

July 8, 1944

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. McNalley
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Janet and Mc:

The first thing that greeted me when I came to the office this morning was your package remembering my birthday. I have already read the cover analyses of the two books "Liberty Street" and "Crazy Weather", and have no doubt that I shall find them very interesting. I thank you a lot for remembering me.

I have long considered that I have some of the finest children and grandchildren in the world and that I love them very much.

We plan on leaving Tuesday for Gull Lake and have our reservations as far as the twin cities, and then we will probably continue by bus if we can find seats. Going up early in the week, we should find better accommodations than a day or two later when we would have to compete with the twin city crowd and its weekend vacation.

I knew that Gertrude had invited Dolph and Dolph Jr. for dinner last night, but I had given it no special thought and was really surprised to find it a birthday dinner with cake and candles, but on account of war economy and my sensitive feelings, the candles were put on at random rather than to indicate years, decades, and centuries.

Dolph Jr. is working very hard as a potato picker where he handles every sack of potatoes required to fill three carloads and more. He is interested in being able to do the work, but was very tired last night and I have urged caution lest he might strain either heart or muscles.

John has been having a grand time at Auburn where he has sort of adopted the Nordlunds. He sells merchandise, makes change at their store and goes out to the country to the grain and alfalfa fields where I have no doubt he tries to take some part. I doubt if he will return before his mamma gets here.

Marie, as you know, left Chicago to visit in Detroit with Mrs. Buhl who lives across the street from her, and Mrs. Buhl's