THE SALINA JOURNAL SALINA · · · KANSAS

ROY F. BAILEY, EDITOR AND GENERAL MANAGER

November 1, 1948

Mr. W. C. Simons Journal World Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Collie:

Nothing I can say is going to be of much comfort to you, but I do want you to know I have been thinking about you since I first read of the death of Mrs. Simons. That is true of the other members of the family also, for like you we have been very close through the years, and can realize just how you feel. Moreover I have gone through the experience with several close relatives, so I know about the only consolation I can offer is the conviction that there are many other people who feel as I do, but find even greater difficulty in expressing their sympathy.

When we came to Lawrence to meet the Yeagers and Admiral Denfeld it had been my intention to visit with you, but after I talked with Dolph I knew it was not the thing to do. If you ever are in Salina or at Minneapolis visiting the McNallys I would be delighted to have you drop in for a talk about old times.

Sincerely

Roy F. Bailey-k

November 2, 1948 Mr. Roy F. Bailey The Salina Journal Salina, Kansas Dear Roy: Thank you for your good letter of November 1. Mrs. Simons and I had a long and happy married life. We would have observed the 54th anniversary of our wedding on November 14. She was so quiet and unostentatious about her work that even I was unaware of the great extent of her friendships. The whole community seemed to love her. It was comforting to me to hear from one of her nurses who attended her at the hospital that she had remarked that in looking back over her life, it seemed to her that she had been able to have everything she had wanted. While it was generous of her to say so, it could hardly have been true because we went through many privations during the earlier years of our married life. I am indeed fortunate in having my son and three daughters, all of whom have been most loving and helpful. Please remember me to your family. Sincerely W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 2, 1948 Mr. Andrew Klapis Lawrence, Kansas Dear Andrew: As I told you yesterday, you sang with great pathos and feeling. -I have just returned from the cemetery where the flowers are still fresh. One ordinarily does not care to grow old, but under the circumstances, I am glad that I am no younger. As you know, the love of my children and grandchildren is very dear to me. You and Pat have been real friends. With the enclosed check, please buy something for yourself or for Pat. Cordially yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 2, 1948 Mr. R. Ward Magill 71.5 East 13th Street Wichita, Kansas Dear Mr. Magill: 'I appreciated your good letter of November 1. Mrs. Simons and I greatly enjoyed our trip around South America and our opportunity to make new friends. It was a great pity that she had to have the malignant growth which defied all efforts to check it. Her physician and nurses kept her from enduring severe suffering, but it was mighty hard at best. On the 14th of November, we would have observed the 54th anniversary of our wedding. It seems that the entire community, not only knew her, but esteemed her as their friend. Everyone has been very kind. My heart is very full, and I find it difficult to write, but I wanted you to know that I appreciated your good letter of sympathy. Sincerely W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 2, 1948 Mrs. Paul Rankin 1847 Barker Avenue Lawrence, Kansas Dear Nita: I want you to accept the check that I send you herewith, and I would like to have you buy something that will remind you often of the sincere friendship you had one for the other. Sincerely W. C. Simons WES:md Enclosure

November 3, 1948 Mrs. Howard Veatch R. R. 2 Lawrence, Kansas Dear Helena: Father asked me to send you the attached check and to express the deep appreciation we all have for the splendid care and attention you gave mother. She liked you and you gave me every reason to believe that you liked her. I will always remember how good you were to her. With best wishes, I am Sincerely Dolph Simons DS:md Enclosure

November 3, 1948 Mrs. Velda McBride % Mrs. Guy Bigsby Route 1 Lawrence, Kansas Dear Mrs. McBride: Father has asked me to send the attached check and to express the deep appreciation of all of us for the splendid care you gave mother during her illness. Your pleasant manner and your skill were of much benefit to her. With best wishes, I am Sincerely Dolph Simons DS:md Enclosure

November 3, 1948 Mrs. M. J. Dobel 1104 New Jersey Lawrence, Kansas Dear Mrs. Dobel: Father has asked me to send you the attached check and to express our appreciation for your nursing help during the last days of mother's illness. Your care and attentive manner will be remembered for a long time. Sincerely Dolph Simons DS:md Enclosure

November 3, 1948 Doctor George C. Fetter 808 Tennessee Street Lawrence, Kansas Dear Doctor Fetter: I think the tribute you paid to Gertrude yesterday was very fine. What a wonderful life she had lived and how splendidly she met the very great burden of suffering which was her lot. I shall do my best to carry on. Cordially yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 15, 1948 Mrs. Priscilla Koelb 3718 Brandywine Street, N.W. Washington 16, D. C. Dear Mrs. Koelb: I appreciate your good letter, and I wish that I could be sustained by my faith as you were by yours when you lost your dear husband. My mother had a sublime faith -- she seemed to walk hand in hand with God, and this companionship was able to sustain her through great trials and privations. I have long sought a similar confidence and faith, but I am sure it has never been granted me, to the degree, that was secured by my mother. I have always believed that anyone was good enough to do any good thing for a worthy purpose. I think many have been deterred from such action by the fear of being hypocritical, but all my life, I have tried to do the things that I thought I should do, although my compliance at times, undoubtedly, was imperfect. I prayed so long and so fervently for Mrs. Simons' recovery, and her life was such a beautiful one, that I cannot reconcile myself to her being taken. She was always so good to everyone who was in trouble and so helpful that it seems unfair that she should have to pass away, after making a heroic effort to get well. Often I have said that we can be philosophical when the death is in someone elses family, but such philosophy seems to fail in the case of those near and dear to us. I am endeavoring to hold on and hope that a greater measure of faith may be mine. At times in the past when troubled in some manner, I have always tried to not let it interfere with any good work with which I might be engaged.

