

A Message to *Dad*

on
Father's Day





I've always admired
and respected you, Dad,
I've always been proud of you, too,
I've always been grateful
for all of the things
You've done for me all my life through,
But surely you know how I feel
about you
I've told you so often before,
Still somehow or other, each time
that I do,
I mean it, Dad--just that much more.

All my love,
Dorothea

FOR
Grandfather
ON FATHER'S DAY



GRANDFATHER DEAR,
HERE'S A S'PRISE,
AND YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE
TO CLOSE YOUR EYES-

'CAUSE THIS WISH POPS
RIGHT OUT TO SAY

"A HAPPY,
HAPPY
FATHER'S
DAY!"



to mom Charles
JON
and Lance



A Gibson Card

GIBSON CINTI., U. S. A.

10 F 7 4 8 1

June 27, 1950

Dearest Dad;

How was the christening? I am sure that you enjoyed seeing your new great-grandson. I hope that he behaved well. I'd love to see him too; but I surely don't know when that will be.

Our plans have been slightly changed because of a well-earned vacation that Carrie wants to take. We are planning now to go to the lake this coming Sunday. Would you care to drive up at the same time? Some one of us could ride with you, driving a part of the way; so you wouldn't have to drive alone, and still could have your car there. If you want to do this, could you drive up ^{to Wymore} sometime before then? I just don't see how Bus or I could come to Lawrence before then. This week will be so busy a one for all of us. I have a girl going up with us; so the work will be easier; and Bus is going after her Friday. She lives in Dawson; and I think you have probably met her. She is a younger sister of Mary Spaulding who used to work for us. Wanda took care of Jonnie for me quite a bit before we left Daason. She is thrilled at the opportunity of going; and will be nice to have there. She has a sweet disposition; and will be grand with the boys.

Friday evening we drove to Shubert to spend the week-end with Carl and Dorothy. Bus and Dolph each had his picture taken. The ~~proofs~~ are to be sent to us today. I am of course anxious to see them. I watched them both do their posing, and it looked as though there would be some good pictures. We had a pleasant visit, although it was very warm. Our house is so cool and pleasant that we notice the heat when we go away.

Tomorrow I am planning to go to Lincoln to take care of some business for the Study Club, of which I am president. I shall also do some shopping if there is time for it.

Tomorrow night there is to be a picnic at the park for the cub scouts. Charles is to receive another badge. Now he will be a Bear, advancing from a Wolf. It means a lot of work; and Charles isn't too fond of that. At present he is at the park practicing baseball. That is never too much work. Tomorrow night he is to be bat boy for the older boys game.

Our new car arrived while we were in Shubert; and we had it for awhile yesterday; but the heater wasn't in or the radio in working order; so it had to go back to the garage for another day. The boys were disappointed that we couldn't keep it to drive them and 5 other boys to Beatrice this morning for their swimming lesson. It has the power glide and is really a very nice little car. I know we are going to enjoy it.

If you wouldn't care to drive up alone from Lawrence to Wymore, perhaps Dolph, Jr. could come up with you, and go back on the bus. It isn't a very pleasant trip, but it isn't too bad. We are leaving very early Sunday morning; and will drive it in one day. With the children, it is much easier than stopping.

I have an appointment down town quite soon, so I must close now. I hope to see you very soon.

Much Love,

Dorothea

June 26, 1950

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

I returned last night from Tulsa where I not only visited with Pat and Blanche, but also saw Carl and Eileen Olander with baby Wayne, and Pat, Jr. and Marie Maloney with little Owen. Blanche had quite a houseful, but handled it nicely, and baby Owen was christened yesterday afternoon. Mike McMalley was godfather.

Mike and I drove home yesterday afternoon, and with us were a Miss Grace (her surname) and a Miss Hendricks of Tulsa. As soon as we got to Lawrence Mike caught a bus to Kansas City and picked up a McMalley car that Mary Beth and Charles had, and returned to Lawrence about eleven o'clock where he picked up the two girls and then drove on to Minneapolis. It was a long hard day's driving for him, but he wanted to get home because he is employed in a hospital in Salina as a part of his preparation for his study of medicine.

I am now open for going to Minnesota, providing I shall have someone there. If I go by myself I shall live in my cabin and probably take my meals with Grayce Freeman or at Curry's.

Our Pontiac seems to be a mighty nice little car, but I think that Mike drives a little too fast for safety as he had the car up around seventy most of the time. That is too fast on the highway for the safety of ourselves and of others.

What are your plans at this time for going back to the lake? If you are going right away perhaps you had better phone me; otherwise you can write a letter, and I am at the same time writing to Janet to see when she wants to be at the lake. John is already up there as you probably know, guiding for a party of Topeka men, and Dolph, Jr., is working in our news room. I phoned Dolph, Sr., this morning and find that he plans to be in Lawrence in a couple of days.

Mrs. H. F. Johnson, June 26, 1950

Pat Maloney still talks encouragingly regarding his recovery, and really has been benefited a lot by the use of Cortizone, a very expensive new preparation. He certainly deserves to win out, because he takes his punishment without complaint. His sickness has been very hard on Blanche because she does everything she can to look after him, and although he is cooperative she has much cause for worry.

