Tue Thursday Evening

Dear Cousin Collins,

I am completely flabbergasted and utterly thrilled over the lovely present that arrived today from you!!

I donot know how to thank you. When one has wanted some thing for years and it suddenly and unexpectedly drops out of a clear sky, well, there just aren't words.

Eugene* laughs at my delight telling me to "slow down or you will have high blood pressure instead of low!"

Now, I can have the air I need and keep warm - my biggest problem solved. I can see Cousin Gertrude's sweet smile of pleasure - she knows.

I do thank you so much.

God bless you
"Santa Claus"

Your loving cousin
Katheryn

A Little Dear NOTE
TRADEMARK

ALBERT H. GUFLER
EMPORIA, KANSAS

EMPORIA KANS. DEC 9 8 PM 1948

Mr. W. C. Simon, President,

The Lawrence Daily Journal-World,

Lawrence, Kansas.

ALBERT H. GUFLER
EMPORIA, KANSAS

Dec. 9, 1948.

Mr. W. C. Simon, President,
The Lawrence Daily Journal-World,
Lawrence, Kansas.

My dear Mr. Simon:

Your surprise letter of the third came as a fine greeting for the ensuing holiday season. If you were still a boy Scout, it would be classified as at least one good deed that day. I thank you very much for your kindly words of reminiscences of bygone days and assure you that those happy days have often fallen across my "Memory's Stage."

You are quite right, except that in the days of my early acquaintance of your charming Gertrude, I was working as a young salesman out of Lawrence, with headquarters at Ottawa. But I did have the opportunity of personal appraisal of your good judgment in the selection of your lifetime sweetheart.

In connection with your letter there is an incident that savors of the "books on mental telepathy." By a strange coincidence only within the past week, while rummaging through some old keepsake letters, (naturally only complimentary), my eyes fell upon a Lawrence Journal-World letterhead. It was a letter which you wrote to me "way back yonder" acknowledging one I had written you expressing my gratitude for a complimentary editorial you had written about my late good brother Otto and myself. In your letter you said you were just as glad to write it as we were to read it.

I have temporarily, I am sorry to say, misplaced it, but you will know that the preservation of it these many years, proves my appreciation and the value I placed upon it.

I have kept an eye and an ear on your successful career and recently have been thinking of you quite frequently when seeing the name of your fine son Dolph listed in the K. U. line-up. I have been a football enthusiast since the days of K. U.'s first "never defeated" team of the gay and happy nineties, and I still keep tab on K. U., especially since one of our daughters and one of our sons-in-law are alumnus of the University.

You say you have just passed the date of your fifty-fourth wedding anniversary, which reminds me of the

W. C. S. 12/9/48

near approach of our Fiftieth anniversary, which Mrs. Gufler and I hope we may be able to spend together with our two sons, five daughters, and eleven grandchildren, next July. All of these swiftly moving scenes that mark the action of the play of life verily prove that "Tempus Fugit."

I also note what you say about the many changes that have taken place with the firm with which I was associated from May, 1887 to May 1947. About the only appropriate comment by me might be (and that is personal) that it "was not planned that way" by the founder of the business and his late associates and operators of the business with most of whom I spent exactly sixty years of mutually happy and fruitful associated service.

I hope, Friend W. C., that I may have the pleasure of a good visit with you before we are called from this more or less disturbed world. Should you ever come to our good little city, in which we have lived since May 1, 1901, please do look me up.

Here are my best wishes to you and all those near and dear for the peace, good will and happiness that Christmas and the Holiday Season represent. You have added much to it for others and justly deserve the legacy to which an upright, forthright citizen is entitled.

Sincerely,

A. H. Gufler

AHG MD

Dorothea

December 11

Dearest Dad;

We are all thrilled that you are coming to be with us for Christmas. I am so glad you decided to come here. We will enjoy having you.

The Maloneys will no doubt have a busy and active holiday season.

I have been watching for Marilyn's picture in the paper. I thought it was to be in Monday's issue.

Charles had his party today - 9 little boys. There should have been 10, but Jonnie had a temperature; so I kept him in bed. They had a noisy good time; and I am glad that its over. My next door neighbor brought taffy apples over for them.

Tomorrow we are going to Portland to meet the Dibbles, and will have supper tomorrow night with Jack and Barbara. That is if Jonnie is all right, and he seems better tonight.

The Dibbles want us all to come there for Christmas dinner. Would that suit you or would you rather have dinner here?

If Dolph and Marie are going to Auburn and you would like to go with them and have us meet you there, we'd be glad to. Then I could take you home after Christmas - or we all could. Just let us know.

If the Christmas tree light bulbs that I ordered don't come, I may ask you to bring a few of yours up with you. I know where they are.

I am enclosing an ad from the Journal-World that you might inquire about if you have the time or the inclination; and if it is pretty and reasonably priced, you might buy it for me. I would trust your judgment. It may be sold by now.

Was it cold in Lawrence Thursday night? The Chamber of Commerce had a Treasure Hunt here that night, and around 4 o'clock in the afternoon it began to turn colder, and by 9 o'clock it was down to zero or below. I couldn't stand to be out although I was bundled up so much I could hardly turn my head.

I hope the couple you have hired will be fine. I am glad you have someone to take over when Mrs. Murphy leaves, and I am sure the

new woman will be better,

I love you very very much,
and will be so glad to see you.

Love,
Dorothea

P. O. Box 2295,
Richmond, Virginia.
December 11, 1948.

Mr. W. C. Simmons,
Lawrence, Kansas.

My dear Mr. Simmons:

Mrs. Carter Harrison wrote to my friend Miss Hattie Belle Gresham in regard to some genealogical work that you would like to have done. Miss Gresham has given me your address and asked me to get in touch with you.

I have been engaged in genealogical work for a number of years and my name is on the list of genealogists at the Virginia State Library and at the Virginia Historical Society. I am the genealogist for the Virginia Society of Colonial Dames and for the Society of the Cincinnati in Virginia.

If you will write me what family or families you are interested in I shall be glad to discuss the matter with you and help you if possible.

Hoping that I may hear from you I am

Yours very truly,

Anne Hough

Mrs. Frank Hough.

Joe

December 30, 1948

Dear Grandad,

I hope that your Christmas in Wymore was a merry one. We certainly missed you here.

It's rather quiet around the house now & all the kids are gone - and Dad left Today for New Orleans.

The ole house was full of rain & rain for a week & though.

As usual I got so many

nice presents. The check you sent has been put to good use already - and I love the bath powder. Thank you loads for both of them.

Bob has been here all during the holidays and we've had so much fun. It will be quite lonesome when he goes back to the city Sunday.

I am feeling "up to snuff" again. I'm so glad that the operation, since it had to come, was during Thanksgiving instead of at Christmas time.

I don't like my little red car too well, but I guess I'm stuck with it now.

After the first of the year I'm really going to get ready or rather started, on preparations for the big event in March. See he counting on you to help celebrate & it with us.

Come and see us soon and again Thanks for the very nice presents.

all my love,

Marilyn

HARRY F. JOHNSON
PRESIDENT

Farmers Lumber Company

TELEPHONE 11

WYMORE, NEBRASKA

FOREST PRODUCTS
BUILDING MATERIALS
COAL

December 17

Dearest Dad;

I have been so busy this week making cookies and getting ready for Christmas. Tonight the boys are all in the Sunday-School program; and I had to arrange for the refreshments and have to take a couple of dozen cookies. Jonnie is going to sing "Jingle Bells" with his class.

Today I discovered that the tree light bulbs are not coming; so coved you have Ramsey get some out of the box of bulbs in the basement with the Christmas ornaments and either send or bring them to me. I don't want the large size nor the tiny pointed ones. They are the medium size like this or approximately. You know I am not an artist. There is also a little green metal Christmas tree I would like to borrow. It is not electric. I believe it has places for candles and is about 24" high

If you want to drive up or come on the train and have us meet you somewhere, you might as well come earlier than Dolph and Marie would come. It seems like a long time since I have seen you or heard from you. I hope everything is fine.

HARRY F. JOHNSON
PRESIDENT

Farmers Lumber Company

TELEPHONE 11
WYMORE, NEBRASKA

FOREST PRODUCTS
BUILDING MATERIALS
COAL

No, you didn't reimburse me for the storage on the coat; but I didn't expect you to. I was glad to pay it; and am enjoying the coat. It is very pretty and comfortably warm.

You asked me about the taxes on my Laurence property. I can't find the receipt (which I have put away somewhere); but I think they were around $30.

Saturday, the 18th

Santa Claus is coming to town today. The children are going to a free picture show, then will receive treats from Santa.

The program last night was very nice, and Charles and Lance both spoke their pieces admirably.

I love you so much, Dad. We all do, and I hope you are feeling better and are being well taken care of at home. You mean so much to all of your children and grandchildren - even to the littlest one. When we ask him who is coming at Christmas, he says Grandad (instead of Santa Claus). We're all looking forward to your being here.

Loads of Love,
Dorothea

File
Coll

Mrs. L. A. McNalley
Minneapolis, Kansas

Sat. A.M.

News dad and Merle -

So glad to hear from Mother-
Mary really likes the petticoat - She talked
to Lee on the phone and she spoke out in
a letter. I'd love to see Edd and Lucille
Linds 7. too - perhaps I will someday.

Not much news here. Our gas has
been contacted all week - We have had
the furnace turned to 65° all the time. Tel
today they announced no school since
Tuesday - The has been no school since
a lot to make up as they're missed at least
two weeks school because of no gas. I have
Le went to Beloit yesterday to see
Phyllis play Sacred Heart of Salina in the
regional tournament. Phyllis had won for
South Center the night before - but were
defeated yesterday 54 - 38 - Phyllis played
Most of the game and really played a
fine game and he were proud of her.
That ends the season for us and I'm
glad it's over as it's an awful strain
on Mother and Dad as well as on you.
Mac is going to Colby tomorrow &

be there for the 7th District Republican
convention. He was supposed & & & the
memorial meeting in Lawrence & Pat that
this more important.
& & and the roads are not too good.
I had a field for at least 1/4
he had & & then a field for at least 1/4
mile yesterday because
still blocked with high snowdrifts.
They will surely have it opened by tom.
now unless it starts snowing again.
I had D.E.'s Ken Lundeen office. He
initialed Margie Hoehle and had election
of Officers. Boyd Reardon is Pres. and I
am recording secretary.
The Hope Bowlers is holding better -
It is good & Theron Pat is better - I think
it marvelous how he snaps. Really
him so very ill. Don't if I'd get down
reckon much tho. I'd like &. Perhaps I
can bring Mary back after Easter -
will have & visits and see how things
work out.

Love to you both -

Janet

Bill
Will

MRS. L. A. McNALLEY
MINNEAPOLIS, KANSAS

Tuesday afternoon

Dear Dad -

I've thought about you so much ever since we left and hope every thing is going along smoothly with you and at home. I've been very busy getting caught up on things - that I'm let go for a long time - There's not much news here except that it is colder.

This morning our furnace got temperamental, [illegible] the water heater - and then to top it the house I had the Phone Call of nothing - However they sent a Serviceman out and everything is working now - I am mailing you a package and you'll understand that it is. The suit of underwear is one for each of Bradie & Patch. I bet it hasn't it in the machine. It is pretty well worn, but I fried it up so it will stand a few washings - The other

thing is a clothespin bag. I sewed
up out of an old pillow ticking. Not
very pretty but I believe will answer-
the one in use is to be discarded-
I tried unsuccessfully & by me in.
Lawrence - so this will do I believe.
The J. W. informed me that
Dorothea is there. Jow will no
doubt keep you from getting too
lonesome.
Im still receiving cards and
sip and I still have about a dozen
letters & note.
We are going & Manhattan
Saturday & be gone - and will be
home next week for the 7th & - O W gone
so will see you then.
Much love -
Janet

Rec'd 12/14/48 Jde

Dec. 14-

Dear Dad -

I was so glad to hear from you. We hope the new couple will prove satisfactory and that you will like them - I do not know much news. Had a card from Dawson and a letter from Blanche last week. The family is deciding & get married abt at nice now - She may have any Z then Sept after a few months.

Mike is playing basketball again. They go to Abilene tonight for their first real game. They played the faculty last Friday but didn't look very good. Hope going to have & improve a lot if they miss many games this year. It is raining and disagreeable today and I doubt if will go & the game missed for some time.

We have Mary says she's tried several times to reach you by phone but without success. She says she's getting along fine. She spent last week end in Stephenville. If the weather is nice Mike and I

boy drive down & get her next week when school is out. He will not stay - perhaps not even one night - but will let you know definitely later on when we decide how & Topeka definitely later on when we decide how & Topeka Dad didn't make his trip & interfere.

as other things came up & interfere.

