

April 23rd. 1924.

Dear Grace and Don

We enjoyed your letter very much. While we all think that Don would make a good congressman, I believe you chose the wiser part and stayed by your own business. Every man who goes to Washington has to come back some day and few of them return with a sweet feeling toward the public. Most of them are lame ducks and from then on seek some sort of political office, one former Populist congressman from Kansas, finally accepting a job as a janitor at the state house at Topeka.

I have no doubt it will be with you as it has been with me. That it will take sometime to lay the foundations and then all at once you will begin to make real money. I have really made more financial progress in the past nine years than in the twenty-three preceeding them, in fact have made more money in the past four years than in the first twenty-five years I was in Lawrence.

Someone came in last week to see if I would sell out. He had previously talked with Joe Murray, our managing editor and had suggested to Murray that perhaps I was ready to retire. When the chap saw Murray after I had talked with him, ~~he said~~ Joe said, "well was the boss ready to retire." "I should say not," was the answer, "he seems to have just begun." In other words I told him that we were planning to do a larger business than ever and that is one reason for asking Blanche and her family to move to Lawrence. I shall have Pat head the job department and try to develop it into a really large business.

I have received two good letters from Julia, but Etelle has not yet written. I find that she bought a house in Chicago and sold it again in forty days for an increase of close to a thousand dollars, which was certainly fine. Now she has gone to Greensboro, N. C. where she will teach for seven weeks in Guilford university, at \$50.00 per week, board and room and traveling expenses.

Dolph had his tonsils out last Friday and is getting along fine. Is back in school today. Took advantage of the Easter vacation. He has fallen at last for a girl, who I guess is pretty and nice altho I know her but slightly. She is an orphan. It is his worst crush.

Everything is beautiful at home. On Mama's birthday we went to the cemetery and planted some beautiful blooming hyacinths with about a dozen blossoms on them. If it is not too dry this year the graves will look very pretty as we have planted peonias. Write often we all enjoy your letters and we burn em too.

Lots of love from your old brother

Collins