Mrs. Priscilla Welb November 15, 1948 Page 2 I realize that I am more fortunate than many at this time in having had the means to give my wife all the care that was possible, and in having four children who are doing everything they can to make things easy for me. I received a beautiful letter the other day from a Dunkard girl, now married, who did house work for us for a couple of years. I don't believe that Spurgeon or Moody could have written a better letter to me than the one she wrote--just the daughter of a Dunkard farmer and now married and living with her husband in Indiana. I hope that nothing that I have written will disturb the sweet and beautiful faith that has sustained you in your time of trouble. Cordially yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 15, 1948 Edgar B. Corse Greensburg, Kansas Dear Ed: I was pleased, and also somewhat surprised, in receiving your good letter of October 31. When I came to Lawrence 57 years ago the 14th of December, I think that your father and family were already here and lived in west Lawrence. I had known your father well when I was a boy in western Kansas, and he was in business in Larned. Our family formed a friendship that has never been broken, although we have not been in contact with members of the families for some years. I think you were the only boy but that there were several sisters, and that your grandfather was a Mr. Bruner whose home was about two miles, a little south and mostly west of Larned. We rented his home for a few months in the winter of 1882. Mama and Julia, my oldest sister, were teaching and Etoile and I went to school at Larned. Your aunt, who married a Mr. Meairs, was employed by us for a time in Lawrence as a typesetter or compositor. Yesterday was the 54th anniversary of our wedding. I appreciate your letter very much, and it was very good of you to remember me at this time. My name is Wilford Collins Simons, and my nickname is Collie. The Collins family was one of the early families in New England, some of whom served in the ministry. If you ever have occasion to come to Lawrence, I shall be very happy to see you. Cordially yours W. C. Simons

November 15, 1948 Mr. and Mrs. Don A. Freeman Treetops Route 3 Brainerd, Minnesota Dear Grace and Don: The children are being very thoughtful of me, and the girls have been taking turns so that I have not been alone. Dolph and Marie have had their hands full ever since you left with a frightful case of Poison Ivy on John. It seems that John went out to the K.U. practice field and leaned up against a fence upon which there were some dried branches and leaves which he did not recognize as being Poison Ivy. I have never known of so severe a case, but he is now on his way to recovery. Dolph Sr. and Marie were very faithful in looking after him, and Dolph has a small outbreak on his right hand which has been exuding plasma for several days. In spite of John being terribly out of condition, he played for a short while in the game last Friday night but could not play enough to save the team from its first defeat for more than 35 games. I shall try to see him again next Saturday and hope our team will win. The enclosed clipping was from the Kansas City Times of this morning, November 15. Yesterday, the 14th, was the 54th anniversary of Gertrude's and my wedding. All we could do was to place fresh flowers on her grave which has been sodded and looks as well as anything of the sort can. I am sorry that I could not have been with you more during the few days you were here, but I think you understand. I am a little afraid that Mrs. Murphy is not going to be able to stand up under our work because of poor health. She is suffering from rheumatism and despite the help of her

Page 2 Mr. and Mrs. Don Freeman November 15, 1948 daughter, Ann, I am afraid the work is going to be too much for her. Don't let it worry you because we shall get along someway. Blanche arrives this evening from Tulsa by train, and Dorothea and I have planned for the three of us to go to Wymore Tuesday. Blanche and I will stay for a day or two before returning home. Blanche will be here for the rest of the week I think, and Janet will probably be back again the week following. The girls and Dolph and Marie are being very thoughtful and helpful. Give my regards to Ruth and Ping. With love,

November 15, 1948 Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Lamming . Tongonoxie, Kansas Dear Friends: Thank you very much for your helpful note of recent date. I am glad that you have been able to return home and hope that your health . will be thoroughly restored. My children have been most helpful to me. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 15, 1948 Doctor John Ise School of Business Kansas University Lawrence, Kansas Dear John: Thank you for your good letter of recent date. It is true that Mrs. Simons and I have always been interested in you and in your welfare. The cards were seemingly stacked against you, and you have overcome many many difficulties. I appreciate your friendship and trust that your future will be kind to you. Cordially yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 15, 1948 Mrs. M. S. Maloney The Ambassador Tulsa, Oklahoma Dear Mrs. Maloney: I appreciate very much your recent letter because I know that you, too, have gone through the loss of loved ones. I know that your sympathy is sincere and appreciate it. It is true that we had had a long and happy life together, but the parting seemed too soon. Yesterday was the 54th anniversary of our wedding. Our children have been splendid and have done everything they could to help me. Blanche comes up from Tulsa this evening and we now plan for Dorothea, Blanche, and I to go to Dorothea's home in Wymore, Nebraska, for a few days visit. We shall probably leave tomorrow morning. I know that Blanche and Wayne love you very much and want to do everything possible to add to your health and happiness. Good children are jewels beyond price. With best wishes, I remain Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 15, 1948 Mrs. Anna Belle Taylor 1133 West Hills Parkway Lawrence, Kansas Dear Mrs. Taylor: I think I know how you feel toward Gertrude because I know so well how much she loved you. She not only loved you, but she was thoughtful for you and wished you well. It is true that I did everything possible within my knowledge for Gertrude, but it was not enough. I prayed so fervently for her recovery that it is hard for me to reconcile myself to her passing. I congratulate you on your fath and hope that mine may be as steadfast. Cordially yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 15, 1948 Miss Pauline Rankin 260 Langdon Madison, Wisconsin Dear Polly: Thank you very much for your recent letter. Your mama, as usual, has been very kind. They thought so much one of the other. My children have been very helpful and one of the girls has been with me practically all of the time during Gertrude's severe illness and since. Your mama was over for a short time last evening. I think that your grandma has recovered very nicely from her accident, but you probably know more about that than I do. With very best wishes for your continued success, I remain Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 15, 1948 Mrs. Howard Holmgren Auburn, Nebraska Dear Francis: Thank you very much for your good letter of recent date. Mrs. Simons and I have always loved you as we would our child. I think we can never fully understand why our lov d ones are taken, and often I think of the plight of my mother when papa died at the early age of 42 and left her with five young children. Their marriage had been delayed five years until the close of the Civil War, which , accounted for the children being so young. Gertrude and I felt very close to your mama and to your grandmother, and I would like you to give them my love. I shall try to see you when you come to Lawrence. Cordially yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 15, 1948 Mrs. N. J. Lange 329 South Rexford Drive Beverly Hills, California Dear Mrs. Lange: I appreciated your note of sympathy of November 11. Mrs. Simons and I always remembered you as a worthy friend and as a good and faithful member of our church. Please remember me, also, to your son, Norris. Cordially yours . W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 15, 1948 Mrs. Mabel Casteel Post Office Box 414 San Antonio, Texas My dear Mrs. Casteel: I thank you very much for the note of sympathy from yourself, your mother, and your son. You have left pleasant memories in our office, and we wish you and yours well. Yesterday was the 54th anniversary of our marriage. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 15, 1948 Mr. C. W. Boteler, President First National Bank Brainerd, Minnesota Dear Mr. Boteler: I appreciated your note of sympathy. I take this occasion to tell you that one of the things Mrs. Simons had wanted to do, and which she was unable to perform, was to visit you and Mrs. Boteler at your home. During the later years of her life, she met so many mishaps, even before the call for operations, that she was not able to do all that she would have liked to have done. I wanted you and Mrs. Boteler to know this because we have appreciated your friendship. Cordially yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 15, 1948 Mrs. Josephine Yeoman Fralick. Box 1959. Madison College, Tennessee Dear Mrs. Fralick: I had forgotten your married name, but I remember you well as a cheerful little girl and a young woman who was our correspondent from the Brackett neighborhood. Your mama was first our correspondent and then you took it up. I, also, remember your father well. I had forgotten that you had lost your husband, and I certainly realize how great your sorrow must be. With kindest regards, I remain Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 15, 1948 Doctor George W. Wise 310 Crawford Building Topeka, Kansas Dear Doctor Wise: I know that my mother was sustained by her Christian faith when my father died leaving her with five small children, but it is very difficult for me to be comforted by the belief that I have long held dear. Christ said that not a sparrow falleth but that God knew of it, and yet, the world is full of grief and so many are taken whose continued living would have brought comfort to many. I recall the agonized words of Christ on the cross, "My God, why hast thou forsaken me", but it is difficult to add, "Nevertheless, Thy will, not mine, be done." Yesterday was the 54th anniversary of our wedding, and yet, after living with her all these years, I was hardly aware of the great extent of her kindly influence in our community and, in fact, wherever she was. On the other hand, I feel that death comes as a release and that one of the greatest punishments that could be accorded one would be to have to live forever in earthly form. I need your prayers. Sincerely W. C. Simons WCS:md

