she came here for a few days and is now at Lamar Colorado as surgical nurse. The war outlook is much improved while I imagine the going will be slow for awhile <sup>for</sup> adverse weather conditions is delaying action in Africa. While its improving the Russian position ~~is~~ along the Don and in the Caucasus I made a prediction that I believed the war would be over in this year



but did not take into account Japans  
entry into the fray at that time.

They no doubt will delay our ultimate  
victory some time. I really believe  
Germany is beaten now and will  
only be able to keep up a defensive  
war hoping for the best peace  
terms possible. There is nothing  
doing here in the way of  
defense work. Fort Sumner has  
a U.S. training glider field. Air  
bases are constructed and under  
construction in numerous towns  
near here. Used for gulf protection  
The mine is still idle. chances  
are it will be for the duration.  
I should have mentioned before <sup>this</sup> that  
Mrs Eakin's father passed away  
the 11<sup>th</sup> of this month. He was  
eighty four years old and had been in  
poor health for a number of  
years. He lived at Newton Kansas  
with Mrs Eakin's youngest sister.  
Was buried at Chase Kansas where  
his father came to when Mr Orr  
was just a boy in eight<sup>and</sup> seven<sup>ty</sup>  
two. Mrs. Eakin had seen him <sup>in</sup> April  
of last year but did not go to the  
funeral. Traffic is so congested that  
travel is a prohibitive affair now.  
Especially for a person who sees



not necessarily. <sup>2</sup> have to go  
She is not so very strong that  
is I mean her feet bother her  
some and had she went she  
might have had to stand up both  
ways going and coming and that  
would have worn her out completely  
you wrote about being glad about  
the Republicans making so many  
gains in the house. Yes I am  
rather glad myself they did not  
get a majority of the house  
members otherwise we might  
have faced a condition similar  
to President Hoover's 1930 Congress  
I observed as close as I could the  
doings of the Democratic Congress  
and felt sorry that they lacked  
statesmanship enough to cast  
party differences to the <sup>1</sup>forwards  
and work for the good of the  
nation as a whole. Not that I  
will work faithfully to win  
the war and for the good of the  
country but partisan politics is  
something that ~~should~~ not be observed  
<sup>much</sup> until Postwar days. We must struggle



to ~~save~~<sup>preserve</sup> our homeland for us and  
descendants first Then settle our  
home affairs afterwards. The founders  
of this Nation were wise in their  
of establishing a republican form  
of government, and the two  
Party system <sup>works</sup> as a check and  
balance to keep us <sup>away</sup> from an  
~~autocratic~~ autocratic form of  
government I think, New Mexico  
is in the hands of a Democratic  
clique at present and while Governor  
Dempsy won by about ten thousand  
votes it was large in comparison  
to states of a larger voting percentage.  
He was scrapped hard here in  
this county as he had an asphalt  
mine and some think that by political  
maneuvering checked the sale of  
the products of this mine here for  
his mine which is located in Oklahoma.  
Anyway he has sold several million  
dollars worth of asphaltic rock products  
in New Mexico where this company  
only sold thousands, of course there  
is no road building but he has gotten  
some air base material sold where  
while this company submitted their  
specifications they did not so much as get a



a notice that their bids were so much as recognized. I heard on good authority that while Mr. Emsey was assistant secretary of the interior department that he wrote the specifications for the Tucumcari air base and it called for Oklahoma asphalt. We are having a splendid winter warm pleasant and quiet. Really we think the nicest we have experienced no snow you might say just a skiff or two which barely covered the ground and no cold weather worth mentioning.

The ground is saturated with moisture from ~~winter~~ heavy ~~fall~~ fall precipitation and grass will start early in fact there some green grass now where it is in a protected places like swales and draws.

I have hardly needed a coat so far but naturally we can expect march and April snows. I have heard they sometimes have not the rule so is September snows.

Though I guess they have them both although we have never seen either.

Well I guess this all for now - hoping all are well with and you have a happy and new year. We did not send any Christmas cards this year we felt the mails would be heavily burdened for army servicemen who longed for word from home so we decided to forgo the pleasure this once hoping by another year the war would be over and we take up the practice of sending Christmas tokens.

