October 26, 1944

Dr. James Mott Jr.
1327 New Hampshire Street
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Jim:

I have the announcement of your graduating exercises and regret that I am going to be out of town Sunday. I am leaving tomorrow morning to visit over the weekend with my daughter and family at Minneapolis, Kansas, but because you have always been a good scout and have made your way, and because I like you and your dad, I am sending you herewith a check for $5.00, which I want you to use to buy something that you want and perhaps something that would be a remembrance of your glad day.

By the way, Jim, my uncle, Dr. A. S. Cowdy, was a physician. I have at home some of his obstetrical instruments and perhaps a few other things. They may be of too old a vintage to be of any value to you, but if you would like to have them, I will give them to you. I had thought some of giving them to the Douglas County Historical Society. Most any time after the first of next week, you can see them at my house, but it would be best for you to call before coming over in order to be sure that I was home.

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df
Enc.

File Wills Personal

Chicago Oct. 22nd 1944

Dear Collie and Gertrude:

Saw John this morning, and also I dropped in yesterday afternoon as his pills needed renewing. Am going to take a barber to see him first of next week, as his face is tender and he needed shaving, but cannot do it himself. They tried it at the home, but he said they hurt, and as his whiskers are tough, I know that they must have, but a barber knows how to handle it.

I found his book and have it. All the stamps are in place and it is paid up to December 31st, but believe I will drop over about the middle of November and pay up for another month to keep ahead.

He was brighter both days, and asked after Gertrude. Also commented about the weather but said he could not go out yet.

Have been appointed Chairman for next year on the AAR, so will continue along the usual line and am glad for it keeps me busy.

Love Bro. Chas.

October 23, 1944

Mrs. Don A. Freeman
Route 3--Gull Lake
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grayce:

I ran across the enclosed poem. By whom it was written I do not know. Perhaps it will mean something to you, although I am inclined to believe that I should delete the third line from the last before turning the lines over to Don. The little pieces with the tiny note were also folded with this poem.

Leaves are falling, but no killing frost as yet. I picked turnips and tomatoes from our garden yesterday and we have lima beans that may be ready to pick. I didn't examine them.

I won't take time to write more now.

With love,

Your Brother

WCS:df
Encs.

October 20, 1944

Lt. Owen W. Maloney, O-2062684
422 AAFBU
TAAF Sqd. T4
Tonopah, Nevada

Dear Owen:

It would probably please you if you could realize how much you are on my mind. You are soon to take on great responsibilities which naturally are fraught with danger. I know your courage and your general manhood, and I am sure that you will be a good soldier and in every way a good citizen.

I wrote you a letter some weeks ago stating that I wanted to buy for you your first civilian suit, but I have not had a reply which is all right, but I mention it again thinking that possibly the first letter had not reached you.

It is a terrible sacrifice that all young men are making at this time, and yet it is one that seems to me could not well have been avoided on our part. I am sure we do not wish to be slaves and that life would be intolerable to us if we had to heil Hitler or anyone else. Your great grandfather and your great, great grandfather both fought in the Civil War on the side of the Union. My father was in for five years and my grandfather in for three, for a total of eight, and back of that, your grandmother, my wife, had a great grandparent in the War of 1812, and I had eleven ancestors who were in the Revolutionary War and about twenty in the Colonial Wars. These last twenty were officers in the Colonial Wars.

Your coming from a line of Maloneys, I imagine they were good fighting men--all of them.

Your grandad loves you a lot and would be happy to help you in any way that he could.

With much love,

Your Grandfather

WCB:df

October 20, 1944

Mrs. O. W. Maloney
2712 East 31st Street
Tulsa 5, Oklahoma

Dear Blanche:

Sam Hunter was just in the office to inform me that he had sold the house I gave Janet, for her for a consideration of $5,000.00 cash.

I don't know how you feel about holding on to the property I gave you, but if you wish to sell it, it would doubtless sell for $5,000.00 or possibly more because of its inside location.

Dolph wrote a nice letter to Owen yesterday, and I shall write him today.

We received a couple of orders today from Pat which will be pushed thru.

Gertie is out with her PEO sisters this afternoon. I rather encourage her in these things because I realize that it does get pretty lonesome to sit around day after day at the old homestead.

Give my love to Eileen and Pat. If Marilyn were there, of course, I would include her.

Lovingly,

Dad

WCS:df

October 17, 1944

Dr. Elmer V. McCollum
Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Elmer:

I was pleased when I picked up my Journal-World last night and saw your picture with comment on your generous gift of $1,000 to the University.

This matter of morning sleep appeals to me. The year that I was 14 or 15, I batched it six months and had the cows to milk and the stock to water and picket out. I frequently did not have my supper until nine o'clock or later, and in the morning had to get up bright and early for a very good reason. We had no fences, little if any grain for the horses so we had to give them an opportunity to fill up during the night. As a result we let them go at will at night and it was necessary for me to get up early to get the horses before my neighbors did.

On two other occasions I worked for a morning paper, before we had a morning paper of our own, and I have ever since rejoiced that I didn't have to go thru life as a milk man. I presume you have heard the story of the milk man who remarked that one of the things that he liked about the army was that he didn't have to get up so early.

I have always been interested in you and in your welfare. Some way I have had the idea that a man to be good at research must be fundamentally honest. A forced conclusion may be a bad conclusion and a man who is honest enough to fight the problem thru until he is sure he is right can be trusted. Your faithfulness in little things was shown when you were a carrier for the World in Lawrence and no one has been happier over your success and recognition that I. May you have strength and health for many years to come.

Personally, I am feeling tip top, but I am going to observe my Golden Wedding on the 14th of November, which makes me admit that I am more than 50 years old. Personally, I have never fought cold, heat, nor advancing years. I think the easiest way is to take them as they come because really we can accomplish nothing by fretting and the fretting itself is injurious to us. This letter does not require an answer, but I just wanted you to know once more how I feel in regard to you.

Cordially yours,

WCS:df

W. C. Simons

October 17, 1944

Mr. L. A. McNalley
Minneapolis, KANSAS

Dear Mc:

Recently in a conversation with a Democrat, not a local man, I asked why Burns had been sidetracked in his candidacy for Vice President, and without hesitation the man replied, "The Democrats had one experience of having a Catholic on the national ticket, and didn't want to try it again".

What do you think of the political situation as you see it at this time.

Love to all,

Dad

WCS:df

October 14, 1944

Dr. J. Russel Wickey
Belleville, Illinois

Dear Russel:

Thinking that perhaps you did not have much of a background of the Mason family, I am sending you herewith three copies--one for yourself, one for your half brother, and one for your half sister.

You can fill in the initials or name of your father. I think his name was Theodore, but I am not sure.

I hope that your arm is getting along first rate and that you will have a fine time with the family in California later on.

With love,

Your Cousin

WCS:df
Encs.

October 11, 1944

Mr. L. A. McNalley
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Mc:

I am enclosing a letter from you dated six years ago. Presume the note is now outlawed and it need cause us no more anxiety as to whether we will ever collect the bill.

In regard to Etoile's affairs, I am pretty nearly thru and have found nothing which I think has a tangible value, but will let you know if I do.

I am mighty glad you hit a good big case, because I have confidence that you will handle it well for your clients and will doubtless make a good fee for yourself.

Love to all,

Your Father

WCS:df
Enc.

October 13, 1944

Col. Karl F. Baldwin
American Legation
Office of Military Attache
375 Collins Street
Melbourne, Australia

Dear Col. Baldwin:

I was happy to receive your good letter of September 14th. It is the next best thing to seeing you personally. Gertrude and I were very sorry that our visit to Minnesota and your visit to Lawrence should cause us to miss seeing you.

The lake was beautiful and you would have enjoyed it. Only one week when it seemed warm, and then the thermometer on our porch registered about ninety. Nights were cool, and the fishing satisfactory, our only trouble being transportation. We had to depend on the Freemans for a car, and it happened his Buick had been turned in for repairs which were to have taken ten days, but proved to be sixty. I had to drive for three weeks an asthmatic Plymouth, of ancient type, which among other things leaked gasoline, so we were in rather constant danger; smoked at the wheels after going about ten miles, and had its mechanical parts tied into the car with wire.

We finally got hold of a better car, at a cost of five dollars a day, and during the last week had a good Dodge. We got reservations going up, but found some difficulty in arranging for the return trip, finally getting accommodations on the Chicago & Great Western, a slov moving, but otherwise satisfactory train.

We had our first frost the morning of the 12th of October, and the night before brought in two bushels or more of green tomatoes, which will ripen in our basement so we shall have them for another month at least. This has been a great year for crops of all kind. The trees are still in full foliage, but the hard maples are donning their exquisite fall colors.