. November 15, 1948 Mrs. John V. Sees 1124 Warren Street Huntington, Indiana Dear Mrs. Sees: Your letter of the 9th means much to me because you have already gone through a similar experience. I thought a great deal of your husband and feel that his death was a great loss, not only to his family, but also to the Standard Life and his many friends and associates. Your beautiful letter is helpful, and I can remember well when we called on you to express our sorrow over the loss of your devoted husband. Please remember me to your family. Cordially yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 15, 1948 Reverend and Mrs. Carter H. Harrison Hampton, Virginia Dear Reverend and Mrs. Harrison: I appreciate your kindness in writing me. Mrs. Simons was so quiet and unostentatious in all she did that even I am surprised at the breadth and depth of her friendships. Dolph, Marie, and I all remember your interesting ministry in Lawrence, and we are sorry that Reverend and Mrs. Weatherbee have been called elsewhere. You may be interested in knowing that my great grandfather was under the personal command of George Washington all through the Revolutionary War. He, evidently was a spy or a secret service man, and he might very well have been a prototype for J. Fennimore Cooper's, "The Spy." Mrs. Simons great grandfather, Doctor John Buckley, was born in Virginia and then went to Kentucky where he served in the War of 1812. In preparing our genealogy, I have tried to get a line on the ancestry of Doctor John Buckley but have been unable to get any leads, and if you know of a reliable genealogist, I should be very happy to have you give me his or her name and address. I have already paid for some work there, but, seemingly, without any results. Thank you very much for your kindness in writing me and with very best wishes, I zemain Sincerely yours W. C. Simons

November 15, 1948 Colonel and Mrs. Karl F. Baldwin 605 Colusa Avenue Berkely 7, California Dear Friends: Thank you so much for your good letter of November 1. All you said about Gertrude was true. Yesterday was the 54th anniversary of our marriage. I realize that nearly 54 years is a longer span of life than many have or will have together, but with her father living to be 89 years old and her mother 95, we should have had mamy more years together. I need your prayers and your support. Cordially yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 15, 1948 Reverend George C. Fetter Pastor, First Baptist Church Eighth and Kentucky Lawrence, Kansas Dear Reverend Fetter: I thought you might be interested in this: this morning I met a Methodist who attended the Christian Church yesterday and heard you preach. He was very complimentary in regard to your sermon. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 15, 1948 Mrs. Mary Dunden, Superintendent Lawrence Memorial Hospital Lawrence, Kansas Dear Mrs. Dunden: Find enclosed a check in payment of the bill rendered me for hospital service. While this covers the financial end, I can never repay the hospital for the kind and loving service they gave to Mrs. Simons. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 18, 1948 Mr. A. N. Dilks Fur Storage Department Harzfeld's Kansas City, Missouri Dear Mr. Dilks: I have your letter of November 16 addressed to our office manager, Leo Eller, relative to the delivery of the black Persian Lamb coat, now in storage, which belonged to my mother, Mrs. W. C. Simons, who passed away on October 30. Mother's arrangements for distribution of property were such that there will be no probate court procedure. Under the circumstances, I trust you will be able to send the coat without delay to my father, W. C. Simons, in care of the Journal-World here in Lawrence. . If you wish to have a better understanding of the family situation, may I suggest that you talk to Mrs. Willis or to the manager of the fur department from whom the coat was purchased. I hope we can avoid causing my father any trouble or extra work in obtaining delivery of the coat. Yours very truly Dolph Simons DS:md

KANSAS CITY 6 November 16, 1948 Mr. Leo L. Eller Office Manager Lawrence Daily Journal World Lawrence, Kansas Dear Mr. Eller: In reply to your letter of November 3, in connection with delivery of a black Persian Lamb coat for Mrs. W. C. Simons, now deceased, we are able to release the garment only upon receiving a release from the Probate Court, or, in the event the will is not being probated, a copy of the letters testementary, specifying to whom the coat is to be delivered. We trust this will not cause any undue inconvenience, and that our position will be understood in this matter. Yours very truly, Harzfeld's, Inc. A. N. Dilks Fur Storage Department AD:EW

