

On page 154, Volume I, of the Gowdy Genealogy there is an interesting article concerning John Goudie of Galston, Scotland. The article in itself is interesting, but it is especially interesting to us to know that John Goudie made possible the publication of the first book of poems by Robert Burns.

We quote the following from the book:

But, for one incident of vast significance in literary history the world is indebted to this John Goudie, namely, the publication of the first and now almost priceless edition of the Poems of Burns, Kilmarnock, 1786. The circumstances are thus related:

"One day Goudie having occasion to be in the neighborhood of Mossgiel (Burns's farm), he called in passing; and in the course of his visit, Burns and he sallied out to the fields, sitting down behind a stock of corn--for it was the reaping season. The Poet read over one or two of his manuscript poems. Goudie was highly delighted with the pieces, expressing his astonishment that he did not think of printing them. Burns at once unbosomed his circumstances--he was on the eve of setting out for the West Indies, and Wilson of Kilmarnock would not run the hazard of publication. "Weel, Robin", said Goudie, 'I'll tell you what to do. Come you wa's down to Killie some day next week and tak' pot-luck wi' me. I hae twa or three guid-friends that'll be able to set the press agoing.' Burns was of course true to his appointment; and after dinner they were joined in a bowl or two of toddy by the friends whom his entertainer had purposely invited.***In the course of the evening Burns read several of his pieces and so delighted were the company that they at once became security to Wilson for the printing of his work."

Thus was launched the famous Kilmarnock first edition, from which spring the author's immortal fame.

December 1, 1949

Mr. and Mrs. Don A. Freeman
Route 6
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Don and Grayce:

Will you please give me an outline of Don's family. As you have no children there will be no lines carrying on who would be interested in a detailed extension of Don's parents and their forebears, but I do think it would be well to give his father and grandfather and note where they were on both his father's and mother's side.

A brief mention of two or three generations might also be made of Warren Stewart, his children being the only ones to carry on. Under the circumstances, while I am perfectly willing to give the Stewarts a copy when published, it is not necessary to do so. I merely mentioned this because such a book should contain the ages of those mentioned.

This is the first day of December and it will not be long until Christmas.

I am always glad to get letters from you.

Lovingly,

December 4, 1949

Mrs. Don A. Freeman
Treetops
Route 6
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grayce and Don:

I have before me your letter of December 3 which I had Dolph and Marie read. I think so often of your comfortable and attractive home there. While it is somewhat secluded, you have good friends and neighbors nearby.

It would have been pleasant to me to see the ducks enjoying themselves out on the lake. I am just now at the part of your letter where the Fuller Brush man stuck his foot in the door and I suggest to you the use of the chain arrangement on your door which would permit you to open it far enough to see who is outside, where you could continue to keep him unless you wished him to enter. I am sure that both you and Don know the type of safety lock that I have in mind.

Please be prompt in getting the device that I have mentioned as it will save you a vast amount of worrie, and it would be a protection to you.

I am trying to get off a number of letters this morning so will make this short. I love you very much and I am glad that you and Don are so happy in your married life.

Lovingly,

November 28, 1949

Mr. and Mrs. Don A. Freeman
Route 6
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grayce and Don:

I was very glad to get your good letter of recent date and to know that Don is coming along so well. I certainly hope he will not over exert himself or do anything that would hinder the progress of his recovery.

You probably will have received a copy of the Sunday Topeka Capital before my letter arrives, and I know you will be pleased with the recognition that was given John Simons as being the outstanding quarterback of the year among Kansas high schools.

Margaret, Otis, and I left Wednesday for Tulsa, they to visit her siter and family, and I to spend Thanksgiving with Blanche and Pat. All of their children were present with their spouses and little Carl Wayne was a perfect gentleman.

A representative of Moffett's Studio of Chicago took a large number of pictures Thursday or Friday afternoon. I think he must have made at least 50 exposures and he had a number of four generation pictures. One started with me and ended with the baby and the other started with Mrs. O. W. Maloney and ended with Carl Wayne. The baby was remarkably good and I shall be very much interested in seeing some of the proofs of the pictures.

We found everything alright when we got home including the complete installation of a Philco television set. It is a wonderful mechanism which reproduces color, but it is perhaps even more demanding of your attention than the radio. It comes on at 6 I think in the evening and continues until 9 or 9:30.

I am quite sure that Dolph will send a copy of the Capital to the Framptons.

Write me often as I am always glad to hear from you.

Lovingly,

November 2, 1949

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

My dear Grayce:

There is nothing much to tell you. We had all of the children, or nearly all of the children, in for the last week end. Janet could not come, I think largely because her brother-in-law, Doctor Joe McNalley, is there and is in poor health.

Little Carl Wayne Olander is coming along very nicely, and is three weeks old today. Eileen has had a practical nurse helping her but is largely looking after things herself I think now.

Marie, Dolph, and John will go to Ottawa tonight to see John play football. I would like to go but it is going to be a little chilly and the seating arrangements are very inadequate so that a good many will have to stand to see the game. This will be an important game as I think the winner will be the champion of the Northeast Kansas high schools.

The weather has been very pleasant, a little cold, considerable rain for the month of October, and this afternoon the temperature is a little above 40. Flowers immediately south of our house are still in bloom but all of those in more exposed places have frozen back.

Our K.U. football team seemingly has come to life the past two games, and the next game will be Saturday at Lincoln. I think Dolph, Jr., expects to play perhaps both as tackle and as a punter.

Last Sunday marked the first anniversary of Gertrude's death. I had a beautiful floral piece of gladiolus at the church in remembrance of her and afterwards took them to the cemetery.

I do not know of anything further in which you would be especially interested. I hope that everything is o.k. with you and Don.

Lovingly, your brother

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS — GULL LAKE

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA



Oct 24-'49

My dear Brother —

My thoughts are with you so often and your letters are always so welcome. It must be fun to see John play football so successfully and I do hope he will come through without serious injuries - he is very fearless when in action - and get managers to keep his head; Hope to get Sat's J-W today to see about their game last Friday with R.

At last it has turned quite cold and I dug the Coonra tools to car for next year when I shall try to have them in earlier and a much larger lot for all to enjoy.

It was fine that N. U. came through in such a fast one to beat Okla. Aggies. We got that soon the same day our radio but, of course, enjoy reading about it in D-W. much better than in the Minneapolis papers.

If everything goes as expected we may get away in Dec. or later for a trip to Calif. No definite places as yet. But wish to all. Write about this later. I love you. - Graeger -

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS — GULL LAKE

BRainerd, MINNESOTA Oct. 15 - '49

2

My dear Collier -

We did not know you were sick or had been admitted to the Hospital until I read in J-W that you were "dismissed" and shortly afterwards your letter telling us about it. I'm said Collier must have been disturbed about something and held in his feelings" well anyway I am thankful you were O. K. so soon and I know you take good care of yourself - and know how to - which is more than most people do.

Thanks for sending me the picture of Dolph Jr. it was a good one - The boys from R. U. put up a pretty good stand against a very strong team. Minnesota - has a fine strong team this year. I always listen to it on the radio and it comes in very clearly -

We kept "Open House" on the Edgewood Road addition Sat. and Sunday afternoon and served Nash's coffee (donated by the Co.) also Gordon's doughnuts. There was quite a crowd - and much interest and different ones selecting the lots they wanted.

I read about Henry Barber and a friend's story - says that a while ago, about 1840, he had the red Indians' moccasins.

The place looked like a park with all the underbrush cut out - and roads made possible so the cars could drive through and around. The lots that were already sold bore the sign "Sold" and the houses under construction all came in for inspection. The one crew took both nights and had good dinners in town before coming home.

Miss Eileen and her boy are here - and sure she must look very smart with her little son - what has she named him?

I should have enjoyed hearing you talk in Baldwin - and also your visit with Blanche. My Sat. J. W. is not here yet but expect it today it should have arrived yesterday but I suppose it was put into the wrong box. They do that so often when I am trying to find how John's steam came out.

Tomorrow I go in to have "Alice" do my hair and Thursday we go to St Cloud - again. Warren Stewart has not been so well lately - he had "flu" and it came back - and he was quite weak. No killing frost at "Tree Tops" as yet but Mr Jack's place is all frozen - and has been for weeks. What does Ralph say about his friend Lumbrope? I have so much work to do I do not have time for half the letters I would like to write. Loads of love for you and all your family - from us both
Grayer

October 25, 1949

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

Dear Grayce:

There is not much news to tell you. As you read the Journal-World you keep track of the sports news and all other things that might interest you.

By the way, Belle Ross who years ago was agent for the Union Pacific when they had an office in the corner of the Eldridge Hotel is now living in Lawrence. Her name is Blair and she is a widow, but I haven't felt interested in inquiring very much about her. Myou might recall her because of her large black eyes, which are just as large and black today as they were many years ago.

The weather here is still fine without really having had a killing frost. I have a bouquet of outdoor flowers upon my desk that were brought me today by a colored boot black.

Eileen's baby is a beautiful child and is coming along nicely. I never saw a mother come through the ordeal of birth with the apparent ease that Eileen has had. She looks well and I feel sure is real well.

I understand that Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hoinville are to be with the Stoughs this week end.

There has been a great deal of improvement in Lawrence pretty nearly everywhere you go.

Next Sunday will be the first anniversary of Gertrude's departure.

I was interested in the account of the social features at

Mrs. Don A. Freeman

October 25, 1949

your new addition and hope that everything moves along nicely with you.

I wonder if you couldn't find someone who would be glad to rent your other house during the winter season because houses are so scarce in town. It might be worth while to run an ad in the Brainerd papers.

We shall have all of the children here I think this week end.

I am always glad to hear from you.

Lots of love, your brother,

MRS. DON ALFRED FREEMAN
TREE TOPS, GULL LAKE
BRainerd, MINNESOTA

Monday A. M.
Oct 10 - 49

My dear Collier -

We have been having a spell
of heavy rains and everything is soaked.
Yesterday after a bad night the sun
came out and we had the first
frost deep in almost a week! but
last night it commenced again and
today it is pouring down - If you
were near it would be a first day
for visiting - Wonder if you know
how much I love you and how
and how I love you. I can not
express my feelings as sister Julia could.

While I think of it. I want to
pass on a little thing for Margaret
and Maria. When baking squash
corn the open side with the tin foil
paper which we use in the deep
freezer to wrap meat etc, you will
be pleased with the result.
We used it on the small acorn squash
and it turned out so very nice.
You may have a call at the office
tomorrow. From Mr. and Mrs. Rex
Mauvill (pronounced Manvill) sawer
as "Tommy". Mrs. M. whom you met
as Frances Phillips here at my home
with Ruth - and played bridge with
them - they now live in Trudeford.
Kausas but visit Lopezka and Lawrence
and Ruth told them to be sure and call on
you at the office.

MRS. DON ALFRED FREEMAN
TREE TOPS, GULL LAKE
BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

3 P. M. - Monday -
Wind has been blowing a gale and
some of our boards are blown down.
Electricity was off here for three hours
and now they are saying on the radio
that wind in Minn. - reached a velocity
of 89 miles an hour and for many
to be careful some chimneys have
been blown down - also trees. It has
whipped about half of the oak leaves
off the trees.

Mr. Jack has been doing my
washing and cleaning on Fridays.
She brings her little four year old boy
with her, and he has been on of the
best little boys you ever saw. nice at
the table and so neat, and a little grudge-
man all the time. It would surprise you
to see how well he behaves for one so young.

They are finishing the other cottage. nice enough
for anyone - and has been told we can get
\$75 00 per week for it during the summer
we will have a walk from cottage down
to Don's new stairway - and a small
pier in front of the little new pump
house on lake so that they will have
their own place to land etc. - Don ex-
pects to use his new big boat and
so who ever wants them will have a
small boat and motor. In this way
what looked like "Don's Folly" will
be something sensible and profitable.
• Where I filed the right housekeeper.
she will live in our home here up stairs.
We hope to find a widow or married lady
between thirty and fifty who will
stay for some time.
I like Mr. Roberts of the Pine Beach
Hotel - and know you would also. He is going
to take us to dinner any time next summer.

MRS. DON ALFRED FREEMAN

TREE TOPS, GULL LAKE

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

I had about John and the treatment
he received in Topeka and am just
sick everytime he gets hurt. That boy
that struck him in the face, when his hands
were up. Certainly should be punished
I have had two calls since starting this
letter - and the last one told me that the large
tree in front of Rutgers Lodge - blew
down and just missed a car -

Also on the radio, the chimney at
the Sheridans Hotel in Minneapolis
fell through the roof and smashed
several bedrooms. Two women were hurt.