We enjoyed your letter very much and hope to hear again soon  
as ever your friend  
J. B. Eskin



THE LAWRENCE, KANSAS, JOURNAL-WORLD

January 25, 1943

Mrs. C. H. Hoinville  
7539 Colfax Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Julia:

The enclosed is self-explanatory.

Please give the matter some thought if you are able and then call in a stenographer to whom you may dictate the matter. This will save the trouble of writing and I shall gladly pay the stenographer for her services.

I have just mailed you another letter.

I also had a good letter this afternoon from Etoile.

Lovingly,

Your brother

C

O

P

Y



January 25, 1943

Mrs. C. H. Hoinville  
7539 Colfax Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

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I also had a good letter this afternoon from Stolle.

Lovingly,

Your brother



January 25, 1943

Miss Doris Linville  
114 South Broadway  
St. John, Kansas

Dear Miss Linville:

I have before me your letter of January 23rd and I shall indeed be pleased to have my mother included in your effort. She was a graduate of Hillsdale College and held the first first-grade certificate ever issued in Hodgemann County.

Mrs. Kenyon evidently was in error or perhaps you have confused her references. I have no relative named Mrs. Mary J. Moody nor Mrs. Phoebe Smith. She may have intended to refer you to my sister, Mrs. Chas. H. Hoinville, 7539 Colfax Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, with whom she is well acquainted.

We do have a diary that mamma kept in those early years, but it is of such an intimate nature in telling of the extremely hard times she experienced that I would hesitate to give it publication although I have always been proud of what she did.

Mrs. Hoinville began teaching when she was 13 years old and taught each year thereafter with possible exception of one or two years when she was in school. My sister is not in good health at this time, but I am sending her your letter in the hope that she will be able to give you the information you desire. I have listed eight schools which mamma taught and I am inclined to believe the list to be complete. I am sending this list to my sister for such correction or additions as may be necessary.

I hope she will be able to follow this up.

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Simons.

WCS:DF



Her first school probably 1880

Marena--\$20.00 a month and "board around"

School at Waterman's (about 1882)

School near Garfield

School at Middlebranch (about 1881)

School at Sawlog In stone residence--she lived upstairs.

School at Simpson's near Hodgeman P.O. (where she froze her feet)

School at Jetmore--First school in the stone school house about 1884

School at Salmon's North of Pawnee, near the place Grandfather used  
to speak of as "The Little Cheese Woman"

Where did she teach while we lived on the Bruner farm - 1883 -



January 25, 1943

Mrs. C. H. Hoinville  
7539 Colfax Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Julia:

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Gertie and I took dinner yesterday with Mary Jule and family. She had a nice dinner and we spent several hours in their home. Vera was invited to a party given by Dr. Phog Allen's daughter-in-law for her little daughter and the little girls of Vera's age all



- Two -

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Please write me or have Etoile write me further about you.

God bless you and keep you.

Lovingly,

Your brother



January 23, 1943

Mr. H. P. Simmons  
221 Lyons  
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Simmons:

We liked the goods we have tried and Mrs. Simons has made out a long list which she can use.

You will recall that we already have received some 12 or 15 jars.

Please tell us your price on beans, corn, tomatoes, peas, beets, peaches and apricots. Mrs. Simons would also be interested in cherries and raspberries if you have them.

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Simons.

WCS:DMF



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December 11, 1942

Mr. W. C. Simons  
The Lawrence Daily Journal-World  
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear W. C. -

If my memory serves me correctly, you are  
rounding out fifty-one years in the newspaper business  
on December 13th.

That is a long time and my sincerest wish to  
you is that there will be a great many more such anni-  
versaries.

Kindest regards, I am

Very truly yours,

W. J. Hilvers

WJH ms



January 21, 1943

Mr. W. J. Hilvers  
Minnesota & Ontario Paper Company  
500 Baker Arcade Building  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Bill:

You probably have wondered what sort of a chap I was not to respond to your very kind letter of December 11th.

Apparently the letter came on Sunday and was taken out home and in some unaccountable manner it got mixed with some circular matter and I did not run across it until last night.

I appreciate your good wishes and hope that when you get old enough to retire that I will still be young enough to show you a good time at Lawrence, Kansas.