November 3, 1948 Harzfeld's 11th and Main Kansas City, Massouri Re: Black Persian Lamb fur coat Mrs. Gertrude Simons Gentlemen: We would appreciate your sending the above coat which has been in storage to Mr. W. C. Simons at this address and also send a bill for the storage. Mrs. Simons passed away on October 30, and we would, also, suggest that her name be taken from your mailing list. Yours very truly Leo L. Eller Office Manager LLEller: md

November 19, 1948 Miss Lea B. Edgar 476 Chung Cheng Chiai Hangchow, China Dear Miss Edgar: I saw your mother in church last Sunday, but I have been hurrying away because I have not felt myself able to meet the many who would be interested in Gertrude. It seems a pity that one with Gertrude's back ground and general zest for living should, have had so many burdens, in the way of accidents, operations and sickness during the last few years of her life. She made a wonderful effort to recover, but it was not to be. It was good of you to write, and I certainly appreciate it. Mr. Leigh's death was so sudden and unexpected, while Gertrude's last sickness covered many, months, about three months of which were spent in the hospital. Everything was done for her that human agencies and prayer could accomplish. It has never seemed right to me that Christ suffered and died at so early an age and how sincere His feelings when He cried from the cross, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken me" and then followed it with the words of submission, "Nevertheless, Thy will, not mine, be done." I wish Iccould be as brave as you have been. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons

November 19, 1948 Mervin T. Sudler, MD West Campus Road Lawrence, Kansas Dear Doctor Sudler: When I was trying to comfort you, I had the fear in my heart of what the future held for me. I never gave up, however, until toward the last, and I am sure that Gertrude did not give up hope until within a month or less of the time of her passing. It does help me to have your sympathy because I know how great your loss was. Even I, who had lived with Gertrude for nearly 54 years, was surprised at the tremendous outreach of her love and interest. You have been very brave, and I am one of the many who can appreciate more fully your courage and self-control. Cordially yours W. C. Simons . WCS:md

November 19, 1948 Mrs. L. N. Lewis 723 Louisiana Street Lawrence, Kansas Dear Lucy: Thank you very much for your recent letter of sympathy. Gertrude's friendship for you and Fannie dates from the first year of our marriage. She always loved you girls as she would a sister and was always interested in your welfare. I know that your sympathy is real. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 19, 1948

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

Dear Grace:

Blanche has been spending this week with me. Dorothea was here with us last week, and Blanche and I took her to her home in Wymore Monday and spent the night there, returning the next day. We had a pleasant trip both ways but noticed that it was clouding up somewhat behind us as we came home. Today we were informed that there were five foot drifts of snow in Marysville, and I presume the weather is equally as bad at Wymore.

John was to play with the highschool team at Pratt, Kansas, tonight, but the game was at first cancelled, and then postponed until tomorrow night.

Tomorrow I plan to see the Kansas-Oklahoma game which I think is the only game, with one exception, that I have seen the university play this year.

I am having to make a change at home because Mrs. Murphy is both helpless in handling a house of our size and also troubled with rheumatish. They go home for Thanksgiving, and we do not expect them to return to our house.

Pat comes up from Oklahoma to see the game tomorrow, and we plan now to go to Tulsa Sunday. I will accompany them and spend Thanksgiving with them.

The girls have been very good, indeed, in taking turns at being with me, and it would have been very difficult to have gotten along without them.

One of the things that I always especially appreciated in Gertrude was the loving care she would give to the graves of my family in Lawrence, and so I have tried to be equally attentive to the Reineke interments at Shawnee, Kansas. Blanche went with

me yesterday, and we put beautiful wreaths on the graves of father and Mother Reineke, Blanche, and her brother, John.

It will be three weeks tomorrow morning since Gertrude left me. Everyone has been very thoughtful and kind. Her friendships and acquaintances were without number.

Last night, Blanche and I took dinner with Eileen and Carl at their home at 1916 Ohio Street. The dinner was excellent, well prepared, and nicely served. I was proud of both of them.

Mrs. Johnson, Harry's mother, who looked after the children in Nymore while Dorothea was here, came back to her home in Topeka with us. The children are fine, but they are so lively it is surprising that Dorothea gets so much done.

Give Warren Freeman my thanks and appreciation for what he said in his letter regarding Gertrude. He has an unusual quality in expressing tenderness.

I am sorry that no mention of your visit appears in the paper, but probably everyone thought that someone else would look after it.

Take good care of yourselves.

. Lovingly, your brother

November 19, 1948 Mr. J. L. Frazier The Inland Printer. 309 West Jackson Blvd. Chicago 6, Illinois Dear Roy: Thank you very much for your good letter. You speak with knowledge and appreciation of one who made the most of life, viewed from its finest stand point. I have written many letters to comfort others, but I find it hard to be comforted. I do have the remembrance of the tender love given her by the people of the community and the kindness of everyone ddring her sickness and since. She lies beside our little boy, John, who died 20 years ago last month. Please give my kindest regards to Mrs. Frazier. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 19, 1948 Mrs. Fred Ellsworth Lettice 757 South Berando Los Angeles 5, California Bear Mrs. Lettice: Your friendship for my daughters has always been so real that I appreciate very much your recent letter. It is hard, even for me, to realize how wide spread Gertrude's friendship and acquaintance was. Her capacity for friendship was extraordinary. Please give my kindest regards to your husband. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 19, 1948 Mrs. William Thornton Beck 820 Iowa Avenue Holton, Kansas Dear Mrs. Beck: I want you to know how much I appreciate your good letter of November 16. Your letter seems to be so understanding and helpful. Please remember me kindly to Will. I remember being at one of the last meetings of the Editorial Association to have been attended by his father who, as I recall, was about 90 years old. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 20, 1948 Owen W. Maloney Jr. Odessa, Texas Dear Owen: I have had a note calling attention to your birthday on the 16th of November which has been there for several days. I always recall the date of your birth because my mother, your great grandmother, passed away on the next day. I hear from you occasionally through Blanche and Pat and recently I read one of your letters to them. I think you have always excelled as a writer of letters. Having driven across-the state of Texas some years ago when your grandmother and I were going to Tucson, we spent the night at Midland and, undoubtedly, went through Odessa the next day. So I can recall the sort of country you are in. I understand that business has been good and that you are doing well. Your dad came in yesterday, and your mother has been with us for a week. She has probably told you that we drove to Wymore Tuesday, returning to Lawrence the next day. Yourdoubtless, recall that Dorothea and family live in Wymore, Nebraska. This is the big day for football -- K. U. against Oklahoma -- and you may be listening in, if not, you will see by the papers which way the game went. Unquestionably, it will be a hard game, but the K. U. team is going in to win, and I hope they will. They have not permitted Dolph to play in the line since Pattee was hurt as they depend upon Dolph for punting and feel that they cannot afford to run the risk of having him injured. He had good luck in kicking for the coffin corner in the Manhattan game. One punt went across at the ten yard line, another on the four yard line, and one was caught

