

EASTER

WISHES





May the Easter Joy
that's wished you
Like a sunbeam, shed
its ray,
Lighting every hour with
gladness
As you go along
your way!

With much love from my family
and myself Your cousin
Kathryn

March 25- 51

P. S. I know this is full of errors but I havnt time to correct them.

PHONE CHURCHILL 9-3845

WALTER W. GREGG

1901 PARKDALE PLACE

Mar. 21, 51.

MONTROSE, CALIFORNIA

- Dear Collie-(I should really say, my VERY DEAR Collie) (for we probably never will see each other again) but I think of you often, and treasure all your letters)

I used to be a good correspondent but it seems now as if I hadnt ambition enough to do all the things I ought to do, and that especially applies to writing letters. Norma reproaches me often for not writing oftener. It's funny how people always like to get letters but never seem to remember that they have to be answered.

You are more fortunate than I, for you have your children ~~xxxx~~ around you to visit with, while my only one (and such a wonderful girl) is so far away. It is too bad. Her other husband was a Rhodes Scholar, a graduate of Oxford, and an army officer, but he didnt know how to be a good husband. Not that he was a brute or a villain, but he was used to one kind of life, and she, to have stayed where HE was, would have had to give up all of her writing and stage experience, as while he went into Georgetown University in Ky., as professor of English, all of HER life was in the field of music & the stage. In the short time they lived together, she had to stage TWO productions that took her away from Georgetown. I remember that there were two factions in the hotel where we lived who took sides as to whether she should marry Capt. Barnett, or Lt. Milledge Bullard, who were both stationed at Ft. Benjamin Harrison (near Indianapolis) They were both just out of the army, and both wanted her. Even in the hotel from the manager down, they took sides. But she took Allen Barnett, and was married in the most beautiful home in Indiana, and went to Chicago on their honeymoon, in a lovely car that Walter gave them for a wedding present. Being a popular writer & composer, as well as a producer, people came from Indpls. out to Muncie for ~~xxxx~~ an interview with her from the Indianapolis Star, & the Indianapolis Daily News. She went to Chicago as I told you, & while she was there, she took Allen over to meet Julia. And to show you what an impossible person he was, during a discussion of the Civil war (he was a Southerner, of course, born in Haelbyville, Ky) he had the bad taste to commit the faux pas of saying "Of course I wasnt born then, but I would have been on the Confederate side if I had been there". And Julia gave him THIS, in reply, which I think was perfect. (You know Julia) She said, well, COUSIN ALLEN, you know the 'war' is over, and we are ALL just GOOD Americans, now, arnt we?" *** Walter tried to get him a position as representative for the General Motors Co., as he spoke English & French. It would have been a wonderful future for him, but Walter's friend, who was the big mogul of the company, said, after interviewing him, "He wouldnt do, Walter, he isnt a good enough mixer". In other words, he was too stiff and unbending. So that was that. Norma never complained, but a friend of hers who was visiting her from New York, having been very close to us in the show business, & a producer herself) came to Muncie to see me where ~~xxxxxx~~ we were living, as Walter was in the oil business there, buying and drilling oil wells) As she & Norma came in I looked at Norma & noticed she was very sad & long faced. I asked Ann, her friend, what was the matter, and she said "O, mother, she cant live with that man: he is impossible." And at that poor Norma laid her head on the table and cried! She had never complained & I know now, it was because she knew I was ill with Bronchial Asthma, (and thereby hangs another tale) I wasnt in bed, ~~btu~~ though, and when the whole story came out, where she didnt even have heat in her bathroom, had caught cold from it, I said, "You cant live with a man like that, when you have been shielded & protected all your life". So, Walter & I went down there with her, (Ann went back to N. Y.) and told Allen we had come to take Norma away. They didnt even have a home of their own; only a

cheap furnished apartment) Well, Allen saw that it wouldn't do, too, so we took her back with us, and all the people who ~~never~~ thought it was a mistake said, "I told you so". Well, we had a very dear friend, a Judge of the Superior Court in Muncie, & he said he'd get the divorce for mental cruelty, behind closed doors. And he DID. But some sneak of a reporter, got hold of it, & it was spread out over the front page of the George town paper (or papers, I forget which) saying that the popular young composer and singer, Norma Gregg, had gotten a divorce from Capt. Allen Barnet, for Mental Cruelty. They had broken their word, & of course, it was very embarrassing for Allen, I am sure, and he didn't know that Norma had tried to protect him from that publicity, and we were very sorry for that, & have never found out who did that dirty deal. All Norma wanted was to get free of him. That kind of publicity didn't do HER any more good than it did him, I am sure. Things weren't like they are now, where every female of any prominence who is expecting a baby seems to want to advertise it to the world. Everything has degenerated since the unspeakable FDR went into office, carrying all the crooks & scum of Europe in here (indiscriminate immigration)

But back to Norma. She has now the finest man I have ever known (outside of my own blessed husband) and the only sorrow I have is that she is so far away, with 2500 miles of ocean between us. It is tough for me, as you can well imagine.

Here's some more 'ancient history'. You will note that I said I had bronchial asthma in the first part of the letter. And now I'll tell you why and how. For in all the years of my life, almost, I have NEVER had anything the matter with me that a doctor could cure.*** I got that bronchial asthma from doing war work in the FIRST World War, when there was no USA. When that war broke out, we had just playing the Keith Theatre in Indianapolis, where Walter's father and brother were running the biggest cleaning plant, this side of Philadelphia. They belonged to the Mellon Institute, and Dad (W's father) had gone to get a permit for cleaning and dying (as the biz. had been called a non-essential industry). It covers an acre of ground, and has done business even in the Virgin Islands. ***² To return to our muttons" -- We stopped right there. I wrote TWO SONGS, & Norma wrote ONE. We published them, Walter had a big covered car built (like a bus) we bought a \$675 Operaola, a (player piano) took 1,000 lbs of music, hired two boys, and toured the state of Indiana, and gave the boys \$3,250 worth of songs, got books for the soldiers, and gave all that to the boys in a little less than three months, & only stopped when the flu epidemic stopped us. We have pictures of our car on the cor. of Pennsylvania & Washington, the most prominent cor. in Indianapolis, where Walter sold \$39,000 worth of Liberty Bonds. Well, anyway my two songs, "Good Bye, My Soldier Boy", and Every Mother's Son, and Norma's song, Don't let Your Foot Slip, Hiram," sold for only 10¢ then, whereas, now ~~they~~ such songs sell for 35 and 40 or 50¢ now. So you see we did a REAL work, and PAID ALL OUR OWN EXPENSES. Now a days, they think they are doing something when they go out & get paid for doing that kind of work. We did such a good job that when we got to the Indiana State Fair, Col. Benj. Harrison GAVE us the use of the 45th Regular Army Band, for the week at the Fair, & we gave the boys \$600 for their use, & they had a good time, besides. When they give a civilian the use of a Regular Army Band for a week, that's something. I played the piano, Walter with his beautiful baritone voice sang the songs. (Norma was playing on the stage most of the time, tho she did the "Hiram" song once in a while, when she could, she'd join us. My back was to the sun every afternoon, & I'd get hot & perspiring, & at night, when we'd have another session, I get very cold. And that's how I got the bronchial asthma, & that's what took us out here. And thereby hangs another tale I'll tell you sometime if you can stand another one. The last happened in California, when I wrote a poem, & was divinely lead to something else. Well, don't say I never wrote you a letter! If you can stand it, I'll tell you the other story later.