Business has been good, but we have been short of help. Our men have been working far too hard and we should like to ease up on them. They are well paid, but a man's body can stand only so much. The Gamble stores opened an enlarged store here this week and on Wednesday had a four page advertisement in the Journal-World. The next day they sold over five thousand dollars worth of merchandise--fine for a new store.

In writing a letter to a patriotic second cousin, a woman of about fifty, whose mind is vigorous and loyal, altho nearly half her life she has been an invalid--I used the following, in which you may be interested: "From a political standpoint I believe that things are improving. I think it would certainly cap the climax if a large body of union men should now strike and leave our soldiers and sailors stalled for want of ships and materials. I am afraid under such circumstances they would find the Commander-in-Chief more interested in votes for himself than in munitions for his fighting men."

Things really do look encouraging. The farmers will not vote as strongly for the New Deal as they have in the past. There is a great deal of fear of Sidney Hillman's influence; not all workers are happy over being delivered enmasse by their labor bosses; the negro vote realizes that despite all of the talk to the contrary the main block of support for FDR comes from states, which still deny the right of franchise to the colored people; the Catholics are unhappy over the idea of socialized medicine with its control centering in the White House, and the priests and hospital superintendents are on the war path. One could go on and on, and yet we feel that we must not leave a stone unturned in our efforts.

Gertrude and I will observe the fiftieth anniversary of our wedding November 14th--and the girls, with Marie taking the general responsibility, are arranging for a reception at the Baptist Church. We expect every member of our family to be here, with Lt. Owen W. Maloney Jr. being the possible exception. He is now navigator for a bomber crew, assembled at Tonopah, Nev., and just when he will be ordered into active service we do not know. We wish that you and Philena could be with us.

We are interested in hearing about your children and their progress, and hope that it will not be long until you will have the supreme gratification of again embracing your son Chandler. I am sure that Kay and baby will welcome that day.

The Sunflower Ordnance Works has been doing a wonderful work. It is the prize baby of the Hercules group and was recently given the "E" award. Dolph was master of ceremonies for the occasion. We are happy to know that the Hercules people and the men in charge of the work, are happy in their relations with the people of Lawrence.

Gertrude would be glad to have a home downtown, with downstairs bedroom, where she would not have so much house to care for, and where she could have more neighborhood companionship. We have been fortunate in having an excellent young woman in our home, who is a member of the Dunkard church. She is a great help.

We have looked around a bit, but have many things that we want to keep, so that it is hard to find anything suitable. Maybe after the war, we can build. One is never too old for that.

I think that we have a wonderful Rotary club. It is so representative of the community as a whole, and there are some coming and going all the time, so it does not become static. We could have good programs, fifty-two weeks in the year, without going outside the club, but we are happy to secure good speakers from elsewhere to keep us from becoming too self satisfied.

I have formed the habit of sending a carbon of my letters to you, to your good wife. We are fond of her and enjoyed our visit with her. Hope that she will continue to have good health.

Write as often as you can find the time and the spirit moves you. You are a good letter writer. Your friendship is highly appreciated by us.

Cordially yours,

October 13, 1944

Mrs. Don A. Freeman
Route 3--Gull Lake
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grayce:

I am still working now and then trying to get thru the matter in Etoile's trunk. I am practically thru now. I ran across the two things which I enclose.

We had a fairly heavy frost on the 12th, but no real freeze yet.

Plans are going ahead for the observation of our Golden Wedding, and we are counting on you and Don coming.

I won't take time to write a letter at this time.

I enclose also a clipping which I found among Etoile's effects which you may read and throw away.

Love to all,

Encs.

October 12, 1944

Mrs. Chas. Stough
7539 Colfax Avenue
Chicago 49, Illinois

My dear Mary Jule:

In running thru the accumulation of years, I found this piece of an envelope which is the writing of your great grandfather, John Brady, who came to Kansas at an early date and settled in Monticello, Johnson County, where your grandfather and several of the other children were born. He later moved to Baldwin, but I think died in Lawrence.

The National Printer Journalist contains a picture of your grandfather, the office and the office interior. You may have a copy, but I thought you might like to have this.

We hope all the news you get from Charles is good news.

Love to all,

Your Uncle

WCS:df
Encs.

October 11, 1944

Mrs. Eugene Drought
1417 North Blackstone Street
Jackson, Michigan

Dear Kathryn:

Thank you very much for the picture of Willard. He certainly is a fine looking young man.

Thinking it might be of interest to you, I listed a brief part of your Gowdy genealogy.

I was interested in what your mother recalled regarding our grandfather, Collins Gowdy. He did have keen black eyes at a quick temper, but was with all a Christian gentleman, so I can understand how he may have looked at his little granddaughter when she ran in upon him.

I think you are to be commended on wanting to do all that you can, but I believe that it would be the part of wisdom to guard your health very carefully.

From a political standpoint I believe that things are improving. I think it would certainly cap the climax if a large body of union men should now strike and leave our soldiers and sailors stalled for want of ships and materials. I am afraid under such circumstances they would find the Commander-in-Chief more interested in votes for himself than in munitions for his fighting men.

With very best wishes, I remain

Lovingly,

Your Cousin

WCS:df

HAVERHILL
OCT 5
4 30 PM
1944
MASS.

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Journal-World

W.C. SIMONS
~~2500 VT. ST.~~
LAWRENCE, KANSAS

SEP 45
G1 CZ

Requested change of address 10/5/44

ANNOUNCING that your name has today been added to our subscription list, and that you will shortly receive your first copy. We should be grateful to be advised immediately as to any corrections necessary in your name or address as shown on the reverse side of this card.

DESTINY is a gift to you from –

Mrs H. C. Jordan

DESTINY

The Magazine of National Life

HAVERHILL, MASSACHUSETTS

After ... 5 ... days, return to

Mrs. Lorenz F. Goodwin

4383 El Camino Real

PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA.

Camera

October 10, 1944

Mrs. L. A. McNalley
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Janet:

Mr. Beal, your renter, was in to see me today and said he had been informed you wished to sell the property. He desires very much to stay, but I told him I had nothing to do with it. He suggested that the house was in such excellent repair at this time that he thought it probable that the expense upon it would be very slight for several years to come.

I told him that I did not know that the house was for sale, but I suggested that he tell you what he had told me. When I asked him why he didn't buy the property himself, he said that he was either thirty-eight or not yet thirty-eight and might be subject to military duty and would hate to purchase until he felt more secure. I suggested another way out and that would be for him to buy the property on monthly payments somewhat greater than the rent he was paying and perhaps to assume the taxes, and that if at the end of the year, he did not wish to continue to buy, the amount that he had paid would be considered rental; otherwise, it would apply upon the purchase of the property. He said that Mrs. Montieth Simmons had not told him the price at which the property was to be sold.

I am passing this on to you for whatever it may be worth.

We hope to see you in the near future.

Love to all,

Your Father

WCS:df

1607 Main St
Parsons, Kansas
Sept-25th 1944

Dear Mr. Simons
and Mr Murray:

Do you remember this old lady? This is my war job you see, now. Thought you'd like to know I am still able to do something if I can't get around out of the house.

How are all my Journal World friends! Sorry. I can get to see them any more. Mrs Kinnamon is holding copy on the "Star" in K. C. now. Her 2 girls are in California The oldest married to a "Flyer". And Charlie just as dear as ever. You might put this in your morgue.

Sincerely
"Mother" Cordry.

Minneapolis, Minn. Sept. 10, 1944.

My dear brother-cousin;-

It was very kind of you to take the pains to come to see me, when it was such an unfavorable day, and you had so little time to spare. On the other hand, I should have been deeply disappointed if you had gone back without seeing me, for you know it has been three years since I was at Gull Lake.

I am surprised that you found me unchanged. I was lying down when Mrs. Olson came into the room, and said someone to see me who was in a hurry. I got up immediately, but had no time to do any "dolling up".

I thought you were looking very well, as if your short vacation had done you much good. I hope you were able to do some fishing, and perhaps catch another big Pike.

My housekeeper's name is Mrs. Olson, and I am astonished that I could not recall her name, for the moment. It would look as if I "were slipping." She has been with me nearly seven years, and now that her grandsons are both in the service, I think she will be with me much longer. She and Mr. Cook are both away today, so I am alone in the house, and moving around very carefully, so as not to have a fall. They do not often leave me alone.

I have been listening to John Charles Thomas and the "Army Hour". Later on I shall hear "One Man's Family", which I have been listening to for years. I heard both of Mr. Dewey's speeches. I rather liked his voice, but somehow I can not quite accept the idea of his being our next President. The momentious questions before the International Council in the next few months, will require the highest intelligence. I have been reading Walter Lippmann's "U.S. War Aims", in the Readers' Digest. God only can guide us through this maze of difficulties.