I am figuring on going to Tulsa with your folks to spend Thanksgiving but may be detained because of things that I should attend to.

by the opponent where it would have gone out on the three yard line.

Page 2 November 20, 1948 Owen W. Maloney Jr. Your dad looks well but, as you know, has to be a little careful not to overdo. Blanche has been a lot of help to me. The Murphys, who have been keeping house for me, have found it necessary to give up the work on account of Mrs. Murphy's poor health, but I do not anticipate a great deal of trouble in finding someone who can look after things. Your grandmother and I have always loved you and think you are a mighty fine boy. We would like to see you happily married, and I sincerely hope that you can find the right girl without having to surrender your religious independence. Do not be hasty for certainly the right girl awaits you somewhere. Find enclosed a small check for your birthday. Lovingly, your grandfather

November 22, 1948 Mrs. George P. Williams 2624 Eldon Avenue Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania Dear Mrs. Williams: I have your recent letter, and thank you very much for your words of sympathy. I can assure you that Mrs. Simons loved both you and your mother. We have known you from childhood up, and the families have been close friends. I trust that your little one is getting along nicely. We did everything that we could possibly do, both to save Gertrude's life and to keep her from . suffering. We failed in trying to effect a cure, but the doctors did see to it that she was conscious of very little suffering. Everyone has been very kind, but after nearly 54 years of happy companionship, it is very hard to adjust myself. My son and daughters have been very comforting and helpful. I appreciate deeply your letter and wish a full measure of happiness for you and your family. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 22, 1948 Mrs. Owen C. Brown 77 East LaCrosse Avenue Lansdowne, Pennsylvania Dear Mrs. Brown: A full letter could not have given me a better understanding than your little note of recent date. Owen and I were practically twins as far as age was concerned, my birthday having been July 8, 1871. We were always good friends, and it is hard for any of us to understand why, with the great need in this old world for love, kindness, and understanding service, such stalwart persons should be taken as your husband and my wife. The church has been very kind to me in doing what it could. Gertrude's friends and acquaintances seemed without end. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 22, 1948 Mrs. Grace Stevens Box 363 Palisade, California Dear Mrs. Stevens: I remember well how you used to come in from time to time to help Mrs. Simons, and she was deeply appreciative of your kindness. Mrs. Simons was operated January 10, and while everything was done that science and human agencies could perform, she did not recover her strength. We want to our cabin in Minnesota the middle of June, but the change was ineffective, and we brought her back to Lawrence on August 11, taking her to Lawrence Memorial Hospital where she remained until the end. Everyone was kind and loving in caring for her. I am glad that you are nicely located and hope you will continue to be happy in your work. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 22, 1948 Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ellsworth 1325 West Campus Road Lawrence, Kansas . Dear Lucile and Fred: Thank you very much for your little note of recent date. As you can well realize, something has been taken out of my life which cannot be replaced. The remembrance of nearly 54 years of happy wedded life cannot remove the sense of loss and lonliness. Our friends have been very kind. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 22, 1948 Mrs. Harry F. Johnson 213 North 12th Street Wymore, Nebraska Dear Dorothea: I have just taken the Silver Fox fur from storage, and I find that the storage on the Mink coat, \$6.50, was paid by you. I am rather under the impression that I refunded the amount to you, but if I did not, please · let me know. I have called Blanche to tell her of my change in plans and will leave tomorrow evening for Minneapolis. The folks will meet me at Salina, and Saturday evening we shall attend a football game at Lindsborg, in which Mike will play quarterback for the Minneapolis team. The following night the McNalleys and I will go to Hays, Kansas, to attend a football game in which John Simons will be quarterback. Many compliments have been paid Dolph Jr. for his punting in the Oklahoma game.

Much love to you all,

November 23, 1948 Mrs. Calla Gowdy Gregg Montrose, California Dear Cousin: You will be sorry to know that my wife, Gertrude, passed away October 30 from the effects of a malignant growth which was first operated nearly three years ago and was operated again on the tenth of January. Everything that love and science could do was done to save her -- but without avail. For about the last ten days or more, she had been kept under the effect of drugs to avoid the excruciating pain which usually occurs in such cases. We brought her home by ambulance airplane. August 11 and took her directly to the hospital where she remained until she passed away. The 14th of the month marked the completion of 54 years of married life. My children have been very helpful, and one of the girls had been with me most of the time that she was sick and continuously until-yesterday.

Certrude was a wonderful woman who had a tremendous capacity for doing kind and loving deeds. Thousands of letters and cards have been received since her passing. So many flowers were received that many were distributed to others, and still they banked the entire lot at the cemetery.

I know that this is something that everyone has to go through, and something that my little mother met with more than 70 years ago. Even the knowledge of the suffering of others, does little to take away the lonliness.

