

January 22, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska.

Dear Dorothea:

I enjoyed your good letter of the 13th, but was sorry to know that Mrs. Johnson had been sick. I hope that her health will improve and that she will be a comfort to you and Harry and the boys for many years to come.

In regard to your sore foot, I am a great believer in the efficacy of gentle exercise, the slow movement of the foot in different directions to stimulate the circulation of blood.

As I have already written you, I do not know how I shall get rid of all of the candy unless you and the boys come to see me.

Farris is a great promiser and tells me from day to day that he will have more proof ready for me, but as a matter of fact, I do not think I have read any proof for a week. Our publishing business has grown tremendously with the years and it seems that no matter how many more men we employ we keep them all busy and use more overtime than we should.

Dolph has been investigating a new machine which will receive the A.P. reports by wire and the same current which brings the message to us will operate the machine which puts it into type. I understand that several of these machines are now in operation in Kansas.

Dolph and Marie returned Saturday from a week in New York, and as usual the visit was not only profitable but delightful.

I have a card from Blanche written Saturday stating that she expects to be in Lawrence late Friday night. I shall be very glad indeed to see her. Really the thing that I miss very greatly is someone to love. I tried never to leave the house without a goodbye kiss for my wife, and if I happened to

All 11/26

Dearest Dad;

In a few moments I am going to my church group meeting, where I will have a program on Thanksgiving Day. I have asked a friend to read a poem on "The First Thanksgiving Day", I shall have a short paper on Thanksgiving, and Dolph will sing two songs, with Charles accompanying him on his cornet as the hostess does not have a piano. Then Charles will close the program by playing "America the Beautiful" on his cornet. I have to pick them up at school a little before school is dismissed. They both had to dress up a little bit this noon which was more of a trial to Dolph than to Charles as he didn't want to be the only boy there not in jeans.

Yesterday a friend asked me to go to Lincoln with her; so we spent a pleasant day shopping. I even purchased a few Christmas gifts, but not yours. I wish that I knew of something nice that you would like to have.

Last night Bus and I went to Beatrice to a Shrine dinner dance at the Country Club. The dinner was delicious, and we enjoyed a short program before the dancing began. We were not too interested in the dancing; and Charles was at the skating rink in Beatrice with some little friends; so we left the party to watch the skaters for a little while before returning home. Lance is old enough now to take care of Dolph for us while we are away; so we have almost entirely done away with baby sitters.

We did need one last Saturday when we went to the football game in Lincoln as the other boys went to the game also. We met Janet and Mac there; and after a little shopping for Janet and me we all had luncheon together then went to the game and sat it out in the bitter cold wind that tried its best to take Janet's hat off all afternoon. We had dinner in Lincoln then drove back to Wymore. They stayed with us until Sunday afternoon. I received a letter from Janet this afternoon.

The program is over now, and the boys performed very creditably. I have to have the program for our general meeting next week also. That one is to be on Latin America.

Harry has written to Pat asking him to come up and go pheasant hunting with some of the men next week. Pheasants are not as plentiful as they used to be; but the hunters do enjoy looking for them. We haven't heard from Pat; so don't know yet whether he can make it. I wish that Blanche could come with him, but she is so busy redecorating. I doubt if she can get away.

I am hoping for another warm day tomorrow so that I can get some bulbs planted. We have made some changes in our yard; and hope to have a prettier one next spring. I have tulips, hyacinths, jonquils, crocuses etc. that are new bulbs, also some dug up iris bulbs to transplant.

Harry is on his way home now; so I must start the sausages and eggs.

The boys and I had such a nice visit with you in Lawrence. I wish we could have them more often. I hope you will be able to come up to see us before long.

Loads of Love,

Dorothea

Dorothea

11/20/51
M

November 20,

Dearest Dad;

It feels good to sit down quietly after a busy day of washing, ironing, cleaning, errands, etc.

Lance and Ralph are in bed together, and Charles is trying to get away from his fascinating book. Believe it or not he doesn't have a ball in his hands. He is just reading about football.

I want to thank you for my birthday present. I shall enjoy spending it.

Marion Clifton sent me a birthday card after reading the announcement of my birth in the Years Ago column. I can't fool the home town folks.

We enjoyed Pat's visit, and his friend was very pleasant and a nice guest. Hunting was poor; but they all seemed to enjoy the outing.

Thanks for sending the bicycle wheel. I understood that Plevins would send it directly here and not bother you with it. Dolph was so tickled to see it. He has missed his bicycle. He can ride the boys big one, but we discourage that. I'll send you a check for the work.

Have you been having the same beautiful fall weather that we are enjoying?

I hope you are well and taking good care of yourself. I knew that Eleanor takes good

care of you.

You may be in Minneapolis now, or if not, you soon will be. Have a nice Thanksgiving with the Mc'Nalleys.

We'll be in Schubert with Carl and Dorothy. We are driving over tomorrow, stopping in Humboldt and Dawson on the way. Mother Johnson was to have arrived in Schubert yesterday, and the Dibbles will come on Thursday.

Friday morning I am driving some boys in Lance's S. S. class to Lincoln, where their teacher has arranged for them to visit the penitentiary. She will chaperone the group as she did when they went to the K.U. - Nebraska football game.

We'll probably see you before
too long. Much Love,
Dorothea

November 26, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea and family,

I think it was Tuesday, the 20th, that Mike and I drove out to Minneapolis in his car. I returned last evening with the Scotts, who had spent the week with their folks in Downs, Kansas. We had an uneventful and pleasant trip home.

I am always glad to hear from you and get the low-down on your interesting family. If you happen to see Harry's mother, give her my best regards.

I think it is fine that you keep so close to your boys. As long as you keep an active interest in their affairs you are certain to retain their love and respect. I think a good many people pay very little attention to their children, and then wonder why their children do not care more for them than they seemingly do. Apparently, you have been very close to your boys and I believe it will pay you dividends in the years to come.

I haven't been especially busy today and yet there are always things to be looked after.

Much love,

Dad

WCS:en

Doris

November 14, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea,

I am enclosing a small check in remembrance of your birthday, which was last Monday.

I have a letter from Grayce in which she said she had sent your birthday card early. She said she had written it and had not meant to send it until later, but it was picked up with some other mail.

Tomorrow will be the 57th anniversary of my wedding. Your mother was a beautiful and talented young woman.

I am always glad to have you and the children visit me and think it is fine that you can be here as often as you are.

Lovingly,

Dad

WCS:en
Enc.

November 8, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea and family,

Nothing new to report here. The heavy
snows have not reached us, but it won't be
long now.

Give my love to the boys and tell them
to write me a letter. I presume a letter from
Dolph will have to be rather short and will
be rather hard work for the writer, but he is
a dandy boy and I shall be glad to hear from
him. I know that Lance is getting along nicely
with his music, and that Charles still enjoys
his athletics. I am rather glad that so far
he has not taken up prize fighting.

I hope that everything is well with you,
and don't wait too long before coming to see me.

Lots of love,

Dad

WCS:en

Dorothea

October 9, 1951

Dearest Dad;

Today has been a beautiful fall day. It even enticed (with assistance from their daddy) Charles and Dolph to rake leaves. Lance was in Fairbury playing football.

One week ago today Lance was in Omaha at the Uk-Su-Ben Rodeo with the Wymore band. It was a wonderful experience for the youngsters; and they enjoyed every minute of it.

Charles, Dolph, and I went to a Cub Scout Hamburger fry this afternoon. I am helping the Den Mother for a few weeks with Charles' den. He will go out of

Cub Scouts in December when he is 11.

Harry is attending the Brotherhood meeting at the church tonight. We are having a series of evening meetings this week.

Yesterday I drove a carload of ladies to Beatrice to attend the first meeting of the W. A. R. We had two cars go.

Last night I attended a benefit bridge party and today went to my bridge club; so I have had enough card playing to last me for awhile.

We received a nice letter from Mary Beth today. She seems to be feeling fine.

The boys and I may be down

to see you later this month, and perhaps Harry will be able to go with us. He doesn't have very efficient help with the exception of Carrie.

