

October 4, 1948

Mr. and Mrs. Don A. Freeman  
R. R. 3 Tree Tops  
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grace and Don:

We were glad to have your letter of October 1 and to know that Don is getting better. I know you would hate to do it, but I suggest that you get a good oak stick some three or four feet long and not to exceed an inch in diameter to use in cracking Don over the head whenever he feels so good that he wants to break his diet. It took him years acquire the condition of the stomach with which he is suffering, and it cannot be thoroughly cured in short order. I feel quite sure that you will carry out my suggestion fully.

I just came from the hospital and found Gertrude feeling quite well and saw her eat a satisfactory breakfast. She has been troubled more or less with nausea after eating and for the last couple of days has been using an old fashioned remedy recommended by Dr. Sudler. So far, it has been most helpful. When conditions are right, Gertrude seems to improve quite rapidly and then something happens to push her back. I feel sure that she is surprising her doctors. She continues to be hopeful of recovery and is always thinking and talking of what she is going to do when she gets home. She knows what her basic trouble is, but I have told her that someday someone is going to break the jinks and recover, and it looks as if she were to be the one. In any event while she is not as well as she has been at times since she came home, she is considerably stronger than when she left Minnesota, has a better appetite, a higher blood count, and a far better regulation of her bowels. We are giving her the very best care that is humanly possible and she is thoroughly cooperative.

Tell Ruth that she divided the Bitter Sweet into two bunches, has one in her room at the hospital and the other in our home. The pods are opening and have disclosed the red