

October 17, 1951

Mrs. L. A. McNalley
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Janet,

I have before me your letter of October 10. It has been my good fortune to see you much more often than I have the others who are not living in town. I am always very happy to see you and Mac, and also to have Mary Beth and Charles drop in to see Mike quite frequently.

I am sorry you ran out of gas, and quite fortunately, I have seldom had that experience. I remember one time, being short on gas, when I was driving out to see you, and I caught a ride into the nearest town and had them take gas out to me. It is an experience that we are all apt to have no matter how careful we may be.

I am very sorry you are having a cold, and hope that you are feeling very much better now. Perhaps I should rap on the wood pile, but I have been quite fortunate in escaping colds.

I had a nice visit with Blanche over the weekend, and a part of the time with Pat also.

I can hardly realize that your fruit trees have lived so long and have borne so much fruit. In Hodgeman County and Pawnee County, if a man succeeded in having some fruit trees, they usually did not live long. A Mr. Longsbury, who lived just west of Learnard and in the district where mama had taught school at one time, had succeeded in keeping some fruit trees alive for quite awhile, but lost them all during a period of draught. I will pass on to you an idea that I have had, but perhaps it would not be necessary where you are. I have thought that if I were living in Western Kansas again, that I would locate the trees where I wanted to have them, and then would discharge dynamite in each one of the holes. The force of the