

Mrs. Lillian E. Gooding, December 15, 1950

I have ten grandchildren and two great-grandsons. My oldest grandson is working for his father's firm, the Maloney-Crawford Tank Company and is located in Oklahoma City. I had the pleasure of being with them last Thanksgiving and I was also at the home of his sister, my granddaughter, Mrs. Riggs, who also lives in Oklahoma City. My other great-grandson is the son of my granddaughter, Eileen Maloney Olander, who lives in Wichita, Kansas.

I have been very fortunate this year in having a very nice young couple in my home. I have furnished board and room and also a fairly substantial salary, but they have kept my home in excellent shape and have looked after me as carefully as if I were a relative. It is not often that we are able to make so happy an arrangement.

Your brother, Russel, became grey very young, and from the little snapshot I have of you I think that may have been a tendency of the Wickey family.

It was fifty-nine years ago today that I came to Lawrence to engage in the newspaper business. I was twenty years old at the time. No one can ever foretell how long he may live, but Adolphus Simons, my great-grandfather and the grandfather of the first Mrs. Wickey, my Aunt Julia, lived to be ninety-two and was quite hale and hearty even in his old age. His son, my grandfather, lived to be about eighty-five.

I am always glad to hear from you and would be very happy if you could find an opportunity to visit my in Lawrence. I have a large home and my daughters are frequently with me. I expect to spend Christmas with my youngest daughter, Mrs. H. F. Johnson, in Wymore, Nebraska. This is a long letter, but having a city job you can read it on the city's time and get paid for it.

Cordially your cousin,

W. C. Simons

WCS:bjh