The weather here continues cold and dreary, and just so long will I be suffering night and day with this Arthritis. I have gotten to the point where I can feel stoical about it. When I get to feeling sorry for myself, I have only to look around me and see how many others are much worse off, and how really comfortable I am situated. I can say "Praise the Lord, oh my soul, and forget not all his benefits."

I suppose you have read "America Unlimitted", by Eric Johnston. An Attorney friend, in Neward, N.J. sent a copy to me. I am much interested.

My lovely flowers are still blooming just outside my window. I have enjoyed them so much, and Mr. Cook keeps me supplied with fresh bouquets. Everyone is nice to me. My Pastor comes to see me often, though I have never been inside his church since he came. I once said to him, "Do not think you must come so often, if you are so busy". He answered, "But I like to come."

Thank you for your kind words at parting. Some of my friends are looking forward to a reunion with me next June, but I do not dare plan so far ahead.

May you and Gertrude have a pleasant fall and Winter. I shall be thinking of you often.

With love,

Lillian.

AMERICAN LEGATION
OFFICE OF MILITARY ATTACHÉ
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

375 Collins Street,
14th September, 1944.

Mr. W. C. Simmons,
The Journal-World,
LAWRENCE, Kansas.

Dear W.C.:

I cam e back from the States arriving in Australia on the 20th August, and am in full swing again, greatly improved, I believe, by my pleasant but busy experiences in the States.

I only had two nights and a day in Lawrence and I missed seeing you and Gertrude more than any other single thing. You know a hundred of my friends called to see me at the Chancellor's the night he gave me a reception. I thought that was a very fine tribute as the only notice was the one put in your paper. I enjoyed Rotary very much also and presented the little pennant from the Melbourne Club here.

Lawrence seemed to be very prosperous and the town was greener than usual. I was fortunate in being there when it was not too hot, for there were some very hot days afterwards. I hope that you and Gertrude enjoyed your summer stay in Minnesota very much and that you are now back in good old Kansas.

I had two weeks in the east, most of the time being spent in Washington and I met many of the Generals and Admirals as well as Mr. Grew and others in the State Department. I also had a nice chat with Admiral Nimitz on the way East.

I have taken up the thread again in Rotary and attended a big conference meeting, where all the Presidents of two-thirds of Australia were seated, and I was the honor guest. Will probably do some speaking later in Tasmania and parts of Australia where I have not spoken.

The latest letter from my good wife, dated September 5th, said she had had a very fine outside garden party for the Armels and the Beals in our garden in Berkeley. I was very much pleased with the house Philena bought for us and the garden is very fine only its very steep and rocky and as we get older might not be too good for us.

You are as well up on the war out here as I am and know that its going very well although perhaps a bit slow at the present. However don't be too impatient for this is the typhoon season for a large part of the Western Pacific and the season should be over by the last of October.

Karl and Adeline have bought a home within ½ mile of where we now live, so Philena will be there alone with John and some of Adeline's sisters, who have a basement apartment.

I am trying to follow the Presidential Campaign but not getting anywhere. I am personally not able to vote this year. It looks to me like, if we take a four year period to look at, its a question of supporting either Truman or Dewey.

I saw our big General three weeks ago and he looks well. I had a note from Mrs. Mac a few days later. Down here things are quiet and its hard to realize there's a war on. I have to travel 1,000 miles to get into the atmosphere.

We have had no further word concerning my son who is a Prisoner-of-War. I have a feeling that he is now either in the Northern Philippines or in Formosa. I doubt if we hear again for a long time.

I was especially pleased with the Military Science Building. Its very much like I expected although the rooms seem larger than I had envisioned. Except for the fact that on the Rifle Range they fire down-hill instead of up-hill, the building is almost exactly as I planned it originally. Down in my heart I would like to serve in it some day though I think that is very unlikely now.

I was glad to have a short word with Dolph, but my stay was so short that I missed a great many of the friends and fine people of Lawrence.

Give my very best to Gertrude, I hope you are all in the best of health. Philena has pretty well recovered from her operation for gall stones but it will take time to gain her full strength. John is doing well in the shipyards but I presume his job is just a war job. Karl Jr. has established himself in a high position of recognition with consulting engineers and I was especially proud of his work. He took me to a dinner which he gave for me and there were 42 men, engineers, from his place. The high words of tribute they paid to Karl made me a proud father. Philena is expecting Kay and the baby to come out to the Coast next month.

Once again my very best to Gertrude and the warmest brotherly feelings to you,

Very sincerely yours,

Karl F. Baldwin

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
LAWRENCE

OFFICE OF
THE CHANCELLOR

September 26, 1944

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

My dear Mr. Simons:

I am perfectly delighted to have your letter and Mrs. Malott's report of your telephone conversation with her relative to the gift of the old Fraser organ.

As you know, I am very much interested in acquiring some of the old things which are a part of the early days of the University, and this will be a wonderful addition to the collection.

I shall be very glad to see that a card is placed upon the instrument including the fact that it was presented to the University by Mrs. Charles H. Hoinville, former student.

A copy of the note I have written to Mr. Hoinville is enclosed.

Very sincerely yours,

Deane W. Malott
Chancellor

DWM:h

September 26, 1944

Mr. Charles H. Hoinville
Department of Purchasing Agent
908 Railway Exchange
Chicago 4, Illinois

My dear Mr. Hoinville:

I have just learned from Mr. Simons that you are giving to us in the name of Mrs. Hoinville the old Fraser Hall organ and that it has been sent by prepaid freight to me.

This generosity on your part is very much appreciated and I want to express on behalf of the University, its Faculty, students, and alumni, our sincere and heartfelt thanks.

I have long been interested in preserving something of the atmosphere of the old days. This University is rich in tradition, but prompt work is needed if we are to preserve some of the mementos of the past. I have acquired the old Fraser Hall Bible, the little walnut desk used by Chancellor Snow in the early days, and various other memorabilia which I think will be of interest through the coming years. This organ is the most important of these articles and we are indeed grateful.

Mr. Simons has asked that a card be placed on the instrument showing what it is and that it is presented by Mrs. Charles H. Hoinville, a former student. This we shall be happy indeed to do.

Very sincerely yours,

Deane W. Malott
Chancellor

DWM:h

October 5, 1944

Mr. Tom Cordry
1607 Main Street
Parsons, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Cordry:

I am sending you a copy of the Journal-World for Saturday, September 30th, in which we carry a story about you. I think somebody must have misinformed you in regard to your age, as I can hardly believe that you are eighty years old, and yet I am not so far away from those figures as to make it seem impossible.

I can remember when Tom Cordry, your husband, was one of the best known newspaper men in Kansas. I have often thought of your charming daughter, Mrs. Kinnamon, and I am glad to know that her two girls are doing well, and that Charlie is the same fine chap he has always been.

Susie Monroe, whose father Jim Monroe was formerly Chief of Police and Merchants' Policeman in Lawrence, has been on our proof desk for many years until recent months when because of shortage of help, she has taken over mechanical work. One of the proof readers we have today is a granddaughter of Jim Monroe and the other is the wife of a teller in the Lawrence National Bank.

Lawrence has been a busy town and there have been many changes. My son, Dolph, who was a youth when you were with us, has been business manager for a score of years, and not long ago we made him publisher. We have a fine group of people working for us, and I am sure that all of those who were here when you were with us would want me to send you their best wishes.

We shall be glad to hear from you at any time.

Cordially yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df

October 5, 1944

Mr. Chas. H. Hoinville
908 Railway Exchange
Chicago 4, Illinois

Dear Charles:

Do you think that Gertrude should come to Chicago to see her brother? I don't want her to make the trip alone, so it would mean that we both would have to go. From what you have said of his condition, I fear he wouldn't recognize us even if we could come, and it seems like there is so little we could do. At the same time we do not want to neglect him in any way. We appreciate the wonderful help that you have been to him and to us.

Our understanding of your last letter was that his own funds that could be used paying expenses, are practically exhausted with the exception of the death benefits that would be paid should he pass away. We want to keep plenty of money in your hands to take care of everything without your having to advance any of your own.

Please advise us if you would like to have us send a check for $100.00 or more.

Thanking you a lot, I am

As ever,

Your Brother

WCS:df

October 5, 1944

Mr. Joe Goedderz
Route # 3
Brainerd, Minnesota

My dear Goedderz:

I dropped you a card the latter part of August asking you to drain our water pipes, pumps, and so forth as usual. I understand that Jack Bisek has drained the pipes, but I doubt if he knew anything about draining that spot covered by the bushes which might freeze up the works.