With best wishes to you, Norma and Mrs Gregg, I am as ever

Lovingly, your cousin

Nevember 23, 1948 Mrs. Clara P. Smithmeyer 1340 Kentucky Street Lawrence, Kansas Dear Mrs. Smithmeyer: I appreciate very much your sympathetic letter of the 21st, knowing that you, so recently, have gone through the same sorrowful experience. I know that you and Mr. Smithmeyer had led a long and happy life together, and you may recall that November 14, marked the 54th anniversary of our wedding. With continued good wishes to you, I remain Sincerely yours W. C. Simons. WUS:md

November 23, 1948 Mrs. Lula H. Mitchell 401 Indiana Street Lawrence, Kansas Dear Mrs. Mitchell: I was glad to receive your note of sympathy because I think that you had no more understanding friend in Lawrence than Gertrude. She sympathized with you so deeply, and both she and I held your husband in very high regard. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS; md

November 23, 1948 Professor and Mrs. E. F. Engel 1619 South Crescent Road Lawrence, Kansas Dear old friends: I address you this way because I have known you longer than any other of my Lawrence friends. I think I wrote the item for the Salina paper announcing the return of the happy bride and groom to Salina. I have much to remember with pleasure regarding Gertrude, but nothing but time can ease my loneliness and grief -- and this in spite of the . thoughtfulness and love of my children and grandchildren. With best wishes, I remain Gratefully and cordially yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 23, 1948 Mr. and Mrs. Kelvin Hoover 2240 Vermont Street Lawrence, Kansas Dear Friends: Your recent letter of sympathy means much to me, and in reply, I can say that Mrs. Simons was a loving admirer of Helen and often spoke of her in the most loving and friendly way. Your letter was beautiful in its expression of sympathy, and I appreciate it very much. Most sincerely W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 26, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. Don Freeman Houte 3, Treetops Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grace and Don:

I received your letter written last Sunday, and I don't know whether Ruth went to the hospital on Tuesday the loth, but I presume that was the date. I sincerely hope that she gets along nicely and that the trouble is not malignant.

I went out to Minneapelis Tuesday evening and saw Mike quarterbacking his team to victory over the highschool and Lindsborg, and yesterday the McNalleys and I went to Hays where we saw our Lawrence high school play the St. Joseph cadets. The Hays team was unusually big and strong and won the game 21 to 7. We drove back, getting something to eat in Salina about 8 o'clock and then on the Minneapelis. I took a 7:30 train out of Salina this morning.

Mrs. Murphy and daughter have gone to Caney for the holidays, so I shall be alone for a few days, unless, I should happen to find the right ones here in Lawrence to take over the work.

You mentioned Chet Gowdy as an announcer. He is, undoubtedly, a member of the Minneapolis branch of Gowdys that are collateral relatives of ours.

I am mighty glad to have your love, and you have mine in like degree.

Lovingly, your brother

November 26, 1948

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

Dear Blanche:

Dolph met me at the Union Pacific depot this morning when I returned from Minneapolis. One of the first things he told me was that Marily had been successfully operated for apendicitis. I am sorry that this had to occur and really think that, under the circumstances, it was fortunate that I was not there to occasion you any extra work or care. Marilyn is a fine girl, and I feel sure she will come through the operation in good shape.

Doctor T. W. Jones told me one time that he would spend a thousand dollars to know that he had been successfully operated for appendicitis—in other words, he felt the operation would be worth a thousand dollars to him just in the satisfaction of knowing that he would not have to suffer from an attack.

I had a nice time with Janet and Mac. We went to Lindsborg Wednesday afternoon to see the Minneapolis high school football team win a 13 to 7 victory over "the terrible Swedes."

Yesterday we drove to Hays where we had a good turkey dinner at the Leamer Hotel, after which we witnessed a game between the St. Joseph cadets of Hays and Lawrence high school. It was a hard played game and our team lost 7 to 21.

I came home to an ampty house today as the Murphys have gone to Caney for the holidays, and I have not yet replaced them. If they have not secured an apartment, they will, undoubtedly, come back to our house to remain until they find one.

A letter from Grace says that Ruth Purinton was operated Wednesday morning. She has not been in good health for some little time, and I sincerely hope her case is not malignant.

I shall take dinner tonight with Dolph and Marie. We are all glad the football season is over.

I don't now of anything new of local importance.

Lovingly, your father

November 26, 1948 Mrs. E. P. Shelton 1500 South Frisco Tulsa, Oklahoma Dear Mrs. Shelton and Palmer: Your wonderful box of candy arrived today, and I can assure you that it is greatly appreciated. . I had it passed around the office, and I think they are all glad that you are our friend. I don't want you to feel, however, that it is necessary to do anythong of this sort, because we are always happy to have you with us. Cordially yours W. C. Simons WCS: md

November 29, 1948 Mrs. J. Dolbier 7742 Engr. Base Depot A. P. O. 757 % Postmaster, New York, N.Y. Dear Mrs. Dolbier: I want to thank you for your good letter of recent date. I am glad that you are finding things pleasant in your temperary foreign home. I noticed that you docked at Bramerhaven, Germany, and it reminded me that Mrs. Simons' father, John Reineke, was born in Bramerhaven and came to America when he was a boy of about 12 years. Mrs. Simons' mother was a K Kentuckyan and the United States never had a more loyal subject than Mrs. Simons. She was loyal in everything. I appreciate the words of sympathy from you, because we have known you from infancy up, and you have always had our regard and respect of many worth-while things that you accomplished. It will be a month tomorrow, the 30th, since Gertrude left us. Your mother was splendid in her helpfulness. With best wishes to Mr. Dolbier, and with the hope that your stay in Germany will continue to be pleasant, I remain Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 29, 1948 Mrs. Don A. Freeman Moute 3, Treetops Brainerd, Minnesota Dear Grace: It has now been a week since I have heard from you, and I am interested in knowing how Don is coming along and also in regard to Ruth. I shall be very happy if you would buy Ruth some flowers and send me the bill, or ask the florist to bill me here. While you are doing it, you might also select a flowering plant or some cut flowers for yourself. I sincerely hope that Don is getting along well, and I am glad to know that he is holding strictly to his diet. I have just written quite a number of letters. The success of Dolph's kicking has depended, not alone on his skill which is unusual, but upon the splendid cooperation he has had from the team in holding the line when he is called upon. Perhaps nothing else shows his friendly relations with the boys on the team more than this. He is so friendly and so effacing with his co-workers on the team that they rejoice with him in the good record he is making. Write me often. Lots of love, your brother

November 29, 1948

Mrs. Blanche Maloney 2712 East 31st Street Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Blanche:

I sincerely hope that Marilyn is recovering rapidly from her apendicitis. I don't know that you can recall the fact that when you were only four years old, I had a rather serious attack of appendicitis but was too busy to stop for an operation and so wore it out, fortunately, instead of having it put me out of circulation.