I think you will be surprised to know that Pat, Jr.'s baby, now about six weeks old, had both of his collar bones broken in being delivered, and this was not discovered until an x-ray was taken Saturday at Tulsa. He is a darling little blond baby, and the bones that were broken, while they were never set, have become united.

I shall be very glad to see you, and send love to all.

Lovingly,

June 22, 1950

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

I wish to thank the boys for their nice birthday present which arrived this morning, and which I opened to see just what it was. I also congratulate the boys on their prescience in selecting so good a book. I am sure I shall enjoy reading it.

It was nice to see you even for a moment at the wedding, which was indeed a very beautiful affair. I am expecting to hear from Mike today, as we should drive to Tulsa tomorrow if we expect to see Owen, III christened. Inasmuch as I have not seen this little great-grandson, and inasmuch as he and your husband, Harry, are the only two redheads in the bunch unless we count Marie Maloney and her hair is so dark as to hardly be classed as red, I am anxious to see him.

I wish I could see you more often, and I shall be glad to have you at the lake as much as you can be there. I have made no plans as yet as to how I will get there, but expect to make the trip soon after I am in Tulsa. I could fly from Tulsa, but I would hate to be marooned up at the lake without a car, so we shall come back and drive up.

A letter from Grayce says that the first two days John took the Topeka bunch out they caught six fish each day, which probably is not bad. Grayce said I could take my meals with her when I go up there, and I know she would enjoy having me do so, but I realize that it makes her quite a bit of extra trouble. I shall soon lose Margaret and Otis who have been very satisfactory young folks.

Give my love to each and every member of the family.

With love,

June 20, 1950

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

I think that you were very fortunate in the card which you sent to me for Father's Day. You have been a fine daughter to me in every way, and my only regret is that I do not see more of you and of your fine family.

I think that you plan to be in Gull Lake again during the summer, and I shall be very glad to have you there. I have not tried to plan very far ahead. Saturday of this week Mike and I will be in Tulsa to attend the christening of Owen and Marie's baby boy, my second great-grandson. I presume that will mean that we will go down on the 23rd. After that I shall go to Minnesota, but have no definite plans as yet.

I love to be with Grayce, but their arrangements for breakfast are such that I feel it causes her extra work when company is there. Don gets up and eats and runs and she does not get up till later, and probably ordinarily has a light breakfast. At the present time I have no idea of who will be with me at the home. I shall be glad to have Janet there, but that would leave Mac without anyone at home.

The wedding was a very happy affair, and I realized more than ever the cordial friendship that seems to include pretty nearly everyone in Minnesota. The wedding was a very nice one in every way.

Thank the boys for their Father's Day card. They are mighty fine youngsters and are full of promise. Give my love to Harry.

Lovingly,

Ann 6/12
June 9, 1950

Dearest Dad;

I have been wanting to write to you for over a week now. I thought that while we were in Minnesota I would have so much time; but I found that there was plenty to do there too. We accomplished quite a bit although not as much as we had hoped to. We had a wonderful time, and the fishing wasn't too bad, although it is probably better now because of the late spring. The weather was very nice, but the lake was quite rough for a couple of days because of the unusually windy conditions. We had wall-eye for our last meal in the cottage; and had had it before too.

The yard looked very nice when we left; and we planted things in the window boxes, and flower seeds all around the house. If everything grows, it should look very nice when you get up there. The house was all cleaned and in order; and it should be in good condition too.

Charles was sick for about three days while we were gone; and the doctor pronounced it appendicitis. He was all right when we returned; and when we took him to the doctor the next morning, he pronounced him entirely well; and said that no operation was necessary. Mother Johnson hated to worry us about it; so we knew nothing of it until we reached Bennet. Of course, we couldn't get home fast enough from there.

We are all well now. Mother Johnson is still with us, but she will be going to Shubert this Sunday. She intended to leave sooner; but we encouraged her to stay over. She and Bus went to Dawson today; and I stayed at home and put up 17 quarts of strawberries-10 $\frac{1}{2}$ in our own freezing unit.

Aunt Grayce and Uncle Don look very well, and are anxious for you to get up to the lake. They don't know yet whether they will be going to the wedding, unless they have decided since we left.

Carlene and I visited with the Framptons one afternoon. They had just returned from a successful trout fishing trip to Canada. We also saw the Purintons; and had Ruth and Aunt Grayce over for a game of bridge one evening while the men were out fishing.

We went to a picture show this evening; and all the rest of the household have retired; and I guess Bus wants me to join him. Tomorrow will be another busy day; and I did want to write to you before going to bed.

One week from tonight we shall be leaving for the wedding. We are planning to stay that night in Concordia at a most attractive motel we noticed on our last trip to Minneapolis. I think we shall probably bring all three of the boys, the two older ones anyway. A letter from Janet indicated that she expected to see us Friday; but I doubt if we shall get there until Saturday morning. I shall be so happy to see you again. It has been a long time; but we'll make up for that this summer in Minnesota.