The mail just came so I'll look
in D-W for family news.
Much love from Don and myself.
Always - M. Laker
Grace

October 13, 1949

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

Dear Grayce:

I attended the game between Lawrence and Shawnee Mission at Shawnee Mission last Friday night and saw a wonderful exhibition. The Shawnee Mission team was big and strong and hit so hard that several of the Lawrence High players were crippled in the first play and had to leave the game.

John was quarterback and I doubt if he will ever play a more brilliant game than he did at that time. As you know, the quarterback gives the signals and puts the ball in play. In addition to this, John punted, played on the defensive in catching punts and made two unusual runs, one of 76 yards and one of 30 yards. He not only made the long run but shook off a tackler who caught him around the neck, and bumped off several other would be tackles in making the run. He was so winded that he had to call time in order to get his breath so that he could proceed with the game.

Unfortunately, the issue of the Times, a part of which is enclosed herewith, did not appear in Lawrence, being later than the Lawrence edition, but it did reach Eudora and finding that it had appeared, I ordered a few copies for our use. John came out of the game without injury but takes his loralis modestly.

As you know, I am very fond of my children and grand children and I certainly have room for the darling little great grandson now in Lawrence Memorial Hospital. Unlike many babies whose features at first are rather indefinite, this little chap has a fine nose and mouth, and if he makes as fine a looking young man as he does a baby, he will be a wonder.

Eileen looks well and will be home later this week at which time Blanche will be here, for awhile at least. The

October 18, 1949

Mrs. Don A. Freeman

last word I had from Pat was that he was somewhat better.

Dolph, Sr., Marie and John went to Oklahoma to see the K.U.-O.U. game. While K. U. was defeated, they made the biggest score against O.U. that has been made by any team for a number of years, which was encouraging.

I hate to think of the condition which existed just a year ago when Gertrude was so critically ill. She was fond of gladiolus so I have arranged for a floral display of gladiolus to be placed at the Baptist Church in her memory on Sunday, October 30, the first anniversary of her death.

I hope that everything is well with you. I think perhaps the Framptons might be interested in seeing the pictures of the boys.

Margaret and Otis are well and still look after the house very satisfactorily.

We have not yet had a real freeze, although we have had some frosts.

I hope you will secure good help for your household and to care for keeping the walks open during the coming winter. I don't want Don in any emergency to try shoveling or doing any other heavy work that might be to his disadvantage.

Lots of love,

October 10, 1949

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

My dear Grayce:

You may have noticed in the hospital notes that I was admitted Wednesday evening but as yet you don't know that I went home Saturday morning, and today I attended a meeting of the hospital board of directors and have been at the office since about 9 o'clock this morning.

It was a case of extremely high blood pressure, but what occasioned it, I do not know. Not feeling just right Wednesday evening, and being all alone at the home, I called Dolph and Marie and said that I thought I should go to the hospital. They made the arrangements and took me over. I was able to walk to their car and to walk from their car to my room at the hospital. My blood pressure receded almost as rapidly as it had come, and within 24 hours was back to normal.

I just had a telephone call from Blanche who is now in town so that I shall see her. There is nothing new as yet with Eileen.

Janet came down for the game and was at our house over the week end, although she did not know of my illness before she arrived. I called Dorothea so that all were advised.

I hope everything is running along nicely with you. The weather has been very unseasonable, ranging up into the eighties. We had a little rain last night which will be good but it was not enough to do a lot of good.

I was interested in knowing what you said about Mrs. Miles antecedents, and I think it quite remarkable that she has shown such evidences of being a good housekeeper and a competent home-maker. It reminds me of the birth and remarkable development of Abraham Lincoln.

October 10, 1949

Mrs. Don A. Freeman

John Simons made a very fine recovery from his injury in the Topeka game and was able to play a good game at Atchison. We were glad to see K.U. win its first victory of this season over George Washington which had a cracker-jack team. It gives us hope for the future.

Much love to both of you.

Lovingly,

MRS. DON ALFRED FREEMAN
TREE TOPS, GULL LAKE
BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

Sept 13 - 49

Aunt Polly -

Your² good letters received and I
have answered the first one, which you
doubtless have by this time.

You certainly are a good
"picker". Your Mr. Miles is working
one here now and so far, is one of
the best everyday workers we have
had. He seems very steady and
gets things finished.

It would be fun to visit with you
everyday for a little review of the
days done.

Mrs. Wilcox is a little better and
she told I wish that Wilcox could
not be kinder to her than he was at unaged.

It is wonderful how Pat has been able to carry on and I hope and pray he may be rewarded for his courage by enjoying perfect health.

It is turning quite cold today but may not frost on account of clouds and wind. I hope not for we have six trees on our bush and one or two hedges on other side bushes. and many other flowers in bloom. I know this will be more westerly weather but do not like a killing frost just yet.

We are hoping to go to Minneapolis and out to Maple Plain - on Saturday some day this week. Ben is pretty well but Oh so busy - gets up at 7 A.M. or earlier every morning - and keeps going like a crazy man - no one can stop him. but I do take good care of him and he returns about ten or earlier - and

Godery is so slow in coming and
kills so much time - I think we had
try to find someone to take his place
The other day - he kept looking
at a airplane and holding
up. These other men who were
working by the hour, and then, of course,
he went home and had not finished
his job - and has not been back again
to finish - he got more exasperating
every year.

I have had nice letters from Brother,
Marie and yesterday a fine one from
Janet - and in her you good
letters and you, I knew Mike went Betty
as I had read it in the J-N - I was watching
for the list - Much love from us both to you
and best wishes to Marjorie - am glad you
send the sheets to laundry after the crowd leaves
P.S. 5.7

MRS. DON ALFRED FREEMAN
TREE TOPS, GULL LAKE
BRainerd, MINNESOTA

is waiting well at night - I have
not been down to your cabins but
Lynn Miles cut out several new trees for
Dolph - I have to see the cabins after
- they are closed -

Mrs. Sewell phoned me yesterday
and asked if I would go with her and
some other ladies to hear her son speak
at the Congreg Church - Her son is a minister.

Sept 22

We went to Minneapolis Sept 15
and I thought I had finished and
mailed this letter. but found it today
in my desk -

Orders finally came and took
care of your cabins - and Miles who
was working on here went with him.

October 5, 1949

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

Dear Grayce:

I have just received your letter written Sunday.

Last Friday Lawrence High School played Topeka and won, but during the game, Topeka made a high punt which John went out to catch. While he had his hands in the air to catch the high ball, a Topeka player slugged him with both fists in the mouth. The assault was not called by the referee, but it was shown by the pictures of the game and was seen by a number of spectators the blow might easily have broken his neck. But he has a particularly strong neck. He fell as if he were shot, but a few moments later he walked to the sidelines where he was given medical attention. Later it was found he had suffered a slight concussion, and he knew nothing that happened between the time when he had his hands up for the ball and when he came to himself later on the sidelines.

Fortunately there was no permanent injury unless it will be a slight scar on his chin. It cut his lower lip vertically on one side and also cut it crosswise underneath where it had contact with his teeth. He was given immediate medical attention and later was checked by surgeons, an oculist and dentist. Yesterday he was suited up and back on the field but not taking the usual rough and tumble because he says that even a slight jar hurts the injured parts. Under the circumstances, he got off very luckily.

Everyone is well. Mary Beth is getting along nicely in school but I understand worries her parents a bit because she would like to drop out and get married. Although the young man seems to be a fine young fellow, I think it would be a mistake for them to get married until she has completed her education and he is more thoroughly established himself. He has a job in Kansas City.

October 5, 1949

Mrs. Don A. Freeman

While we have had no killing frosts, leaves are turning and some of the hard maples are aglow with beauty. Flowers are still blooming but most of them are gone, one reason being that we have had little or no rain for the past two weeks.

Marie and Dolph have had some redecorating done at home and their house looks very attractive indeed.

Janet and Mac were down for the game Saturday, but Dorothea and Harry probably will not be down until one of the bigger games.

I am trying to keep things neat and nice at home and Margaret is cooperating nicely. I should like to see Otis go into business in Lawrence because he is very likeable and energetic.

It was interesting what you said about Mrs. Miles. I was attracted by the neatness of her home which seemed so unusual among the smaller houses up north.

We have had quite an abundance of pears, but after paying for having them picked I found no market for them and am giving them away where they will do good.

I call up or call on Eileen almost every day. She is well, continues to do her own house work, and seems to have not dread or fear for the important event soon to happen. I had quite a long talk with Carl yesterday and like him very much. I think he is a young man of fine moral principles, of good mentality, and an earnest, vigorous man. Although they occupy a rented house, he has surrounded it with beds of very beautiful flowers.

Mike, as you probably noticed, was pledged Beta, but occasionally comes down and spends the night at the old homestead to catch up on his sleep.

I am very glad that Don is keeping well and hope everything will move along nicely with you both.

I am going to take the liberty of mailing your letter to me to Mary Beth.

Lots of love to both of you,

September 26, 1949

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

My dear Grayce:

I scored 100 percent on the week end having letters from all three of the girls and from you, and I am answering all of them right now.

We are very much interested in knowing that you had not had a frost. Neither have we, which is a little later than we frequently have it. Flowers are still blooming, but the trees are beginning to shed their leaves, especially the walnut trees.

I am glad that you are finding Miles to be a good helper. I don't know that his wife would ever go out to do anything, but if she would, I am sure she would please you because she keeps such a neat home herself. I think that Miles is not only earnest but capable. He knows how to do things and what he does he does well.

We are still getting along with Otis and Margaret, but they are out practically every evening. They have been married something over four years I think, but this is about the first time they have had an opportunity to enjoy each others company, and they are taking advantage of it.

As I may have told you, we have thoroughly refinished the lounge, which is their living room, and it looks very attractive.

I wish you could come and visit with me because I would knock off work and we could have a good time.

I cannot even hazard a wish in regard to Grace Willard because they are both growing old and have no children. Probably the best thing would be if it should so happen that

September 26, 1949

Mrs. Don A. Freeman

they would go nearly at the same time, but not through accidental death. I am glad to know that Willard is kind and thoughtful of her.

In my letter I have just written to Blanche, I spoke of my love for Pat and my great appreciation of the courageous fight he has made against his disease.

I do not blame you for not wanting to go down to the cabins when we are gone. I didn't care very much about going down to our cabin when I was visiting you last spring. It isn't the house that counts, it is the occupants, and when you have the real combination of a good home and loving fellowship, it makes the condition ideal.

I think probably that Don is better off when he is fairly busy as he has never been happy when idle, however, I think he should slow up a bit as he is not as young as he was some 15 years ago.

I see you are really hearing from the girls too, and I am glad that they are writing you.

Mike came out to our house late Saturday night and slept until late Sunday morning, and either Saturday or Sunday he slept for three hours on the davenport.

Marie and Dolph went out last night to take dinner with the party in Emporia who loaned them the sailboat at Gull Lake.

Eileen looks well but quite large. I think that the birth of her little one is expected in about a week. She told me yesterday that Doctor Johnson had told her that he had accidentally cut off one of his thumbs, I think in a saw. How serious the injury is, I do not know, but he will be assisted at the birth by Doctor Schwegler, who is an expert in matters of that kind.

Please give my kindly regards to Mrs. Sewell.

Much love to both of you.

Your loving brother,

Don A. Freeman Poster Co.

TREE-TOPS—GULL LAKE
BRAINERD. MINN.



M. W. L. Smith
Journal. World Pub. Co.
Lawrence
Kansas.

wrote
9/19

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS --- GULL LAKE

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

Sept 11 - 49

1

Mr. H. L. Simons
Lawrence, Kansas.

My dear Brother Allen -

Your most interesting letter was enjoyed by both Don and me - and I said to myself "this shall be answered, at once," but, as you can see it is now on a work. I am sorry. You know the Trade's moved out the last of August and now we are having every thing done on the inside that needs to be done so that it will look as well inside as it does outside.

We have had several applicants but so far, have not heard a new couple. I did try a young married woman twenty eight who had a boy eight, with her, who had to be hurried off to school to catch the bus at ten to eight A.M. She also had to put up a lunch for him and this caused so much confusion - right at the time Don wanted his breakfast - that he did not think it would work out. She was neat and a good little worker but after we found out her husband was living and wanted her back and that she had

(over)

had a difference with him but still cared for him etc
we knew it could not be permanent so why
teach her our ways? and then I do not care for
an angry husband to show up and perhaps shoot
some one, so she stayed four days and helped
with the canning - and cleaning on Friday and
left to have a talk with her husband on Sat. noon.

There we heard her as though she was a widow.
She was a nice little person and left with good
feelings all around.