It occurred at the time when I was getting out the New Years edition of the Topeka Capital. My work in the field being done about a year prior to Janet's birth.

Marilyn is a mighty fine girl, very capable in every way, and I certainly hope that when she marries, she will have someone worth while who will thoroughly appreciate her many fine qualities.

Mrs. Murphy and Ann came home yesterday and I took dinner with them last night and breakfast this morning. I believe that the best bet I have now for a housekeeper would be the friend that you referred to in Denver and from whom I have heard, either through you or through Marie. I have had several applications here but none that have appealed to me as much as the one you recommended.

I have not heard further from the Siemons, but in as much as they spent Thanksgiving in Edid, I may hear from them later, and if so, I will let you know.

Remember me to Owen when you write.

Much love to you and yours,

November 29, 1948 Mrs. Ed Miein 809 Missouri Street Lawrence, Kansas Dear Mrs. Klein: I thank you very much for your recent letter of sympathy. You may have forgotten, but it was I, as the trustee in bankruptcy for a harness store in Lawrence, who sold the business to your husband, Ed Klein. In so doing, I brought to Lawrence one of the finest man and one of the best families that we have known. Your son was one of the doctors who called daily upon Gertrude while she was in St. Luke's Hospital. ' You may recall that I paid a personal tribute to your husband at the time of his funeral, and I regretted very much that the Journal-World, in mentioning the funeral, omitted my name as a speaker. It was an error that I could not correct, and yet, I was glad to be identified with the memory of so good a man. I thank you very much for your prayers and good wishes. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 29, 1948 Mrs. Oscar Dahlene 1611 Thirteenth Street Tuscaloosa, Alabama Dear Mildred: It was good of you to write me, and I cannot recall you as anything but the charming young girl who was a member of my Sunday School class, and whose parents were my very good friends -- and I am not leaving out of the picture Oscar and his family, nor your charming mother from whom we have received a letter every now and then. You, perhaps, will be surprised to know that among my mementoes at home, are at least two neckties given to me by the members of that wonderful class of girls of which you were one. I have long said that we can be philosophical in the matter of death when it does not concern a member of our own family, but it is difficult to apply it when we lose one of our own. The 14th of this month was the 54th anniversary of our wedding. We had hoped that we might have many more years together. She had the best of care andher doctor prevented her from sensing the great suffering which usually attends those suffering from a malignant condition. I am still occupying our large house and feel that it would be difficult for me to leave it and live anywhere else. I have had a mother and daughter with me for the past three months but am facing a change now and have not yet completed any arrangements. Please remember me to your mother and to all the members of your family. I am sure that I should enjoy knowing your children. Cordially yours W. C. Simons

November 29, 1948 Mr. Sidney Harris Ottawa Herald Ottawa, Kansas Dear Sid: . I have just received a good letter from Inez Nicholas who, before her marriage, was Wightman of Ottawa. The letter was so good that I should like to answer it, but she failed to give her address and the the letter was written upon hotel stationery. Any of the Wightman family could, doubtless, tell me where to address her. Some years ago one of her sisters was the wife of the representative of the Swift Packing Company at Ottawa and another, I think, was the wife of a man who operated the American Hotel for a time. I shall appreciate it if you could give me the address of Mrs. Micholas. I presume that today you are in Kansas City attending the meeting of the Associated Press which has drawn to it three members of our force, Dolph, Joe Murray, and Paul Husted. The old Journal, now part of the Journal-World was a member of the A.P. during the eighteen nineties, and perhaps even earlier, the membership having dated back almost to the beginning of the organization of the forerunner of the present. A.P. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 29, 1948 Mrs. Jeannette Still Freienmuth Monte Vista, Colorado Dear Mrs. Freienmuth: Although it was many years ago that you attended Mrs. Simons, we have always remembered you and your kindness toward her. You may be surprised to know that we frequently spoke of you and always wished you well. The last we knew of your whereabouts was when you lived somewhere north of Tongonoxie. Tomorrow will mark the end of the first month that has passed since Mrs. Simons left us. Everyone has been kind and helpful, but it is very hard to give her up after so many years of happy married life. The 14th of November marked the 54th anniversary of our wedding. TThank you for your note and with kindest regards, I remain Sincerely yours W. C. Simons

November 29, 1948 Mrs. E. W. Ferris 2206 Sherman Evanston, Illinois Dear Minnie and family: Thank you very much for your understanding letter of recent date. I am still staying at home in our big house. I should find it very hard, indeed, to try to leave it and live elsewhere. In the comfortable apartment on the first floor in the rear of our house, an apartment that we built when Gertrude's mother came to us, everything remains practically unchanged since she left it the morning of June 10 to go to Minnesota. I am not occupying the room, but it is precious to me, and I don't want to make any changes. I have always held you and your family in high esteem. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md

November 29, 1948 Doctor J. Russel Wickey 29PPublic Square Belleville, Illinois Dear Russel: You have certainly had your share of sorrow in losing members of your family, but, with the exception of the recent loss of your little grandson, most of the deaths occurred sometime ago. Gertrude was the youngest, and the last one to pass away of the five children in the Reineke family, and while she had a nephew and a niece still living, we have not had communication from them for a number of years. Grace and I are the only ones remaining of our family of five, and while she has no children, I am blessed with a son and three daughters and with seven grandsons and with three granddaughters. One granddaughter was married September 8, and two or three of the others will probably be married in the comparatively near future. The 14th of December will be the 57th anniversary of my arriving in Lawrence, and now I have eleven graves to mark in the cemetery here, one of them being a great grandfather of Gertrude's who died many years before we came here. She was always so thoughtful in looking after the graves of members of my family, that I shall not neglect looking after the graves of her relatives. Father, mother, two brothers, and a sister are buried in the little cemetery at Shawnee, Kansas, and I have already taken wreaths to mark their graves for this fall. "ith love to you and yours and best wishes for a Merry Christmas, I remain Cordially yours W. C. Simons