With much love, Your Cousin, *Calla*

March 28, 1951

Miss Monica Dirkes
Treetops
Brainerd, Minn.

Dear Miss Monica,

I think it was very nice of you indeed to send me the Easter card and your message. Your kindness and thoughtfulness has added to our pleasure when we have been at the Lake and I hope that you will be with Mrs. Freeman for some time to come. It is a beautiful place to be especially during the summer and I have no doubt that you are warm and comfortable even in the coldest weather.

While I was born in Minnesota, we left the State when I was only six years old so that I do not remember a great deal about the severity of the weather. I do recall that when we were on a farm in what was known as Rich Valley, that the snow covered the fences so that people with sleighs could cross lots without having to follow the roads.

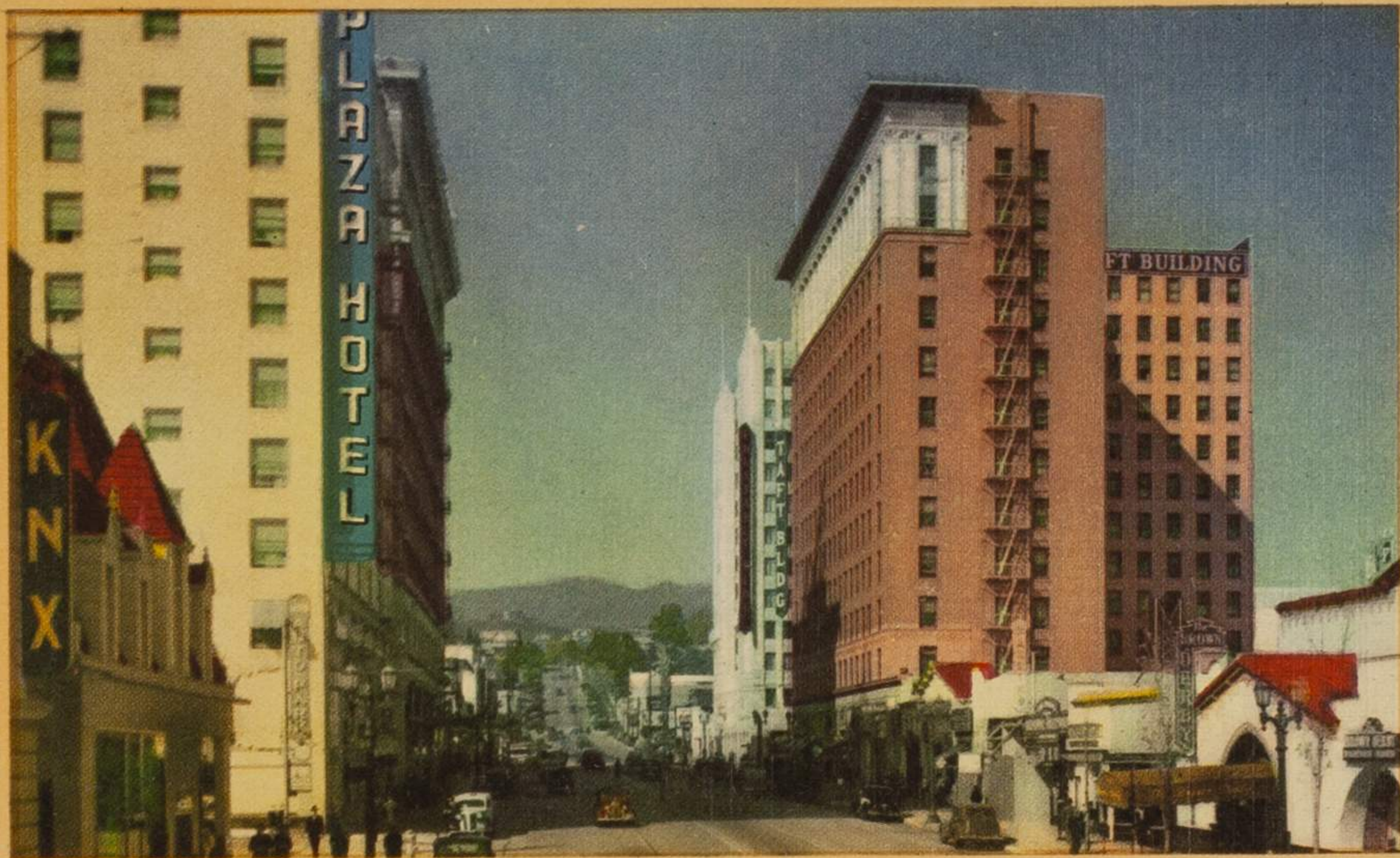
I attended Easter services in Tulsa where my daughter, Mrs. U. W. Maloney, lives. They had a very beautiful service at the Methodist Church with a good sermon and exceptional music.

I am looking forward to spending the summer again in our cabin.

With very best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

WCS:en



"HOLLYWOOD AND VINE"

The renowned gathering place of tourists
and the famous of Hollywood.

MANUFACTURED BY LONGSHAW CARD CO., LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

2-1-51



am 3/10



Dear Mr. Simon

Out here for a
few weeks. It was

13° below when I left
home and found it

as warm as 85° out
here. It is all beautiful

but I still like
Gull Lake.

Regards
H. Frampson

STANDARD

Mr. W. E. Simon
% Journal. World,
Lawrence,
Kansas.

March 8, 1951

Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Klapis
48-41 203rd Street
Bayside, Long Island
New York

Dear Pat and Andy:

I am quite sure that by this time
you have had a snap shot of baby and I
should like very much to have a copy.

As you know, I love babies in
general and I think I could be extra
fond of yours.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

W. C. Simons

WCS:bjh

~~File~~

Gull Lake 3-9-57

Dear Mr. Lums.

We arrived home
March 2nd, and just slipped
in between storms. Had
no snow until we got
to Worthington and they had
a dandy on Wednesday
just about buried there,
but the highway was fine,
we stayed at Red Ford Falls
all night, and they too
was buried, but again
highway fine, till we got
to Paysonville, and from
there to St. Cloud was
bad, rain and snow, which
made the road very rough.