This fall is one of our loveliest ones and so
far, no frost and all the plants around here
are staying open until the seventeenth - we have
heat on but it is so warm today I have both doors
open - the weather man says "cooler soon" -
I am not sure about Island View being open as
he has no way of heating his denning room - but
Pine Beach Hotel has a big Golf tournament on and
both Madras are open also Oakwood and Sherwood Forest
Mr. Roberts bought the Sun Valley Resort.

Yours Mr. Miles told me if Gooddery would show him
what had to be done, on at your place, in shutting off
water etc. he thought he could do it - but I wanted
to wait until I heard from you or Dolph as Gooddery
has always taken care of that for you -

Mrs. Jack B. did our laundry last week and will
continue to do it for me also Friday cleaning until
I get someone.

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS --- GULL LAKE

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

Too bad about Maria's ^{ear} ailment but hope it comes out
as good as new. I shall read the J-W and watch for
news of Ralph. Mike and John. Janet's children are
nice young people and I was glad to get better acquainted
with them this summer. Janet is a fine person -
The Sunday after you left the Inuptains had us all over
for a very nice dinner and she said, several times, to me
how very sorry they were that you were not with us and
told me how much they liked you and that, of course,
they had hoped to have you before you went home.
Ralph and John helped with the dishes afterwards and
I thought that was very nice as she is not too well
but I believe is getting better.
I am enclosing some bills that were sent to your box
instead of to you in Brainerd - and we did not see them
until yesterday.

My kindest regards to Margaret King - I am
glad she is thoughtful of my dear brother, and
I like her for herself also - She is O. K.
There is much activity in "Edgewood Road" - the work
is in and basement for three homes - and Neys - Lucas Co.
got the bid for building five of the new homes - as they were the
lowest in price on the sealed bids sent in by four companies.
The nice woman has helped - The manager of Telephone
Co. phoned you yesterday saying he wanted to have a
home over there. With lots of love for you always and
must compliment you on your most interesting letter
He had a nice letter from Brother which I shall answer soon
- Grace and Don -

September 19, 1949

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

Dear Grayce:

I was very glad to get your letter of September 11. It was a nice long letter and well written.

A bill has been received from Bill Miles for his work and has been paid. I hope that everything will move along nicely, but at the time Bill wrote us, Goedderz had not yet shut off the water. It is very dangerous to leave in on this late in the season because a freeze could wreck things. Unless you know that Goedderz has been there, I wish you would call him and see about it.

We had a nice visit over Sunday with Mac and Janet and from Dorothea and Harry.

Everything has been put in pretty good shape at home, and I shall be happy to have you come down for a visit. I sincerely hope you will find competent help as it is essential that both you and Don have someone that you can depend on.

I can imagine that things look very beautiful up there but the old weather man is probably right around the corner, and it must seem a little lonely with the cottages and resorts closed for the season.

I think that Marie's arm is improving but is not entirely well. Doctor Allen has treated her a few times with beneficial results.

I don't know that we have told you that Mike pledged Beta.

I like the Framptons, and I think it mighty fine that we have you on one side of us and them on the other.

September 19, 1949

Mrs. Don A. Freeman

My bills which you sent me have been paid.

Margaret and Otis are still very satisfactory, and she will certainly wade into a big washing this afternoon, although I told her to send all of the sheets to the laundry.

I am glad everything is moving along nicely at Edgewood Road.

Lots of love to you both. Please write me often as I am so glad to hear from you.

Lovingly,

September 9, 1949

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

My dear Grayce:

You would be surprised, perhaps, to know that it has really been cold the last few days. The thermometer on my front porch this morning stood at 50 degrees and down town it registered two degrees lower, or 48. It began to warm up quickly, however, and I think that today may be the most pleasant of any we have had for several days.

I think of you every day. You are a mightysweet sister, and undoubtedly one of the finest looking women of anywhere near your age. When you get your feet restored to normal health, I expect you to practice on high kicking and all of the other pleasures of youth.

I hope that your addition is moving along properly, that houses are being built, and that some of them will be closed in before cold weather prevents.

We have not yet had a frost and chiggers are on the work, although I have been fortunate in not picking up too many of them.

I can imagine that everything is pretty quiet up there now and that traffic on highway 371 and on the blacktop to Pine Beach is slowing down quite a bit.

I hope you have secured someone to occupy your caretaker's home who will be satisfactory to you in every way. Many a persons life as they have grown older has been made pleasant or unhappy through the characters of those with whom they have been forced to associate.

Write me often and begin your letter the night before so that you can get it finished before Don starts to town with the mail. You see I am on to you and your habits.

September 9, 1949

Mrs. Don A. Freeman

I am enclosing a carbon copy of a letter I have just written to Blanche which will give you the low-down on family affairs.

Lovingly, your brother,

September 1, 1949

Mrs. Don A. Freeman
Route 3
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grayce:

This is the first day of the month. Mike and I returned to Lawrence Saturday afternoon after a pleasant drive from the cabin. We spent the first night at Carrol, where they have an excellent hotel, and arrived home about 3:30 Saturday afternoon.

Everything here seems to be in good shape. Margaret and Otis both look well and enjoyed their summer. Margaret has expressed herself several times in regard to her favorable impression of you, as a matter of fact, every member of our group appreciates the constant kindness and courtesy and the accommodation of you and Don. It would be impossible for anyone to find better neighbors, and in my case, a better sister and brother.

Everything is moving along nicely here at home. I noticed the record thermometer when I returned and the highest temperature registered on the front porch during my absence was 97 and the lowest was 57. Last night, however, it went down to 49 on the same porch.

Dolph took Marie to Kansas City and they found that the round upper part of the humerus indicated a crack but no displacement and recommended that she begin exercising the arm to improve circulation and decrease pain and soreness.

Dolph, Jr., has had two days of football practice and John not more than one. John witnessed the practice of the university team yesterday, and he said that Dolph was the fastest runner among the men out for tackle on the K.U. team. Last year he was the second fastest as guard. It was rather interesting to note that one so large and so powerful is also fast on his feet. This is to his advantage and to

September 1, 1949

Mrs. Don Freeman

the advantage of the team.

Yesterday found me with all of my work caught up to date and my desk cleaned up with my letters filed. Of course a good part of this work goes to the credit of my efficient stenographer who is wearing a rather brilliant diamond ring on the tell-tale finger.

Dolph's family came through in one day, the boys doing all of the driving. Mike drove all the way for me and was a careful and capable driver. I shall see more of him the coming season as he will register in at K.U.

Ramsey, our all around caretaker at home and also employed at the office, told me that he found a quails nest with 12 eggs at the end of the stone at our cemetery lot. I looked for it yesterday but didn't see it. The cemetery has been well kept in general with the grass mowed and many flowers in bloom.

I hope that everything is moving along nicely with you and that you have your eye on more capable help to occupy your nice quarters for caretakers.

I realize that today is pretty near the end of the season at the resorts as they will definitely close after Labor Day next Monday.

A letter from Pat indicates a rather severe skin condition, but continued confidence in his ultimate recovery. He has begun using Auromycin, a new drug and found it very beneficial until he ran out of it and then suffered a slight recession so that he feels that the drug is going to be a very great help to him.

Much love to both of you,

Your brother,

Drawing. Misses.

June 15 - 49

My dear Collier -

After I phoned the Parsons Co. Co. they sent a man out the next day and your pins was put in and shutters taken off and yesterday Mrs. Jack came over and started to clean - I went down for a few minutes, and the cottage was so filled with Gertrude's presence that I missed her more than ever. Then I had the feeling that she would rather have Mrs. Jack than cleaning that afternoon she did not know or like, and that everything was being done as she would have had it done.

I am now trying to get in touch with one of the men who cleaned your yard etc. last year and who wanted to know if you wanted him again. I am

sure you would want this yard work
done and if he can come just a few
days before your arrival! It will look
nice. Oh yes your boats have been
painted and the white paint was
charged to you, at Ferris and
The hours of labor will be kept -
Now the days are quite cool again
after a few of very warm ones and nice
rainy flowers are blooming.

Ami's stomach is quite normal, after a
bad spell, brought about by giving him
so many tablets to help him bear
the pain of a bad rheumatic condition
in the hip - as it is the same hip he
had the shot of penicillin - I think that
has something to do with it. This has con-
vinced him to his bed for over a week now
and made him quite helpless. He was
better last night and slept well, so I am
hoping and praying he will soon be up
again. This sickness has lasted almost
a month now. Love - Grace

Zelah and Fanny Stewart were with us for Sunday dinner. altho' Don had his in bed - he enjoyed visiting with them -

You and who ever is in your car plan to have dinner with us with 25th you may let me know how many and as near as you care what hour you will arrive but as you will take two days for your trip - you will likely be here about three or four P. M. - It will be so nice to have you near and you know what a comfort it will be for both Don and myself I sent a gift to Renee's grand daughter but so far no answer - which shows such ill breeding - We did have a nice note from Michael McTalley and I have a great deal of confidence in him that he will become a fine doctor and I hope I'll live to see him become one.

June 8, 1949

Mrs. Don A. Freeman
Route 3 Tree Tops
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grayce:

I am mighty sorry that Don's trouble keeps returning. I wonder if it might not be wise for him to stay at the hospital where he could have constant care until the trouble seems to have subsided. I know he would rather be at home, but what I am thinking of is his early recovery.

Thank you very much for looking after everything. I got a bill from Goedderz yesterday for his work and immediately sent him a check. I am glad that you called Parsons because he probably knows how to do it; although, generally speaking, I have more confidence in Carlson than I do in Parsons.

Mr. and Mrs. King returned last evening after an absence of about five days, during which they visited her parents in western Kansas. Margaret's 14 or 15 year old sister accompanied her for a short visit at our home. She is an attractive little girl.

Things have been rather topsy-turvy with me for a few days, but are working out nicely.

The anniversary which they attended was the twenty-fifth anniversary of their graduating class at K.U. I am not sure what year they were married, but I think it was at least a year later and in the month of October.

I love you very much and hope that Don's recovery will be rapid.

Lovingly, your brother

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS — GULL LAKE

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

June 5, '49



My dear Collie-

Don back in bed since Tuesday and he has lost so much weight that I am terribly worried about him but he has not vomited since Thursday night and then only once between three and four A. M. I give him nourishment every two or three hours when he is awake. He does not drink as much water, as when he is well and that might cause him to lose weight.

He wants me to thank you for your birthday gift to him, it was very dear of you to remember and we both appreciate your doing so.

Before I get into anything else I want to say Goedderz has your new pump installed and everything working down there. I have not talked to Mrs. Jack but will soon and first shall call Parsons to have the shutters taken off ect. as he has done the work since your new pier was put in. Don thinks we had better have him take care of it.

It looks lovely and green now and some flowers in bloom I am sure Mrs. King will enjoy the change.

I am glad Janet and Mac are with you. Is this their twentyfifth wedding anniversary? It surely will be fine to have a doctor in the family and am sure he will be a good one. *I mean Mike, of course.*

We love you a lot and shall be glad when you are up here again.

Loads of love from us both

Your loving sisters

G.

*Not much of a letter but so little time.
I wish I could drive the car but I know
I would not be good in all this traffic.
Last time Don went fishing he got
his limit in just a few hours.*

June 2, 1949

Mrs. Don A. Freeman
Treetops, Gull Lake
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grayce:

I received your letter of Tuesday, the 31st, today, and I am very sorry to know that Don was taken worse after I left. I was in great hopes that he was entirely over his attack. I am glad, however, to know that he is now getting better.

I think that Margaret is looking forward with a good deal of interest to her stay at the lake. She and her husband leave tomorrow to spend the week end with her folks on a farm near Goodland, Kansas. Mr. King is a very earnest student and, like many others, who have been out of school for some time, has found his work rather difficult, but through taking little time for sleep and much for study, he came through with an A, a B, and a C, which was not at all bad.

In the graduate school, if one makes poor grades it is liable to put them out of the running.

I am glad that Goedderz has been working on the pump and hope it is in A - 1 order.

Dolph and Marie left Tuesday for their trip to the west coast and do not expect to return until the 23rd of June, three weeks from today.

I shall be glad to have both of the cabins opened at any time now and hope that Don will be able to see that the boats are repainted.

Our home place is indeed lovely now. As I look at the flowers, the shrubs, the trees, and the general arrangement, I give credit for all of it to Gertrude, and instead of trying to make changes or improvements, I am very largely maintaining things as they are because it is hard to conceive how they could be improved.

June 2, 1949

Mrs. Don Freeman

Under the planting that we have, some kind of flowers are in bloom the year round.

I am sorry that I passed up Don's birthday, and I am sending you herewith a check for \$5 for you to buy something for him.