Cordially yours,

W. C. Simons.

WCS:DMF



January 21, 1943

Mrs. Harry Johnson  
Dawson, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

I hope that your little men are getting along fine and that their mamma is not having to work too hard. I am glad that Lance is getting old enough now to help you instead of tearing things to pieces. He is a mighty smart boy and his grandad loves him. I am sure that Charles will be less trouble as time goes on.

I haven't anything special to write you. We were interested in knowing that Bessie is expectant, and I hope she has a fine baby.

Tell the boys that we gave the mother dog and her seven puppies away to a family in North Lawrence where there are a number of children. When they come down to see us, maybe we can go over there and see some of the puppies.

I heard this morning that Helen, Mabel's youngest sister, has taken a position as a typist at the Sunflower Ordnance Works and would like to board and room at our house. Perhaps we can work it out some way. I doubt if she has any experience other than her high school training, but she seems to be a capable sort of a girl.

I may come up some day with a trailer and rob the lumber yard of enough to start my garage.

Give my love to Bus.

Lovingly,

Your dad



January 21, 1943

Mrs. L. A. McNalley  
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Janet:

I just finished reading the book you gave me for Christmas about the explorations of Lewis and Clark. If I ever knew, I had forgotten that Lewis met an early death. Undoubtedly they were two men of whom we may very properly be proud. You may be interested in know that descendants of Sacajawea attended Haskell here a few years ago. There was added interest to me in reading this book because of our visit to Yellowstone Park a few years ago. Colter, who was a member of the expedition, left the party on their return when they reached Mandan Camp in what is now North Dakota, to return to the Indian country. He was probably the first white man to explore Yellowstone Park which for many years went by the name of "Colter's Hell" due to the stories that he told of the geysers and other phenomena to be found in the park. It was said that Jim Bridges who followed Colter started out to tell facts as he found them, but the public could not believe them to be true, so he told just as big stories as he could think of because it was more entertaining and it didn't make any difference in the long run.

Thanks to you and Mac a lot for the book.

Tell my fine partners there, Mary Beth and Michael, that I always enjoy their letter and wish I had more of them. Tell Mike if he has any secret yearning, to let his old grandad know, and maybe I can conspire with him towards getting it.

Love to all of you,

P.S. Dorothea has a fine way of addressing her letters to Mr. and Mrs. so the one first receiving them opens same. I have on my desk your letter addressed to your mamma which I have not opened. It would be alright to continue writing to her anything that might be of a private nature, but otherwise I would be glad to feel free to read your letters as soon as they reach the office.

W.C.S.



January 21, 1943

Mrs. Don A. Freeman  
Route 3  
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grayce:

Just a note to let you know that I love you and was glad to receive your recent letter.

It has been cold here too as you may have noticed by watching the paper. The official record at the University was 15 below zero on one night which was the coldest it has been here for several years.

I gave away our stray dog with her 7 beautiful pups and I didn't keep any of the pups as I felt without any children, we should find it somewhat of a task to look after the pup. One couldn't help but be fond of them, and I enjoyed playing with them. I surprised myself at my ability to overcome the savage stray dog. I got her so she was quite fond of me and I could pet her or handle her and play with the puppies in her presence without any trouble.

I think Gertie is slowly improving and she has almost entirely cast aside her cane. Of course, she still limps a good deal.

It is warming up a bit after our cold spell and the snow is thawing quite rapidly.

In a few weeks we shall be getting our ground ready for "Victory Gardens".

Much love to you both,

Your brother



January 21, 1943

Mrs. C. H. Hoinville  
7539 Colfax Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Julia:

Just a note to remind you that I still love you and think of you often. I hope that you are getting better every day. When the weather opens up we should be very happy to have you with us here, and I am sure that a couple of weeks or more here will do you a world of good and will hasten your recovery.

Everything seems to be moving along as satisfactorily as we can expect. We were very sorry to lose Mr. Koelb, our pastor, by death this week. He was a very sincere Christian gentleman of far more than ordinary human sympathy and ability. The world can spare such men with difficulty.

I had a letter from Grayce the other day and they are getting along as nicely as one would expect. I imagine she finds it a little lonely out at the lake during the bad months of winter.

Give my best to Charlie and Etoile.