From St Cloud home was
fine again. He was home
about 2 hours, when it
started to snow, and had
5 or 6 inches, but after flow-
ing was fine again. This
a.m. was 26 below, but
still, so we are just stay-
ing in. Sun very bright!

He had a very fine trip,
and, as his brother was
not working, he could
show us so many places.
Just couldn't realize was
winter, seeing so many
flowers in bloom. He went
to Costa Mesa, 50 miles
from Los Angeles, where his

brother lives, and stayed
until Feb. 21, when his
brother moved - to this place
in Costa Mesa, they rented
their home in - L. A. He
could see the ocean from
our door, and on clear day,
could see Catalina, but
was damp and a cool
breeze all the time, and
some fog. Sun was warm
during day tho. I would
want to live inland farther
to get away from that damp
cool breeze.

He didnt leave any
address to forward our mail
as we was not sure just

where we would be. Peter
watch the place and took
care of our mail.

We are so glad you
are feeling good this winter
and are looking forward
to seeing you before too long.
Mr. Quinon spoke of having
a road made to come into
his place from our road but
last fall Mr. Miles didn't do
any thing toward it, so if
he doesn't know it, you
might speak to Mr. W. Quinon
about it; if he wants it
done this spring.

Our kindest regards to all
As Ever Your Neighbors
Louisa & Walter

March 10, 1951

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Frampton
R.R. # 6
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Friends:

I have before me Walter's postal card of February 1 mailed from California. I don't know when you got back to Minnesota but you probably have been there long enough to experience some pretty cold weather, but you are used to it because you have been in Minnesota for a long, long time. I think you may recall that I was born in Minnesota but came to Kansas when I was only six years old, and since then have visited many, many times in your state.

I hope that you had a mighty nice visit in California and if you are back home, are enjoying your beautiful home and will not find it too cold. It will not be more than about three months until I shall probably be with you again.

With best wishes for you both, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:en

February 7, 1951

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Frampton
R. R. # 6
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Lena and Walter:

I received your card of the 1st from Huntington Beach, California, but you overlooked giving me an address which will mean that you will not get this letter probably for some time.

I know of nothing especially new here at Lawrence. My health continues to be good, and we all look forward to another summer at the lake. I think it was extremely wise that you and Mrs. Frampton gave up running the lodge as early as you did. Even another year might have been too much for Lena.

Word from Grayce and Don indicates that everything has been running along there about as usual. Mrs. Purinton had a breast operation of some sort recently which I hope will be permanently successful.

It has been rather cold here recently and I presume that it has been quite cold at Gull Lake. I am happy that you are enjoying yourselves in sunny California.

With kindest personal regards, I remain

Cordially yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:bjh

After 3 days return to

American  Optical

COMPANY

Box ~~1929~~ 2251

~~Dallas~~ 1, Texas
Houston



*Mr. W. C.
will reply
to this.*

*Aug 3/28/51
Robert Reincke*

Mr. W. C. Simons
% The Lawrence Daily Journal-World
Lawrence, Kansas

American Optical Company

FOUNDED 1833



Travis at Webster, Houston 2, Texas

January 16, 1951

Mr. W.C. Simons
% The Lawrence Daily Journal-World
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Uncle Collie:

Your good letter of December 21st was awaiting us upon our return from the Christmas holidays. Olive and I left here December 19th for Fort Worth, where our youngest daughter, Joan was married Saturday, January 23rd in the First Methodist Church in Fort Worth.

Joan married a boy from Evansville, Indiana, who graduated with her last June from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. They are making their home in Houston, and he started to work in our laboratories as he was interested in the optical business. Joan at the present time is teaching school and will do so until Gene Schmidt, the boy she married, advances to a state whereby he will be able to maintain a home on his salary.

Mary Jane, our oldest daughter, married a boy by the name of William Spears, and they have two boys and are expecting another one the latter part of next month, so Olive stayed with them while I made a trip back to New York and Massachusetts to the factory. *(They live in Ft. Worth)*

I don't remember whether I told you or not, but I was transferred to Houston about a year ago, taking over all the Gulf coast area for the American Optical Company, and am happy to advise that we like Houston very much, and I am very well satisfied with my position. This area comprises all the Gulf Coast of Texas reaching from Port Arthur on the North to Brownsville on the South, in which area there are eight branch offices that I am responsible for.

Olive and I would like very much for you to come down and visit us, and if you have not been in Houston for some time I know that you would find it very interesting as the City has grown tremendously in the last decade.

If you find that you can't make this trip, just let



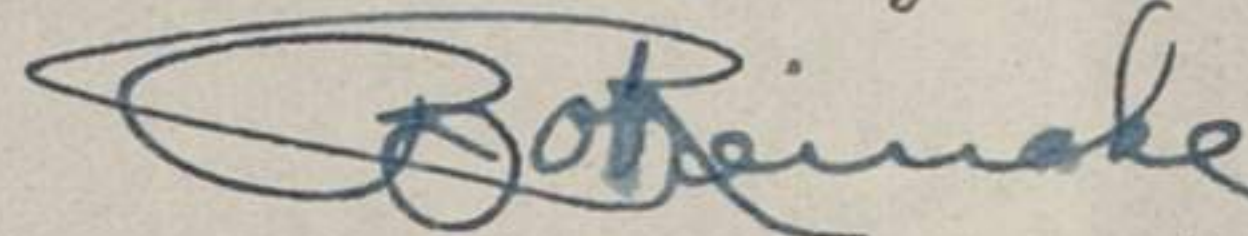
American Optical Company

me know a few days ahead of time so that I will be sure to be in the City, and just remember that we have plenty of room, so all you have to do is just get on a plane, or train and get here.

Our families are all well, and I hope that the same prevails with you, and may this year be a fine one for you and yours.

With kind personal regards, I am

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. W. Reineke", with a large, stylized initial "R" that loops around the first part of the name.

R. W. Reineke

RWR:db

Bennett, Nebraska
January 22, 1957

Dear Mr. Simons,

I received the book "The Yankee Exodus" by Stewart Holbrook, which you sent me, and wish to thank you very much for it. I have a good start at reading the book and am enjoying it. I have read very little about this phase of history and so I find it very interesting. I am more anxious than ever to take a trip east this summer which our family has been contemplating for several months.

Our second semester started this week and we have a new school superintendent. I have him for a Biology course. We are entered in the Lancaster County basketball and volleyball tournaments next week. I hope we'll make a good showing.

We certainly enjoyed having you with us at Christmas time and hope we can all be together again. We want you to know that you are always welcome at our house.

