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1955 - Jan. 10

Carolyn Brown Dodge

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Letter #2 (teal ink, big green clip)

Envelope

B. Dodge

Route 2

Ellensburg

Washington

Mr & Mrs E. H. Robinson,

Rt 1 Box 22,

Sidney, Montana

Letter

Sun. Jan. 10, 1955

Dear Carol:

A nice quiet Sunday. They are few & far between it seems & we do need them once in awhile. I think I told you we have a 15 year old boy helping with chores & this being his week end off – we encouraged him to stay in town after basketball game last night so he won't be back until after school tomorrow. Its been wonderful & even Bob hasn't cared o go any place today. Boynton had a little spud business to do & I did a little Guernsey work & wrote a couple of other letters & with meals light & to our liking its been swell. We'll be back in the grind tomorrow. I have a little ironing to do if I get time but may go in to sack a few spuds & may go to Seattle in the P.M. Nothing for sure.

The weather remains in low 20's at night & low thirties during the day. We have some snow but only enuf to make it necessary to sweep it off of sidewalk every day. We could enjoy

this weather all winter if given the chance — but suppose we need it colder or will have no summer again.

I've been trying to catch up & do a few extra's here at home. Have a paint job to do – & always enjoy it & am proud of it after done but I always hate to start it. Guess I have to start tho to get it done. Its one of the upstairs bedrooms so out of the way. Also need to do a little on upstairs hallway floor for easier up keep but that won't be such a job. If I get at it – I should be able to get upstairs in fair shape in a week. I need to touch up a little in kitchen but think it can be just touch up since its Super Kemtone & it is supposed to do OK. Once I get started – the battle is about won. I find more excuses to put it off.

I finally took down the Christmas tree, washed windows inside in front room & moved furniture around. Guess I'll just have to move furniture again because it just doesn't seem to do right this way.

Heard from Jack & was he excited about the Jan 3 Life magazine! If you see it, the little red headed boy eating watermelon near the back of magazine sure does look like Boynton's brother's boy. Same red hair & same haircut & the grin — but after first look, you know its not him.

Bill writes of his activities. He did well enuf in rifle fire to be pleased with Bill and wished Bob could compete. Bob is a good shot & we all know it. Boynton took him out to teach him to shoot when he was 10 or 12 & he did a better job of hitting the target than Boynton — & Boynton is no slouch. Bob seems to be a natural. Too bad he hasn't time to concentrate on it. I miss the bits of news of Sidney & of the many Mother tells of. She asked me if I'd heard about you. Vera & Aunt Grace both wrote her. Vera said they were very worried about you but when Aunt Grace said “serious” they knew you were sick!

Bob sang for Odd Fellows the other night and I heard such nice compliments of him. He doesn't "hold forth" much here & I will not nag him to sing but know his private lessons besides the regular school work in chorus is paying off well for him. He is being urged to compete for Yakima "Camerata Club" scholarship. The experience will be good for him even tho he doesn't win tho his time is pretty limited now. He is entering in competition for the Music Festival in the spring too. They don't really compete – but as they sing are given rating – no prize. The festival divided into two separate deals now. One individual & small group work – vocal & instrumental and the second sessions is for large groups; bands, orchestras & chorus. Nice experience.

Our hired man returned from Wyoming and is expecting to go back there by this time next week. We have a man experienced in dairy who is going to help us out until spring field work starts & we hope by then to know what we will do here. There is a chance that one of Boynton's brothers will take over & will wait to see the developments there. He milks near 20 Guernseys and out breeding has been quite similar so the herds might do OK together. He does need better housing too so if that works out we'll be moving eventually — but that's OK. Time to clean house anyway. And again its all guess yet.

Well – not much more to rave about. Want you to know we're thinking of you but don't want to wear you out.

Sounds like Barbers had a real nice Christmas. Got a 3 page letter from Edna! Even sounds like maybe a wedding in the family. She surely tho Joan's interest a fine fellow and even Mother sounded enthused. Hope they can go to South America together. Surely if the need is great his experience should compensate for some few differences in educational requirements. He is Canadian but in work similar to Joans.

Now I'll quit. Be good, be quiet and rest well –

Bye now

Carolyn