Your loving brother,



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
FIELD SERVICE

Cherokee Indian Agency  
Cherokee, N. C.  
January 11, 1943

W. C. Simons, President  
The Lawrence Daily Journal-World  
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. Simons:

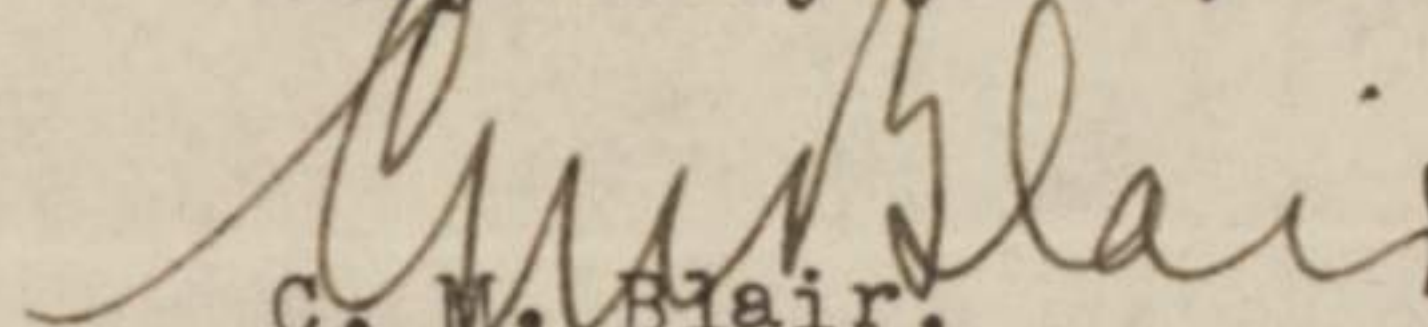
I was very much pleased indeed to have your letter of the 5th.

My step-mother who was Miss Cora and her two sisters, Miss Irma and Miss Elba have all died in the last year or so. They were very fine people indeed and had a very high regard for you. Your business relationships with them were most satisfactory. They looked upon you as a man of very high integrity, and often spoke of the matter. I think their brother is still living in Los Angeles, but I know some of his family are there and I shall be happy indeed to convey your sentiments with reference to the McClaskey girls to them.

It is always a great pleasure for me to hear from you and anyone in Lawrence. I think Mrs. Blair and I think of Lawrence as home more than any other place. I enjoyed all of my associations there very much, including the Rotary Club and the Saturday Night Club.

Kindly remember me to Dolph, and with very best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,

  
C. M. Blair,  
Superintendent

CMB:hj



January 9, 1943

Mr. Will Johns  
Chief of Police  
Kansas City, Kansas

Dear Will:

I take pleasure in telling you that I have just asked Mrs. Farris to give you a paid up subscription to the Journal-World for one year as a gift from me.

I certainly appreciate the many years of pleasant friendship that has existed between us, and I think also you should be a very happy man to have such an unusual cookie maker in the family.

Cordially yours,

W. C. Simons.

WCS:DMF



January 5, 1943

Cadet Owen W. Maloney  
International House  
A.A.F.T.D., Room 858  
University of Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Owen:

Your old granded thinks about you with pride much more often than he writes. Your letter mailed last evening is in my desk and I shall take it out to your mama when I go home unless she happens to come down before.

Last night we called up and offered two tickets to Blanche for the basketball game and understood that she and her daughters and a young man would attend the game in their car, so we dropped over in the coupe to deliver the tickets. We found that Marilyn decided not to go, so we left the coupe and went up in your car. It was a hot game, 60 to 32, in favor of K.U. While I am always a partisan of K.U., at this time I didn't want them to beat the sailors too badly. The names on the Clipper list were many of them familiar to us as being boys who had played against us during past years. The gym was packed. The Clippers brought with them a small band composed of colored boys who played with gay abandon. The sailors played a rough game which accounted for a good many free throws. Our boys played a hard game, but didn't appear to lose their tempers.

When I got back from the game last night, I found that a hot water pipe directly over our furnace had sprung a leak and had temporarily put our oil burner out of commission. With a temperature of twenty degrees outside, I was afraid to leave the house without heat and I was afraid to leave the burner where it would continue to be wet and perhaps be permanently damaged. As a result I sat up until 4 o'clock this morning keeping gas fires going and finally succeeded in catching the drip and drying out the burner so I was able to have furnace heat. It was rather unusual for me to sit up so late, but I had a good book given me by Blanche and your dad, "This Is My Best", so that the evening was not entirely wasted.