Sincerely,
Jean Dibble

605 Colusa Ave. Berkeley 7. Calif.

25 Jan. 1951.

Dear Laurence friend: we are always so glad to think of you as one of our many friends remaining in Lawrence, where, some how, we have still very deep interests. We really should revisit our friends there. for we are all aging upward, and as the Chinese sage remarked: "the path of friendship to the door of a friend should be often traveled lest it grow over with weeds". We might visit Kansas many some times in 1951, but national and world conditions make plans quite uncertain. The work in Korea seems a bit less, but we have a heavy program ahead just the same.

It was fine receiving your nice Christmas Card and your letter of 7th December. We hope that you spent your Christmas as planned. It may, or may not have been, a "White Christmas" for weather reports. Here, we

have had no frost but doubt the ²
normal rainfall has soaked us since last
September, and we are only one inch under
our normal for the year of 23.65 inches.

The Central Valley should have a greatly improved
water table, but further South and in N.M.
conditions are very low indeed.

I am so glad that you were not as
ill as reported and I hope your 1951 may
be out of robust health and red happiness in
living among these fine children & grandchildren.

Let us have faith. The Good Lord
does not want Stalin to be his
representative on this Earth, any more than
he desired Hitler or the Emperor of Japan
to take over all earthly affairs.

We had Mr. McDonald & wife of
Melbourne, Australia, here with us 21 Dec
to 31 Dec and it was a fine Christmas
with them and our children, in which a
30 lb Turkey played a pleasant part.

McDonald and his Aussiees who knew Frances,

reported to me at McArthur's Hotel in ⁽³⁾
1942. He is now librarian of the
New National Library in Canberra and has
been around the world inspecting many
libraries. We were at their home in Melbourne
a year ago for tea and dinner.

John married a very nice lady - a
school teacher from Ill. met in Aust.
John is still an editor with Caterpillar
Tractor Company. Karl is busy as
a consulting engineer, but the present
defense situation may make it hard for
him. Both are splendid boys. Karl's
son starts to school next week, and the little
girl is only two years of age. I am "baby
sitting" them this afternoon.

I am president of a very fine Church men's
club and am booked for a speech somewhere
about every week. Among the past spots have
been Oakland Rotary, Reserve Army Officers,
and our Church Seminar - there were about 400
at each of these meetings.

Do give my best to my fellow Rotarians
in Lamer. I greatly appreciate being an

Honorary member. Karl Jr is a member
in Oakland and I go with him some.
Past and President Angus Mitchell will
be here in two or three months. He is
my best friend in Australia and we
enjoyed him very much during our
visit Down Under."

Phyllis joins in all good wishes
for 1951.

Very sincerely your friend.

Karl T. Baldwin

January 31, 1951

Colonel and Mrs. Karl Baldwin
605 Colusa Avenue
Berkeley 7, California

Dear Colonel and Phalina:

I certainly enjoyed your good letter of January 25. I sometimes feel a little like the last leaf on the tree according to the song of the poet of some years ago. While I am thankful to be fit physically I can not deny, nor wish to deny my age. On my family tree are at least two persons who lived to be 102 years old, and I certainly would not wish to look forward to that many more years.

Lawrence is still a beautiful town and a fine place in which to live or to do business. The university continues to grow and the town has spread out in all directions. The Sunflower Ordnance plant is to be reactivated, and that will mean, for a time at least, an influx of more people. The last time it meant the making of more friends and of happy acquaintances that have continued until today. I received Christmas cards this year from several of those with whom I became acquainted at that time, and it is surprising how their families have grown in the few years which have elapsed.

My son, Dolph, has been exceedingly busy. A year ago he was elected first vice president of the Associated Press which has occasioned quite a little attention, and he is also now serving as president of the K.U. Alumni Association. His oldest son, Dolph, will graduate at the coming commencement, and of course looks forward to military service. His younger brother, John, now a freshman, is a midshipman in the NROTC program at the university.

In addition to my ten grandchildren I now have two darling great-grandsons, one less and one slightly more than a year old. I am glad that John is happily married and I have always seen possibilities or probabilities of a successful life for him. Please give him my regards.

Colonel and Mrs. Karl Baldwin, January 31, 1951

I see Reverend Mr. Aszman at Rotary practically every week but have not had the pleasure of seeing Mrs. Aszman for some months. I think their work is moving along nicely and as some generous souls who were formerly members of the church left interesting legacies as long as Ted was pastor, and as he personally seems to be making and holding friends, I presume he will occupy the pulpit for many years to come.

I have been quite fortunate in having a young man who was a marine in the last war and his wife as members of my household. They are intelligent, capable and kindly, and we get along splendidly together.

With very best wishes to you both, I remain

Cordially yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:bjh

January 22, 1951

Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Klapis
48041 203 Street
Bayside, New York

Dear Pat and Andy:

I certainly enjoyed the fine long letter I received from you dated December 14.

Noticing the first paragraph in your letter saying that getting up for the 2:00 a.m. feeding seemed to sap your strength, it reminded me of our first baby, Blanche. She was a bottle baby, and although I was extremely busy and working long hours during the day, I always took care of the night feeding. We had a big base burner, something you and Andy may never have seen, with all kinds of isinglass to show the light within, and we burned hard coal. These stoves had a container that would hold about a scuttle full of coal, and as the fire burned down around the bottom the coal would come down to feed it but without the coal entering the storage container.

On the back of the stove we kept a teakettle filled with water, so that any time during the night there would be warm water. It would be my job to get up and get a bottle, usually filled, and place it in the teakettle until it was sufficiently warm for the baby. I don't recall so much the care of the succeeding children, but I always tried to do my share, realizing that Gertrude had the burden of their care daily.

I shall always be interested in your welfare, and I shall be glad to hear from time to time regarding the program of the little one. I can not hope to thoroughly answer your good letter this morning because of lack of time. I was very happy to get it and shall read it again.

You have my love and I feel sure that such a happy union as that of yours and Andy's will result in a successful future.

Cordially yours,

WCS:bjh

W. C. Simons

January 18, 1951

Mrs. Richard H. Frazier
Winchester, Massachusetts

Dear Vivian:

I am pleased with your Christmas card which shows your charming children, Cornelia and Andrew. How proud your father would have been of them.

I think that I probably have told you that Mrs. Simons at one time said to me that if some man of world-wide knowledge and education came to Lawrence she knew of no one more fitting to meet him on equal and common grounds than your father. The Saturday Night Club to which he and I belonged has not been active now for a number of years. When I went into the club I was one of the youngest of the members, and it will not be long now until I am ready to make application for membership in the Methuselah Club.

Your father had a little bent toward spiritualism or belief in uncanny occurrences. This was evidenced in a number of the papers which he read to the Saturday Night Club. Personally I have been rather matter of fact in regard to things of that sort and not too prone to accept evidences of supernatural things.