Dolph enjoys school very much, and is learning fast. The boys all brought home the pictures that were taken of them at school; but they aren't too good. Report cards will come home next week.

Harry has come home now, and it is past our bedtime; so goodnight.

Words of Love,
Dorothy

October 17, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorcthea,

It was just about a week ago that you wrote me a good letter. I am always glad to hear from you, and to note the progress of your fine boys. I know your family is a very happy one, and perhaps there should have been at least one pretty, black-eyed girl like her mama to be a good influence over her brothers.

I realize that a big house requires a lot of attention. Blanche was here recently for a few days, and Janet is here quite often, and I have had no complaints or suggestions from them, so I presume Mrs. Elinor Scott is keeping the house in shape. I think I have been upstairs only twice since I came home. As you know, I have been occupying the apartment at the rear of the house. It is convenient, quiet and I do not have to climb stairs.

I am happy to have you come as often as you can, and you know we have plenty of room.

I would think that there would be someone in the town or in your church, who would be happy in Harry's employ and who could do efficient work. He should not try to continue to carry the whole load himself. You have a nice business, and should take time to enjoy life, which I think you do to a very large degree.

If you think of it, you may remember me to Carrie, who has been with Harry so long in his office.

Lots of love,

Dad

WCS:en

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

September 29, 1951

Dearest Dad;

I have just been listening to the Kansas - Iowa State game. Hurray! J.C.U. beat Nebraska today; so perhaps Kansas won't show up too badly against Nebraska.

Charles was fortunate in having an invitation to ride to Lincoln today where he used his Knot-Hole ticket to see the game.

Lance had to practice band this morning; so he couldn't go. The Wymore Band is appearing at the Ak. Sar. Ben Rodes in Omaha next Tuesday. They have chartered a bus; so Mother and Dad won't be called upon to chauffeur this time.

Dolph loves school, and prefers school days to week-ends. He has been outdoors all day today - raking leaves, picking up walnuts, and playing.

Mother Johnson is with us for a few days on her way home. She is very well - is taking a nap now. Last night we were

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

invited to Odell for dinner.

Tomorrow we are going to Bottland to have supper with Jack and Barbara and Laurie Beck.

Harry still has no replacement for Fred; so he is truly kept on the job. I don't know when we'll get to see a football game.

Last Sunday we took two couples with us to Dawson for church and into Missouri for dinner. It was nice to see so many of our old friends.

Tonight we are having company; so I must run the sweeper now. The house is all clean except for that, which I had to postpone until after the game broadcast.

Take care of yourself, and I love you.

Much love,

Dorothea

October 5, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

My dear Dorothea,

I have before me your good letter of September 29th, and I am always glad to hear from you and to know how my fine grandsons are getting along. I enjoy very much having them with me for a part of the time during the summer. I imagine that Dolph will want to go out for big fish from now on instead of being satisfied with catching the little ones. Your boys are a busy lot, and are capable and promising. With the kind of care that you and Harry will give them, I know they will all come through in fine shape, and it is interesting to know how many different things enjoy their interest.

I shall be very happy to have you and members of the family come to see me whenever you can. I don't sit around and mope, although sometimes I do get rather lonely. Elinor and her husband are taking care of the home nicely and sometimes you would think she was my private nurse, because she certainly is attentive to following the doctor's orders. Fortunately, I have not had trouble with my heart for a long time. I sleep with my head on several pillows, and lead a normal life.

We had a gathering of the office force, with all departments, at the home recently, and had a very fine time.

Dolph and Marie are in New York attending a meeting of the Associated Press, of which he is Vice President, and of other organizations. In the old days, I had the invitations to attend these meetings but never felt I could spare the time and money to attend very many of them.

Dolph, Jr. is at Quantico, and made a brief visit home. John is at K. U. and lives at the Phi Delt house, and I rarely

see him. He carries heavy work in school and also keeps himself in trim for football.

I have seen Janet and Mac and Mary Beth more often than any of the rest. They drop in on me frequently, although Mike does not come in very often excepting when his folks happen to be here.

Everything is moving along nicely at the office. I look every day at the paper weight made of Gertrude's picture, and realize that it has been on my desk for about 58 years. Someday one of you children should have it, and prize it. It represents your mama when she was 18 years old, at least a year before our marriage. I think it is rather remarkable how fond I was, not only of Gertrude, but also of her sister and mother. I loved them all very much. Gertrude was the last member of her family, and the only one bearing the Keineke name is her cousin, Robert and his family in Texas. They lost a son in the last war.

We may have had a slight frost, but the foliage has not been highly colored, although many leaves are falling because of the time of year.

Lots of love to you and yours,

Your father

WCS:en

MRS. HARRY F. JOHNSON

213 NORTH TWELFTH STREET
WYMORE, NEBRASKA

September 16

Dearest Dad;

Dolph received his birthday check, and wants me to thank you for it. He wishes to apply it on a television set.

We are all fine. Charles is mowing the lawn with Dolph's able assistance, and Lance is practicing football with the high school team. Some of the 8th graders were issued uniforms and are allowed to scrimmage, etc. with the older boys. He loves it, of course.

The Becks, Aunt Clara and E. J. stopped yesterday on their ^{way} back to Topeka, where they are now living. Tomorrow we are expecting Mother Johnson and her twin sister and her sister's husband, the Carl Webbers. Later this week a cousin of Harry's from Evanston will visit us; so you see we don't lack company.

Harry is so tied down at the lumber yard now with no extra man that I

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

don't know when we'll be able to go to Lawrence to see you. He likes to be busy; but I hope he doesn't overdo it.

Last week was such a busy one for me that I am trying to keep this one more quiet. The Gage County Fair is on in Beatrice; and of course, the boys want to go to that, so I guess we'll have to go there one evening. Harry and I are not "fair-goers"; but we did not take them last year: so this year we should.

I hope you are keeping well. I don't hear from you often; but I get a lot of news from the Journal-World.

Loads of Love,

Dorothea

Sept. 21, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea,

My little memo shows that I wrote you on the twelfth, which is about ten days ago. I have your good letter of the sixteenth. You have three mighty fine boys; you might say that you have four, if you wanted to include Harry. They are lively, physically fit and mentally A-1. I think it is nice that the boys learn to work in looking after the yard and things of that sort, because learning to work is perhaps almost as important, if not more important, than the learning one secures in school. A man lazy in mind and body stagnates wherever he is, and God pity the woman who is unfortunate enough to be married to that kind of a man.

I can well imagine that Lance will start growing very rapidly within the next year or two. At twelve, I weighed 82 lbs. and at fourteen, I was about as tall and probably about as heavy as I was for a good many years later. Now my weight seems to have adjusted itself at somewhere between 150 and 160. I think that is much better than weighing more at my age, as the additional weight would be an additional burden.

Elinor and her husband fit into my scheme of things very nicely. She keeps the house in good order, is a good but not extravagant cook and they look after me without being officious. I think that occupying the apartment on the first floor by myself, with its completely modern arrangement, is very fortunate indeed for me. Having an individual heating plant, which I installed originally for the convenience of Mother Reineke, and so by opening windows and turning on the heat when necessary, my room is always comfortable.

It seems like quite a while since I was at Wymore, but was it not last Christmas? Christmas is now not too far away. Just a little more than three months!

I think you have a fine lot of friends in Wymore, which certainly adds to the joy of living and doing business.

I expect that I shall have two grandsons, Dolph and John, playing football tomorrow. Dolph with the Marines at Quantico, and John with K. U. at Forth Worth. Mike was active in football in high school, but is too light for university playing. Although as a quarterback on offense, he might cause some tricks that would add materially in winning a game. As I recall, the Minneapolis team used him on offense but put a heavier man in his place in defense.

You would be surprised at the building activity south of our house. Four houses are nearing completion, and at least two more have been started. I do not know just how many it is planned to build at this time.

I invited Mrs. Rankin and Pauline down the other evening to eat watermelon, but aside from that, I have not had much company. One day not long ago, I think I felt about the lonliest that I had ever felt. It lacks only about a month of being three years since your mama passed away, but the hurt is still with me. I think that Gertrude and I were particularly fitted for each other. She was proficient in many things and was not only a loving and excellent wife, but was a fine mother as is shown by the character of our children, which undoubtedly she had a large part in modeling.