- Two -

We love you a lot and have the sort of confidence in you that makes us believe that you can do well anything that you really set your mind to do.

I think your dad is probably happier in his work now than he has ever been before in his life because now he is the mainspring of the business. He has gone all over the U.S. to see the big boys and has been able to get their names on the dotted line. Undoubtedly he is a master salesman.

Marilyn seems to be getting along nicely with her broken ankle and has resumed her school work. One of her teachers with very great consideration is giving her private instruction on the first floor to keep her from having to climb two or three flights of stairs.

You have a couple of mighty fine sisters.

Hit the old ball on the head, put all you have into your work, and it may stand out in after years as one of the most pleasant experiences of your life.

Lots of love and best wishes;

Your Grandad,



## Deaths and Funerals

### Miss Irma McClaskey

Word was received in Lawrence today of the death of Miss Irma McClaskey, for many years a resident of Lawrence. Death occurred last Friday afternoon in Los Angeles, Cal., where she made her home with a niece. Funeral services will be held Monday morning, at 11 o'clock.

January 5, 1943

Supt. C. M. Blair  
Indian Service  
Cherokee, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Blair:

There appeared in our paper recently, to be exact on December 24th, a short account of the death of Miss Irma McClaskey.

My business relations with the two Miss McClaskeys were so cordial that I feel a desire to write a member of their family in regard to them.

Your good father married one of the McClaskey girls. One time your father came into the newsroom where I happened to be and at the time he was carrying an advertisement for the sale of a building formerly occupied by Eppley's Restaurant. I said, "Dr. Blair, I should like to have a thirty day option on your building." "I do not care to give the option," he replied, "but I will sell you the building." He quoted the very remarkable terms of giving me a warranty deed for the property in exchange for my promissory note for five years at six percent. This debt was paid before it was due and I had remitted each month \$25.00 for the interest. Before the debt was paid, Dr. Blair came in again and said he should like to sell me another building. This time it was the store building at 916 Mass. and when I asked him the price and terms, he said, "I want to sell it to you at the same price and on the same terms that I sold you the other building." I bought the building. When the note was due, I was ready to pay it, but Miss McClaskey said that she did not have any other safe place to put her money and she wished I would keep it. I told her that as long as I could get six percent on my own investments, I would be glad to continue it for her and this was continued for a number of years until finally interest rates dropped and I paid the note.

The matter was handled so kindly and in such an unusual manner that I have always felt a personal interest in the McClaskey girls. As a matter of fact, I had known their father, a likeable man, who, as I recall, owned the property where Ward's greenhouses now stand. If not the same property, it was adjacent to it.



Supt. C. M. Blair

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January 5, 1943

It is my impression that both your father and step-mother have passed on to their rewards.

If you know of any relative who would be interested in my appreciation of the McClaskey girls, I will appreciate it if you will pass this letter on to them.

We think of you many times and hope that the day may come when you will again be a resident of Lawrence and resume active membership in the Saturday Night Club. You would feel something like a stranger in the club now, for I think that myself and Dr. Schwegler, Sr., are the only members left of the old group.

With very best wishes to you and Mrs. Blair, I remain

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Simons.

WCS:DMF



January 5, 1943

Topeka Capital  
Topeka, Kansas

Gentlemen:

This is a somewhat delayed expression of appreciation for Charles H. Sessions who was identified with your paper for many years. He was a man of both ability and kindly spirit.

A good many years ago when our mutual friend, Tom Sweeney, was living, Sessions' boy was picked up by the highway police, as I recall, for speeding. Mr. Sweeney and I felt so kindly towards the father and appreciated his interest in and for Lawrence so much that the two of us paid the fine and so far as I know, the dad never knew that the boy was fined or that a fine was paid.

I simply mention this now as proof of the kindly feelings myself and others had for him.

Old Father Time is cutting into the Capital ranks, but I am sure you have a number of bright young men, some of whom were formerly in our employ, who will carry on.

Some way the Capital seems to fit into Kansas affairs in a very individual way.

The office force and any members of Mr. Sessions' family have my sincere sympathy.

Cordially yours,

W. C. Simons.

WCS:DMF