You would not find a great deal of change in Lawrence excepting that it is larger. The group of University buildings pretty well covers the hill, and the space west of the University has been pretty closely built up with attractive homes. I can see these things quite clearly as I came to Lawrence in December, 1891, when the population of Lawrence was only about 9,000 and the attendance at the University perhaps 700. I think it was but the year before that the preparatory or academic department of the school had been abandoned. The only buildings then were Fraser, Snow Hall, afterwards razed, the small building afterwards used for the school of journalism, and old North College.

George B. Penny was the head of the school of music at that time, a man who may have known a good deal about music

Mrs. Richard H. Frazier, January 18, 1951

but was not particularly wise in other matters. At one time he left for Europe leaving his horse hitched to a post at the Santa Fe Station; however, it was Penny who put in the first pipe organ that we had on the hill which was placed in Fraser Chapel. The school of music occupied for some time a church building formerly used by the Methodists and was later razed to make room for the Masonic Temple.

In those early days it was my duty to write a report on all musical recitals and things of that sort, a duty for which I was very poorly prepared. I think that you undoubtedly know that your father was at one time a member of the rowing crew at Yale.

Please remember me to your husband. I used to see or hear about your sister occasionally, and it seems to me that for some years she has had her own business in Kansas City in which she prepares illustrations for advertisers.

I now have ten grandchildren, seven grandsons and three granddaughters, and I also have two very lovable great-grandsons.

Incidentally, my old ancestors helped to make New England, Governor Bradford, having been my grandfather ten generations removed, and many others held positions of responsibility.

With very best wishes to you and yours, I remain

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:bjh

January 17, 1951

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Brooks
246 South Twelfth Street
Salina, Kansas

Dear Friends:

I have taken a lot of pleasure in looking at your Christmas card. The picture is good of all of you, but Dayna looks like such a big girl, almost a young lady and she was just a little tad when you were with us and called me granddad. I remember you all very kindly and hope you are doing well.

I attended the Wesleyan for a part of '88 and '89. We lived in a very pretty five room home a couple of blocks north of the school and across the railroad. I planted a couple of pine trees which when I last saw them were probably thirty or forty feet tall, and now they may be larger yet if they have not died.

Salina is a very good town. I think it is one of the best in western Kansas, and I presume that Fred is working on the Journal. Oddly enough, as a boy of seventeen I was the first reporter on the paper when it was called the Daily Republican before the name was changed to Journal. As a matter of fact, the change was made when Senator Bristow bought a rather outstanding weekly paper called the Journal and combined it with the daily. Although Henry Allen was several years older than I, it was I who introduced him to the people of Salina when he first came there as a reporter on the paper after it was bought by J. L. Bristow.

As you perhaps remember, my daughter, Janet, Mrs. L. A. McNalley, lives at Minneapolis, Kansas, which is only about twenty-five miles from Salina.

It was mighty nice of you to send your photographic Christmas card and I am glad to see you all looking so well.

Cordially yours

WCS:bjh

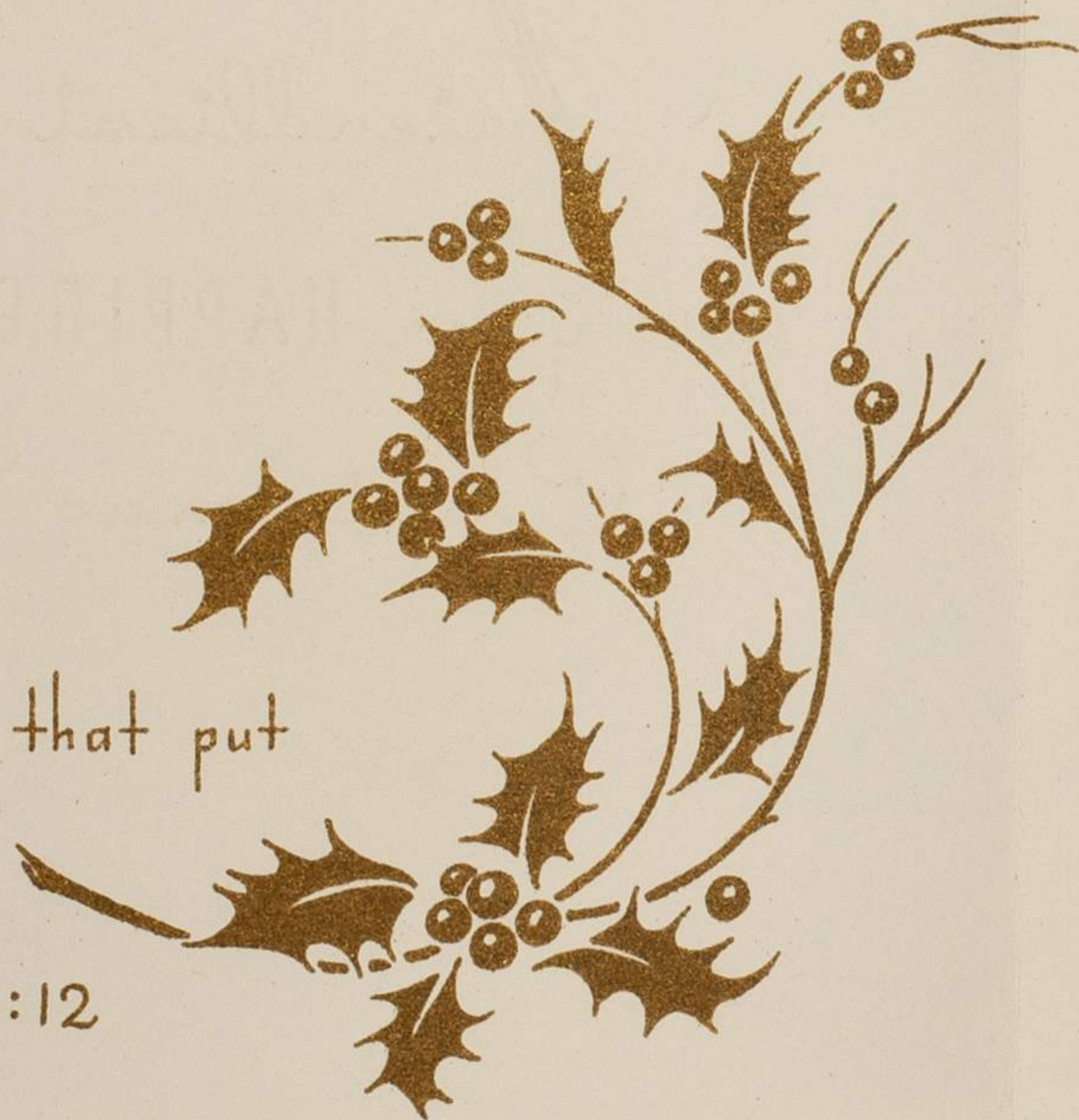
W. C. Simons

BEST
WISHES



"Blessed are all they that put
their trust in Him."