Janet and Mac will be in town for the week end, and it comes in handy for me as Janet can look after the house while Margaret is gone.

I enjoyed my visit with you very much and was so sorry that Don was sick, but I did not connect it at all with the lack of fishing. I would suggest that you do not try to over feed Don in your desire for him to regain weight. I think it will be best for him to take it gradually.

Lots of love to both of you,

May 31, 1949

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

Dear Grayce and Don:

Dolph received your letter yesterday and I had the opportunity of reading it. They are leaving about three o'clock this afternoon for their trip and do not expect to return until the 23rd.

We shall be glad to have you have the cabins cleaned now at any time. I shall not go north until after Dolph returns. That will be the 23rd of June, so I will be up there by the 25th.

I presume we had better have you call Parsons to put out our docks because he has taken them out and has put them in for two or three years. If you think it would be better to have Carlson, the man who did the trimming last year and from whom we get wood, it would be alright. I think he is competent and does the work promptly. I presume you have had the boats painted.

Please keep track of any money that is spent for us so that we can repay you in money, although we cannot repay you for the many nice things you are always doing for us.

Dorothea, Harry, Lance and young Dolph were with us over Sunday. Janet and Mike were here for the week end, and she and Mac will be down for their 25th reunion which I think is next Monday, a week from today.

I wrote you quite promptly on my return and you should have had the letter even before you wrote Dolph, but you doubtless have had it by this time.

Much love to you both.

Your brother,

May 25, 1949

Mr. and Mrs. Don A. Freeman
Treetops, Gull Lake
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grayce and Don:

My trip home was uneventful. As you know, the airport at Brainerd furnished a car to take me and another passenger to St. Cloud. The other passenger happened to be a very attractive little miss who lives in Brainerd and I think her name is Showell. I may not have understood the name correctly. I thought, perhaps, that Dolph and John might be interested in meeting her this summer when they are up there.

I thoroughly enjoyed my visit with you, and I sincerely hope that Don has fully recovered. I feel that it is very important that he take care of himself, and I'd like to have you put on one of your shoes with the most pointed toe and kick him soundly where it would do the most good whenever he tries to take on a job of laying stone or anything else of that sort. You need him, and he needs you and it is foolishness for him to do things that he can hire someone else to do.

We had a pleasant ride from Minneapolis home, although we were flying up about 8,000 feet most of the time in order to be above the clouds. At Kansas City, I was met by Dolph, Marie, and John, and we had dinner at the Kansas City Club. Everything was alright at home. We have been having an abundance of strawberries.

Mike graduated from the highschool Monday evening so Mary Beth and her friend, Mr. Medlock, and I drove out. We left here shortly after 3 o'clock. Our unhappiest experience was the location of a road block for car inspection just beyond Fort Riley. It took us an hour and forty minutes to get by the block. This, of course, made us late in getting to Minneapolis, so we had not stop to eat, but each drank a glass of milk and then rushed to the school house in time for the graduation exercises.

May 25, 1949

Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Freeman

Mike was president of his class and had practically an A record all through high school. I think probably he will enroll at K.U. and prepare for a medical education.

Dolph and family will take our Buick car and will leave Lawrence May 31 and will be gone until June 23. Dolph is still busy making addresses and today is in Fort Riley to speak before the Officers' Intelligence Course. We, Margaret and I, will not come to Minnesota until after their return.

I have today received an announcement of the graduation exercises at Ogden High School where Kathoryn L. Blackhurst is one of the graduates. You know how I feel, but I shall write her.

I hurried home from Minneapolis, Kansas, yesterday in order to vote for the school program which carried by a large majority. Mary Beth and her friend returned home after the graduation exercises Monday night and Mary Beth spent the night at our home.

Again thanking you for a very pleasant visit and with much love to you both, I remain

Your loving brother,

MRS. DON ALFRED FREEMAN
TREE TOPS, GULL LAKE
BRainerd, MINNESOTA

Apr. 30-49

My dear Alice -

Just a line to say we
received the handsome picture
and love it but would rather
have the original - and so
let us know what hour you
will arrive at the B. field
so we may meet - you
It is hot for this time of
year - (a bear) and will

most likely be cooked in Med-
Lots of fish go floating
by -

The love you has -
Do hurry - love

you own me 3 letters
now -
Grace

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS - GULL LAKE

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA



Grandpa's birthday

May 8 - 49

My dear Brother -

We are delighted that you are going to be with us for the opening of the fishing season - and will be at the airport at 4:30 P.M. Thursday and you will have a day to get rested before the "ordeal" We think there will be lots of fish this year as I can see so many fish swimming by and the little creek down by Franplatz has had many big ones. All the hands are getting ready.

Some you have such a long wait in Minneapolis but both the Billie Booths and Hammerslev live in St Paul - and I think you might not want me to let them know - Don Straet is in the office of Minn. and could not get away very well.

Ed and Ruth. tele # Emerson 2619 - and no exchange charge as they live in natural district. I know they would love to hear your voice and visit a little.

So would Harry Freeman but he might keep on talking and make you miss your place.

It will be so nice to have you with us and know we shall enjoy every minute of it - and not want to let you go back. God bless you and your family -

do not expect to see all the lovely flowers you have
down there for ours are a little later you know up here.

I am sure we shall like Mrs. King - if she is nice
to you - and all the family has written nice things about
her so she must be O. K.

It is a good thing you expressed your feelings about
some time ago so you won't have to bother with them
on this flying trip. Suppose Blanche and Pat had

a fine trip - shall be interested in hearing about it.

Also am anxious to hear of Dolph and Merri's trip

East. I think Ellen very smart and I believe

she is something like Gertude was at that age.

We shall all miss not seeing Gertude, but know
she would wish us to get away on the best we can
any way. I often think how hard she was to go on

with your birthday desires when she was feeling
so very ill. In fact it was wonderful of her
to make the trip at all - and seldom a complainer.

I love you very much and look forward to
Thursday with pleasure - Many thanks for the mother's
day gift I do not
as ever J. S. F. desire one - but it
was sweet of you

Dear Colbie:

We are very happy you will be with us for the opening of
fishing. We will meet the plane Thursday. Don't make any
arrangements to go back until you get here as fishing might
be good and besides there is no reason that you should
not stay with us until you are sure of good weather to open your
place. Will be seeing you Thursday

Don

May 4, 1949

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

Dear Grayce:

You have talked me into it. Arrangements have been made for me to leave the Kansas City airport Thursday, May 12, at 9:10 a.m. to arrive in Minneapolis at 12:12, where I shall have a wait of two hours and forty five minutes, leaving at 3 p.m. and will arrive at the Brainerd Crow Wing airport at 5:01 p.m. After getting there, I shall make arrangements for my return, also, by air.

I do not know of anything else especially new since I wrote you yesterday or the day before. It will be fine to visit with you and Don.

We are having warm growing weather here and our yards are full of blooming Lilacs, Tulips, Spirea, and Peonies. The Redbuds which have been beautiful are about gone. The Iris are in full bud and will be in bloom this week. The Paul Scarlet Roses are also in bud. I have had plants placed on all of the graves.

I shall be very happy to see you.

Lovingly, your brother,

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS - GULL LAKE

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

May 2 - 49

My dear Collier -

Just looked at the mail and no letter from you - and I can not understand it, as you have been such a deal about writing and in love to get your letters - and especially now when we want to know just when to expect you. I am getting everything up stairs all ready for you for the fourth.

As far as I know we have not had a letter from you since Apr. 18th when you wrote me nice long ones and then another short one about shoes. I would be glad to have a pair of white ones also blue or black. I think I had better not try to wear the wedgies as it throws my balance or weight in a place the doctor does not wish me to do. The Dickerson shoes I have came from a shop in Minneapolis and Yertudes from Maurer. Some of the nice things you have sent me I have had adjusted, as to length etc. and you would think they had been made for me. I certainly feel lucky that you are so generous with me, and only hope I may be as good to others as the one who wore them before. In writing the hurried scribbles I have sent

you of late I never had time to read my letters
over as someone is always just standing by to take
in the mail.

With cleaning - and planting and cooking etc -
you know I have little time to write the kind of
letters I should like to write.

I suppose Ralph and Maria will soon be home
It was nice for the three Simons men to go to church together
on Easter. I do not remember if I thanked you
for sending the newspaper account of Marilyn's
letter - or wrote Janet after she sent me a nice letter
on my birthday - but I did appreciate hearing from
her and love her very much -

Well this is getting long - I do hope you are well
Let me know what has kept you from writing.
Mother is warm and it looks nice and green now.
I know you must have been busy while Ralph
was gone. Please write soon even if you wish to
tell me about something. I love you always

Affectingly yours ever

J. E. S.

May 2, 1949

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

Dear Grayce:

I am surprised that I have not written you recently. I thought I was usually about one jump ahead of you. In apologizing, I am reminded of a case of a woman on a train. She was a foreigner and they were trying to get her to understand something. Finally one of the passengers stepped forward and said, "Do you understand French? Do you understand German? He went on until he had questioned her in regard to seven different tongues, but all the time, speaking English himself. Finally he turned to the rest of the people on the car and said "I can't do anything with her. I have spoken to her in seven different languages and she hasn't understood any of them." So, I am apologizing in seven different languages.

Eileen and Carl were my dinner guests at the hotel last night and spent a couple of very pleasant hours at our home afterwards. She is a dear girl and reminds me quite a good deal of Gertrude when we were first married.

I have just returned from Rotary. The program was given by several young artists from the School of Fine Arts. One of the songs was one that Gertrude used to sing. I do not remember the title but the closing lines of one verse are "And I will come again my dear, if it were 10,000 miles." The singer was an operatic singer, while Gertrude sang the song in her rich contralto voice.

It was six months Saturday since Gertrude died. Hearing fine music recalls to me her interest in music and her ability as a pianist, as an accompanist, and as a singer. Here I am four years older than she. Her next birthday would have been the 16th of this month. We are keeping up things as nicely as possible at home, both inside and out, but it seems so empty without her, and yet, I feel that I should keep everything up as she would liked to have had it.

May 2, 1949

Mrs. Don A. Freeman

I am flirting in my mind with the idea of coming up there for the middle of May, but have made no definite plans. It seems assured that Margaret King will accompany me when I go up there for the summer, and for a time, Mr. King will be doing field work in Wyoming. I think you will like her. She was born in a sod house near Goodland, one of the far western towns in Kansas.

I wonder how much you remember of western Kansas life. In one way, you were there later than I was because you were with Etoile at the time she was presumably holding down a claim. That land which we valued rather lightly at the time would much of it have a value now of \$100 an acre. Where we were unable to get water, I think they strike an unfailing spring at a depth of 300 feet.

As I may have told you, the last time I was there I was rather astonished at the smallness of the creeks and how simple the crossing seemed to be where they once seemed so high and steep. Dolph says he never speaks in western Kansas without reminding the folks of my former residence in that part of the state.

I correspond with the daughters quite regularly and we have telephone talks between times. I think Blanche will be up the last of this week.

Mike will probably enter the university next year. John has one more year in highschool.

We have had word from Goedderz that he will install a new pump for the well and will set the old pump where we can use it to pump water from the lake for watering our yards.

Give my love to your neighbors. I will be glad to see you.

Much love,

P.S. I am enclosing herewith a check for \$5 for you to buy a Mothers Day gift for yourself.

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS — GULL LAKE

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

Apr. 21-49

My own dear Betty —

Don and I think it would be nice if you could come up and to see father & Maeyo — and stay with us until it was warm enough to stay in your own place — If you packed your things before you came up — one of the boys could drive your car and bring Mr. King and your things — so you could not have to go back — if you did not have to. Yesterday was warm but today is raining and is quite cool tonight.

I will have the upstairs all cleaned — fresh curtains up etc before you arrive, or if you rather sleep down stairs one of us will go up stairs and you could use one of the down stairs rooms — We could have some fine visits — and would love to have you with us.

We spent the day yesterday in St Cloud and had some interesting visits with old friends — and did not come home until in the evening. With lots of love from us both and hoping to see you soon — Grace and Don —

(over)

Don A. Erbman's Posters Co.
Tree-Tops - Gulf Lake
Inglis, Florida

I am now in the boat of pleasure to together
as much as possible - Wm. R. - G.

Dear Collie: -

I think it would be fine for you to come
up for the opening of fishing and stay with us until
you want to open your own cottage.

The fishing has always been the bait in the
spring and fall and besides we would like very
much to have you with us. Just pack up and come
as we are always ready for you.