Please give the matter attention so that we may be sure everything is okay.

Best wishes to you and the Mrs., who I understand is school marm.

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:jl

File
Vol 5 Personal

THE CHURCH OF SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST
1229 Vermont Street Lawrence, Kansas

REV. EDWARD F. McGINNIS, Assistant Pastor

September 26,1944

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

Dear "Collie":

I am deeply grateful to you for your constructive remarks and appraisal of the Rotary Bulletin. I realize that due to your close association with Rotary through a number of years that your remarks are words of value and that you are better able to interpret the work of Rotary.

I am happy that I have been fortunate in being a Rotarian in Lawrence as long as I have. The associations, and the friendships all

THE CHURCH OF SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST
1229 Vermont Street Lawrence, Kansas

REV. EDWARD F. McGINNIS, Assistant Pastor

have added to make life here a little richer.

Should I ever be able to reciprocate your kindness, please feel free to call at any time.

Assuring you of my deep appreciation of your kindness, I am, dear "Collie", with sincere good wishes.

Rotary yours,

Father McGinnis

September 29, 1944

Charles H. Hoinville
908 Railway Exchange
Purchasing Department
Santa Fe
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Charley,

Wanting to be prepared should the end come to John, I took the matter up with a local undertaker, who has given me a card: Arntzen, Inc., 810 N. Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois. Phone SUPerior 0056, so that in the case of John's death you could call this party and he would take you to the office of the casket company where you could pick out a casket.

Please pick out something that is suitable, neither trying to take the cheapest or the highest priced. Have the body shipped to T. D. Funk, Undertaker, Lawrence, Kansas. The shipment can be made in a plain box as we shall secure the vault here.

We appreciate very much indeed your kindness and thoughtfulness.

It has turned cooler today, but we have not yet had a frost. Hope you can pay us a visit.

With love,

Your brother,

WCS:jl

1. Sampson (or Samson) Mason was living in Dorchester, Mass., in 1649; died September 15, 1676; married about 1650 to Mary Butterworth.

2. Joseph Mason, born July 15, 1667 at Rehoboth, Mass.; died January 25, 1741; married Hannah _____ about 1693.

3. Oliver Mason, born August 20, 1706; died December 11, 1787; married Martha Cole, Dec. 19, 1728; Martha Cole-born 3-1-1709.

4. Simeon Mason, born April 18, 1735, in Swansea, Mass.; died 1791; was a soldier in the Revolutionary War; married Hannah Thomas March 17, 1754, who was born December 14, 1734.

5. Jeremiah Mason, born February 3, 1757, at Swansea, Mass.; died April 9, 1848 at Ellisburg, New York; married Phoebe Luther in 1782, who was born August 3, 1762; died August 17, 1831. They went to Ellisburg, New York in 1801. Jeremiah was a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

6. Ezra Mason, born September 19, 1784, in Swansea, Mass.; died 1860; married 1811, at Ellisburg, New York, to Esther Boomer, who was born March 31, 1791 and died 1859.

7. Wealthy Ann Mason, born March 6, 1812, in Ellisburg, New York; died March 29, 1860, buried at Grays Lake, Illinois; married Alfred Smith Simons, April 13, 1834.
Two Children:

8. Adolphus Ezra Simons, born February 7, 1835 at Ogden, Monroe County, New York, now a part of the city of Rochester, New York. (5 children). Married July 3, 1866 to Jennie B. Gowdy at Waukegan, Illinois. Died October 29, 1877, in Faribault, Minnesota. Now buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Lawrence, Kansas.

8. Mary Juliaette Simons Wickey, born February 7, 1838, in Ogden, Monroe County, New York. Married _____ Wickey. Died April 14, 1877, age 39 years, 2 mos., 7 days.

Five Children: Mary
Jennie
Theodore
J. Russel
Charles--died when little more than a baby.

Mrs. Eugene Drought
1417 N. Blackstone Street
Jackson, Michigan

September 5 - '44

Mr. H. C. Simons
Lawrence Kansas

Dear Cousin: -

I think you must be back from your vacation at Gull Lake. I trust both you and Mrs. Simons had a happy and restful time; probably the going and coming were neither traveling being what it is.

Our weather has been so peculiar the past year, never moderate, one extreme follows the other. Saturday and Sunday in the nineties and today sixty five and cloudy.

We have our winters coal ordered and paid for but because of labor shortage it hasn't been delivered. I hope we don't have to take it a month at a time - there

is satisfaction in having it all in the cellar.

Changes are happening so fast in Europe that everytime I turn the radio on I gasp at what we are doing, and we were aghast at Hitlers blitz kriegs four years ago!

Hillard is now overseas in the Pacific area. He phoned us good bye from California July 6. He didn't see his little son born July 12. We hear from him frequently.

I am hoping you were able to call on Lillian. She seems to be failing this summer and I would like to get news first hand. She was looking forward to seeing you and your wife.

Every more Gov. Dewey makes it sound and right. I was greatly interested in his "internationalizing the Ruhr Valley" That is really constructive - the desire to make war can be weeded out more quickly if the ability to make war is removed. This said that when our country needs a truly great man it produces one. I like to think this will hold true in the election of Gov. Dewey to the Presidency. Business must be given a chance if we are to pay this gigantic debt and live halfway decently while doing it. If Roosevelt is reelected I look for more New Dealism than ever. It can't be we are that foolish.

I am happy to see thinking labor hitching itself to Republican political wagon.

Eugene has been exceptionally busy this summer - working every Saturday and sometimes Sunday. Even at that it is easier than last year as I am able to take care of myself now and help a

little with the work.

Yesterday (Labor Day) Eugene canned 12 qts. pears and 2 qts. plums. He also built a door over the cellar hatchway. There is much repairing to be done but little time to do it.

My sister Clara from Rome N. Y. visited us the week of the 4th. I hadn't seen her in ten years. We had a wonderful visit. Her daughter Dolores, sixteen, visited us last week - we loved having her. I miss my nieces and nephews so much. Clara's son Jack has just finished training at a sub school and will be gone soon. Which will give us seven nephews, two cousins and our dear son in the Service.

Remember me to your dear wife. Much love to yourself Yours cousin Kathryn -

CLARK THE HATTER
Kansas City, Mo.
September 20, 1944

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

Dear Sir:

Your Letter with reference to the White Hat. We will be unable to tell you whether it will bleach out with out first seeing the hat. It seems strange but very few cleaners are able to do the job correctly on a white hat. In fact very few cleaners are able to do the job right an any hat. It takes a regular hat man to do a hat. Our cost on hats is $1.25 including postage, so if you will mail to us we will be glad to tell you whether or not we can help it.

Sorry you had such bad luck with it as it is impossible to even buy them today.

Yours truly

U. Clark.

Clark-White Hat Co

September 21, 1944

Mr. C. H. Hoinville
908 Railway Exchange
Chicago 4, Illinois

Dear Charles:

I mailed a letter to you today from Gertrude but I wish to add a few words for myself. It seemed a pity that it was up to you to perform so menial a service for Brother John. We are pleased with the arrangements you have made, for it seems far better to keep him at the home if we can, instead of taking him to the crowded hospitals where room is in great demand and services are far more limited than formerly.

Your little sketch from the Saturday Evening Post was interesting, but I am sure that a greater number of people realize what an excellent service you have been rendering the public.

With love,

Your Brother

WCS:df

September 21, 1944

Mrs. E. M. Owens
823 Kentucky Street
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Owens:

I looked up the list of lost towns given in Volume Twelve, Kansas Historical Collection, and I thought if you would send me the list you have prepared, we could have it made by typewriter and give you a carbon copy of same.

I have already found some information--I might say considerable information that I did not have previously.

I thought the meeting was very good.

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df

September 21, 1944

Chancellor Deane W. Malott
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Chancellor:

You will recall that several months ago I spoke to you about my sister, Mrs. Charles H. Hoinville, who passed away the 27th of October, 1943, being the owner of the organ which for many years was the musical instrument for Fraser Hall. When this instrument had to give way to a piano, my sister recognized its historical value and bought it although she had no practical use for same.

Under date of September 19th, Mr. Charles H. Hoinville, Department of Purchasing Agent, 908 Railway Exchange, Chicago 4, Illinois, wrote the following to the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Ry. Co.:

> I am enclosing herewith check for $6.47 covering prepaid charges on an organ being shipped to Chancellor Malott, Kansas University Museum, Lawrence, Ks.
>
> I shall appreciate your letting me have the receipted bill.