Ps. 2:12



Friendliest wishes
for your HAPPINESS at this
Christmas Season

Mr & Mrs J. C. Pine
(inside)



January 17, 1951

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Pine
9458 Artesia Blvd.
Bellflower, California

Dear Friends:

I have just been going through my Christmas cards to put them away for keeps and I thought I would answer your friendly note which accompanied your Christmas card.

Our friendship, Jim and mine, goes back a long way, and we are neither of us quite as young as we were in the good old days, Jim of course being considerably younger than I. I remember the days when you were on the police force and I think perhaps we never had a better looking man on the force--tall, manly and with good features.

The Pines are almost as thick around here as are the pine trees in Minnesota, and they comprise a mighty fine family. Two years ago when Mrs. Simons was sick and thought perhaps she could drink some buttermilk, one of my good friends, Mrs. Clarence Pine, churned some cream that very afternoon in order to supply the buttermilk. I remember well that Mrs. Simons and I attended her wedding, and I made bold enough at that time to kiss the bride.

It was rather interesting to me that I was taken by some to be the minister who had come out to perform the ceremony. I don't believe I have all of the qualities that we like to consider are a part of every minister, but I must at least have looked the part at that time, although I certainly could not have performed the ceremony.

Now someone has been misinforming you about our having blizzards and cold weather. This has been one of the mildest winters that I can remember, and I have been in Kansas since the late 70's. We have not had a total of two inches of snow in or near Lawrence this season. As a matter of fact, we could well use more moisture.

California is a great state. I have visited it twice but I have never felt the urge to go there to live. One summer, perhaps twenty years ago, Mrs. Simons and my youngest

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Pine, January 17, 1951

daughter, Dorothea, spent a month in Los Angeles. They hired an automobile by the month so they had an opportunity to go and come when and where they pleased.

I am sure you had a fine Christmas and I hope you have many more of them.

With every best wish for you and yours, I remain

Sincerely your friend,

W. C. Simons

WCS:bjh

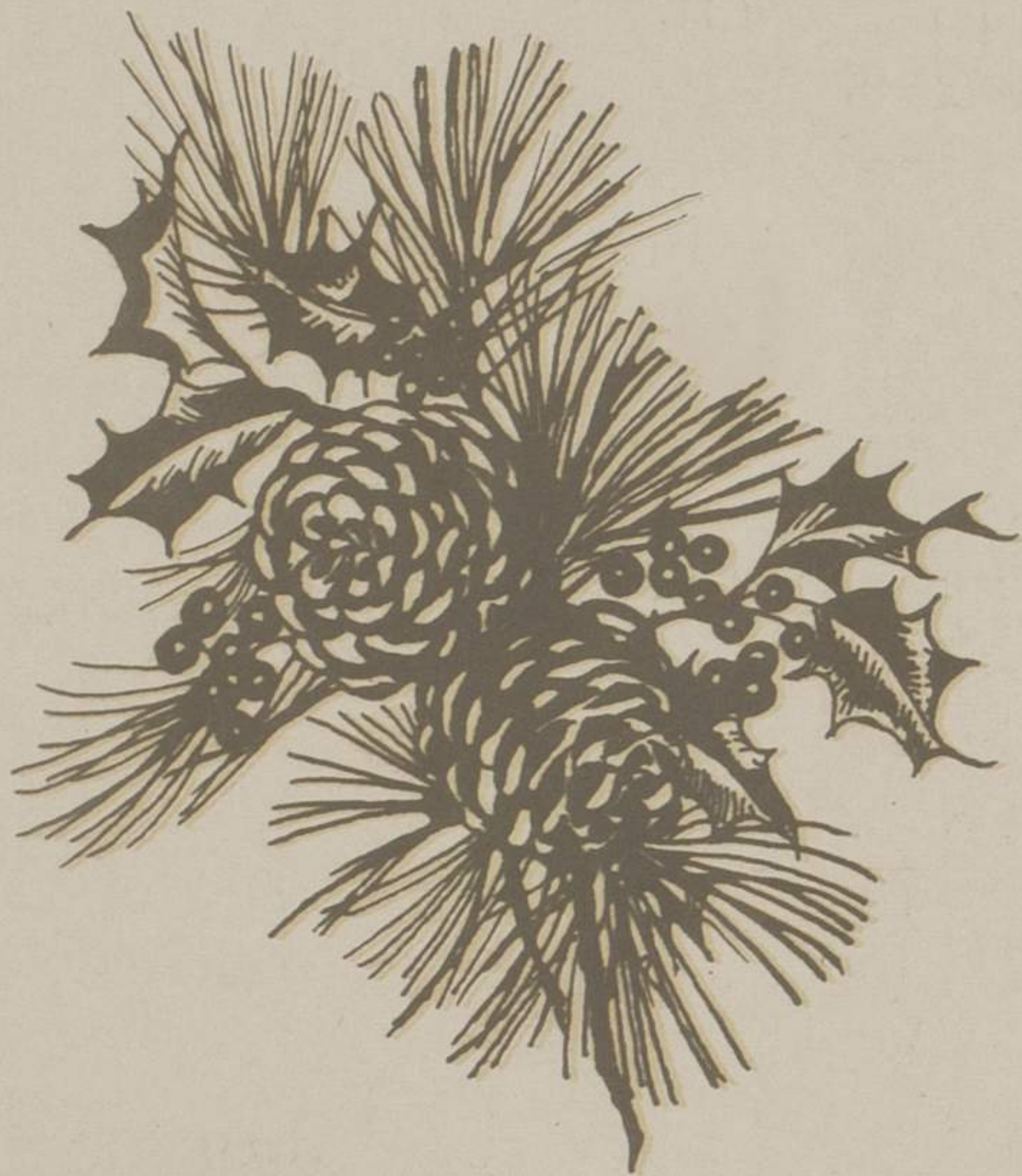


A PRAYER
At
Christmas



To
Someone

Who's
So Nice to
Know!



"And He will love thee
and bless thee..."
DEUTERONOMY 7:13

May His presence
bless your Christmas
In a very happy way,
May His love both guard
and guide you
Through the future,
day by day.

Patricia Owen

Edson, Kansas
December 21, 1950

Dear Mr. Simons,

We are having very nice holiday weather. The sun is shining brightly today, and it looks as though our Christmas will be fair weather. I hope you are enjoying the nice weather as we are having.

Margaret and Alis are going to Denton, Texas, to be with Alis' mother during the holidays. Are many of your family going to be home for Christmas? My brother, Larry, is home from college on vacation. He is going to Kansas State this year.

Wishing you a happy holiday season.