We painted your boat and intended to paint Dolph's; but we ran out of paint and time; and Bill and Clarence had put it in the water and wanted to use it in putting the dock in; so we didn't have an opportunity to get it done.

Worlds of Love,

Dorothea

June 11, 1950

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea and Family:

I was very happy to see you and Harry at the funeral yesterday, and received your good letter of the 9th today. I am sorry that Charles was sick and hope that he is all right now. Please give my best regards to Mrs. Johnson, whom I hold in very high regard.

I found the trip yesterday quite tiring. I got up rather early to be ready to go with the boys, and I had no hot food after breakfast during the day, with the result that I was quite tired and played out by the time I turned in. I had a good night's rest and feel rejuvenated today. I don't believe I have gone to a picture show in a year. I go very seldom.

We shall see you in Minneapolis this weekend, and instead of going with the Stoughs and getting up so early Saturday morning, I may make other arrangements. It is mighty nice of you to see to taking care of the boats and we are sure we shall find everything in good shape. I am glad that you enjoy the cottage, and hope to see you up there again sometime during the season. I think Janet intends to be there in August.

Lovingly,

May 20, 1950

Mr. Lance Johnson
c/o Mr. & Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Lance:

I am sending you herewith three stamps. One marks the one hundredth anniversary of progress in the recognition of rights of women. One marks seventy-five years of the American Bankers' Association, and another marks one hundred fifty years, which covers from the year 1800 until the present year of 1950.

I presume your school year is pretty nearly over, and I am sure that you have made the same excellent grades that you have maintained all through your school life so far.

Please give my love to your brothers and to your papa and mama.

Lovingly,

May 22, 1950

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

I thought your letter of recent date was so interesting that I have mailed it on to Blanche, asking her to return it after she has read it. I was at Eilene's yesterday and found her and a neighboring young woman sunning themselves in their backyard. While they were scantily but properly protected, little Wayne had absolutely gone back to nature and was having a fine time wearing no clothes at all.

I have not seen Pat's baby, nor have I seen a picture of him. These great-grandchildren are coming along in fine shape, and with seven grandsons and two great-grandsons, the idea of replenishing the earth seems to be working out first rate.

Otis and Margaret have not yet found a teaching job for him, so I do not know how long they will be with me, but I was rather interested in finding out that they were wondering a little bit as to what I would do without them. They have been quite thoughtful of me.

The grass and shrubs are growing so rapidly around the home place that it is a problem to take care of them. Ramsey was filling the fish pool today, although there have been no fish in it for over a year.

Someone drove into the yard yesterday and asked Margaret and Otis if the place was for sale. There are many children in the new homes just north of us, and I find myself driving quite carefully, as at times a hurried movement might prove disastrous, and they are all sweet little folks that I would not want to injure.

I shall be glad to have you make as much use of the cabin at the lake as you can, because I rather question at

Mrs. H. F. Johnson, May 22, 1950

this time whether I shall be up there until after the wedding on June 17, which is only four weeks away. I think I should tell you that I am feeling very much better than I have felt for some time, and it came about in a strange manner. Dr. Johnson had been giving me pills and tablets, but had never told me when to quit them, so I found myself taking a lot of medicine; however, one day I forgot to take any medicine at all, and I have felt so much better that I have taken none since and feel that it is greatly to my benefit. I am brighter mentally and more active physically, but I am not going to try to overdo. I have not talked the matter over yet with Dr. Johnson, but shall do so.

I have not turned the television on for several days, preferring to give more time to reading. I have just finished Detours of Old Trails, whose author could easily become a humorist, as she has a rare sense of seeing the comical side to many things, and has a facile pen to describe such occurrences. I am now about half-way through reading Kansas, It's Exterior and Interior, written by Mrs. Robinson, the wife of the first state governor of Kansas. While the book was written nearly one hundred years ago, it recalls a lot of early day history with which I am somewhat familiar. I have other books, good books, piling up, but doubt if I shall ever find the time to read them all.

I am happy to hear from you and I am intensely interested in the progress of your husband and your fine boys.

Much love,

May 8, 1950

Dearest Dad;

I surely intended to write to you long before this, and I don't know where the time has gone. Mother Johnson was here until Thursday; and we kept busy, going to Dawson with Bus one day, entertaining at bridge one afternoon, and having guests for dinner two nights. The first night we were home, we went to Study Club to hear some very interesting records "I Can Hear it Now".

Friday morning the terrific wind we had blew the entire center section, over 100 feet, completely off the roof of the lumber shed at Dawson; so Bus had to go back again. It was a rather fortunate piece of destruction, however, as Bus has been planning for some time to remodel and reroof the building. This way he saves the expense of tearing off the old roof, plus having some financial assistance from the insurance company in putting the new roof on.

Jon Dolph and I surely enjoyed our visit with you; and really appreciated the ride to Topeka. It was so sweet of you to take us over, and we both thank you. We had a nice ride home with Mother Johnson. I drove all of the way; and it didn't seem like a long trip.

Saturday night we drove to Lincoln, taking the boys, to see Catherine Dibble dance in a recital. Her Hawaiian solo was darling. She was asked to repeat it at the Colosseum for some garden club meeting. I guess everyone was raving about it. She is a cute little girl. Jean isn't taking dancing lessons this year.

