

October 13, 1944

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,