He will be awfully glad & have you one & we no whenever you can - and hope you will come often. Perhaps you can come out and see one of the basketball games. I think they play third every week after Christmas vacation - some games are here and some away but he go & most of them, far & near!

Jim trying & get some Christmas spirit, but haven't been very successful - Perhaps it will grow as the time gets closer. Christmas is closer.

Lots of love - Jim always so glad & here for you -

Janet

Dec 22/48

Dear Dad -

The Christmas check came yesterday and your letter today. Thank you very much - It is good to get your letters and I'm sure you will have a fine time at Weymore.

You will see Dave sometime today as he will be in Ladner & bring Mary Beth home.

The High school has its Christmas program tonight. Like many of these Christmas programs - they have a Christmas family at school the afternoon before dismissal. They also then have last

night for Jax. City - and Mac
might dinner for all the boys
afterward - Mike said it was
really swell!

Wish for cooler spend part
of the Christmas holiday with
us. Why not consider that?

Lots of love and so
sorry a Christmas as yr
possibly can Love!
Janet

Dec. 22-1948

Greetings

Mr and Mrs N. C. Simms

2300 Vermont St

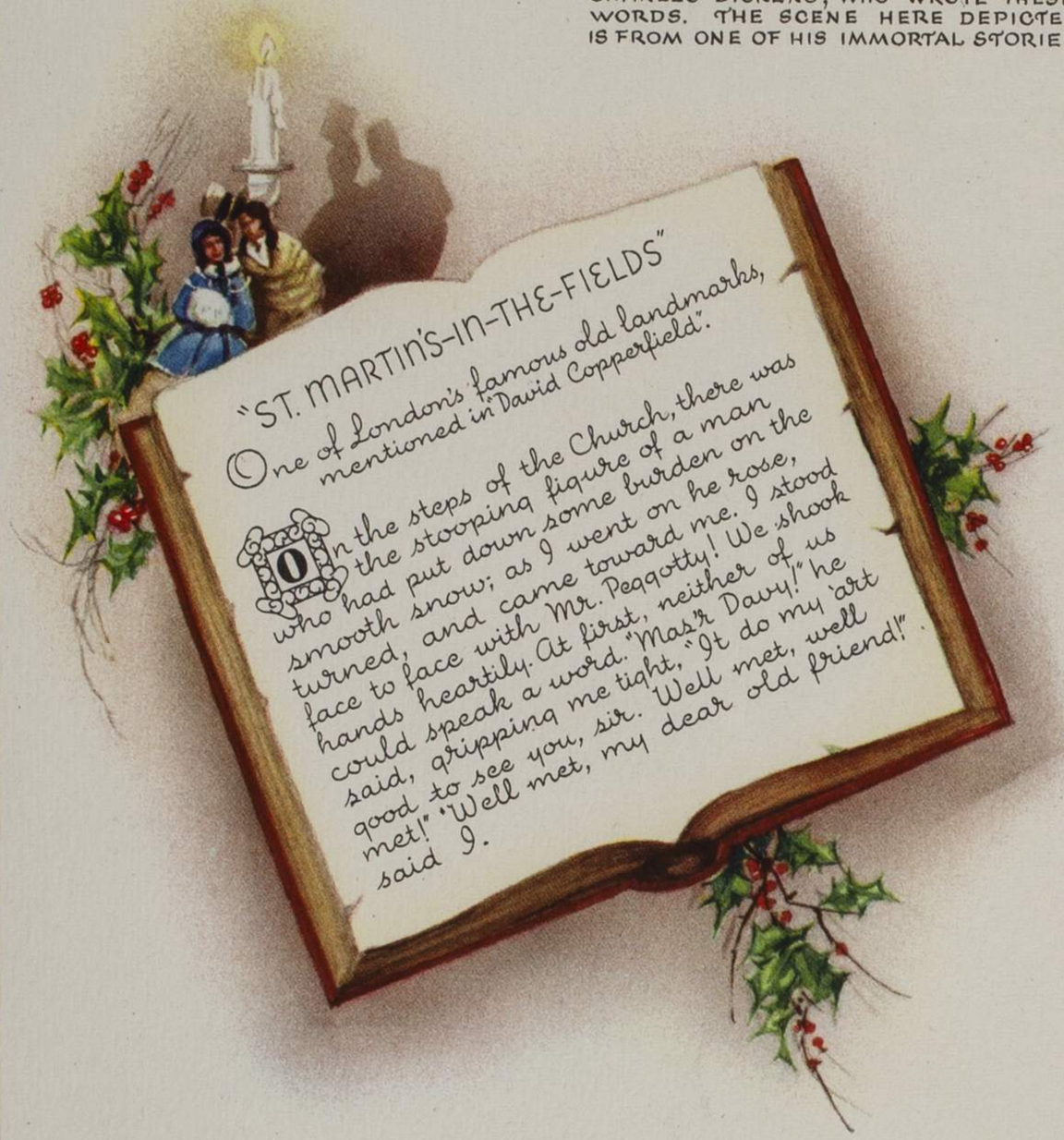
Lawrence

Kansas

Aug 11/6/49

Box 1645
Corpus Christi
Tex.

"IT WAS SAID OF HIM THAT HE KNEW HOW TO KEEP CHRISTMAS WELL", AND SO, INDEED, CAN IT BE SAID OF THE GREAT NOVELIST AND HUMANITARIAN, CHARLES DICKENS, WHO WROTE THESE WORDS. THE SCENE HERE DEPICTED IS FROM ONE OF HIS IMMORTAL STORIES.



The
SEASON'S GREETINGS
and
GOOD WISHES
for
CHRISTMAS
and the
NEW YEAR.

Mills

Clara + George
we do hope you are both
well. We would love to
hear from you.

A Gibson Card

GIBSON CINTI., U. S. A.

Wednesday Dec 15/48

Dearest Dad -

Ive been wanting to write for ages but have been swamped with duties & am so far behind in Christmas and all -

First, I want you to know, we really want you for Christmas. "The more the merrier" is the way I feel about it & just because there are a lot of us here makes us want you more - You'd have a chance to meet Mairi & get better acquainted with Carl & Bob - However, I'll not be insistent & want you to feel free to do what ever you want to do. It probably will be a busy occasion with children going in & out, but I'll be there & so will Pat. Pat hasn't felt a bit well. It's his tummy & the doctors wanted to put him in the hospital last Friday. He's been staying home and hasn't done any thing to irritate it. Just reading & resting but if he doesn't improve soon we'll have to do something. His whole condition hasn't changed much.

That picture we sent is for the paper, but I have one for you if you care to enlarge it. It isn't mounted. Do you have an 8x10 frame & would you just put it in your photo box? It is a finished picture & the other was a gloss -

Mairi is feeling fine altho' she hasn't done much. The doctors have warned against lifting stairs etc in view of a possible hernia - The Chopsticks

go all tarnoma & battle the crowds for her 1st Christmas shopping.

We are looking forward to seeing Owen & Mary & Carl & Eileen. Owen seems very contented & likes Odessa. He said he finally got your letter but it was addressed to 4th Odessa & she says he isn't that well known yet. His box no. is P.O. Box 2608.

The Russell Knappens (former geology teacher - handsome when you like) have invited us all for an open house on Dec 23rd. We have other invitations but don't know whether will go or not. It up to Pats conclusion. I went to my first P.E.O meeting all fall yesterday - The Christmas party.

Owen's wedding will be Jan 22nd & we all plan to go. Will have room for you in the car if you care to come along. Mary will write note to all the family a little later on - Marilyn will not be married until Mar. 4th.

I met & talked to Miss Thomas. She is a charming Southern woman & appears very efficient. Says she knows a garden & would be interested in your proposition. Possibly but not until after May & June. She wants a little vacation to visit her sister & will be back in Tulsa in April to visit this sister here & I told her we might drive up to Lawrence some day & see you & the set up. She said she'd like that. She has that about the "conventional" angle & the lonesomeness. We are sure she'd make friends but she's a high type person whom would make friends easily. Left to under mother type ability organizes & inspires and with her eagerness & ability.

So sorry I missed you when I called

Sunday. I think it was 10.20 & my clock was slow. I hope Mrs M. gave you the message - that I did want you to come for Christmas if you cared to. I'll understand if you decide to go to Dads & it's perfectly all right, but you know I'd love to have you -

I hope the things work out well. Let me know how everything is going & believe Mrs Thomas might try it if you needed her - She'd be the understanding kind & wants to be sure it is the right situation. She said it would be a change for you both & your personalities would have to clash.

I'm not sending any Christmas cards, but will try to get packages off this week - Wish we could all be together.

I miss Mother more every day -

I love you very much. You have always been very precious to me, I think Weird had a pretty close understanding for a father & daughter. It's always been found & you & now more than ever -

Congratulations in being re-elected to Hospital Board. They need you there & it's a wonderful work -

All my love -

Blanche -

Personal

December 29, 1948

Colonel and Mrs. Adna G. Clarke
Honolulu
Hawaiian Islands

Dear Adna and Jane:

Dorothea, our youngest daughter, married a gentleman named Johnson, and his mother, Mrs. C. W. Johnson, 913 West Tenth Street, Topeka, Kansas, is going to make a trip to Honolulu. If you can in any way be of service to her, I shall greatly appreciate it, and I think you will like her very much.

You may or may not know that Gertrude passed away October 30, after having been a sufferer a good part of the time for several years. She took to her bed on July 10 while we were in Minnesota, and we brought her home a month later in a chartered ambulance plane.

From that time on, she was given every care that love and science could give, but so far, medical science has made little headway in curing cancer.

I always enjoy visiting with you, but seldom have time enough. As we told you, Gertrude and I had planned to go to Hawaii in the fall of 1947, but we were unable to secure reservations.

With very best wishes to you both and to the members of your family, I remain

Sincerely yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 29, 1948

Mrs. O. W. Maloney
2712 East 31st Street
Tulsa 5, Oklahoma

Dear Blanche and family:

Well Christmas is here and gone. As you know, I went to Wymore and we spent the day with the Johnson family gathering at the Dibbles at Panama. Everyone was very nice and one could not feel that he was a stranger, indeed; I am not because I have met them all before, and Gertrude and I enjoyed a dinner with them some years ago.

I want to thank you for the fine handkerchiefs and for the book "The Big Fisherman", which I am sure I shall take pleasure in reading. I also want to thank Marilyn for the box of maple sugar, which is so pretty that I hate to begin to eat it.

I am sure you had a happy Christmas party, and I am sure you enjoyed having your children with you. It will not be long before your Christmas gatherings will be made all the more pleasant by the arrival of grandchildren.

I went to Wymore by bus, but Dorothea came back with me in her car bringing Charles and Dolph. I don't know just what day they are going back, but it will be all too soon.

Lots of love to all of you

December 30, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. D. Dible
Panama, Nebraska

Dear Friends:

I want you to know how very much I appreciated spending Christmas with you and your family. The dinner was excellent, and I enjoyed the program put on by the children. I think you have some very delightful young folks.

Jean told me that she was enjoying the Nancy Drew stories, and I should like to buy her a book or two of the series if she will let me know the titles that she already has so that I would not be duplicating them.

Our ride back to Wymore was uneventful, and we enjoyed driving through Lincoln and seeing some of the unusual window displays.

Again thanking you for a most pleasant Christmas, I remain

Sincerely, your friend

December 30, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. Dolph Simons
1509 Massachusetts Street
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Children:

I want to thank you so much for my Christmas gifts--the fine book, "Running of the Tide", which I am sure I will enjoy reading, the wonderful belt, the fine new hat, and best of all the portraits of your two manly sons. They are wonderful boys.

I, also, appreciate very much indeed the great help that Marie was to me in preparing for Christmas and in the preceeding weeks.

In talking today to Will Ellis, he spoke very complimentary of Marie. I find that his wife lost recently a son who was exceedingly dear to her, and that she is taking it unusually hard.

Much love to all of you,

December 30, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Klapis
Bradfordwoods, Pennsylvania

Dear Pat and Andy:

I was so busy just before Christmas that I did not get to see you as much as I would liked to have. I want to thank you for the fine assortment of cheese.

I am deeply interested in your welfare and hope that everything will work out for the happinessaand welfare of all.

I spent a very pleasant Christmas with Dorothea and family who had a family party at the home of Mrs. Charline Johnson Dibble. There were some 14 or 16, and it made a very pleasant gathering.