Sincerely,
Dtu

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS — GULL LAKE

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

April 19-49

My dear Alice — Sunday Don and I attended Easter Services in the Presbyterian Church, in Brainerd, and heard our new pastor who seems to be a very earnest and religious man - and I think you would like him - He came to Brainerd from Duluth is married and has a wife and seven children -

At noon we enjoyed a very fine dinner at the Pacified Hotel - and the husband of the other couple, who work with us - presented his wife and myself with lovely corsages -

The hotel is again under new management and if Sunday dinner was a sample of the way they intend to serve this summer I think you will enjoy going there - Excellent was filled in both rooms and so I hope they will continue to serve nice Sunday dinners -

It was cool enough to wear a top coat over my suit - and I find myself wearing the pearls ever again now, more often than any other jewelry - I like them very much - Thank you again -

The ice is out and gulls returned today soon the loons and martins will be here - The miss Ralright terribly - he was always with us.

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS - GULL LAKE

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

I sorted the clothes you sent me and had all the cotton things washed by Mrs. Trade, and the other nice dresses dry cleaned. Next week I have a dressmaker who will do some adjusting - some are a little too short for the present styles and some are too large but that is always so much better than trying to get clothes that are too small - I love you and hope it won't make you feel sad to see some on the morning dear Gertrude's clothes if it does I'll not wear them where with you - I never see to wear things out so I have been giving some of my things away - and shall give more - there are three more right here that can wear mine.

We received the nice booklet of Dolph's yesterday and I hope he sent one to Fred Schiplaci of St Cloud and I hope he would really appreciate it - I am sure.

The time goes so fast and in a little more than a month you will be fishing in the lake. Did Dolph get an account from Gordley about the pump - your emigrants look fine this year - It is too early to tell about the plantings of last year - but they have had lots of moisture.

Thank you so much for everything and know that I love you always - and so does Don -
I was sorry to read of Mrs. Alice Mitchell's death - I liked her -
Devotedly - Graeger

April 18, 1949

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

Dear Grayce:

I find that I have several pairs of Gertrude's shoes. Some are $6\frac{1}{2}$ AA and others are $6\frac{1}{2}$ AAA. If you could use shoes of this size, let me know. I think there are some in white and some in colors, and perhaps one pair of wedgies.

I forgot to mention this in my letter of this morning.

Love,

Collie

April 18, 1949

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

Dear Grayce and Don:

I received the Easter card, and I don't want you to look too hard for me as early as May 15. However, the thought intrigues me a little bit about making a flying trip where I might be up there for a short time with you in your home. At the early date of May 15, it would be extremely difficult to keep our cabin warm by means of a fire place.

I was talking with Dolph and Marie yesterday, and they seem to think that it would be better not to have the cabins cleaned too early because they accumulate dust between that time and the time of our arrival.

It is going to be very hard for me to come, and if it were not for my only sister and her husband being there, I would really hesitate to come at all. As it is, when I come to stay for the summer, I will be accompanied by Mrs. King, who will be with me there, as she has been here, since the 12th of December. Her husband will be doing some field work in Zoology in Wyoming for a time, and later will join us.

I had a pleasant Easter starting with a breakfast at the Masonic Temple where I was accompanied by Dolph and two of our dependable men. I was greatly pleased at having Dolph Jr. and John volunteer to accompany me to the services at the Baptist Church. I was very proud of them, and with them sitting on each side of me, I am afraid I didn't loom up as large as usual.

I then took dinner with them, and later in the day, I had Margaret accompany me to call on Mrs. Rankin, and upon returning home, I had a call from Dorothea from Wymore, which rounded up the day beautifully. Even young Dolph talked to me over the phone.

Things are beginning to look pretty around the home. I have

April 18, 1949

Mr. and Mrs. Don A. Freeman

endeavored to keep things in good shape. I had the house repainted last fall. I had my driveway resurfaced and just the other day, I had the circle in front of our garage and a part of our roadway covered with chat. If rugs have needed cleaning, I have had that attended to.

Yesterday, I received from Dorothea a restored cabinet picture of Gertrude which was taken in her wedding dress only a few months after our marriage. The copy that we had was faded with the years, and Dorothea thought that parties in Lincoln, Nebraska, could restore it.

Fortunately, I later found that I had a good copy of the same photograph, but I told Dorothea to go ahead with the restoration anyway. The picture came in a gilt or gold frame, and now stands on the mantel. They did an excellent job of restoring it in colors. I can't have too many pictures of her, and while they mean a great deal to me, of course they lack a lot of occupying the vacant place in my heart and life. It must be mighty bad for anyone to have their loved ones pass away without suitable pictures.

A year or two ago, the manager of the Weavers store, a man probably 50, said that he never had had a picture of himself, at least not in any recent years, and I told him that would not do at all, because if he should pass away, his wife and daughter would regret exceedingly that they did not have a picture of him. Fortunately, he acted upon my advice, but I am glad to say he is still living.

I have just written a letter to Mr. and Mrs. Frampton. Please remember me to Ruth and Ping. I am sorry that she is not in better health. I think that a number of years sister Julia was over medicated, and that may be true with Ruth.

Did Ronnie learn to read? I know Mrs. Bisek was going to try to help him, and I believe she could do more, perhaps, than a parent. He is a bright little fellow, and all that is necessary is a start.

I shall be happy to see you.

Lots of Love,

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS - GULL LAKE

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA



Already answered

Apr 11 - 49

(Tomorrow will be our little
maam's birthday - how
I love the thought of her)

My dear Alice -

Thanks for your excellent letter
and the box which arrived safely and I put
your things in your cabinet yesterday.
I'm said everything seemed O.K. in your
place no evidence of mice.
Our snow is all gone and ice rotting in lake
every one is so rushed with work we are
nearly crazy - no time to do all the things that
have to be done - but we will have a good picnic -
Mrs and I am so glad that Mrs. King
is coming with you - Do you wish to have your
cabinet changed before you get here and the things
put in place by Mrs. Jack Bisek - I think
it would be a good idea - You could write her
direct or I can see her for you. It will be
necessary to have the water turned on first and
your pump fixed - Sorry your Ref. mages lost out.
He will have some good serious talks when you
come - Ruth's mother is better but not too well yet -
Her children are all going to Spencer for Easter to visit her
Ruth, herself, takes so much medicine that she becomes

my mirror and says things om day - and the next
time you see her she is intirely different and
contradicts some of the things she has said before.
I think it is a shame to have to take so much medicine
and shot etc when she is so young. but it is doctors
orders - and I suppose necessary. She and I get
along all right and I try to be good to her when
she is sick or blue. feeling very thankful that
I am as well as I am and do not have to take so
much medical treatment.

We have had several beautiful days tempt in either
every direction we look from our house in Lee Raleigh
in our mind eye and miss him so much - but I
do not know whether we shall ever have another dog
anyway not until Aug - as the doctor said it would
not be safe for a young dog to live here for six
months anyway.

I suppose you have seen Char H. and Mace lately
as I noticed by J. W. they were going to visit in Lawrence.
You had better ask Marie about having her
cabinet cleaned as I forgot to ask her in the letter I
have just written there.

I like the pearls you gave me for Christmas
better than any beads I ever owned and they look well
with so many different clothes.

Blauche sent me such nice pictures of her
updding - but she said one paper cut the picture
down - so I did not see one - We love you a lot
and will be looking for you in a little over a month -
Love and kisses for a dear brother
J. S. F. & D. M. -

"Airport Offers New Life"-Higgins

Last Tuesday morning a Lockheed Electra twin engine, ten passenger transport of the Wisconsin Central Airlines landed at the Brainerd-Crow Wing county airport and established the first regularly scheduled airlift service to and from Brainerd.

Mail, passengers and express will be carried on all flights which provide daily round trip service to leading cities in Minnesota and Wisconsin and connecting service to all parts of the nation.

In an interview with a Journal Press reporter last Tuesday, Francis M. Higgins, president of the company said "I feel that regularly scheduled air service here is opening a new way of life to residents of Brainerd and Crow Wing county. It means faster delivery service to merchants, a saving of time on business trips, and a speedier means of communication. I also believe that the air service will extend the area tourist season by at least one month and will be instrumental in establishing a year around tourist business here. Now it will be necessary for the vacationist coming to Brainerd from a long distance to spend only a day or two traveling and will give him more time to spend at his chosen vacation spot."

BACKGROUND

The Wisconsin Central Airlines is one of the 18 feeder airlines given a franchise by the United States government.

For 20 years there were 18 main airlines operating under a government franchise. In December 1946 the government called for applications to establish 18 feeder airlines. Wisconsin Central was selected one of the 18 from a list of 2,000 applications.

They started operating under their new franchise February 24th, 1948. They are now operating in Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota and have increased their staff of employees from 25 to 165.

SAFETY OF AIR TRAVEL

Of the thirteen million people who traveled on the 35 scheduled airlines last year there were only 84 fatalities.

Wisconsin Central has flown 15,000 people a million miles and has a perfect safety record.

"Let me give you a little example of your chances of meeting death in a plane accident if you travel by scheduled airline routes," Mr. Higgins said. "If you commuted between here and New York, going to New York each morning and returning each evening, every day in the week, according to statistics it would be one hundred and thirty years before you would die in a plane accident. The death rate on highways is far greater."

"Our pilots must have 3,000

hours in the air. They are able to fly blind and land in any of the airports by use of instrument only.

We will not have our navigation equipment installed at the local airport for 60 days and until that time we will be under visual flight rules which means that there must be a 1,000 ft. ceiling with a one mile view.

The planes we use are twin engine jobs and can be flown with both or either engine. Enough gas is carried to enable the plane to reach any of three airports at anytime and to keep the plane in the air for 4½ hours at a speed of 150 miles an hour."

Hourly weather reports are received by all air bases. The company has under lease 1,100 miles of communication wire.

The planes are maintained by government licensed mechanics. The engines are changed every 600 hours and at the end of 5,000 hours a new engine is installed. Three government inspectors are employed by the company.

RESERVATIONS

All airplane travel is by reservation Mr. Higgins explained. However reservations may be procured in a matter of minutes by phoning the airport.

At the present time there are four flights, flight 1 leaves Minneapolis at 8:00 and arrives in Brainerd at 9:10 a.m.; Flight 8 leaves Brainerd at 11:06 and arrives in Minneapolis at 12:16; Flight 5 leaves Minneapolis at 2:30 and arrives in Brainerd at 3:40; Flight 12, leaves Brainerd at 5:36 p.m. and arrives in Minneapolis at 6:46 p.m.

The number of flights scheduled for Brainerd will depend on the use Brainerd and Crow Wing county residents make of the service.

"We will schedule as many flights as traffic demands," said Mr. Higgins. "We are here on more or less of a trial basis and whether or not this area continues to have air service will depend on the demand of the residents," Mr. Higgins further stated.

A school for resort owners will be held in Brainerd for one day on April 7.

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS — GULL LAKE
BRAINERD, MINNESOTA



Freeman Post
May 149

Dear Alice -

I have been trying to write to you
for four days but something happens or someone
comes in and I put it off again.

To night Warren called and
and we had to go in to get him, he had
an appointment in Minn. he said he
would take Warren along so to save about, 100
miles. We was tired, having been to Walker
and back today.

We had an interesting time in town after
making several calls in State Cap - and then
going on to Ruth and Ed. Hammeels who were
expecting us and had an excellent dinner
which we all enjoyed. The next day Ruth
invited us over to Minn. spots for my appointments
and we met with the F. H. A. men for luncheon
to work out some of our plans with them they
give us the benefit of their experience and get
along well with Ray Madison of Brainerd who
is our partner in "The Edgewood Road" Addition
and has already put on one addition to Brainerd.

That evening tho. we took the Hammonds out
to dinner and I had frog legs - which I
always enjoy - tho. others had truffles etc.
I bought a suit at Waynes in Wisc.
and on Thursday we had luncheon and
a fair visit with my friend of forty six yrs.
who lives in a brown stone mansion on Summit
Ave. She is one of the best informed women
I know - and it is always a pleasure to visit
with her. She met you and Gertrude and
spoke very highly of you both. I hope to
entertain her this summer - while you are
all here.

When we returned home and there was no
Palmer to greet us - we both cried to miss
him terribly and see him in every direction we
look. He gave us such unselfish love and was
my constant companion for twelve years.
I am sorry Wolph does not feel well. But maybe
the high altitude caused some of his trouble and
if so, it may soon pass away, and if he gets
lots of rest (such I had him here for two weeks) I let
him sleep ten hours a day - and keep everyone
away from him.

A woman about forty applied for a housekeeping
position with us. I looked up her references

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS — GULL LAKE

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

and found she had ^{been} a mental case
had ten living children and a divorced husband
could not cook - but cleaned fairly well and
liked to follow you around and talked incessantly
She didn't get the place.

