

May 16, 1944

Mrs. L. A. McNalley  
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Janet:

You will note in tonight's paper a story about Ella Norton. Her sister, Mary Shanahan, was the one who loved you so much when you were about two years old and used to enjoy being with you. You were trying to get into their yard at the time you slipped and drove the sharp hinge into your forehead. Mary looks well, but naturally thirty-nine years have made rather marked changes. Her hair which used to be rather of a bright red is now quite dark, but seems natural, in its color. They had rather of a nice looking daughter with them who might have been in her late teens.

It was mighty sweet of you to send the corsage for Mother's Day. Gertie had floral greetings from three of the children, and I think something else from Dorothea. And those things are really appreciated--the thoughtfulness, the love and the beauty of the gift.

In paying the account to Stevenson's, I asked if he were the Stevenson who used to be in the R. W. Ober store when I was there about fifty-five years ago. I find that he was, that he started in business about 1896, that he remembers me and would be glad to have a visit some day when I am there. I told him that I hoped this would not be the last opportunity I would have for sending him a check.

We have made no definite plans yet for the summer. I wish you could be here and see how nice the house looks. It has been painted white with a green roof and looks nice both inside and out although there are places where there is always some thing to do. We cut back the shrubs last year to such an extent that I wondered whether we would have anything left, and while the bushes are much smaller than usual, so far they are simply a mass of blossoms. If we had a competent yard man, it would take a lot of responsibility from your mamma. As soft spoken as she is, I think that when she looks at the incompetency of her yard man, she is willing to join with General Sherman in declaring that war is hell.

We are expecting to leave tomorrow for a few days in Tulsa, and it is a part of our plans to follow that up with a visit to you, but that will be after you have seen Dr. Curran. We would have lots of things to talk about were we together. I love you very much and also your fine family.

Affectionately,

WCS:df

Your Dad