I think that Mr. and Mrs. King are going to work out very nicely. I like them, my daughters like them, and they seem to be happy in their work. Having learned through the Murphys that Mrs. King had a small lump on her breast, I joined with them in believing that it should be given attention at once. So while I was gone they used our car to have the operation performed. They came back the same day, and she seems to be getting along remarkably well.

I shall be glad to hear from you and to know how you are getting along.

Cordially yours,

December 30, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Olander
1916 Ohio Street
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Children:

I am very fond of assorted cheese so that your Christmas gift to me was very acceptable.

I hope that you had a wonderfully good time during the holidays. It has seemed just a little bit lonesome in knowing that you were not here. I presume it will not be long until school will be going again.

In this matter of marriage in your family, it seems that "the last shall be first" was especially true, and seeing how easy it was and how fine everything went off, Owen and Marilyn couldn't wait any longer.

Much love to you both.

Lovingly, your grandfather

December 30, 1948

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

Dear Janet, Mac, and Children:

I want to thank you for the knitted tie and the stockings, Mike for "Mr. Blanding Builds His Dream House" and Mary Beth for "The Good Shepherd."

I am sure you had a happy time at your home. As you know, I went to Wymore. We were delayed a bit at Manhattan, and by the time the bus started north, the hilly roads near Manhattan to the north were quite dangerous. We were fortunate in having a careful and skillful driver who avoided risks and finally got us through to Wymore only a few hours late.

We passed at least four cars that were in the ditch, and the driver made a detour of some miles to avoid a steep hill which he felt sure he could not make on the icy roads.

I found that arrangements had been made for the Johnsons to have a family gathering at the Dibbles at Panama. Mrs. Dibble is the only girl in the Johnson family. They have two nice daughters, one 14 and the other 7, and a nice little boy of 3. We had an excellent dinner and a very happy family gathering.

The trip there and back was made without incident, except that in returning, it was deemed wise to go farther over better roads and to pass through Lincoln. Dorothea, Charles, and Dolph came back with me. I think she returns home tomorrow or Saturday.

Much love to you all,

December 30, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. Don A. Freeman
Route 3 Treetops
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grace and Don:

I want to thank you for the fine necktie and handkerchief and the book "The Big Fisherman", which I am sure I shall enjoy reading, and I shall try to remember to bring it to the lake.

On the whole, I had a more pleasant Christmas than I had expected. I found that Dorothea and family were to be members of a Johnson family gathering at the home of the Dibbles at Panama. Mrs. Dibble was the only Johnson girl with Harry and Carl, the two boys. Mr. Dibble and the Johnson boys are partners in a group of seven lumber yards in southeastern Nebraska.

There were 14 or 16 of us at the table, and the dinner was excellent. Afterwards, the children put on a nice program in which various members took part.

The weather was not too bad, and we got along nicely, although we saw several cars in the ditch.

Please give my kindest regards to Ping and Ruth.

Lovingly, your brother

December 30, 1948

Miss Ann Murphy
1032 New Hampshire
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Miss Murphy:

It was mighty fine of you to remember me with the book on Russia and Peter the Great. But my pleasure in receiving it is marred slightly by the thought of you spending your good money on me.

I can assure you that you and your mama have left me with a feeling of very great appreciation for the way you conducted my household.

I hope that there will be nothing to mar the completion of your school work and that it will be followed by the kind of a position that you want in a place where your good work will be appreciated.

I am very happy that you have found a place where you can be together and yet have your mother free from to heavy responsibility.

With very best wishes, I remain

Sincerely, your friend

December 30, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stough
2120 Vermont Street
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mary Jule and Charlie:

I am sure that you had a happy Christmas at your home, and I want to thank you for the presents with which you so kindly remembered me. I am sure I shall find use for both the windshield cleaner and the electric cleaner.

Give my love to your charming daughters, and be sure that Sally knows who you are talking about.

Much love to you all

December 31, 1948

Mrs. Will Johns
1036 Connecticut Street
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Johns:

I want to thank you for your gift of delicious cookies. I feel sure that if anyone had a factory turning out products of this character that they would find a ready market. But there is something besides the ingredients necessary to make good cookies, and that is "the know how" which you certainly have in abundance.

Please remember me kindly to Will.

Sincerely yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

Signed by
Mrs. Simons
autograph

LAWRENCE, KANS.
DEC 22
8 - PM
1948

UNITED STATES POSTAGE
3 CENTS

Mr. W. C. Simons

% Harry F. Johnson

Wymore,

Nebraska

Merry Christmas from
ONE FRIEND
TO ANOTHER!

Nana Bickford Rollins

It's nothing elaborate,
Fancy, or fine,
It's simply a wish
For good cheer,
But don't miss the friendship
It brings in each line,
And, remember,
It's meant for all year

The original of the design
reproduced on this card was
painted by
Nana Bickford Rollins
a member of the Rust Craft
Artists' Guild.

Ralph Fletcher Seymour
Leslie Barnett
Bernard Spence
E. J. Knox
Eleanor Heit
Dallas Bach
Earle B. Counsell
Ramsey Fortson
Buster Caruers
Gilbert Baker

25 XA 839
COPYRIGHT MCMXLVII
RUST CRAFT BOSTON, U. S. A.

Thank you for your generous Christmas check. Mrs. Fetter and I plan to use it either to buy some new books or something for our home.

I am leaving to-morrow for Alfred, N. Y. to spend Christmas with my daughter, Frances. It will be my first Christmas with my grandchildren.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas,

George C. Fetter

COPYRIGHT 1944 BY
FIELD AND STREAM PUBLISHING COMPANY

A HALLMARK CARD

Merry Christmas

COPYRIGHT 1947
HALL BROTHERS INC.

LESSER GEESE

From An Original Painting
By
LYNN BOGUE HUNT

The birds in flight in this picture are American White-Fronted Geese, Speckle-Belly, or Laughing Geese; both to the left and right of them on the ground are Snow Geese; the seven birds in the foreground are Blue Geese.

©

And may the New Year bring you happiness.

Coming from
behind the curtain
to wish you

A PROSPEROUS

1949

Billy

P. Rautiu
260 Langdon
Madison, Wis

MADISON
JAN 4
4 PM
1949
WIS.

MR. W. O. SIMONS

"THE CEDARS"
LAWRENCE, KANSAS

NORMAN
7303 Luella Ave.
Chicago 49, Ill.

Mr. W.C. Simons

2500 Vermont St - The Cedars

Lawrence, Kansas

Ans 12/27/48

MERRY CHRISTMAS
1948
USA

Best Wishes for a Very
Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year...

☆

The Normans
Norman, Mildred and Billy

THE LAWRENCE BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

LAWRENCE, KANSAS

FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN INSURANCE CORPORATION — SAFETY OF YOUR INVESTMENT — INSURED — UP TO $5000

FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK SYSTEM — MEMBER

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

H. C. BRINKMAN, PRESIDENT
E. S. WEATHERBY, VICE-PRESIDENT
WARREN E. DECKER, VICE-PRESIDENT
C. C. STEWART, ATTORNEY
L. E. EBY, SECRETARY
IMOGENE HOWARD, ASSISTANT-SECRETARY

Dear Member:

A brief study of the enclosed year-end statement of the Lawrence Building and Loan Association will cause you to concur in the pride with which your officers and directors submit it. This is a community institution in which you have a part and its excellent financial condition is shown by the statement.

A substantial growth in assets during the year 1948 not only adds to the strength of the institution but has enabled us to enlarge our service to the community. The Association has added a substantial amount to its reserve accounts in addition to paying in cash or crediting the individual accounts with a dividend of 2½% per annum for all investors.

We hope that our members will take advantage of every opportunity to point out to friends and acquaintances the facilities which this institution offers to savers and investors and we should welcome an opportunity to explain the advantages of our monthly repayment plan to those who may need a home loan.

The Annual Meeting of the shareholders for the election of directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly be considered will be held at the office on January 20, 1949 at 7:30 p.m. We hope you can be present, but if you cannot attend, please sign the enclosed proxy blank, indicating thereon the name of the person you wish to represent you, and either mail to the office or hand it in before that date.

Sincerely yours,

L. E. EBY, Secretary — H. C. BRINKMAN, President

Condensed Financial Statement of

The Lawrence Building and Loan Association

at the close of business on December 31, 1948

RESOURCES

Loans on Real Estate **$596,651.62**

First mortgages on real estate located in Lawrence and vicinity. On most of these a monthly payment is provided for.

Cash in Banks and Office **51,957.38**

Stock in Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka **6,700.00**

Office Building Owned **8,000.00**

A rental income property of which we occupy a part, located on the S.E. corner of 8th and Massachusetts Streets.

Furniture and Fixtures **1.00**

Desks, tables, typewriters, cabinets, etc. used in the office.

Real Estate Sold on Contract **16,247.30**

Real estate to which we hold title, but sold on monthly payment or otherwise with interest income to us.

United States Government Bonds **95,000.00**

$774,557.30

LIABILITIES

Optional Payments Installment Shares **$610,232.60**

Amounts paid on shares by members including the dividends to Dec. 31, 1948.

Installment Loan Shares **338.39**

Payments and earnings to Dec. 31, 1948 on shares as collateral for payment of monthly installment loans.

Full Paid Shares **58,890.00**

Issued in units of $100.00 each, on which the earnings are paid in cash each six months.

Advances Federal Home Loan Bank **30,000.00**

Due Borrowers, Incomplete Loans **3,464.27**

Reserves:

Contingent fund for possible losses	$13,655.82
Reserve dividends allocated and unpaid	736.14
Deferred profit on real estate sold	2,220.26
Taxes and insurance for FHA borrowers	315.11
Share insurance reserve	15,000.00
Undivided profits	31,808.61
Special Reserves	7,896.10
	71,632.04

$774,557.30

LOANS

on

DIRECT-REDUCTION PLAN

HOME LOANS

with

interest and principal

reducing each month

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

H. C. BRINKMAN, *President*

E. S. WEATHERBY, *Vice President*

WARREN E. DECKER, *Vice President*

L. E. EBY, *Secretary*

C. C. STEWART, *Attorney*

Seventy-Eighth

Semi-Annual Statement

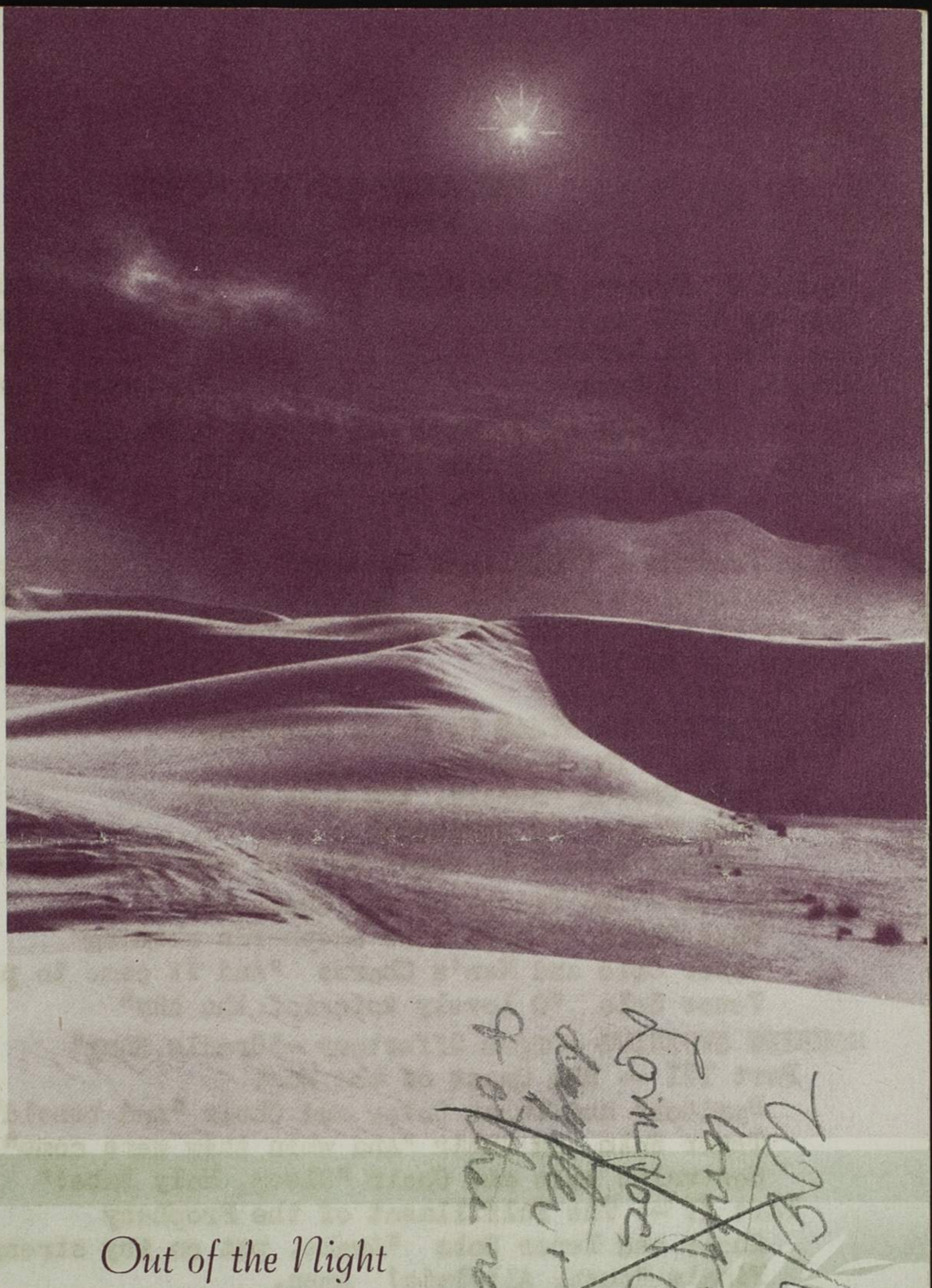
December 31, 1948

THE LAWRENCE BUILDING & LOAN ASSOCIATION

Safety of your investment in the Lawrence Building and Loan Association is insured up to $5,000.00 for each person by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation.

