

Mrs. Don A. Freeman, February 21, 1951

strange, but I think it is true that The World will be 59 years old the first of March. The consolidation of The Journal and World came about in 1911 following the fire which consumed the Bowersock Theatre and with it the printing plant of The Journal. Of those connected with newspapers at the time I came to Lawrence, or with job printing, no one remains. Oscar Learnard, the youngest son of Col. Learnard, having left Lawrence with his wife for California, I think, in the spring a few years ago. All of the former printers so far as I am aware have also passed on. That of course is true with the merchants on the street. There are a few firms still bearing the original names, but with one exception there is only one man in business on the street who was in Lawrence when I came, and he at that time was working for someone else.

I hear from my daughters quite often and of course it is a comfort to me to have Dolph and Marie and their two boys so near by. I should like to have you know the capable little stenographer who is taking this letter. She has been with us for some time now, and her husband is employed in Lawrence. Of the long-time employees we have Joe Murray and Katherine Wilson Stevens upstairs, and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Farris downstairs.

As I may have told you, John Simons has been a midshipman for some weeks or months, and Dolph, I think, would prefer a position in the navy if he had his choice. The spreading of the doll among the voters in the United States has seemingly given the Democratic Party a lifetime hold on the presidency, but with the number of wars we have had under Democratic presidents compared to the many years of peace under Republican leaders, one would think that fact should have its weight in our political life.

As you know, Deane Malott, our chancellor, leaves at the end of this school year to become chancellor of Cornell University at Ithaca, New York, and we shall be in the market for his successor. Dolph has found that being president of the Alumni Association and first vice president of the Associated Press has called for considerable of his time. I think now that he is also one of the group upon whom the responsibility is placed to secure a successor to Malott.

This is a long letter which started out largely to simply express my love for you and my best wishes for your birthday. Find herewith a check which I hope you will use to buy something that you will like. I send it realizing that money no longer has the value that it formerly had. Give my love to Don.

Lovingly,

WCS:bjh