

October 3, 1931

Miss Blanche Reineke
5106 Baltimore Avenue
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Blanche:

When I received your letter this morning, it made me feel guilty because I had not written you yesterday as I had intended, but I am very glad that Louis called you.

The break in Gertie's arm was a bad one, the bone being broken in several places but not crushed or shattered. The first efforts to set the arm were ineffective, so we had Dr. Francisco, who inserted a Steimann nail through the point of the elbow and applying traction at that point straightening the bones of the arm which are now held in place by splints and bandages. The pull on the arm will remain until the bones have at least partially knitted.

Dr. Sudler said, that she would probably be able to go home a week from Sunday. I feel like keeping her in the hospital as long as she is willing to stay there, so she may have the best of attention and be free from household worries. He also said, that it would probably require six weeks for a complete recovery. After setting the arm, Thursday night, we took Xrays through the arm in two directions, both showing the bone to be straight and in line. Under old fashioned methods and without an Xray, it would have been an extremely difficult job to have given Gertie a good arm, but as it is all five physicians, who saw the photographs, were confident that the adjustment would be successful.

As I probably have told you, Dr. L. W. Jones was out of town at the time of the accident, so we called in Dr. Sudler and thinking it unwise to make an changes in a case of this kind, we asked him to take full responsibility, even though Dr. Jones should return. Dr. Jones was here Thursday night, he was present at the adjustment but had no part in it, but approved of the result.

Gertie has been very brave and is getting along just as nicely and as rapidly as we have any right to expect. Her friends have been thoughtful, the children have been constant in their attention and she has received many beautiful flowers. She was able to be in a chair for perhaps thirty minutes this morning but found herself very weak and I think was glad to get into bed again.