800 MASS. ST. PHONE 55

LAWRENCE, KANSAS



Out of the Night

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Lawrence, Kansas

George C Fetter, Phone 2622 — Minister
Charles W. Thomas — Minister of Students
Mrs. Paul C. Rankin — Organist
Mrs. H. W. Wilcox — Financial Secretary

Order of Service and Church Bulletin

11:00 THE SERVICE OF WORSHIP 11:00
Sunday, Dec. 19, 1948

Organ Prelude - "Christmas Evening" Mauro-cottone
Processional -O Come all Ye Faithful" No. 205
Prayer of Invocation-The Lord's Prayer (unison)
Responsive Reading No. 50 N.T
The Pastoral Prayer
THE STORY OF CHRISTMAS by H. A. Matthews
Part I -- The Prophecy
Male Chorus "Behold, the days come"
Full Choir "O Emmanuel"
Soprano Solo "The angel Gabriel was sent from God"
Part II --The Vision of the Shepherds
Full Choir "There were shepherds abiding"
Tenor Solo and Men's Chorus "And it came to pass"
Tenor Solo "O lovely voicesof the sky"
MORNING OFFERING -Organ Offertory -"Cradle Song" Peele
Part III -- The Quest of the Magi
Baritone and Tenor Solos and Choir "And behold"
Tenor Solo and Choir "And when they were come"
Contralto solo and Choir "Sleep, Holy Babe!"
Part IV -- The Fulfillment of the Prophecy
Choir and Tenor Solo "Awake, put on thy strength"
Finale "Amen. Alleluia! Amen.
Soloists; Mrs. C. W. Thomas, Betty Rae Thomas,
George H. Hassard, Andy Klapis.
Hymn of Invitation No. 190, Stanzas 1 and 2
Recessional Hymn-Let Everyone Sing No.190, Stanzas 3 and 4
The Benediction (Choral Amen)
Organ Postlude - "Hosanna" Wachs

Our church appreciates the splendid service of the choir today in the presentation of the Cantata, "The Story of Christmas", by Matthews. The copy of the words may be taken by those who desire them. The names of the choir members follow: Mrs. H. Q. Rolfs, Lucy Winemiller, Alice Degner, Bertha Coffelt, June Joslin, Jacqueline Kreider, Mrs. C. W. Thomas, Bonita Slaght, Maxine Martin, Betty Rae Thomas, Celia Miller, Nita Brewster, Jean Terrell, Helen Stringham, Mrs. Geo. Hassard, Marilyn Bailey, Annette Smith, John Towner, Pascal Davis, Sam Raines, Richard Johnson, George Hassard, Warren Alexander, Andy Klapis, Bob Meacham, Dana Johnson, Kenneth Holdaway, John Basnett, Wm. F. Fuqua.
5:30 (Between Vespers)Open house at Baptist Student Center, 1124 Miss. St. with Informal Christmas program, and refreshments.
5:30 High School Fellowship. Leader-Dottie McCormick. Subject-"Keeping Christmas Christian."
Monday 7:00 P.M. Scout Troop # 60.
Monday-7:30 P.M. Senior young people caroling group, meet at 1124 Miss. St.
Thursday- 7:30 Choir practice.

$138.66 was contributed on the Sunday of Sacrifice. The amount will be credited on our quota for the Unified Budget.

Mr. and Mrs. George C. Fetter and Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Thomas wish you a Merry Christmas.

"A King might miss the Guiding Star,
A wise man's foot might stumble,
For Bethlehem is very far,
From all except the humble."

Refusal

"Here is my heart; it's clean.
I give it, Lord, to Thee."
And then I saw God plainly
Turn aside from me.
"I do not want your heart,
Closed tightly to other men.
Open it up, my child,
And return it to me again."

RAYMOND KRESENSKY

From the Scriptures

Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches. II Cor. 11:28

The Care of the Churches

It is true; we can judge a man by the personal pronoun he employs. To use "he, they, them"— how that shifts responsibilities! Paul had it right when he let the care of the churches become his. How it cut him when they sinned!

This attitude of a sense of responsibility for others is basic in our Baptist fellowship. For example, a State Convention is in existence simply because people cared for one another, and continue so to do. It makes of all who would be true members of our fellowship persons who "share our mutual woes; our mutual burdens bear."

These are not easy days in which to be a Christian; not easy for the Christian Church. It is difficult too for those who constitute the Boards of Managers and the various committees of the State Convention. It is not easy to stand in a position of leadership as State Secretaries or as a member of the Staff. But a sense of comradeship lifts all loads and puts a song in our hearts.

Today, let us bow before The Great Head of the Church and thank Him for our fellowship.

ROY B. DEER

No. 8123 Litho in U.S.A. 12-19-48

Dec 14

Mr. and Mrs. Wilford C. Simons

2500 Vermont Street

Lawrence, Kansas

9 GRANITE ROAD, WILMINGTON 284, DELAWARE

Merry Christmas

THE JOHN MC KENZIE MARTINS

Chryson's
HOLLYWOOD U S A

Yale
Music
Press

Dear Mr. Simons

I am so grateful
to you and to Rolph
for printing my little
Christmas Carol. This
occasion means a great
deal to me. First because
my dearest daddy liked
the carol more than
anything I have ever
written, and secondly
because I have never
before had any of my
music printed!

It is a real honor

to make my debut in such an excellent newspaper as The Laurence Daily Journal-World and I thank you and Dolph from the bottom of my heart.

My mother is so happy over the event, too, and she joins me in sending best wishes to you and yours for Christmas and the New Year.

Faithfully yours,

Emily Preyer

December 21st, 1948

Personal

December 2, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Larremore
148-08 88th Avenue
Jamaica, New York

Dear Friends:

I appreciate very fully your splendid letter of recent date. I think you understand Mrs. Simons as she was. If she cared for someone, it was in a whole-souled manner, and if she did not like them, she had difficulty in concealing it.

It seems that one trouble after another, physically, fell upon her during recent years--accidents for which wshe was not responsible and ailments which could not be traced to any definite cause. It is extremely difficult for one to understand why one so loving and useful should be taken and why she should have to suffer. I think it is one of those things which can not be reasonably answered and can only be dimmed or softened by the passing of years. It is one of the things which rather takes the heart out of living. I am glad that you loved her, and I am sure that she held you in the same affection.

We both were fond of you and enjoyed our brief visit with your parents. Your good father has been gone a number of years and I wish to be remembered to Amy's mother.

I have had a mother and daughter with me since the first of September. The daughter is an A student and a senior in the school of Journalism. They have kept our house as Gertrude would have liked to have it kept, and the things in her apartment are very largely as she left them on June 19, when she left the house for the last time. I do not believe any other person has been so greatly missed in our community.

The church was overwhelmed with floral tributes and was filled with friends from Lawrence and elsewhere. Our children have been very helpful.

I shall probably not send out any Christmas greetings. I do not wish to interfere with the happiness of anyone else on

this joyous occasion, and yet I cannot find it in my heart to send the ordinary cheerful greetings. I think you will understand.

Cordially yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 2, 1948

Mrs. Harry F. Johnson
Wymore,
Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

I have your letter dated the first so it must have come through very promptly. I am not surprised that little Dolph was omitted from Gertrude's list as it, undoubtedly, had been made almost entirely before he was born. I think we shall be able to find something that he can remember as coming from his grandparents. I shall be glad for any suggestions that you may make.

I am proud of your children, as I am also proud of you and your family. I think Harry is a splendid speciman of manhood in every way.

I received a very fine letter today from Amy and Tom Larremore, and on second thought, I am going to include them in this letter with the request that you return them to me.

Mrs. Murphy and Ann have not been successful in finding an apartment and I have not been successful in finding someone to take their place. There are many things in their favor. They, undoubtedly, have kept the house as Gertrude would have liked to have it kept--neat and clean without having to disturb the general arrangement. They have their limitations, but on the whole, I appreciate their good qualities. They seem to be interested in my comfort, and at not time has any unpleasantness arisen since they have been with me. This cannot go on forever because Mrs. Murphy may wish to return to her home at Caney and Ann graduates in June, but it is alright for the time being.

You are a dear good girl and I love you very much.

Lovingly,

December 2, 1948

Mr. O. W. Maloney Jr.
℅ Maloney Crawford Tank Co.
Odessa, Texas

Dear Owen:

I am very happy to have your letter of November 29 and to know that you are so deeply in love. Both your grandmother and I enjoyed having you with us and you were a good boy.

I am glad that you have found the right girl, and I am sure that we shall have affection for her. Your letter seems to radiate good cheer.

I have marked the date and the place and hope it may be possible for me to attend the wedding.

Just a little grandfatherly advice, if you love Marie, start now to be orderly in your room, put things away, and thereby save her unnecessary work. A wife has plenty to do, even when a husband does his best to help her.

Lovingly, your grandfather

December 2, 1948

Mrs. O. W. Maloney
2712 East 31st Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Blanche:

Thank you for the engagement announcement which I have handed to Kathryn Stevens and which will probably appear in tomorrow's issue.

I was most favorably impressed with Bob, and I think you know how much I like and admire Marilyn. He will be extremely fortunate.

Father had a letter from Owen yesterday inviting him to his wedding to Marie on January 22 at Philadelphia, Mississippi. All of us are anxious to know more about Marie because we are completely in the dark at present. I know she must be a charming young lady because Owen has always shown good judgement. I think it is splendid that he has found the right girl.

I have a couple of dubious prospects for father's housekeeper, but it appears now the Murphys may wish to stay on longer because they have been unable to find a satisfactory place to live. One question about the lady you suggested would be her complete lack of any acquaintance in Lawrence. I would not want father to feel responsible for entertainment, and it might be that a stranger would be lonesone without having friends in the community. Don't let this deter you from visiting with her, but it is a point to be considered.

I am sorry to learn Pat is not feeling well. I wish I could do something to help, but I don't know what it would be.

Marie spent two days in Auburn but is back home now. John is deep in basketball practice and I heard Dolpsh say the other day he wished that spring football practice would get underway earlier this year. He probably will move home next semester, which pleases us. Marie plans to rrearrange and rredecorate so that each boy will have a separate room.

Father is doing splendidly. Marie and I see him every day, and he eats with us frequently. Tonight he will be a guest of Leo Ellers at a Co-op Club banquet for the high school football team. Numerous responsibilities have kept him busy the last few days, and now he has started on his Christmas list.

Please give my very best wishes and love to Marilyn and I will extend my congratulations in person to Bob when I next see him.

Love to all,

December 2, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. K. C. Evans
704 Indiana Street
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Friends:

Thank you very much for your sympathy note of November 5.

You have been blessed with some very fine children and grandchildren, and we appreciate your sympathy and friendship.

Cordially yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 3, 1948

Mrs. L. A. McNalley
Minneapolis, Kansas

My dear Janet:

I should have written you earlier in regard to my pleasant visit with you last week. It is new to me to have to look after correspondence of this kind. I had a very pleasant visit with you and your family--as I always do.

There is nothing new to report here. Dorothea telephoned last night during my absence that they were coming down to arrive sometime this evening expecting to go to Kansas City tomorrow. All I know is what Mrs. Murphy told me.

Everything is moving along as usual at home, and I do not look for any immediate change. The Murphys have found it difficult to get located, and I have told them we could let things ride as they are. They try to be very considerate of me and keep the house in good order.