Then he added for me to please note what he had written, that the organ should reach Kansas shortly or maybe it is here now and that the freight was prepaid. He did not want the University to have to stand the expense of freight.

When you put a card upon the instrument indicating what it is, please add that it was presented to the museum by Mrs. Charles H. Hoinville, a former student.

This is to confirm a telephone call that I made to Mrs. Malott last night.

Sincerely,

WCS:df

W. C. Simons

Chicago, September 19,1944

Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Ry. Co.
Minon, Wisconsin

Gentlemen: Attention: Mr. Jann

I am enclosing herewith check for $6.47 covering prepaid charges on an organ being shipped to Chancellor Malott Kansas University Museum, Lawrence, Kansas.

I shall appreciate your letting me have the receipted bill.

Yours truly,

CHH:LS
encl.
cc/ Mr. W. C. Simons
Journal World
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Collie:

Pls. note above. It should reach Kansas shortly or maybe it is there now. It is prepaid. Look into thia latter feature, as I do not want them to pay for it in any way except possibly to give credit to Julia in a placard showing she donated it.

Bro. Chas.

September 20, 1944

Personal

Mr. Chris Kraft
1818 Mass. St.
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. Kraft:

I have your courteous letter of September 13th, which I appreciate. I am glad indeed that you and Mrs. Kraft are happy in your home and in Lawrence in general, and I can assure you that I would not wish to buy your property at any price if such sale would cause you to leave the city. As it is I shall drop all consideration regarding such a purchase.

Mrs. Simons and I have wished to call upon you some time, but we find it hard to make all of the calls that we should. We shall try, however, to call and extend personally the welcome that we have for you as citizens and friends.

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df

1818 Massachusetts

Phone 244

KRAFT & STARR COMPANY

MOTOR TRUCKS

SALES McCORMICK-DEERING FARM MACHINES AND IMPLEMENTS **SERVICE**

LAWRENCE, KANSAS

September 13, 1944

Mr. W. C. Simons,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of the 11th indicating that you would consider trading resident properties with us or would consider the purchase of our resident property at 2101 Mass. street.

For many years we have lived in a small town comunity and have deprived our selves of the many good things we are enjoying in the fine city of Lawrence and we are enjoying our home and the fine hospitality of the comunity, so that Mrs Kraft and myself would very much dislike to leave.

We appreciate your inquiry and asure you that it will be treated confidentially.

Sincerely

Chris Kraft

Chris Kraft

September 20, 1944

Dr. J. Russel Wickey
Belleville, Illinois

Dear Russel:

It has fallen upon my lot to finally pass upon the collection of letter, papers, keepsakes, etc., belonging to three generations --that of my grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Collins Goudy, my parents, and my sister, and in the lot I also find some correspondence from your family--only a letter or two from Aunt Julia, but several letters from Mary Lane who was your stepmother. She must have been a splendid woman and certainly experienced more grief and sadness than usually falls to the lot of anyone person. She married your father not a great while after the death of your mother and her cousin. From the letters, I think she was very fond of your father and was ~~almost~~ like a real mother to the children.

A letter I read last night told of the man for whom your father worked having sold his business to go elsewhere, I think to Iowa, and that Mr. Wickey, being without a job, decided it was best to go with him to the new location. While he was gone sickness fell upon the family in very severe form. Jennie had diptheria from which she recovered. Mary died. You were very seriously sick and your stepmother also went thru a siege of sickness. I think I have asked you before just how Mary Lane happened to be a cousin or second cousin of your mother. It may have been thru the Mason line as I know of no relatives in the Simons line to whom she could have been related.

If I find anything that I think you would like to have, I shall send it to you.

Love to you and yours,

Your Cousin

September 20, 1944

Mr. L. A. McNalley
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Mc:

I have just read your letter containing the letter from Turner which I return to you herewith. There is no hurry at this time.

I am going thru Etoile's effects. I have found at least one more certificate of stock which may or may not have any value. I was of the idea that Turner really represented the estate in Iowa, and had thought it very proper that we should try to include in the settlement the stock which has been submitted to him, but should I uncover anything of value, could not it be administered in Kansas where she died? I doubt if anything of material value turns up.

I shall be glad to talk things over with you when we have an opportunity to do so.

Love to all,

Your Father

WCB:df
Enc.

September 20, 1944

Miss Lillian Cowdy
3751 Aldrich Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Lillian:

I have been going thru the sad but necessary effort of deciding what letters and papers of Etoile's to destroy and what to preserve.

I have found some letters from your father and an occasional letter from your mother. Unless these letters contain something of special interest as to be preserved, I have destroyed them, because after I am gone, they would not mean much to others. I found last night a letter which I have preserved, the first two pages of which were written by Jennie, that is so badly faded that I couldn't read it under the light that I had in the basement, and the last two pages were written by your sister, Nellie, who wrote a beautiful hand. I also have found and preserved the clipping containing the picture of Jean and the story when she retired from active teaching in Minneapolis.

It is a tedious job and will take ten times longer than one would presume.

With love and best wishes, I am

As ever,

Your Cousin

September 20, 1944

Mrs. Don A. Freeman
Route 3
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grayce:

Dolph and I received good letters from you on the same day. This is the 20th of September. We have not yet had a frost, and we have been eating breakfast and some other meals on our dining porch. I had breakfast there this morning. We had predictions for cold weather, but this morning the reports are to the effect that the cold from the north has been counteracted by warm currents from the south.

Gertie is having a few church people into dinner tomorrow night to make some plans for a reception for the choir.

We are interested in all of the little details of your affairs, and I don't want you to neglect kissing Mrs. Burke good-bye for me and Bill for Gertrude. I hope they will be able to find a decent place as Burke seems to do the best he can. I am glad that Don is feeling better and hope his campaign is gloing along in a satisfactory manner.

I have spent hours which run into days in going thru that big trunk of Etoile's papers, and apparently make little headway. Why in sam hill did you begin to write letters home when you were teaching in the blind school in Kansas City and continue it thru all the succeeding years, leaving it for your aged brother to have to wade thru? Seriously, all personal letters are scanned to see if there is any particular reason why they should be preserved, and if not, they are destroyed because such letters would mean little and perhaps be misunderstood by succeeding generations. I find fewer letters preserved from me and from Julia than from other members of the family. Julia's letters would doubtless have been few because they have lived in the same town so much of the time. I did run across one letter of mine, however, upon which our darling mother had made a loving notation on the envelope. You doubtless understand that this trunk contains all that is left of records saved by grandfather and grandmother, our parents, and Etoile. I have found a recommendation given to Collins Gowdy in 1926 when he became 21 years old. I find insurance policies upon his farm near Waukegan; little essays written by our mother when she was in her early teens; and hundreds of things of sentimental value.

Realizing that you and I are the only ones to pass on such things, I am cleaning up the best I can. I ran across a letter that might have been of interest to Kathryne Drought, but inasmuch as it contained other things about which she knows nothing, and which would doubtless trouble her, I destroyed it, but I am preserving for her communications that I think would be of interest to her, among them being a lock of hair of Cousin Collie Potts' older sister, Jennie, who was named for mamma and who died in infancy. I have also found letters from the second wife of Theodore Wickey, and I shall probably send such to Russel who may keep or destroy them as he thinks best. One tells of the serious sickness of Jennie who lived thru it to die later, and of the death of Mary and of the serious illness of Russel himself. As you recall, all kinds of disaster fell upon that family within a very few years.

I think mamma and Etoile must have loved you very much for the number of letters from you that they preserved.

As ever, much love to you and Don.

Your Brother

September 20, 1944

Mrs. Kathryne Drought
1417 North Blackstone
Jackson, Michigan

Dear Kathryne:

In going thru the papers that were left by my sister, Etoile, I have found things as far back as personal recommendations for my grandfather, Collins Goudy, when he attained his 21st birthday in 1826.

Among other things I find some things from your mother and a little letter from you written, I think, when you were thirteen years old. I am putting these things aside to send to you when I get thru.

I hope that you are gaining in health, that you hear good word from Willard, and that Eugene, Betty and baby are all fine.

Lovingly,

Your Cousin

September 20, 1944

Mrs. Chas. D. Stough
7839 Colfax
Chicago 49, Illinois

Dear Mary Jule:

I have been spending many hours trying to finish up going thru Etoile's papers. I find that I am having to pass on things preserved by my grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Collins Cowdy, my mother, and my sister. Here and there I find something that should interest you. I found the wire that was sent to Chicago announcing your birth and other cards and mementos. I also have put aside a number of stamps, but I think probably you have duplicates of most of this lot.

I don't know of anything much that would be of interest to you. I presume that you know that Jack Vincent has purchased the building he occupies and is trying to branch out as a jobber in certain lines.

