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December 23, 1927.

Mr. & Mrs. Walter W. Gregg,
Montrose, California.

Dear Cousins:

A letter from Walter written on November 17th has been on my desk constantly since it was received, awaiting an answer, and now that we have received a good letter from Calla I am stealing the time from a busy holiday season to at least acknowledge receipt of the letter. Answering Walter's letter first, we had disposed of our Russian wolf hound before the receipt of your letter, so that we could not act on your suggestion although we appreciate your interest.

Now, regarding the letter to which you refer. Until the annual meeting of the Kansas Baptist Convention in October, 1926, I was the president of the State Convention, the year before having been vice president and chairman of the Laymens' Movement for the state. As we wrote you, I had been asked to preside at the annual banquet this year and had proceeded so far with my plans that I had made reservations and had drawn the money necessary for expenses. However, at the last moment plans were changed and we did not go. It was evident to us that you had not received the letter. Having been addressed to you at the hotel, we thought probably it would be returned to us. In any event, there was no occasion for calling attention to it, as we did not wish in any way to mar your welcome. We were glad to have seen you and to have had you with us in our home. Naturally I was interested in your word from Western Kansas, although it has only been two years since I was there. It seems to me that I remember every hill and hollow.

I think that you are misinformed in regard to Kansas roads. As a matter of fact, a great deal of good constructive work has been done and Kansas roads today are far ahead of Missouri roads, with few exceptions, and are ahead of Iowa roads of five years ago. Within the next year or two hundreds of miles of Kansas roads will be hard-surfaced. In our own county there are probably at least 125 miles of fine graded roads and many additional miles of good township roads. A hard-surfaced road extends practically all of the way from Kansas to Abilene. The building of roads in Kansas has been somewhat handicapped by the fact that Western Kansas roads are good practically the year round, while Eastern Kansas roads require much more attention. It has been a little hard to harmonize these interests.

Blanche and her family went to Tulsa today to spend Christmas with Mr. Maloney's mother. She has a beautiful home and was very anxious to have them come. So we had our Christmas for the grandchildren last