Please give my love to every member of the family. Blanche has written that on account of Marilyn's operation for appendicitis that she probably will not be able to come down before Christmas to aid in making a disposition of Gertrude's clothing. Her toilet articles etc. remain as you girls left them.

I presume you know that Marilyn was operated for appendicitis and has been doing well.

Give my love to all the family.

Lovingly, your father

December 3, 1948

Mrs. O. W. Maloney
2712 East 31st Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Blanche:

I should have answered your letter of last Sunday sooner, I am glad to know that Pat is coming along and that Marilyn is recovering nicely from her operation.

Don't let your feelings interfere with wearing the coat. Styles change and you should get the good out of it while you can.

There has been no change in our home. The Siemons decided not to make the change and phoned me after they returned to Lawrence. The Murphys have found it difficult to find suitable quarters, and I have told them they could remain as long as they wish. I think no one could be more careful in caring for the home than they have been, and they have tried to be considerate of me. I think it might be well for you to find out what you can about the woman in whom you have been interested for me. Of the numerous letters in answer to our advertisement, none have appeardd satisfactory.

In a general way, I have planned to spend Christmas with you, but it may not prove an opportune time with you on account of Pat and Marilyn, and in such case, I should prefer to wait until later. I know I am always welcome, but I am also aware that you have quite a lot on your hands as it is.

Your letters are sweet, and I am always glad to get them. I think I told you that I had a nice letter from Owen to which I have replied.

Lovingly, your father

December 3, 1948

Mrs. Dora Goldsmith
321 Huron Street
South Haven, Michigan

Dear Mrs. Goldsmith:

Thank you very much for your letter of sympathy to the Simons family. Our friendship has lasted for many years.

Gertrude seemed to be known to and loved by everyone. The 14th of November marked the 54th anniversary of our marriage.

I also sympathize with you in the loss of your sister-in-law.

Sincerely yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 3, 1948

Mrs. Walter W. Gregg
1901 Parkdale Place
Montrose, California

Dear Calla:

You wrote me a very beautiful letter, and I appreciate it. I have thought many times of our early days in Hodgeman county when we were so young and happy with so little, which now seems necessary to ones happiness.

You may be interested in knowing that as the years have passed, I think I have felt an increased regard for your mother. You, too, were young at the time, but you must realize how faithfully she tried to carry on under the difficulties which beset us in those early days. I don't recall that I ever saw her again. You were first in Kinsley, later on in Leavenworth, and then I think in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Your father and mother were married so young and things did not break well with them for sometime.

I have not heard anything about Leilah for some years, and there was another sister whom I never saw.

I have done quite a good deal of work on our Geneology, and I do not know whether you are aware of the fact that through Ann Collins, Collins Gowdy's grandmother for whomehe was named, we are direct descendants of William Bradford, Governor of Plymouth Colonyy and the greatest historian produced by that colony.

Gertrude was one of five children--the youngest and the last to pass away.

With love and best wishes, I remain

Your cousin

December 3, 1948

Mrs. Madeline Hurd
224 Greenwood Avenue
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Hurd:

Thank you very much for your sympathetic letter of November 7. You are one of the few of Blanche's girl acquaintances that I remember. She was and is fond of you, and I appreciate very much you sympathetic letter.

With Gertrude and me, friendships were not quickly nor easily laid aside.

Thanking you again, I remain

Sincerely yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 3, 1948

Mr. Albert H. Gufler
606 West 12th Street
Emporia, Kansas

My dear Al:

You were one of Gertrude's early acquaintances when you were school children in Ottawa. At least that is my memory. I feel as if I had always known you, although our paths did not often meet.

Recent years have seen a lot of changes in the house with which you were so long connected, and it was not long ago, if I recall, that we learned of the passing passing of your brother.

You wrote a beautiful letter, which I find it difficult to answer for reasons that you can understand.

November 14, just passed, marked the 54th anniversary of our marriage, and as Gertrude's parents both lived to a "ripe old age" I had looked forward to many more happy years together.

Thank you very much for your kindness.

Cordially yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 3, 1948

Miss Beryl Buckley
Speech and Drama Department
Conservatory of Music
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Beryl:

Thank you for your good letter of November 5. I am glad that you wrote Fannie, but I have not heard from her. I had not written her because I did not have her address, and Gertrude felt that she was showing her age. It is my impression that she must be about 80 years old, although, maybe not quite.

I am glad that you are so successful in your work, and as I told you some years ago, I felt that Alfh Landon could have been greatly improved in his public speaking had he taken lessons from you.

Thank you again for your letter and with best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 3, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. D. Willis Dubble
Bennet, Nebraska

Dear D and Carlene:

I appreciate very much your sympathetic letter of November 4. Gertrude and I appreciated very much the cordial relations that we had with the families into which our three daughters and our son married. In someway it seemed to us that because you and D were related to Harry and Dorothea, that you were also included in our own circle of friends.

Gertrude was a wonderful woman, and it was, indeed, unfortunate that her later years were marred by accidents and sickness.

I remember the visit that we made to your home in Bennet and how your little daughter seemed to warm up to me. I have always been very fond of children, and I enjoy their friendship.

I appreciate very much your good letter.

Sincerely yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 3, 1948

Mr. Wes Roberts, Chairman
Republican Central Committee
Jayhawk Hotel
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mr. Roberts:

I have before me your letter of November 1 directed to Dolph. I appreciate your letter because I have long been a friend of your father and family.

For the past 12 years, since our youngest child was married, Gertrude and I had been together so constantly, that it is hard to re-adjust myself.

I thank you for your sympathy, and for the beautiful flowers which were sent through your courtesy.

Sincerely yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 3, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer T. Beck
Dwight, Kansas

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your letter of sympathy. Mrs. Simons and I enjoyed our acquaintance with you and with the various members of the Johnson family.

I thought a great deal of C. W. Johnson, We had had the pleasure of having him and his wife at our home on a number of occasions. As I have just mentioned in a letter to Carlene and her husband, we always enjoyed the friendship of the friends and relatives of the families into which our children married.

Once again thank you and with best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 3, 1948

Reverend Robert J. Wynne
Hays, Kansas

Dear Mr. Wynne:

I thank you very much for your good letter of November 1, but it is hard for me to be comforted as I have tried to comfort many others under similar circumstances.

The 14th of November, just passed, marked the 54th anniversary of our marriage. For the past 12 years, since the marriage of our youngest daughter, we had been so much together that I find it extremely hard to re-adjust myself.

I need your sympathy and prayers. I have long b been interested in you as a dependable member of the Baptist ministry in Kansas, as a man of good judgement, and blessed with a fine family.

Cordially yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 3, 1948

Mr. Robert S. Charlton
Charlton Insurance Agency
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your good letter of sympathy. Your great grandfather, John Charlton, was one of the first friends I made in Lawrence, and that friendship, beginning nearly 57 years ago, has been continued through the various members of his family. When I came to Lawrence, I found one of his daughters a very pleasant companion.

I watched the success of your father and his business with interest, and that interest continues toward you.

Again thank you very much for your letter of sympathy.

Sincerely

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

Personal

December 3, 1948

Mrs. Robert Reineke
2319 Garapan Drive
Dallas, Texas

Dear Olive:

I was glad to receive your letter of November 29, I, too, had an interesting letter from Inez who attended the funeral, but whom I did not see.

In my letter to her, I called attention to the fact that Gertrude and I had met each other through the love and interest of Bob's mother, Della. Both of us loved her.

Gertrude had been so faithful in looking after the graves of my relatives here in Lawrence that I have tried to be equally careful in regard to the graves of her friends in Shawnee. I went down before Thanksgiving and placed a wreath upon the grave of Father Reineke, Mother Reineke, Blanche and John. I have noticed that Della's grave is not marked, and in my letter to Inez, I told her that if she knew Bob's address, I should be glad to have her tell him that I would be willing to join him in placing a marker at Della's grave, or place one there entirely at my own expense with his consent.

I remember Della as one of the sweetest souls that I ever knew. Brother George wanted me to look after Bob's education, and I tried to do it, but he wanted to go for himself and I am well pleased with the success that has attended his efforts.

In my letter to Inez, I said that I thought you were now living in California. We did not know your address. I have not seen Inez for probably 30 years, or thereabouts.

The cemetery at Shawnee seems to be well kept, and we have always visited it at least twice a year, at Easter time and before the fall holidays.

Gertrude never forgot the loss of you son. Our youngest

child was married about 12 years ago so that Gertrude and I had been very close together since that time. We have kept the big home going where the children and grandchildren often came. Gertrude left the house June 10 to go to Minnesota and never returned.

When she came back, I suggested that she occupy her apartment at home with nurses to look after her, but she said she did not want to go home unless it was on her own--meaning unless she was strong enough to walk in and out--and this was not to be.

Everyone in the community seemed to know and love her. I doubt that there has ever been the profusion of flowers in Lawrence that there was at the Baptist church for her funeral service.

Thanking you for your letter of sympathy, I remain

Lovingly, your uncle

December 6, 1948

Mrs. William G. Anderson
Winfield, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Anderson:

Pardon me for my delay in writing, but I wish to tell you how much I enjoyed knowing your husband. The loss is great to the public, as well as to you, in his death. He was a courageous outstanding editor and a good friend.

His death preceeded by only three days the death of Mrs. Simons. I am fortunate in having four children and ten grandchildren, and I hope that you, also, have members of your family to comfort you at this time.

Sincerely yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

Dear

December 8, 1948

Mrs. L. A. McNalley
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Janet:

I have your letter of December 5, and I know that your invitation to spend Christmas with you is sincere, but in as much as I was there last Christmas, I think I shall go to Wymore this time. I had intended to go to see Blanche and family, but the time seems inopportune because of Marilyn's operation and the abundance of company that they are expecting at that time.

I have made arrangements for a graduate student and his wife to take over at home. I called on them last night. She is a bright, energetic appearing young woman, reared in Goodland, Kansas. Her vocation as a teacher took her to Texas where she was married. He is a graduate student in Zoology.

I have told the Murphys who intend to leave soon any way. Mrs. Murphy expects to go to her home in Caney not expecting to return on account of her health. I have told them that they are welcome to stay at our house without charge until they are ready to go. I think this will work out nicely as Mrs. Murphy can explain to the Mrs. King what I will be expecting of her at home. I have written to Blanche telling her to make no definite arrangements with Miss Thomas. I am afraid Miss Thomas, being a total stranger here, might be rather lonely at the Cedars. Of course, she may have contacts that would cause her to become acquainted.

If Mac comes to Topeka, we shall be glad to have him spend the night at our place if it is convenient for him to do so.

I remember the Sutton family very kindly. I liked them all. I do not remember the names of all of the girls. Evelyn Garvin Wilson brings a question mark to my mind. That does not seem to be the name of the Garvin girl who used to live north of town, and who you used to know.

Friday will mark six months since Gertrude left our house. I think at some time later, you girls should get together and divide up jewelry and some of her personal things.

I went out to the cemetery again yesterday afternoon fearing that the wreathes might have been badly blown by Sunday's strong wind. Fortunately, none of them were injured.

I am going tonight to the football banquet at the Eldridge Hotel.

You may feel free to take the silver set at any time you wish. Gertrude frequently loaned parts of it for various gatherings in Lawrence.

Love to each and every one of you

Dear

December 8,1948

Mrs. Harry Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

To save repetition in writing, I am enclosing a carbon copy of a letter I have just written to Blanche.

My coming to Wymore is conditional upon the visit being timely and agreeable to you.

As I said in Blanche's letter, I think I have made satisfactory arrangements for the home.

Lots of love to you and yours,

December 8, 1948

Mrs. O. W. Maloney
2712 East 31st Street
Tulsa 5, Oklahoma

Dear Blanche:

I have your good letter of recent date and appreciate your invitation to spend Christmas with you and your family. With the many guests and responsibilities you will have, it would seem to me unwise for me to come at this time, and I shall postpone my visit until a later date. Perhaps, to the wedding of Marilyn. Owen's wedding, I presume, will be at the home of the bride.

The picture of Marilyn is excellent, and I thank you a lot for sending it to me. She is a dear good girl, and her husband will be a lucky man.

Both Janet and Dorothea have invited me to spend Christmas with them, but in as much as I spent Christmas with Janet last year, I am inclined to favor going to Wymore this year. I think Dolph's plans, as usual, take him away for Christmas or else I might have stayed at home.