Last night I had a party for Lance and three other Boy Scouts and four little girls. They played Canasta; and I served refreshments; and everyone had a wonderful time.

What did you find out from Dr. Johnson Monday? Are you feeling any better? I hope so and hope that you will take whatever medicine or treatment he prescribes.

We didn't have so much rain here as you did in Lawrence while I was there; but this week we have had quite a bit. It has rained a good deal of today. I was supposed to go to the Cub Scout Den Meeting this afternoon; but a sore throat kept me at home. Bus painted it for me in the middle of the night last night so that I could get a little sleep. It is still sore though perhaps some better. I'll have him paint it again when he gets home from the church board meeting where he had to go after Lions Club.

a

Tomorrow night Charles is having a family night for Cub Scout achievement; and the whole family is going to help Daddy get out some church statements. We'll be his finance committee, which is rather lax in its duties.

I love you very much, and want you to take good care of yourself; so we can have a nice summer together in Minnesota.

Much love,

I meant to ask you to get the abstract for me; but I can get it some other time.

May 17, 1950

Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea and Harry:

I received Dorothea's letter this morning and am glad to keep up with the activities of the Johnson family. Little Dolph is such a lively little child that he is sure to be heard from.

I have just written to Grayce telling her that you would be up there the last of this month and would be there more or less during the summer.

It is a little difficult to get things arranged seeing that Mary Beth's wedding occurs on the 17th. I presume you are planning to be there.

Lovingly,

May 13, 1950

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

I am sending you herewith as a
Mother's Day present a check for \$5.00
with which I want you to buy something
for yourself.

Lots of love,

May 12, 1950

Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

Things have changed a lot around home since you were here. So many flowers are in bloom. We have had Ramsey looking after the yard and everything looks beautiful and attractive.

There is such a large number of birds. Maybe there are not more than usual, but my attention is called to them more because Owen has been studying ornithology. I presume he could name twenty-five or thirty varieties of birds. And then we have another entrant upon our domain that is worthy of our mention, and that is a hedgehog. Nearly every day he suns himself and can be easily seen from our diningroom. This morning someone's dog was digging, trying to dig the old fellow out, but they are some diggers themselves and it would be very difficult for a dog to get them.

I am sorry that you suffered wind damage at Dawson, but perhaps it came at a very good time seeing you wanted to improve the plant anyway.

Give my love to Harry and the boys.

Lovingly,

April 25, 1950

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore,
Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

I rode out to Minneapolis, Kansas with Janet last Saturday and returned by train last evening.

I drank too much pop and cold water which caused me to be sick enough Saturday night to call a doctor, but there was nothing serious excepting a lack of digestion at that time. I am now all right, but would not last long in a walking contest or anything of that sort. Some of these days I will be glad to come up and see you.

Dolph got a nice vote in his candidacy for election to the Associated Press Board, but lacked 900 of having enough to win. I think they are having a fine time and will be home sometime late this week.

Love to the family,

April 20, 1950

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore,
Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

I am glad you have a typewriter, and I think that you use it to better advantage than I do my old companion that arrived here in Lawrence some time after Quantrill's raid.

I am glad that Harry and Charles can do as well in the air as Harry can on the ground. I never had much luck in flying a kite, probably because I didn't have much material to use to make one, and probably not enough string to fly it.

Considering your invitation, I had a telephone call from Janet who said she would come down Friday and would pick me up and we would go out for the weekend. I will return probably not later than Monday night on the train. I think probably she will take Mary Beth back with her also for the weekend. I'll still keep in mind however, the invitation to come up and see you. It is rather an easy drive, and I took it Easter with Dolph and Marie in going to Baldwin.

I'll bet that Dolph will be a cute school boy, and I should like to see him; I'll bet he won't need very much protection from older boys.

I am glad to get your letters, and glad to know that you lead an active and pleasant life in your community. Love to the boys and to Harry. Find enclosed some stamps for Lance's collection.

Love,

April 17, 1950

Dearest Dad;

I have a new typewriter now; so I should write you lots of letters. I know I am going to enjoy having one at home. It is a Smith-Corona, a portable; and will be nice for the boys to use when they get a little older, and have reports, themes, etc. to do at home.

After the D.A.R. meeting, which was successful and well enjoyed, I sort of relaxed last week. The first night we had company, and didn't get to bed until midnight or later. The next day Bus went to Dawson, but I stayed home to rest, which I did until afternoon. Then I went to the church to set the table for the brotherhood dinner our church circle was serving that night. Then at six o'clock I went back to the church to serve and do dishes. Wednesday night we had Carrie up for dinner, Thursday afternoon Dolph and I went to Circle and that night Bob and Bonnie Loisel came up for the evening. Friday Dolph and I went to Lincoln with Alice Himman, and Saturday I didn't do much until evening when we played bridge at the Dawsons.