Some time ago you mentioned sending me a box
but none came - if you will send it collect
by express - I shall be glad, and, as you said,
things I could not use, would be gladly re-
ceived by some of the needy around here.
Gertrude always wanted me to try on her white
wedgers - she thought them so comfortable. so if
you think of it you might put some in the box.
I know this is hard for you dear and so pay
no attention to the above and I'll understand
I love you too much to wish to bother you about
such things. Blanche had also written me about this.
This is getting awfully long - I enjoy your
letters so very much - and the J.M.

A great deal of love for the dearest brother
in the world - We think of you everyday -
with pride and affection - Good night as ever

J.L.S.F.

April 6, 1949

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

Dear Grace:

The long delayed box is being sent to you today by prepaid express. You will notice that in order to fill the box, I placed a number of things in the upper part of the box and also some things in the lower part which will be easily seen by you. Please put them where I can take them down to the house when I come, or have Don take them down to get rid of them if you wish. The things are garments etc. that I will use during the summer.

The things sent you by the girls from Gertrude, I have never examined. I do not know what they are, but I hope that they will be of some practical value to you as I know that Gertrude would be happy to have you make use of them.

I was interested in your good letter recently received. I hope that you and Don will plan to make good use of the years left to you and get enjoyment out of life. This does not mean that you have not enjoyed life as you have gone along, but a lot of things have happened to our family in recent years.

Gertrude was the last one of her family and she had but one nephew and one niece, and we know practically nothing about the niece. In comparatively recent years, our brother and two sisters have gone. I don't recall whether I told you what I was doing at the cemetery, but I am trying to have others do for me what Gertrude used to supervise and have our colored man, Ramsey, do for us.

It looks now as if Mrs. King would come up with me when I come, and we will be joined later on in the season by her husband, as soon as he has completed some necessary work.

I have heard Dolph twice and he certainly has a real message, both from the standpoint of information and of advice. He has had many calls to speak. He talked to our group Monday evening and was at Baldwin last night. He goes to Junction City this evening. He

April 6, 1949

Mrs. Don A. Freeman

has been unable to accept all of the invitations to speak that have been given him. I am very happy to have him make these engagements because I feel that everywhere he speaks, he is sowing the seed of patriotism and wide awake support for our country.

Lovingly, your brother

March 30, 1949

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

Dear Grace and Don:

We were all greatly disappointed that ^{Nell} you did not come to the wedding. It was a beautiful affair and you would have thoroughly enjoyed it. We drove down Friday, Harry, Dorothea, and I, in our car and came back Sunday, having added Nell Weaver to our party.

On Friday night, we were at the church and saw the minister drill the parties on what they should do. The following night the pulpit and its surroundings were a beautiful bank of flowers. Everything went off smoothly and the attendants were beautiful and well groomed. Eileen and Owen both had a part.

Following the services at the church, we went to Southern Hills Country Club and I think there must have been close to 200, maybe more, at the reception. I was proud of our family, Blanche and Pat, Owen and Marie, Marilyn and her husband, Robert Riggs, and Eilene and Carl Olander, McNalleys--Janet, Mary Beth, and Mike--Dolph, Marie, Dolph Jr., and John, and myself, all being in evening dress. Some wore tails, but tuxedos were more in evidence.

I met many of the friends I had first met 25 years ago when Blanche and Pat first went to Tulsa. I doubt if one could possibly have a finer gathering anywhere. The Southern Hills Country Club has an acreage of seven or eight hundred acres, splendidly improved, thoroughly modern, with arrangements to care for children, youth or adults. The membership is limited and the price would seem extravagant most anywhere except at Tulsa. Pat has been a member ever since he returned to Tulsa, and I think it is wise that he continues the membership as it gives him contact with the representative men and their families of the community.

I was proud of my family. Everyone was so gentlemanly and ladylike, and I am sure must have made a favorable impression. Among those I met, were many former students at K. U., some former

March 30, 1949

Mr. and Mrs. Don Freeman

members of the faculty, etc. I know how happy Gertrude would have been to have been there.

The wedding cake was 2½ or 3 feet tall and covered with white bells. When the bride and groom cut the cake, Mrs. Maloney Sr. and I were asked to stand near by, and doubtless, other members of our family were also in the group. I have not yet seen the pictures.

While the story about the wedding appeared last Monday, the picture of Marilyn is in tonight's paper.

I don't know why you were not there, but we were all so sorry that you could not come. Most of the members of our family stopped at the Hotel Mayo where reservations had been made for us.

Marilyn and Robert left the following morning by plane to spend a short honeymoon at Mobile Bay. He comes from a good family and is employed by an oil company. They have already secured an apartment in Oklahoma City where they will make their home.

I have not shipped the package to you because I have either been too busy or too tired to complete packing. I shall try to get to it.

Dolph is buried for a month under invitations to speak. If he were to address some big gatherings in Minneapolis or St. Paul, his hearers would be thrilled. He left last night for Denver where he had three speaking dates. He has already spoken twice in Lawrence and once in Abilene.

He will speak to our group here in Lawrence on Monday, April 4, and I would be very happy, indeed, if you could be here to meet with us at that time. We will be entertained at dinner by the Journal-World force, but I am sure we would all be very happy to have you and Don, and I know you would enjoy it. It is so easy for you to hop on the plane, and who the heck is going to take airrides on your money when you pass on. Please try to enjoy yourselves while you live.

Lots of love and best wishes to both of you.

Lovingly,

March 7, 1949

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

Dear Grace:

I think my last letter from you was written on February 28, a week ago today.

We are all mighty glad to have Dolph back, but there has been a little unfavorable physical reaction from his trip. He is troubled a bit with dizziness, which I firmly believe is the result of the frequent and continued changes in altitude. I do not believe it will be too serious, and he is certainly trying to cooperate by trying to take things easy.

He has put very little time in at the office since he came back and has spent much time in bed. He has had a lot of requests to address groups that he will be glad to speak to but just when he will be able to go ahead with a speaking program, I don't know. I hope it will not be long.

Of course, the next on our program is Marilyn's wedding, which will be the 26th of March, and I hope that you and Don will be present.

Our weather has cleared up a bit so that it is much more pleasant.

Give my love to Don and my best regards to the Purintons.

Lovingly, your brother

February 28, 1949

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

Dear Grace:

I was glad to have your letter of the 25th and sorry that your good friend, Rawleigh, had to go. Really, it was an ideal way for the dog to leave you. He had been himself until almost the last.

I am sorry that Mrs. Frampton has been ill. She is a mighty good soul, and we all like her very much.

I hope you will have a good time in the Twin Cities, and that you will find Mrs. Willard, at least no worse.

I am planning to go to Tulsa. I have had a heck of a time buying dress suits and then letting them grow old and out of date on me. I remember I bought a very fine suit for your wedding, which has long since ceased to fit me. I had both a tux and tails at the time and later bought another tux and then tails for Dorothea's wedding. I also have the double breasted white coat with dark pants for summer wear, and now I have just bought a new tux outfit for this wedding.

I think it would be fine for you to go to the wedding. You will meet a lot of nice folks, and have a chance to meet other members of our family.

It has been a long winter heretoo, but as you say, very few blizzards, and general health is good.

I hope the Parkers took all of the necessary precautions in the way of vaccinations before going to Mexico as they are apt to run into much squalor.

Much love to you both.

Lovingly,

Full

MRS. DON ALFRED FREEMAN
TREE TOPS, GULL LAKE
BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

Feb 25 - 49

Dear - dear Collier -

Your good letter helped
us more than anything - for I thought
if we can all tell Collier to be "brave"
over what you have had to bear
we certainly should try to keep our
troubles to our selves -

Having Raleigh the evening of the 21st
made my birthday a very sad
one. despite the cakes and flowers
which were so kindly sent.

I took part of the lovely flowers
from Marie andolph, over to Mrs.
Braunstein who has been in the
hospital and only home two days
she had "shingles" but is better now.

MRS. DON ALFRED FREEMAN

TREE TOPS, GULL LAKE

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

He leaves Tuesday A.M. for the
Funerals, stopping on the way to
see Grace Gardner Freeman who is
quite ill and has a very bad heart.

Are you planning to go to Tulsa
to Marilyn's wedding? and are the
girls Janet and Dorothy going?
Please and let me know. I do not
know for sure, if you and I can make
it, but if we do shall likely fly.

It's been such a long winter but
now bad blizzards here but plenty
of cold weather, and a good deal of
sickness. The Parks leave for Mexico
tomorrow. Norma not at all well.

Love to Marie and I am writing her later.
The love you so much and shall try to prove it
where you are here - I need you.

MRS. DON ALFRED FREEMAN
TREE TOPS, GULL LAKE
BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

Feb 25 - 49

Dear Alice -

Thanks for your booklet of
jokes but I much prefer one of your
good letters. My birthday check for you is just
I know what a happy home
coming it was for Dolf and
all of you. I was very much
interested in J. W. and have a deep
look started of all his press notices
pictures etc.

We leave early in morning for
Tom Chis and shall return Thursday
P.M. I am glad to get away for it
is so lonesome around here -
Love from us both to the best of both
and again thanks for my check - I'll buy

5.10.49
and let me know when
some time

Our good friend Frank Johnson
Rep - from New Wang Co. died
and now they have to have a
special election - He has been
trying to help the Rep - candidate
election is Thursday - He was
not out as well as New Co.

Feb 24, 1949

Dear Grace:-

I know you will forgive me, when I am only two days late. I really remembered your birthday when it arrived, but it happened that day that dr. Johnson sent me home with two or three kinds of medicine to break up a bad cold, that looked a bit threatening. I really stayed in bed that afternoon, and tried to go to sleep at eight at night. I slept until 2 a.m. and then heard the clock strike every hour till morning.

Yesterday I was much better and today I am regularly on the job and happy because Dolph will arrive in Kansas City about midnight tonight to end ~~his~~ his peragrations of the past nearly seven weeks. It had the same effect on Marie, who had not been feeling well since her return from the south, but who perked up immediately upon hearing her master's voice. in

He arrived in San Francisco yesterday and flew on to New York, but first called Marie from the west coast. He leaves Washington tonight and will arrive in Kansas City night about midnights when Marie and one, or both, boys will meet him. The papers are carrying quite a bit about him and the trip. You may already have noticed a letter or two from him in the J-W.

We have had a long cold spell, but yesterday the thermometer registered a little over fifty and today it must be about the same.

John plays basket ball with Lawrence High at Ottawa tonight and Marie will doubtless go with him and from there to Kansas City.

Find enclosed a check for Ten Dollars with which to buy something, if you can buy anything there for as little as ten bucks.

I hope the dog pulled thru.

Give my love to Don and best wishes to the Pings. I have not attempted to play a game of cards since I was in Minnesota, last summer, and seemingly have forgotten all I ever knew about them. Not much loss.

I happened to see a woman pass the office window yesterday who looked a lot like you

Lots of love

Brother Collie

Collie

February 18, 1949

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

Dear Grace:

I was sorry to hear of the sickness of your good friend Raleigh. He means so much to you that I sincerely hope that he will recover. He has been very vigorous for a dog of his age.

I am trying to persuade myself that the best thing for me to do this summer is to come up to the lake. You are the only other member of our family and we should be together as much as we can. I think it quite likely that Mrs. Margaret King will accompany me.

All three of the daughters were here last week end they like Mrs. King very much.

Marie returned yesterday morning from her vacation at Nassau, Havana, and Miami, and we were happy to have her at lunch, although she did not eat much, having picked up some kind of a bug while she was gone from which she has not yet fully recovered.

Yesterday and today have been bright warm days and the snow and ice have been melting rapidly. This should prove to be a wonderful crop year for Kansas on account of the vast amount of water which has been stored in the ground and which will keep the streams moving freely all summer.

The pictures of your home are beautiful and I have taken pleasure in showing them to our folks here.

You are right that this is the first time that I have been in Lawrence for a long long time, if ever, with so few members of my family here. This time it was simply myself, Dolph and John.

It is hard work to express a wish in regard to Grace Freeman. In her condition, life cannot be very pleasant for her, and yet, I have no doubt she wishes to continue living. Her passing, if it comes, will be very hard for Willie.

Give my love to Ruth and Ping
and to Frampton's if you see them.

Lovingly,

February 14, 1949

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

Dear Grace and Don:

The children were all with me over Sunday with the exception of Dolph and Marie, who are not here. Marie will probably be home the last of this week after having visited both in Nassau and Havana, and Dolph will return from his trip around the world about the 26th of the month. I shall be very glad to see him.

The weather here has been the most wintry of any we have experienced for a long while. We did see the ground one day after a thaw, but it was immediately followed with a storm of sleet which left a deposit of an inch or more over everything.