There is nothing much here to relate. At the church, we have lost Mr. and Mrs. Thomas who headed our music and I have not yet met the man who is to replace Mr. Thomas. I have now been a member of the church pretty nearly fifty years. We became active in our attendance when Blanche began attending Sunday School.

This is a long and rambling letter so you will please remember to be still more rambling when you reply. Give my love to all of the menfolk from Harry to Dolph.

As ever,

Your loving father

Sept. 18, 1951

Mrs. Robert Riggs
2110 Elmhurst
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Dear Marilyn and Bob,

Dolph and Marie have been away for nearly a week. A letter from them today gives a good report on Marie's knee, which had caused her a little worry because of lameness. His report is encouraging.

I have no doubt that children and grandchildren will be here this fall for the games and we have room in our home and in our hearts for all who can come.

Mrs. Scott is caring for the home nicely.

Quite a number of new homes are being built on the 40 acres south of the old homestead, and you may have noticed Rusty Springer is building a big store to accommodate the growing trade.

We now have our new chancellor installed and another year has started at the university. It is rather odd that of all my family, sisters, children, and grandchildren, that I am the only one who has never been in attendance at K. U. But I did serve as governor of the University Club.

Come and see me when you can.

Your loving grandfather,

WCS:en

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

August 31

Dearest Dad and Janet;

I have been planning all week to write to you, and now I suppose I may be too late to get this to you before you leave.

Yesterday and ~~the~~ day before were days to be out of Nebraska or Kansas; but last night it rained, and today has been nice. O'Harles hated to see the rain. He fears it will postpone or cancel his baseball game. His team has won the "Little League" championship regardless of the outcome of tonight's game.

The bridge party I went to yesterday was almost a visit to a steam bath. All of us were hot, and almost everyone was dripping by the time we left. I won the second high prize, a box of unusually pretty assorted greeting cards. The first prize was an item I already have; so I was pleased to receive second high.

Wednesday night we all went swimming in the pool. It is a very nice pool - so new and clean; and the water is a comfortable

temperature. Yesterday the wading pool was opened; but Dalph considers himself too big for that.

Last Sunday about 8 couples from Wynore drove to Pulo for dinner. Some of us stopped at Schubert on the way over; and we all stopped in Fall City on the way home to visit in the new home of ^{a brother of} one of the men. It was a hot day, but it was a nice outing. We stopped in Dawson; so Bus could talk to Charlie Heim.

Tuesday night Lance played in a band concert. It was just about the first time he had played his saxophone since June, and he had never practiced the numbers they played; so although I couldn't hear them, I imagine he made some mistakes.

Lance was happy to get his insect, and he has it in his collection now. Thank you for sending it. He expected to get it in Lawrence sometime.

Monday we celebrated Dalph's birthday with a swimming party and a picnic at the park. He was quite thrilled.

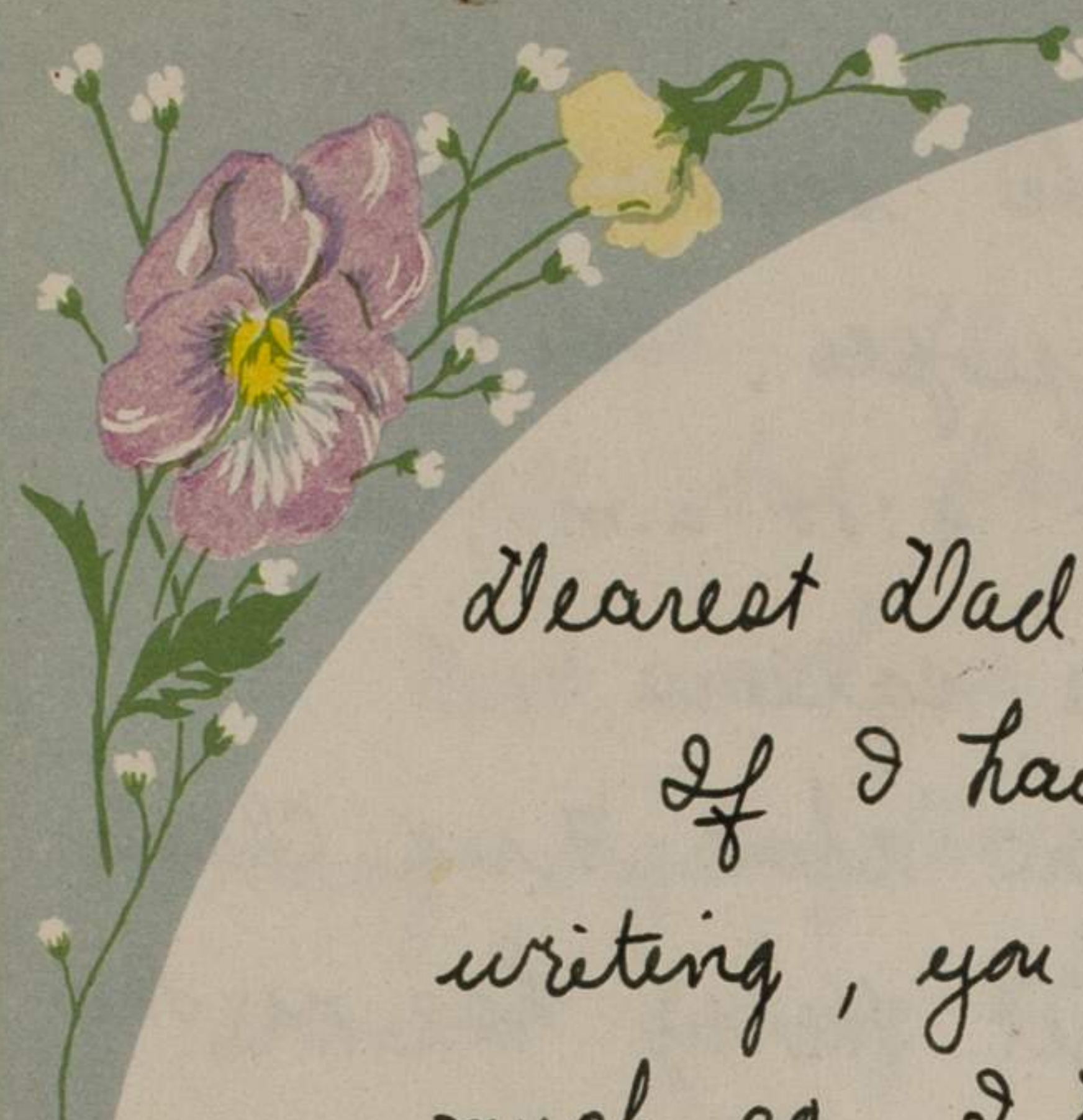
MRS. HARRY F. JOHNSON

213 NORTH TWELFTH STREET
WYMORE, NEBRASKA

One of our neighbors baked and sent over to us some delicious kolaches today. I have never tried to make them. I wonder if they can be made with honey. We haven't eaten any honey since we left Gull Lake.

I hope you have a nice trip home; and we'll see you before long.

Much love,
Dorothea



September 6

Dearest Dad;

If I have been negligent about writing, you have been twice as much so. I haven't heard a word from you since we left the lake. I suppose you are home now.

I hope the weather was nice after we left. We have had ^{only} a little hot weather. Today it is beautiful.

The boys were in the swimming pool almost every day it was open; but they started to school this Monday, so they haven't as much spare time. Doeph rides his bicycle to school like the big boys.

Labor Day, supposedly a holiday was a busier day than usual. Although the lumber yard was closed,

Harry had to make several trips down for various people. The boys went to school at 9:00 a.m.; and we had numerous callers.

Did I tell you that Fred Clark retired; and as yet Harry has no one to fill his place. He has had several applicants and has interviewed different ones; but has not hired anyone. It keeps him busier than he imagined he would be; for the yard really needs two men besides the truck drivers. He has made several changes there also. Business may not be so good this fall as crops are below average; but he needs another man anyway.