Yesterday was really a day of rest for me. I didn't even get dressed all day. I have a little cold and so do Charles and Dolph; so we all took it easy. In the afternoon Bus took the two older boys to the Cub Scout Kite Flying Contest; and we were all thrilled and surprised to have Charles win one of the prizes. His was for the smallest kite that got off the ground. It was the third highest and flew the nicest. If he had had more string it probably would have gone as high as any of them. I guess none of us had enough confidence in Charles' and Bus' ability to make a good kite. They built it together; and I didn't even think it would fly. They tried one evening; and couldn't get it off the ground. I guess there just wasn't enough wind. That was the excuse they gave me; but I thought it was just an excuse for a poor kite. Charles was so pleased he beamed when he showed me his .50.

I didn't know until yesterday that Dolph and Marie were to be gone again. What are you going to do while they are gone? We'd love to have you come up here for part of the time if you can get away from the office. I know that you don't need them or anyone to look after you; but you might get a little lonesome. Mother Johnson is going to be driving up sometime soon; and would be glad to have you come with her. Then I might drive you home, and stay for a little visit, or the whole family might go back on a week-end. School will soon be out, and we won't have to think about keeping the boys out of school. They get grade cards again this week, then have just six weeks more. When they start back again, there will be three Johnson boys going together. Won't Dolph be a cute school boy?

I am afraid that I didn't thank you for the most welcome Easter present. It was sweet of you to send it, and we all thank you. It hasn't been spent yet; but we'll do something nice with it. I am glad the flowers were pretty.

Bus is going to Lincoln tonight to a dinner; and I am thinking of going with him in order to do some errands while he is banqueting.

Loads of Love
Dorothea

April 13, 1950

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore
Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

I presume that you are planning to attend Mary Beth's wedding. I do not believe that I shall go to Gull Lake until after the wedding, but if it were convenient and desirable for you to go up early with the boys, I shall be glad to have you do so. We always leave a set of keys with Grace and Don. I shall be surprised if little Dolph does not learn to swim this summer.

I am always interested in receiving your letters, and I am glad that your relationship is so cordial with your Nebraska relatives; you know I appreciate the many good qualities of Mrs. Johnson, Sr.

About the flowers--there is no immediate hurry. I would like to replant as necessary to preserve the general arrangement that Gertrude had developed. Our hyacinths have been blooming profusely at our back door, but I am afraid they were cut down last night when the temperature went down to 24 above. I was out to the cemetery yesterday, and the red tulips were all in good shape, and I had Ramsey water them today.

I shall be happy if it can be arranged so that one of you three girls could be with me all the time at the lake, but that is not essential. It might be wise, however, for you to take the matter up with Janet and Blanche and see what dates you decide upon.

I shall be glad to see your house again after all improvements have been made. I know it will be nice.

Lovingly,

April 7, 1950

Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear children:

I want to thank you for the Easter cards. Frankly, I overlooked sending cards this year, but I am sending herewith a check for \$10 which you may spend in anyway to bring pleasure to the whole family.

While it has not been very long since I was with you, it seems like quite a little while and I should be very happy to have you drop in on me again soon.

Love to you all,

HI!





I TOLD
THE
EASTER BUNNY
EXACTLY WHAT TO DO --
THAT'S WHY HE'S
DROPPING IN TODAY
TO BRING THIS
WISH TO YOU!

Happy Easter

*from Lance and Charles
and Dolph*



10E14-3
COPYRIGHT
HALL BROTHERS, INC.

With Love
at Easter





A lot more love than you could guess
And lots more wishes, too,
Are coming with this message
That's intended just for you;
The wishes are for happiness
When Easter Day is here,
But all the love it brings is yours
Each day throughout the year.

Dorothea and Beus




Hallmark

25E368-3
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HALL BROTHERS, INC.



HARRY F. JOHNSON
PRESIDENT



Farmers Lumber Company

TELEPHONE 11

WYMORE, NEBRASKA

March 25, 1950

FOREST PRODUCTS
BUILDING MATERIALS
COAL

Dearest Dad;

The boys are at the picture show, and as I brought Jonnie down in the car, I decided to stay down a while and help Harry work on the church books. He had to go get an extra man to help unload a car of lumber that came in today; so I am taking advantage of his absence to write to you.

Yesterday was such a beautiful day that I got house-cleaning fever, and intended to really pitch in today; but it isn't so nice today. This morning it was cloudy and windy and not right for hanging things out. Charles and I did clean out some drawers in the boys' room; and the three boys cleaned up the yard this morning. I may go back after while and do some more. Next week I have a woman engaged to help me clean. She has helped me before, and knows how to go ahead and get things done. I have to be all through by April 10th. That is when I am entertaining D.A.R. there will be around 35 ladies from Beatrice in attendance; and I want everything to be in order. I am afraid we won't have the den finished by that time as the lumber hasn't come yet that we want for the walls.

Last night Bus and I went to a Cub Scout Council meeting, and the boys stayed home and decorated Easter Eggs and listened to the Brigham Young-Baylor game. Charles was disappointed that I wouldn't let him stay up to hear the Bradley game too. He was especially disappointed that K.U. lost to Bradley. It was close.

I never did reply to your invitation to come down to help plan the flower garden this spring. I am not too well equipped to take it upon myself; but I should be glad to help if I can be of any assistance. When do you want to do it? Sometime next month I suppose. Let me know, and I will make arrangements.