Please do not make any definite commitment with Miss Thomas, as I arranged last night for a graduate student on the hill and his wife to take over. This arrangement would probably end with the close of the school year. She is a Kansas girl, reared near Goodland, whose vocation as a school teacher took her to Texas where she was married. Her husband is studying Zoology. She appears to be a very alert and substantial young woman. There name is Mr. and Mrs. Otis M. King. She answered my advertisement, and it seems a very opportune time for them as the house in which they had an apartment has been sold and the buyer wants the space.

The Murphys are here, but Mrs. Murphy still has the pain in her back and shoulder and expects to go to her home in Caney before Christmas to remain there, and Ann will try to secure room and board in Lawrence. I have told them that they can remain at our house until the Christmas vacation at no cost to them and have asked Mrs. Murphy to explain things to Mrs. King. I have just called Mrs. King

and find that she and her husband will be out to look over the place Friday.

I think I am extremely fortunate in having such fine children and grandchildren.

Love to you all,

Personal

December 8, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. Don A Freeman
Route 3 Treetops
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grace and Don:

I have in my hand a Christmas card from Mr. and Mrs. Floren Pickar and Francis. You will remember Francis as the little black eyed girl who used to help the Pickars with their work. She was only eleven when I saw her last, but I have felt that she really has possibilities. She is not pretty, but she is intelligent and energetic. She is a niece of Floren Pickar, and I don't believe I saw her last summer. The year before she walked a long distance through a swamp in order to take the bus to go to school.

If it is not asking too much of you, I should like to have you check up on her and, perhaps, buy her a dress or a jacket for school wear this year. I am quite sure that if you took the child in to rear her, that you would be proud of her. Some of the backward people up there have little opportunity for advancement, but I am sure that Francis could rise above her surroundings if she had the opportunity for an education. Although she was small when I knew her a year and a half ago, Mrs. Pickar said that she was the best help on the place that she could get.

I have arranged for a man and wife to take over soon. Mrs. Murphy will return to her home at Caney, Kansas, for Christmas and will not come back to Lawrence. Ann will find board and room until she completes here school work next spring. I have told them they can remain at the house until they are ready to go.

My plans now are that I shall spend Christmas with Dorothea at Wymore. I was with Janet last year and, although invited to be with Blanche this year, I do not believe it wise to accept on account of Marilyn's recent operation for appendicitis and the house full of company that they are expecting.

I had the driveway to the home repaved yesterday.

Much love to you and Don, and
also regards to the Purintons,

Personal

December 14, 1948

Mrs. Iva Lee Murphy
Caney, Kansas

My dear Mrs. Murphy:

We were worried a little about you yesterday afternoon when Lawrence was enveloped in a very thick fog. I hope you got through safely.

I could not understand what the dollar bill stood for until Margaret said she thought it was for a telephone call.

Find enclosed a check for $15, either for services rendered or as a Christmas remembrance. I have appreciated the good service you rendered since you came the first of September.

Sincerely

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 15, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Holmgren
Auburn,
Nebraska

Dear Friends:

You could not possibly have secured a more winsome and attractive Christmas greeting than the one you have. If little Mary isn't spoiled by all the love that centers in her, she will be a rare child. Her face seems to exude happiness.

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all of you.

Cordially yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 15, 1948

Mr. R. W. Reineke
Box 1929
Dallas 1, Texas

Dear Robert:

I was glad to get your letter of December 14. I can assure you than I never have intentionally done anything to injure you, and I cannot recall that I have ever done anything unintentionally that would have injured you.

Someday when I see you, if you are interested, I can tell you what I hoped to do in the matter of Blanche's small estate. Having bought the mortgages on her property, it was my intention to have her continue to live there and to collect rents on the other apartments without any return whatever to me.

She was a wonderful woman. I think Mother Reineke was happy during the five years of her life with us. When your Uncle John became ill in Chicago, he was given personal attention by a friend of ours, and we also looked after the additional expense made necessary for his care.

Don't feel any remorse in regard to any hard feeling that your Aunt Gertrude had for I think she understood clearly and placed the blame where it belonged. She always spoke very kindly of Olive and was distressed over the loss of your son.

I am very glad that your daughter recovered from her serious illness, and I am sure that her little ones will, in a way, fill the vacancy in your heart caused by the loss of your son. I can readily understand the extra expense which you had and which you also gladly occasioned in the care of your daughter.

In regard to the marker, it was because I felt that you might want to place it yourself that I did not attend to it. I have told you how much your parents meant to us.

Wishing you continued success and hoping to see you someday,

I remain,

Lovingly, your uncle

December 15, 1948

Mr. Duke D'Ambra
644 Massachusetts Street
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. D'Ambra:

I appreciate very much your kindly note of December 15.

You, also, have made a real place for yourself in this community.

Sincerely yours

W. C. Wimons

WCS:md

Personal

December 15, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Radcliffe
314 East Eleventh Street
Winfield, Kansas

My dear Friends:

Gertrude appreciated the cards received from you during her illness, and I am sure they have meant a great deal to me.

Riley's poem is beautiful, but it is so hard for one to apply it when he needs it the most.

It was mightynice of both of you to remember me at this time, and I thank you very much for it.

I hope that you are enjoying and will continue to enjoy good health.

Sincerely yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 15, 1948

Mrs. Mildred Stone McCurdy
1611 Thirteenth Street
Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Dear Mrs. McCurdy:

While I remembered that you were called "Millie", someway I had overlooked the fact that your daughter was your namesake.

I have had the pictures of Gertrude placed in a portfolio where I can see her from year to year as she was in our lives. She was certainly a beautiful young woman at the time we were married and, although she later gained in flesh, she always retained, at least for me, the beauty of her earlier years. Gertrude and I used to talk frequently of those old days when we visited at one anothers home and enjoyed our companionship together.

As you know, I now have three daughters and one son. We lost our youngest child, John Louis, in 1928 when he was 13 years old.

I understand that all of the McCurdy brothers are gone accepting Lyman, and he was always the most delicate or sickly one of the lot. Henry has been in Lawrence occasionally, but I have not seen him for several years. I am glad he is doing well.

Please give my best regards to all members of your family.

Cordially yours

W. C. Simons

Personal

December 15, 1948.

Mr. and Mrs. Waldemar Geltch
1026 Colonial Court
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Friends:

I did not have to open your greeting card to recognize the photograph it bore. I think your little Scottie is fortunate in the selection of its master.

I sincerely trust that both of you are in better health than you were sometime ago.

I have always enjoyed hearing Mr. Geltch play but have not been forthnate inhbearing him often in recent years.

With best wishes, I remain

Cordially yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

Duplicate

December 14, 1948

Mrs. L. A. McNalley
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Janet:

Just had your good letter. Blanche has urged me to come for Christmas, but I think it would be a mistake to add to their crowded condition. I think Blanche has worried a bit about Owen and Marilyn not being married and now in a very short time the nestlings will have flown the nest.

I saw the first half of the high school basketball game against Topeka last night. The Topeka boys rolled up a 12 to 0 score in the first few minutes and finally won 34 to 27. John scored 7 points--high man for his team. Topeka had a tall, strong, well-trained and fast-breaking quintet. I shall try to see Mike play sometime during the season.

I just had a nice letter from Grace. Don is not too well and they doubt that they will get away this year.

I believe the new couple, Mr. and Mrs. King, will be alright. The wife is young, has been a school teacher and seems to be rather thin flesh. The husband can "tinker" a bit which is often helpful. I like both of them. Mrs. Murphy left for her home in Caney, Kansas, yesterday afternoon, but Ann is still with us and may contine to be until Christmas vacation.

I don't know of anything especially new. I am trying to address envelopes, using Gertrude's mailing list. One of Gertrude's friends calls me quite frequently and holds the line a long while. Perhaps that was the reason Mary Beth could not get me.

Love to all

Personal

December 14, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. Don A. Freeman
Route 3 Treetops
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grace and Don:

I have just read your letters written Sunday night and Monday morning. If you don't get away anywhere else, why don't you come down and spend a couple of weeks with me. Don especially needs to get away from the severity of Minnesota weather. You could fly down here or fly to Kansas City and we could meet you.

Mrs. Murphy, who has been very efficient, left yesterday afternoon for her home in Caney and does not expect to return to Lawrence unless they could find an apartment--an almost hopeless quest. I now have a young couple, Mr. and Mrs. King. He is a Texan, and she is a Kansas girl born in Goodland, Kansas, and has been a school teacher. I think she was teaching in Texas when she met Mr. King.

They have only been with us a few days and as the Murphys were also there, I could not really know how well they will take over. The young woman is neat and orderly and her husband is kindly and is able to do the little things about the house that I use to do or else called someone else to do it. He is a graduate student. This morning the wife, Margaret, and I ate breakfast together. Her husband having to leave earlier.

Don't worry about Christmas or Christmas presents. I have been fortunate in having Marie to do most of my shopping for me while Mrs. Lydic, one of our accountants and a longtime friend, has also helped with the shopping.

Our weather has been good. Last night there was a real soupy fog in which one could see but a very short way.

I took dinner with Dolph and Marie last night and joined them in seeing a basketball game between Lawrence High and Topeka in which John was high scorer on the home team, but Lawrence lost the game.

If it is hard for you to get out to make the selection for Frances, perhaps you have a friend in Brainerd who could do it for you. That little tad will make a fine young womah if she is given half a chance.

Lots of love to both of you and please give consideration to that visit to "Sunny" Kansas.

Lovingly, your brother

December 20, 1948

Mrs. L. A. McNalley
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Janet and family:

The Christmas season is near at hand, and I hope you will have a very very happy holiday. As I told you, I shall spend Christmas in Wymore. Dorothea told me in a letter that when she asked the kids who was coming for Christmas, instead of saying Santa Claus, they say Grandad. I don't have the whiskers, and I can't get around as easily through the air, but I have the inclination alright.

I have had recent talks with both Mary Beth and Eileen. I had a very busy week last week accepting invitations out for every evening excepting Monday. One of the dates was hardly an invitation affair as I attended the annual dinner for the Sons and Daughters of New England Society.

The new couple seems to be working out very nicely. They are quite companionable. I think I told you that she was a Kansas girl, born at Goodland and has her master's degree. Her husband is a graduate student.

I think I remember Kathryn Sutton, the youngest girl, a little better than I do the others. I think she was the girl who married and whose husband is still in business in Colorado Springs. They were a likable outfit.

Tell Mac I have been rounding things up a bit and think I have accepted something.

Love to all and a Merry Christmas to each and everyone.

Pers

December 22, 1948

Mr. Ivor and Doctor Herman Mercer
4622 Riverview
Louisville 11, Kentucky

Dear Friends:

I am sorry to have to tell you that Gertrude died October 30, after being quite seriously ill for the greater part of four months. You may or may not recall that she was operated for a malignant growth in January, 1946, and had a second operation performed in January, 1948.

I think that everything that love, tender care, and medical science could do, was showered upon her, but it was not enough.

Our families did not know each other long, and yet the friendship formed is deep and sincere.

I think that no woman in Lawrence has ever been mourned by a larger number of people than Gertrude was, and that included people of almost every walk in life. She had been helpful to others in so many ways and took great enjoyment in so doing.

When Mrs. Simons, aour daughter, Dorothea Johnson, and myself were in Louisville a few years ago, we called upon the Matthew sisters in Pee Wee Valley, which is a suburb of Louisville. They occupy the fine old home that at one time housed a governor of the state. They are charming women. Kate, the artist, illustrated the Little Colonel books. The youngest of the group, Miss Jessie, whom, unfortunately, we did not meet, was the originator of the painting of the girl with the violin which hangs in our home. The painting was used in a magazine called Illustrated America about 50 years ago, and the picture interested me so that I painted it in colors. Strangely enough, the colors I put in the picture were the natural colors of the original subject and her dress. This led to a brief correspondence between Miss Kate Matthew and myself, and we still exchange holiday greetings.

I know they would love to see you and that you would be delighted with their beautiful home. With very best wishes to you all,

I remain,

Cordially yours

Rens

December 22, 1948

Mrs. Wilson and Miss Ruth Alice Wilson
Cedarcroft
McLeansboro, Illinois

Dear Friends:

Your letter of the 19th has been received. I note that it was written particularly to Mrs. Simons, and I regret more than I can tell that Mrs. Simons passed away October 30. She had been operated hardly two months before we had our pleasant little visit with you in Rochester, Minnesota.

She had reasonably good health for about a year and a half when she began to lose weight and had a second operation last January. We did everything that love and medical skill could accomplish, but it wasn't enough.

It always seemed odd to Mrs. Simons and me that first having met you at our table in the hotel, it should have been followed by a visit that we never forgot. When we went to Florida, we certainly would have come by McLeansboro had we driven. Fortunately, we went by train because heavy rains would have made it difficult to have made the trip by auto. We spent six weeks very pleasantly at St. Augustine, although the weather turned cold and they had a very hard freeze soon after we came there.

