

December 30, 1946

Mr. and Mrs. Dolph Simons:

Dear children:

Not only to express my appreciation, but that you may know how extravagant you were, I am going to thank you in detail for the many nice things that you gave to me. I'll let Gertrude give her thanks separately.

In the first place - there was the photograph of the head of your family, and a darn good head it was....he furnished the head and Marie furnished the photograph. Then, there was the sweater-vest, which is certainly attractive. I put it on the other night and strutted for the benefit of my wife. Then, there was the flashlight from the boys, and it is a good one, and the beautiful plastic box, made by Dolph Jr. Your mamma used some of her ever-victorious glue on it and you couldn't knock the button off again with an axe. Out of all my presents, the one that is giving me a headache now is the Chess set, because, while I, in a general way, know that they move around the spots, I also remember that they travel in different directions, and some have the right-of-way over others. I knew something about that when I was a callow youth of nineteen or twenty, but what little I ever knew, I have certainly forgotten.

I am not going to mail this to you, but will leave it in the pile for your delectation when you return.

Thank you very much for everything.

Lovingly,

WCS:jm