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1956 - Oct. 28

Carolyn Brown Dodge

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Letter #5 (Black ink, yellow clip)

Envelope

Box 1636
Kittitas,
Washington

Mrs. E. H. Robinson
Rt.1 Box 22
Sidney, Montana

Letter

Oct. 28, 1956

Dear Carol + all:

Having just returned from the Golden Wedding Anniversary of the Carl Browns of Kittitas. They live on our block and Carl is a good friend of Bobs. It was Carl's wish that Bob should sing for them + I didn't even have to pressure him to do it. Because of Bob tho, we went and only because of Bob that I could get mother to go. (you know her hair looked so terrible etc.!) Anyway, Dodge had headed back to Quincey so we went + took part + heard again our boy sing - +were very proud. And since I've written to Uncle Carl + Aunt Alice about it. Our Kittitas Carl's wire is Agnes. These things are so nice + mean so much to those who are celebrating. I'm always glad when I make the effort to get there.

Lots has happened to delay my writing to you. Letters have been an effort for me to get don. I surely don't get so much else done either but I think a lot of it is due to the fact that the pressure of too much work has been relieved. I seem to go in circles + accomplish little of the things I need to get done. I should probably "pressure" myself to get jobs done. I've had a couple of good visits with Margaret Reynolds. They have a nice home + it kind of makes me drool. But when I think of the family we have that she has missed out on entirely I know that we are the ones to be envied. I've enjoyed my visits with her + Paul seems to be a real nice guy too. We will undoubtedly have more chances to visit too as time goes on. Will enclose a couple of clippings I found concerning them.

Boynton is still spudding and I imagine will be as long as the weather holds. He is tired - too tired - + our house is on a noisy street + is noisy inside too so his chances on getting extra rest when he comes home always seem to get spoiled some way. This week end was homecoming at the college here + so many came back our kids knew in school + several came out to see them. And Jack came home for it too - his first time home since he went over to the U. So, tho we want the boys to have their friends + see the house, yet it made it pretty hard for Boynton to get any much needed rest. It seems his only chance is to get clear away from home + spuds + I imagine we'll take off for somewhere for a few days as soon as he finishes up. Know what he'll do then? Got to grocery stores + look at spuds + talk about spuds + see spud dealers. Oh well, if it relaxes him its OK.

Jack is finding dentistry school a real tough subject to study and is finding it pretty expensive all ready. Stays in a private home, eats at a dental fraternity. They are in walking distance of school so doesn't use his car so much. And the local kids there rides so much that when they do come home its usually with a car load of kids. He didn't bring his care this time: he

looked fit. Has to dress up pretty much for school but can shirts done up four for a dollar so that's fair enouf. Can wash underwear sox etc at their rooming house so does OK that way too.

Bill surely enjoys being home again. He is taking a light course at school this quarter so isn't pushing himself too hard. He saw so many of his former class at the homecoming and seems to always know someone wherever he goes. He's such a "friendly sould."

Bob is school bus driving and for the past two weeks has put in too much time on stunts + floats for homecoming activities. I hope now that that is over he will have time for school work. He says he will go in the service after this year of college and I imagine he will. It seems to be the best time to get it over with. It's a good thing to get it finished up tho before college is finished because its extra hard on these kids who are ready for a job - + must serve their two or three years before they can start practicing what they've been learning.

Reports of Sidneyites from Les + Lucy + Mother kind of caught me up again. It sounds to me as if you are still carrying a full schedule. Have you decided too that its more important to add life to your years than to add years to your life? One of Boynton's brother-in-laws said "lets just forget the heart + just live each day." Anyway even tho it sounds like you are being pretty active, yet you seem to enjoy so much doing the things you do and I don't blame you for keeping at it. Its not so much fun to be inactive, for most people, + surely each person must do things the way they like it most.

Mother has been very complimentary of Joyce + Woody and also of La Verne + Betty. I was so glad she met Betty + liked her so much. I hope Betty can get her trip home + feel sure living in America, after she has been home, will be much easier for her. I have enjoyed hearing about the folks and their children + their illnesses and so forth. Mother got around so well it seemed surely people have been kind to her.

Lucy + Les spend two nights here two different times + I imagine are home now. Our trip to Quincey to see spud operations did not pan out too good. We got to the warehouse but missed seeing the harvester work. I thot Les would like to see it but it just didn't work out. I hear they have a new grandson - a good time for them to be away from home - + I mean that seriously. But Nancy was glad to get it over too.

Well I'd best fix a dish of soup. We need another Scrabble player. The boys play under protest - but will play once in a while. We need a third right now tho - two handed not so good but I imagine well placate(?) there it again. Its not my favorite game but about the only one Mother plays.

Well guess I'll quit. You probably can tell I'm not much in the writing mood. (Don't I sound like Mother?). Had you heard of Dean + Cardi's baby boy born Oct. 18? I heard mother tell today of her first two great grandchildren. We are accumulating quite a few grand nieces and nephews now - we have ten with the eleventh expected. But we are behind on grandchildren and I'm not complaining.

Now gotta run. Hope you are OK. Let us hear again someday.

Love
Carolyn