You spoke of coming up when we are through with our redecorating. I do hope you will. Perhaps Margaret or even she and Otis too might come up with you. I'd like for her to see our home, especially the kitchen. I know she would appreciate it.

I see that Dolph is a candidate for president of the Alumni Association. He can be assured of two votes from Wymore, Nebraska.

Bus is back now, and ready for work; so Until the next time-

Loads of love,

Dorothea

March 28, 1950

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

I was very glad to get your letter of March 25. Sunday was my sister Julia's birthday and I bought a decoration to put on her grave, but on account of the wind, did not put it out until yesterday, when I found that the cemetery had been entirely freed from the wreaths which had been placed there last fall and the graves had been raked so that the bulbs could blossom.

I don't know whether we told you that Ramsey, in raking the yard, found the little pop gun that one of the boys lost. This little gun is about 20 inches long and when you come down you can have it.

I know that you have a lot to do, but it is a glorious life after all to be with your husband and your fine boys, and see them growing up into promising young men. I think you have three boys, everyone of whom you are justified in looking forward with "great expectations."

Sunday was a terribly windy and dusty day. I had Ramsey go out yesterday and sweep the porches for Margaret, but she had to go over every piece of furniture in the house, and that is no small job.

I have sent my copy on to New York to be edited and arranged for publication but I found I did not send an alphabetical list of the names mentioned and Marge Smith is now working on that and it will be ready to go out today.

Yesterday was rather of a hard one on Dolph. He spoke to a group of women voters at Shawnee Mission at noon and last night he had to pinch hit for Rotary at a joint Leavenworth-Lawrence meeting here in Lawrence. It was not his set speech but everyone seemed to be delighted with it. I think I have told you that I think you have eleven ancestors who were in the Revolutionary War and it is my impression that at least nine of them have been

Mrs. H. F. Johnson

March 28th 1950

proven, which would allow you to wear nine bars, to say nothing of the extra two, which doubtless could be established.

In regard to the flower garden, I really feel lost. I think you might write to W. E. Frowe, 1924 Louisiana Street, in regard to the planting which might be desirable. Two or three years ago Portulaca filled the little square at the south door to our porch and it was not only pretty but durable, lasting the entire season and some plants coming up later from the seed. I think generally speaking, we had better try to maintain the formal garden which would require some new planting, but being away for a couple of months during the summer really makes it seem useless to have flowering plants that are simply going to waste. We shall want gladiolus and perhaps some attention should be given now to irises and hyacinth, and probably also to the tulips. I did not cut back the Paul's Scarlets because I find that where you let them grow on a trellis they bloom much more profusely than when they are trimmed back.

I am glad your boys are real boys and like worthwhile things.

Lots of love,

MRS. HARRY F. JOHNSON
213 NORTH TWELFTH STREET
WYMORE, NEBRASKA

March 18, 1950

Dearest Dad;

Do you know anything about a box of dresses that came today from Weavers? I didn't order any, and don't know why they would send them on approval without being asked to. Perhaps I'll get a letter too before the day is over. I haven't had time yet to try them on, but there are some darling ones.

We are still torn up, but are making progress. The floors are being done today. We'll be all through with this particular project by the end of next week.

Speaking of the end of next week, do you suppose we can get tickets if K.U. plays in the tournament in K.C. next Saturday? That is the only night we could go; and Bess promised Charles that we would go if K.U. played. I know what a demand there will be for tickets; so it probably would be difficult for us to get any; but we do want to go if we can. Would you know whom we should contact for 4 tickets?

I am enclosing a note for Margaret. Will you please give it to her?

How is the book coming? Have you sent it in yet?

The 3 boys are at the cowboy show, and I am

writing this under the dryer at the beauty shop.
Bus and I may go to Omaha tomorrow with
our friends, the Bensons. I understand that a
blizzard is forecast; so we may not go. Also, I
have as yet no one to stay with the boys; so the
trip is uncertain.

Should I have an abstract for the property
on Vermont street? All I seem to have is a
warranty deed. Do you have an abstract for it?
I shall write to Dolph to thank him for sending
the sewer easement. I thought I was getting
another letter from you when it came.

My hair is combed now; so I'll finish this,
and get back home to frost a cake and do some
other jobs.

Loads of Love,
Dorothea

March 20, 1950

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

You doubtless know by this time that the dresses your mentioned in your letter to me today were sent you by Nell Weaver, not so much for the purpose of makin a sale as for wanting to hold and please a customer. For years Art and Nell had made it the rule to pick out one or two dresses suitable for Gertrude and she appreciated this personal service. I don't know whether you care to keep any of these dresses that were sent you, but I do think it would be a fine thing to write Nell a letter of appreciation for their thoughtfulness and tell her about anything in the way of dresses that you might have in mind for the future.

I think I may have told you that Margaret served a formal dinner a week ago last Friday and Art and Nell and Dolph and Marie were there. She certainly strutted herself and she really knows how to put over a fine dinner. It was, undoubtedly, appreciated by our guests. I had been dinner guests of the Weavers on at least two occasions and frequently dined with Dolph and Marie.