In reading your letter, I presumed the little chappel you mentioned was Roman Catholic, but it might have been Episcopalian. In any event, it was too bad that you had the fire and fine that you could overcome your handicap as well as you did.

I assure you that I have very pleasant memories of you and your mother.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, I remain

Cordially yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 22, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. Wally Weekes
Marysville, Kansas

Dear Friends:

It would not be hard for me to love your darling twins. I have always remembered with pleasure that I was one of the first, outside of your family, to see them.

With very best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, I remain,

Cordially yours

W. C. Simons

Pers

December 22, 1948

Miss Emily Preyer
1125 Tennessee Street
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Emily:

I enjoyed reading your good letter of yesterday, and I am very happy that the publishing of your beautiful little carol caused you enjoyment.

As you know, it so happened that your father and mother became our very good friends many years ago, so we have sorrowed and rejoiced with you.

Please remember me to your mother.

Cordially yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

Jews

December 22, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Vincent
WREN Building
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Vincent:

Thank you for your very original Christmas greeting.

I think it has been a fine thing for Lawrence that you came to the city. I have frequently said, and probably to you, I have considered you the best merchandiser in the city. You seem to know what the people want and how to display in in your store.

You were a little extravagant in addressing your envelope in putting two m's in Simons where only one is required.

With very best wishes and a sincere hope that you will enjoy continued health and happiness, I remain

Sincerely yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

Bess

December 22, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Norman
7303 Luella Avenue
Chicago 49, Illinois

Dear Norman

Thank you very much for the fine Christmas card with the photograph of Billy. I am sure that I should enjoy knowing him. He looks like a real boy.

I think you will be interested in knowing that during the growing season, Mrs. Hoinville's grave is always covered with blooming plants and just before Thanksgiving I pàaced a wreath on her grave.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, I remain

Cordially yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

Dear

December 22, 1948

Mrs. Pauline Reineke
Sedalia, Missouri

Dear Pauline and Melba:

I don't recall whether I sent you a Christmas greeting or not, not being sure that Sedalia was still your address.

After Gertrude's death October 30, I received a good letter from Olive, Bob's wife, and later a nice letter from Robert himself. I also received a nice letter from Inez Nicholas. It was the first time that I had heard from her for many years.

About 30 years, or more, ago, Gertrude took Janet with her to Minnesota where they rented a cottage at Lake Koronis from the Nicholases.

Everyone has been very kind, and my daughters were with me, some one of them at least, during Gertrude's stay at the hospital. She was the last of her immediate family.

I shall spend Christmas with Dorothea and family at Wymore, Nebraska. She married Mr. Harry Johnson, and they have three fine black-eyed boys--ten, eight, and three years of age.

Wishing you and Melba a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, I remain

Sincerely yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

Berie

December 22, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Hoinville
7539 Colfax
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mary and Charles:

I I have just received your Christmas story and I am pleased, both with the story and the way we got it out.

I think it is fine that you and Mary have taken an interest in improving conditions where they are, evidently, quite badly needed.

Life must be rather hard for many of those who live the year around in the cold Wisconsin climate.

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas to you both, I remain

With love, your brother

December 22, 1948

Mrs. Fred W. Scheigert
P. O. Box 579
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Dear Mrs. Scheigert:

Mrs. Simons and I, having noticed that your cards came in with your name alone, had presumed that Mr. Scheigert had passed away. I regret very much to tell you that Mrs. Simons passed away October 30, after quite a long illness.

She was operated January 31, 1946, and enjoyed reasonably good health for about 18 months. Later her trouble reappeared and for about a year she was not in good health.

Mrs. Simons and I always remembered with pleasure our trip around South America and the good friends we made at that time.

With kindest regards, I remain

Cordially yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 22, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. Don A. Freeman
Route 3 Treetops
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grace and Don:

I have your letter of the 19th, and as I leave tomorrow afternoon to spend Christmas with Dorothea and family, I am writing now instead of delaying about a full week.

The weather is open and pleasant. Business has been good. I have received a large number of greetings from friends.

I am very sorry that you find it hard to do your own work, and I wish that you could have someone with you all the time upon whom you could depend.

I imagine it looks rather bleak up there, and yet quite beautiful.

We had a nice letter the other day from Mrs. Frampton which gave us quite a little news.

I hope you do find little Frances Pickar because I would like to encourage her in improving herself. I really think she is worth while.

I can imagine you had just about as much pleasure, maybe more, in having the little boys with you at the Shrine dinner than the little chaps had in eating it. Didn't if feel kind of good to have the little hand placed confidently in yours? I am a great hand to make friends with the little children, and nearly always they respond nicely. I have never forgotten attending the dinner given by the St. Cloud band, I think, to the boys; and the one little fellow who sat across from me who not only ate all the bread that was on the table in front of him before the dinner was served, but then ate two full dinners. I always thought that he must have been built on the ancient style of architecture--one story and a basement.

Mr. and Mrs. Don A. Freeman December 22, 1948

My "57 Years Of It" article has attracted a little attention. Perhaps not as much as it would have if it had only been half as long.

As I said, I leave tomorrow afternoon for Wymore and will probably return Monday or Tuesday of the following week.

I will hold this letter until I find out if Marie has the recipe for the cookies.

I am very happy to have your love and that of Don. I think he is a mighty fine man and hold him in love and respect. I shall try to drop you a line frequently and will be happy to hear often from you.

Lovingly, your brother

December 22, 1948

Mrs. O. W. Maloney
2712 East 31st Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma

My dear Blanche:

I leave tomorrow afternoon by bus to go to Wymore so will drop you a line now as, otherwise, you wouldn't hear from me for another week.

I think Ann Murphy leaves us tomorrow. She tells me that she secured an apartment so that her mother will probably return after Christmas and they will again be together. I thank that is fine as each one of them heeds the other, and they are both nice folks.

My new coupleaare working out very nice so far. The little girl, as I told you, graduated at Manhattan and afterwards has taken her masters degree elsewhere.

Last night we had Andy and Pat over for dinner and the dinner was good and well served. We had a very pleasant time together.

I just called Eileen but got no answer, so I presumed she is on her way to Tulsa. She is a darling little girl, and I lover her very much, although I have not seen her as frequently as I should.

Everyone has been very nice to me. I had a letter today from Mrs. Shelton. Tell her hello for me when you see her.

Lots of Love, Dad

Original

December 22, 1948

Mrs. L. A. McNalley
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Janet and family:

I thought I would drop you a line as I leave tomorrow afternoon by bus to spend a few days with Dorothea and family.

Last year Gertie and I were with you, and it was such a short time afterward that she was again operated.

Everyone has been very nice to me, and I have nothing buy praise for them.

I find a pair, maybe two pair, of white socks in my chest that I am sure are not mine and, perhaps, they belong to Mike.

We had Pat and Andy over for dinner last night. They leave soon for the east then Andy will return for a few months more work at K.U., after which he will take up his music seriously.

Ann Murphy has secured an apartment so she and her mother will be together again after Christmas vacation. The new couple at home are working out nicely.

Give my love to each member of the family.

Lovingly, Dad

Ours

December 21, 1948

Mrs. Cora Moershell Bay
Piedmont Court
Santa Cruz, California

Dear Mrs. Bay:

Thank you for your good letter of recent date. Gertrude was first operated January 31, 1906, and was operated a second time January 10, 1908. During the months that passed, there were times when we were very hopeful. In 1907 we spent six or eight weeks in St. Augustine. A year ago last October we spent a couple of weeks going through the Ozarks. Apparently we took about every advantage that we could to enjoy life together.

It seems such a pity that she had to go at the early age of 73 when her mother lived to be 95 and her father 89. She was the last of her family, The Reineke family. Some years before, the doctors at Mayos' advised her to diet to reduce her weight stating that if it were ever necessary to have an operation the excess weight would be against her. She followed their instructions and reduced her weight about 75 pounds. This reduction had no serious effect on her health.

She was hopeful for recoveryuntil perhaps about two weeks of her passing. She was greatly disappointed in not being able to attend the wedding of Eileen Maloney, our first grandchild to be married, and not to be able to see Dolph Simons, Jr. play university football. Her last conscious remark was "I am so proud of him", this being in regard to Dolph, Jr. For practically seven days she was not able to take nourishment and was kept in a stupor to avoid the anguish of pain which always accompanies one in her condition.

Everyone has been loving and helpful. Our three daughters and our daughter-in-law, Mrs. Dolph Simons, were with me a great deal in the weeks in which she was sick and in the weeks which followed.

I don't know whether your sisters would be interested, but if you think they would be you may pass this letter on to them. Your mother was a darling woman, and I held her in very high esteem.

I shall spend Christmas with Dorothea (Mrs. Johnson) at her home in Wymore, Nebfaska. She has three fine boys, the younest three and the oldest ten.

Please give my kindest regards to Mr. Bay. Thank you for your good letter.

Cordially yours

W. C. Simons

Dear

December 21, 1948

Major Herbert L. Kuhn
184 Winthrop Street
Taunton, Massachusetts Street

My dear Major:

It has been quite sometime since we met at the old church in Boston and then spent a delightful day together.

I regret exceedingly to tell you that Mrs. Simons passed away on October 30. She had been in bad health for some months, due to a malignant condition, but otherwise had been in good spirits and looked hopefully to the future. We had been married just two weeks less than 54 years. I am fortunate in having a son and four daughters and ten grand-children--seven boys and three girls.

While our personal acquaintance was short, I have always remembered it with pleasure, and I am glad to hear from you from time to time, and I am glad to know that you now have your own home and are in better health.

Please give my regards to Mrs. Kuhn.

Sincerely yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December23, 1948

Mrs. Elizabeth M. Vaughn
Glendale, California

Dear Mrs. Vaughn:

I wish to thank you for your greeting card and your sympathetic note of December 19.

You may not have heard, but Mrs. S. H. McCurdy who wrote to you about Mrs. Simons and from whom I received a very fine letter, passed away a few days ago from a heart attack.

In her letter to me, which is at home and not at my office where I am writing, I think she said she was nine years older than Mrs. Simons which would make her 82 years old. She was an exceedingly fine woman and Gertrude and I enjoyed her friendship for many years.

I hope that everything is as happy with you as possible. I remember well your husband, Mr. Vaughn, and alee your two brothers whom I knew before your marriage.

It was more than 20 years ago that we made our last visit to Glendale.

With best wishes for the Holiday Season, I remain

Sincerely yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 23, 1948

Mrs. Clara A. Tincher
1012 North Logan Avenue
Danville, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Tincher:

I have just received your greeting and am glad to have been remembered.

I am very sorry to tell you that Mrs. Simons passed away October 30. She was operated the last of January in 1946 and had a second operation in January, 1948. Everything that love and medical skill could offer was done for her, and she had the prayers of the entire community.

I am glad that we had the enjoyable trip together around South America. She loved to travel and we enjoyed many trips together.

With best wishes to you for the Holiday Season,
I remain

Sincerely yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 23, 1948

National Society United States
Daughters of 1812
1461 Rhode Island Avenue NW
Washington D. C.

My dear Madam:

I am in receipt of your news letter for December and regret to advise you that Mrs. W. C. (Gertrude R.) Simons passed away October 30.

She enjoyed her connection with the Daughters, and was active in her membership. I presume you will be notified in a regular manner to discontinue sending literature to her, but I thought it best to give you the information.

You may be interested to know that out of my deep regard for Mrs. Simons, I have placed a wreath on the grave of her great grandfather.

Respectfully yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 23, 1948

Mr. Gomer T. Davies
Concordia, Kansas

Dear Mr. Davies:

I have before me your Christmas card and thank you for remembering me. I, also, wish to tell you that Mrs. Simons passed away October 30, after having been in bad health for some little time.

I think it splendid that the years have been so kind to you. Concordia would not be the same without you and the Kansan.

My best wishes to you for the Holiday Season.

Sincerely yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

December 23, 1948

Mr. C. V. Holmes
Holmes, McGrew and Peck
Lawrence, Kansas

My dear Charlie:

I am sending you a statement of the financial condition of the American United Life Insurance Company of Indianapolis, Indiana.

This is the company formerly represented by my brother, and a large amount of my insurance is with it. I shall be pleased to have your opinion, as I value it highly.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to come, I remain

Sincerely yours

W. C. Simons

WCS:md

Enclosure

Announcing

"WILD ANIMALS OF THE WORLD"

The Most Beautifully Illustrated Animal Book Ever Published

Dear Nature Lover: That's a big claim, isn't it -- the most beautifully illustrated Animal Book ever published. But we make it on the best of authority.