Uncle Harry came to Wymore Tuesday for a short visit with us.

He is on his way to Excelsior Springs

from Colorado. About the middle of October ~~she~~ he will go to Florida. He is well, but has to watch his diet.

Next week is going to be a full one. Many organizations that have been dormant during the summer are bursting into activity; and there is something lined up for me almost every afternoon and evening. Besides that a landscape gardener from Beatrice will be here to work in our yard. We are going to do some planting, rearranging and transplanting, and some trimming, etc. Our yard has good possibilities, and we are starting to improve it.

This afternoon I must go down town if Harry can bring the car up to me. I could walk, but I don't enjoy it. It is just a little too

far.

Harry goes to a C. of C. dinner
tonight; so the boys and I may have
bean soup. Does that sound good?

Much love,

Brother

September 12, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea and family:

I am already getting hungry to see you and yours.

We have had a great deal of rain since my return from the lake, and while the work of building new homes to the south of me is still in progress, it is being done under the handicap of wind and rain. One house is nearing completion and another is well on its way.

I enjoyed very much having you with me at the lake.

If the weather becomes settled enough to warrant it, I should be glad to have Harry take over the matter of reshingling the cabin, the bills for same to be passed on to me. If it has been as wet there as it has here, it has been a mighty poor time to re-roof a building.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott have been handling things very nicely at home. Last night we had a little excitement in the early evening because their little dog found that something was wrong in the basement, and we had quite a job in finding out that in some way a squirrel had gotten into the basement. We telephoned Dolph, and he came out with his shotgun and shot the squirrel which was hiding behind some boxes and was very difficult to get at.

Dolph Jr. has been spending a short leave, but left to return to his base. He is a fine boy and we are all proud of him.

I have hardly seen John since my return to Lawrence.
He has gone out for football again, which naturally keeps
him busy.

Give my love to all of the members of your family.

Lovingly,

WCS:df

Sept. 4, 1951

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

Dear Dorothea and family,

Mac and I arrived home Saturday evening in time for dinner and Janet and Mary Beth were also with us, and after our evening meal, they left together with Charlie Medlock for Minneapolis, Kansas. Coming back, Mac drove all the way for me and Janet and Mary Beth followed in their car. We did not follow each other closely, but we managed to have our cars serviced at the same time and were together for meals enroute as well as at the hotel at Carroll, Iowa. I had a very pleasant summer indeed and enjoyed very much the time I had with you and your family.

Tell Charles that I must have had a lucky hunch in not re-shingling this fall, because we could not possibly have found any time to have escaped the rain. If Harry thinks there is an opportune time between now and spring when we could have the work done, I shall be very glad to have him attend to it and I will pay the bill.

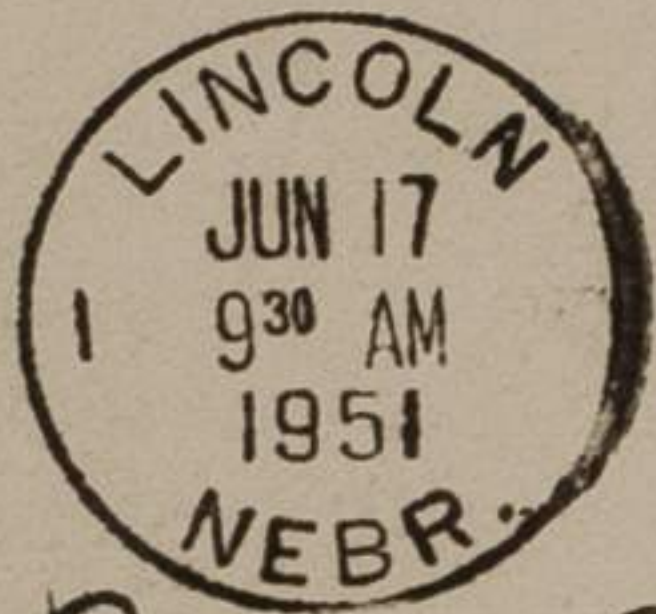
It has been extremely wet here, not only during July when the river was in flood, but it has rained Saturday, Sunday and is raining a little bit this morning.

I will not take time to write more now, but give my love to every member of your family.

Lovingly,

WCS:en

11
Dad



Mr. W. C. Simons
Journal - World
Lawrence
Kansas

over 6/18

Grand
To DAD on Father's Day





With lots of happy wishes

Intended just for you,

And love behind each one of them

To make them all come true.

WITH LOVE FROM

DOLPH

Lance

Charlie



10 FD 1-7
COPYRIGHT
HALL BROTHERS, INC.

June 18, 1951

To the young Johnsons
213 North 12th Street
Wymore, Nebraska

It certainly was fine to have a letter or greeting card from three fine grandsons all at once. They are all fine boys and I am sorry that I am not able to see them more often than I do.

Tell your mama I appreciate the nice Father's day card she sent me.

I send love for each one and also for their mama and daddy.

Lovingly,

WCS:en

A Father's Day Message for FATHER



M. Cooper



Because you're a wonderful Father
And the grandest of persons as well,
A man who is one in a million,
And a friend who is perfectly swell...

Because you mean more to me always,
The older and wiser I grow,
I'm making this day that's for fathers
My reason for telling you so!

Wolds of Love from,
Dorothen and Bue

"A Card of Character"

DESIGNED BY

MARJORIE COOPER

A MEMBER OF THE RUST CRAFT ARTISTS' GUILD

25 F 692

COPYRIGHT MCML
RUST CRAFT BOSTON

June 16, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea and family,

I am at the office this morning for a short while which indicates that I am considerably better. I drove down carefully in the Pontiac and the Scotts, noticing that I had gone, telephoned ahead so the folks at the office were waiting to park the car.

We have had almost continuous rains and yesterday, a few hail stones fell, which could not have done any damage.

Dolph and family will be gone another week and it is rather a momentous occasion with them because Dolph will so quickly be taken into military service. It seems a pity that Christianity has been so slow in spreading the admonition "Thou shalt not kill". Where a preponderance of the world's population does not follow Christian teachings, it makes conditions more or less serious for all of us.

I am always interested in the news from the boys. It is just too bad that there are not a few girls in the bunch, too. We hope to have you and yours take advantage of the cabin this year as you have on former occasions.

Lots of love,

WCS:en



May 17,

Dearest Dad;

First I want to thank you for my nice Mother's Day gift. I haven't spent it yet, but I know what it is going to buy for me. It was sweet of you to remember me.

Instead of flowers my husband bought a garbage disposal for my gift. It

will last much longer. I had flowers too, and Lance bought this pretty note paper for me. I also received some jewelry and a wastebasket; so I was well remembered.

It was a nice day at the church too. In the afternoon we had our dedication program and a reception following Bishop Dawson's (from Topeka) address.

I wish you had been here

Tuesday night to attend the band concert. It was wonderful - and not because Lance plays in the band.

Today he proudly brought home his first "W" - or Wymore letter, which he received in music, the only thing in which he is entitled to earn a letter until he is in high school. 4 seventh grade students and 2 eighth grade students were the only ones not in high school

to receive letters - They were presented amidst bursts of applause at an honors convocation this morning. This evening his class is having their picnic.

Charles is getting a haircut. He will be happy and I unhappy if it is a crew cut. He is supposed to have his picture taken before he takes that momentous step; but he can hardly wait.

I am so glad you have a couple to take the Parrishes place. We are planning to be in Lawrence on Delegation Day. Will you ^{be at home}

Much love,
Mother



June 11, 1951

Dearest Dad;

Well, I hope that by now you are really feeling fine again. I guess Janet is with you now; so you are well taken care of.

Carl and Dorothy spent the week-end with us; and the rain held off until they had left for home last night. We have had so much rain it is really getting serious for the farmers, so many of whom haven't been able to get corn planted.

Lance went to band rehearsal this morning under the direction of the new band

and music instructor who came
from the University of Kansas.
Lance really likes him; but he will
have only this week of music until
school starts, as the music program
will be over when he returns from
Minnesota.

Harry is busy, as usual; and
tonight has another school board
meeting.

