

My dear Mr. Simons:

Thank you for your letter, I did so very much enjoy learning of your wonderful family - and do hope you are having a pleasant holiday with some of them.

Yes, I am an accountant in the Department of Finance - I really took "Whit's" position when I returned <sup>after his death</sup> and presume I'll remain here until I retire or resign to go to Florida home.

I know you must be very proud of Dorothy's youngsters - (She was such a charming girl -) and also of your other grand children.

The political unrest in Panama has kept things in a rather chaotic state - What with three or four presidents in about as many days, most anything can happen. We had four ex-presidents staying at the Livoli Hotel <sup>here in the Canal Zone</sup> for a while - Now two have gone to the States, one is living with friends in the Canal Zone and one has returned to Panama - With the present "head" - Arnulfo Arias, I don't see just how U.S. can "do business" with Panama - He is such a "skidaway" and was run out before because of his Nazi activities & his utter contempt for everything American - yet - all Panama lives off Uncle Sam - What this world is coming to is hard to surmise -

However, I seem to enjoy a rather normal life here in the Canal Zone with my work, my friends, my "family" (two nieces & their small children) - the weather is pleasant, swimming delightful and scenery pretty - so I can't afford to worry about "neighbors"

My wish for you - a most delightful Christmas and happy New Year!!

Sincerely -

Edna Whitner