Dolph Jr. is probably the youngest man on the high school football squad and has occasion at time to feel good and then the unfavorable reactions which are both to come to an inexperienced youngster in running up against older and more experienced players.

John had his twelfth birthday yesterday.

We expect Dorothea down within a few days.

Hope everything is well with you and your charming little daughter. Presume that the word from Charles continues to be good.

Lovingly,

Your Uncle

September 11, 1944

Mr. Mike McNalley
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Mike:

Received your good letter this morning. After knowing the number of studies that you have, the garden work, and your civic obligations, I wonder what you do with your extra time.

It so happened that I also received this morning $5.01 as a refund for your pullman reservations which you were unable to use. We enjoyed having you with us very much and hope you can visit with us more often in the future than in the past.

Marilyn is now here ready for the University and took dinner with us yesterday.

Give our love to your mamma and papa and to that pretty black-eyed sister.

Lovingly,

Your Grandad

WCS:df
Enc.

September 11, 1944

PERSONAL

Mr. Chris Kraft
1818 Mass. St.
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. Kraft:

For the past twenty-seven years I have lived on the extreme south end of Vermont Street about a block south of the highway, to which we have given the rather indefinite number of 2500 Vermont.

None of our children are now at home, and Mrs. Simons, having been injured in a fall four years ago, does not get around quite as well as she did formerly. For that reason we have given some thought to moving into town.

I have never been in your house, but it has an attractive appearance. If you would be interested in a sale or an exchange, please let me know.

I think we have one of the most attractive and one of the best built homes in Lawrence.

I shall be pleased to hear from you.

Very truly yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df

September 5, 1944

Mrs. E. H. Henley
906 So. Sierra Bonita Avenue
Los Angeles 36, California

Dear Mrs. Henley:

I enjoyed reading your letter of August 20th, because it truly pictures your loving and independent attitude towards those less fortunate.

There certainly should be reserved for you a prominent place in the world to come where good deeds are understood and recorded.

Cordially yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df

September 9, 1944

Clark The Hatter,
901 Walnut,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Gentlemen:

I have a white hat purchased from you by Will Johns, Chief of Police of Kansas City, Kansas and given to me. I recently sent it to a local cleaner and it has come back so grimey that I would like to have it re-cleaned if it is possible to do so.

Please let me hear from you and tell me your charges for doing such work.

Respectfully yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:JM

September 9, 1944

Mr. H. B. Bullene
331 North Alta Avenue
Whittier, California

Dear Herb:

Your letter of August 26th arrived too late for us to secure the picture that you suggested. I think your idea was a good one, and we are very happy to have our readers shoot ideas into us.

I understand that Mrs. Bullene is now in Lawrence. Property has been moving, although OPA rulings have worked hard on many property owners. The OPA seems to be like the laws of the Medes and the Persians--inflexible and without consideration of the facts governing each particular case. One case came to my attention where a landlord thru his kindness of heart permitted a widow to occupy a property at $10.00 or $15.00 a month less than its regular rental value, found that after the widow vacated the property either thru death or otherwise, the rent she paid marked the limit that he could receive from others.

There were hundreds of cases where landlords or homeowners spent considerable money to improve property and then were unable to secure any additional rent from same. It has been a bad mess, and when I hear the clear, ringing tones of Thomas Dewey over the radio, I hope for better days to come.

Russia had her Ivan, the Terrible and other nations have had their incompetents.

I recall the days when you opened the business of Bullene and Starkweather. You had a nice store and it does not seem to have been so long ago, but I won't attempt to figure up the years.

A. D. Weaver spent the summer at the old family home in Connecticut, but told me he doubted he would ever go there again where he had to personally oversee the opening and care of the place. For a man of his age, it must have been a pretty hard job.

With best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,

WCS:df

W. C. Simons

September 9, 1944

Mr. Deal Six
Douglas County Farm Bureau
Lawrence, Kansas

My dear Six:

My vineyard lies north of my house on loamy soil and slants somewhat towards the north. My vines looked fine early in the year, but in the last two or three weeks, the leaves have discolored as though hit by a frost, and I think perhaps one thousand pounds or more of grapes fell to the ground. In other words, I think I lost about two-thirds of my crop.

The vines had been cultivated earlier and then mulched and were free from weeds. I had the thought that perhaps the ground needs liming, and I shall be very glad to have your advice. I had the best prospect for grapes this year that I have ever had.

Thanking you for your interest, I remain

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df

September 9, 1944

Mount Hope Nurseries
Lawrence National Bank Bldg.
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. Griesa:

My vineyard lies north of my house on loamy soil and slants somewhat towards the north. My vines looked fine early in the year, but in the last two or three weeks, the leaves have discolored as though hit by a frost, and I think perhaps one thousand pounds or more of grapes fell to the ground. In other words, I think I lost about two-thirds of my crop.

The vines had been cultivated earlier and then mulched and were free from weeds. I had the thought that perhaps the ground needs liming, and I shall be very glad to have your advice. I had the best prospect for grapes this year that I have ever had.

Thanking you for your interest, I remain

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df

H. A. MERCER, M. D.
~~A. S. OFFICE BUILDING~~
~~ARKANSAS CITY, KANSAS~~
1819 W. Polk st.
Chicago 12. Ill.

CHICAGO
SEP 3
12 PM
1944
39
ILL.

Mr. W. C. Simons
% Journal-World
Lawrence
Kansas

1819 West Polk st.
Chicago Ill.

HERMAN A. MERCER, B. S. M. D.
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON
~~FIRST FLOOR A. C. OFFICE BUILDING~~
~~ARKANSAS CITY, KANSAS~~

9-3-44.

Mr. W. C. Simons and Mrs Simons
Lawrence Kansas

Dear Friends:

I think I promised to write to you and would you pardon my neglectfulness. I judged you were on vacation during August. July was too hot, the week in June I was too busy.

I like my work here very practical, sensible teaching institution. The Hospital and Clinics are part of the University of Illinois' Medical [2]Dental and [3]Pharmaceutical schools. Located in area just south of the Cook County Hospital group. In our hospital group is Reconstruction Hospital for Children, The [2]Neuropsychiatric Institute and the [3]Research Hospital. They have two blocks cleared to construct new buildings as soon as materials are available, and in the group is New Eye, Ear, Nose, & throat Hospital. The old Rush Medic school has been combined and we have buildings strung clear up to the Presbyterian Hospital 2 1/2 blocks N & East.

How is the war progressing about Lawrence? These are samples of Parachutes my Brother sent me which he picked up after the invasion of Normandy. Probably you have seen samples before. He was in Normandy and sent these about a month ago.

Each color represents a different content of the parachute, one color would be for food one guns, ammunition or medical supplies etc. He said he never received a white one carrying personnel.

He thought their K-rations pretty good, but, not so good, when they had nothing but that for 2 weeks in the invasion, as the food supplies did not keep up with their advancement, an instance on landing ashore one fellow felt security and hung up his pants to dry. a German force rushed them and he left his pants & possessions and was without until he found a dead German and secured his pants

HERMAN A. MERCER, B. S. M. D.
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON
FIRST FLOOR A. C. OFFICE BUILDING
ARKANSAS CITY, KANSAS

My work is Resident in Ophthalmology, Eye. Clinic work goes on all morning each day and Operative surgery on Tuesday and Friday of each week. Besides preparing eye cases and working them up clinically I have the pre-op operation care and assist in all eye surgery. We have many strabismus and cross eyes as well as Cataracts, Needling of lens, operations for Glaucoma, Lid lesions etc. As one becomes familiar with the procedure the staff man says all right now you do this one I will keep you straight. Last 2 wks I have done two cross eyes. Very good for the first 2 months I think. Chief told me the other day that I would do all enucleations, removal of Eye cases. So in next ~~two~~ months I think I may become well acquainted in eye surgery. We have ten men on staff half working every other day.

Mrs Mercer and Margaret visited me five days first of month then went down to Bloomington Ind and visited her parents. Ivan had the misfortune of breaking his large toe Right foot and came back last Monday evening with that impairing his speed and comfort so she & Margaret went to

Newton to visit her sister and on to Enid Okla, where Margaretta school begins Tuesday. It surely is lonesome up here without them but no easy way of taking care of child in these crowded cracker box facilities in this section of the city.

I have attended the Second Baptist Church three times some four blocks north on Jackson Blvd. but the same old city attitude, no one sees you except the pastor and he has been a different one each time. Certainly lacks the spirit, inspiration and quality service The First Church in Lawrence has to offer.