I am referring the matter of the game to Dolph as he would know more about it than I do. I shall also deliver your note to Margaret.

I rather believe that our winter is now over although we shall have some cold and unpleasant days. We are always glad to have you with us. Last Sunday night we had Janet and her friend, Frona Stout, and Marie Beth and Charles Medlock all for house guests, but Janet and Frona left by train at noon because Mike had said the roads were treacherous to the west. Janet and Frona had a very pleasant trip of nine or ten days in which they visited the old houses at Natchez and also visited New Orleans.

There is nothing especially new with me. I continue to have good health and try to look after myself in the proper manner.

The program at Rotary today was a discussion of cancer and the desirability for the earliest possible attention. I do not know of

Mrs. H. F. Johnson

March 20, 1950

anything that we could have done to save Gertrude that we did not try. If you or any of the family ever have a bump, enlarged mole, or a sore that doesn't quickly heal, you should give it immediate attention. It may be something simple, and it might be something worse.

I hope you will be able to secure tickets but people spent all night to be in line in the hope of getting a ticket at Kansas City. Undoubtedly, many were disappointed.

I am reminded today in a letter from Blanche that it might not be long before Carl and Eileen move to Wichita which will make visits to them and my great grandson far less frequent.

I was surprised last night when I came home to find Mr. and Mrs. Parrish, who are to take over when Otis and Margaret leave, and to have them very insistent that I accept their invitation to take dinner as their guests at the Castle Tea Room. It showed a mighty nice spirit in the young folks although I hate to see them spend their money unnecessarily.

Give my love to Harry and the boys. When you get your work completed in your home, I shall try to come up and see it.

Love to all,

P./s We have just found out that since K.U. got beat last night, they will not be playing in the tournament. I presume you therefore, would not be attending.

March 6, 1950

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
"ymore,
Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

In looking through the chest in the apartment the other day, I ran across this letter evidently written by you when you were about $3\frac{1}{2}$ years old. Etoile had thought enough of it to save it and after her death, Gertrude had kept it among her things. Perhaps you can read some of the messages you wrote which are rather difficult for me, however, I have just noticed that by holding your letter in front of you with the fold down, that on the back page there is a pretty good outline of a face.

We had a nice little visit with Janet although she was not at the house very long. Saturday Charles Medlock went through the necessary motions of becoming a good Catholic in order to be acceptable as a husband for Mary Beth. I think the date for the marriage has been set for the 17th of June.

Love to you and the men folk,

February 27, 1950

Mrs. Harry F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

The man who moved an old house and made it into a house at the southeast corner of 23rd and Massachusetts has his mind on another country home that he could knock down and reassemble and would like to buy a site from you. I feel quite sure that any house that he would erect would damage the value of the rest of your property far in excess of the amount you would receive from him for the lot.

You have ideal property that in the near future is going to be valuable and yet taxes are rather low. I simply wanted to warn you about this man although I doubt that you would fall for anything that he would have to offer.

I think of you and your fine family often and thoroughly enjoyed my recent visit with you.

Yesterday I asked Margaret and Otis to go with me and we went to Shawnee to see the graves of Mother and Father Reineke, Aunt Blanche, and Uncle John.

I have been feeling real well and everything is moving along as usual at home. We expect Dolph and Marie home tomorrow and I certainly will be relieved when he comes. While everything has run along smoothly during his absence, I hate to have him run the unnecessary risk of these long airplane flights. Of course we are not immune to accidents or danger even when we are at home.

I think you may be interested in knowing that last Friday Coach Sikes invited John to take luncheon with him, dinner at night, and to attend the basketball game as his guest. I do not know whether John will attend K.U. or not, but I hope that he will. Dolph finishes his junior year this spring. They are both fine boys. As a matter of fact, I have reason to be proud both of my children and my grandchildren, and I might include for full measure, my great grandson.

Mrs. H. F. Johneon

February 27, 1950

You have a mighty pretty home and I am glad that you have made the improvements early enough that you will have time to enjoy them, furthermore, you have added to the selling value of your property.

I think it was mighty nice of Lovellette to answer a letter from a small boy fan. He has certainly proven his worth to the team.

We find that narcissus, hyacinth, and other bulbs are now an inch or more above the surface. I hope they will not be frozen back. How would you like to come down sometime and superintend the arrangement of our flower garden. As we are away during the summer there is not much use in arranging for plants to bloom during July and August; however, Gertrude took so much pride in her flower garden that I should like to keep it growing in a fairly satisfactory manner.

We could call in Ramsey and perhaps W. E. Frowe who has assisted Gertrude at times in arranging her garden. Being away during the summer makes it impractical to use a lot of plants that otherwise we could use to advantage, but I don't like to let things go to pot.

The lilacs that we set out two years ago should grow more rapidly this spring having had a year to enlarge their roots. I should like to have more tamarask in the yard, but I don't know just when they should beplanted, either spring or fall.

Give the men folk of the family my love.

Lovingly,

February 20, 1950

Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea and Harry:

After putting you on the bus yesterday, I seemed to feel conscious of the fact that I had not expressed my love and appreciation of your coming more forcefully. As you know without my telling you, I love you very much and you do so many things to endear yourself to me. I hope your ride home was pleasant and uneventful. I certainly had a very pleasant visit with you.