In general, I am planning to come up to the lake this summer. As we are the only two left of our family, we should try to get together as much as we can.

While the girls were here Saturday and Sunday, they made a disposition of Gertrude's clothing and linens. We have a large box or carton filled with articles to take to you, many of which we hope you can use, and the others you may hold for me and I will bring them back at sometime for a Baptist Rummage sale.

I am afraid this will be the last time all three of the girls will be together here at once for sometime.

I would not be surprised if Mr. and Mrs. King would be happy to accompany me at the lake. As I have told you, she has her Masters Degree and was teaching in a college in Denton, Texas, when she met and married her husband who is now doing graduate work at K.U., preparing himself to teach Zoology. They have been very congenial, and I like them.

Mr. and Mrs. Don A. Freeman

February 14, 1949

Janet left for home just after lunch which we had taken with Mary Jule and her two lovely daughters. Yesterday was the 13th anniversary of Mary Jule's and Charles' wedding. He is now a member of the legislature at Topeka where he is very active, well known, and stands well with his co-workers.

It will be five weeks tomorrow since Dolph left Lawrence. Dolph Junior's ankle healed quickly, and the cast was removed a few days ago.

There is nothing else especially new.

Lovingly, your brother

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS --- GULL LAKE

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

Feb. 7 - '49

My dear Alice -

I enjoyed your letter so much and am enclosing the newspaper account of the wedding, as requested. It is very nice.

Have you started writing your book? or do you find little time for yourself with Wolfh away. I imagine you go to the office at least once a day -

We attended a half lecture where colored ^{movies} pictures were shown and much of it was right around where Wolfh is at this time which made it especially interesting. It was on my Women's Club ticket and we could take our husbands - Last night I attended the Brainerd City Council meeting - and Ruth and I attended a meeting in Parkers Hotel where two late books were reviewed. I do not care a great deal for some of the so called modern books.

Nancy Freeman is visiting us now he seems to get lonesome to talk with him and if we do not go down to Mace, he comes up -

He is in a diet now, doctors' orders, and has lost 17 pounds. He looks better but has to lose lots more. It is easier to cook for people who can eat everything - but I have had so much of it now with Doc supposed to eat fattening foods and me trying to lose weight.

Are you planning on attending Marilyn's wedding March 26th? I wrote Blanche as might but am not sure yet. If we did go should like to fly to N. C. and return from there with some of you, from L., who would be returning back right after the wedding - that is the next morning.

We have always worn formal clothes when the occasion required them so that part does not worry us at all, but the time it would take to go and come and the long distance - does.

We were saddened by the death of Mr. Johnson this week, our Rep - from Crum Mt. and former mayor - heart trouble. He attended his daughter's wedding this fall and the other later where he and his wife were also guests - and he was so jolly and friendly.

It is now 10 above but as the wind is blowing it seems colder - as you say this has been some cold weather over a month of it now - although the sun shines so brightly in the A. M. that the flowers are all in bloom in our dining room at it was 74 out there this A. M. We have taken care of Daph's cabin and yours is O. K. being built so much snugger - Hope Mavis and Neil have a wonderful time - With lots of love to a wonderful brother - from us both - affectionately Grace

*Mailed
Tuesday*

February 1, 1949

Mrs. Don Freeman
Route 3 Treetops
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grace:

I noticed in the Capital this morning of the death of Mrs. Jake Graybill, age 70. I met her a number of years ago when she was visiting Lawrence with her husband who was a state official of some kind with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. As I remember, she had a daughter with her, and I found both of them to be pleasant acquaintances. As you know, Jake has been dead a number of years.

You have probably, also, noticed the death of Mrs. Olney, the wife of Pat Olney and the mother of Avery. Should you want to write to Avery, his address is Avery F. Olney, Union High School System, Phoenix, Arizona.

Dolph, today, is in Dhahran, but whatever that is, I don't know. It is somewhere beyond Constantinople, and he will be there for four days for a plane check. From that point, he will go to Karachi, which is in the western part of India, and then on to Colombo of Ceylon. It will be four more weeks before he returns to Lawrence. We are not writing him, although we had an exchange of messages while he was at Constantinople.

I am enclosing herewith a clipping from the Philadelphia, Mississippi, newspaper which contains the write up of Owen's wedding. After reading it, please return it to me as it is the only copy I have, and I wish it for my files.

Janet came in a short while ago, having driven to Kansas City. She was accompanied by a lady friend of Minneapolis, Mary Beth, and Mary Beth's beloved, Charles Medlock. They found the road between here and Kansas City exceedingly treacherous and turned around twice on the highway. I shall try to induce them to spend the night here rather than go on, although word from the highway department at Topeka indicates that the roads west of Topeka are better.

This January was the wettest January, I think, in the Kansas records, and it should put the ground in excellent shape for spring crops. It may also occasion spring floods if it melts too rapidly.

I don't know of anything else in which you would be especially interested.

Love to you and Don and best wishes to the Purintons.

Lovingly, your brother

note 1/29 - 2/1

Tree Tops - Gull Lake
Brainerd, Minn. Jan. 32 31

My dear Collie-

It was very nice of you to ask us to visit you for a couple of weeks, this was some time ago, but I am not sure we could endure the severe weather you are dishing out in Kansas this winter. Some parts of Minnesota are also "crabbing" about the weather but right at our spot on Gull Lake is not bad at all, no high winds or blizzards here so far, although we have plenty deep snow our roads have been kept open and we are nice and warm in our home. Furnace set at "74 and fire in grate from five P M on.

If all goes well we hope to attend Marilyn's wedding we would go from here to K C by train and motor on to Tulsa with you or Dolph. Have not heard whether you went to Owen's wedding with the girls, as Blanche wanted you to go, in fact I have not heard from anyone of them since the wedding. I hope the sterling candle sticks we sent to them at Philadelphia, Miss. were received but it is too short a time to expect to hear from the little bride but you might find out from Eileen, in a round about way.

I suppose you go to the office every day now and are too busy to write often to sister Grayce.

We are looking forward with pleasure to hearing of Dolph's experiences and are proud that he got this chance, which is certainly a big compliment to his ability and personality.

Have you had a thank you letter from Frances? she did look so nice in the suit you gave her and is getting to be a nice looking young girl.

Tell me about your Margaret and Otis, what bedroom are they in and are they taking good care of you.

Don is better and has a better appetite never misses his honey and water in the morning. We were invited in to Brainerd to play Bridge tonight at a big party in the Masonic Hall, but both of us thought we would enjoy staying home and listening to Minn. play Northwestern tonight.

In twelve days Raleigh will be Twelve years old, but he is feeling fine and has only slowed up a little, he is now equal to a person 84.

Loads of love to a fine brother

Sum
Grayce and Don

The Pursuits send best regards.

Mailed
Monday

January 29, 1949

Mrs. Don Freeman
Route 3 Treetops
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grace:

I have just written to Blanche and Dorothea, but not to Janet as I had the pleasure of having her with me for a night and day.

I don't believe that I should be very much worse off at Gull Lake than I am here. We have not seen the ground for quite sometime on account of the layers of ice and snow. This morning the temperature was at four above and the wind yesterday and this morning was quite strong from the northwest. Located as we are, we suffered very little inconvenience on account of the storm.

The other night, a fearfully bad night for carriers, they rounded up some 50 or 60 employees of ours and had them roll the papers within a yellow or pink wrapper, placing a rubber band around them so that the carriers could deliver them more speedily and with greater ease. Not only that, but as soon as three boys were ready, we sent taxis out with them to start them on their routes, and I think the service must have been good because there were only four complaints when sometimes as many as 10 complaints are received.

We have just received a message from Dolph which was sent from Beyaglu, which is pronounced Bā'o-lōō. This was formerly Pera, a city division of Constantinople, Turkey. His itinerary embraced 4½ days at that point. He has been gone 19 days and has covered about a third of his trip but will be back home about the last of February.

John played basketball last night and his team won over Ottawa. Dolph Jr., who broke a bone in his ankle two weeks ago, is enabled to walk, somewhat, clumsily, with his foot in a cast but without having to depend on crutches.

Marie and Nell Weaver leave today to spend two weeks in Nassau, the capital of the Bahamas Islands. They will go from here to Miami where they will temporarily be the guest of Mr. and Mrs. John Montgomery and from there will fly to Nassau. I am glad that she is going she is a mighty fine girl and has had more than her share of worries with two boys playing football, one having had a terrifiably bad case of Poison Ivy and the other a broken ankle, and having her husband hopping around the world she is a little bit worn down. She has really been very good to me, indeed.

And the same is true of Nell Weaver. Nell and I have always been good friends, but she has been particularly sweet and thoughtful in recent months. She, too, needs the vacation because she is pretty closely tied down in caring for Mr. A. D. Weaver, who is 91 years old.

You will, doubtless, recall that it will be just three months tomorrow since Gertrude left us. She enjoyed life so much it seems a pity that she could not have lived many years more.

Everything is moving along smoothly at home. I have a very nice young couple with me and, fortunately, she is not only a good cook, but like Gertrude, she likes to try to cook new things, which gives us a varied menu.

I don't know what to do about summer plans, but I would not be surprised if they would be happy to accompany me, should I decide to go.

I think I told you that I had a nice letter from Frances. By the way, she might later prove to be splendid help for you if you could find a way to get her to and from high school in Brainerd. You would, doubtless, have to teach her a great deal about cooking as I imagine she has not had very much opportunity to learn. Please do not feel that I am trying to put her off on to your shoulders, because I have no such thought.

I hope you both are feeling well and that goes, also, for Ping and Ruth. I have always liked them both.

Give my love to Don.

Lovingly, your brother

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS --- GULL LAKE
BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

1

Jan 25 - 49

My dear Collie -

First of all I love you because you are fine and handsome and sensible nice to look at and very interesting.

Blanche said you might motor down with them to attend Marie and Curis wedding.

I hope to go to Marileys if we do we would likely take the train to R.C. and motor the rest of the way with you or Dolph -

It will be on Jules's birthday - March 26th

What do you hear from Dolph and is Marie going through with her place to Mexico Beach?

We had the men go down to look through the cabins for mice - after we found they had eaten holes in Marie's bathing suit. but there was no evidence of anything bad in yours, so they are plugging up holes and putting poisoned wheat and setting traps etc in Dolphs - but

I think he really should have his cottages sealed
or lined if it is open in so many places. and
the colder it gets the more the little animals try
to get in. when it is dark inside the house is
the time you can look up towards the lights
and see the many holes.

Good Bye
G. J.

Perip is here for mail.

Jan 17 - 49

My dear Collier -

Just got a gift off to Philadelphia
Miss. to Maria's baby - I had a nice
letter from Blanche telling me about
her new daughter to be and her picture
a newspaper one - I also had a nice
little note from the young lady of
inviting us to the wedding. Of course
we can't go - but I would like to go to
Mary's - in March 26 - Maybe you
and I and I could go together
Mrs. Rob House was ^{Emma Levy} - Abe's
^{was Carrie} - and used to be a night milliner in
J. H. Cohn's store. The Fair
The above is from your letter to the Hornvilles
You are wonderful, as usual, to give
the electric blanket to Catherine's Drought.
and I expect it has helped her a lot. She writes

Sorry this was not mailed
before -

Today only large photographs
of Mary - Bert and Michael
Orr - They are fine looking
young people.

Letter received 1/21/19

such very nice letters and I would write her
more often if I had the time. She is exactly 21
years younger than our Etouille.

You are very dear to me and I love
your good letters so does Mom. But oh how
I do miss the lovely letters that Estuade
used to write me and I know how much
her daughters must miss them. She
was always so faithful to her family.

I think you made her life a
most happy one and it is not often
one can look back on fifty four
years of such pleasant memories
I think Mom and I are enjoying
these last years together as much
as any since we were married.

Our new addition is called "Edge-
wood Road" It has three streets
named "~~Edgwood~~ ^{with an E} Edgwood", "Greenway Ave."
and the longest one is curved and
beautiful and is called "Birchridge Drive"
Thank you for the check for Francis'
coat. The suit will be very nice. The
improvement has been wonderfully in
the last year - I am so glad

for some of ^{the} dear girls write so
hurriedly - it is sometimes difficult
to make out every word -

It now looks as if perhaps little
Vera might someday write the
fine clear hand her grandmother Julia
always wrote.

I am always interested in Dolph
and his honors - and know he is a
well balanced fine man - So some
young Dolph broke a bone in his fine
puncturing foot.

We shall read eagerly every word
about Dolph and his travels!

