

March 27, 1950

Miss Frances Pickar
Route 6
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Frances:

I was glad to get your letter and you may not like what I am going to say and this is it. You have made an improvement, both in your writing and your spelling, but it is not yet good enough. It has been my idea that the bright little girl that was so kindly in picking flowers for Mrs. Simons really has something to her if she has the courage and determination to make good.

I have not seen you for several years and probably would hardly know you, but if you ever do see me, be sure and let me know who you are. I still have your little picture but that was taken several years ago and, doubtless, you have changed a lot.

I am sorry to criticize you because I know you have done your best, but on the other hand, try practicing with pen and ink because if you ever get a job at office work, you will find it necessary to use a pen and ink.

I don't know what they are doing in your schools up there, but in our schools in Lawrence in the high school they are teaching the touch system of typewriting so that eventually the students could write a letter even were there no letters or marks whatever on the keyboard.

You can get just a little bit angry with me but if it causes you to aspire to still better work, it will be worthwhile.

I have not seen your home nor your housekeeping, but I was particularly pleased last year in seeing the little home of Bill Miles. The house is small and all I had was a glance through the window, but everything looked so neat and nice both in the house and in the yard round about, that it gave me quite a fine opinion of Mrs. Miles. Mr. Miles has been doing some work for us and we have a lot of confidence in his honesty and ability, and undoubtedly