I wish you would give my best regards to Mr Thomas and Dr. Clough and any other old friends in Lawrence. Her direct mail has come from your city and I wanted her very highly appreciation to hear that it has continued its activities.

May mention the great conventions G.O.P. and Democratic came & went and I never got a look on into either, General conventions in city each week and should you ever be in city from such or other reasons don't forget to call me besides I would appreciate a line any time Yours Most Sincerely H. A. Mercer.

September 8, 1944

H. A. Mercer, M.D.
1819 West Polk Street
Chicago 12, Illinois

Dear Dr. Mercer:

Busy as you are with your new work, I think it was mighty nice of you to take the time to write me your good letter of September 3rd. Fortunately you wrote at just the right time because I returned from Minnesota on August 31st.

While I had known about the many uses of parachutes, I was not aware that distinguishing colors were used to indicate contents. It seems to me a fine idea.

That is one thing that is good in our country. The man who has an idea that is good can usually find use for it, whereas, in certain countries of the world, a man has to be to the manner born to have any influence.

I do not know of any profession more interesting, more honorable, nor more helpful than that of medicine. At the present time I have a young grandson who thinks he would like to become a physician, and I believe that if he does, his alert mind and practical common sense would be helpful to him.

I like the idea of men trying to keep up with the procession. A man is never too old to improve as long as he wishes to gain further knowledge. You are just approaching the prime of life and have the prospect of many years of service. I hope you will be keenly interested in your new work and will find it satisfying.

Mrs. Simons and I enjoyed our acquaintance with you and Mrs. Mercer and also with your darling little girl. It is kind of funny how an accidental visit can result sometimes in a lifetime of friendship. We liked you and yours as soon as we met you and had found out the kind of folks you are.

Here at home things have been moving along very nicely. Dr. Snodgrass, the new pastor, is a kindly man who makes friends. He is well educated, having won his doctorate in the study of philos-

ophy. He isn't the thinker nor the brilliant man that Schwegler is, but he is taking hold in good shape, and the church seems to be doing well under his leadership. I haven't seen Dr. Schwegler since early in the summer. Mrs. Simons and I will have to make a call on them.

Analyzing my own feelings, I feel deeply grateful to Divine Providence for the progress that has been made to re-establish freedom and justice on the earth. Some years ago when Roosevelt wished to destroy the Supreme Court, it seemed to me that the situation was hopeless, that he had the power, and that he would push his measures thru Congress. It seemed like an act of Providence to me that certain members of his own party should rise up to defeat the measure. As time went on, however, and members of the Court died or retired on account of age, he has named a group of "yes" men, making one of the most dangerous situations that has ever been met in the life of our nation.

Lincoln is credited with having designated law as being the last guess of the Supreme Court, but even though decisions of that august body might be considered a guess, during the past such decisions were considered as stabilizers, and lawyers, law-makers, and the public could place confidence in the stability of the Court. Now the Court votes one way one day and another the next, so we are again pretty much up in the air. Nevertheless, I am very thankful for the Divine aid that has been given our soldiers and our country, and I would rejoice if we as a nation were made of sounder stuff.

To me it is intolerable to condemn some more or less unimportant individual for treasonable action, and then permit racketeers to defy the government and tie up our sources of defense and of offense. I do not believe that Grover Cleveland, Theodore Roosevelt, Calvin Coolidge, and Hoover would have permitted the chaotic condition which now exists in the field of labor organization. We are not questioning the right of labor to organize nor its right to be led by sane and constructive men, but when led by traitors to our government, the condition becomes serious and should be dealt with with a strong hand.

I am a natural optimist, and I believe in the greatness of our country and in its future, and I believe some of these things which now exist will be looked upon in years to come as a nightmare, and people will wonder how they could ever have existed.

Well, I can't ramble on forever, and perhaps this is just as good a place to say good-bye and good luck as anywhere. I took your letter home and Mrs. Simons enjoyed reading it. Give my best regards to your wife, and give the little girl just one extra love pat for me.

Cordially yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df

September 5, 1944

Mr. C. H. Hoinville
908 Railway Exchange
Chicago 4, Illinois

Dear Charlie:

Just have your letter of the 4th to hand, and again want to express my deep appreciation for the kindness you are showing to Brother John.

Certie and I returned from Gull Lake on August 31st and within a day or two visited the cemetery where we found the grave resplendent with blooming geraniums. The grass had been cut everywhere excepting on the grave itself where it was about six inches high of a rich deep green color and added to the beauty of the grave. The stone or marker for her grave has not been set, and I have heard nothing of it so will ask Dorothy to call before this letter is mailed so that I can see what has caused the delay.

There has been an abundance of water during August although the top of the ground seems a little hard just now. Everything is wonderfully green and on many of the streets of Lawrence, the trees have interlaced their branches until it seems as if you were riding thru a bower of green.

I called Mary Jule very shortly after getting home and found that she had just left for Chicago. I hope that she and Vera will be very happy and will make home brighter and more attractive for you. I have not heard anything in regard to her husband since before we left, but my call to the house brought the information that they had had no further word from Mr. Metz, Margaret's husband.

We shall be Happy to have you stop off to see us anytime that you can.

It looks as if the war had reached its final stage as far as Germany is concerned.

Give my love to Mary Jule and Vera.

With love,

Your Brother

WCS:df

September 5, 1944

Dr. Emery J. McIntire
Carthage, Missouri

Dear Emery:

In looking thru the Graduate Magazine this morning, I noticed a picture of your attractive daughters and it reminded me of you and of my acquaintance with your father, your uncle who was one of my very dear friends, and your grandfather.

It also made me think how very close Dolph came to death the day you suffered so great an injury. As I recall, he occupied a place right in the nose of the sled on the last trip that you made down Indiana Street before the accident. It is my belief that Indiana has not since been used for coasting purposes.

Mrs. Simons and I always liked you as a boy, were very much interested in your welfare following your injury, and we should be glad to see you more often.

By the way, what has become of your cousin Maurice McIntire, the only child of L.O.? Also where is Mrs. L.O. McIntire, the last wife of your uncle? She seemed to be a kindly lady and I think was quite devoted to her husband during the comparatively short time that they were married.

Remember that we still live in Lawrence, that we have a large home out at the extreme south end of Vermont Street and that we should be glad to see you.

Cordially yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df

DR. J. K. WICKEY
PUBLIC SQUARE
BELLEVILLE, ILL.

BELLEVILLE
SEP 25
8 30 AM
1944
ILL.

Dr. H. C. Simons,

Lawrence,

Kansas.

(Care Lawrence Daily Journal-World)

Julia Wickey
Rec'd

DR. J. RUSSEL WICKEY
29 Public Square - Phone 131
BELLEVILLE, ILL.

September 24th 44

Mr. W. C. Simms
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Cobbie -

I have received several letters and notes from you, but some how I never can find time to write.

Especially since I broke my wrist. I hent been able to catch up working day and night. We carried over less work Saturday night than any week end since I got back.

I hope its coming to an end.

DR. J. RUSSEL WICKEY
29 Public Square - Phone 131
BELLEVILLE, ILL.

While carrying my arm in a sling I thought I would do some writing.

I went up in Mich. to see Mrs Millar. she was the eldest daughter of Jno Raymond the man I lived with. She is 83 yrs of age very hard of hearing so I cut my neck short and stopped in Chicago for a week

Mrs Millar told me a book was published What do they call it 'Social Legislation'? She said Frank Morris history was in there.

Some information might be gotten there

DR. J. RUSSEL WICKEY
29 Public Square - Phone 131
BELLEVILLE, ILL.

She did not know the date but I should judge 'twas around 1890 or there abouts - The first time I go to visit Ray my half brother I shall look it up. He lives nine miles out of Kankakee. Frank Mason lived in Kankakee Co. My family are all out on the coast - I am going out (Christmas) and If I can get gas will drive home - Johann in San Diego & Gayer is in Orcutt four miles from where her husband's stationed

DR. J. RUSSEL WICKEY
29 Public Square - Phone 131
BELLEVILLE, ILL.

Julia's husband is stationed right there in San Diego - Naval Hospital home every night.

Well Pattie there chews Joe Dewey I hope he makes it.

Best regards to all

Love

Russel

Mrs. Eugene Drought
1417 N. Blackstone Street
Jackson, Michigan

Sept. 30-44

Mr. H. C. Simons
Lawrence Kansas

Dear Cousin:-

Thank you for saving letters and papers for me from your sister Etoile's papers. I shall be very glad to have them. I wish, too, I might have a copy of the recommendation given my great-grand father. I am interested in knowing who gave it.