Loads of Love,
Dorothea

June 14, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
213 North 12th Street
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea,

This is the 14th and I am at the office for a short while. I was glad to get your note and know that you and yours are OK. Janet is here and I am fortunate in having three unusually good and capable daughters. We, too, have had too much rain but it has been reasonably dry this week so the farmers undoubtedly have been able to do some work.

I am getting lonesome to see you and your fine family. The boys are going to be so grown up pretty soon that I will hardly know them.

I am just down for a short while. I am coming along all right but am not building up quite as rapidly as I did when I had not accumulated quite so many years.

Will be glad to see you all.

Lots of love,

WCS:en

May 22, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
213 North 12th Street
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea,

I am interested in all of your letters and the activities of yourself and sons. You certainly are fortunate in having three fine, healthy boys, alert both physically and mentally. I am also interested in hearing from time to time of the improvements and re-arrangements in your home. I think you are extremely fortunate in having the house in the first place and in its convenience to school and business, and also with good neighbors.

I think you will be interested in reading the copy of the letter I have just written to Blanche. I don't know of anything especially new.

Lots of love,

WCS:en
Enc.

to have one also. Thank
you for sending it.

Bus is ready to take
this to the post-office; so
I must end it.

Love,

Dorothen

Apr 5/7

April 28

Dearest Dad;

Harry and I are on our
way to Lincoln - he for the
Shrine Ceremonial and I to shop.
We have stopped in Portland,
and I am waiting for Harry.

Yesterday was our first
warm ^{day} and today is another.
Flowers are blooming now
and some fruit trees are
in bloom.

Are Dolph and Marie
home yet? I suppose they

greeted General MacArthur
somewhere. We watched the
New York parade and his
speech on television; and
listened to his speech in
Congress on the radio.

Lance played a solo and
two duets in the piano
recital last Thursday; and
everyone has complimented
him highly.

May 2,
We had a successful

day in Lincoln, and 3½
days have passed since
then - every one of them a
busy one.

Our plans are to visit the
McNalleys this week-end.

When are you coming to
Wymore? We'll come down
to get you anytime.

Your book arrived, and
we are so happy to have
it. We want each of the boys

Aus #7

April 5, 1951

Dearest Dad:

Well, the woes of housecleaning are upon me. Last Saturday morning a painter came to do some woodwork; so I suddenly decided to start spring housecleaning right there and then. To date I have almost 5 rooms finished. The weather has been lovely until today. It began to rain during the night and is still at it. I never like to clean in cloudy weather, but I'll finish what I can today.

How have you been since our nice trip to Tulsa? I enjoyed it so much, and I know you did too. I hope you weren't tired out by it.

Mother Johnson met me at the bus station, and we had luncheon together and did a few errands before leaving for Wymore. We had a nice drive home, and found everyone and everything in fine shape.

Sunday afternoon we drove to Lincoln and met the Dibbles, Carl and Dorothy, and Jack and Barbara Beck for a nice visit and dinner together at the Cornhusker. The children went too; so Mother Johnson was hostess to 15 at the Continental Buffet or Smorgasboard. Lance and Charles had all they could eat; and I don't believe went back for the permissible second or third helpings. There is a television set there; so they were good as gold while waiting for their parents to visit, etc. Mother Johnson went home with the Dibbles for a visit before going to Shubert. She may return here for Lance's recital, the 17th, then go back to Topeka.

We have decided to carpet the living-room and dining-room; and I am so glad. I know it will make our house look beautiful. The men were to have come tomorrow, but because of laying some linoleum in the front hall, they won't be here until next week. That leaves the house looking pretty bare, as I have taken up the rugs and cleaned them.

One good thing about this rain is that it is gentle and is watering carefully the grass seed that we planted yesterday. We have some bare spots that are so hard to grow grass in because the pitcher, the batter, and the catcher stand there. There seem to be no bases however. Our yard looks pretty nice this spring without much effort on our part. We cleaned it up very good last fall, so there aren't many leaves or twigs etc. around to be raked up.

Bus is attending a Masonic dinner tonight for which I have to furnish only two heads of lettuce. I am going to a P.T.A. Board dinner for which I am taking a jello salad. I guess the boys will eat at home, and I don't know exactly what I shall furnish for their dinner. I may let them go to the show.

I hope you got along fine until Irene and Leslie returned. I hated to leave before they came back, but I had responsibilities at home.

Loads of love,

Dorothea

McNalley File

• May 17, 1951

Mr. L. A. McNalley
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Mac:

Dan Sample called yesterday to say that he had a leak that was leaking water in on one of his show cases so I told him to call Rhodes Roofing as they had taken care of the last maintenance on that roof. I told him that in such an emergency I thought that you would want to go ahead and have it fixed temporarily so that it would not damage any equipment.

Dusty Rhodes called this morning and said that the leak was due to the anchor on one of Gravitt's signs. He will send you his bill (which should not amount to very much) however, you might want to take recourse against Gravitt.

Give my regards to Janet.

Sincerely,

LEller:ar

West McNalley File

L. A. McNALLEY

ATTORNEY AT LAW
MINNEAPOLIS, KANSAS

ASSOCIATE
EVAN CORMAN

May 4, 1951.

Mr. Leo L. Eller,
722 Massachusetts Street,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Leo:

I have checked the policies and find the assignment made by the Hess Agency. I had previously assumed that it would be made by Eddy, and, consequently, did not discover this.

Thanking you for calling our attention to the change.

Yours very truly,

L. A. McNalley

L. A. McNalley.

LAMc:ead

RISEING BOND

RAC CONTENT

USA



~~Ann H 23~~

April 18, 1951

Dearest Dad;

Lance is practicing for his piano recital which is to be tomorrow night. He is playing a solo and two duets. It sounds fine.

This afternoon he worked on his garden; and planted some radishes, lettuce, and onions. It still isn't warm enough for me to enjoy working outdoors.

I haven't had time anyway. I've been too busy in the house. It surely looks beautiful. I am sitting in the library where the beautiful oriental now is. We surely like the carpeting; and it is going to be easy to keep looking nice, I believe.

Sunday we are going to Bennet to the Dibbles for a birthday dinner for Dorothy and for Mother Johnson.

I have had several letters from Janet lately. We are trying to arrange a week-end for us to spend in Minneapolis. She

is busy also.

We shall be very happy to have a copy of your book as soon as they are available.

Report cards came home today, and were more than satisfactory. Lance, under a hard teacher, had 5 A's and 2 B's; and Charles had 3 A's and 4 B's; and Dolph had all 1's except in 2 things.

I hope we'll see you soon.

Love,

Dorothea

May 7, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
213 North 12th Street
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea,

I was glad to have your letter of April 28th and know that you live a happy, busy and useful life. I have no doubt that you had a fine time at Minneapolis.

I have just written Janet and am enclosing a carbon copy of my letter instead of trying to re-write the news.

I understand that the three daughters have been discussing the matter of Gull Lake. After you have decided when and who will open the cabin, let me know. Dolph gave me a couple of prize baits and I am anxious to try them out. They are actually small fish which have been preserved in some manner and with a hook attached to the tail. They should prove attractive and with a moving boat, they ought to be successful in catching fish.

My general health has been good and I have not had a re-occurrence of an attack such as I had at Christmas time at your home. It won't hurt my feelings if I never have a return of such an attack.

Give my love to the boys and tell them I shall be glad to have them write me a letter.

Lovingly,

WCS:en

Dorothea

April 23, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
213 North 12th Street
Symore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea,

I was glad to get your short letter of April 18th. I can imagine that your home is very attractive.

I was over to Nita Rankin's last evening for a light lunch and upon my returning home, found a young couple visiting the Parishs. The girl played the piano quite well and they were enjoying singing some of the songs that we had. They had a four months old baby girl with them, who weighed about 16 pounds, which was very large I think for her age. She seemed to be a sweet little child.

I have only seen Mike once in the last several weeks and that was a few days ago for a few minutes. I presume he is busy. I am interested in the fine reports your boys are making. I don't think I have seen Dolph Jr. since his folks went away but John was in once for a few moments. I expect they are quite busy. As you know, Dolph graduates while John is finishing his freshman year.

