

October 30, 1945

Colonel and Mrs. Karl F. Baldwin
693 The Alameda
Berkeley, California

Dear Colonel and Mrs. Baldwin:

I have delayed writing you because it is so difficult to know what to say. Last night I read the account as recorded by your son, John. I can appreciate the thoughtfulness and kindness of the soldier who gave the information. When he wrote your letter, you know he wanted to be as kindly and soothing in making the report as it was possible to be. In finality, you are now certain that your boy was not tortured. Knowing of the vicious cruelty that had been practiced by the Japs on others, to me it meant a lot to know that Chan's death was the result of malnutrition.

When you come home to America, I want you to locate where you will be happy. If that means to be in your California home, there is the place I want you to be. On the other hand, if you feel that you would like to be with your tried and true old friends in Lawrence, we should be happy to have it so. At this time it probably would be rather difficult to find a suitable place either for rent or purchase. I had looked for a loosening up along this line following the closing of the Sunflower Ordnance Works or at least from the very large reduction in the number of its employed, but so far there is a fight for every property either for rent or for sale. There has even been quite a movement in business real estate and a good deal of renovation is in progress.

At Rotary yesterday, a letter was read from the Adelaide Rotary Club calling attention to your having been their guest and having addressed them. Rotary has been moving along, I think, unusually well. Deane Malott, Chancellor of the University, accepted the chairmanship of the program committee for two months and did an excellent job. Under the direction of Walt Varnum we are now proceeding to get out a loose-leaf roster of the club which will give data and a photograph of each member.

I have sometimes considered joining the Latter Day Saints in the hope of securing household help to relieve Mrs. Simons, but I have my doubts that even such a drastic step would help much. It seems that neither love nor money can secure help in our home. Of course, Mrs. Simons is older now than she ever was before, and yet in our nearly fifty-one years of married life, she is forced to do more home work than at any other time.