

December 13, 1950

Mr. and Mrs. Jess Eakin
1504 7th Street
Dodge City, Kansas
Box 306

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Eakin:

I have received your beautiful Christmas greeting and had already addressed one of my cards to you. I had not heard from you for some little time and am glad to know that you are still in Dodge City, and hope you are both well and happy.

It has been a long, long time since we were children in Hodgeman County and I presume that many of your brothers and sisters are gone. I have always remembered the beautiful red hair of one of your sisters. I have always admired red hair, but the nearest that anyone came to it in our family was sister Julia whose hair was almost of a bronze color. Now I have a son-in-law, Harry Johnson, whose hair is really red. He is a big 6 footer and he and his associates have seven lumber yards in southwestern Nebraska. He married my youngest daughter, Dorothea, and they have three fine boys, six, and twelve.

I have very pleasant memories of the Eakin family. Your brother Ed became a large land owner, and I understand that the land which was almost worthless when we were boys is now worth about \$100 an acre. I do not know whether he is living or not.

You may be interested in knowing that I have paid the expenses of a diorama, which is probably completed now although I have not seen it, and is dedicated to the memory of my mother. It depicts Hodgeman County as it appeared in 1878 when we first came there. My youngest sister Grayce and I are the only two of the five children who are left. Julia, Etoile and Louis are gone. Mama was such a darling little woman and was so interested in educating her children that I know she would be pleased to be represented in the museum of the state University of Kansas. If you are here sometime I shall take pleasure in taking you up to see it.