Love to all the family and come and see me as soon as you can.

Lovingly,

WCS:en

Dorothea

April 16, 1951

Mrs. H. P. Johnson
213 North 12th Street
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea,

I have had your recent letters and know that your house must look very attractive with its new carpets. I have wondered a bit what you did with the colorful oriental that you had in your living room.

With a husband and three boys to look after besides your many outside engagements, I know you must be a very busy girl and I often recall how the little slender girl that you are, used to defeat college boys in outdoor and indoor tennis. I remember that some of them could hardly take it gracefully.

Our invitation to you and the family includes Mrs. Johnson Sr. and we hope she can be with you at the Lake.

In the next two or three years, Lance will probably start growing like a weed and will surprise you all with his growth.

Dolph and Marie left last night for New York to be gone ten days. He will attend the annual meeting of the Associated Press, of which he is first Vice President.

The cloth covers for my Genealogy have been slower than malosses in the winter time. We sent the books to Kansas City and some careless or incompetent girl smeared some of the pages with glue so we had to repress them. As soon as the books are ready, I shall be glad to send you a copy if I have not already done so.

Love to you all,

WCS:en

April 7, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea,

I have before me your good letter of April 5. I know what house cleaning is but never have had to undertake the job myself. Irene has been so careful in sweeping and dusting that a thorough cleaning may or may not be necessary.

I had Mr. Stewart of the Bell Music Store give the piano a thorough going over and tuning. I had heard of damage that had been done by moths etc. but fortunately, we seemed to have escaped. I wish I knew how to play the piano because I think I should enjoy it. A few years ago when I bought a second hand piano for our cabin at Gull Lake, I found that Gertrude took occasion to play it much more frequently than she did the grand at home, the reason undoubtedly being that she had more time. As it is now, Dolph, Marie and John enjoy playing the piano and when your youngsters are there, Lance made good use of it.

Our spring is very late. The wheat field to the south of us is barely green and we understand that it may be disturbed a good deal soon by some proposed building developments. I do not feel very enthusiastic about going north this summer but probably will do so. You have not told me yet as to your plans for going to the Lake.

Love to you and the boys including Harry.

As ever,

WCS:en

Dorothea

April 3, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
213 North 12th Street
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea,

I attended a Rotary Convention yesterday at the Congregational Church and sitting next to me was a little black-eyed girl, who wished to be remembered to you as she used to be your friend. She used to be quite thin but she is somewhat heavier now. She spoke of you but I didn't wish to ask her name.

I hope that you had no ill effects from your other strenuous drive to and from Tulsa. I enjoyed every minute I had with you and I thought we had a very pleasant time in Tulsa. Blanche is now somewhere on the Gulf Coast unless she has returned. I had a post card from her but it was not dated and the postal stamp is indecipherable. I hope she will have a good time because she has been under a good deal of a burden for a long time. I think that Lena McMalley is with her.

I hope that you and yours are all in good health and happy. Love to you and Harry and the boys.

As ever,

WCS:en

March 19, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

I received your letter of the 14th and was glad to hear from you. I have it marked on my calendar when you will arrive by bus, and will be very glad to see you.

I know the boys are growing up and even Harry may have become grey and haggard in the long time since I have seen him, but I rather doubt that he has changed materially.

You will get a copy of the genealogy just as soon as the cloth bound copies arrive. Give my love to Harry and the boys.

Lovingly,

WCS:bjh

March 14, 1951

Dearest Dad:

I received your letter today; and am going to answer it right away. If I don't do it now while I have the typewriter out, I don't know when I might get one written.

Leaving Lawrence for Tulsa on the 22nd will suit me fine. I shall take the bus from here on Wednesday the 21st; and will arrive sometime that afternoon. Then we can leave the next day. I too am expecting to have a good time with my relatives.

Harry and I returned yesterday from Omaha. We took the train there on Sunday afternoon with the Bensons; and returned yesterday afternoon. We had intended to drive, but the roads were slick and treacherous; so we changed our plans. We had a nice trip; and Bus took care of a good deal of business while I was shopping. We had a lady staying with the boys.

I am anxious to see your book and to have a copy of it to read and to show to my friends.

Harry and I may work on the church books tonight. We are quite a little behind with them; but it doesn't make any difference except that it is a lot of work to catch up.

Dolph is in the bathtub. He is also in the doghouse, as he came home from school late after being engaged in a snowball fight. Lance is taking his piano lesson, and Charles is bothering me to help him with a cross-word puzzle. At least he has come to the right party.

We are having pork chops for dinner, and I must get them on; so I'll close for this time.

You sent Harry a very pretty tie for his birthday. He has not had time to thank you for it; but I mentioned it to you in a letter.

Loads of Love,

Dorothea

Dear Dad -

I want to thank you for the beautiful tie. I think Dorothea is really looking forward to the trip to Tulsa with you

Love

Sus.

Easter Sunday March 25 -
Perhaps go down Thursday Mar 22 =
February 15, 1951

Dearest Dad:

Thanks for all of the valentines. Harry especially appreciated the one to Daughter and her husband.

I wrote to Clif Calvin, and told him I would sell the property for \$11,500. Of course, I may not get it; and if I don't I may take it off the market and wait for a better offer. I hate to have people bothering Dolph about it so much and perhaps you too; and if I sell it, that difficulty would be overcome.

Your suggestion about accompanying you to Tulsa is appealing; and perhaps I can do that. When would you want to go, and how long would you expect to be gone? If Mother Johnson can not be here, I think the lady who stayed with the boys while we were in Lawrence and Kansas City can probably stay again.

I have just finished drying a load of clothes in my new dryer. Bus had one installed yesterday for my valentine. It is going to save me a lot of work. Things dry so smoothly that many things don't have to be ironed. Our house surely looks nice now; and things are so convenient. I have practically everything in the way of appliances to help me with my housework.

The carpenter is almost finished with his work. We have a new desk in the kitchen, a hall coat rack, more bookcases in the library, a magazine and newspaper rack in the living-room and a few other changes have been made.

Today is Harry's birthday; so we'll have a birthday cake tonight. We had company for lunch, and are going to the P.T.A. Fun Night tonight after dinner. You were here for the one last year. It was a year ago today that you and I drove up to Wymore together after our unsuccessful attempt two days earlier. The Lions' Club is putting on a short minstrel show; and of course, Harry is in it. The boys will get a kick out of it.

Last night the Tacketts came over for an evening of bridge and late refreshments. It was a big day for the boys with their valentine exchanges at school.

Loads of Love,

Dorothea

Am 3/10

Ans 3/10

March 5 1951

Dearest Dad;

I had a nice letter from Blanche today saying that she was looking forward to our visit with pleasure. I am also. I think we will have a nice time together. I shall come to Lawrence on the bus Wednesday, arriving there about 3:30 I believe. We can drive to Tulsa then on Thursday, the 22nd.

We are all fine here. Charles is at the park playing basketball, Lance is washing his bicycle, and Dolph is playing with some little friends. I have been washing today and drying the clothes in my new clothes dryer. It is surely a big help to me. It saves me so much ironing time as things come out of it so soft and wrinkle free. I have the last load in it now.

It is a beautiful day. I hope the weather will be like this when we drive to Tulsa. It makes me feel like getting out in the yard to start working on the lawn, etc.

Harry and I are going to go to Omaha some day this week. He has some business there; and I always like to shop there. It is a busy week as usual with some affair scheduled for every night.

Carl and Dorothy were here over the week-end. They left for home about 10 o'clock last night. We enjoyed their visit, although it was short.

Tomorrow night I have to take a cake to Eastern Star. I seldom go to the meetings. Harry doesn't belong, and I don't like to go out unless he is going too. I baked such a good chocolate cake Saturday that I think I shall bake the same kind for tomorrow.

I haven't written to you since we went to Manhattan to see the Kansas-Kansas State basketball game. Phog got tickets for us; so we drove down Saturday afternoon, and spent the night with the Becks at Dwight. We saw Janet and Mack and Dolph, Jr. and John at the game. The boys surely enjoyed the game although they were disappointed that Kansas lost. Kansas has sadly missed Jerry Waugh.

