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Dear Leo and Force:-

This is Friday and we are expecting Dolph to arrive tomorrow. We shall be very glad to see him and I can make good use of him as a guide, since John has become a professional, with a prior demand for his services.

Last evening the "Minnow Man", who looks after the fishermen at the nearby lodge, came over to tell John to report at eight this morning to guide for a man, who he worked with a few days ago.

Dolph will be surprised at what we have done since he was here. We have had two men working for several days trimming and cutting trees and brushing out a portion of the yard that has not been cared for, for the past several years.

We have gotten out of it a lot of oak wood, which we shall have sawed and ricked up for next season. We had one large tree cut which might have been blown down by a strong wind from the south, and if so, it would have damaged many good trees.

When one leaves orders for work to be done when he is gone. The work is not done, so we have taken the male bovine by the horns, and are having it done at considerable expense as later checks will shown. High prices have reached here and jack pine wood, from which the newspaper we use is made, sells for \$18.00 a cord, and spruce wood at twenty-four dollars a cord. Probable tripple the prices of a few years ago. Wages are also up.

This, my natal state, has been given over very largely to Scandinavians. Most of whom are good citizens, with a minority of Henry Wallace hell raisers. The DFL, Democratic Farm Labor party still has to be ~~reckoned~~/reckoned with. A plain, farmer worker, of Brainerd, has been nominated for governor by the DFL.

We met our daughter, Blanche Maloney, in town yesterday. She came up in an auto with friends. Eileen is now attending a Kappa Kappa Gamma convention in Sun Valley, Idaho, and O. W. Sr. is getting along well and is planning on going to Lake City, Colo. for vacation.

One of our friends and neighbors, Walter Frampton, who for many years owned and operated the Island View Lodge, just West of our cabins, returned recently from a fishing trip, north of Lake Superior, and gave Marie Simons, and ourselves each a fine lake trout which we have put in a deep freeze, at Freeman's, awaiting Dolph's Arrival.

We read with pleasure each issue of the Journal-World, and enjoy it. We are happy to know that improvements are practically complete at the office, and hope that the big fans will make your summer more enjoyable.

Mrs Simons is getting along first rate. Now that sunshine has returned to the lake, I look for still greater improvement. We like her new companion, who formerly was a nurse, and the local doctors are giving her such attention as may be desirable. She weighs 148, which is not at all bad. Give my best to the members of the force, upstairs and down. I appreciate the good work you and they are doing.

Cordially Yours,

The Old Man. *W.C. Simons*