Sincerely,
Patricia Dwen

January 16, 1951

Miss Patricia Owen
Edson, Kansas

Dear Pat:

I received your nice little note of December 21, and with the great difference in our ages I feel perfectly free to say that you are a mighty sweet child and I enjoyed your visit when Margaret and Otis were with me. Drop me a line sometime and let me know how you are getting along.

I should think that you have probably completed high school and perhaps have already enrolled in college. As your sister graduated from Manhattan it is quite likely that you may also attend the aggie school, which is a good school and gives good training.

Today is an odd day for January 16. When I went home for lunch the temperature reading on the thermometer in the shade on our front porch was 60, and the wind was blowing quite strongly from the southwest. I lived in southwestern Kansas long enough to have experienced the extremes in weather which occur there. As a matter of fact, I probably came as near freezing to death not to be maimed in any way that one could possibly experience. One time I came home with my face entirely frozen excepting my eyes, and as I look back on that experience I realize how nearly I came to freezing to death, for had my eyes been frozen so that I could not see I would have perished. I think I have been hard to kill, and now in advanced years I am fortunate in having good health.

I enjoyed very much having Margaret and Otis with me and think of them often. I hope they are doing well.

With kindest personal regards, I remain

Cordially yours,

WCS:bjh

W. C. Simons





A Merry Christmas Season
and a New Year
filled with
happy days

Dear Mr. Simons:

Most people look back
the idea of living back
the old days, but there are a
lot I would purely like to bring
back. I suppose the two beaut-
tiful grand children I have
should make up for the loss
of the past, tho. I so often think
of the good times our two
families used to have. Did I
ever tell you that when I had
to get a birth certificate during
the war one of the proofs I
had of my age was a letter
to Santa Claus printed in the
Journal. World, at my age of
10, misspelled words and all.

I hope you have many
children and grand children
around you at Christmas.
Give my love to Blanchend
any others who may remem-
ber me.

Grace Bell Brush.

January 16, 1951

Mrs. Grace Bell Brush
Muncie, Indiana

Dear Mrs. Brush:

I received your interesting note with your Christmas card and I wish to compliment you on your beautiful penmanship.

For many, many years in Lawrence I considered that your father and myself were the two hardest working men in town. We not only worked during the day but far into the night. As you may recall I lived at that time on Indiana Street so that I walked past the music store on my way home and could frequently see your father at work at his desk in the rear of the store. To go back still further the Bell Brothers business was first established in the 600 block not far from the Pierson Mills. I am not sure but that George V. Kummer may have had an interest at that time. That was before I came to Lawrence in December, 1891.

Later at about the time when I came, the store had been moved into the building owned by John Gardner, and Mrs. Gardner had a millinery store upstairs. I remember that the Dave Levy store was just south of you and the men in the store commented on the extreme modesty of your mother in having a foot-wide board placed along the side of the stairway so that they would not see her ankles as she went up and down stairs.

In those days I had to write all of the musical criticisms on recitals and my ignorance in the correct spelling of names made it quite difficult, so I would often go upstairs to the rooms of your parents where they would tell me how to spell the names of the composers.

I remember when you were born how happy they were over their charming little daughter. Then later came your sister, the harpist, of whom I have not heard for quite a long while.

I used to say that I had bought more pianos from your father's firm than any other person in Lawrence not connected

January 11, 1951

Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Klapis
4841 203rd Street
Bayside, Long Island
New York

Dear Folks:

I feel almost like a granddad to that new baby of
of yours and hope when you get a snapshot you will send me
one. Does the little one resemble mostly his daddy or his
mama? I could go either way and not go wrong in my judgment.

I sent a holiday greeting card to your mama at Bradford
Woods and received a card in return. I am so happy that
after the several years of making the best of it you are
now getting along so well and are really having home life.
I think you are both conscientious and deserving young people
and I have almost a paternal pride and love for you.

I certainly enjoyed that nice long letter you wrote
the last time.

With love and best wishes.

Cordially yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:bjh

January 11, 1951

Mr. and Mrs. O. M. King
112 E. Arapho
Weatherford, Oklahoma

Dear Young Folks:

I am afraid that I have been a little delinquent in answering your last letter. I am very much interested in your welfare and happiness and have a great deal of confidence that you will make good wherever you are.

I think that Margaret is rather long suffering in tolerating the ever present stuffed rodents, snakes, toads, etc., etc. Women ordinarily are not particularly attracted to things of that sort, but I think she has been a good wife and has not complained because it was a necessary part of the advancement of Otis's education, and Otis is certainly a good scout and is deserving of all of the good things. I shall always remember both of you and hope that I shall have the opportunity of seeing you again.

When summer time comes if you feel like spending a few days or a week or more at the lake let me know and I feel sure that it could be arranged. I haven't heard of the presence of any little princes or princesses yet, but their arrival should not be too long delayed. I think I told you that Pat and Andy have a baby.

I have been fortunate again in having very fine young people in my home, Mr. and Mrs. Parrish. He was a marine in the last war, and he comes from Wichita and his wife comes from Herrington. They are both mighty nice young folks and have kept my house in good repair and have looked after me as if I were their daddy.

With love and best wishes to you both, I remain

Your friend,

W. C. Simons

WCS:bjh

January 9, 1951

Mrs. Edna Whitver
Box 294
Balboa Heights
Panama Canal Zone

Dear Mrs. Whitver:

Until this moment I had believed that I had answered your long letter in which you sent the snapshots, but my very competent secretary tells me that she doesn't believe that I did, and in that case I certainly wish to apologize to you because your letter was extremely interesting. I have envied you and others who can write so entertainingly of their visits. Perhaps it is because I have been in the newspaper business that I take little pride in my ability to do descriptive writing.

There is not a great deal to tell you about myself. I am in good health and have been fortunate in having a student at the University and his wife to be with me this winter to keep my home. It might be cheaper for me to take a room at the hotel, but I have never cared for hotel life and I do love my own home and my books. I shall be happy if sometime I can show them to you.

We have had an extremely open winter. I doubt if altogether we have had two inches of snow. In fact, it has been rather dry.

I had a nice Christmas, spending a few days with my youngest daughter, Mrs. H. F. Johnson, and her family at Wymore, Nebraska. For Thanksgiving I was with my daughter, Mrs. Maloney at Tulsa, and rode with them in their car to Oklahoma City where I had a very happy time with a grandson and granddaughter, each of whom is married. This grandson and his wife have a darling little boy baby. I have always been fond of children. In fact, I not only love my own children but have always been fond of everyone else's children. In this I think I am fortunate because I feel that one who does not care for children must miss a good deal of the pleasures of living.

Mrs. Edna Whitver, January 9, 1951

I have told you before I shall never forget the pleasant times I have had with you and your husband. Mr. Whitver must have died quite young. I remember well how he took me out along the canal and explained to me where certain fortifications were hidden and so forth.