Lance is to be in a P.T.A. program at the school Thursday night. He is portraying Chief Red Cloud; so we have been busy making an Indian costume for him. His teacher wants me to come early to help paint the Indians and get everyone into their costumes. It is to be a skit honoring Brotherhood Week. There was a mix-up in dates; hence the commemoration of Brotherhood Week in March instead of April. Lance and Charles have both entered posters in a contest that will be judged that night, and a prize of \$1.00 is awarded to the winner in each grade. Lance's might win in his grade, but I doubt if Charles' has a chance. Of course, he did not spend nearly the time on his that Lance did. They are busy every minute. Tonight the girls in the band have to entertain the boys at a party, because the boys sold more magazine subscriptions, the commissions for which go to the band.

I hope you are well. You take good care of yourself so that we can enjoy the visit in Tulsa. I don't know if Bus has thanked you for his birthday tie; but he surely does like it. It is such a pretty one. Thank you.

Loads of Love,

Dorothea

March 10, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea,

It will not be long now until we shall be on our way to Oklahoma. I understand that Sunday, March 25, will be Easter and I think perhaps we should go down Thursday, March 22. How does that appeal to you? Letters from my granddaughter indicate that they are planning to be with their parents in Tulsa at Easter, at which time, I will get to see my great grandsons.

I note that Harry's birthday was on the fifteenth and I am quite sure that I did not send him anything. So he will have something coming.

You have a good memory remembering that it was just a year ago that we made our trip over the ice attempting to go to Wymore. Your letter indicates that you have an active and interesting life. Give my love to each of the children.

Lovingly,

WCS:en

March 7, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

I have just dictated rather a long letter to Blanche and have asked Barbara to make a copy of same for you and for Janet as it will give you some information without having to rewrite it. It won't be long now until we shall be headed for Oklahoma for a few days' visit. We shall probably not stay too long. I really do not know of any special news to include that I haven't mentioned in my letter to Blanche.

I noticed around the house that hyacinths and tulips and probably some other plants are already up for perhaps 2 inches. They are liable to be nipped, although being just south of the house they are somewhat protected. I think perhaps this weather is almost ideal for this time of year. Cold enough to hold things back a bit and still warm enough for us to enjoy the harbingers of spring. We notice activity among the birds, which indicates that some of them are already nesting.

Give my love to the whole family.

Lovingly,

WCS:bjh

February 27, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wynore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

I had a nice visit with Blanche and Pat who left for home yesterday. They were with me for two or three days and I enjoyed having them here very much. She spoke of our coming visit and I think she looks forward to it with pleasure.

She tells me that Owen's little boy has learned to wave bye-bye and to say a few words. It has been some time now since I have seen "Mr. Wayne" and I hope that we shall see them when we make our visit to Tulsa next month.

I think that plans are underway to open a section of the 40 acres to the south of us for new homes. Conrad McGrew seems to be one of the moving spirits in the matter, and they asked Dolph yesterday if I would object to removing the hedge fence, or to having it removed. I said I did not, but there is just one reason why I like to have it, and that is that it is a shelter for quail and I am very fond of birds. Small birds like wild canaries or humming birds usually like to nest in hedges, which probably protects them a bit from larger and marauding birds.

Blanche and Pat left us yesterday after lunch and I took Irene and Leslie out to dinner last night to the Palms. I was rather surprised at the large and varied menu that was offered, and the excellence of the cooking. I do not like to patronize the tax supported places which are in competition with institutions that pay taxes, but I have never seen a menu at the Eldridge that could in any way compare with that of the Palms, and the cooking was also excellent. I did not see very many persons there that I knew, but I did visit for a few minutes with Dr. and Mrs. Stauffer.

Give my love to every member of the family.

Lovingly,

WCS:bjh

February 20, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

Answering your letter of February 15 I think probably it might be wise for us to leave Thursday, March 22, which would leave us Friday, Saturday and Easter Sunday in Tulsa. If that makes too long a visit both for you and for the folks in Tulsa, we could go down on the 23rd, which would leave us the 24th and 25th with the folks.

I shall have to come up to Wymore again some of these days to see the completion of the many improvements you have made in your home. I overlooked the 15th as being Harry's birthday but will try to remember it at another time. I think you and Harry and family have a very lively, joyous and successful life. I am sorry not to be in on fun night.

As I recall, a year ago the ladies put on a fake exhibition of the Chamber of Commerce in session. Yesterday I was a dinner guest at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Jordan. Nothing had been said about it being his birthday, so today I bought an attractive tie for him and had the Palace send it out to him. For a good many years they have occupied the seats directly in front of where Gertrude and I sat in church, and where I still sit when I am attending the church service.

Some peculiar thing happened. Noting that the church had forgotten that I was in town as far as any job printing was concerned I made a note to change a certain bequest that I was going to give the church to the Kansas Baptist Convention, which I may do anyhow; but strangely enough right at that time for the first time in three or four years quite a little bunch of printing came in from the local church. I think the fault may be mine in that I don't attend enough of the get-togethers of the church, but some way I don't find much pleasure in so doing and I have attended very few such gatherings in the past three years.

Of the persons who were active in the church some years ago practically none of them are left. The Davis girls are

Mrs. H. F. Johnson, February 20, 1951

still living but are not very regular in their attendance. Mrs. Whit Churchill, afterwards remarried, seldom comes; Mrs. Susie Johnson no longer attends on account of her years; Mrs. Lester has her hands full trying to make a living making a home for several old ladies who are doubtless just about as able to take care of themselves as she is to look after them. To be rather rough in the expression "isn't it hell to get old!"

During the past year I have exchanged letters with Mrs. L. P. Russell whose husband baptised me, and the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Hutchinson who were with us at about the turn of the century and who baptised Blanche. Perhaps an occasional letter from Mrs. Koelb, and possibly Mrs. O. C. Brown. Brown and I were practically of the same age, the difference being perhaps less than a week. He has been gone a number of years and I am not quite sure whether or not she is still living. I don't know anything about the Cunninghams, for which I should be thankful, nor the Snodgrasses, who happily inflicted us hardly one full year. Mrs. Snodgrass, I think, was the daughter of a missionary and was born in India. She was a very likable person, something which could not truthfully be said of her husband. I never liked the name Snodgrass anyway.

I am becoming quite accustomed to spending my evenings alone in our living room, but I can't say that I particularly enjoy it. Anyhow, I go to bed rather early. I should be glad to have a good rough and tumble with your three boys, although it would only take a few minutes for them to wear me out.

Give my love to Harry and the boys.

Lovingly,

WCS:bjh

February 21, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

In any sale that you should make of your five acre tract please remember that it is quite essential that you require the purchaser to properly provide for the continuance of Tennessee Street. Tennessee Street apparently confronts the intersection of the Wakarusa Township property with the Drake property, formerly owned by Blanche and Pat.

Tennessee Street when open would finally extend to the south line of our home five acres. Any disposition that did not provide for the opening of Tennessee Street would severely diminish the value of my five acres directly south of your property and of the acreage occupied by my home, and the four acres or more west of my home property. This four acres was formerly a part of the ten acres that I purchased and of which I gave Blanche and Pat their home on the northern part of the tract.

I may ask Dolph to look after this property for me so that I shall not have something which might cause me worry. I think that the value of all of this vacant property has already greatly increased and will continue to increase. On what is known as the Breezedell property, homes have now been built facing on East Street, a 50 foot street set aside at the south end of the property and adjoining the Haskell reservation. Some years ago Col. Learnard, who lived on the south side of 23rd Street, used to advertise his home as being one mile south of the city limits. While the growth has not been rapid, it has been constant, and there are very few vacant lots available.

There is not much to tell you in the way of news. Dolph, Jr. and John are making the most of their time at the university in the realization that they may be called in the service at most any time. I think I have told you that John is already a midshipman with the same status as would be the case if he were enrolled at Annapolis.

My love to you, Harry and the boys.