November 29, 1948 Mrs. J. Dolbier 7742 Engr. Base Depot A.P. 757 % Postmaster, New York, N.Y. Dear Mrs. Dolbier: I want to thank you for your good letter of recent date. I am glad that you are finding things pleasant in your temporary foreign home. I noticed that you docked at Bremerhaver, Germany, and it reminded me that Mrs. Simons' father, John Reineke, was born in Bramer aven and came to America when he was a boy of about 12 years. Mrs. Simons' mother was a Kentuckian and the United States never had a more loyal subject than Mrs. Simons. She was loyal in everything. I appreciate the words of sympathy from you, because we have known you from infandy up, and you have always had our regard and respect for the many worth-while things that you accomplished. It will be a month tomorrow, the 30th, since Gertrude left us. Your mother was splendid in her helpfulness. With best wished to Mr. Dolbier, and with the hope that your stay in Germany will continue to be pleasant, Iremain Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS: md

November 30, 1948 C. B. Johnson, M.D. 7 West 11th Street Lawrence, Kansas Dear Doctor Johnson: In enclosing the check to you, I wish to say that I appreciate very greatly your efforts to make Gertrude as comfortable as possible and to keep her from suffering. We all did our best, and until medical science has discovered some method of treating malignant growths as successfully as they have many other ailments, we could do no more. There are many things that I cannot understand. If God is to be credited for all of the good things we receive, why do persons like Gertrude have to suffer. Please give my regards to Mrs. Johnson, whom I will always remember as one of Gertrude's close friends. Sincerely yours W. C. Simons WCS:md Enclosure

THE OTTAWA HERALD JOHN P. HARRIS -- SIDNEY F. HARRIS PUBLISHERS OTTAWA, KANSAS November 30, 1948 SIDNEY F. HARRIS W. G. SNEDAKER EDITOR AND MANAGER BUSINESS MANABER Mr. W. C. Simons The Lawrence Daily Journal-World Lawrence, Kansas Dear Mr. Simons: Mrs. Nicholas lives in the Nelson Hotel in Ottawa. Like you, I have known the Wightman family for years. I did not get to go to the A. P. meeting, but have talked to Dolph several times over the phone recently. Best personal regards Sidney F. Harris SFH:rw

December 1, 1948

Mrs. Inez Nicholas
Nelson Hotel
Ottawa, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Nicholas:

I wanted to answer your good letter and wrote to Sidney Harris thinking that he might get your address from some member of the Wightman family.

I was very fond of your aunt Della Reineke and, in fact, it was due to our friendship that I came to know Gertrude. George Reineke has been dead a good many years, and his only living child is Bob Reineke, long a resident of Texas and now I think of California. Father and Mother Reineke, sister Blanche and brother John Reineke are all buried in the Shawnee cemetery. A stone marks the Reineke lot and there are markers at each of the graves I have mentioned.

I think that on the other half of the lot, or at least an adjoining lot, lie George, Max, Della and Karl. Out of my kindly remembrance of Della, I should be glad to place a marker at her grave at my expense if I was sure that her son, Robert, would not blow up and try to destroy it. Unfortunately, he and Karl made it as difficult as possible for me to settle Blanche Reineke's affairs, without any good reason. I don't suppose that you know where Robert lives, but if you have his address, you may tell him of my willingness to place this marker if he will give me his consent. Della Wightman Reineke certainly deserves a decently marked grave.

As sweet a soul as she was merited a far happier life. When George died, he would have liked to have me educate Bob. This I tried to do and brought him to our home as a member of the family. We also got Della a position as housemother for a sorority. What caused them to be dissatisfied, I never knew, but very shortly Della left her job and Bob went with her. He, undoubtedly, has ability for he has long been connected with the Merry Optical Company.

I remember well your kindness to Gertrude and to our daughter, Janet, many years ago when they went to Lake Koronis for Janet's health

Page 2 Mrs. Inez Nicholas December 1, 1948 and occupied one of your cabins. You may remember that I either went up to bring them back, or was there for a little bit and I can remember how much you looked like Della and how at home you were in the water. Later our children and Gertrude knew you while you were in Evanston, although, I do not recall having seen you there. I am glad that you were able to be here at the funeral where you could realize the wonderful friendship that people had for Gertrude. The last I knew of Mr. Nicholas, he was president of the Independent Oil Producers Organization. Thanking you again for your good letter, I remain Sincerely, your friend

At Home Friday mor 5th 48 Mr. M.C. S. monsing farmily, Dear Fruids; We were indeed sad when we read of the passing of Ims Simons and to rack Jyn waxtend Om heart fret deepeat Sympathy I elipful the account of her passing from your paper. It was so Frankfully written and so true of her life - I aften reeall how I mjøyret her singing bish in the Baptist Church and The seluday after now vespus at the Eliministy- Siepruss juevanted our Commy to the furnal since I was admitted to The hospital Sunday ave. Och 24. With an acute farm of infection, but thanks to 16 shots of Streptormine and good care I was releared nov. 2 md. and hope to shake out

Throwing the alware God who took her to her restand, will sustain you thro the future days. Me remain you friends.

Waisy to Ralston of C. & Ralston - R. R. 2.

AND TO THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR LOUIS E. SISSON
428 WEST SHERWOOD TERRAGE 234 E. Woodland St LOUIS E. SISSON FORT WAYNE & INDIANA Doc. 29, 1948 Dear Mer. Demois, I have bad news. My who triffed on a cord to a floor lamp her left hip. The is in the Lutheran Hosfulat here in H. Wayne. She seems to be doing as well as could be expected with no more shock or pain thate is I will let you know of any important change, just or bad, that may occur in the fulure. ordealle your. Dissore