I am still hoping that you will find yourself in Lawrence some of these days. I hope you had a happy holiday season.

Cordially yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:bjh

January 9, 1951

Mr. H. F. Johnson
Wymore, Nebraska

Dear Harry:

Yesterday I called on Mr. Andrews and find that he feels that he will be able to carry on the business himself. He is older than I thought, being forty-one years of age, and a nice appearing man. I told him that you and your associates had six lumber yards and that in case he wanted to sell you would be interested in taking the matter up with him and would want him to continue as manager. This left a pleasant feeling but no probability of there being an opening.

I don't know of any other lumber yard in Lawrence that might be interested. You undoubtedly have the names of them, the Logan-Moore, Burgner-Bowman-Matthews Lumber Co., Paul H. Friend Lumber Co., McConnell Lumber Co., Pete Reedy Lumber Co. That makes six lumber yards in Lawrence. The Logan-Moore and Burgner-Bowman-Matthews lumber companies being parts of chains might possibly be for sale by the parent companies. That is something you could find out much more readily than I could. The McConnell Lumber Company is located on the Southern Kansas Railroad at the corner of 13th Street. It is a little out of the way and I don't know as to the volume of business it may do. If I personally were going into the business I should not want to be sidetracked in that way but would rather be somewhere nearer the main drag of the town.

I want to thank you for that fine portrait of yourself which now sits on the table in the front of our livingroom, but with some younger associates. Next to you is Wayne Olander, one year old, and next to him is your young son Dolph, so you are at least in good company--three fine young men.

I enjoyed very much my visit with you over Christmas and the return visit of Dorothea and the boys. I presume they are now back in school. With love to you and yours,

WCS:bjh

January 11, 1951

Mrs. Edna Whitver
Box 294
Balboa Heights,
Canal Zone

Dear Mrs. Whitver:

I am returning herewith your very interesting photographs which you sent me perhaps a year ago, in regard to your most interesting trip through portions of South America. You were rather brave to undertake a trip of this kind and yet I am sure that you feel rewarded for having done so. It is given to very few of us to see the top of the world as you have seen it. While the Himalayas are still higher they are not nearly as interesting to us as these mountains so much nearer home.

I am sorry that I neglected to return these pictures to you earlier. If you would like to have me do so I can also send you the carbon copy of your letter dated June 4, 1946. I am very glad that you have had the opportunity to see so much of the new world.

I doubt very much that I shall make any more long trips, as my health, while good, is not rugged as it was some years ago, and of course that is to be expected.

Lawrence continues to grow and is now two and a-half times as large as it was when I first came here. There is a great probability of considerable added growth this year due to new enterprises which have located here. We work at the office under very pleasant conditions, both as to surroundings and personnel.

I am always glad to hear from you.

Cordially yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:bjh

be outdoors today, either on the beach,
or making pictures, but last week-
end I was very "occupied" so
decided I'd do some home work
over this Saturday and Sunday.

(Excuse me while I let my maid go)
I'm dismissing her for the rest of
the day and tomorrow - since I'm
invited out to dinner tonight &
lunch & dinner tomorrow. My
friends overwhelm me with kind-
ness - but it isn't much fun to
eat alone - so I have people "in"
or eat "out" with them much
of the time.

(over)

Do you have a good cook?
Or does food mean much
to you? Most men have a
few favorites and rather like
to stick to them. I don't care
much what I have to eat and
don't eat very much but en-
joy the sociability of a meal in
good company.

Lay your work aside some-
time and write me again -

I do like letters.

Sincerely -

Edna W -

ORLANDO, FLORIDA

Jan 4, 1951

My dear friend:

I have been wondering if you ever received my letter with the pictures & notes of my trip to Medellin, Colombia. I had thought you might enjoy looking at them.

I have been up here for two weeks and shall be here about that much longer. Just spending the holidays with my sister & niece here in my home. Friends of mine from the Canal Zone came up to spend the holidays with us also, and it has been fun.

The weather has been very cold this year (for Florida) almost frosty every evening. How I have enjoyed it!

(over)

I hope you have had a pleasant
holiday with some of your children
and grand children and that the
New year holds much of health
and happiness for you -

Sincerely,

Edna Whitver

500 Cherokee Drive
Orlando, Florida

more "lovely falls" after I go to
the States to live.

This is a beautiful day - The sky
is a deep, deep blue and the clouds
very white and fluffy. From my
front window, where I am now
sitting, I look almost "into" Ancon
Hill and in the immediate fore-
ground are several tulip trees
and some softly swaying palms.
The tulip-trees have such a rich,
dark green foliage and the clusters
of tulip-shaped flowers, a reddish
orange, look as though they
wished to speak to me. I should

Do you have maple trees in your yard? And were the leaves especially pretty this fall?

To me there is nothing any-
where in the world as beautiful
as the fall vegetation through-
out the middle west. The maple
trees are usually the most gor-
geously colored of any and I develop
a nostalgia this season of the
year for some of the scenes of
my childhood and trips like
Whit & I use to make every
other autumn in the States.
Maybe I'll get to enjoy a few
(over)

MRS. DELMORE WHITVER
BOX 294, BALBOA HEIGHTS
CANAL ZONE

Oct. 14 -

Well,

Here I am again usurping your time and cluttering up your desk with a letter.

Since I have very little of interest at the present time to write about and you seemed to enjoy my "trip across the Isthmus," I'll send you a "diatribe" on the last trip I made to South America -

You know whenever I make a jaunt anywhere my sisters, (our

brother and their families always
want me to tell or write them
of where I went and what I
did and saw. So I usually
write one letter and either have
them send it from one to the
other or have copies made by
one of my friend typists at the
office and send each a copy.
The kids ^{and my own family} usually enjoy reading
my letters and maybe there'll be
a few things of interest to even
a busy man. You may re-
turn the pictures & notes when
you are there looking at them.

Collie, whai I want to know is: Do you know of any way I can get in touch with a Clipping Bureau? For I want to see if I can dispose of a lot of important clippings that are up to ~~xxx~~ date, & that I can supply to small papers that can use them. I have a STACK ot such things & I take TWO Metroploitan dailies all the time, & being a good American, I'd like to DO something with them. I concentrate on political articles but if there are any other articles wanted, I can deliver them, too. I know there ARE such Bureaus, bu I dont know where to find them do you? I'd appreciate it very much if ~~xx~~ you do, or CAN tell me how to get to them.

Sincerely,

Calla

Mrs. Walter Gregg,

1901 Parkdale Place,

Montrose, California



VIA AIR MAIL

W. C. Simons,
Lawrence Daily Journal World.
Lawrence,
Kansas.

File
Rec'd 3/27/51