Lovingly,

WCS:bjh

February 8, 1951

Dearest Dad:

Why don't you write me a letter? I haven't heard from you since we were in Lawrence. I hope you are feeling fine.

I have just returned from my church group meeting, where I presented the paper on Mary that I wrote up from the information I took from your Biblical Encyclopedia. The program was on "Women of the Bible".

When I returned, Lance said that I had received a long distance phone call from Lawrence. I called the operator; and it was Clifton Calvin wanting to know if I would sell my property. I had set a price of \$11,000 on it to the other realtor; so I told Clif that; but added that if you would rather I would not sell it, I would not care to do so. Do you think that I could sell it for any more than \$11,000? That seems like a very good price to me. Of course, I perhaps can't get that much for it. \$9,000 seems to be what they would consider. I am willing to sell it for \$11,000 if you do not object. I told Clif that I would write to you, then let him know my decision. I have some things I would like to do that I could use the money for.

Tonight is P.T.A., and as I am the vice-president I guess I shall have to go. I had to go the last time because Dolph was on the program; and next month Lance will perform. We are preparing an Indian costume for him to wear.

We were hoping to see the Kansas-Kansas State basketball game at Manhattan; but I guess we can't get any tickets. Harry wrote to Manhattan some time ago; and was informed that they were sold out. Then I wrote to Phog, thinking he might have some available; but he didn't either. Charles is surely disappointed. He did so want to see some of the Kansas State seniors play, some that he has heard so much about. You know he listens to every Basketball or football game that he can dial to on the radio.

I received a letter from Aunt Grayce the other day, a short one.

Carpenters are making a mess in the library. We are having our bookcase enlarged, adding four shelves to the top, and putting more doors at the bottom. We have more books than bookshelves, thus the remodeling. There is a desk to be built in the kitchen and a few little repair jobs to be taken care of; and the carpenters will be finished. Then I need a plumber, an electrician, and a painter. I'd love to carpet our living-room and dining-room; but wool is so expensive now I guess I'd better wait. We still need the front porch repaired and the upstairs bathroom enlarged. Perhaps we should have built a new house.

If I am going to be ready for a board meeting at 7:00, I'd better start dinner right away.

Loads of Love,

Dorothea

February 12, 1951

Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Lawrence, Nebraska

Dear Dorothea:

As you probably know Carl Drake who bought the Maloney property and I have been rather working together in advising the other of what we were doing in regard to the property, so upon receipt of your letter this morning I called him up and we sat side by side at Rotary dinner. I showed him your letter and he said if you could get \$11,000 for that property he would advise you to sell. Personally I wouldn't be surprised if you could boost that price to \$12,500 and still get it. Land of that sort available for home building is almost non-existent, and this property is right in town and adjacent to all municipal advantages. Even \$11,000 is not a bad price but I still believe that if you price it at \$12,500 you would get it either now or shortly afterwards.

You have five acres with absolutely no waste land, and if Tennessee Street should be opened up to the south as it doubtless will be in the near future you will have an opening on both Vermont and Tennessee. The one possible obstacle to development now is the Wakarusa town hall property at the west end of the five acres north of you. However, there might be room enough, doubtless is, by taking a little off of Drake and a little off of your property to extend Tennessee Street to the south which would open this property for homes.

As I look back on my purchases of property my only regret is that I did not buy still more, because I have never taken a loss on any piece of property that I have owned in Lawrence. This does not mean that I have gouged anybody but it simply means that I have had good judgment in making purchases and that property has been worth the money. As I reconsider these property purchases I realize that some of the property I have had could have been held for a time and sold for a still greater increase, but instead of holding a few pieces of property and holding onto them I have bought and sold.

Mrs. H. F. Johnson, February 12, 1951

It already seems like a long while since I have seen you. I hear good news from the other branches of the family. Even little Owen, Owen and Marie Maloney's baby, is beginning to talk and is growing in interest every day. I want you to remember that you have the freedom of reopening the cabin at the lake again this year if you care to do so. Your letter of the 8th asked why I didn't write a letter, and I am sure you must have received one not far from that date. Barbara Hart, my little stenographer is methodical in keeping dates so that we have the proof.

After reading The Yankee Exodus, a copy of which I gave to Jean Dibble, I am afraid that she may not have found it very interesting. I have but a few more pages to read and it is largely like reading the personals of an old newspaper telling that John Jones had moved out west. It seems to me that it could have been made much more interesting, although from a factual standpoint it is doubtless correct.

We have been as busy as \$700.00 and the way it looks now my genealogy may be out by the turn of the century. It is not a very happy prospect; but it's hard work to turn down orders for job printing from regular customers in order to get the genealogy printed. The reactivating of Sunflower is bringing us in a lot of work, and as we had that work when it was in operation before and found it desirable we can not neglect it.

Why don't you come down sometime before Easter and drive with me down to see Blanche and family. I think that the other children, Eileen, Marilyn and Owen are planning to be with Blanche and Pat for Easter and that would give us an opportunity to see them all. If they're too crowded to take care of us at the home I think I can dig up enough to take care of the hotel bills.

Love to each and every one of you.

Lovingly,

WCS:bjh

January 25, 1951

Mrs. O. W. Maloney
Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Mrs. L. A. McMalley

Dear Girls:

Some time ago I found in the old secretary in what we call the apartment a picture that had been taken in Chicago a good many years ago when my mother, Jennie B. Simons, was living. I have hunted high and low through the old secretary since then and can not find the picture. Thinking it possible that one of your girls may have taken it, I am writing to each one of you.

I am wanting to use a picture of Mamma in my genealogy, and I think that the picture of her taken in that group is better than anything else that I have. As a matter of fact, I have very few pictures of her. The picture was taken in Chicago and I think all of Mamma's five children were present excepting L.A. The picture was a sepia tint. I sincerely hope that one of you has it because otherwise I certainly do not know what has become of it.

If any of you has a copy of this picture of your own I should be glad to have you loan it to me until I could copy the picture of Mamma.

We had Harry and Dorothea with us the night of the 23rd. They were on their way to Kansas City to attend a lumbermans' convention.

Love to all,

WCS:bjh

January 13, 1951

Dearest Dad;

I expect you will be surprised to hear from me. It has been so long since I have written. There were so many things to be done when I returned from Lawrence. I have pretty well caught up with them now, although I am never completely caught up with things that have to be done.

Day before yesterday my church group met here; and I was pretty tired yesterday; so I haven't done much but rest and soak my right foot which has been bothering me some. A friend of mine seems to think it is my metatarsal arch. I don't know what caused it; and it isn't serious but it does hurt when I put my weight down on it.

Carrie has been sick; and has not been at the lumber yard since a week ago Thursday morning; so Bus has been very busy. He says he realizes now how much there is to do when one of the personnel is away. Of course, he is doing the book work as well as all of his regular duties.

Mother Johnson has been sick also. She had an asthma attack which then developed into virus pneumonia; and she was in the hospital for several days. Dorothy Johnson is with her now in Topeka.

I wish you could have been here Thursday night to see and hear Dolph perform at P.T.A. He and a little girl in his room were asked to sing a duet "School Days"; and they did it so well, and were just darling. I suppose they will be in demand now for programs.

I had a letter from Marie which said that you didn't feel so well when they returned from New York, but that you were feeling better now. I guess that was after the attack you told me about that you had on the morning after we left. I hope you are fine now.

We enjoyed your visit so much, It was grand to have you here. I wish you would come more often. We are still enjoying the candy although it is mostly gone now.

I talked over the phone this morning to the lady who has the lovely antique chairs; and I told her that I would take them. She has some other things in her home town that she is going to bring here for me to see.

Lance was so tickled to receive the information from you; and he had his family tree complete on his mother's side; and pretty well completed on the other side. Mother Johnson didn't know the birthdates and marriage dates of the Johnson grandparents. Lance also gave a talk on some of his ancestors at school. He seems to be very much interested in them We will all be so glad when your book is published.

I don't know how much of your own life you have included in the book; but I would like to have you write a book about your own experiences both in western Kansas and in Lawrence. You have told me so many interesting stories, but I can't remember them to tell to the boys.

Much love,

Dorothea