With lots of love for you and
John who I understand will soon
be staying with you - Marie writes
very nicely about your young
couple and the lovely dinner you
had for her family - What are
their names - and does he go to K. U.?
brothers - Love to a darling
Grace and I am -

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS --- GULL LAKE

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

1

Jan 11-1909
Deer
947

My dear Collier -

Frances Pickett has a very warm and good looking snow suit - thanks to you and is she happy over it. you should have seen her in the store trying it on! her little face just beamed with pride and happiness. She intends to write and thank you as soon as I send her your address. "No loss without some small gain" by not being able to get in to find her used to take her to the store before Christmas. She would buy a fifteen dollar suit for \$9.47. It is a very pretty shade of blue pants and includes a very warm and the coat is grey and blue with a hood that may be worn over her head for warmth or back on her shoulders. It is very becoming to her and is large enough for several years. I just looked at coats but was told that the girls wore these warm snow suits to and from school and put them in their lockers while in the school and wear their little dresses - they change again before going out in the cold. The few coats in the store that I looked at were from 1998 to 28.00 and not as warm -

Francis is much better looking than I had expected. She has lovely eyes and teeth and her posture is very good. She is polite and friendly and doing well in school. We know the principal of her school and he spoke very nicely about her. She has a sister one year older who is in the 5th grade. and an older brother in the army and two younger brothers. Her father is now driving a school bus. Don met with us and he agrees with all I have said about her. She talks much better than she writes and if I see more of her I shall try to help her with her writing.

I also was looking for a job for Cecile's Maria - as she had invited us to the wedding in Miss. But I do hope we all can go to Marilynn's wedding March 26 - (Sister Julia's birthday) do you plan to go? I had such a nice letter from Blanche and some newspaper pictures of Maria and Marilynn. I am so thankful you have a nice young couple with you now and know they will love you when they get to know you better. They can't help it. Don's stomach is touching right now. Shall be glad when he gets his income tax all fixed up and won't be nervous - Ruth has to go to the doctor tomorrow she still has some bladder trouble. I am sorry -
Lots of love
Grayer and Don -

January 15, 1949

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

Dear Grace:

Thank you a lot for looking after the purchase for Frances, and I enclose herewith a check for \$9.47 to cover same.

As I told you before, I was impressed with the splendid spirit of this little girl, and I hope that the little attention that I have given her will help spur her on in her aspirations to fit herself for something worthwhile.

I shall never forget how she used to run out into the yard to pick flowers for Gertrude. If her sister, only one year older, is in the eighth grade it indicates that she, too, is a bright girl.

Dolph is now flying between Washington and Bermuda. I will enclose a clipping from the paper listing the stops he will make.

Dolph Jr. had an accident a day or two ago while coasting which caused him to break a bone in his right ankle. An x-ray taken after it was set shows that it is exactly in place, so we anticipate a perfect union. If you have read the papers of the last few days, you will notice a large number of accidents at K.U. occasioned by coasting.

I have not given much thought to what I shall do next summer, and have made no plans.

John played basketball last night, and Lawrence highschool won. He is a guard and plays a smart and strong game.

Give my best regards to Ruth and Ping, and thank you very much for looking after the little girl for me.

Lovingly, your brother

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS --- GULL LAKE

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA



Jan 9 - 49

My dear Collier -

Another week has rolled around and here it is Sunday P.M. again. The radio is turned off the house is quiet as Don is working on his income tax returns which are quite complicated this year. I hope the fussing will not bring on his stomachs pains. This morning before we were up two auto's with eight men, came up from St. Cloud, to fish through the ice for crappies. They had phoned Don yesterday that if it were not too cold and windy they would be up - so Don got up a thermometer and looked out the window at his thermometer which showed 12° below - so he said "they won't be foolish enough to come up in this weather" and went back to bed - and in twenty minutes they were here - Two of them were from The Guaranty State Bank and Trust Co. of St. P. Don sent them over to Sylvan Lake where fish are biting better right now, and after he and Ping had had breakfast here they dressed in warm cloth and joined the other men and then one from St. P. left at trailer with trailer - in their fish. Don also gave them mine of ours. So

They went back happy -

Your letter of Jan 4 - I was very interesting
and I should have enjoyed talking to you about
your dream of Julia - I do not dream of the
loved ones who have gone on, as often as I
would enjoy doing so nearly always the dream
is very pleasant and real. I have tried
very hard to communicate with Louie - for he
had told me many times, if it were possible
he would let me know - if he died first and
I was to do the same if I were the first to go. He
also said "If you never hear from me you will
know it can't be done, for I shall try etc"

What a fine compliment for Dolph to be
invited again to go on such a wonderful trip and
I hope and pray his health will be fine and he
will return to tell us of all the wonders he has
seen and the close contact with the other interesting
men will also add to his fund of information.
Today I have been looking at Rand McNally maps
and planning on some trips for you and I and Dan
to take this spring. But think about paying them some
tax etc we had not better plan on a trip in the near future
altho I hope you for inviting us to spend a couple of
weeks with you in L. and I am delighted you have found
nice people to live with you in your home. An attitude toward
having Maria and family - is very nice and makes it more
pleasant for all of you - Don from us both - Grace

Miss letters from Blanchette and pictures of her new children - yesterday

January 11, 1949

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

Dear Grace and Don:

I have your letter of today telling of the good fishing in Silvin Lake. I am a little afraid that the marrow in my bones would get a bit chilled out on the ice at 20 below. Although, I rode all day hunting stock in Western Kansas when I was 11 years old and the temperature was 23 or more degrees below zero. I was mighty hard to kill in those days, but I don't want to take the same chances now.

We have been having bad weather for a few days. We have had three days of sleet and on top of that, today a slight rainfall.

Everything is moving along satisfactorily at home. That is, as satisfactorily as one could expect. The apartment at the rear of the house has not been disturbed and still has the smell of the perfume and powder which Gertrude used. Someway, I feel it better not to make any changes, although she had not been in the room since the 10th of last June.

I attended a meeting of the hospital board yesterday and for a few minutes, I was surrounded by perhaps 8 or 10 of the nurses who were so kind and loving to Gertrude. They all spoke so kindly of her.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I have just written to the Hoinvilles as it contains some material in which you might be interested.

Lots of love, your brother

January 7, 1949

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

Dear Collie:

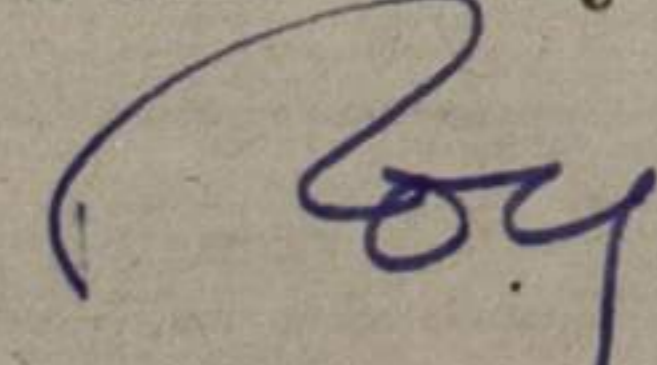
None of the many letters I have received gave me a greater thrill than the one from you. In the early days you were my mentor, and you saved me from many mistakes. Without your help I doubt whether I would have gone as far as I did, so I was delighted to know that when I decided to bow out I still retained your friendship, which has been one of my real assets.

Quite frankly my eye trouble was my primary reason for deciding to quit, but I must admit also that my granddaughter and grandson, both on the east coast, contributed to my downfall. About Thanksgiving time we made a trip to visit both daughters and discovered they did not expect to return to Salina, and did not want the house. When the doctor told me my eye would grow worse unless I gave it a long rest, it was easy to make up my mind.

Incidentally it has pleased me because Dolph and Marie are good friends of Captain and Mrs. Yeager, my son-in-law and daughter. While I am not sure, I think one of your daughters was a guardian angel or something of the sort for Jean when she became a Kappa. At any rate she always has had the same affection for the family I have cherished, so because of this background you will understand why I feel as I do.

If I had known Dolph was going, I might have decided to take that round-the-world air trip with him. When it was proposed I did not consider it seriously for the reason I did not want to leave my wife alone. Knowing her I realized she would worry day and night, and being Irish, she lacks the temperament to take that as long as would have been required. In any event I am glad that Dolph is going, and I agree with you it is a real honor. Sometime later I may take a trip myself, but I think it is more likely to be on a battleship or some place else where I can keep my feet in more or less dirt even if they are not on the ground. As an editor I am not a coward, probably because I was William Allen White's bodyguard in the days when he was being horse whipped and threatened by mobs and women who carried guns, but when it comes to flying, I confess I usually am plain scared. With every good wish for you and yours

Sincerely



Roy F. Bailey-k

It all comes back to me after reading this letter. I'm sure it was your daughter Blanch who was so helpful to my daughter Jean

January 4, 1949-

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

Dear Grace and Don:

I am wearing the very pretty tie you sent me and it has been complimented many times. It is very pretty and I like it.

I had an unusual experience last night in being awakened from a sound sleep by the call of "Collie, Collie" in a voice that I immediately recognized as that of Julia. I am not aware that I had had her particularly on my mind, and it seems strange that being awakened from a sound sleep that there was no mistaking the voice.

I do not dream of my loved ones often. It seems that I have only dreamed about our boy, John Louie, a very few times and that a long while ago. I have had no dreams as yet regarding Gertrude, although I should enjoy the experience.

The young couple that I have at the house are working out very nicely. They are pleasant and interesting and do not complain of being overworked. They, seemingly, are very happy in the arrangements that we have. I asked last night how long they expected to be here, and it will be for more, I think, than the current year. At her suggestion, which I was very glad to have her make, we are entertaining Dolph's family at dinner Thursday night. She is very fond of Marie and I know that Marie and Dolph like her.

There is nothing new. Dorothea came back with me on December 28 and remained until Friday, when she returned because the weather was so bright. I enjoyed having her with me.

Times are very busy at the Maloneys. They had a house full of company for Christmas. Owen and his fiancée, Marie, were both there and expect to be married on Saturday, the 22nd. Marilyn, too, is engaged, but I think the date has not yet been set, although it will probably be in April.

January 4, 1949

Dolph had a very great and happy surprise the other day in being invited to be the only civilian in a small group of Naval officers who are going to encircle the world by air, leaving January 14. They go to Bermuda, Azores, London, Paris, Algiers, other points on the Mediterranean, Saudi Arabia, Istanbul, Pakistan, India, Singapore, Manila, Japan, and South Sea Islands, the entire trip taking six weeks. I shall be glad when the trip is over, and yet, I am not fearful of results.

The weather has been good, although storms have invaded the state at some points.

I hope that both you and Don will come through the winter in good shape. Give my best regards to Ruth and family.

Lovingly, your brother,

DON A. FREEMAN POSTER CO.

TREE-TOPS --- GULL LAKE
BRainerd, MINNESOTA

1

Jan 2 - '49

My dear Belle -

Have been thinking of you so often, for
the last few days - but that is nothing new for
I think of you every day and night sometimes.
I have heard from your little girl Frances Packard at
last - but not until after Christmas but now that
I know where she goes to school in Brainerd I shall
plan to meet her in town and buy her something she
needs from you. When she writes to Aunt you and
asked for your address - which I shall give her -
I shall call up and wanted me to come down
for a bridge party she is going for Mrs. Smith of New York
Peggy's mother in law - but it is too long a cold
drive for me to make unless he has to go - so I sent
regrets - We had a very nice Christmas and
New Years - and I wore my lovely pearls as to B.
New Years day when we were invited to an "Open House"
I thank you again and also for just being you -
Am waiting for this in your scribbles -
Wm. H. Love
Frances + Am -

How are your new people
doing for you? I hope will
wish I could run in place.

MRS. DON ALFRED FREEMAN
TREE TOPS, GULL LAKE
BRAINERD, MINNESOTA

17/12/48

Sunday night
nearly twelve.

Dear Collie -

Don does not feel well enough
for us to fly out to Calif. for
Christmas and does not even
wish to go to St Cloud this year
so I guess I will be having a
Christmas dinner as I did for Thanksgiving
tho had seven -

It will be nice for you to be with
brother and his family wish I
had the help to have you all with us
but I do not travel (you until the
weather is more settled and I know
his boys have to be in school.

I shall try to find out about the
little Picas girl - but the snow
is rather deep over that way
so do not want to get stuck -
Jack Reisch will know whether
she is with them or not so I'll
find out - you are a dear, as
always, to want to help her -
Ruth is getting her strength back
by degrees - they were out last
night for a game of bridge, but
went home at tea P.M. -
How is Mailey? and where was
she pushed on? Saw in J-N that
she is to be Mrs Robt Regal - nice name.
Much love for you and excuse
pencil. Always your loving sister
Lillian