ROY CHAPMAN ANDREWS, world-renowned Naturalist and Honorary Director of the American Museum of Natural History says "I can safely say that in my 40 years' experience as a specialist in natural history I have never seen a collection of animal portraits which capture the true nature of wild animals so vividly and accurately."

JOHN KIERAN, expert of "Information, Please" and also a famed Naturalist says "For art and accuracy and beauty of reproduction I've never seen better representations of wild animals than these extraordinary pictures."

In this magnificent volume, just published, you will find representatives of every species of Wild Animal known to man, presented in fascinating life-stories and superb pictures. There are 252 wonderful illustrations -- 100 in beautiful full color. This big library volume is 8¼ x 11¼ inches, bound in handsome buckram, richly stamped in gold. Truly a treasure of a book that will thrill every lover of nature.

The FREE EXAMINATION form enclosed will bring a copy to you on approval. If you don't agree that it is an exceptional value for $4.95, return it and owe nothing. There's a real treat waiting for you so don't delay.

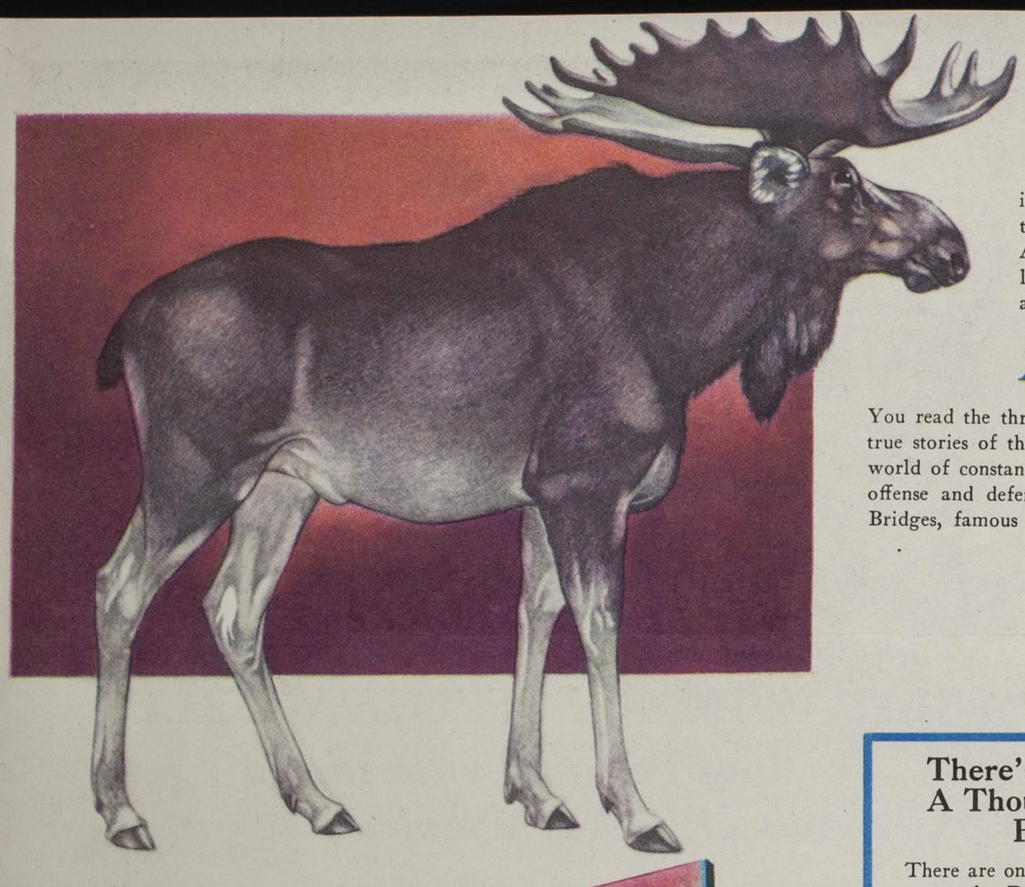
Sincerely,
THE AMERICAN GARDEN GUILD, INC.

Walter E. Fleming

President

Every Species of Wild Animal
From Every Region of the World

is represented by one or more of its members. Opening "Wild Animals of the World" is the start of an enthralling tour through a whole fascinating world—the jungles with their elephants and apes—the frozen Arctic with its bears and foxes—the great forests, haunt of the moose and cougar—the plains where the lions charge and the giraffes dash awkwardly away. You see the amazing wild life—great and small, shy and ferocious, beautiful and grotesque—on every part of the globe.



The Alaska Moose is the largest member of the American Deer family.

A Treasury of Fascinating Animal Lore

You read the thrilling stories of the lives of the world's wild beasts. Briefly, simply, authoritatively are revealed the absorbing true stories of their strange existence, their marvelous instincts, their food and how they get it, their means of survival in a world of constant danger, their sometimes unbelievable ability to leap, run, dive, climb. Birth, hibernation, natural weapons of offense and defense, physical changes with the changing seasons, are just a few of the fascinating points covered. William Bridges, famous explorer and Naturalist has written these stories in a style to appeal to every nature lover, young and old.

252 Superb Animal Portraits
100 in Exquisite Full Color

There's Thrilling Entertainment in A Thousand Amazing and Amusing Facts about Animal Life

There are only two kinds of mammals in the world that lay eggs—the Duckbill Platypus and the Spiny Anteater—and both are found in Australia. The Platypus deposits its eggs in an underground nest but the Spiny Anteater, after laying the eggs, tucks them safely away in her pouch until they hatch and then she nurses them.

The Hippopotamus can sink to the bottom of a deep river and walk along the bed, completely submerged, with ease and speed—sometimes with baby Hippo riding on its back.

The Giraffe, tallest of all living animals, can, and does, go for months without drinking, getting all the water it needs from the leaves it eats.

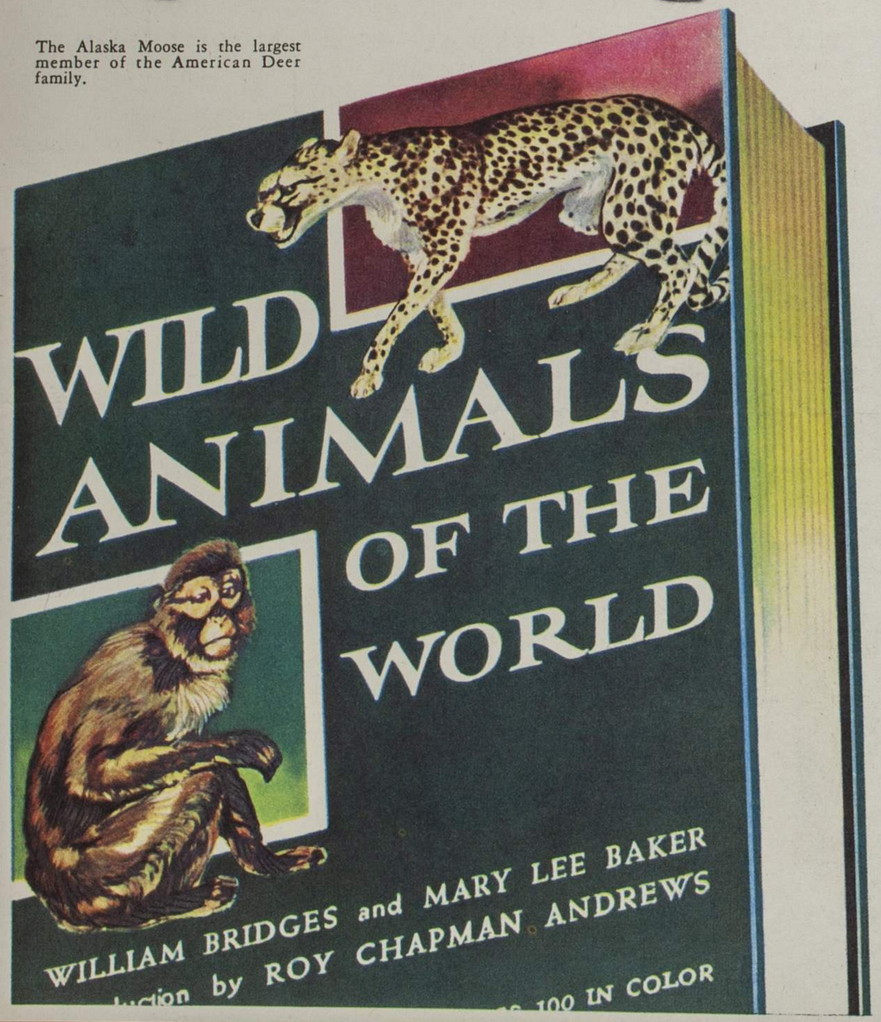
The Great Gray Kangaroo, although nine feet long at maturity is only one inch long at birth when it crawls into its mother's pouch to stay for five or six months. Human babies at birth are about one twentieth of the mother's weight. Kangaroo babies are only one three-thousandth.

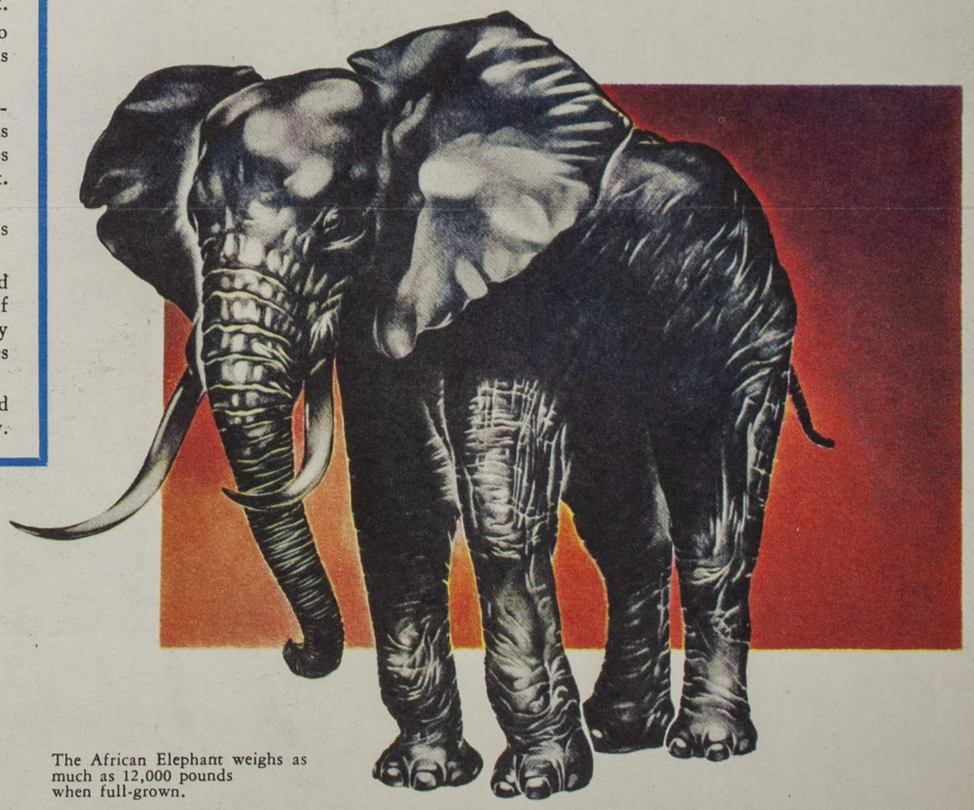
The Lion may be the King of Beasts but the courageous Zebra can rout his Majesty with a few well-aimed kicks.

The Arctic Fox does not hibernate. In order to provide food during the winter when game is scarce it stores the bodies of its prey in crevices in the rocks. The Gray Fox is properly also called the Tree Fox. It can climb trees, and often does to escape enemies.

The African Black Rhinoceros despite his great bulk and apparent awkwardness, can wheel as quickly as a polo pony.

"Extraordinary pictures" John Kieran calls this magnificent collection of animal portraits—and they are. Scientifically accurate enough for the most exacting naturalist, distinctively beautiful enough for the art collector, and so vivid a portrayal of the true nature of the animals that they will be an unending delight to everyone interested in wild life. The entire book is beautifully printed in luxurious offset which rivals the exquisite original paintings and makes every picture worth framing. All are reproduced in the size of the larger samples on this page. Lovely as the 150 monotone illustrations are, the full color subjects are even more impressive—and there are a full 100 of these gorgeous full color prints. These paintings, newly made especially for this book, are undoubtedly the finest achievement of the artist Mary Lee Baker, a name already famous in the world of Natural History.





The African Elephant weighs as much as 12,000 pounds when full-grown.