Yesterday I had dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Leo Eller, then taking them for a ride and in the evening they came over to see TV, which was quite interesting to the children.

I saw the completed decoration at the Baptist church yesterday for the first time, and the effect is very pleasing indeed. Everyone seems delighted with it.

I have had word this morning of the death yesterday of Richard Horton, an early day resident of Lawrence, a brother of the Horton girls, and who had lived away from Lawrence for most of his life, but had been a resident here for the last few years.

I had a good letter this morning from Marie mailed from Lima and dated the 17th. They had received a letter from me and also wires that we had sent. They are having a very interesting time.

I took the car to the garage this morning to be cleaned up.

Give my love to the men folk.

Lovingly,

February 2, 1950

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

My dear Dorothea:

I was glad to get your good letter of the first and we will be happy to have you with us on the week end of the 11th.

Everything is moving along nicely at home. Margaret and Otis will be here until June and Mr. and Mrs. Parrish, formerly of Manhattan but transferred to K.U., will take over when they leave. They seem to be nice young folk. He comes to K.U. from Manhattan because he feels that we have a better type of training in our Engineering school than they have at Manhattan. They have taken an apartment with Mr. and Mrs. Ladrue Carter who live on the top of the hill at the west end of 9th street.

Dolph, Jr., who has spent the last year and a half at the Phi Delt house is now making headquarters at home.

I think that Harry was right in regard to the numbering of the bonds. They are a reissue.

Little Dolph is quite a boy when he can spend a week end with neighbors and have them enjoy it. You have three mighty fine boys and I love them all very much. As I told you in my last letter, the baby bed has been returned.

Love to each and every one of you,

P.S. I have just received a nice little thank you note from Alice H. Chapman of Marysville, Kansas, one of the daughters of the late C. B. Hosford.

January 16, 1950

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

C. B. Hosford, long one of my good friends, was buried Saturday. His death was caused by a malignant growth which seemed to have effected his physical body in several places. Knowing that there would be quite a number at his home, I called up and invited them to be my guests at dinner at the Eldridge. There were three girls, two husbands, and two small children.

One of the girls, I think Elizabeth, is married to the man who is the manager of the telephone system at Marysville. Her little boys take after their mother in their blonde complexions, although I think their hair is dark. The family seemed to be very appreciative, and I was very happy that I had thought to take them out.

I think that you would enjoy knowing the daughter at Marysville. While I had known Hosford well, I had never been very much acquainted with his children. That probably is quite natural on account of the difference in our ages. Clite was eight years younger than I so his children would be naturally younger than mine, unless it would be with the exception of yourself.

I have just written a letter to Blanche. She is very closely tied down, and I think gets rather lonesome. She is now absolutely alone as Pat has been at the hospital I think since the holidays.

I had a new couple, a Mr. and Mrs. Parrish from Manhattan in to see me yesterday about taking on when Otis and Margaret let go which will probably be in June. She is a bright looking girl whose home was at Herrington. He told me where his home was but I do not recall clearly where it is. He is studying mechanical engineering and feels that the work ~~done~~ at K.U. is superior to that at Manhattan where he has been.

Mrs. H. F. Johnson

January 16, 1950

I not only showed them through the house but I let them spend an hour or more visiting with Margaret and Otis. She has had Home Ec. I told them what I started Margaret at but neither I nor she told them what she has been getting now, which I think is just as well.

If you have not yet returned to me my genealogy report, please do not hold it too long, as it is dragging out as it is.

Much love to you and the family and best wishes to Carlene and family and to Mrs. Johnson, Sr.

Lovingly,

Dorothea

Mrs H.F. Johnson

Dearest Dad;

I was interested both in Rosemary Jo's letter and in your reply. Thanks for sending them. She is a grand girl and a good friend.

This letter must be hurriedly written in order to get it in today's mail.

I am wondering when you would like to have us come for the week-end, the 12th or the 19th. I see that Marie has gone on a trip. Is John staying with you? How long will she be away?

Blanche and Janet and I will try to get there at the same time this time. I thought if you had any preference, we would try to follow it. The 12th might be a little

better for me, but the 19th would
be all right.

Bus had intestinal flu last
week, and Jonnie is sick today -
not too sick, but his "tummy hurts".

Lance is in a P. J. A. program
tonight; so I am going and Bus
too if he can get away from
a salesman.

There is so much noise and
confusion I can't think of anything
else to say; and I must get
this mailed; so I'll write a
longer and better letter soon.

We were in Portland Sunday
with Jack and Barbara.

Much love,
Dorothea

Dorothea

Am 3/14/50

March 9, 1950

Dearest Dad;

I was glad to hear from you. It had been a little longer than usual. Thank you for sending the most interesting letter I had written to Aunt Etoile. I can't read it either; but I'm sure it was sincere.

The painter is here today again. There is so much woodwork, and we are having the ceilings done too. Each day we decide to do a little more. It is going to look better than it ever has. The plastering was really not bad underneath 9 or more layers of wall paper that we had steamed and scraped off.