I remember mother telling a an incident about herself: once when her grand father and grand mother were visiting her parents and mother was about four years, mother was very fond of her grandmother and missing her one day

opened grandmother's bedroom door looking for her + grandfather was in the bedroom taking a bath. Mother ran out screaming "Grandpa looked at me!" Her grandmother held her in her arms and asked, "Did Grandpa scold you?" All mother could say was "He looked at me!" She said she never knew if he was taking his bath or ~~nash~~ had finished but that she would never forget those piercing eyes and heavy black brows. She said he was always good to her, hold her on his lap and sang and read to her.

Odd how a little thing in childhood makes a lasting impression. Mother said her grandmother held her on her lap and told her how no one, not even adults, should go into private rooms without knocking first. Mother was a great stickler for that in our home. We were never permitted to rush into each others rooms when the doors were closed and she observed the same rules herself.

Willard was in Hawaii for awhile - he said if we didn't here it would be because he had moved on. It has been three weeks now. Loren Gondy's son Leland is stationed somewhere on the Islands but he and Willard didn't meet.

The Citizen Patriot took Willard's picture when he was home and sent me free an 8X10 enlargement. I asked for the negative that I might get some small prints. I am enclosing one for you. A mistake was made in leaving the name in the corner.

I am doing another kind of work now. Filling out cards and telephoning. Eugene thought the telephoning was too tiring and wanted me to give it up. Betty said she would like to do the 'phoning so we have arranged it that way, I won't earn as much but I can't afford to run any risk. I am feeling better all the time and best of all am able to do a little housework.

What is the President trying to do - get the midwest vote with a promise of T. V. A. on the Missouri?

Sometimes I feel encouraged that we will get rid of this Socialistic Administration, then again I wonder there are so many Red strings attached.

Betty was here yesterday - the baby is lovely: Judith is sweet too - they are all well.

Your loving Cousin
Kathryn

COUNTY ATTORNEY
OTTAWA COUNTY

L. A. McNALLEY
ATTORNEY AT LAW
MINNEAPOLIS, KANSAS

September twenty-two, 1944

Mr. W. C. Simons,
722 Massachusetts,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear W. C.:

Your letter of the 20th at hand. If there should be substantial property found belonging to Etoile it is of course possible to have it administered in Kansas. I would not want to administer on someting of very small value as it would be cheaper for us to have Mr. Turner go ahead with such property in Iowa.

We are all well and the children are in school. They are very much interested in their work and are both doing fine.

I have just hit a jackpot case with about a half million dollars worth of property and it looks like it would probably take two or three years to clear the matter up. It will possibly involve 100 to 150 heirs and will take a long time to locate them.

We are having wheat planted on all our farms, and with all these irons in the fire it keeps me fairly busy.

With love, I remain

Yours very truly,

LAMc

L. A. McNalley,
Attorney At Law.

LAMc:gs

September 1, 1944

Lt. Owen W. Maloney, 0-2062684
422 AAFBU
TAAF Sqd. T4
Tonopah, Nevada

Dear Owen:

It looks now as if the day might not be far distant when you will be coming home. The Germans are so badly disorganized and without leadership, that I do not believe they can hold out much longer.

I simply want to tell you that when you get out of the service, I should like to buy you a good suit of clothes--anything from a good business suit to a full dress outfit.

I believe your experience will be of great benefit to you and trust that when you return, you will complete the work necessary to secure your degree from the University.

We had a short visit last night with your dad who arrived in Lawrence yesterday with Art Weaver and spent the night at his home. However, he was in the office to see me and he and your grandmother and I took dinner last night with Dolph and family where we had a good visit.

Everything seems to be moving along nicely at the office.

Lovingly,

Your Grandad

WCS:df

September 2, 1944

Mr. Leo F. Brady
Happy Homes Inc.
404 East 63rd Street
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Brady:

I understand that you are expecting to build 25 more houses in Lawrence. I own 17 lots in one tract as shown on the enclosed sketch. These lots are on high ground and well drained. I would not care to sell excepting as a tract. Most of the lots on Vermont Street have hard maple trees planted ten years ago. There are also other trees.

These lots would cost you more than I understand you have been paying for lots here and there, but by their location they would immediately add more than the cost of the lot to the sale price of your homes.

The lots are all clear, have good title, and taxes paid. These lots have not been listed with any agent nor have they been offered for sale.

I shall be pleased to hear from you.

Sincerely,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df
Enc.

September 2, 1944

Mr. J. H. Clarkson, General Passenger Agent
Chicago and Rock Island Railway
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Clarkson:

I wish to thank you for your kindness in securing reservations for me as of September 4th.

Deeming it best to be home at an earlier date, I was able to secure reservations for the 30th of August on the Chicago-Great Western and turned my reservation over to Mrs. Ethel Popham. Her husband is a well known and prominent attorney in Kansas City, Missouri, and I am sure he will appreciate your kindness.

We like the Rock Island and presume that the day will come when we won't have to fight quite so hard for reservations.

Very truly yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df

Thursday Morning.

Dear Mr. Simons:

Am enclosing copy of letter sent to Mr. Clarkson.

Sent him our tickets with check to fill in, and an extra check for $5.00 as we decided last nite.

I should have our reservations back now in a few days.

Thank you very much for your thoughtfulness, and hope you and Mrs. Simons have a pleasant trip home.

Sincerely,

Ethel Topham

Island View Lodge.

J. H. Clarkson

Simmons Sr

September 1, 1944

Mrs. S. E. Wampler
1645 Union
San Diego, California

Dear Mrs. Wampler:

I was glad to receive your letter of August 29th and asked Mrs. Farris to continue sending the paper to you until she heard from you further.

I like our new pastor very much, and I am sure he is generally liked by the people of the church. This, in a way, is indicated by the fact that the people have rallied to the financial support of the church these last few months in a rather unusual manner.

I hope your boys are happy and successful in their work.

I know you have enjoyed the fishing, and sometime or other perhaps you can drop in on us at our summer cabin at Gull Lake, Minnesota, near Brainerd, where we can eat walleye together.

Mrs. Simons joins me in sending best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df

September 1, 1944

Mr. Michael Collins McNalley
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Mike:

As one fisherman to another, how are you? We enjoyed very much having you with us even if you did skin the life out of us at Hearts and Crazy Eight.

You also beat me in the size of the fish caught, and I should hate you for it, but I do not.

You will be interested in knowing that after you left, I began operating Don's motor for him, and I had no difficulty whatever in doing so.

You are a good boy and I think you have the makings of a fine man and a successful citizen.

With love to all, I am

Your loving Grandad,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df

September 1, 1944

Mr. F. F. Pickar
Route 3
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Pickar:

We arrived home safely yesterday morning, being met in Kansas City by Dolph. Found everything in good shape at home.

Please give my best wishes to Mrs. Pickar and to Charlie. We hope the next time that we are at the lake, we shall have our own car with plenty of tires and gasoline so that we can get around more.

I appreciate your kindness in helping me out whenever called upon.

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df

September 1, 1944

Dr. J. Russel Wickey
Belleville, Illinois

Dear Russ:

We got home yesterday morning, and I wanted you to know we were back home.

I sincerely hope that you have recovered entirely from the injury sustained, and that you are again leading a normal life with your family.

Give my love to Mina and the girls, also to your grandchildren. Gertrude often speaks of the darling baby that was at our house.

While in Chicago I read letters from your mother, Julia, to our family and also a fine letter from your stepmother. There were frequent mentions in papa's letters written during the war to mamma, of his sister, Julia, whom he evidently loved very dearly.

Although I was but a child, I recall how great a shock it was to him when your mother died. He spoke in the letters that mamma and his sister were the two most beloved women in his life.

Please let me hear from you.

Lovingly,

Your Cousin

WCB:df

September 1, 1944

Mrs. Kathryne Drought
1417 North Blackstone
Jackson, Michigan

Dear Kathryne:

Gertrude and I returned yesterday morning from a seven weeks' stay at our cabin on Gull Lake, Brainerd, Minnesota. We have a most excellent helper in our home--a Dunkard girl who went with us and added tremendously to the pleasure of the vacation for Gertrude. When I was out fishing or attending to business, she was company for Gertrude, and at night when we were together, she would go into her own room and busy herself with sewing, writing, etc. We appreciate having her with us very much.

We took the Chicago-Great Western in Minneapolis at 2:30 Wednesday. We came down by auto from the lake to Minneapolis, a distance of 140 miles, and I had time to take a cab out to Lillian's for a short visit. I found her feeling bright and cheerful and looking far better than I had expected. We had a very happy although short visit together, and we talked appreciatively of you and of her correspondence with you.

We were glad to get home and found the weather delightful.

With very best wishes to you and your family, I remain

Your loving cousin,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df